SERVICES SECTOR — OTHER (295)

31 ~~JAN~~. ~~1980~~ — 11 ~~NOV~~ 1981

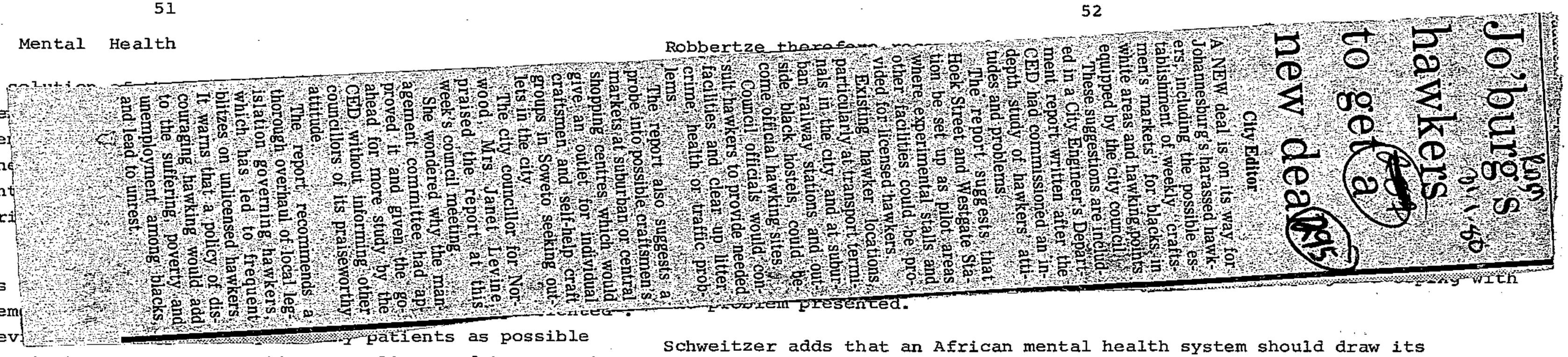
9.4 Priorities for Mental Health

Robbertze states 'The [illegible] obviously take precede[illegible] But this acknowledgeme[illegible] health, inasmuch as the[illegible] psychological component[illegible] as assisting in restori[illegible] cultures.

Buchan (*16) describes [illegible] which shows how managem[illegible] The aim has been to dev[illegible] patients as possible can be managed as outpatients; to contact patients earlier, and to prevent doctors from certifying patients before a diagnosis is reached. All these require the existence of psychiatric clinics in general hospitals which, with the help of a psychiatric nurse, can manage outpatients and refer cases presenting at general hospitals.

Buchan describes the considerable problems facing diagnosis in a different cultural setting from that of the practitioner; 'abnormally aggressive' or 'seriously irresponsible' are characteristics which require interpretation within each cultural context. In order to decide on admission or outpatient treatment, an accurate diagnosis is clearly essential. He felt that reasonable criteria for deciding on outpatient treatment could be evolved; that patients with thought disorder should be admitted, if clouding was heavy, to a general hospital; depressives could be treated on an outpatient basis. In discussion, Buchan agreed with Bührman that hallucination does not have the same ominous significance among Africans as it would in White patients. Bührman noted that patients undergoing hallucination, auditory and visual, who are wakened by nightmares and feel they are being chased by wild animals might be recognisable as falling in the *twasa* group (those being called to assume the role of a diviner) and could be cured by taking action considered appropriate to this stage.

Robbertze also recognises the role of indigenous healers and leaders of separatist churches in mental health care, emphasising that it is wrong to adopt Western models as the solution for Southern Africa's very different problems. He regards the specialist-oriented multi-professional team approach as impractical in this context, impossible in terms of staff resources and 'powerless in the judgement of the indigenous populations, when compared to the work of the traditional practitioner and the separatist priest.


Jo'burg's hawkers to get a new deal

City Editor

A NEW deal is on its way for Johannesburg's harassed hawkers, including the possible establishment of weekly crafts-men's markets for blacks in white areas and hawking points equipped by the city council.

These suggestions are included in a City Engineer's Department report written after the CED had commissioned an in-depth study of hawkers' attitudes and problems.

The report suggests that Hoek Street and Westgate Station be set up as pilot areas where experimental stalls and other facilities could be provided for licensed hawkers.

Existing hawker locations, particularly at transport terminals in the city, and at suburban railway stations and outside black hostels could become official hawking sites.

Council officials would consult hawkers to provide needed facilities and clear up litter, crime, health or traffic problems.

The report also suggests a probe into possible craftsmen's markets at suburban or central shopping centres which would give an outlet for individual craftsmen and self-help craft groups in Soweto seeking outlets in the city.

The city councillor for Northwood, Mrs Janet Levine, praised the report at this week's council meeting.

She wondered why the management committee had approved it and given the go-ahead for more study by the CED, without informing other councillors of its praiseworthy attitude.

The report recommends a thorough overhaul of local legislation governing hawkers, which has led to frequent blitzes on unlicensed hawkers. It warns that a policy of discouraging hawking would add to the suffering, poverty and unemployment among blacks, and lead to unrest.

Robbertze therefore [illegible] with problem presented.

Schweitzer adds that an African mental health system should draw its orientation from indigenous customs and values without rejecting the advantages of western psychiatry. Such a development would be aided by the inclusion of pertinent anthropological and cultural studies into the medical and psychological curriculum (also recommended by Watts, *8); and by systematic approaches to dialogue with indigenous healers, research to improve understanding of their methods and efficacy of their treatment, and concern within the existing system over the patients' own explanations of their sickness.

10. THE COST-EFFECTIVENESS OF MEDICAL CARE AND THE PRICE OF DRUGS

10.1 The Cost Effectiveness of Medical Treatment

The papers of Meiring (*19) and Sundgren (*24) dealt with this question. Meiring spoke of a developing conflict between medical practitioners on the one hand and 'society' (represented ostensibly by politicians, bureaucrats and economists) on the other. The conflict was aggravated by high medical costs, rising more rapidly than the consumer price index. He argues that confrontation between the medical profession and the public would be harmful to both. He therefore argued for more effective communication and co-operation between the profession and those empowered to act on behalf of the public. Co-operation should be based on the general acceptance of a cost-benefit approach to medical treatment. Doctors, administrators, and the public should be made more aware of costs and benefits of alternative treatments. Medical training and the mass media should be involved in this process.

INFORMAL SECTOR

Flower power

"There is an urgent need for a relaxation of the minimum requirements for trading in the CBD, its immediate surrounding areas, and Soweto," says Keith Beavon, Professor of Human Geography at Wits.

The plight of the city's hawkers and, more recently, flower sellers (also subject to hawking regulations) have long been a focus for Beavon, who has spent two-and-a-half years researching informal sector activity in the city.

Says Beavon: "It is desirable that standards are high, but also highly unrealistic. City Council obviously finds itself in a quandary situation — there has to be some sort of control over downtown trade, so operators in the informal sector can reasonably be expected to adhere to some sort of control; but one cannot expect the same requirements to be met by both the formal and informal sectors, or for the required standards to be the same."

Life is difficult enough for flower sellers who operate under hawkers' licences and are therefore obliged by law to move 25 metres every 20 minutes. But it is even harder for those who wish to obtain permanent stands. There are 23 in the city, and only 13 are covered. Since the beginning of this year, Johannesburg City Council has been allocating stands on a direct cash-in-hand tender basis, in an attempt to deal with the demand. However, predictably there has been increasing dissatisfaction with this system by flower sellers, some of whom are paying in the region of R3 000 to obtain a stand, the money tendered widely regarded simply as a penalising practice from which no other businessman in the formal sector suffers.

Harold Rudolph, PFP councillor, says: "The 2 m by 2,5 m stands are costing the flower sellers more per m² than the most prestigious offices in the CBD."



Flower sellers . . . stands cost more than prestige offices

GENERAL NEWS

Hawkers fined repeatedly under by-laws

RDM 8/5/81

By SEAN O'CONNOR
City Editor

TWO elderly vegetable hawkers who have plied their trade in Johannesburg's West Street for more than a decade said yesterday they had been fined a total of R180 in two days this week for contravening municipal by-laws.

And they said that at the beginning of last month they were detained overnight by police, and after a court appearance had each to pay R20 admission-of-guilt fines for breaking a municipal by-law.

Mrs Johanna "Mamma" Modiba and Mr Isaac Kubeka, of Soweto, said they were also fined on several other occasions last month by municipal inspectors.

This has been confirmed by Mr Len Apsel, director of a welfare organisation which has premises in West Street.

A Johannesburg city councillor, Mrs Janet Levine, said this week: "The informal sector of the economy, one aspect of which is hawker trade, is a vital and necessary part of our economic development. The fines imposed on the couple amount to blatant victimisation."

But Johannesburg's deputy traffic chief (operations), Mr Theo Olivier, said yesterday that he did not believe his department — which has a squad of hawker inspectors — was guilty of victimisation.

"We have to enforce the law," said Mr Olivier, adding that about a year ago a delegation of hawkers, with their lawyer, visited the traffic chief and were warned that if they acted illegally steps would have to be taken against them.

Mrs Modiba and Mr Kubeka said yesterday that they had been fined in the past month for not moving their selling point every 20 minutes, and not selling their goods from a vehicle.

Mr Olivier confirmed that hawkers were compelled by by-laws to move their goods every 20 minutes, and that their wares had to be confined to a vehicle and could not be displayed from a pavement.



Hawking their vegetables in Johannesburg's West Street . . . Mrs Johanna "Mamma" Modiba and Mr Isaac Kubeka, who say they have been fined a total of R180 this week for breaking municipal hawking by-laws.

Mrs Levine said it was "this type of harsh implementation of ludicrous regulations" that agravated racial tensions in Johannesburg.

Johannesburg's chief licence officer, Mr Cornelius Cronje, said yesterday that hawker by-laws were being examined with a view to updating them.

"They are old, and certain things will probably be taken out and some sections streamlined," he said.

Mrs Modiba, speaking through an interpreter, said that after she paid an admission-of-guilt fine early last month she received three more, two for R20, and one for R30.

Mr Kubeka, also interviewed through an interpreter, said he paid R180 last week for fines imposed during April.

On Tuesday, Mrs Modiba said she was ticketed twice by municipal inspectors — the fine R30 in each case. The first ticket was issued on the grounds that she had not moved her selling point every 20 minutes, the second ticket because she had not been selling her goods from a vehicle.

And on Wednesday she received two more R30 tickets for the same offences.

"I have not got the money, and will have to make an excuse," she said yesterday.

On Tuesday, Mr Kubeka was issued with a ticket carrying a R30 fine for not moving his goods every 20 minutes, and on Wednesday he received another for R30 for the same offence.

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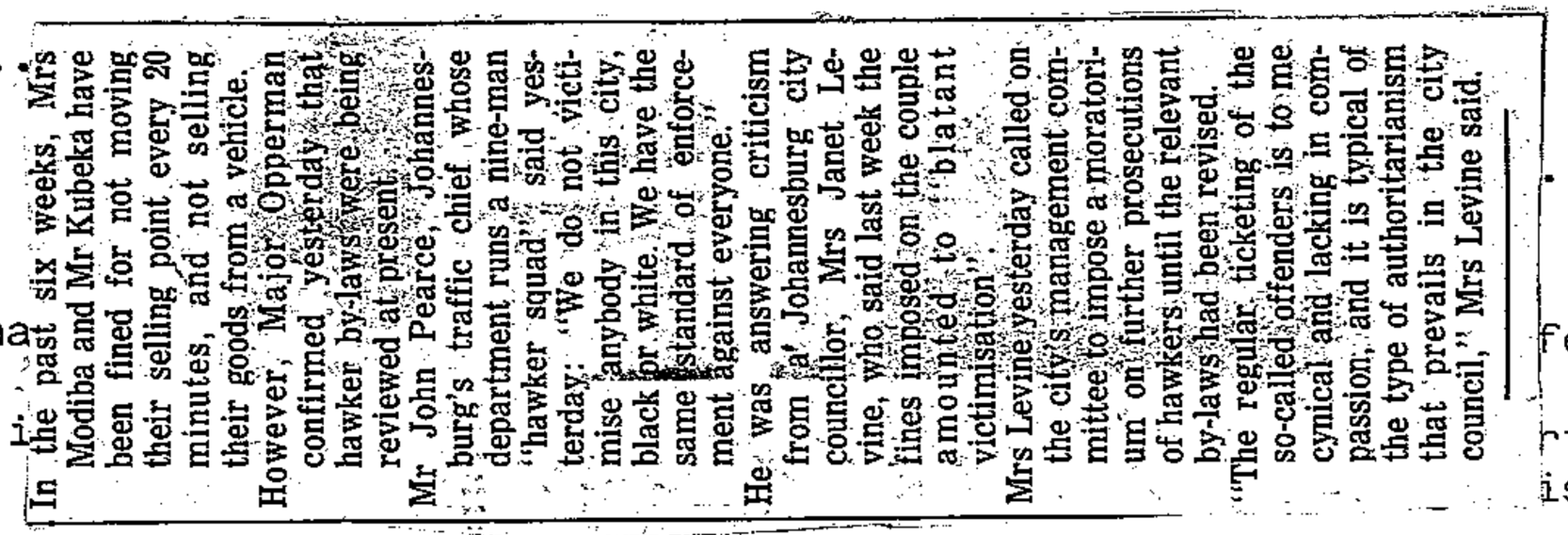
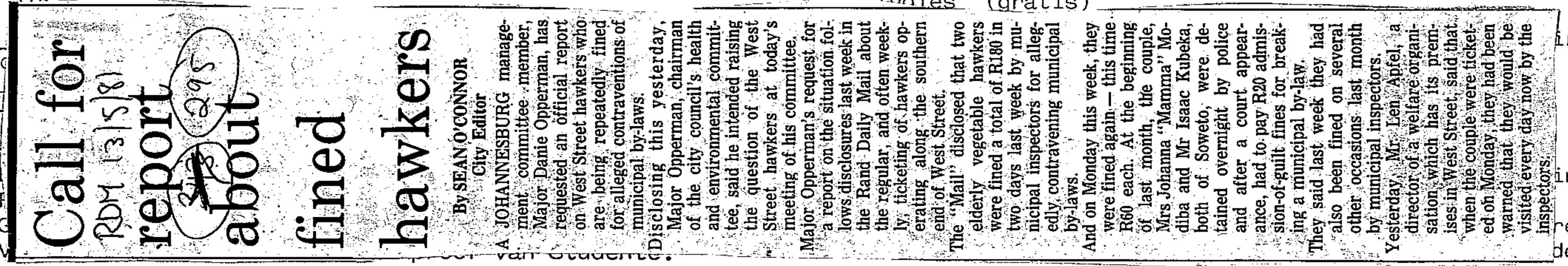


In the past six weeks, Mrs Modiba and Mr Kubeka have been fined for not moving their selling point every 20 minutes, and not selling their goods from a vehicle.
However, Major Opperman confirmed yesterday that hawker by-laws were being reviewed at present.
Mr John Pearce, Johannesburg's traffic chief whose department runs a nine-man "hawker squad", said yesterday: "We do not victimise anybody in this city, black or white. We have the same standard of enforcement against everyone."
He was answering criticism from a Johannesburg city councillor, Mrs Janet Levine, who said last week the fines imposed on the couple amounted to "blatant victimisation".
Mrs Levine yesterday called on the city's management committee to impose a moratorium on further prosecutions of hawkers until the relevant by-laws had been revised.
"The regular ticketing of the so-called offenders is to me cynical and lacking in compassion, and it is typical of the type of authoritarianism that prevails in the city council," Mrs Levine said.



Call for report about fined hawkers

By SEAN O'CONNOR
City Editor

A JOHANNESBURG management committee member, Major Danie Opperman, has requested an official report on West Street hawkers who are being repeatedly fined for alleged contraventions of municipal by-laws.
Disclosing this yesterday, Major Opperman, chairman of the city council's health and environmental committee, said he intended raising the question of the West Street hawkers at today's meeting of his committee.
Major Opperman's request for a report on the situation follows disclosures last week in the Rand Daily Mail about the regular, and often weekly, ticketing of hawkers operating along the southern end of West Street.
The "Mail" disclosed that two elderly vegetable hawkers were fined a total of R180 in two days last week by municipal inspectors for allegedly contravening municipal by-laws.
And on Monday this week, they were fined again — this time R60 each. At the beginning of last month, the couple, Mrs Johanna "Mamma" Modiba and Mr Isaac Kubeka, both of Soweto, were detained overnight by police and after a court appearance, had to pay R20 admission-of-guilt fines for breaking a municipal by-law.
They said last week they had also been fined on several other occasions last month by municipal inspectors.
Yesterday, Mr Len Apfel, a director of a welfare organisation which has its premises in West Street, said that when the couple were ticketed on Monday, they had been warned that they would be visited every day now by the inspectors.

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Cutting to make ends meet

S. Express 17/5/81 ~~343~~ ~~287~~ 295

Every Saturday a group of men gather on the street to set up their barber business. SUE DOUGLAS talks to the men who cut hair to keep alive.

THERE are three men in Braamfontein who change more drastically overnight than Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde.

During the week they are employed as night watchman, kitchen-hand and electrician.

But on a Saturday they mysteriously take to the streets.

They assemble at a shadowy meeting place, amidst the remains of derelict houses and surreptitiously check for lurking police.

Then, if the coast is clear, they start to unpack the small suitcases they carry with them.

Old oil cans, bottles of methylated spirits, pieces of mirror and an array of shining steel instruments.

Every Saturday it's the same. And every Saturday a crowd of people suddenly materialises from nowhere.

On this particular occasion, a big man stepped forward to sit on one of the old tin cans.

From the shadows, the leather-clad electrician stepped behind him and drew a blade across his neck.

Tight knots of black hair fell to the ground.

"French or German?" inquired the barber breezily.

"German," muttered a gravelly voice into the folds of a garish floral tablecloth.

The clipper darted across his head in fast straight lines, leaving a moss of hair over the man's head.

German, aptly named, as the electrician-now-barber explained, is a cut with square edges. It's short and stubbly with neat angles.

The Saturday-barber sped through his work — hurrying for the gaggle of other customers waiting their turn.

As he clipped away at the side-boards, he chatted to his customer and occasionally threw a comment in the direction of fellow barber-alias-the-nightwatchman.

The conversation was about the football on the radio. Kaiser Chiefs were playing.

The clippers wavered dangerously round the customer's head with every burst of excitement from the tinny radio.

But within five minutes the first customer was done. His woolly locks lay like black sheepskin in a cardboard box.

The next customer sat down.

Over the following few hours the three barbers saw about 20 customers.

Most Saturdays they see only men, they say, but the occasional woman visits the street barber.

Women's hair has to be done with different clippers.

It is left at least 2cm long all over.

"We can't do any of those styles with beads or little knots and plaits though," says the electrician. Apart from that it seems you can have anything done.

"We do French cuts — that's the rounded one. And German with the straight line across the neck. Then there's English, which is cut round all over and you can have a bepop cut if you want."

The latter style is created in much the same way as trimming a hedge. And the final product is a hairstyle that billows forward like the peak on a cap — very 1950s-ish.

The barbers take great pride in their Saturday jobs. They are thoroughly trained and work with skill.

The kitchen-help was taught to cut hair in 1936 by his father who also used to cut hair in the street at weekends — to get enough money to live.

Inevitably, their work is illegal. Not that they do any harm. But occasionally the police stop by to say hello and cart them off to John Vorster Square.

"They let us keep our suitcases," says the nightwatchman strangely in their defence.

Then after a fine of R5 or R10 they are freed again, to filter back to their street corner a few weeks later.

The fines. The hassles. Is it really worth it?

The R4 to R5 each that they earn for the day makes it more than just "worth it". They need the money they get on Saturdays to make the week's earnings stretch.

"If we get moved from here we will die," says the kitchen-help, begging not to be revealed by name.

In the week he earns R18. That has to support him and his family.

The average weekly wage of the trio is little more than R20.

The nightwatchman from Zululand gets paid in Johannesburg as a single man. But back home he has a family of four to look after.

In that light, the 60c they charge for a hair cut and the 35c for a beard-trim mean bread and butter.

And, of course, they won't lose their customers. At that kind of price they can undercut any barber's shop.

"It costs at least R1,20 at the shop," said one of the customers.

And what do you get that's better at the shop? A little privacy from the stares of passers-by, perhaps?

GENERAL NEWS

A helpless haw

By Kathi Peacock
Crime Staff

She has a hawker's licence and a trolly of fruit, sweets and cool drinks. The profits from the sales support her and her five young children.

But because she cannot move about, being crippled, Mrs Sara Ngubeni has just received three traffic tickets totalling R130 and another warning ticket with a R100 penalty.

Mr Ngubeni has been selling her wares at the Alexandra bus terminus in Noord Street, Johannesburg, for the past four years.

Since a car accident five years ago, Mrs Ngubeni has been partially paralysed and in and out of hospitals for treatment.

She has no husband and supports her five children, who are all still at school. She has no other means of support besides the takings from her trolly.

Each morning Mrs Ngubeni is dropped at the bus terminus by a relative and she sits there all day — swatched in blankets to ward off the winter chill. In the evenings Mr George Amiradakis, who owns a nearby restaurant, helps her pack away her trolly before she is collected and taken to her home in Zone Two, Meadowlands.

Mrs Ngubeni is desperate. She cannot afford to pay the fines and if she stopped hawking at the bus terminus she and her young children

ker's plight

would have no other means of support.

"I can't walk, or do any other work and now I don't know what to do or where to go," she said.

"The traffic policemen do not stop the people without licences selling, but they worry me," she said.

Johannesburg's chief traffic officer, Mr John Pearce, said last night his department was not waging war against hawkers in the city but over the years a workable policy had come into existence.

"It is our policy to act on complaints and we receive many about hawkers."

Mr Pearce said licensed hawkers like Mrs Ngubeni (of whom he had no personal knowledge) would be fined by the traffic department if the terms of the licence were not complied with.

He said the department was sympathetic towards certain hawkers but frequently found itself in the uncomfortable position of being criticised by one sector of the community for not acting harshly against hawkers and by another for acting at all.

Mr Pearce said it was a standard requirement that licensed hawkers should move a certain distance every 20 or 30 minutes.

There was no provision for exemption to the rule. His men had simply acted in terms of the law in issuing Mrs Ngubeni with a warning notice.



Mrs Sara Ngubeni is crippled and cannot move about with her hawker's trolly. She must pay R130 in fines issued by the traffic department.

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Jo'burg hawkers in trouble again

By ANNE SACKS

HAWKING in Johannesburg has again caused heated exchanges between councillors and city council officials at a time when the council is investigating removing the 20-minute restriction on the movement of hawkers.

Meanwhile, two Soweto hawkers, who have been plying their trade in West Street for over a decade, were fined again this week for contravening the controversial municipal by-law.

This was confirmed yesterday by Mr Len Apfel, a West Street businessman, who said the two hawkers, Mrs Johanna Modiba and Mr Isaac Kubeka, had been fined "countless times" during past weeks.

They will appear in the Johannesburg Magistrate's Court on June 19.

Mrs Janet Levine, a Johannesburg city councillor, said yesterday this type of action brought the problem of hawking to the public's attention.

"I think it is counter-productive to solve the problem by stamping out hawking in this way," she said.

"The problem exists, and one would like to see reasonable and viable alternatives proposed as solutions, such as setting aside certain areas along transport corridors for hawkers as well as establishing several craft markets.

"Hawking is a way the informal sector — or supposedly unemployed people — can provide for themselves."

Mr John Pearce, Johannesburg's traffic chief, has denied a charge by Mrs Levine that his department was victimising hawkers.

"Action will be taken against people who continue to break the law," he said yesterday.

More time for vendors

Mail Reporter

GOOD news for Johannesburg's pavement vendors is that the 20-minute limit on staying in one place is likely to be extended to 60 minutes.

Mrs Janet Levine, Johannesburg city councillor who has championed the cause of the city's hawkers, yesterday welcomed the move as "encouraging the spirit of co-operation".

Various council committees have recommended that the management committee approve the extension as a temporary measure until investigations into changing licensing by-laws is completed.

The controversial 20-minute limit has become a growing source of unhappiness among hawkers, who are repeatedly fined for not moving their wares at specific intervals.

Street vendors will starve if refused permits

THE fate of about 150 street vendors in Katlehong, Germiston, is in the balance, unless the local community council provides them with licences to continue selling in the streets.

The vendors, claimed early this week they are being harassed and arrested nearly everyday by the local East Rand Administration Board police for trading without licences and most of the time they end up paying R20 fines.

And yesterday morning, at the local offices of ERAB about 100 of the vendors held a meeting with Mr Alfred Hlongwane, chairman of the trading and licencing committee of the Katlehong Community Council, to discuss their grievances. The press were barred from the meeting, which started at 8 am.

In an interview with **SOWETAN** after the meeting, Mr Hlongwane said: "No decision was taken at the meeting and the matter was referred to the monthly meeting of the council which will be held next week for a final decision.

"Our main problem at the moment is that most of the street vendors come from outside areas like Soweto, Thokoza, and Vosloorus and each case will be treated on merit as this is a delicate issue."

By MZIKAYISE EDOM

WOMEN

The council will decide whether to grant the street vendors licences or not, he said.

Mr Hlongwane also said early this year, the council granted about 20 street vendors temporary licences to sell in the streets until they were provided with proper market stalls which would be erected before the end of the year.

Most of the vendors are women who are bread winners at their homes. Those interviewed by **SOWETAN** yesterday said they feared that if the council refuse to give them licences, their familites would starve and they will also lose their houses.

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SOWETAN 25/9/81

Page 3

SOCIOLOGY (INDUSTRIAL): COURSE II (continued)

SECTION D: Video Research Project

Simon Burton
Bill Cowan

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Bleeding pensioners or giving a service?



THE BUSINESSMAN: Councillor Lucas Shabangu, tells pensioners ina queue where to find his van containing potatoes.

BOOMING BUSINESS: An old lady has parted with at least some percentage of her pension pay and in turn Councillor Shabangu parts with a bag of potatoes.

MONEY: Councillor Shabangu counts his money as a buyer walks away from him at Orlando East pension paycut.

By WILLIE BOKALA

A SOWETO community councillor who this year strongly opposed a move by the authorities to grant licences to hawkers is himself a vegetable vendor selling potatoes to old pensioners on their pay days.

People who sell food and other goods to pensioners after they have received their pay have been attacked and condemned strongly before, because civic leaders felt pensioners should at least be given the chance to reach home with their monies to enable them to pay their rentals and plan their budgets correctly.

"Every second or third man you meet in Soweto is a hawker, and the council will be creating and worsening this problem if more licences are given these people," Mr Eucas Shabangu, once deputy "mayor" of Soweto, told the council during their monthly meeting in Soweto.

But The SOWETAN can today reveal Councillor Shabangu is himself a hawker, although this newspaper could not establish whether he is licensed to do so.

The SOWETAN has followed Mr Shabangu's movements and witnessed his vegetable business at pension payouts. He was busy at his trade during the pension payouts at the Communal Hall in Orlando East this week.

And the councillor was seen not to be only creating attention to his business by shouting "Mazambane!" (potatoes) but, also going for a walk along the long queues of pensioners and wooing them by advertising verbally that he was selling potatoes "cheaply".

When later approached by reporters he confirmed he was selling "cheaply to pensioners".

Looking a little startled at seeing a camera he said: "Aah! Taking pictures, have you come to expose us now?"

No action against man after alleged shooting

Street vendors may operate

By MZIKAYISE EDOM

STREET vendors in Katlehong, Germiston will not longer be harassed and arrested by East Rand Administration Board police in future, for selling in the street.

About 150 street vendors in the township claimed last week that they were being harassed and arrested nearly everyday by the local Erab police and inspectors for trading without licences and that most of the time they were made to pay R20 fine.

At the monthly meeting of the Katlehong Community Council, the council resolved that in future the vendors should not be harassed and arrested until they were provided with proper market stalls to continue with their business.

Mr Alfred Hlongwane, chairman of the trading and licencing committee of the council said yesterday the vendors would be provided with proper market stalls and that at the moment they could continue selling in the street.

He said: "We felt that most of the street vendors are bread winners at their homes and if we stop them to continue with their business, their families will starve and most will lose their houses, because they won't have money to pay rent."

Mr Hlongwane also warned that after the market stalls are completed, no street vendors will be allowed in the township and that anyone found selling will be prosecuted.

Early this year, about 20 of the street vendors were granted temporary licences by the council to sell in the street outside Natalspruit hospital, until they were provided with proper market stalls.

SERVICES SECTOR - OTHER

1982 - 1985

Increases of up to 15 percent claimed and full bonuses

Public servants put pay demands to Govt

(295) STAR 9/1/85

Public servants' associations have tabled their April pay demands with the Commission for Administration, which is expected to put them to the Cabinet in the next few weeks.

Most staff associations are understood to be demanding an across-the-board salary increase of between 12 and 15 percent and the reinstatement of their full bonuses, which were cut by one third last year.

Some associations have dropped original demands after being told that the Budget will be tight again this year.

It is understood that the Cabinet will probably be asked to approve an increase of around 10 percent.

But no proposals have yet been put to the Cabinet, accord ing to a member of the Commission for Administration, Dr J du Plessis.

Mainstream public servants last had an increase in January 1984, when they received 12 percent.

Railway and postal workers negotiate increases separately but these are often related to public service rises.

Mr Frikkie Smith, president of the Post and Telegraph Association of South Africa, said yesterday that his association had a meeting with Dr Lapa Munnik, Minister of Communication and Public Works, at the end of October last year.

The association was now waiting for the Minister to report back on its demands. "Our discussions ran along the lines of 15 percent," he said.

The Minister of Transport Affairs, Mr Hendrik Schoeman, meets the presidents of 10 railway unions in Johannesburg today.

The unions' umbrella body, the Federal Council of South African Transport Services' Trade Unions, tabled a demand for a 25 percent across-the-board increase last August.

Council chairman, Mr Jimmy Zurich, said the last time railway workers received an increase of 15 percent was in April 1985.

He said the Minister had previously rejected the demand for a general salary increase in January 1986 due to the economic situation.

"He did not dispute the merits of our demand and was very sympathetic," said Mr Zurich.

He said it was unlikely that the Minister would make a pay offer today. The council would be meeting in February to discuss salary demands.

DANGER!

Rip-off men at work !!!

By PAUL LANGE

SHIFTY companies promising top-flight training and claiming their students will be instantly placed in highly paid jobs are ripping off blacks desperate to qualify for white-collar positions.

Prominent among these are private training organisations which "guarantee" success for their pupils who want positions in the computer industry.



MR JAAP STRYDOM . . . "They are in for a shock"

Companies prey on blacks who want white-collar jobs

Useless courses

A government department, a computer-industry watchdog body and personnel-placement agencies warned this week that rip-off companies were making a fortune operating in Johannesburg and on the East Rand.

Students, who often pay up to R1 000 for "useless" courses, take "diplomas" in subjects ranging from computer science to instrument reading and switchboard operating.

An East Rand personnel agency says the students, many of whom are family men who have saved up money in a desperate attempt to qualify for higher-paid jobs, are promised they will "walk into any computer job if they show their certificate".

Others are out-of-school youngsters who are looking for an entree to the "glamour" and big salaries available for qualified white-collar workers.

The Johannesburg office of the Department of Education and Training has launched an investigation into at least eight companies which, it believes, have failed to meet registration requirements for training of black students.

"A fulltime inspector would be kept on the run all day checking out these training companies."

Fly-by-night

"When we find companies which have not been registered, or made any effort to conform to the requirements of the relevant Act, we come down on them like a ton of bricks.

"But more than anything we need people who have had experience with these operators to come forward and tell us who they are," the regional director of the Department of Education and Training, Mr Jaap Strydom, said.

Problems have in the past been identified at training establishments offering courses as diverse as computer science and deportment.

Fly-by-night companies specialising in bogus office-routine courses have operated successfully in the Johannesburg area.

When officials catch up with them they close down and open under a new name and continue to advertise in publications aimed at black readers.

Mr Strydom said that there were a number of reputable companies, however, who were operating without all the necessary permits and registration.

Normally this is a result of delays with the granting of Group Areas permits without which the training companies cannot operate.

"But if the facilities of these training centres appear adequate and if they can prove they have applied for a Group Areas permit, we won't close them down.

"Once we are negotiating with someone we feel we have an element of control over the quality of the service they offer.

"However, the unco-operative companies who have not complied with the legislation are in for a shock.

"We will move in on them without a qualm.

"It is our responsibility to make sure they produce a good product."

Dr Dewald Roode executive director of the Computer Users' Council (CUC) said the computer industry was well aware of the rip-off companies.

Some of these had been approached and had promised to improve their service.

But positive action was being taken in that the CUC had established a basic examination for people seeking initial training to enter the computer world.

Legitimate training companies were applying these standards, which Dr Roode said, would in time be recognised as the only worthwhile qualification.

Machine-technician training was another area in which black students, in particular, were being ripped-off.

Problems

Omnitec, a training centre for electronics technicians with operates in both Durban and Johannesburg, has experienced problems with aspirant students who arrive to attend a course believing they have already learnt the basics of electronics.

Principal of the centre Mr Jeff Hollingdale said an indication of the quality of training was in the number of hours of instruction which were necessary to allow the student to qualify.

Industry-recognised courses would include 750 hours of instruction while rip-off colleges promised expert qualifications in 10 hours.

Legitimate courses were priced between R300 and R400 while some of the rip-off training centres charged up to R1 000.

SUND

DEATH

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was a crowd of domestic ser-
anding around. Some were
t the discovery, others excited
," Mrs Botha said.
ked around to see if anybody in
was behaving strangely.
ght a mother would at least wait
nybody found her baby."
tha and her maid, Mrs Miriam
, took the baby into their home.
y sewing ladies crowded round in
nen where we bathed him in the
sink.
his umbilical cord with a piece of
Mrs Botha said.
one in the excited crowd in the
said: "He could be a future Prime
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ided then and there that he should
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led him Moses because of the way
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ave wanted him to live because he
and," Mrs Botha said.
police were called and they ar-
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the garbage grinder.

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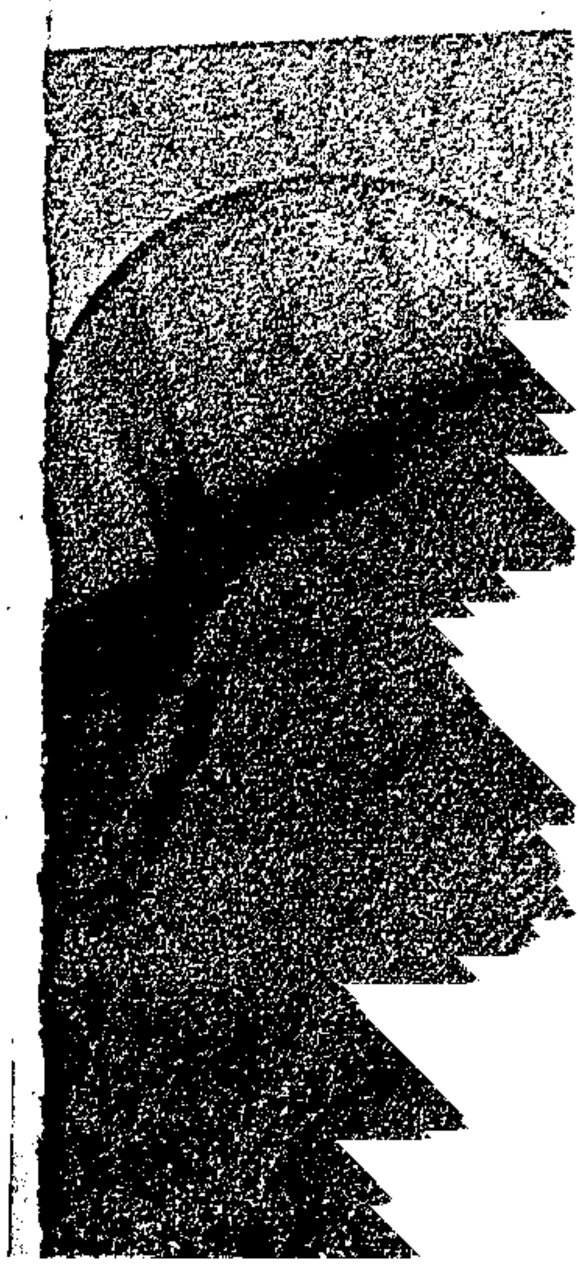

Blow for Umhlanga curio sellers

295
Mercury
24/9/82

Mercury Reporter

THE Umhlanga Town Council banned African curio sellers from the beachfront because they did not have licences and tourists had complained that they were 'dirty and arrogant'.

The 25 women who sold curios on the boulevard which runs in front of most of Umhlanga's hotels have been there for years and the council has turned a blind eye to them.

'But when the complaints came flooding in we had to act,' Umhlanga's Town Clerk, Mr Brian Watson, said yesterday.

He said the sellers would be unable to obtain licences.

'The boulevard is situated in the beach amenities reserve where no trading of any sort can take place except for the hire of beach chairs and umbrellas,' Mr Watson said.

He said he also had had complaints from Umhlanga's commerical sector, which was annoyed that the African sellers' wares was not confined to handicrafts but included items like shoes and hats.

'Several people have expressed concern about the sellers having to leave. While we're sympathetic, the bylaws don't allow them to be here and there has been no proposal to amend them,' Mr Watson said.

He said the council would welcome anyone who came forward with suggestions on how to legalise the matter.

None of the curio sellers affected by the ban were seen yesterday.

UNIONS OPERATING IN 1981 GROUPED ACCORDING TO INDUSTRIAL CLASSIFICATION

Unions have been classified according to the Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities. The full extent of the operation of the following general workers unions has not been established:

National Federation of Workers
Orange-Vaal General Workers Union
General and Allied Workers Union

AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND FISHING

Black Allied Workers Union
Farmworkers Union
Food and Canning Workers Union
National Certified Fishing Officers Association
Orange-Vaal General Workers Union
Trawler and Line Fishermen's Union

MINING AND QUARRYING

Amalgamated Engineering Union of S.A.
Amalgamated Union of Building Trade Workers
Amalgamated Society of Woodworkers of S.A.
Black Allied Workers Union
Black Mineworkers Union
Federated Mining Explosives and Chemical Employees Union
Iron Moulders Society of S.A.
Mine Coloured Staff Association of South Africa
Mine Surface Officials Association of South Africa
Mine Workers Union
S.A. Boilermakers, Iron and Steel Workers Shipbuilders and Welders Society
S.A. Electrical Workers Association
S.A. Engine Drivers, Firemens and Operators Association
S.A. Technical Officials Association
Underground Officials Association of S.A.

MANUFACTURING

Food & Beverages

colour

PE's many job finders hit a snag — they need more work themselves

By SALLY KERNOHAN

PEOPLE finding jobs for people have hit a snag — they need more work themselves.

There are at present 12 employment agencies in Port Elizabeth.

When a new branch office of a large international company opens its doors for business later this month, the city will gain its 13th employment consultancy.

And the general consensus is that there are just not enough work opportunities and aspirant job applicants around to keep them all busy.

The current downswing in the economy has resulted in several companies freezing staff complements.

The employees, too, are said to be sitting tight, afraid to resign in case they cannot get another job.

But this trend has not stopped employment agencies from mushrooming in the city. All hope there will be enough business to go round.

Several consultancies, however, have speculated that the "job game" is soon going to become a "cut-throat fight".

One personnel consultant alleged this week that some of the agencies were already "stealing" applicants from each other.

She claimed it was not unusual for a man or woman to be placed in a position and then to be telephoned by a different agency, offering them another job with better prospects.

Another consultant from the branch of a national concern commented that she felt it would be the "one-man shows" which would soon start feeling the pinch.

An industrial city the size of Port Elizabeth did not, she believed, need quite so many employment agencies.

When asked about the "stealing" of applicants from other firms, she felt this was impossible because records were confidential.

"The only way it could become a cut-throat game would be if individual agencies cut their fees and then they would lose money," she said.

The newest agency to establish itself in Port Elizabeth hopes to be operational before May 24, according to its head office in Johannesburg.

Mrs L Cozens, area manager for the consultancy network, said she had no doubt that there would be enough business for her branch office when it opened in Port Elizabeth.

"There is always room for someone who can provide a service at a competitive price," she said.

"We have done feasibility studies and we feel our service is so superior that we can be very successful in Port Elizabeth."

Sweet Workers Industrial Union (Natal)
Sweet Workers Union
Sugar Industry Employees Union
South African Allied Workers Union (SAAWU)
S.A. Boilermakers, Iron & Steelworkers, Shipbuilders and Welders
S.A. Electrical Workers Association
Western Province Sweet Workers Union
Witwatersrand Baking & Confectionery Industrial Union
Witwatersrand Brewing Employees Union

Tobacco

African Tobacco Workers Union
National Union of Cigarette & Tobacco Workers
Rustenburg Tabakwerkersvereniging

Textiles, Clothing, Leather and Footwear

African Garment Workers Union (Natal)
African Leather Workers Union (Transvaal)
African Trunk & Box Workers Union
Black Allied Workers Union
Garment Workers Industrial Union (Natal)
Garment Workers Union of South Africa
Garment Workers Union (Western Province)
General Workers Union
General Workers Union of South Africa
National Union of Clothing Workers
National Union of Leather Workers
National Union of Textile Workers
South African Allied Workers Union (SAAWU)
S.A. Canvas & Ropeworkers Union
S.A. Canvas & Ropeworkers Union (Cape)
Tailoring Workers, Dressmaking & Furriers Industrial Union
Tanning, Footwear and Allied Workers Union
Textile Workers Industrial Union
Textile Workers Union (Transvaal)
Transvaal Leather and Allied Trades Industrial Union
Trunk & Box Workers Industrial Union

Wood & Wood Products, including Furniture

National Union of Furniture & Allied Trades
Paper, W
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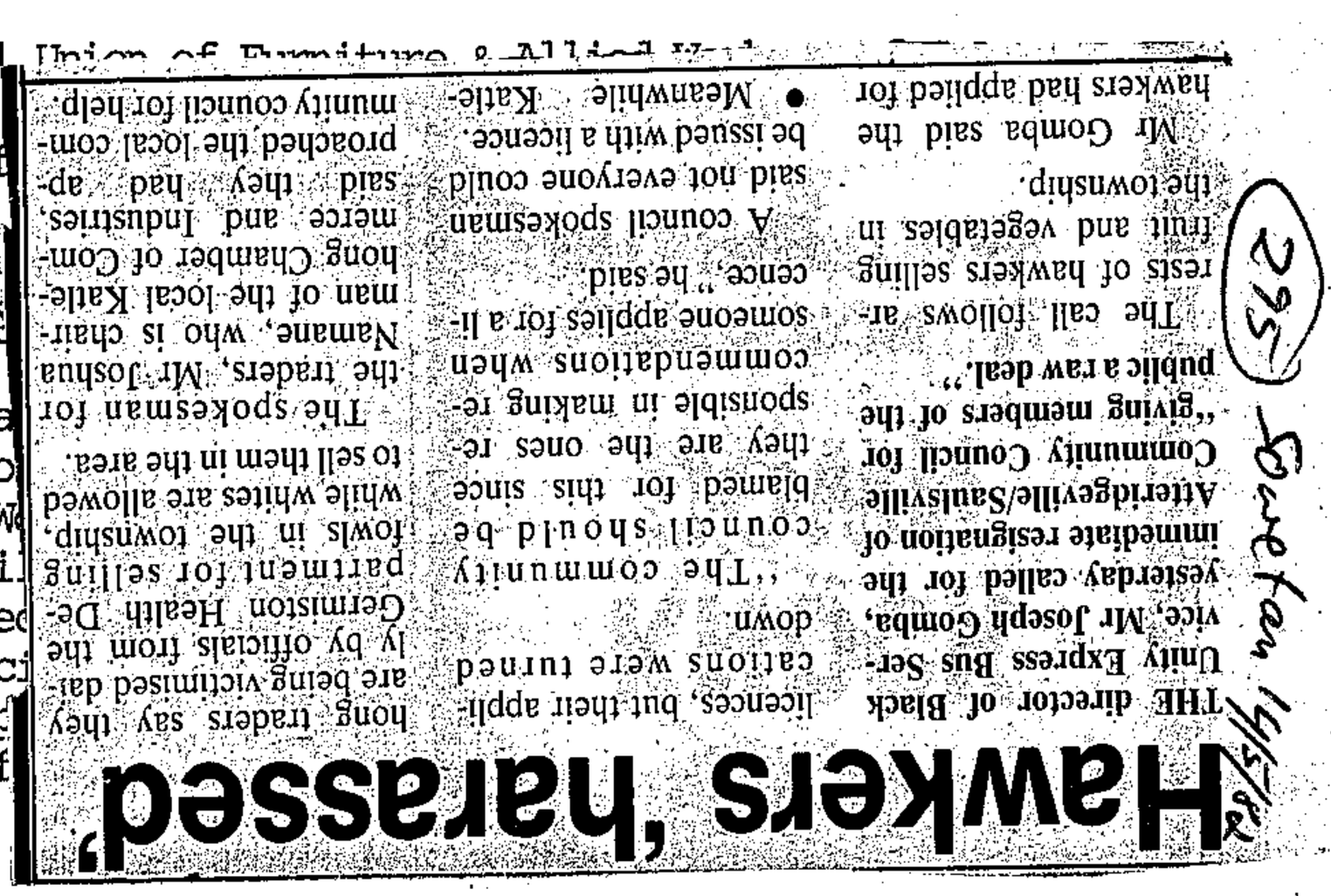


Hawkers 'harassed'

THE director of Black Unity Express Bus Service, Mr Joseph Gomba, yesterday called for the immediate resignation of Atteridgeville/Saulsville Community Council for "giving members of the public a raw deal."

The call follows arrests of hawkers selling fruit and vegetables in the township.

Mr Gomba said the hawkers had applied for licences, but their applications were turned down.

"The community council should be blamed for this since they are the ones responsible in making recommendations when someone applies for a licence," he said.

A council spokesman said not everyone could be issued with a licence.

Meanwhile Katlehong traders say they are being victimised daily by officials from the Germiston Health Department for selling fowls in the township, while whites are allowed to sell them in the area.

The spokesman for the traders, Mr Joshua Namane, who is chairman of the local Katlehong Chamber of Commerce and Industries, said they had approached the local community council for help.

(295) Sowetan 21/9/92

Hawkers' licences

THE director of Black Unity Transport Bus Service, Mr Joseph Gomamba, says his company has sent applications for hawkers' licences to the Pretoria City Council.

Mr Gomba said his company had made applications for 30 vegetable and fruit vendors in the township and would build store rooms where the vendors would operate from.

...orla.

In Durban, Mr Mike Basson, chairman of the ... Rabec, who knew Mr Isaacs, said he was a well-respected pilot.

4 banned for two years

PRETORIA — Four people have been banned under the Internal Security Act from attending public gatherings for the next two years, and 10 have had their restrictions lifted.

The banned are Pravin Jamnadas Gordhan, Mooroogiah Naidoo, Im-Manuel Nathaniel and Aletta Mamphela.

Restrictions have been lifted on Andrew Mzwandile Mbilini and Charles Nqakula of Zwelitsha, Monde Collin Mkunqwana of Mdantsane, and Kader Hassim, Lybon Mabasa, Baptiste Marie, Nikiwe Matshoba, Donald Mattera, Diliza Mji and Horatius Mdleleni.

Employment agency for domestic workers

295 E.Post 19/6/82

By SALLY KERNOHAN

UNEMPLOYED domestic workers with hungry mouths to feed now have an answer to their plight — thanks to a newly-established employment agency in Port Elizabeth.

This North End agency caters mainly for domestic employment and will supply anything from temporary chars to full-time gardeners.

And with the mass unemployment in the area, it is providing work for many, who otherwise would be knocking on doors desperate for any type of job.

Since it opened its doors at the beginning of the month, the agency has been flooded with telephone calls from prospective employers and employees alike, according to a spokesman for the concern.

The spokesman said they were willing to supply chars, emergency domestic workers to help out while the employed one was on holiday as well as baby-sitters.

"We have even been asked for a domestic worker to house-sit while the owners are away and look after their pets," he said.

Other spheres where they help with employment is for companies requiring domestic labour to make tea for the staff, as well as packers for the supermarket chains

"For our babysitting service we are contemplating using pensioners and people on disability grants, who could do with the extra money to eke out their tiny incomes," said the spokesman.

"Each applicant is carefully screened and we can supply contactable references for every person on our books.

"Because we have all the applicants' personal details, if the employer runs into difficulties while they are in their employ, we can trace the person involved with minimum difficulty, too," he said.

The spokesman said that often a call came in for a temporary domestic worker to help out in a home and, fortunately for the applicant, it often turned into fulltime employment — especially if the previously employed worker never returned to her job.

He said each applicant paid a R1 registration fee with the agency and then remained permanently on their books.

If an employer required a temporary char for two days, their cost to the agency was R8. This amount would rise commensurately with the time the temporary worker was employed.

The employer was responsible for the char's wages, food and transport costs — besides registering the worker with the East Cape Administration Board, whether in a temporary or fulltime capacity.

If, however, an employer decided to employ the temporary worker in a fulltime capacity for various reasons, there were no additional costs involved.

The spokeman said the prospective employer could interview applicants at the agency or they would make arrangements for the applicant to see the employer in his or her own home.

The greatest difficulty they had was placing unskilled labour.

...near EL

...don branch secretary for the South African Allied Workers Union of which Mr Soci is also a member.

A spokesman for the AFCWU said they would be taking up the incident at the highest level

They condemned what they called "complete terrorism against trade unionists by the Ciskeian Government".

Weather Forecast

FORECAST for the coastal belt from Plettenberg Bay to Port Alfred for the period ending 6pm tomorrow.

CONDITIONS: Fine and mild.

WIND: Moderate to strong, east to north-easterly.

EXPECTED TEMPERATURES

Maximum	21C
Minimum	6C

TODAY'S CONDITIONS (3pm)

Sea temperature	14C
Temperature	16,9C
Pressure	1024,3mbar
Humidity	54%
Wind	North easterly 23km.

THE MOON

New Moon	June 21
First Quarter	June 28

THE SUN

Sets today	5.15pm
Rises tomorrow	7.22am
Daylight yesterday	9hr 52min

THE TIDES

High Water

Today	1.40am 2.12pm
Tomorrow	2.26am 2.57pm

Low Water

Today	7.59am 8.11pm
Tomorrow	8.45am 8.56pm

PORT ALFRED TO PORT EDWARD: Fine and mild. Wind moderate to strong, east to north-easterly.

TRANSKEI AND BORDER: Fine and mild but cold overnight with frost in places.



WILD LIFE PHOTOGRAPHERS' MECCA

Young and old, professional or amateur photographers get their pictures at the SEAVIEW GAME PARK. A big variety of wild life in natural surroundings make perfect subjects. The Park is situated on the GREENBUSHES/SEAVIEW ROAD. Sunday feeding times as follows: Lions 12 noon, King Cheetah 3 pm, Cheetah 4,30 pm. Conducted tours into tame cheetah enclosure every hour. Picnic spots, tea room and walk/thru bird aviary will make your visit unforgettable.

Picture by RICHARD SHORE

Zulu crafts bring in cash

Mercury 23/6/82

295

Mercury Reporter

THE Vukani Association in Eshowe, which markets African craftwork, has paid R120 000 to its members for their crafts during the past financial year, it was announced at the annual meeting.

The chairman of Vukani, Mrs Cecilia Mate, said this was a record and demonstrated how successful the nine-year-old association had become.

The association has more than 12 000 local Zulu members who earn an income from traditional skills in basketry, woodcarving and claywork.

Mr T Cunningham of the Natal Parks Board, emphasised at the meeting that the resurgence and growth of Zulu craftwork using natural resources had to go hand in hand with intelligent use and protection of indigenous grasses.

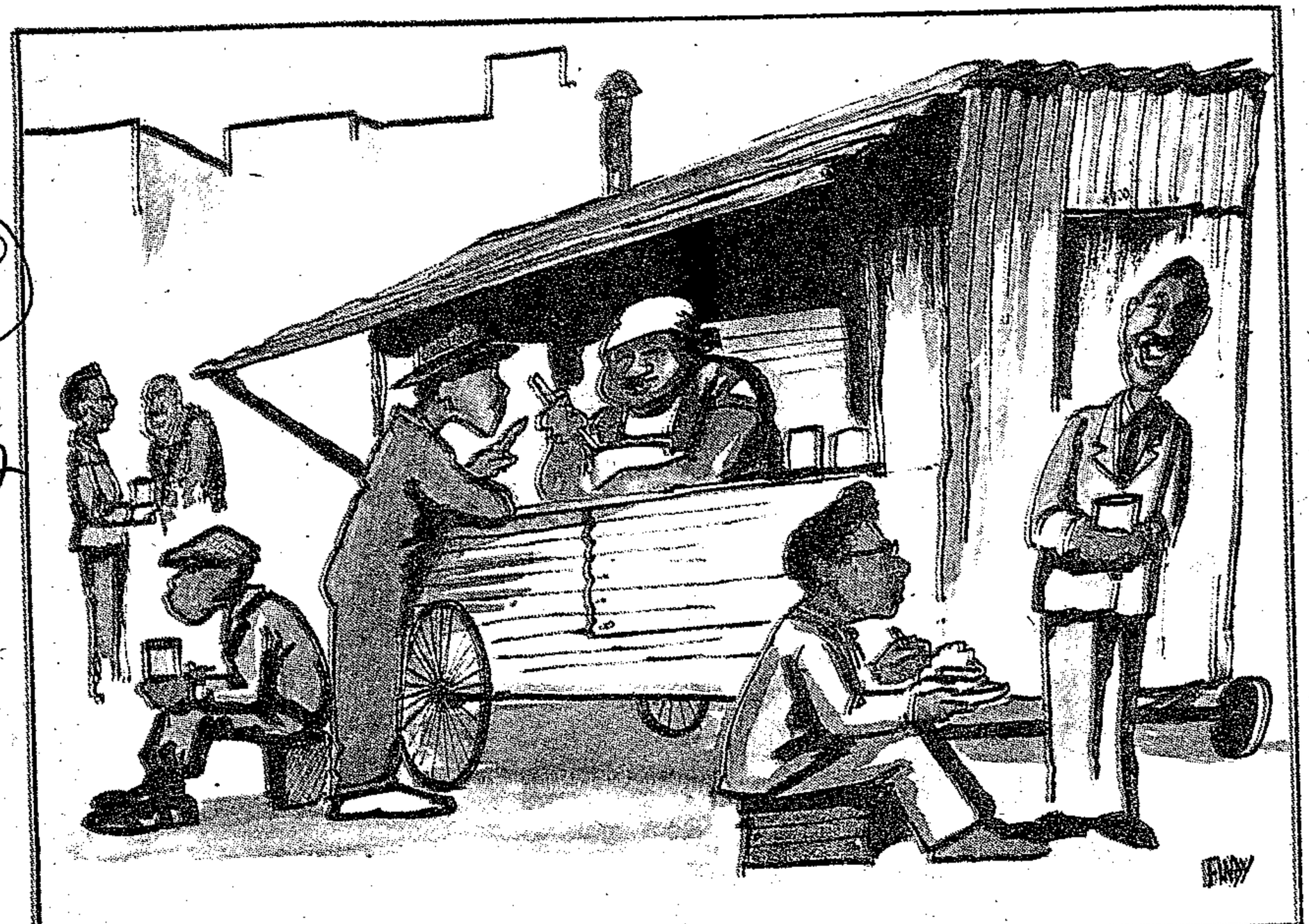
Nearly a third of Vukani's products were sold direct to Europe and Germany and many articles were on display in museums overseas.

Lawyer killed

Down at a coffee cart, a meal fit for a king

295
RDM
23/6/82

Traders in good solid food, curers of hangovers, purveyors of lunchtime grog . . . coffee carts were the mobile restaurants of the industrial areas. They lost their fight with the law and have disappeared. They are gone but not, as DOC BIKITSHA reports, forgotten.



FOREIGNERS go into raptures over the delights of smoked hams and herrings but those years, particularly in the fifties and sixties, all over industrial areas in South Africa, there was nothing to beat a steaming dish of porridge and meat at a street-corner coffee cart.

Coffee carts are forgotten now but in those years they were part and parcel of a worker's life. They were our breakfasts and lunches on wheels. It was a familiar gypsy-like sight seeing an auntie and her brood trundling their cart from home to a trading site.

When I started working for a white man I found them on the scene and embraced them like a lost son a mother. Many of us young newspapermen made them our canteens because of the homely touch they had.

I remember vividly on a hot summer's day in 1956 near Industria Station at Ma-Radebe's cart, twirling a jam-tin of "mageu" and slugging it to the drop. Becapped up-and-coming boxing champ, Enoch "Schoolboy" Nhlapo would shyly join me for a tin and vamoose.

One day I told him: "You've got a drinker's throat lad, take a swig of this," and handed him my tin. He took one look at the contents, shook his head vigorously and retreated thanking me profusely for the offer.

I was taunting the kid. What I was slugging was the most delectable brew of home-made sorghum beer a human could produce. Yes, apart from the food there were beverages too. After all, the Rand Club and Federal Hotel had similiar facilities too for whites.

I remember too, immaculately dressed Mr Peter Molotsi (worked for the World then) and Mr Potlako Leballo (Soweto teacher then), the top men in the banned Pan Africanist Congress (PAC), deep in discussion and hunched over the counter of Mamtshawe's nearby cart. A penny for your thoughts.

Basically, a coffee cart could be compared to a mobile canteen. Blacks could not afford tyres and fitted theirs with wheels from prams, wheelbarrows, motorbikes, cars — anything that was a wheel, even an aeroplane's would do.

Coffee carts were a blessing in many disguises. At a time when one was recently weaned on bottled delights, the mornings proved a very trying time physically and mentally from "babalaz" (lassitude).

As an early bird, the sight of Ma-Radebe's quaint rickety cart through the morning's fog as the train neared Industria Station was welcome indeed. Before it could stop, one dashed from it straight for the cart and a steadying mug of scalding hot red-chilli bean soup.

For what was termed a "foundation" in the drinker's parlance, there was nothing to beat a piece of salty boerewors or plain roasted and coarse-salt beef. With that kind of start, the day's rigours were as good as conquered.

Who needed the lukewarm lunch fare of cafes and restaurants, sometimes served with cold disdain, when coffee carts offered steaming hot meals and the added romance of the great outdoors?

Lunch at the coffee carts of Industria was an experience and sight for passersby. Perched on a bench, tin or bricks we'd face the railway line or road with differently heaped plates in hand. Thank God there were trees for shade.

If you were in the good books of the Auntie, paying regularly, you'd be faced with a Kilimanjaro mound of porridge and meat. A bad-payer could expect nothing but a hillock. Coffee carters differed in temperament, spirit and size like their carts.

But they shared one trait of no mercy for cads who played houdini and did not pay at the end of the week. Grubby credit exercise book in beefy hands, Ma-Mokoena would storm into our editorial office demanding so and so pay up. Others had their maids or assistants keep vigil for creditors at all exits of factories on Mondays.

As the years rolled by, coffee carts assumed other roles. We can say it loud and without fear of reprisals for they've gone down in history now. I remember tossing back a good shot of "mahog" (brandy) from a mug as my general manager got into his Humber Supersnipe.

Poor soul, he thought it was coffee as he looked smugly in my direction. Those years reeking liquor was frowned upon and drunkenness was punishable with suspension and later dismissal. I shudder now to think how many times I fell victim to those regulations.

The inner secrets of how the Aunties operated with hootch I will die with as a captain goes down with his ship. I again remember how after some roasting from the news editor I would slink to the coffee cart for solace. After three trips I'd swear I was ready to bandy words even with the GM himself.

Then the spoilers, the killjoys — the law — stepped in saying these coffee carts were a menace, health and traffic hazard. From about January 13, 1961, the heat was turned on. At that time there were about 1 407 carts operating in Johannesburg.

Johannesburg firms employing blacks were asked by the City Council to provide canteens and other feeding facilities to counteract street corner coffee carts.

Not only that, the heat was turned on flower sellers, street photographers, hotdog stands, bootblacks or shoeshine boys, and anybody who traded illegally on pavements. I'm not sure when they turned on beggars but it was the end of the road for them too.

The Rand Daily Mail regularly carried news about the wrangle between the coffee carts and the local authorities.

In June 1961 we read about more than 700 coffee carts cleared from Johannesburg street corners. There was even mention of a 1 200-strong Coffee Cart Association involved in a series of prosecutions since 1951.

In 1962 the authorities declared the coffee carts were breaking the law and must go.

In 1963 business organisations asked the Johannesburg City Council to clear the city's pavements of coffee carts as the previous year's December count showed that 969 carts were still in operation.

We read about the "queen of the coffee carts," 51-year-old Mrs Regina Gqiba, who headed the 1 000 strong Coffee Cart Association challenging officialdom to an inspection to prove they were not clean and hygienic.

In 1964 there were reports of coffee cart meetings held at the Traders Hall in Johannesburg attended by people like Mrs Gertrude Mthethwa, one of the oldest coffee carters in Johannesburg at that time.

That same year in the House of Assembly, Johannesburg's long-standing battle of coffee carts was refought when two United Party Members of Parliament, Mr Hymie Miller (Florida) and Mr Alec Gorshel (Hospital) clashed with the Deputy Minister of BAD, Mr M C Botha.

The battle raged on and the coffee carts faded from the scene but not from the hearts, minds and particularly the stomachs of the people they'd served so well.

Now you have fast food chain stores and other grub establishments as unromantic as a dead galley fire or passage "mbawula". Spare a moment you old timers and tell the young ones about those dear coffee carts.



Every morning the flower market in City Deep blossoms into life to auction the flowers that keep Johannesburg well-stocked with fresh blooms.

Flower power in the market place

By Colleen Ryan

They are Johannesburg's own flower children but bear no resemblance to the original family of hippies that blossomed in the '60s.

They are the businessmen who supply Reef florists, the street sellers whose trade is on the busy corners of the city and the farmers who devote their lands to growing flowers.

Six days a week you will find them at the flourishing flower market in City Deep where hundreds of thousands of blooms are auctioned daily.

The farmers begin to arrive at three or four in the morning to display their produce. The market is open to anyone who has at least one box of flowers to sell.

Buyers can survey the produce from 6 am until the auction sale starts at 7.30. The sale is open to the public as well as to the professionals. A 50c buying key is all you need to bid for flowers.

But an expert eye and a knowledge of public demand is essential for success in this competitive industry.

And as the market's two auctioneers begin their patter of sales talk and trollies of loaded flowers are wheeled in, the farmers withdraw into the background of the barn-like building.

A father and son team of growers from Brits, their faces well creased from years in the sun, stand warming their hands at one of the few heaters at the market.

They supply outdoor flowers — a risky and difficult task during winter.

"Flowers are our only crops," one farmer explained. "It's hard work but we love flowers — we wouldn't swop it."

Wholesalers and florists rely heavily on indoor growers during winter. But these flowers are costly and demand for them fluctuates daily.

Other produce reaches the market by rail, road and air — some from as far off as Cape Town. At this time of year the market auctions about 70 000 bunches of flowers a day. In peak season as many as 120 000 bunches may be traded.



Prospective buyers view the blooms at the market before bidding begins.

1/7/82

...s his birthday with ...90 family members.

Potchefstroom University will make a presentation to him. He obtained a master's degree in psychology here in 1946 while he was a school principal.

After retirement, he began farming. Mrs du Plessis said:

"He puts his long life down to the Grace of God and the fact that he has never smoked and drinks very seldom."

She said her father was healthy, not at all senile and looking forward to many years as a farmer.

...K may seek ...paration

...NDON — Britain is considering whether to ask Argentina to pay compensation for British losses in the Falklands conflict, a junior Foreign Minister said today.

"If one tries to straighten the road it becomes steeper," he reminded.

But rumble strips could help Death Bend lose its notoriety, Professor Brown said.

"These strips are very small ridges across the road. As the driver passes over them he or she gets the sensation of going faster and faster." The natural reaction to this feeling was to slow down, he said.

The device had been used in Pretoria and on the Maritzburg-Durban freeway.

Mr Hennie Kleynhans, spokesman for the Automobile Association, said the AA supported the use of rumble strips.

"They could be tried on Louis Botha Avenue and monitored closely. If they did not work — or if there were any adverse effects — they could be removed."

Mr Geoff Stark, city councillor for the area which includes Orange Groves' Death Bend, also advocates the use of the strips.

UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN

Invites applications for the 1983 Post Graduate Diploma Course in HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

The Diploma is designed to:

★ Provide a solid education in
- Personnel Management
- Training Management
- Industrial Relations.

★ Provide a grounding in other functional areas such as:
- Financial Management
- Marketing Management

Introduce visiting speakers, arrange study trips to Training Centres, and to project work in order to relate theory to practice.

...bership of the Institute of Personnel ...agement will be required of the students as ... attendance at local I.P.M. functions.

...cations will also be considered from non-...ates with suitable working experience.

Please write to Martin Birt

...ed knives which will come under his hammer today. Among them is a Gurkha-style kukri. ●Pic: Sarel van den Berg.

Give hawkers a new deal — professor

By Gavan O'Connor

Johannesburg hawkers have been continually harassed by restrictive laws and little effort has been made by city authorities to understand or alleviate their problems, says a Wits University professor.

Professor Keith Beavon, head of the department of geography and environmental studies, who has studied the problems of the city's hawkers, said this week that their treatment by the city had been increasingly harsh and a positive attitude was needed.

There were two problem areas that need changing, said Professor Beavon.

Firstly about 50 percent of hawkers were illiterate and were compelled to become hawkers because there were no other jobs available to them.

Secondly hawkers had to work exceptionally long hours to catch commuters near railway stations and bus terminuses.

"Changes have to be made in the form of a social experiment and must accommodate the needs of the hawkers," said Professor Beavon.

Hawkers were not allowed to sell in certain areas of the central city because they might cause congestion. But these areas bordered on the railway station and the bus terminus in West Street, where the hawkers operated. If they stayed beyond their limits, they were liable to get ticketed by traffic officers.

The laws were designed, said Professor Beavon, to prevent white hawkers drawing crowds in the central city to sell their wares, but their era had passed.

LICENCE

It costs R11 to apply for a hawking licence and between R10 and R60 for the licence depending on the goods to be sold.

Little profit was made and most lived a hand-to-mouth existence earning as little as R8 a week. However, the chicken seller could earn up to R300, said Professor Beavon.

A plan had to be made for the hawkers with areas set aside for them and lockers provided where they could leave their goods overnight.

"The longer-term concern must be directed at the employment problems of South Africa because easing the working conditions of hawkers will not necessarily remove the causes from which hawking springs," said Professor Beavon.

...ucus a sale for the sharp buyers

An array of deadly knives and daggers which will excite collectors and macho men comes under the auctioneer's hammer today.

The weapons, expected to fetch more than R10 000, are the last of the stock of Randburg master knife-master Mr Angus Arbuckle (58), who died recently of a heart attack.

He earned world renown for his hand-crafted weapons, and made them for the South African and Rhodesian forces.

Today's sale will dispose of many rare prototype examples which Mr Arbuckle kept for his own collection, and several sets with consecutive low serial numbers.

The selection of individually numbered knives includes Black Panthers, Ghurka kukris, Crusaders, Vampires, skinners and "boots" models with handles of exotic woods, bone and ivory.

"I expect it will be a mainly male gathering," said Mr Trevor Altonade Klerk of the Sandton firm of Adek auctioneers, who will be handling the sale. "But there have been one or two enquiries from weapons-oriented ladies as well."

He expects the most valuable pieces to sell for "around R350 each".

Polstu head

STELLENBOSCH — Mr Francois du Bois, a grandson of Dr Hendrik Verwoerd, has been elected the new chairman of the Political Students' Organisation of South Africa.

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Hawkers face cop clampdown

295 Sowetan 25/8/82

THE Dobsonville Community Council is to clamp down on "illegal" hawkers operating outside the local men's hostel.

This came out at the council's monthly meeting held at its chambers yesterday. Councillors urged for concerted raids in and around the complex, claiming little had been done to curb "illegal" trading in the past.

Deputy chairman Mr I B Mashao said he had approached health inspectors on the matter and was told the council had not given permission for them to arrest the traders.

"The health inspectors are telling a lie. I spoke to them and they said it was a long process for them to arrest the people," chairman Mr Don Mmesi said.

The council's chief executive officer, Mr Alex Conn, said raids on the hostel would continue. He said in the past there had been leaks and the culprits had been warned before the raids.

"We are going to continue with the raids, not only on the old aunties who are trying to make a few cents, but also on people who deal in dagga and so on. The reason why we have not been raiding them is that there seems to be a leak. But we have arranged with the police, and we too won't know when they will raid. They will only let us know about 30 minutes before they do," Mr Conn said.

D. Dispatch
295
75/8/82

Action taken against hawkers

EAST LONDON — Action against 27 hawkers has been taken by municipal officials during the past two days, the city's director of management services, Mr Leon Deetlefs, said yesterday.

Mr Deetlefs said 16 hawkers were issued with summonses and 11 others taken to the Fleet Street police station and charged for allegedly hawking illegally.

He said the action was part of a regular, ongoing campaign to control illegal hawking in the central business district.

"People are being harassed by illegal hawkers in the CBD and we are taking steps to help curb crime in the area," Mr Deetlefs said.

"There are problems with handbag snatching and pickpocketing."

He said the main areas where municipal officials were taking action were in Buffalo Street and lower Oxford Street, the bus terminus area, the hospital area, Phillip Frame Road in Chiselhurst and on West Bank.

"People are not allowed to hawk in the CBD and some legitimate businesses are suffering because of it. We go through the area from time to time, but it is like a never ending cycle," he said. — DDR

Erab shootings anger residents

PROBE CALL



ARRESTED: Mrs Alinah

RESIDENTS of Katlehong, Natalspruit, have called for "urgent action" and an "immediate probe" into allegations that two men had been shot, one fatally, by East Rand Administration Board police in the last two weeks.

By MZIKAYISE EDOM

The call follows revelations yesterday that another man, Mr Eddie Buthelezi (22), had been shot dead by Erab police two weeks ago after reports of the shooting of a Katlehong businessman, Mr Abel Malinga, who had been shot during a "permit raid".

He is still recovering at the Natalspruit Hospital.

Mr Buthelezi, of 112 Khumalo Street, Zuma Section, was shot near Pilot station during a raid on hawkers at the railway station.

Members of the family said they had been told Mr Buthelezi had been shot after threatening the police with a knife.

Mr J H Opperman, Erab's senior director, confirmed yesterday that the board's police were involved in the two shooting incidents and said the matter was being investigated.

The executive committee of the board, said Mr Opperman, would meet "soon" to discuss the circumstances leading to the shooting of the two men.

"We are also waiting on the South African Police to complete their investigations into the two cases before we can take any decision."

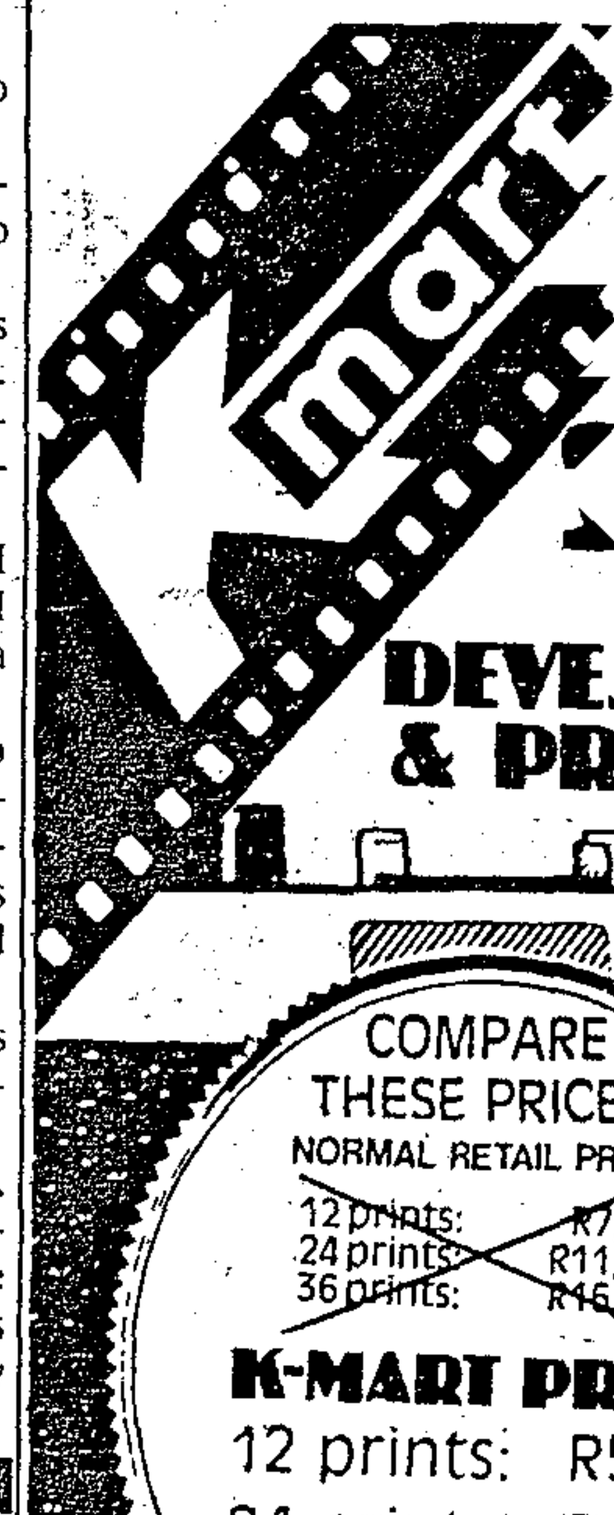
According to eye-witnesses, Mr Buthelezi was shot as he alighted from a train at Pilot station. Mrs Alina Madeka said: "We were selling vegetables at the station and I was one of the unfortunate ones to be arrested.

"As I was being pushed into the police van, I heard shots being fired and when I looked back I saw a man lying on the ground. Next to him was a policeman with a rifle in his hands."

Several residents The SOWETAN spoke to called for an urgent investigation into the shootings. Said one: "If you give people guns to terrorise innocent people, what can you expect? This matter must be investigated immediately and strong action taken.

"In fact, these people should not carry guns as they are not dealing with criminals but with law-abiding people."

A community councillor, Mr Ernest Sukazi, said his organisation (Katlehong National Residents Committee) had sought a meeting of the Katlehong Community Council and the officials of Erab to discuss the recent "reign of terror" by Erab policemen.



y tells of gang rape

hrough with the daugh-er-in-law, they had come into the bedroom. She and other family members had been forced to lie under the bed and in front of her eyes her daughter was gang-raped.

She was testifying at the trial of 14 men charged with attempted murder, rape, robbery, possession of firearms, theft and an escape from custody.

The accused are Mr Jack Mabaso (33), Mr Koos Sibeko (27), Mr Elliot Baloyi (22), Mr Raxon Mathebula (24), Mr Mack Ngobeni (30) Mr Vusi Manana (23), Mr Sydney Ratladi (24), Mr Morris Macebele (22), Mr Samuel Ngobeni (22), Mr Vincent Ningiza (22), Mr Tuki Madala (28), Mr Calson Nengovhela (21), Mr David Zwane (22) and Mr Freddy Machaba

when the men arrived at her home, she had initially refused to open the door. When they started breaking windows and shouting "police", she had been terrified and opened.

She said she recognised Mr Sydney Ratladi and Mr Samuel Ngobeni. She said Mr Ratladi was the person who tied her hands.

She said before she had been forced and

She told the court that before the men left with her family's clothing and other items wrapped in a tablecloth, they had helped themselves to food in the house.

Under cross-examination by the two accused, she said she had been unable to point them out at the identification parade at Moroka police station this year because her left eye was still swollen and painful as

They may dance in Grahamstown



The nucleus of this group of dancers was the original worker's committee formed when Mercia Wilsworth initiated Afrocrafts. When the business of meetings was over, their enthusiasm waxed into spontaneous dancing. Now Mrs Wilsworth plans to polish up this cultural art for performances in Grahamstown and elsewhere.

Job project scrapped through capital lack

By SALLY KERNOHAN

A woman who had hoped to create jobs for as little as R406 a person in depressed Grahamstown has had to temporarily shut up shop because of lack of capital.

Mercia Wilsworth, applied anthropologist, journalist and public relations officer, was confident the money she needed would be available.

But hitches in a trust fund to which she is heir has put her in a spot.

She had hoped to create 25 full-time jobs at Afrocrafts, which she opened so enthusiastically in mid-June. But she needed between R10 000 and R15 000 to do it — despite rent-free premises provided by Rhodes University, where she has enrolled for her doctorate.

Mrs Wilsworth is an expert on Grahamstown conditions. She has already gained a brilliant Master's degree, her thesis appearing in book form *Strategies for Survival*, printed by the Institute of Social and Economic Research.

Her conception of an authentic African art centre with music, diviners, dancing, and many ancillary crafts was generally acclaimed.

Mrs Wilsworth, had tested the market, so to speak, when she mounted a similar live exhibition during Grahamstown's festival time two years ago.

She gathered her "caste" and then drew in likely craftsmen, basket and matmakers, knitters, women with crocheting ability and a toymaker.

Beer-tasting was to be part of the experience and musicians were to add to the authentic scene, all of which was to open with a flourish as part of the recent annual national arts festival.

"But they took eight weeks to get ready," said Mrs Wilsworth ruefully.

She planned to offer fees to exhibitors and performers.

But she found herself in a Catch 22 situation. She needed the capital to make the money she needed to provide materials for the local craftsmen and for "importing" goods from Sada, Lesotho and elsewhere.

Said Mrs Wilsworth: "I never had enough stock. I did not have the money to advertise with meaningful impact. I was hoping to set up a show to rival the Cango Caves and the ostriches. I find people more interesting than ostriches anyway."

She said the local dancers could rival the mine dancers.

She expected resistance at first but hoped that by promoting the African image she could have provided a valuable tourist attraction in the City — already tourist orientated.

Mrs Wilsworth also attempted to encourage entrepreneurship "and get things going here". Hence the display during the festival of Cape Town's image dolls.

She said: "I've certainly not scrapped my ideas. If the capital is forthcoming, I shall get the show together."

She explained that it was by no means a charitable venture.

"I'm a hard-nosed realist. I wanted to see this thing as a profitable venture making the profits from which I could live and plough back to pay adequately my crafts people — and train more," she said.

In the meanwhile she will get on with her doctorate, hoping to complete it by the end of the year.

She said: "I've taken the risk. I've gambled and lost. I need at least R15 000 behind me for a six-month stretch to do an adequate job.

"Meantime there is a chance of mounting an East Cape competition in conjunction with a national competition for young, as yet unknown artists.

"We may be able to stage it early next year and again stimulate interest."

Now slump hits job-finding business

E. Post 9/10/82

By SALLY KERNOHAN

THE bottom has fallen out of the Port Elizabeth employment market in an unprecedented slump, local employment consultancies are suffering a drop in business of as much as 25%.

And now, possibly for the first time as South Africa tightens its belt in the current economic recession, consultants are having to tout for business.

At least one consultancy has cut its commission fees by 2% and others told Weekend Post they were definitely "feeling the pinch".

Fee cutting is not the only move that one consultancy has made. Staff working there have agreed to a drop in salary, knowing they are better off where they are in a market where jobs have become critically scarce.

Other consultancies Weekend Post spoke to were in the more fortunate position of not having to cut fees or reduce staff, but all agreed they were facing lean times.

Many companies are not replacing staff as resignations occur. Also, traditionally at this time of the year, the Eastern Cape work force sits tight, waiting for Christmas bonuses — another hard knock for the employment agency businesses.

Mrs Julie Hess, manager of a nationwide employment consultancy, told Weekend Post the drop in business was "25% plus".

"Business is extremely quiet," she said. "Fortunately we have not had to cut fees or cut back on staff yet."

Mrs Hess said many people were unemployed and at the slow rate the economy was growing, unemployment figures were expected to go even higher.

"By the same token, South Africa is in an anomalous position of having both a surplus of labour and shortages of high-level manpower, not to mention shortages in certain categories of skilled labour," she said.

"There is a surplus of unskilled labour and it's sad that in a recession it is the unskilled labour force that really suffers.

"Fortunately, a recession is usually followed by a boom period again, so we shall just have to sit this one out."

Discussing jobs for school-leavers, Mrs Hess said the job scarcity in some senses was not an "ill wind".

"Because jobs will be scarce for matriculants, I predict that many more will go into tertiary education which is the best move they can make.

"Then, when the economy starts its upswing again, they will be in the pound seats, with good qualifications behind them.

"In fact, we shall be advising all school leavers to study further. I can't impress on them enough the importance of higher education, whether it be university or technical, in the employment market," said Mrs Hess.

Her remarks were endorsed by Mrs Maureen Gasson, owner of Port Elizabeth's oldest employment agency.

"For this year's school-leavers, finding a job is going to be a real battle. We shall also be urging them on to tertiary educational training," said Mrs Gasson.

She confirmed there was a slump in the employment business and put the figure as high as 30%.

"The decline has come very suddenly and we are working in difficult times. I have never known a situation in Port Elizabeth where employment consultants have actually had to go out and tout for business, but that is what is happening now.

"Many companies to whom I have spoken have frozen their head counts and have confirmed they are definitely not replacing staff as they leave," said Mrs Gasson.

Mrs Rosemary Areington, manager of the local branch of another national agency, told Week-

● To Page 2

Harder now to find jobs

● From Page 1

end Post that all the agencies were feeling the pinch.

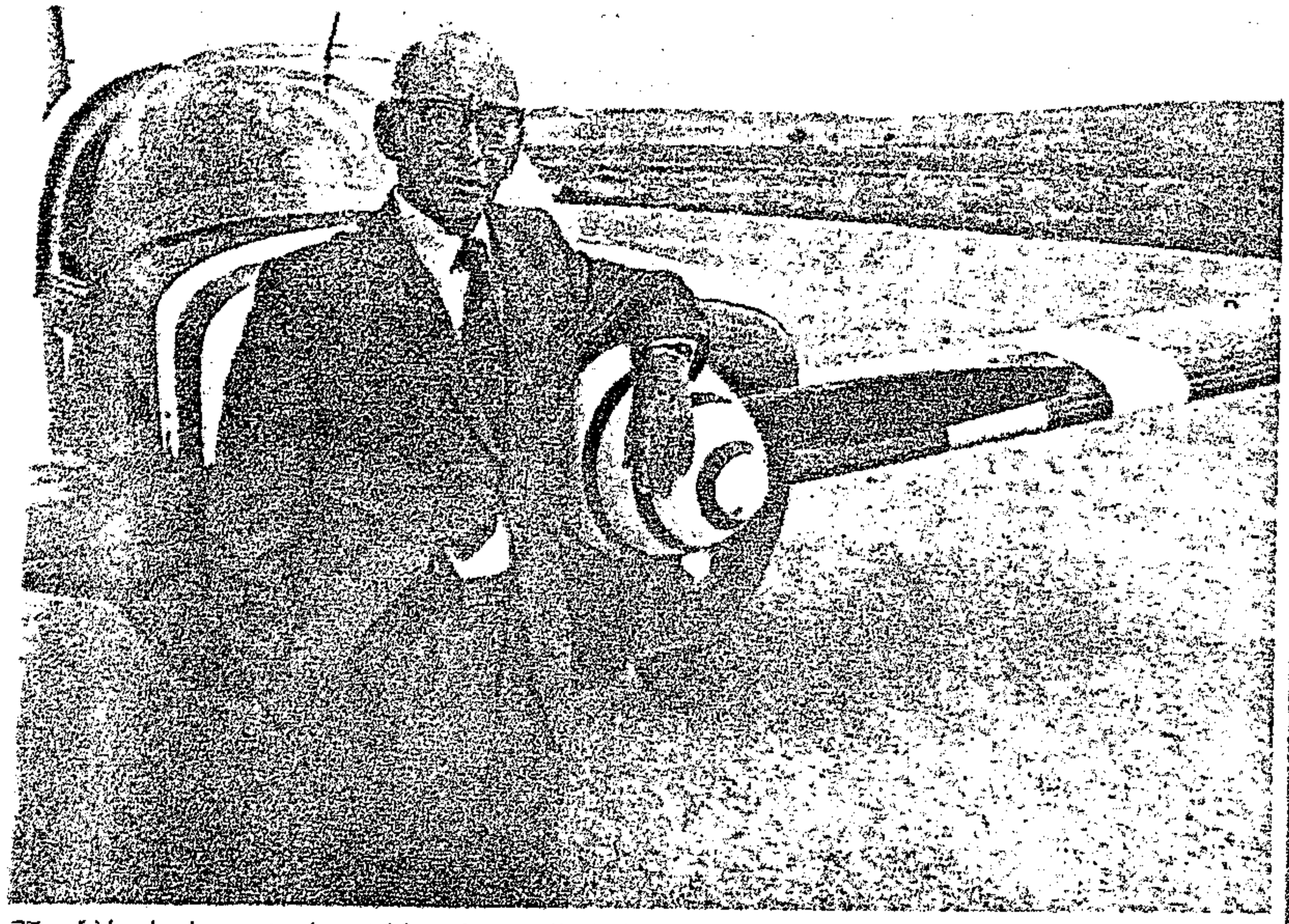
"But we shall just have to ride it out," she said.

Mrs Areington said they were not considering any cutbacks in their Port Elizabeth offices, "but we are definitely not enjoying the busy boom period we had at this time last year.

"However, I must add that the job scarcity is not as bad as it was two years ago," she said.

One bright spot in the otherwise gloomy picture is that salaries have shown no signs of dropping. But this only applied to skilled staff.

A spokesman for another agency predicted that school-leavers who did manage to find jobs would not start at the high salary level their counterparts enjoyed last year.



77, of Vredenburg, took out his private pilot's licence last year and has been flying solo since he was 70.

Picture: JOHN RUBYTHON

ars old — and still flying high

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Stephen
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Club, where he and four pilots share a light aircraft for leisure trips up the coast.

When Oom Steve, a practising attorney, is not up in the clouds he immerses himself in his other great love — the sea.

He has sailed consistently since he joined the Royal Cape Yacht Club in 1927 and was part of the eight-man crew on the yacht Elegance in the first Cape

race to Rio in 1976.

His other pastimes are pistol-shooting and walking.

He sailed in his own yacht Salamander, skippered by his son John, in the third and last

Born at Riebeekkasteel, near Malmesbury, Oom Steve's recipe for keeping fit is a simple one — don't over-eat, don't smoke and drink in moderation.

"If you need an operation,

shoulder in a boxing bout. My most recent operation was when I split a tendon in my foot."

He won't name the operations in between, but says with a grin:

"When I applied for my pupil pilot crew licence, there was not enough space on the form for all the operations. So I had to detail them in an annexure."

● Mr Levin has certainly won his wings for demonstrating Age

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Solo

JOHANNESBURG. —
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South African Defenc

Four of the soldiers
killed — all aged between
19 and 20 — came from
towns in the Free State
and one 19-year-old vic-
tim came from Maritz-
burg.

Those killed were: Can-
didate Officer Casper
Geustyn, 20, of Barry de
Kock Avenue, Panorama,
Bethlehem; Lance-Cor-
poral Edgar Wessels, 19,
of Arendsen

DO YOU HAVE THE POTENTIAL TO BE WEALTHY?

TEST YOUR ABILITY BY COMPLETING QUESTIONNAIRE ON PAGE 4

Domestic workers' aid urged

Cape Times 13/10/81 (28) (1pg 12pt 11pt)

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — Labour laws guaranteeing minimum working conditions, unemployment pay and compensation for on-the-job accidents should be extended to domestic workers, the Government's National Manpower Commission has been told

The NMC has also been urged to consider extending minimum wage laws to domestic workers, and has been told that research claims that most domestics are not breadwinners for their families are false.

The statements are made in a memorandum to the NMC by the Domestic Workers' and Employers' Project (DWEP), which is linked to the SA Institute of Race Relations.

The commission is probing the legal position of farm and domestic workers.

The DWEP says in its memo that domestics are "the most vulnerable" of all the country's workers.

It attacks the claim that because domestics are "part of (their employer's) family", their relations with employers should not be controlled by law. It says research has shown that they are subject to "extreme exploitation". An analysis of 120 cases handled by DWEP's legal clinic showed that domestics' average wage was R61,04 a month and that 73 percent of a sample of domestics who had come to DWEP for help were bread-winners.

The DWEP criticizes the exclusion of domestics from the protection of labour laws.

But it does not urge that they be included in the Labour Relations Act, which governs trade union rights, because it says this would "offer no significant benefits to domestic workers".

The DWEP suggests that the Wage Act, which sets a minimum pay, could be extended to domestics, but adds that this may "arouse considerable opposition" and be difficult to enforce.

As short-term measures, the DWEP recommends that domestics be included in both the Unemployment Insurance and Workmen's Compensation Acts.

It also urges the NMC to include domestics in the Conditions of Employment Bill, which is expected to be enacted in the next session of Parliament.

The bill governs minimum work conditions such as leave and working hours and the DWEP recommends specifically that it grant domestics 1½ days off a week and three weeks' paid leave a year.

It suggests that they be excluded from a clause setting a maximum work week of 46 hours because this, too, may be difficult to implement and may attract opposition.

It suggests that it be compulsory for officials to give domestics a copy of their work contract

(Report by M P Acott, 77 Burg St, Cape Town)

Vrouefederasie.



MR RAMCHITRAR Panday, right, chairman of the Natal Driving Instructors' Association, with some of his members, who say their livelihood hangs in the balance because of a ruling on the size of trucks used for testing applicants for their extra-heavy duty licence.

Friday, October 15, 1982

Driving instructors given an ultimatum

Mercury Reporter

INDIAN driving school instructors are worried after having been told that the type of trucks they have been using for the past 12 years to carry out tests for the extra-heavy duty licence was no longer suitable.

They must either replace their fleet by the end of the month or close down.

Mr Ramchitrar Panday, chairman of the Natal Driving Instructors' Association, told the Mercury yesterday that his members were perturbed at the new ruling which had dealt 'a severe body blow' as some of them had recently bought new trucks, costing about R65 000 each.

He said that it was most unfair to ask driving schools to replace their fleets by the end of the month or close down.

He said he was seeking an urgent meeting with the Natal Provincial Executive Committee to convey the feelings of his members.

The ruling had come as a total surprise as it had been agreed at a meeting with senior officials of the Natal Provincial Traffic Department in Pietermaritzburg on June 9 that trucks with a carrying capacity of 12 000 kg could continue to be used for training and testing of drivers for extra heavy duty licences.

'Now the authorities want us to buy trucks with a mass of 23 000 kg,' he said.

Mr Singaram Padayachee, the association's secretary, told the Mercury that it could become highly dangerous to allow a learner driver to handle a truck with such a huge mass load, especially when travelling downhill.

He said they could not allow a test for an extra-heavy duty licence to be carried out in a vehicle which did not meet the legal requirement.

There was nothing sinister about this. The type of vehicle to be used for each driver's test was laid down in the Ordinance.

It appeared that certain instructors did not have the class of vehicle that was necessary to get a certain class of licence.

'It does not mean that if they had been using a certain type of vehicle for extra-heavy duty tests for 12 years they can continue to do so. They must comply with the law,' he said.

Requirements

Mr Les Farrant, head of the Provincial Traffic Inspectorate, said the class of vehicle used for conducting a driver's test was determined in the Ordinance.



Two hawkers ply their wares in a prohibited part of the central business district yesterday.

Hawkers still sell in EL despite ban

EAST LONDON — Hawking — both legal and illegal — appears to be thriving in the central business district here despite a six-year-old ban on the practice.

A snap survey of the area yesterday morning indicated the ban has had little effect.

Youthful fruit and vegetable vendors were openly flogging their wares in the prohibited area, bounded by North, Cambridge, Fleet and Buffalo Streets.

A few of the more cautious young hawkers lingered on the perimeters of the banned area, but older women with loaded cardboard containers displayed little fear for possible arrest.

Hawkers spoken to all knew they were indulging in an illegal practice. "But our mothers are hungry and we have to do this," said a teenage boy, waving his plastic bags filled with potatoes.

The City Council this week decided to extend the ban on hawking to a part of the North End, in the immediate vicinity of the new Oriental Plaza.

According to the deputy town clerk, Mr Les Kumm, the council's decision was motivated by a desire to control illegal hawking. It was felt that petty crime, often associated with hawking, could also be clamped down on in this way.

Licensed hawkers and traders at the Plaza needed protection against competition from illegal hawkers.

The North End ban — comprising the area barred by Factory, Braeside, Kimberley and St John's Roads as well as St Paul's Road between Kimberley Road and Braeside Road — will probably only come into effect early next year.

Mr Mike Williams, deputy chairman of the Indian Management Committee, said yesterday he felt the proposed new ban was "a bit harsh".

"I have very mixed feelings on this. In one way the hawkers are causing a problem in the Plaza area, but at the same time this ban could take away these people's only means of making a living," he said.

Traders at the Plaza would probably have been satisfied if hawkers were barred only from the shopping centre premises.

"I feel it would have been fair to ban hawking in the area if these hawkers could have been given some alternative form of employment," said Mr Williams.

He conceded that perpetrators of petty crime did operate among hawkers, but felt that active criminals among hawkers were "few and far between". The manager of a supermarket in the central business district said while he did not regard hawkers as competition they were, unfortunately, a "nuisance" and "harassed" his customers.

Some of his regular customers had stopped shopping at the supermarket because of the influx of hawkers to the area.

Mr Kumm said illegal hawking in the vicinity of the Lennox Road nurses' home had been effectively controlled by regular police and municipal security police blitzes.

"The whole idea with the ban is to try and control hawking. I doubt whether it will ever be wiped out," he said.

An elderly woman seen buying a bag of potatoes from a hawker yesterday said she felt hawkers provided a "service" in the inner city.

"Their wares are always fresh and they are handy. But I suppose they could become a problem too," she said.

The Border public relations officer of the police, Major Warren Brown, said hawking in the central business district had decreased since the ban was imposed six years ago.

However, it still thrived because hawkers use the Gillwell Road bus terminus, which is outside the prohibited area, as a kind of refuge from the police.

As soon as police patrols left the prohibited area they were back selling their wares, he said.

— DDR

Province firm on extra-heavy truck licence issue

Mercury Reporter

NATAL'S senior MEC, Mr Frank Martin, yesterday reiterated that the Province would not allow the training and testing of truck drivers on vehicles that did not meet the required specification.

He was commenting on a protest by Indian truck-driving school instructors, who went on 'strike' yesterday by refusing to take clients for tests or make any bookings for extra-heavy duty licence at the Rossburgh testing grounds following a ban on the type of trucks they have been using for the past 12 years.

Mr Martin said if the instructors were refusing to train or test their clients, then their clients should look for other driving schools that would be willing to train them.

Mr Ramcharitar Panday, chairman of the Natal Driving Instructors' Association, said he was seeking a meeting with Mr Martin to discuss the grievances of his members.

'We have been using trucks with a carrying capacity of 12 000 kg for extra-heavy duty licence for the past 12 years. We cannot see why the authorities now want us to get bigger trucks.'

He said many of his members recently bought trucks costing R60 000 which were generally accepted by inspectors at the NPA testing grounds at Rossburgh.

'Now to expect members to dispose of these vehicles is unfair,' he added.

Hawkers accuse cops of harassment

ANGRY Soweto licensed hawkers have told The SOWETAN of harassment by police for selling to pensioners at their pay-out centres in Soweto.

They said they were forced to pay fines ranging from R50 to R100 after being arrested.

Mr Thamsanqa Ndlovu of Emdeni South said that he was arrested several times, and when he tried to show the police officer his license he was told he would have the situation explained to him.

He added that he was taken to the Vocational Police unit in Dube where he was kept for five hours.

"A certain health inspector by the name of Mr Kobus was influential in my release", he said.

He added: "These police officers are very unreasonable. They are just wasting our time and business, because the health inspectors have approved our products".

Another licensed hawker, Mr Daniel Malinga of Senaoane said that he was arrested several times and fined R100.

"I cannot understand why I should be fined when I am licensed", he said. A licensed woman said they were trying to help pensioners by selling to them, but "the police are just not interested in our story". she said.

A Wrab policeman, Mr Alpheus Mabatha, said they arrested hawkers because their licenses did not allow them to sell at pensioners' pay-out centres.

UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN
EXAMINATION ANSWER BOOK

EVERY CANDIDATE MUST enter in column (1) the number of each question answered (in the order in which it has olumns (2) and

External
(3)

Call to legalise hawking in Pontoon Road

295

10/11/82

EAST LONDON — Calls to legalise and control black hawkers in the city have been made following police and municipal action against hawkers at the Pontoon Road bus terminus.

The Chamber of Commerce and the Duncan Village Community Council have requested meetings with the city council to discuss the issue.

The matter is scheduled to be raised at Monday's action committee meeting of the council.

The secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, Mr Jock Allison, the chairman of the Duncan Village Community Council, Mr D. D. Makatala, the chairman of the council's finance and general purposes portfolio, Mr Donald Card, and the director of the Border Metropolitan Development Corporation (Bomedco), Mr Ted Walsh, yesterday called for a controlled and legalised hawking system.

Since Thursday police together with municipal officials have arrested an unknown number of black hawkers selling goods in and around the Pontoon Road bus terminus.

The raids were preceeded by a warning from the city's director of management services, Mr Leon Deetlefs, that a special council meeting on October 4 had decided that the police and municipality should take action against "undesirables and unlicensed hawkers".

Mr Allison confirmed that the Chamber of Commerce intended to take up the issue of hawking in the city with the council.

"This is the sort of informal business we ought to encourage — but with controls," he said.

Mr Makatala confirmed that his council had also requested a meeting with the city council to discuss hawking.

"I am sure the majority of the city council is not disagreeable to having hawkers at the Pontoon Road bus terminus."

He said he appreciated the view of white businessmen in the CBD and would not object if hawking was confined to the bus terminus.

Mr Card said he would raise the issue at Monday's action committee meeting.

He said a committee of ten, representing 48 named hawkers, had held discussions with him following the raids.

"They said they will do anything to legalise their position and will give any assurances the city council may require. I am satisfied they are genuine and that their need is genuine."

Mr Walsh said he was in favour of controlled hawking as long as it did not give rise to crime.

"Hawking is the first level of private enterprise, although few people seem to see it this way."

The acting Town Clerk, Mr Les Kumm, said no black person could be licensed to hawk in a prescribed area outside a black area without the permission of the government.

"As far as I am aware, we have got no such permission."

He said blacks who hawked on behalf of white-owned firms, such as ice-cream vendors, could be licensed, although the council had banned licensed hawkers from the CBD and parts of North End.

The liaison officer for the police in the Border, Major Warren Brown, confirmed that police had arrested a number of hawkers at the Pontoon Road bus terminus.

However, he said he was not able to provide the number of arrests made. — DDR

NOTE CAREFULLY

1. Enter at the top of each page and in column (1) of the block on this cover the number of the question you are answering.
2. Blue or black ink must be used for written answers. The use of a ball point pen is acceptable. Red or green ink may be used only for underlining, emphasis or for diagrams, for which pencil may also be used.
3. Names must be printed on each separate sheet (e.g. graph paper) where sheets additional to examination book(s) are used.
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WARNING

1. No books, notes, pieces of paper or other material may be brought into the examination room unless candidates are so instructed.
2. Candidates are not to communicate with other candidates or with any person except the invigilator.
3. No part of an answer book is to be torn out.
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Any dishonesty will render the candidate liable to disqualification and to possible exclusion from the University

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Govt clamps down on hawkers

A TOTAL ban on hawking has been placed on hundreds of illegal hawkers in East London in terms of a 1945 Act which has not been applied in recent years.

An undisclosed number of hawkers have been arrested by police in recent weeks after an administration board official pointed out to the local authorities that in terms of the Bantu Urban Consolidation Act of 1945 no black person was allowed to hawk outside of a prescribed black area without the consent of the minister concerned.

Hundreds of blacks in the East London area — where unemployment is rife — depend on the income they receive from hawking vegetables and other foodstuffs in the city.

Mr Donald Card, city councillor, who has been negotiating with a hawkers' committee, says most of the hawkers are women who are the sole breadwinners of the family.

"Of those who have come to see me some have over ten children and they say they don't only live off the income they get from hawking but also educate their children."

"They are earning a living and the fact that there are so many means there is a need for them."

Police authorities believe that the hawkers provide a cover for criminals while some businesses have complained of littering and of customers being harassed by hawkers pedalling wares which are often cheaper than those in shops.

The city council is also divided on whether to permit hawking. Last week a small majority voted in favour of banning hawkers and the matter will be discussed again at an action committee meeting next week.

Mr Card believes that many councillors feel "it would be a problem to restrict the hawkers as they are earning a living."

Mr Les Kumm, acting town clerk, said in terms of the act only legal hawkers — those operating for white businesses such as cake or ice cream vendors — were permitted to operate.

These however, were not allowed to sell in the central business district and in certain parts of the suburb of North End, he said — Own Correspondent.

'Informal sector' boost urged

Star 17/1/82

295

Political Correspondent

CAPE TOWN — One of South Africa's leading bankers and businessmen, Dr Frans Cronje, yesterday made a strong plea for the encouragement of the "informal sector" of the economy.

Giving evidence to the President's Council's Committee for Economic Affairs, Dr Cronje said sight was often lost of the fact that South Africa was a developing country and, economically speaking, to a great degree part of the Third World.

The committee's hearing yesterday was part of its investigation into measures which inhibit the efficient functioning of the free market-oriented economic system.

Dr Cronje said although South Africa was to a large extent part of the Third World, First World standards were applied to many aspects of the economy.

He felt that the following aspects should be investigated.

● The sometimes unnecessarily high and strict standards set by the Shops and Offices Act.

● Legislation which made it impossible for hawkers or the self employed to do business in certain areas;

● Unnecessarily high building standards.

"We must therefore as soon as possible investigate and try to remove the impediments that prevent people from creating work for themselves."

Dr Cronje called for more equal education opportunities and improved business and technical training facilities.

A publicity campaign to introduce the advantages of the free market system to "less sophisticated" members of the community would have little effect.

The black population would attach no credibility to a campaign launched by the authorities if the largely political obstacles in the way of a completely free economic system remained.

beats Britain

TOWN — After to a 4-4 draw the United Johannesburg day night, South cored an 8-4 win Britain in the the Standard ional tenament here last

Natal-born Kevin Curren beat Richard Lewis 6-2, 6-4.

In the doubles, Johan Kriek and Curren beat Buster Mottram and John Feaver 6-3, 6-4. — SAPA.

Kriek loses, P24

Mixed reaction to city hawkers

D/Dispatch 18/11/82 295

EAST LONDON — A Gillwell Street cafe owner, Mr Peter Verdoukas, looked across the road to the Pontoon bus terminus packed with hawkers and said: "I like to see all those people."

Three doors away, another cafe owner, Mr Jannie Buys, looked at the hawkers and said: "I would like to see them banned completely."

The two businessmen were among nine in the area asked what they thought about the black hawkers.

The council decided on Monday night to apply for special government permission to license black hawkers.

At present blacks cannot be licensed to trade for their own benefit in a white area without government consent.

Mr Verdoukas said the hawkers brought "life" to the area. "If it (the bus terminus) was empty, it would be no good for business."

Mr Buys objected to hawkers making a living from a similar trade to his own but without any of the costs he paid.

"They don't pay any taxes, rental or anything. They are making a good living on our expense," he said.

The owner of an electrical and clothing business facing the terminus, Mr Gavin Turner, said he did not mind the hawkers and he would like to see them legalised with proper controls.

"The hawkers are good for me. We deal with the black trade and they help attract the people," he said.

Nearby, the director of a large wholesale business, Mr E. Jankelson, said hawking should be encouraged — but controlled.

"In principle I am not against hawking. These people have to earn a living. If controlled, I'm all for it."

Up Caxton Street from the terminus, the manager of a furniture store, Mr Clifford Boucher, said that "apart from the mess" he had no objection to hawkers plying their trade.

"I don't think it's right for them to stand in front of shops and hawk their goods. I think a place should be provided at the bus rank for them."

The owner of a takeaway business further up Caxton Street, near Oxford Street, Mr I. W. Foulkes, said hawkers should be either licensed and properly controlled or banned completely.

He said littering and hygiene should be controlled and that if hawkers were bound by the same laws as other businesses he would be in favour.

"Why don't they get them stalls down there at the bus terminus? At least that will prevent street littering."

The owner of a takeaway business in Union Arcade, Mr Malcolm Cock, said he believed the hawkers rendered a service.

"I feel it is a case of live and let live. They are earning an honest living and they are creating their own job opportunity," he said.

The owner of a cafe on Market Square, Mr J. A. Pires, said the hawkers were not a problem.

"They don't worry me," he said.

The manager of a major supermarket in Market Square, Mr Rob Goddard, said hawkers collected at the doors of the store and harassed customers.

"It is a nuisance and customers have complained about the hawkers," he said.

He referred inquiries on the supermarket's attitude to hawking to the company's head office in Johannesburg, but yesterday no one was available for comment.

The chairman of the chamber of commerce, Mr George Orsmond, said the city council move to legalise the position of black hawkers was a good move — provided there were controls.

Mr Orsmond said it was important to encourage black commerce and that hawking was a good way to start.

"Look at the position of many of our Indian traders today. Their forefathers started off as hawkers." — DDR

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ENSTOWN, Hexagon Hotel, Tel: 3015.
) p.m. — 8.00 p.m. Monday 22nd November.

ANNESBURG TEL: 21-8201/2. 21st r, Carlton Centre.
TORIA TEL: 21-6701. 43a, 2nd Floor, Meent, 266 Pretorius St.
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IT'S HERE!

GINGER SPARKL

Sowetan
25/2/83
(295)

THE voiceless masses in the country's white suburbs are growing into a force to be reckoned with. Already boasting a membership of 6 000 within two years of existance, the South African Domestic Workers' Association (Sadwa) last week held its annual general meeting in Rosebank.

Presenting her report, the chairperson of Sadwa and domestic worker for 25 years, Caroline Sotlwe said a steering committee elected to look into the working conditions of the domestic has submitted a third memorandum to the labour commission, demanding recognition of domestics' services.

Sadwa believes their members have bargaining power to sell their labour at competitive prices in this country. The association is fighting a system whereby its members contribute to the country's wealth and economic growth by standing in for the housewife and enabling her to join the industry, yet domestics are not allowed to share the fruits of their labour.

Sadwa is spearheaded by the Domestic Workers' Employment Project (Dwep), a voluntary organisation which offers professional advice and services to destitute domestics.

The director of Dwep, Leah Tutu and a community worker, Lolo Tabane advised the domestics, who attended sewing, literature and other upgrading classes at the centres of concern in the suburbs, to start a union to help voice their grievances.

"We realised the need for such an organisation after being faced with scores of domestics, most of them bringing complaints like iltreatment by employers, exploitation and many others. Dwep will only appeal or rather recommend minimum salaries to the employers, who will also optionally agree to that. Sometimes we appeal for long service money which also relies on the employer's discretion," said Ms Tabane.

She told the meeting that the main objective of Sadwa was to fight for recognition in the labour force. She said although not everybody would benefit immediately the domestics of tomorrow would.

She also said that for the first time in Parliament the Minister of Manpower Utilization, Mr S P Botha last year spoke about the plight of domestic workers in this country. This, she said, showed that things would probably work out positively in the near future.

The new management committee for Sadwa will be elected at an executive meeting to be held at Dwep offices in Braamfontein on March 3.

The interim management committee comprises the following: (all domestics) Mirriam Motloung, Mabel Phiri, Caiphus Nkomo, Violet Mohlasedi, Winnie Khanyile, Selina Vilakazi, Amanda Simango, Martha Maloka, Margaret Nhlapo and Christina Kgapola.

Caroline Sotlwe, (right) chairperson of the South African Domestic Workers' Association.



INSERTS: Leah Tutu (left), director of the Domestic Workers' Employment Project and (above), members of Sadwa at their second annual meeting.

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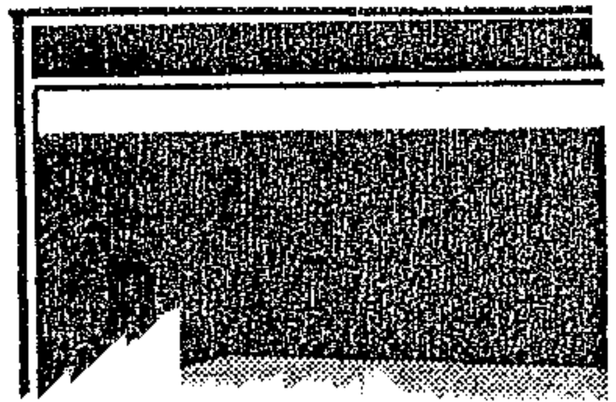
— 4.36
• Ritter's Cove — 4.54
• The Wonderful World of Disney — 5.18
• Cross Roads — 6.02
• Computers are People Too — viewers learn how artists use computer technology to enhance their creativity — 6.32

TV2

• Umakhulu Uyasibalisela/Iphuphangetyiwa — 10.32
• Ezabasha Jikelele
Ukusiza Ilizwi — a documentary about the mission station of Mamre — 11.00
• Izimfijoli Ebhayibhelini — 11.30
• Abanqobi — 11.45
• Ziyabuya eThekwini — music programme — 12.00
• Usenzekile — the final episode — 12.15
• Jikelele — 6.30
• Siculelwa Yintsha — a music programme



MUSIC MAN: Deejay and F Malaza



D Dispatch 5/4/83 (295)

Call for public support to fight hawker problem

EAST LONDON — Local businessmen have complained that hawkers are littering the pavements and obstructing customers from entering their Gladstone Street shops.

Mr A. Wolf, a clothing store manager, said two customers fell after slipping on left-over peels from hawkers.

"Luckily it was not serious, but someday something serious may happen."

He said each time a police patrol van came near the area, the hawkers would either drop their goods inside his shop, or leave them on the pavement outside and run away.

Mr J. J. V. Drayton, a bottle store manager, said he had had to "chuck out" hawkers quite a few times. He said they were a nuisance, especially at the entrance to his store.

Mrs H. Wanckel, a bridal boutique manageress, said hawkers left their litter "all over the place".

"I have seen hawkers actually washing their fruit, vegetables and meat in the drains and then sell them," she said.

Mr J. Rossouw, manager of a men's outfitters store, said the problem was "something terrible".

The city's director of management services, Mr L. Deetlefs, and the security superintendent, Mr C. J. van Vuuren, said the problem of hawkers "harassed the whole town."

The problem reached a peak during holidays, when children were sent to hawk.

Most hawkers operated from the Pontoon Road bus stop, Mr Deetlefs said. "We try our best to overcome the problem, but it seems nothing helps. When they see a van approaching they run away — leaving the goods behind," Mr Van Vuuren said.

"We must warn the public that they can also be charged under municipal regulations if they are caught buying from hawkers," said Mr Deetlefs.

"In the meantime, municipal security officials, in conjunction with the police, will try their best," he said.

The police public relations officer for the Border, Major W. W. Brown, said 32 hawkers had been arrested since last week.

"We found that since we've started taking action against hawkers, the petty-crime rate in the city has decreased — including bag-snatching and breaking into motor cars.

"Hawkers particularly seem to direct their actions against older people, by pushing their goods into the cars in parking lots. When they retract their packets, they take anything that is lying loose in the car with them — including handbags.

"Many businessmen phone us about hawkers being a menace by running into shops and epositing their goods when they see a van coming. We deal with that every day," he said.

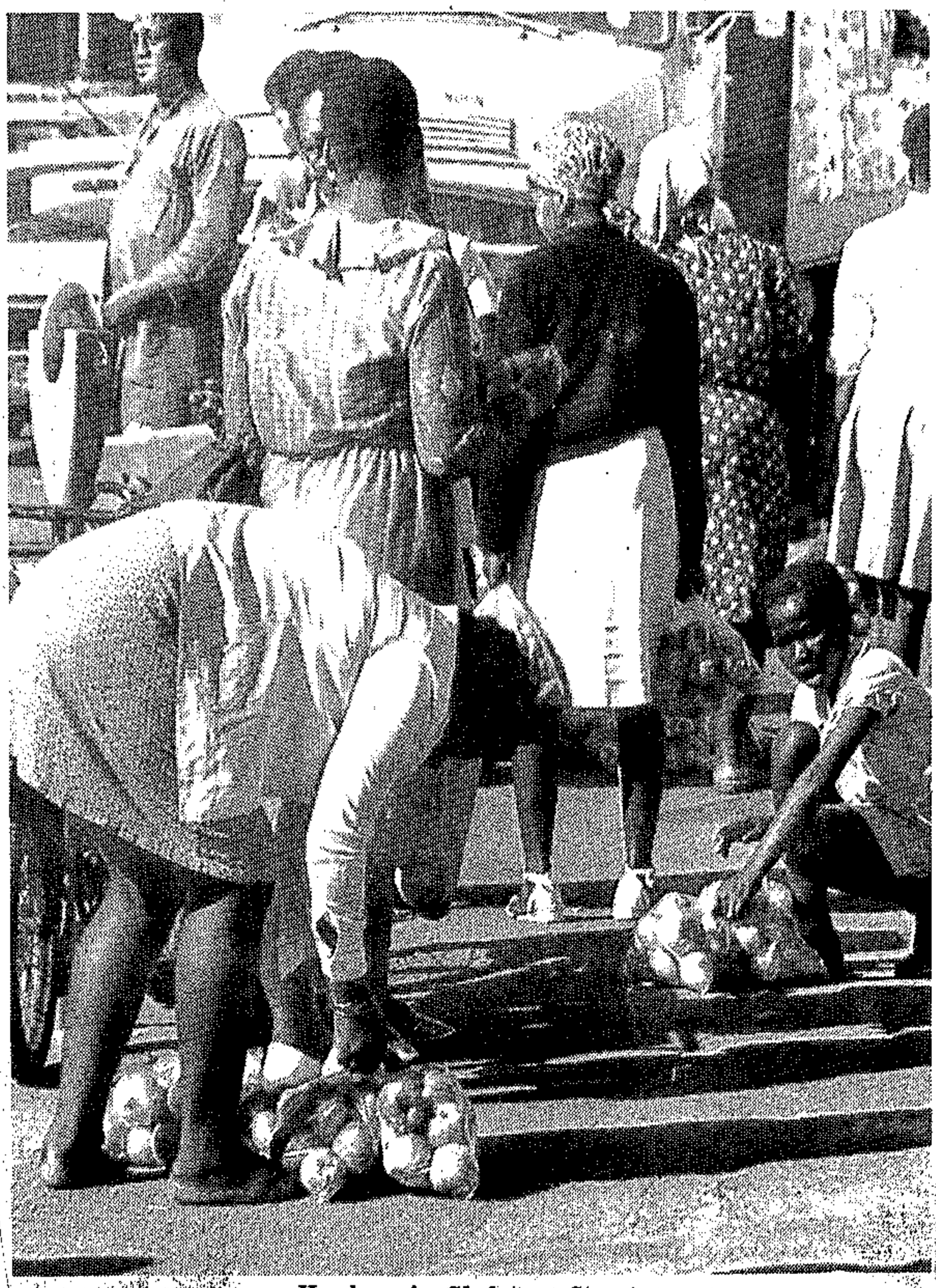
Colonel P. Wagener, divisional inspector for the police, warned the public not to buy from hawkers. "I have seen a hawker cleaning dirty apples with his saliva. I have also seen them washing their goods in drains and public toilets, and selling meat with flies running all over it.

"It seems as if it's only the SAP who try to fight the problem of hawkers — and it is a problem."

"One should ask oneself where the hawkers store these goods — in their houses?" he said.

Hawkers said they bought their food at markets, where they paid about R2,50 for a box of fruit. They said they made a profit of about R2 on a box.

"We are doing this to make money," they said. —DDR



Hawkers in Gladstone Street.

A day in the life of a Witbank hawker

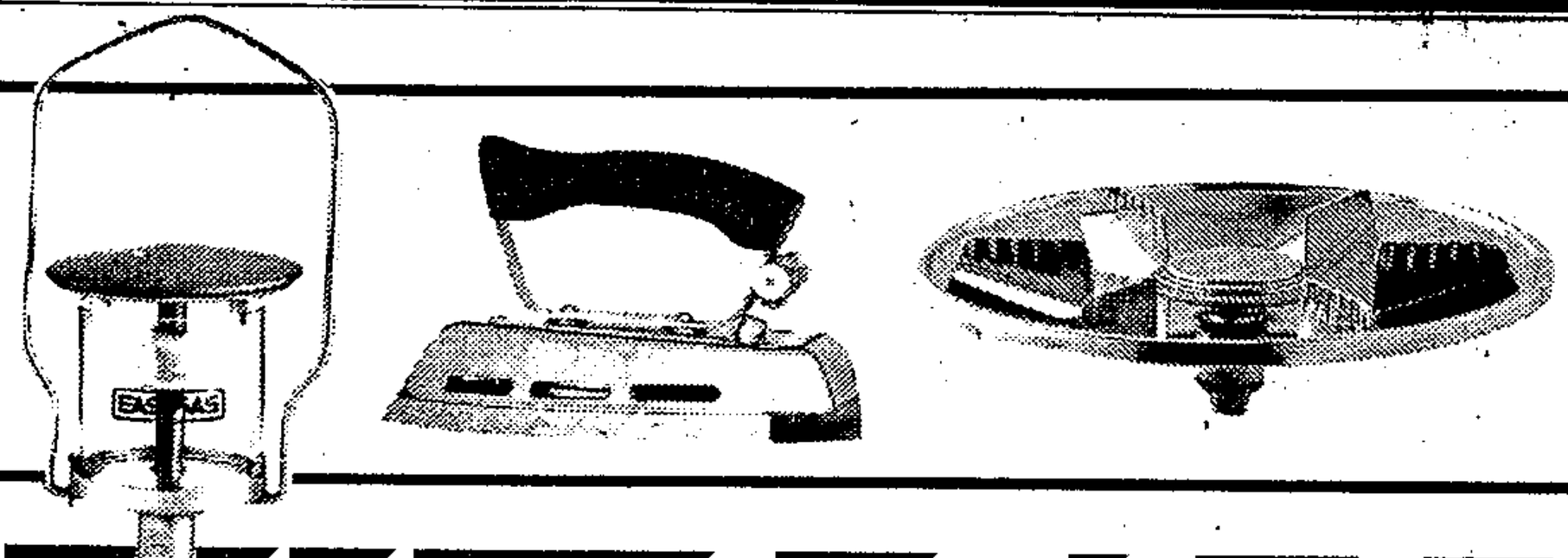
By LEN MASEKO



NO LICENCE: Mrs Maphanga.



BREADWINNER: Mrs Vilakazi with two of her children.
Pic: ROBERT MAGWAZA



WITBANK'S street

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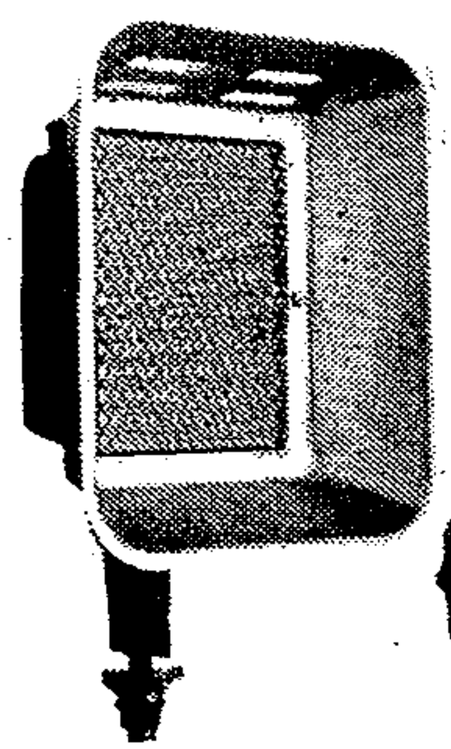
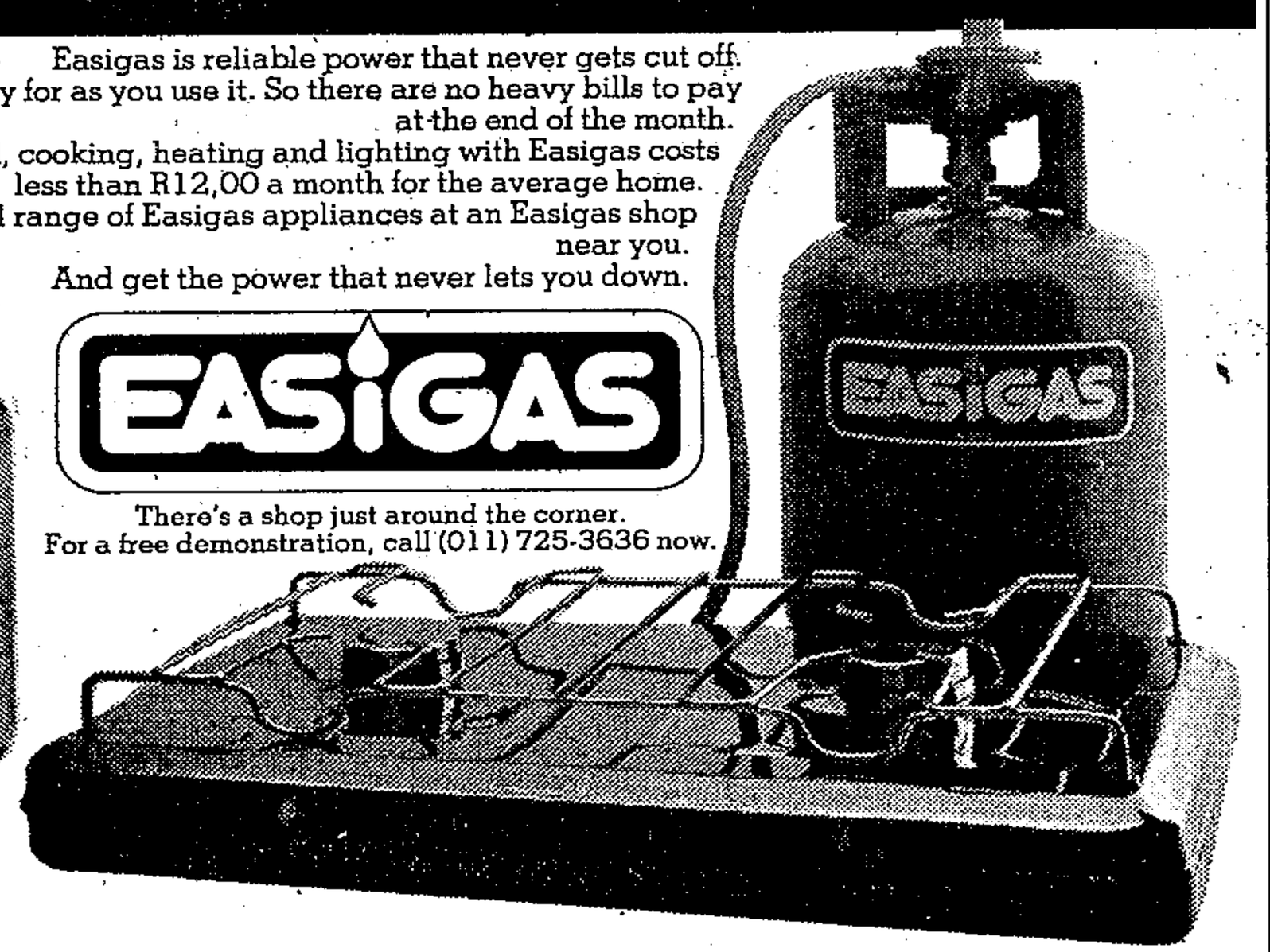




FINE, GEFFEN, SIMKINS & MARRINGTON 6025

SPOTLIGHT ON WITBANK

WITBANK'S street hawkers have come to accept that looking over their shoulders every second is the best formula for surviving in the business.

For, the hawkers spend most of their business life on the run from the Highveld Administration policemen. Unlike their Soweto counterparts, they have unsuccessfully tried to obtain licenses for their businesses.

Despite their unsuccessful attempts to have their businesses recognised, the hawkers continue to sell in the streets. And this, of course, does not escape the watchful eyes of the police — with most of them ending up arrested and made to pay fines ranging from R5 to R15.

STRUGGLE

However, the hawkers have come to accept that their life is the struggle for the right to earn a living — but the authorities have constantly refused to recognise their existence.

At the core of the problem is that hawkers should first erect shelters for their businesses — a condition laid down by the authorities before licences can be issued to them. But the problem has remained unsolved because the hawkers have refused to shoulder the responsibility of building the shelters.

"The authorities should erect the shelters for us so that we can rent them. It is their responsibility, not ours," said Mrs Elizabeth Vilakazi, who has been in the business for the past 15 years.

EVICT

"The structures will be built on the authorities' ground. So, because of this reason, we will not be allowed to own the buildings. Who knows? they might even evict us out of the structures" Mrs Vilakazi said.

Mrs Vilakazi, who has been arrested for selling without a licence more than a dozen times, vows she will not leave the business for anything. She has four children to support — some of whom are still attending school.

"One incident will always remain in my mind. A policeman arrested me for selling without a licence. I was about to be shoved inside the police van when I rained blows on the poor policeman. Within seconds, he lay sprawled on the floor — dazed and wondering what had hit him. We have suffered for too long, that is why we have got used to police harassment," she adds.

LEGAL

The SOWETAN spoke to two other hawkers about their struggle for legalisation. Mrs Christina Maphanga, a mother of eight, said: "I have gone twice to the authorities to request them to allow us to sell without being prosecuted. But they have emphatically refused to give us licences. So, there is nothing we can do but to continue with our businesses".

Perhaps, Mrs Letta Mashele summed up the day in the life of a Witbank hawker, who she said: "To survive, you should look over your shoulder every second. And you should live a nomadic life — move from one point to another to evade police".

Street trade means survival in recession



The Seventh Avenue rag trade.

How are they making out in Port Elizabeth's black townships, with unemployment running so high? Like people caught in this same situation the world over, they are taking in each other's washing and selling things to one another.

Weekend Post watched some of the street traders in action in New Brighton this week — making a few cents any way they could.

By SIMON BLOCH

GETTING by in the recession means making a few cents a day for many in Port Elizabeth's black townships. Making them any way you can.

A myriad enterprises have sprung up on the dusty streets: barber shops, soup kitchens — their pots boiling and bubbling over small fires in the market — fruit and vegetable stalls situated at bus shelters and the rag trade where bits of cloth can be bought off blankets on the stony sidewalks.

Some survive by chopping up animals' heads and intestines. Others sell scrawny live chickens.

And, of course, with so few doctors located in the area, tribal medicine flourishes.

No-one stands in a dole queue waiting for a handout. They get on with any job they can manage to make ends meet.

And they are proud to earn a living.

In contrast to the grim poverty prevalent everywhere, the market is an area where the community of high-spirited traders will do almost anything for cash.

Perhaps it's not pre-packed prime, but this young trader doesn't lack customers. He even finds people to buy the head.

Above: Cooking for the constant stream of visitors to the market is a lucrative trade.

Right: Short back and sides? A customer takes his seat in the shade of a parasol while the barber plies his trade. It's better than a room with a view. Cheaper too.

Anyone for sweets? The radio helps make pleasant the passage of time — and the trade will earn this man a living until the employment situation improves.

Domestic agency opens

E. Post 14/4/83 295

Post Reporter

A GELVANDALE couple has applied for a licence to start a domestic worker hiring service.

Mr A Savahl, a factory owner, said he had applied to the Port Elizabeth City Council for a licence and hoped to start operating on Monday.

He said there was a big demand for domestic workers, often on a temporary basis. Since he had started advertising, he had received up to 20 inquiries a day.

He said he and his wife, Mrs S Savahl, carefully interviewed prospective workers and selected those most suitable. They would earn R100 a month.

He said domestic workers would be taken to the homes and taken to a bus stop once they had finished.

By SAVVAS GEORGIADES and JOE MOAHLOLI

DESPERATE out-of-work blacks are paying a "mail-order company" in the belief that they will find well-paid jobs in America.

Hundreds of blacks have been to the office of "Overseas Appointments" in Voortrekker Street, Elsburg, near Germiston, where they willingly pay R5 for a scrap of paper — and a shortlived dream.

For their fee they fill in a form, giving their name, address, education, working experience and the type of work they are looking for.

They are also issued with a cheaply produced photostat brochure which makes sweeping statements about glamourous jobs with international companies based in America.

The reader is told of the scores of highly paid opportunities — with overtime "sweeteners" and "hefty" bonuses — which are waiting to be taken up.

The "clearing house" as he calls it, is run by Mr Alan Day. He started advertising his business in newspapers about a month ago.

Since then he says he has had more than 1 000 applicants, all keen to part with R5 for a job with a salary beyond even their wildest dreams.

Mr Roger Daley, the American Consul for Consular Affaires in Johannesburg, said the chances of an unskilled person getting a visa to work in America was "close to zero".



Blacks queue hopefully for their tickets to America

Unemployed blacks offered 'well-paid' jobs in the U.S.

Queue

"Although American companies do recruit overseas labour it is for senior positions and highly skilled people," he said.

When the Sunday Times visited the offices this week there was a long queue of black hopefuls waiting with their R5 notes at the back door of the office.

Mr Day said he was the manager of "Overseas Appointments" and that it was a private company.

"We are only a mail-order house and provide information services," Mr Day claimed.

"We don't promise employment or claim that we will fix up their passports or work permits. How can we promise this?

"All we do is provide the information and the contact.

"Most of the people who come to us have very little education and we help them fill in their application forms and type out a covering letter which we undertake to post to the various companies listed in our brochure."

Yet a glance at the long list of jobs claimed in the brochure to be available shows not one that doesn't call for a reasonable education and specialised experience.

Mr Day said he did not give receipts for the payments.

"Everyone gets a form which is a receipt. If they bring these back I will return their money. If they ask for receipts we'll give them receipts.

"We have 10 guys in here a minute and it is difficult to issue all with receipts."

Lawyer

He said he had been in this type of business for a year and had consulted his lawyers first before entering the venture.

"I'm not a millionaire. I make a small profit from the R5 fee.

"My administration costs

Sunday Times 26/6/83

Unemployed blacks offered 'well-paid' jobs in the U.S.

Desperate

He claimed he had addresses for over 200 companies where employment could be found.

Most of the applicants there on Friday were from Ciskei or Transkei who had worked as construction labourers in Witwatersrand.

They were now unemployed and desperate for work.

One of the hopefuls was Mr Samuel Tantiso, 43, who lives with his wife and four children in Natalspruit.

He has a standard two education and an interpreter was needed to interview him because he knew hardly any English or Afrikaans.

He was employed with a construction company until a few months ago.

He had heard about Mr Day's offer in the township.

"I was told I may be able to find a job fixing roads in America.

"I would be paid R7 an hour."

He was asked to return to the company's office on Monday but was not told what would happen to his money if he did not find a job.

"It's hard to give someone R5 because I've very little money left to feed my family. The important thing is that I have a chance to find a job," Mr Tantiso said.

295 Star 28/6/83

Jobless pay for US addresses

R5 for dreams of a better future

By Abel Mabelane

I was among a group of 50 men who queued up eagerly in the hope of obtaining employment overseas.

Some said they had been unemployed for a long time. They had learnt about "Overseas Appointments" from friends.

At about 9.15 am the doors were flung open and we filed into an elegantly appointed office.

We were then given a talk by a well-dressed man in his early thirties, who did not introduce himself.

He said companies in North and South America, Canada and North Africa were looking for skilled and unskilled workers.

"I have obtained 1 400 men so far and need 600 more to make up the 2 000 men they need," he said.

Skilled workers would earn between 10 and 15 dollars an hour and unskilled workers between six and seven dollars an hour, he said.

Board and lodging would be provided and airfares would be paid by the employer companies. Half the airfare would be deducted from wages.

"I am doing all this to help you and all you have to pay me is R5 for administrative fees."

We paid him our R5 each and were given the application forms and pamphlets. No receipts were issued.

It was all over in five minutes and the prospective immigrants filed out to fill in complicated forms which they believed would open a way to a better future.

The application form itself appears to be designed for use in the United States because applicants are asked to give details of US military or naval service.

The pamphlet lists a large number of highly respected US companies.

It is not signed.

It says the companies listed are always looking for staff throughout the world where contracts are being carried out.

"There are many positions which become vacant throughout the contract period and a timely application will usually receive a favourable reply.

"For those who will need passports there are offices in nearly every major centre who can supply you with one within two weeks.

"It is your right to own a passport and we recommend that all applicants apply for one at their earliest convenience."

The pamphlet says all applications must be sent to the personnel manager of the company of the applicant's choice with a covering letter stating profession and special skills.

"Waiting time for a reply is normally six to eight weeks, so don't be impatient. These things do take a while to materialise.

"We handle all correspondence and updating and can also supply details of emmigration (sic) and local conditions."

The pamphlet also gives the names and addresses of more than 35 American contractors who perform construction work overseas.

"Take you pick or write them all. They're the biggies in the business," says the pamphlet.

According to information received by The Star, the Voortrekker Road operation started about two weeks ago.

If claims that 1 400 people have already been "helped" are correct this means that R7 000 has already been collected.

The 2 000-worker target would mean R10 000 for the operator.

Mr Alan Day, manager of Overseas Appointments, said his concern was a mail order information service only.

The company could not make offers of employment and had never claimed to be able to do so.

"We provide the applicants with names and addresses of interested companies only. It is then up to them to apply."

Mr Day said advertisements placed in newspapers guaranteed a refund if the information were not satisfactory.

He showed The Star chequebook stubs for about R7 marked "refund".

Black workers were asked to pay R5 to cover administration costs, including the printing of the booklet. It was explained that they may not get employment.

An interpreter has just been engaged.

Mr Day showed The Star correspondence stating that applicants had to approach prospective employers themselves.

r Tuesday June 28 1983

By J Manuel Correia and Mike Simpson

Unemployed blacks, desperate for any job, are paying R5 to a concern in Elsburg, Germiston, in the hope of finding work overseas.

But a spokesman for the US consulate in Johannesburg has told The Star:

"Totally unskilled workers from overseas will not meet the requirements laid down by the US Labour Department."

People recruited from overseas for temporary work in the US were usually only in the highly trained category.

The concern, Overseas Appointments, is in Kariba Centre, Voortrekker Road, Elsburg.

It supplies applicants with a form printed in the United States together with a pamphlet said to be the latest edition of a directory of US-based construction companies with overseas projects.

300 men march to 'jobs' office

East Rand Bureau

About 300 men who paid R5 each to "Overseas Appointments" in Elsburg, hoping to find work overseas, marched to the company's offices yesterday to demand their money back.

The men were among hundreds who flocked to the firm, managed by Mr Alan Day, hoping to get overseas jobs.

Eyewitnesses said the men walked in an orderly procession and were not aggressive.

At the firm's offices they told a company interpreter that they had come to demand their money back because they had heard the American jobs they had applied for were not available.

The interpreter told them that Mr Day was away but would be back in two weeks' time.

The interpreter later told a Star reporter that Mr Day was expected back at the office later that day.

A notice on the door to the firm read: "No more American jobs".

Two typists in the office appeared to have no work to do.

LEGAL RESOURCES

Meeting a need

The Legal Resources Centre (LRC) has scored a number of legal victories since its establishment four years ago. Some of these have affected the lives of thousands of people. Now, with the recent Rhikoto victory under its belt, the LRC plans to open in Cape Town.

According to the LRC's Geoff Budlender: "The Cape Town office will employ four full-time lawyers and an administrative staff and will also run a fellowship programme in due course. At present the Cape Town budget is set at R250 000 when fully operational — a good deal of which has already been raised.

"A significant proportion of LRC funds comes from US Foundations such as Ford and Carnegie Foundations, but 35% comes from SA private sector donations. The total budget of the three centres is R960 000.

"There is continual pressure on the centre's professional staff. At present, we're handling about 600 cases annually in Johannesburg alone. This is in addition to the huge case-load at our Hoek St clinic. There are enormous numbers of people who cannot afford legal fees."

The Hoek St clinic, which takes on a wider range of cases than the LRC and does not usually litigate, acts as a referral agency. It conducts about 50 interviews daily. To meet these needs, the Johannesburg LRC employs 11 qualified lawyers and four fellows, while the Durban office employs four lawyers. The centre's staff are committed to further expansion as the need arises — given the availability of funds and suitable staff.

According to Budlender, the LRC handles three kinds of cases — cases testing the law and cases whose outcome affects many people because they touch on community issues.

"However, the bulk of our work concerns cases where the law is clear but people are being commercially exploited or are being harassed or obstructed by the administrative process, such as in unlawful hire-purchase repossessions. The big test cases are few and far between."

Nonetheless, the judgments in the Komani, Rhikoto and Dhuma test cases have all been watershed judgments with far reaching implications. For example, the Komani case in 1980 established the rights of Section 10(1)(a) or (b) qualified men to have their wives and children with them in towns.

The results of the recent Rhikoto victory, which established the rights of a person who had been in continuous employment with a single employer for 10 years (or more than one employer for 15 years) to remain in urban area, are still to be tested. Bureaucratic opposition to the Supreme Court decision means the ultimate effect of the judgment remains to be seen.

Another first for the centre was the reversal earlier this month of four previous decisions of the Natal Supreme Court in the case of Beauty Dhuma. The centre's credibility is so strong that after Dhuma had been found to be "idle" and "undesirable," the Supreme Court judge asked the LRC to represent her when the case went on automatic review.

One of the major developments over the last 18 months has been the LRC's involvement with community advice offices. Budlender says: "We now have an advocate and an attorney providing para-legal training, back-up and legal support to the advice offices. We are also publishing a manual for para-legals working in advice offices which is scheduled for completion later this year."

Financial Mail July 15 1983

FM 15/7/83

His only 'crime' is selling flowers

295 C. Herald 15/10/83

FLOWERS have been his life - growing, drying, buying, but mostly selling them. It has enabled him to house, feed and educate his family.

One of his children is in Standard 10, another in Standard 6 and the eldest is at the Peninisula Technicon. And he is a ratepayer in Mitchells Plain.

Selling flowers was a tough life, but in the end, his hard work paid dividends.

Until recently that is.

Now, top flower-seller Abdul Karriem Carelse of Salisbury Way, Portland cannot guarantee that at the end of the day, he would be able to feed his family and it is not of his own doing.

"Flowers have been everything to me. It has been my whole life," he said.

CRIMINAL

"I have worked hard and I have worked honestly. The thanks I get is to be chased around as if I was a common criminal."

Mr Carelse was referring to the action being taken against hawkers at the Mitchells Plain Town Centre.

Shopowners and some shoppers have complained that the hawkers are a nuisance. Their presence apparently leads to vulgarity, loitering and robbery.

Mr Carelse is a hawker at the Town Centre. He has been there for the past three years.

"It is not that I like hawking like that," he said, "but the authorities forced me to.

"More than three years ago they promised to provide stands for us at the Town Centre. We dutifuly filled in the forms supplied but we have heard nothing since.

IGNORED

"They were quick to jump in when the big chains wanted to move in and simply ignored the small guys, like me.

"Not only are we left with unfulfilled promises but now we are being chased around."

Don't let your friends drive drunk. . .

A R400 000 campaign to ensure that "friends don't let friends drive drunk" has been launched to help combat drunken driving on South African roads.

It is being sponsored by South African Breweries and will run until the end of December.

The campaign, seen as a complementary alternative to anti-drunk driving measures planned as part of road safety year in 1984, makes a friendly appeal to all South Africans to help keep potential drunk drivers out of their cars by offering them constructive alternatives, like a lift home or accommodation for the night.

It is to be backed by advertising on radio, in newspapers and on roadside hoardings, and by posters and drip mats in clubs and bars.

A similar campaign which has been running in the United States for two years is reported to have had "very positive results."

Abuse

According to the general manager of SAB's beer division, Peter Lloyd, the company recognises drunken driving as the major manifestation of alcohol abuse, but feels programmes to there is growing evidence in Europe and the United States that the friendly, educational approach — used with the deterrent effect on a fine in the background — has more meaningful effect.

"Many of these programmes have been sponsored by brewers in the belief that the liquor industry has a duty to help find answers to the problem in the face of a commonly held, but incorrect, belief that the industry is the problems."

In other countries, he added, brewers and governments had worked together for many years to overcome a problem neither of them wants.

Missing



● TANYA Ely, 16, (above) has been missing from her Grassy Park home for more than two weeks.

She disappeared at about 4 pm on Wednesday, September 28. Tanya is about 1,5 metres tall. She was last seen in blue jeans, a white T-shirt and a pair of brown shoes.

Anyone knowing her whereabouts is asked to contact her parents at ☎ 72 9716, or Warrant-Officer E Deane of the Steenberg police at ☎ 75 3130.

Azapo man's passport held

THE president of the Azanian People's Organisation, Mr Lybon Mabasa, said last week that the police confiscated his passport after his return from abroad last month.

He had been on a one month tour of several European and American countries, where he discussed the internal politi- wanted to photostat it to find out where I had been during my trip abroad.

"More than a week has elapsed and the passport has not been returned to me yet."

Mr Mabasa said his itinerary abroad included Canada where he attended the World Council of Churches Assembly in

Traders unite to preserve thoroughfare

Battle of lane begins

295
NM
29/10/83

Mercury Reporter

MORE than 40 Durban traders operating in Cathedral Road and two arcades joining the road with Grey Street, and two influential Indian community leaders have rallied together in opposition to the proposed closure of a busy city lane.

The city council's management committee announced this week that it was considering closing Cemetery Lane, deproclaiming it and giving it to the Roman Catholic Emanuel Cathedral in compensation for church land taken up in constructing the Eilat Viaduct on the Western Freeway.

Traders say the huge flow of pedestrians through the lane keeps them in business. Thousands of commuters coming from the Berea railway station and bus rank pass through Ajmeri and Madressa Arcade to and from the city.

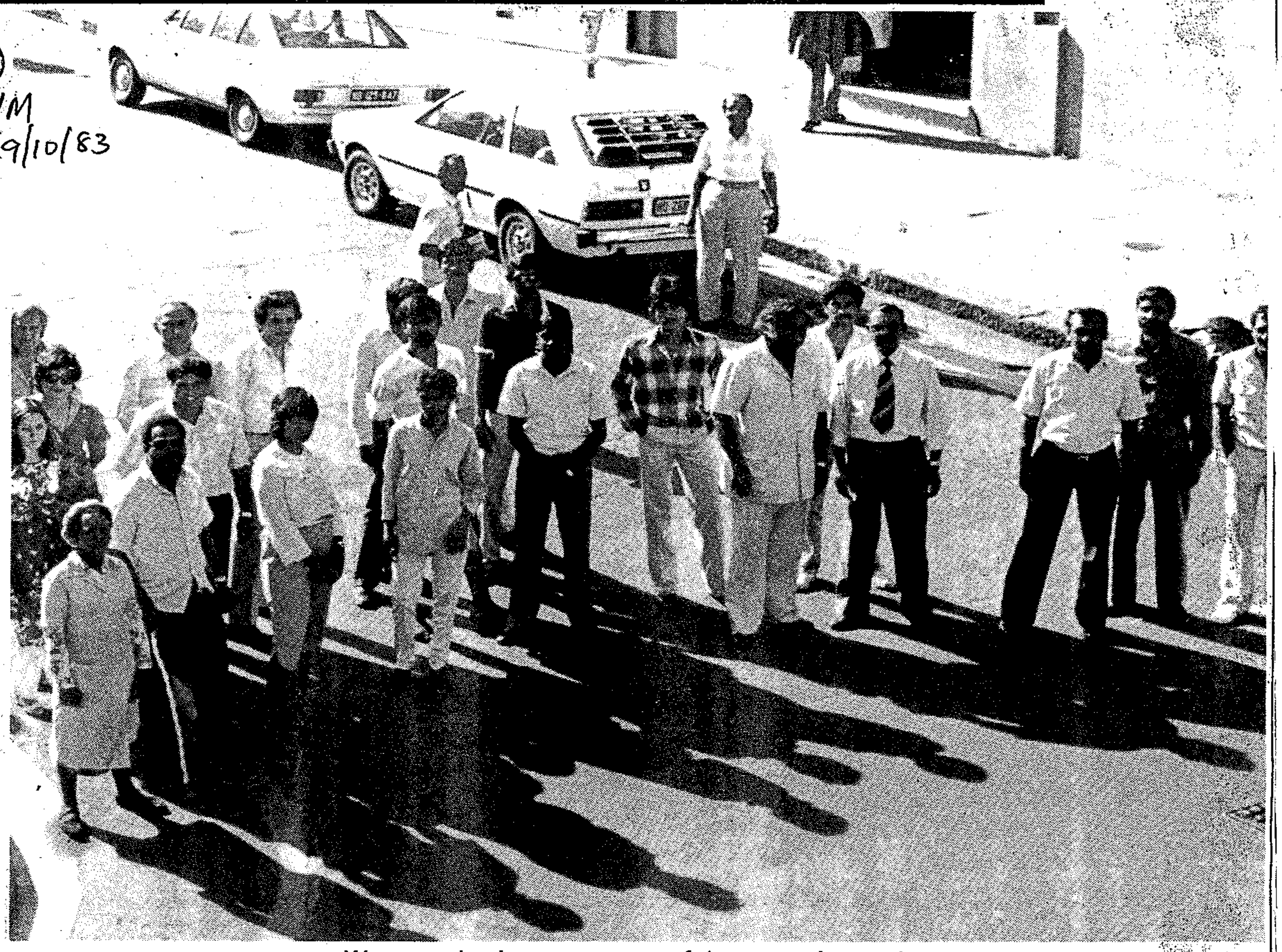
If the lane were closed the traffic would be diverted along Queen Street and Russell Street and their businesses would be crippled.

Father Johnny Johnson, administrator of the Cathedral, says the church — which has a congregation of more than 6 000 — is being strangled, and desperately needs parking space.

But the lane would still be open to pedestrians, even though it would be a parking area, he told the Mercury.

Mr Ahmed Deedat, president of the Islamic Propagation Centre, said he was bitter that the council was considering giving the lane to the Catholics at the expense of his people.

Mr Aboobaker Ismail, director of Ajmeri Wala, which has 36 shops in the arcade, said he would fight the closure with all he had.



We mean business . . . some of the protesting traders.

Herald The Plainsman

HAWKERS TO GET THE BOOT?

Town Centre facing battle over trading rights

THE Mitchells Plain Town Centre Merchants' Association are considering setting aside a square for a marketplace where hawkers and shopkeepers can display their goods — in a bid to ease the tensions between hawkers and shopkeepers.

But the hawkers may soon have to leave this bustling business centre if the City Council and Department of Community Development are going to continue passing the buck about who should erect suitable hawking facilities at the centre.

This is the view of Mr Raymond Steyn, chairman of the Mitchells Plain Town Centre Merchants' Association.

Mr Steyn said this week that some solution had to be found soon to counter the growing concern that hawkers at the Town Centre have been causing local merchants.

Mr Steyn was reacting to a recent letter in the Plainsman in which Mr Lionel Abrahams of Portland claimed that hawkers at the Town Centre were a nuisance and that their presence led to vulgarity, loitering and robbery.

The hawkers referred to are mainly concentrated in the area between the Metro cinemas and the Central News Agency store on the east side of the Town Centre.

DEFENCE

Mr Steyn was also replying to another letter by an Eastridge man who came out strongly in defence of hawkers and hawking at the Town Centre.

Mr Steyn said: "Personally, I am not unsympathetic towards people who work hard to make a living. But at the moment, the stands at the Town Centre are all illegal.

"I've tried to ease the tension between the hawkers and the shopkeepers, but the hawkers are selling goods that the merchants in the Town Centre are selling. The Merchants' Association is there to protect the shopkeepers here.

"We have tried various ways to accommodate the hawkers.

"At our last meeting, we were thinking of turning Polka Square into a marketplace on Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays. On these days, the square will be closed to traffic.

"We discussed the possibility of employing a security guard to see that things do not get out of hand.

"But, because of the lack of co-operation from the Department of Community Development and the City Council, I leave this entirely in the hands of the City Council who should take it further.

"We have sent telegrams to the Department of Community Development about the hawking situation, but so far there has been no reply.

"The Council and the Department have been passing the buck all the time and the hawkers may have to leave completely if the problem cannot be solved."

● See page 2.

Model pupil?



VICTORY OVER HIGH PRICES

PRICES VALID FROM 3 - 7 NOVEMBER!

SUNLAND GARDEN PEAS 410g 39c

RIO RICE 500g 25c

RFF CANNED PEACHES LARGE 810g 49c

SASKO CAKE FLOUR

entre ucing attle over ading ights

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Mr Steyn said: "Personally, I am not unsympathetic towards people who work hard to make a living. But at the moment, the stands at the Town Centre are all illegal.

"I've tried to ease the problem by cordoning off, with rope, the area which has been set aside for hawking. That is the area where stalls will be erected. The cordon worked for two days, and after that, the hawkers were back on the paved sidewalks where they are not allowed.

"At the moment, they are causing problems in that many of the hawkers are selling goods that some of the mer-

Model pupil?



HEN 16-year-old Shanaz Johnson of Westridge swops her gymsor a bather everyone thinks she's going swimming. But that's the case with this pretty Rocklands Senior Secondary School il. You see, she can't swim! But she has another ambition. She her sights set on a modelling career and sooner or later she hopes to make it to the top.

Help me see things as they are!

MISS Zuraya Salie, 17, is desperately trying to complete her studies for the coming examinations, but she's unable to do the reading she needs to because her spectacles were nabbed on Saturday morning.

Miss Salie says her specs were taken from the counter at the Cashworths clothing store in the Town Centre on Saturday morning. She is a casual worker at the store.

Anyone who can help Zuraya is asked to contact her at ☎ 31 7091.

t to Cape Herald, November 3 1983

Klaaman

'Allow us to make a living' (295) hawkers

HAWKERS at the Town Centre have denied that they are giving local shopkeepers grey hairs and that they are a nuisance, like a Plainsman letter writer, Mr Lionel Abrahams, claimed recently.

"We are simply trying hard to make an honest, decent living and we are providing a good service to the public," was the general opinion of three hawkers who daily sell their wares at the Town Centre.

"I can't believe that someone living in Mitchells Plain can make such a statement on hawkers. Where does Mr Lionel Abrahams get his ideas from?" Mr Rashaad Sassman, of Ricoletto Street, Eastridge, asked about the controversial letter.

Mr Sassman is one of four "illegal" hawkers who pursue their business opposite the Clicks store every day. On certain Saturdays dozens of hawkers from all over the Peninsula stream to this end of the Town Centre to complement their earnings.

ILLEGAL

They are branded illegal because their goods are displayed on the ground, something which does not meet municipal health requirements.

All these hawkers have said that they would be prepared operate from properly erected stalls.

Mr Sassman said: "I have been hawking in Wynberg for 20 years and I have been here for about nine months. For the 20 years, no-one ever complained about my business and the way in which I went about it.

"Now, all of a sudden, people are complaining. The police come here every now and then to tell us to pack up, but I've never been in the way of any shopkeeper, because I am not fighting the big businesses. I am just trying to earn my daily bread in an honest way."

POLICE

Mr Mogsien Manan, of Beacon Valley, said: "My stand has been here for quite some time and we have had a number of problems with the police who come here to say we must move backward — off the paved sidewalk — and who come here for free fruit.

"They never give us a reason for their actions. I'm starting to get used to it.

"I'm prepared to pay for a stall if the Council or the Department (of Community Development) erect it. I just want to make a living and I know that I can't do that without also spending an odd cent to make things comfortable."

Mr Gasant Hoossen, also of Beacon Valley, felt the same: "I have been here for more than a year and so far I have not had any problems with shopkeepers around here. In fact, I have a very good relationship with fellow hawkers and with the shopkeepers. One of the shopkeepers here told us he was proud of us because we worked honestly to make a living.

"We use the shopkeepers' telephones and converse with them freely. There are no hassles."

Mr Raymond Steyn, chairman of the Town Centre Merchants Association said later that he did not know of a single Town Centre merchant who would give his blessing to hawkers.

Mr Steyn also denied the good relationships between different hawkers by saying that there had been occasions when hawkers drew knives on each other.

A case for the hawkers

WHO cares if hawkers have licences when they have proved to be of greater service to the community.

This a point raised in a letter by a Mr M Jacobs of Oberon Crescent Eastridge, who strongly defended hawkers in a reply to an article titled "Control the Town Centre hawkers" in the Plainsman dated October 8, 1983.

The article highlighted a letter which a Portland resident, Mr Lionel Abrahams, of Portland, wrote to the Department of Community Development and the Town Centre Merchants' Association.

In his letter, Mr Abrahams said: "The hakwers are often a nuisance and forceful. These conditions often lead to loitering, vulgarity and robberies.

"Nobody is authorised to question their (the hawkers') presence or the conditions stipulated on their licences."

Mr Abrahams also called for an end to the mobile shop business in Mitchells Plain.

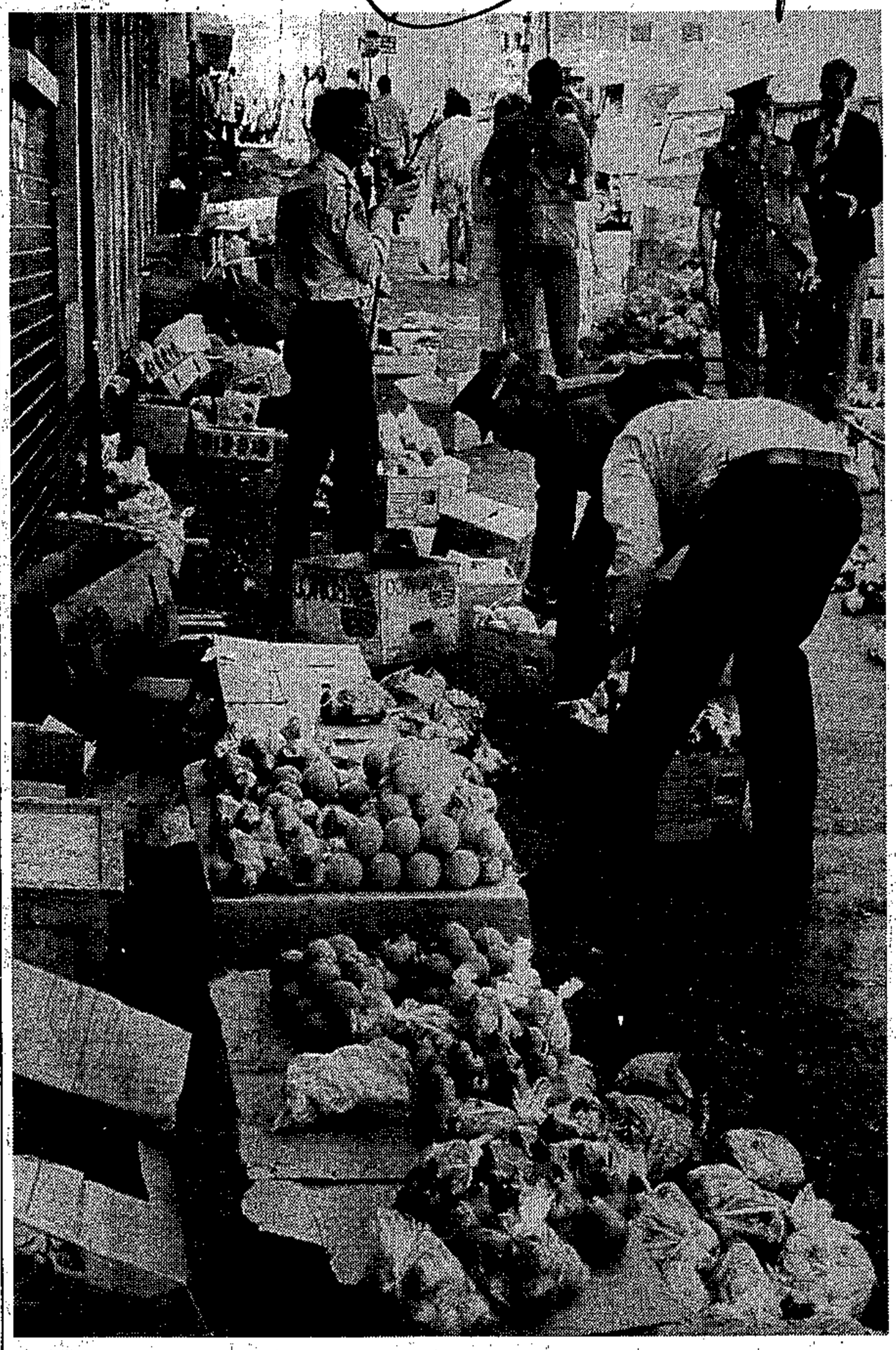
Mr Jacobs said in his letter: "Mr Abrahams condemned the residents in Mitchells Plain by saying that it seems as if the Plain's residents don't want modern shopping facilities because they tolerated what he called obsolete vending."

With obsolete vending, one is still able to get things cheaper from hawkers than from the big stores, Mr Jacobs said.

About mobile shops, Mr Jacobs said: "It will not surprise me if Mr Abrahams lives within walking distance from the shops or the Town Centre. He also certainly own a car or two.

295 D. Dispatch 10/21/84

Police arrest hawkers



Some of the fruit and vegetables confiscated from hawkers in Caxton Street yesterday.

EAST LONDON — Police and municipal inspectors arrested 33 women and children yesterday in a swoop on illegal hawkers and fruit and vegetable vendors.

The raid concentrated on the Buffalo Street-Caxton Street-Pontoon Road area.

The police liaison officer, Major Warren Brown, said that several hundred kilograms of fruit and vegetables were confiscated

He said the people who were arrested would probably appear in court today.

"We have been inundated with complaints from businessmen and members of the public claiming that the hawkers and vendors clutter up the pavements and swamp people as they go about their illegal operation," he said.

Major Brown said it was felt that strong action had to be taken to clean up the business "and we will be conducting raids more frequently".

"I feel I should also point out that, while it is not an offence to buy from the hawkers and vendors, anybody who does so can be subpoenaed to appear in court as a witness."

HAWKERS FACTORY SUPPLIES
HFS
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HIGH FASHION STYLES
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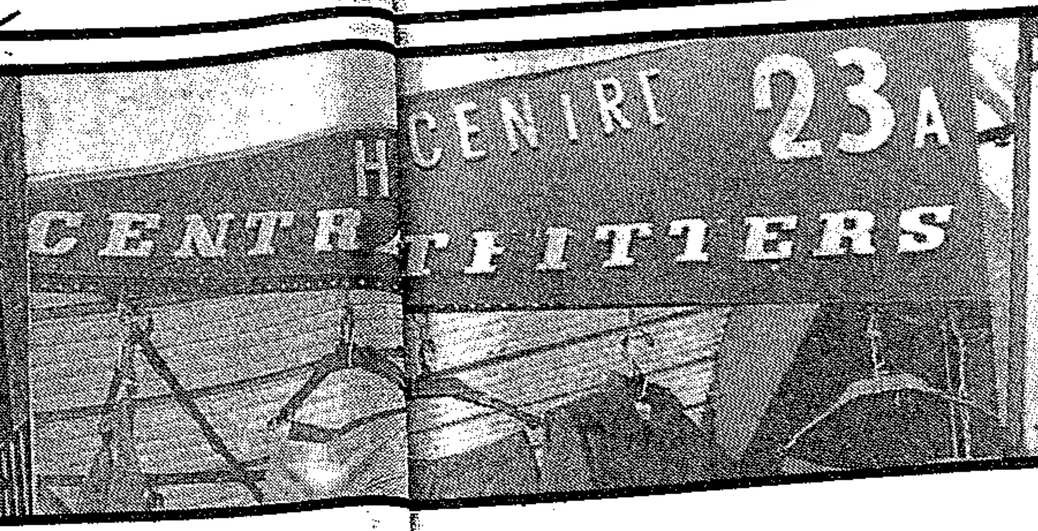
BASEMENT



Dress Centre
WHOLESALE
TO HAWKERS

Life's hard for y street hawkers

By Colleen Ryan,
Municipal Reporter

It is a grey July day in Hoek Street, Johannesburg.

The wind whips at the skirts of Harriet Moyo as she reaches a wrinkled hand into a box of apples at her side.

She takes a handful and methodically packs them on her makeshift stand.

"Two apples please, gogo," says a customer who holds out his money to the old hawker.

Mrs Moyo has stood near this spot on the corner of Noord and Hoek streets for 54 years.

She is held in great reverence by the other hawkers — they remember the days when she transported her wares by horse and cart.

Her main line this winter is apples, but during her long career she has sold numerous products including fresh vegetables, cooked mealies and sweet potatoes.

"Mrs Moyo was here when I started — she taught me how to sell," says another seller, Mrs Priscilla Legadimane.

No-one is quite sure how old Mrs Moyo is, but she is well into her seventies and receives medication for a heart ailment.

Mrs Moyo is a widow and only three of her nine children survived childhood.

Her two daughters are married but her son who helped her sell died two years ago. Mrs Moyo supports her son's two children in Soweto.

There are scores of hawkers who trade in this area near Johannesburg Station.

They sell a range of useful products to passing black customers.

Carrier bags, safety pins, scarves, belts, sunglasses, pantihose, snuff and patent medicines are just some of the goods for sale.

For hungry commuters rushing to or from work there is fruit and vegetables, peanuts and cheese puffs.

Mrs Agnes Matlala has been trading here since 1962. She sells naartjies and apples from the back of her husband's van.

"This is the only work I can do because I am not educated," she says.

Her five children are all at school in Soweto and she is determined to give them an education so they can get "better jobs".

Like Mrs Matlala, many of the peddlers have little education and they have no prospect of finding other work.

Most of the hawkers have been selling for more than 10 years and they have lost count of the number of times they have been arrested and fined.

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Sotho hawkers Mathobo Lomile and Mayseliso Letlotlo travel regularly from Maseru to Johannesburg to buy their supplies. They are served by shop assistant Verrict Ichurse.



Gogo (granny) Harriet Moyo has m
century's experience in the hawk



Hats, scarves, shoelaces, peanuts . . . just some of the goods Mr Nelson Matlala sells from his pavement "shop" in Noord Street.
● Pictures by Clive Lloyd

Newtown traders welcome them

By Colleen Ryan,
Municipal Reporter

In the shopping district of Newtown there are no supermarket aisles or computerised tills.

But there are many shops where the goods spill out of the front doors and where dresses and scarves and coats are hung outside the windows.

There are posters which advertise special offers and others which promise discounts, but most common are signs which say: "Hawkers welcome" or "Wholesale to Hawkers".

Hawkers from all over South Africa, from Lesotho, Zimbabwe and Botswana come to Johannesburg to buy from the Indian traders. They buy colourful scarves, plastic tablecloths, clothing, jewellery, cosmetics and a wide range of foods.

Most of the country hawkers are regular cus
tomers who come once a month to the city to bu
their supplies.

"I depend almost entirely on the hawker trade
says Mr Nanoo Govan, who runs a small shop in D
agonal Street.

PEDDLE THEIR WARES

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Many of the hawkers who buy from Arun Mor
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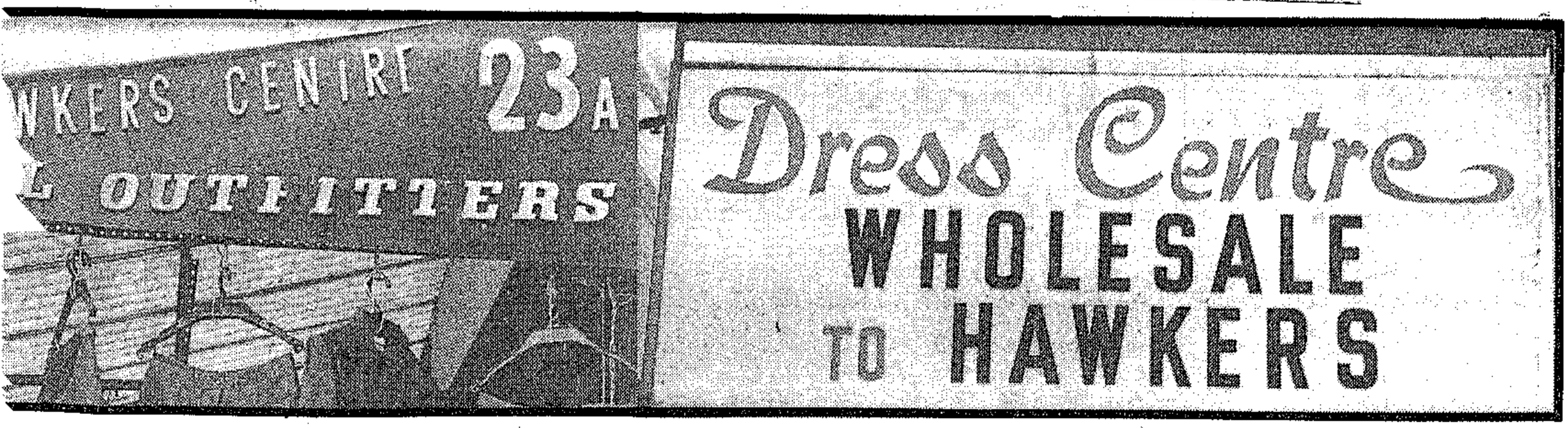
Morar.

Mr Gopal Daya has moved shop three times
he started selling to hawkers 29 years ago. He
has regular customers who seek out his New
shop for jackets and suits.

Like most of the traders, his biggest custo
are hawkers.



city street hawkers

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Most of the country hawkers are regular customers who come once a month to the city to buy their supplies.

"I depend almost entirely on the hawker trade," says Mr Nanoo Govan, who runs a small shop in Diagonal Street.

PEDDLE THEIR WARES

He has been in business for 24 years and sells "soft goods", cosmetics, watches and jewellery. Many of his customers peddle their wares on the trains which run between Soweto and Johannesburg.

"When I started there were only three other hawker shops in the area, but now there are at least 15," he explains.

At the Hawkers Centre in Becker Street, a group of Sotho women are buying a selection of scarves. They are faithful customers who travel from Maseru once a month to collect their supplies.

Many of the hawkers who buy from Arun Morar's Diagonal Street shop are housewives. They buy sweets, popcorn, peanuts and cheese puffs and sell outside schools and door-to-door in Soweto, says Mr Morar.

Mr Gopal Daya has moved shop three times since he started selling to hawkers 29 years ago. He still has regular customers who seek out his Newtown shop for jackets and suits.

Like most of the traders, his biggest customers are hawkers.

Jo'burg to get five legal hawker markets

295
Star
2/8/84

Municipal Reporter

Progressive Federal Party city councillor Mrs Rae Graham has been praised for her efforts in securing five "legal" hawker markets in Johannesburg.

Mrs Graham had fought a hard battle to secure the new deal for the city's hawker community, said PFP leader Mr Sam Moss, at this week's meeting of the Johannesburg City Council.

Trading will be permitted in selected areas at the Hoek Street Mall, the New Doornfontein bus depot and near the Westgate, Faraday and Kazerne stations. The markets will be run on a six month trial basis.

The hawkers approached Mrs Graham for help about three years ago and she raised the matter at the council's budget debate in 1982.

"There are hundreds of people who have no other way of making a living," Mrs Graham said. "Hawkers serve an important social need and they are part of a whole strata of trading."

Fresh fruit and vegetables and a variety of "soft goods" such as scarves, hats and pantihose would be sold at the new markets.

"The scheme will be carefully controlled and numbers will be limited," she said. Hawkers committees would allocate stalls to licence holders.

Mrs Graham said the municipal by-laws would be amended to simplify licence requirements and to allow for the new trading areas.

295

INFORMAL SECTOR

New hawking deal

"Illegal" hawkers, who are continually harassed by the enforcement of petty regulations, may be heading for better times as a result of an experimental scheme being run by the Johannesburg City Council.

The pilot scheme, a brainchild of councillor Rae Graham, is intended to make black hawking a legal, permanent feature of the business scene through the provision of marketing areas with appropriate facilities.

Five market areas, the Doornfontein bus depot, Faraday, Westgate, Hoek Street and Kazerne, have been selected for the scheme. Hawkers will be able to conduct their trade under the eyes of traffic police and city health inspectors who will see to it they do not block traffic or disregard hygiene regulations.

Each of the five market centres has a small committee, not only to see to it that the traders observe the rules but also to decide on the number of who will be permitted to trade in each centre.

Permanent scheme

Says Graham: "The future of hawking by blacks in this city is now in the hands of the people involved in the experimental scheme. If the scheme, which began in June and ends in December, succeeds, we are going to put up permanent structures for hawkers wherever the need exists in the city."

She adds: "I believe there are about 3 000 families in Soweto who get their support from (illegal) hawking. Of course, they don't hawk because they want to do something illegal; they are forced by circumstances, by unemployment, to buy and sell articles to maintain their families. If they are not legalised, who is going to employ them? Nobody, because they have no skills.

"There is no way in which industry and commerce is going to provide jobs for the expanding population. There's going to be hunger and starvation.

"In US, seven out of every 10 jobs are created by the small business entrepreneurs. We need to legalise our informal sector and provide them with facilities so that they can also be effective in the fight against unemployment."

Financial Mail August 31 1984

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Some of the hawkers who are upset about the action taken against them.

295 D. Dispatch

Hawking confined to certain areas

16/1/85

EAST LONDON — The problem of illegal hawking in the city had been solved and the situation would be monitored on a daily basis.

This was said by Mr G. Moore, municipal security superintendent, who headed a clean-up operation of illegal hawkers.

Mr Moore was approached about allegations by hawkers that they had been chased away from the city.

A spokesman for the hawkers, Miss Monica Mdumi, of Mdantsane, said municipal officials had arrived and taken their produce away and told them to stop selling.

"We were told the action was being taken against us because of our children who snatched purses and forced people to buy in the central business district," Miss Mdumi said.

Miss Mdumi also claimed the market at Wilsonia had refused to sell to them and they had been accused of intimidating other purchasers against buying.

"We have children at school, houses to rent, hungry families to feed, some of us are widowed and others are single," she said. She said they had pleaded with the officials and told them they would take their children away from the streets.

Mr Moore said: "Hawkers must be licensed and even in cases where they are licensed there are certain areas where they are not permitted to sell.

"In the area bounded by Fleet, Buffalo, North and Cambridge Streets the hawkers are not allowed to display their wares without a licence," he said.

He said on December 17, a traffic vehicle with a loud hailer and a Xhosa-speaking security officer told the hawkers went there in a traffic vehicles and spoke to groups.

"On December 18 I went there a traffic vehicle and spoke to groups..

"On December 19 there was a joint raid by the SAP and the municipal police. We used the traffic department and cordoned off the area. Police had two dogs for crowd control measures. Nobody was hurt in the incident and the produce was confiscated."

He said on December 21 he met a delegation of hawkers in the office of the acting town clerk, Miss A. Cronin, where an amicable agreement was sought.

"We told them about the complaints and that a significant amount of litter in the centre of the town was caused by illegal hawkers.

"As chief of security I have a lot of other things to do beside controlling hawkers.

"I react to complaints. If there are no complaints there are no problems.

"The hawkers should have exercised self-control and kept the area around the bus terminus clean — we even supplied them with garbage drums," he said.

He said after the meeting the situation improved slightly but soon deteriorated until on Tuesday, January 8, when he told the hawkers that it was impossible for him not to take action.

"On Wednesday 9 the hawkers were given a deadline of 2.30 pm to remove their wares.

"Since then there have been no hawkers in the city.

"A sequel to that is a phone call we received from the market that hawkers were boycotting the Wilsonia Market and intimidating other purchasers.

"We went out there and found a group of hawkers and warned them it was an offence to intimidate anyone from buying," Mr Moore said.

He said the hawkers told him they would purchase if they were allowed to take their produce to the bus terminus in town. This was refused.

Miss Cronin said she had invited tenders from private entrepreneurs to erect stalls. Town engineers had estimated that 38 hawkers would be accommodated.

"The hawkers have no acceptable facilities to wash their vegetables and fruit," Miss Cronin said.

The director of the Wilsonia Market, Mr J. Rademeyer said: "The market is a public place. Anybody can come and buy. My control is only at the market. I am not stopping anybody from buying. It is not true and unfounded that I have refused to sell to them. The hawkers are not buying because they cannot sell their produce." — DDR



The community councillors who met East London city councillors on the question of hawkers yesterday (from the left) were: Mr Eddie Makeba, Mr Dazela Makatala, Mrs N. Sili and Mr Michael Bukani.

Hawkers appeal to EL city council

(295) Dispatch 26/1/85

EAST LONDON — The city council is to take a crucial decision at its action committee meeting in two weeks time on the question of hawkers.

Yesterday city councillors met a four-member delegation from the Duncan Village Community Council who pleaded that the council give hawkers another chance.

A high-level campaign has been underway in recent weeks to clean up the town, with hawkers blamed for the acute litter problem in the city.

The meeting with the community councillors was preceded by a meeting with a six-women delegation who called at the city hall and pleaded with the mayor, Mr Joe Yazbek, to allow them to hawk as their families were starving.

Mr Yazbek said: "It was distressing to see these women plead for the right to sell their wares. While we fully back the free enterprise system, the question of hawking has to be controlled and the women gladly accepted this."

The city council has called for tenders to erect stalls, which could be leased to licenced hawkers, at the Pontoon Road bus terminus.

"The hawkers and the community councillors, led by their chairman, Mr D. Makatala, were happy with this arrangement and I sincerely hope we will get tenders for this project.

"Something has to be done for these women who want to make an honest living," Mr Yazbek said.

Mr Makatale refused to comment on their closed talks with the councillors yesterday, but said he was anxiously awaiting the decision of the action committee.

Mr Yazbek said the women who approached him were fully aware that all hawkers would have to be licensed and that they could be confined to their stalls and certain areas. They would also have a proper place to store their wares.

"The women were happy with that arrangement and I just hope something can be sorted out on this matter," Mr Yazbek said. — DDR.



The two vendors who were taken off the streets, Mr Stanley Sanjini (left) and Mr Samson Dlisana, inspect plastic-wrapped caked in the pushcart of a fellow vendor.

EL bans pushcart vendors

EAST LONDON — The decades-old sight of the cookie and pie vendor with his familiar push-cart is to disappear soon from the streets of the city.

The acting medical officer of health, Mr Jack Klaase, confirmed yesterday that licences would no longer be issued to vendors with pushcarts.

The chief security officer for the municipality, Mr Graham Moore, confirmed that two of the city's eight vendors had been taken off the streets and similar action would be taken against the rest.

He said the pushcarts had been returned to a bakery from where they had been removed without permission.

"The carts were not licensed and the vendors did not have licences," he said.

Mr Klaase said, according to the public health regulations, food could not be sold in such a manner.

"The hardcarts are sub-standard and the bakery which owns them decided it was not worth putting them on the streets any longer.

"East London must be the last place in South Africa to have them and we will definitely not issue licences for these pushcarts any longer," Mr Klaase said.

He said the action was taken against the two men after the bakery had informed the municipality that the push-carts had been removed without permission and that it was not supplying the men with goods any longer.

Mr Klaase said the sale of foodstuffs from such carts had been stopped in all Western countries. The carts had been traced as the chief source of food poisoning.

"The temperature at which the food is kept in these carts is ideal for bacteria to breed in," he said.

But yesterday the two men taken off the streets said they could not understand the new ruling as they had been selling "cakes, pies and peanuts for decades without any problems".

Mr Samson Dlisana, 55, said he started with a pushcart in 1955 and had used the income to rear his seven children.

"I don't know what I'm going to do now. I know no other job," said Mr Dlisana who lives in Ziphunzana.

He said only one of his children was married and the rest were still at school.

"I don't know how I am going to keep them at school. This new rule is going to ruin me," he said.

Mr Stanley Sajini, 48, of Mdantsane, said he had been selling cakes and pies for 25 years.

"I have seven children and I have been rearing them on the money I get from selling my stuff outside a sweet factory where I have many customers.

"I don't know what I am going to do now. My family is going to starve," he said.

The municipality has taken a tough stand on all illegal hawkers following a council decision to clean up the town. Illegal hawkers were blamed for the acute littering. — DDR.

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Council recommends ban on hawkers in several areas of PE

Municipal Reporter

PROBLEMS caused by the large number of hawkers on Port Elizabeth streets have resulted in a recommendation that they be banned from certain areas.

This decision by the City Council's Community Services meeting yesterday still has to be approved by the Administrator.

In a report the acting Town Clerk, Mr I S Terblanche, said complaints about hawkers had been received from ratepayers and the principal of the Otto Du Plessis High School.

Complaints included damage to fences, dumping of rubbish and health hazards due to the absence of toilet facilities.

In terms of the decision hawking will be prohibited in Dyke Road, Algoa Park, St Leonard's Road, Algoa Park, Boekenhout Street, Algoa Park, Forest Hill Drive and La Roche Drive.

In 17th Avenue, Walmer, hawking will be prohibited from Main Road to Buffelsfontein Road. The temporary site on the corner of Buffelsfontein Road will, however, not be affected.

Hawking will also not be allowed in 10th Avenue Walmer, from Villiers Road to Heugh Road, in Humewood Road from Walmer Boulevard to the point known as the S-bend in Beach Road, and in Victoria Drive from Schoenmakerskop Road to 10th Avenue, Walmer.

● Plans recommending improved security for residents at Port Elizabeth's old age homes were deferred by the Community Services Committee until further reports concerning the cost factor of fencing car ports were received.

In a report Mr Eddie Samuels, the acting Director of Housing, said that many elderly people were at risk and reports of vehicles being tampered with outside old age homes had been received.

He said that the provision of alarm systems to provide instant communication with the caretaking staff at all old age homes had been requested.

He also recommended that funds be made available for carports and fences at the Buffelsfontein Centre and for 12 carports at the Louis Dubb Centre.

The chairman of the committee, Mr Bernard Nagle, said that his committee had shown it's concern about this matter, and the City Engineer, Mr Arthur Clayton, would look into the cost factor.

295 E. Post 27/3/85

Hawkers hoping for a reprieve

Post Reporter

FRESH produce hawkers, who have been barred from doing business at their popular site along Buffelsfontein Road, are hoping for a temporary reprieve.

Last night members of the Small Business Forum, hawkers and two representatives of the East Cape Agricultural Union discussed what facilities were needed at the site. It was decided that a deputation would see the Town Clerk, Mr P K Botha, about introducing the facilities and possibly postponing the hawkers' eviction.

The forum established a special committee, under the chairmanship of Mr Johan van der Westhuizen, to assist the hawkers in acquiring better facilities.

Mr Van der Westhuizen said the committee was not a pressure group against the Port Elizabeth City Council's decision to bar the Buffelsfontein hawkers from April 1.

The committee had, in fact, been established before the city council decision.

Mr Andries Blignaut, a member of the forum, said it would not cost the municipality much to provide adequate facilities for the hawkers at the Buffelsfontein site.

One of the hawkers, Mr Johann van der Berg, said people from as far as Greenbushes bought from them. He would like to see the provision of toilet, washing and refuse facilities.

Mr Barry Lyle said many of the residents of the homes for the aged in Walmer frequented the hawkers' site, as it was conveniently situated and the produce was reasonably priced.

Shelters and a tarred stretch were also suggested as improvements.

A commitment from the hawkers to maintain hygienic conditions, once the facilities were introduced, was made.

The hawkers agreed unanimously that they were prepared to pay monthly rent for the provision of facilities and would even finance the necessary facilities.

Hawkers' fate to be discussed

Municipal Reporter

THE fate of hawkers who traded at the 17th Avenue, Walmer-Buffelsfontein Road intersection is to be discussed at the monthly meeting of the Port Elizabeth City Council's Community Services Committee this afternoon.

In terms of the committee's resolution in March, hawking at the site was prohibited from April 1.

However, the Town Clerk, Mr Paul Botha, reports that various representations have been made to him by the hawkers and by other representatives since the comittee decision to bar trading on this site.

Hawkers hope to continue trading there, he says.

A petition asking the City Council to reverse its decision was signed by 1 400 people and handed in to the Town Clerk's office.

The petition says the hawkers are rendering a highly valued public service and that prices are cheaper than those of many other retailers.

It also says additional refuse bins and regular inspection by department officials would take care of any health hazards in this area.

Mr Botha reports that a letter from attorneys acting on behalf of the hawkers has also been received.

On March 30 a letter containing a petition with 360 signatures and other letters from individuals in favour of the hawkers remaining at this site were also received.

Mr Botha says a deputation from the Small Business Forum met the committee chairman, Mr B A Nagle, and the Deputy Town Clerk on March 29 to discuss matters concerning the fresh produce trading facilities in Port Elizabeth.

Today a deputation of three people will meet the committee to discuss the importance of fresh produce supply points to the economy in the area, the need for proper facilities for such trading and the recoupment of funds by the municipality for expenditure on such facilities.

oped a keen interest in the marketing side of the business which used to be kept strictly apart from the financial aspect," says Schnugh who is currently participating in a marketing course to expand her practical experience.

Gilbeys is part of the Grand Metropolitan Group — the sixth largest company in the UK — thought to be one of the most *avant-garde* in the world's liquor trade.

She sees her daily dealing on the forex



Schnugh ... expanding while others cut back

market as the most crucial aspect of her work: "My fastest learning curve has been in this area. It is sometimes like playing Russian roulette and one has to be wide awake 24 hours a day to take advantage of, or limit, the risks involved.

"I'm lucky to have the support of my board for any decisions made, and I, in turn, keep them fully informed at all times."

Schnugh concedes that the liquor industry is facing its toughest time in recent history. "Increased taxes, high interest rates, gst and petrol hikes, political unrest and burgeoning unemployment are all shrinking consumers' disposable income. But a positive attitude to recession can force companies to streamline their operations.

"Gilbeys, for example, has become lean, hungry and aggressive. We're expanding while others are cutting back, and it seems to be working as we're doing better than our competitors."

Schnugh regards herself as an "eternal optimist" — "Though an optimistic approach is obviously more productive and does wonders for the morale of fellow-workers, I do genuinely believe that we sometimes talk ourselves into recessions and down-turns." ■

GEOFF BUDLENDER

Legal resourcefulness

Geoff Budlender, new Johannesburg director of the Legal Resources Centre (LRC), is one of a generation of young lawyers who have played a significant role in changing the rules of the legal game. His involvement in a number of cases like the watershed Rhikoto and Khomani (pass laws) judgments, and others involving black rights, has fundamentally improved the lives of thousands of people.

Budlender (35) succeeds Arthur Chaskalson SC as director of the LRC's Johannesburg office. Chaskalson becomes director of a new LRC national office, created in addition to its Johannesburg, Cape Town and Durban centres to cope with expansion. Indeed, says Budlender, the centre's six years of existence have seen a risky innovation become part of the legal system.

"The LRC took root in the legal soil after its first few years, gaining acceptance from the courts and the profession's organisations. Rules had to be changed to make it possible, because it was an unusual departure to have full-time salaried lawyers working without charge, and to have attorneys and advocates practising together," he explains.

The Johannesburg office is the oldest and marginally the biggest of the LRC's three centres. Does Budlender see the directorship as an important career step?

"The big step was to become the LRC's first full-time lawyer at the beginning of 1979, when none of us knew how long the LRC would survive and in what form. Shortly afterwards, I realised that this work was a career decision, not a matter of a few years' service before turning to something 'serious.' "

Is he a professional do-gooder then? "I do what I do because I enjoy it," Budlender responds firmly. "Anyway, one can work from charitable motives for only so long before succumbing to boredom or burn-out."

The LRC is funded by a trust which collects money from corporate and charitable sources, local and overseas. "We get a fair amount from the US, from the Ford Foundation and from European development agencies. About a third of our R1m/year national income comes from SA business."

Budlender is relaxed and informal, but careful and systematic in exposition. He outlines LRC achievements: the Rikhoto and Khomani decisions, which respectively established permanent urban residence rights of migrant workers who had worked for the same employer uninterruptedly for 10 years, and the right of the families of people with urban residence rights to live with them.

Budlender adds: "the LRC also started the community advice offices which have sprung up in townships over the past three years, initiated and run by lay people to provide information on rights in areas like housing, labour, unemployment insurance, pensions and so on.

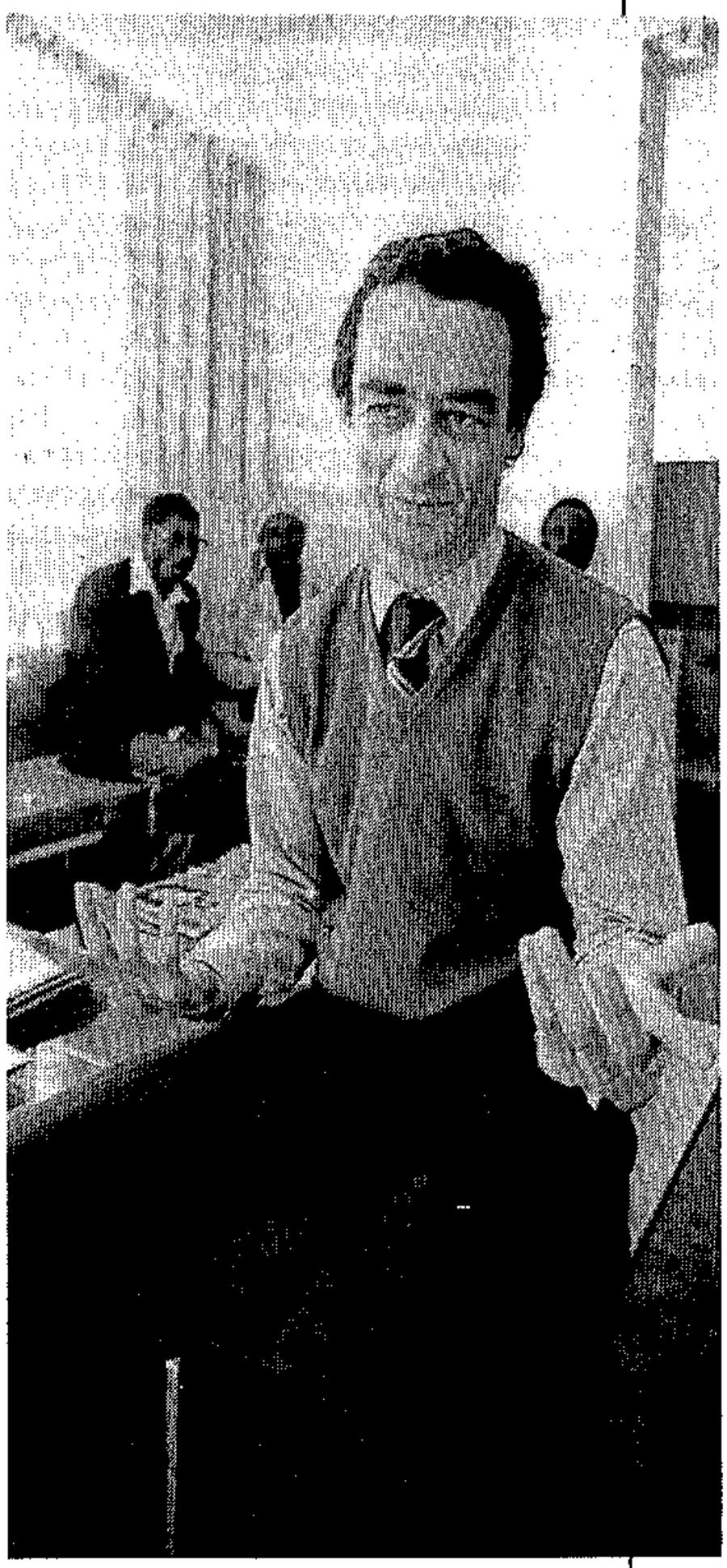
"We advise the staff of such offices, provide back-up and initiate litigation where necessary. It's a major contribution, since legally establishing rights is only the first step — people must be aware of them and be able to enforce them when necessary," he says.

Budlender's own areas of specialisation are resettlement ("which spins off a wide variety of negotiations and litigation"), influx control and the vexed issue of citizenship.

The last two, he believes, will be key issues over the next few years. They are inextricably linked, in that rights to urban residence in SA are eroded by deprivation of SA citizenship when homelands become independent. And, he adds: "When new influx control legislation is passed, the first test of it will land on our desks here."

The LRC is trying to put a brake on its expansion. "If we were four times our present size, we'd still be overworked," Budlender says, adding that the centre is trying to limit the cases it takes on to those which expand and enforce rights.

"We must spend more effort in identifying the type of cases it would be constructive for



Budlender ... a century's worth of change in the past decade

us to take on and rely increasingly on other agencies to do the more routine work. Community advice offices take a good deal of pressure off us and I believe student law clinics will burgeon in the near future, which will make legal advice more widely available."

Budlender started out studying medicine before he switched to law. "A friend of mine was studying law and I found myself far more interested in his work than my own."

He was active in student politics in the turbulent mid-Seventies, serving as University of Cape Town SRC president and acting Nusas president. Both black and white student leaders of the time opted for law in disproportionate numbers, he observes, and have left their mark. "We've had a century's worth of change and development in the past decade." And he's clearly glad to be part of that process. ■

GÉ KORSTEN

Hear his song

Gé Korsten, SA's *platteland* Pavarotti, has many fans but his detractors tend to dismiss him as a *boereliedjie* balladeer. What few realise is that Capab's new director, also has extensive business experience which is, in fact, what secured his new job.

For Korsten (57) his career shift couldn't have come at a better time. After considerable soul-searching last year and with 30 years of applause still ringing in his ears, he decided that he'd quit next year while the going was good.

"My wife and I both thought I was a real outside horse in the application stakes for the Capab job," says the man who was unanimously appointed from among 12 other applicants. "But it's the ideal job at my time of life. I can still make an LP or two and do some TV work."

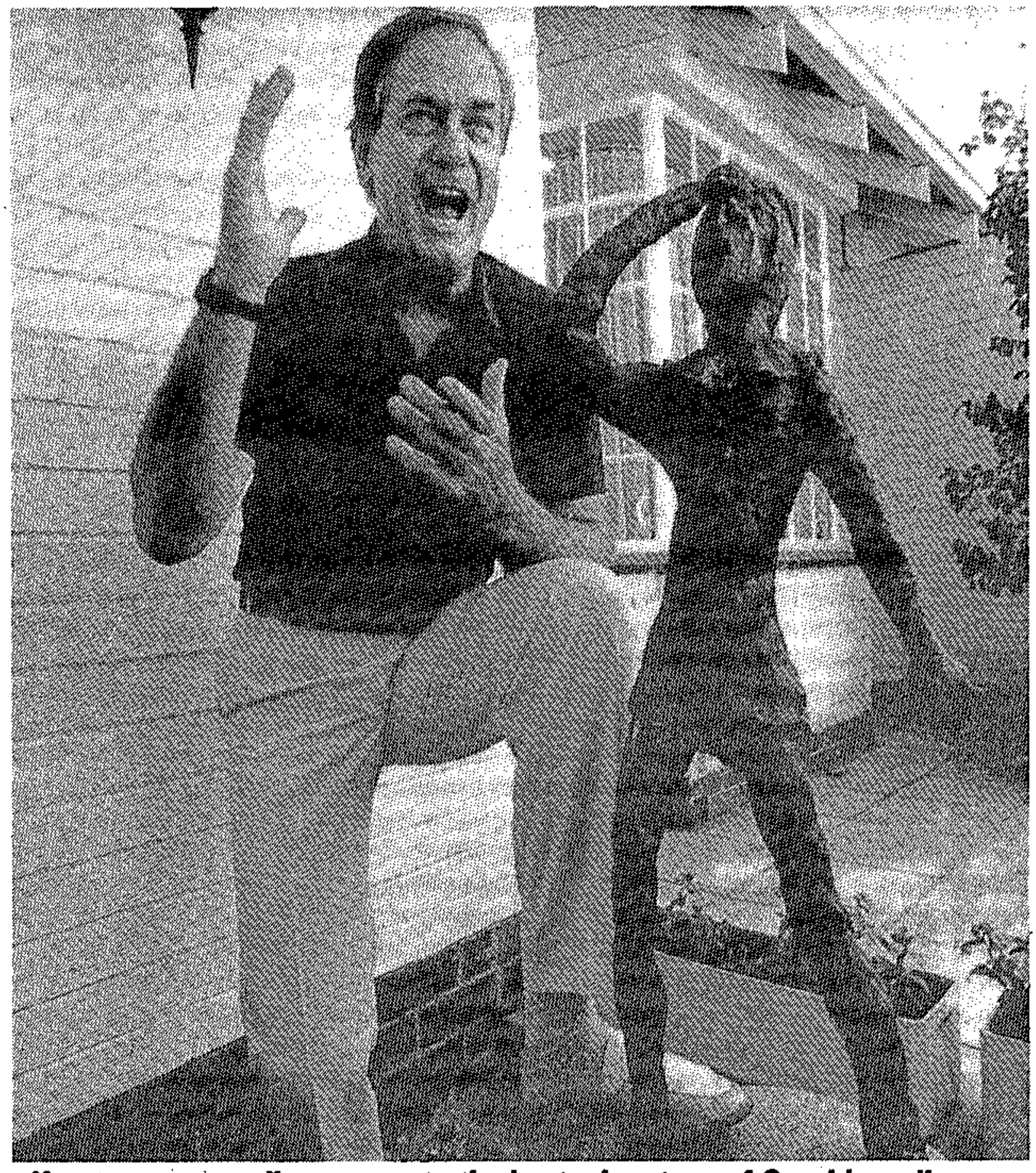
Korsten plans to retire at 65. In the meantime, he has plenty of time to make his impact felt on an organisation which has been riddled with personality clashes and where allegations of financial mismanagement are rife.

"I'm so excited about this job though everyone says it's going to be really rough," he says. "But I think that if you can get on with people, you can get on. It'll take some time for me to get into it but I have the advantage of having watched Capab's running from the other side. I have good people working with me and I know most of the guys."

Korsten will be overseeing a R12m entertainment budget covering opera, theatre, ballet and music. Though he's obviously thought long and hard about where he intends taking the organisation, he's not prepared to commit himself yet: "The theatre department isn't going so well so I'll be looking at its problems. It looks as though the music department might also need a push," is all he's prepared to say.

"I wouldn't mind a pop season. I don't see anything wrong with, say, Juluka, the James Last Orchestra or even a country and western group being included in the programme, though personally I prefer rock," he adds.

"The strange thing about running an organisation like Capab is that in business you have a capital investment and have to make a profit. My job is to provide entertainment and just to spend money to the best advantage of Capab's audiences."



Korsten . . . spending money to the best advantage of Capab's audiences

One of eight children, Korsten came to SA from Holland when he was nine. He left school in Std 8 to get his wireman's certificate. So if the lights go out in the Nico, at least there'll be someone who knows how to deal with the problem.

Korsten's entree into light music was pure fluke. Having had singing lessons from the time he was 21, opera was always his passion. "My wife's father, a Dutch Reformed dominee, was on an orphanage committee and asked me to make an LP for charity with a church choir. Then the *Federasie van Afrikaanse Kultuur Vereenigings* asked if I'd make a record of Afrikaans songs which weren't *boeremusiek*. So we got Mantovani backings and they sponsored it.

"One of the songs, *Erica*, became a hit and my career took off. Then Cavalier films made *Kruger Millions* and needed some songs. Soon I found myself in an ox-wagon singing *My hart verlang na die Boland. Hoor my lied* followed. It had a greater box office than the *Sound of Music* and sold 100 000 LPs of the title track. Make no mistake, I was criticised by the purists for singing *liedjies*, but I believe I always kept them in good taste and that we lifted Afrikaans music to a higher standard."

Looking back, Korsten has sung about 35 operas. He's won six Sarie awards, has 42 LPs, 20 of which have gone gold, and five films. Yet for many years, his singing career was combined with a business career.

In 1961, when the Civic Theatre was opened, Korsten was granted a bursary to study singing overseas for a year. His wife and five children remained at home.

On his return, he had to choose between a career in business or singing. Korsten was the first SA singer to get a contract with Pact for 40 performances. "My clients would be looking for me and I'd be singing," he says. In fact, throughout his business career he was singing on the side.

Korsten says that his electrical contracting firm was one of Pretoria's largest firms. And Lumen Lighting, a second venture which he started with his brother, was sold to Abercom in 1971.

Now that he's combining his artistic and business skills once again; he's so excited that he's more than likely to break into song unexpectedly. ■

THE UNDERGROUND ECONOMY

The tonic for reform



It's a R40 billion a year business. Like no other economic engine in SA, it will this year alone generate record figures for job creation, and achieve a major level of competitiveness. And there are two major fiscal effects — it should provide some drag on the inflation rate, and government will garner no taxes from its activities.

"It" is the underground economy — illegal business enterprise ranging from the informal sector to under-the-counter trade. No facts or figures are recognised in any official documents or statistics, but the simple truth is that the underground economy has exploded as never before.

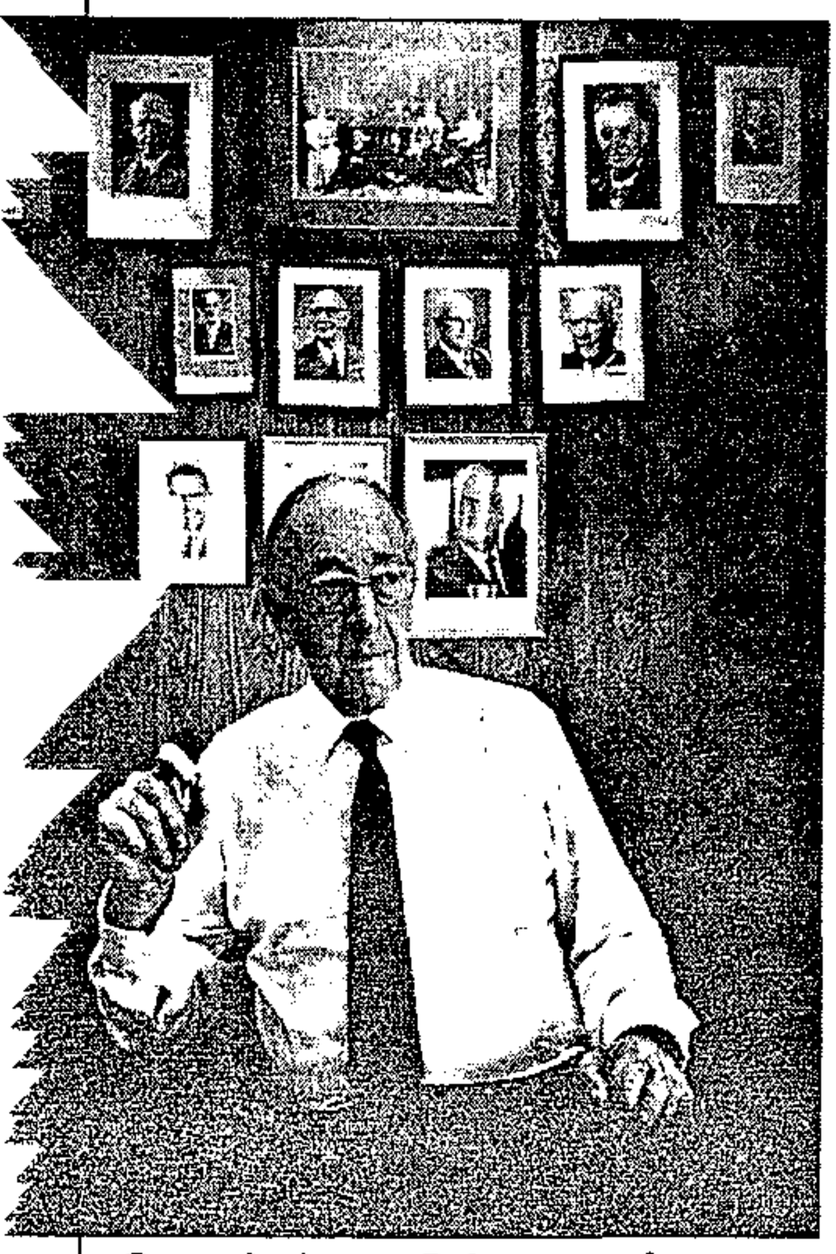
A huge slice of SA's entrepreneurial activity is not officially visible. Given steeply rising tax rates, the incentive to go "underground" must become increasingly attractive. Pretoria should recognise that acceptance and deregulation is in its interests — and that of the economy as a whole.

The implication is that if the tax system *was* working efficiently, and the concessions abolished, tax rates could be reduced by a uniform two-thirds. The Margo Commission on tax should take note.

The advantages of going "underground" are increasing parallel to the ever-rising tax burden. Researchers have found that this kind of operation is capable of providing large amounts of jobs quickly — it is not hamstrung by red tape and other constraints. Participation often requires little or no capital, and few skills, since these are usually acquired on-site.

All it needs is that government get out of the way.

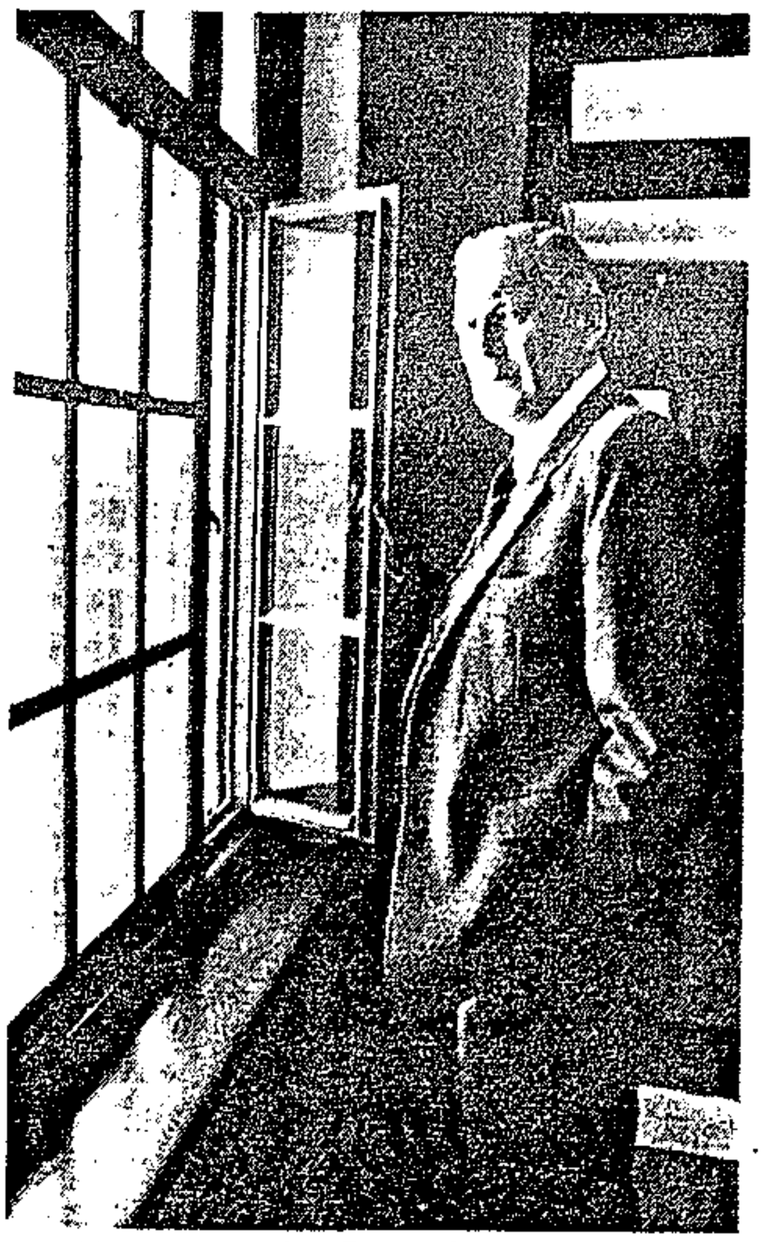
Moreover, the underground economy serves consumers — especially in the low-income bracket — who find access to the formal sector difficult because of cost or limited shopping hours. It develops entrepreneurship and eliminates lame ducks; and that's a process that traditional methods of development aid — such as those of the Decentralisation Board — are bad at doing.



Commissioner Schweppenhauser ... a two-thirds drain

The process is part of the long-standing resistance to government over-regulation of the private sector, and a punitively increasing tax burden. For many reasons — mainly the foregone tax revenues — recognition of the sector by Pretoria is long overdue.

If taxes *were* being paid by the underground economy, Commissioner for Inland Revenue Carl Schweppenhauser could increase tax receipts by as much as R10,8 billion in 1985. Added to the amounts lost to tax dodgers, and the cost of concessions in the Income Tax Act, the total lost to Pretoria's coffers amounts to R19,4 billion — more than two thirds of government spending (see page 34).



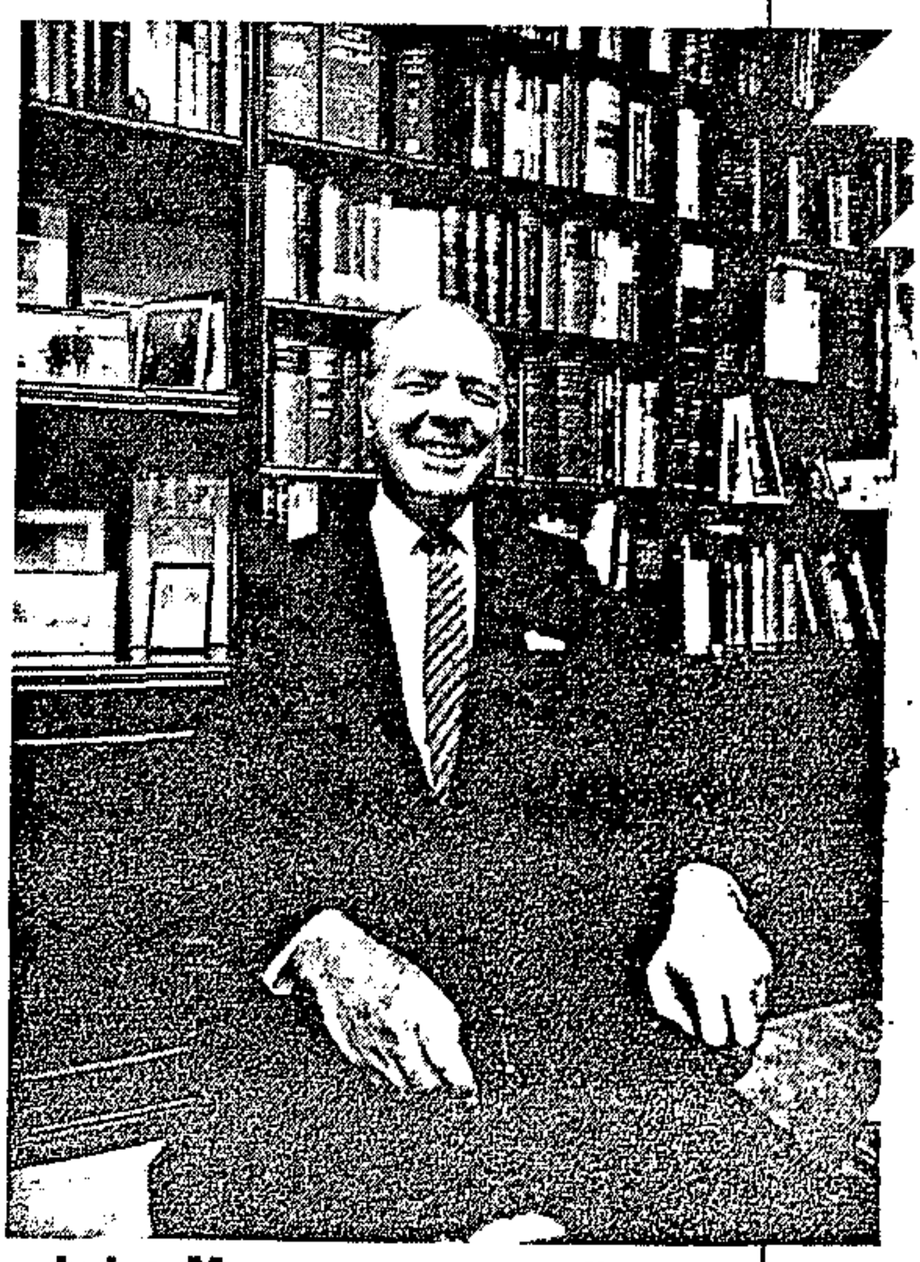
Manpower's Reynders . . . informal is rich and diverse

Perhaps most important, the underground economy maximises opportunity for people who need it the most.

Compared to many Western economies, openings provided in SA for underground operators are considerable — and the reason lies in the huge mountain of race and business regulations. Business is affected by more than 500 statutes, ordinances and by-laws, which in turn have spawned thousands of regulations.

Examples of underground entrepreneurship unique to SA are found in contraventions of our numerous liquor laws, trading hours and areas; employment of unregistered labour; gambling; and trade in "illegal" goods. The glaring examples are thousands of illegal shebeens and seemingly unlimited numbers of "pirate" taxis.

The vital importance of the submerged



Judge Margo . . . can smile at possibilities

sector has been recognised in many studies in a number of countries and the conclusions are highly illuminating. The International Labour Organisation, for example, has found that: "The informal sector provides income-earning opportunities for a large number of people. Though it is often regarded as unproductive and stagnant, we see it as providing a wide range of low-cost, labour-intensive, competitive goods and services ... We therefore advocate a positive attitude on the part of government toward the promotion of the informal sector."

Not surprisingly, research shows that the underground economy tends to be bigger in proportion to how interventionist any eco-

nomy is. The more capitalistic, the smaller the sector — because there is no need for it. Estimates in the US suggest that it contributes about 20% of gnp compared with more than 100% in Israel and Russia.

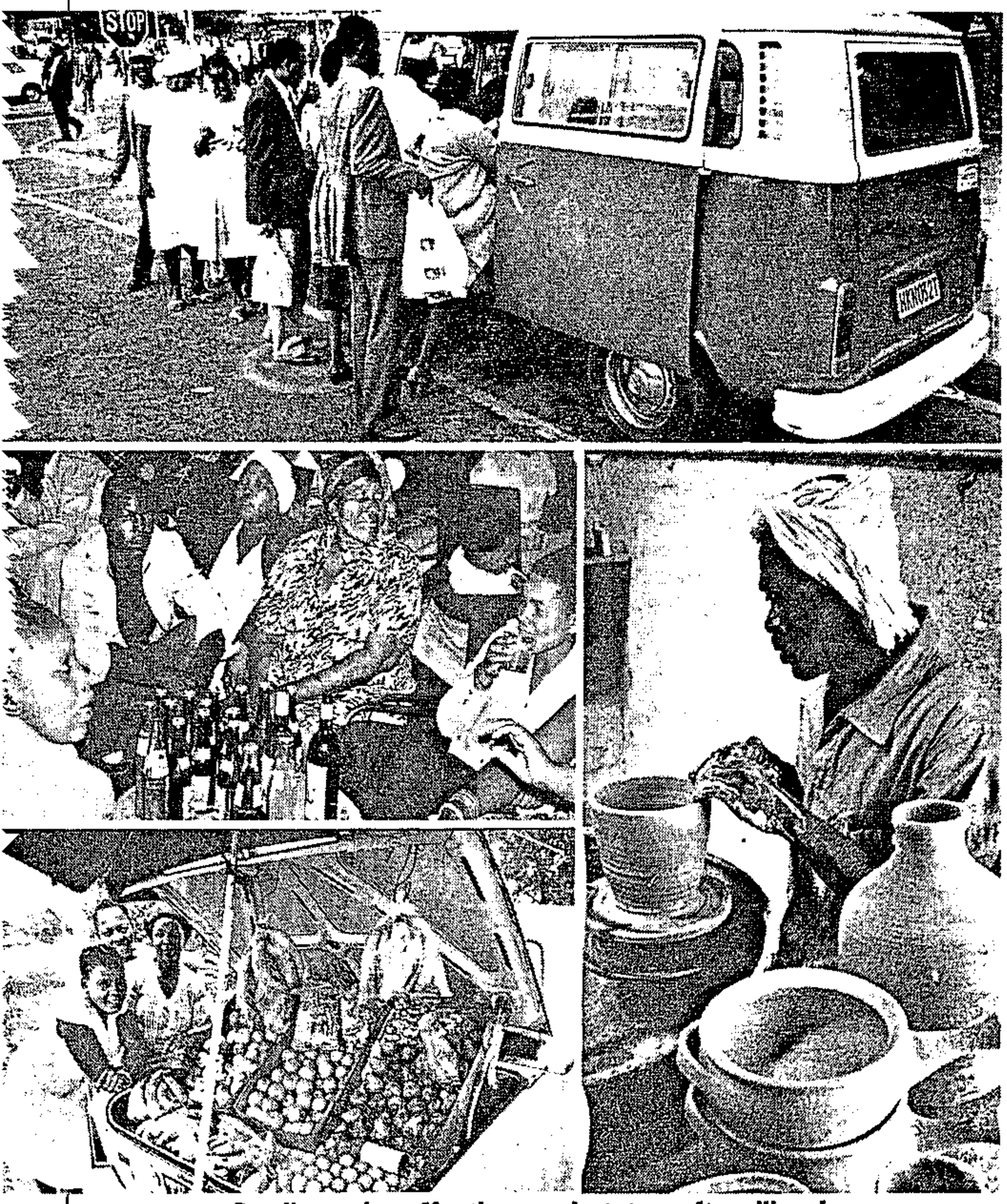
One observation agreed on by all students is that, regardless of its size and effectiveness, the economy as a whole does not operate as efficiently as it would without underground activity. Underground operators are often forced, for example, to bribe officials, so adding to costs. They cannot advertise to attract new consumers; and expansion, which should lead to greater efficiencies, is limited by increased fear of official observation.

Again, conversion to the formal sector can prove difficult: regulation raises the "cost of entry" for newcomers, thereby protecting vested interests in the short term. All the evidence on the underground economy suggests that an attempt should be made to measure and recognise the sector — perhaps particularly in SA where blacks have so many formal restraints against their entrepreneurial ambitions, and need, as opinion surveys have indicated, to be shown the benefits of free enterprise as a *legal* process.

Of much more immediate concern to Pretoria, of course, is the fact that — with the steeply rising tax burden, and the proposed taxes to fund local authorities — the growth in the underground economy is quite likely to outstrip that of the formal sector. As this process continues, income earned by the formal sector will decrease — and so will government revenues. The next logical progression is to increase tax rates in the formal sector — the "soft target" — to generate the same revenues as before. But that will simply mean that more individuals will be driven underground, and the gaps will widen further.

Meanwhile, the results of official neglect are making themselves felt. Edgar Feige (see page 37) of the Netherlands Institute for Advanced Studies argues that the failure to recognise the underground economy has resulted in major bias in official economic statistics. He concludes that this failure has *fundamentally distorted our view of economic reality*. Unless, and until, the basic data upon which all empirical work rests is made as accurate as possible, all economic analysis is suspect to some degree.

For, as Feige argues, figures that fail to account for the wealth of the underground economy may explain — at least in part — why professional economists in recent decades have failed to come to grips with central economic issues such as unemployment, recession, inflation, and, most important of all, the phenomenon of stagflation.



Small can be effective — but too often illegal

UNMEASURED GIANT

The size of the underground economy will never be known. But by using methodology applied by foreign and SA researchers, some indications are possible. The result shows that at least R40 billion worth of economic activity will not be recorded in SA in 1985.

Edgar Feige of the Netherlands Institute for Advanced Study *conservatively* estimates the size of the underground economy at about 20% of total recorded economic activity in the US and UK. These economies are far more sophisticated than SA's.

The Free Market Foundation's extensive research in the Ciskei produced a figure of 50%. Recognising that about 80% of SA's population is comparable with Ciskei's, and the balance with Western countries, an acceptable measure would be that 40% of SA's economic activity goes unrecorded.

With an expected gnp of about R100 billion in 1985, this means that SA's submerged sector will generate R40 billion worth of economic activity this year. Such a measure would be in line with findings of the International Labour Organisation, which estimates that as much as 50% of Third World economies operate underground.

Government revenues in 1985 are estimated at R27 billion on a gnp of R100 billion. Applying this "tax rate" — about 27% — to the R40 billion of unrecorded activity, forgone tax revenues amount to some R10,8 billion.

Tax dodgers cost billions more. Gst collection, for example, is thought to run at an 80% efficiency level, implying a R1,8 billion loss for 1985-1986. At least the same amount is lost to income tax avoiders — adding up to a total of R3,6 billion.

The cost of concessions in the Income Tax Act, according to Jack van der S Heyns of Natal University, was R5 billion in the 1984-1985 tax year. Assuming the same figure for this year, the total for the three formal tax categories is around R8,6 billion.

That, added to the taxes lost in the underground economy, produces a total of R19,4 billion forgone — nearly two-thirds of government spending for 1985-1986.

fm 24/5/85 (295)

THE SERVICES OF THE STREET

A great deal of underground sector activities go unrecorded in official economic statistics simply because they are "unrespected." Conventional national accounting methods worldwide do not recognise pimps and pirate taxi drivers. Yet, like it or not, they are real components of any moderately free economic system.

In his book *Defending the Undefendable*, American Walter Brock argues the case for the unrespected, saying the failure to legitimise their activities means they make more profits than they would normally, and pay less, if any, taxes than they would otherwise do.

Brock describes familiar underground economic participants such as the slumlord (who gouges far too much rent for sub-standard accommodation); the ghetto merchant (whose outrageous mark-ups are associated with advantageous selling locations); the ticket scalper (who speculates in limited-supply tickets); the "gypsy" taxi driver (who makes money from government over-regulation); and even the blackmailer (who trades silence for another "good" — usually money).

Other players in the underground saga are the prostitute, drug pedlar, shoe polisher — and multi-millionaire tax evader.

Often activity in the underground economy is simply a way of life: child-care; cooking; cleaning; waiters' tips; owner-occupied rental income; "do-it-yourself" activities; and consumption services provided by business. These activities are either cash-based or barter-based, or services which are not charged out for economic amounts, if at all.

Other examples of the underground economy, showing its richness and diversity, are given by Hennie Reynders, chairman of the National Manpower Commission. There are subsistence farmers; bicycle menders; street hawkers; "backyard" carpenters and mechanics; unregistered builders and painters; smugglers and street corner vendors.

It's hard to see SA legalising dagga or prostitution — but the number of activities which should be allowed to emerge is as limitless as human need.

The importance of SA's underground economy should be realised by all. For the future, perhaps the most vital issue is to make as many inroads into absorbing the underground economy into the formal sector as possible. The economy as a whole would then operate more efficiently.

Such absorption is not an impossible task and would have many benefits. But it should be recognised that the absorption can only be successful if four economic mechanisms are implemented — simultaneously.

Those, in short, are: privatisation (now recognised as part of Pretoria's economic policy); deregulation on a massive scale; the shrinking of government bureaucracies; and tax cuts. In a nutshell, the cornerstones of so-called supply-side economics.

Take the example of animal slaughterings, which comprise a significant part of the rural underground economy. In the formal sector, red meat slaughter is regulated by a pile of laws and a plethora of licensing, quota and health requirements.

Pretoria has already sold some abattoirs, but the private sector is hardly rushing to buy the rest. Privatisation is simply not enough, as the eeconomic viability of an abattoir may be severely hampered by laws. But if red meat marketing was deregulated, investors would be encouraged to buy.

In all probability, the abattoir would then become a taxpayer; and combined with the savings of taxpayer money previously used to run the unit, taxes could be cut. Furthermore, if health requirements were deregulated, the size of government would shrink: fewer inspectors would be needed, for example. That, too, would mean less tax.

That small example can be extended to almost any other known component of the economy. As tax rates fall, operators in the underground economy would "volunteer" to pay taxes — recognising that the lower cost of tax is outweighed by the advantages of becoming "respectable."

In the final analysis, the underground economy is conclusive proof that SA needs a new economic dispensation. The sooner the better — for it has been shown that one of the major advantages of government disengagement from business is depoliticisation of prices, wages, minimum standards, transport and so on. That is exactly the kind of tonic SA needs for its political and economic reform programme.

TOURISM

Swimming against the tide

SA has become bad news for foreign visitors. Expected benefits from the weak rand have not materialised. To weather the recession, the industry is looking to the improvement and rationalisation of local hotels, and strenuous marketing of SA to South Africans.

A fond hope of SA's ailing tourism industry has been that the weak rand would make local packages so attractive to visitors that the effects of a virtually unanimous bad overseas press would be overcome. It just hasn't turned out that way.

Spencer Thomas, executive director of the SA Tourism Board (SATB), provides this analysis: the slump "follows last year's exceptional 12,2% growth in overseas visitors to 454 880 and the excellent 23% jump in US visitors to a record 70 502. January 1985 figures show a 1% decrease in European visitors, while US tourism is only 1,7% higher. Visitors from Japan are 6% down, although overall January figures still show a 1% growth over 1984. We are treading water."

Japanese visitors to SA could be substantially increased — if a direct Johannesburg-Tokyo flight is instituted. "We will fly to Tokyo tomorrow if it were possible, but are still awaiting Japanese permission," says SA Airways PR manager Nic Venter. Politics and Japan's sensitive trade links with the rest of the world seem to be the stumbling blocks.

Southern Sun (SS) marketing director Bruce Hutchison confirms the US downtrend: "Our New York man says the anti-SA campaign is biting hard, and times are tough. We can expect a drop of between 20% and 30% in rooms sold to US tourists this year." Some 80% of all US tourists visit SS hotels, he adds.

SATB assistant director (marketing) Sakkie Hattingh says it should be noted that Europe (including the UK, with some 140 000 visitors/year) provides about 70% of all overseas visitors to SA. Although the US was a growing tourism source last year, it still lags behind, and its individual impact is therefore limited. Germany alone provided some 57 000 visitors in 1984, Hattingh adds.

"Meanwhile, the local hotel industry is suffering its worst occupancy rates in 10 years, even though SA can now offer some excellent values in dollar terms," says Fedhasa director of operations Fred Therman.

SA's tourism and hotel industries are not taking matters lying down. A "Tourism Indaba" for international tour operators at the Sandton Sun — co-hosted by the SATB and SAA — was attended by some 300 foreign tour operators from 40 countries; and a R1m SATB "See SA First" publicity campaign will be launched early in June.

An encouraging development at the indaba was the greater involvement of neigh-

It's a dry, one-track existence



The lone smous: Maria Madima, on the train — as always.

By KENRIDGE MATHABATHE of Afrapix

GENTLY, she asked: "What would you like to eat today?"

These humble words come from an elderly smous (an illegal seller in a train), Maria Madima, who used to live in Orlando West, but now lives in Winterveld outside Pretoria.

She makes a meagre living selling an assortment of goods like oranges, peanuts and sweets on trains from Pretoria.

Sometimes she gets no response from the passengers, glued to their seats. She then makes a quick exit to the next coach.

But in other coaches, her passengers are keen to buy.

By the time the train arrives at Park Station, she's done well — and boards the train to Soweto, where she continues her smousing.

Later in the evening it's back to Pretoria — by train, of course — and on to Winterveld.

Mrs Madima says she has never been arrested for her illegal selling.

"But I was once found and told to leave the job and stay at home," she says — and then points out that she had no choice but to carry on with her "illegal operation".

Mrs Madima, who believes she is the only smous in the PWV area, was born 54 years ago in Natal and moved to Johannesburg with her husband John.

In Johannesburg, Mr Madima got a job as a driver in a timber company, and she was employed at a steel wool company at Steeldale.

The couple soon found a house in Soweto.

Mr Madima became very ill, however, and died in 1974 — leaving Mrs Madima with 10 children to support.

"I was miserable because most of our children were already attending school and they were forced to leave their schooling midway to go and look for jobs, so we could pay the rent," explained Mrs Madima.

"Then I suffered a stroke that left me half-paralysed.

"I had to abadon the house and left for Winterveldt with my three youngest children, leaving the rest of them, some working, to carry on with the responsibilities of the house."

Mrs Madima still lives at Winterveldt with her three children — Victoria, 19, who's doing Standard 10, Apollonia, 16 in Standard 8 and her youngest boy Moss, 13, still in Standard 5.

She pays R10 rent, whatever else she makes is spent on school fees and food.

"It's hard," she says. "But I have no other way of earning a living."

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mission (KC) was an obvious one. In the wake of the hastily appointed commission, lawyers involved with the families instinctively turned to Nicholson for help. As director of the Durban Legal Resources Centre (LRC), Nicholson was already involved in the eastern Cape turmoil, acting as adviser, to the Black Sash.

Nicholson explains that the LRC is a registered welfare organisation which draws its funding from overseas church groups. It doesn't charge for its work and essentially takes on public interest cases so "the positive outcome of a case helps not only the victims but others as well."

Law Society Bar Council rulings preclude Nicholson from offering an opinion Judge Kannemeyer's findings. However, his contention before the commission was that the police — armed only with lethal weapons — seemed to be seeking a confrontation by approaching the Langa funeral procession. It was to be expected, Nicholson reasoned, that police would exercise greater circumspection on the 25th anniversary of the Sharpeville shootings.

The Kannemeyer report is now public. Disciplinary wheels are in motion and perhaps some heads may yet roll. Nicholson believes there were positive aspects to the Kannemeyer inquiry. He is particularly impressed by the promptness with which it was appointed. It was an act of faith, he says, which offers a rare ray of light on the sometimes blurred functioning of the rule of law in SA.

He is disturbed, though, that its appointment hasn't fundamentally changed attitudes. People, he notes, are still being shot almost daily in township violence. In Parliament recently, a figure of some 400 shootings this year was quoted.

Many believe that Kannemeyer should have come down heavier on the police as even he felt the tragedy could have been averted. Others are disturbed that headquarters in Pretoria are not being asked to shoulder at least some of the blame.

For Nicholson, the inquiry with its high public profile and deep social consequences brought its fair share of problems. But that didn't deter him for a moment from participating. "It wasn't easy," he recalls, "preparing evidence for a complex case in a hotel room." On most days he was up at 4am, having spent the previous night interviewing witnesses until the early hours.

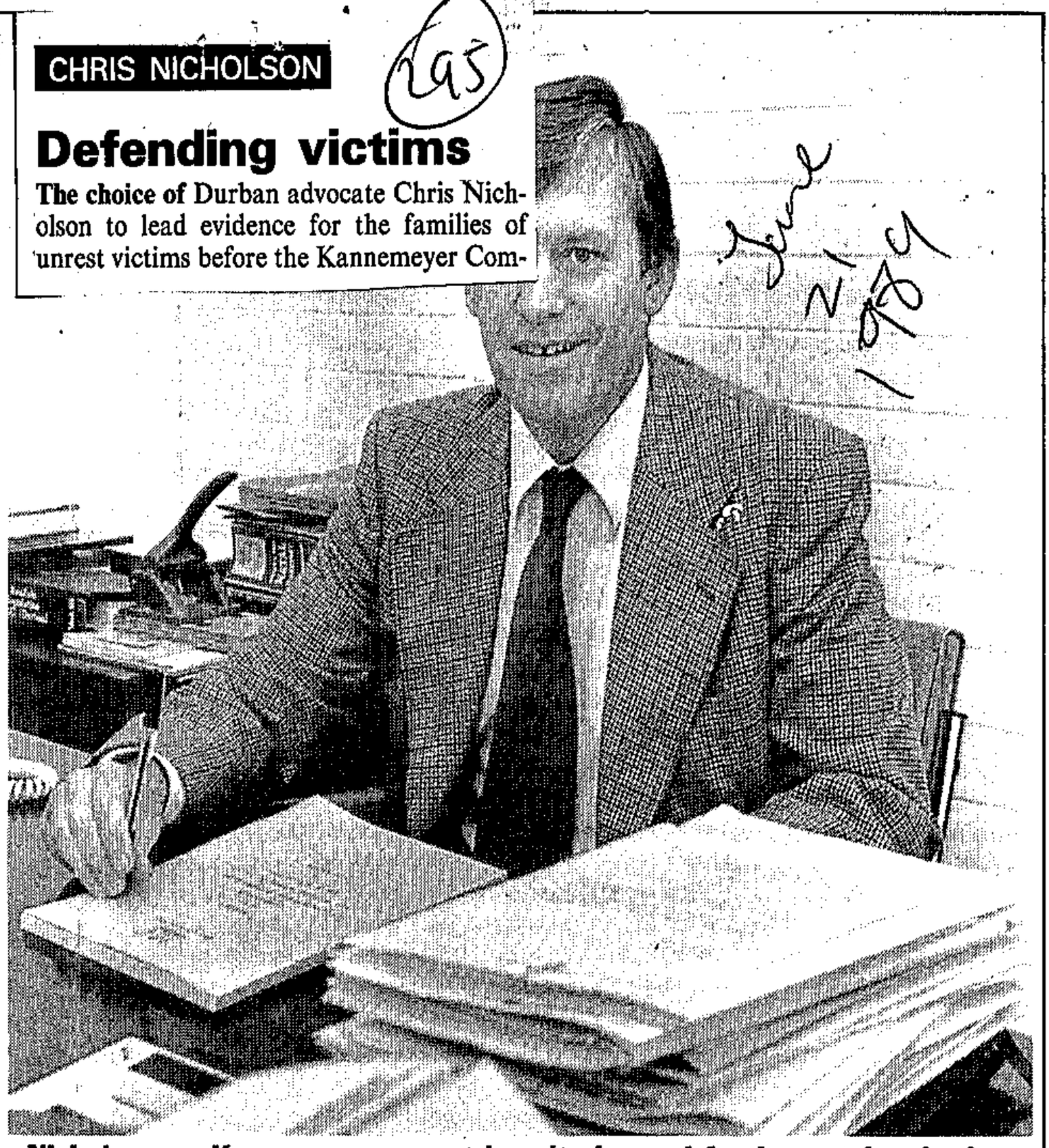
But it was probably his sense of humour that helped him handle the strain of perhaps the most significant case he's ever been involved in. However, for a man of Nicholson's social commitment, the case hardly distinguishes itself from the more mundane, but no less important, matters of old age pensions he investigates on almost a daily basis.

Nicholson was educated at Michaelhouse, obtained an L Lb at Natal University in Pietermaritzburg and practised as an advocate for 11 years — including a period at the Windhoek bar — before joining the LRC in 1983.

CHRIS NICHOLSON

Defending victims

The choice of Durban advocate Chris Nicholson to lead evidence for the families of unrest victims before the Kannemeyer Com-



Nicholson . . . Kannemeyer report hasn't changed fundamental attitudes

What was it that drove him to give up a thriving practice and join a non-profit aid organisation? "I feel it's my niche," he says simply. "I prefer to be involved in assisting people who are victims of the social and political system than helping random clients who merely knock at my door."

Nicholson says he feels strongly about what he calls the "injustices" in SA society and is intent on using his skills and legal training to root them out. It might, he concedes, sound a little too virtuous. But, he admits he "enjoys fighting cases when I know I have right on my side."

Nicholson's wife, Jill, a local Black Sash office-bearer, shares his views implicitly. Together they intend making careers out of assisting less privileged South Africans. ■

MARTIN WESTCOTT

Corporate nanny

PE Corporate Services, one of SA's largest management consultancies, has a client base of about 4 000 SA companies — including most of the top 100 — and is most influential in the fields of training and remuneration.

New group MD Martin Westcott stepped into the top slot shortly after Metboard's acquisition of 80% of PE. "With the takeover," says Westcott, "Metboard are asking us the kind of probing questions we normally ask clients. It's a welcome opportunity to consolidate and restructure."

Over the past few years, Westcott says, PE has evolved considerably: "We've grown 30% annually for five years now, to our present turnover of between R8m-R9m. Our philosophy is to seek to be the dominant force in those markets where we're active, and we've achieved that in almost all cases."

PE is about the size of a medium-to-large US consultancy, Westcott says, but the important difference is that a US consultancy would specialise in selling one product only. "Here we must be multi-disciplinary, because of market size."

Consequently, the group has three management divisions. The first deals with remuneration and recruitment. It includes a large salary survey, remuneration consultancy and related services, including an executive recruitment business.

Next is what Westcott calls PE's traditional business — management technique, which includes production management, and engineering and maintenance consulting.

The third leg is applied behavioural sciences and business strategies. "These use the human sciences — leadership, motivation and communication — as interpretive skills to consult on organisational strategies, industrial market research and so on. In each division, we handle pure consultancy, public and in-company training, sell educational material, and hold minor and major conventions," Westcott explains.

Trade is flatter this year, he concedes, a

Shebeen owners to meet

295

OWNERS of shebeens in Meadowlands and Diepkloof who have applied for licences are asked to attend a meeting of the National Tavern Association at the Pelican Club in Orlando East today at 1 pm.

The secretary of the NTA, Mr James Kodisang, said applicants should bring their references as they will be required to fill a form to be endorsed by the Soweto City Council.

Rezone 16/7/85

"If the council processes the forms quickly, then the 152 applicants can be given permission to rezone their premises within the next two months.

"In the past we had no problem dealing with Government officials in Pretoria but our applications have been delayed in the councils," said Mr Kodisang.

The applicants will join a group of about 100 others, some of whom are legally operating while other are just about to get permission to start operating. Sowetan

STAR July 1985

THE STATE OF EMERGENCY

Security industry cashes in on unrest

295

By Sheryl Raine

The threat of urban and rural terrorism and other security hazards is becoming big business, and some local entrepreneurs are using the state of emergency to attract business.

Bomb threats, bomb recognition, emergency planning and security routines are being used in a marketing drive for the security industry.

One operator took advantage of the state of emergency in a display advertisement published in *The Star* yesterday. In bold print the advertisement asked: "Are you prepared for a state of emergency?"

It went on: "Have you got a prepared contingency plan to cope with the very real threat of bombs, fire and smoke emergencies? If you haven't, get your bomb and fire emergency videos NOW."

The company offered two videos — one on bomb threats, the other on fire.

A more sophisticated project has been launched by two companies which have been prompted by continuing security problems to conduct a study of the local security industry.

The state of emergency had added impetus to the project, according to Mr Alan Lindner, a former military intelligence man and now a marketer with a company involved in the study.

"The whole climate is conducive to a worsening security situation and therefore the security market is bound to grow," he said.

COMPLETED

He added that, as a marketer, he had identified certain gaps in the security market and had launched a study to determine the industry's strengths and weaknesses as well as establish investment potential.

The study will be completed by August 31 and the results will be made known to companies prepared to pay between R2 400 and R3 150 for the information.

"The threat of urban and rural terrorism in South Africa will be with us for some time and is likely to increase in the short term, exacerbated by the increase in general crime, inadequate policing and rapidly changing socio-economic conditions," said Mr Lindner.

"Furthermore, the shift of the strategic threat from the east to a west/north-westerly front poses the question as to whether the industrial and security sectors are adequately prepared to meet the rising challenge."

Shebeen runners hold talks

A GENERAL meeting of shebeen owners called by the National Taverners Association will be held at the Pelican Club near Orlando Station tomorrow starting at 1 pm.

Secretary of NTA Mr James Kodisang said all the members in Diepkloof and Meadowlands townships should bring their reference books as they will be required to fill application forms for the rezoning of their premises. They should contact him when they arrive at Pelican.

Other issues to be discussed will be:

- An African Bank — sponsored Europe trip for executive members. The trip was postponed in June and will be undertaken during September.
- The application for conditional operation for 40 members of the association.
- Discuss and determine the date of inspection of premises of 32 members.

Sowetan 24/7/85

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Stalls to hook the hawkers?

THE EAST London city council may have found a solution to its dispute with black hawkers — stalls at monthly rentals of R55.

Eighteen stalls will be built at the Pontoon Road bus terminus in the central business district.

The council banned black hawkers from the CBD after complaints by city businessmen.

Action Committee chairman Donald Card said his committee decided to give the matter top priority at a meeting this week.

The matter was last week highlighted by the Border Consumer Boycott Committee who called on the council to stop harassing black hawkers who are merely trying to earn a living with the vegetables they sell in the city.

The stalls are expected to be completed before December.

Board running outlets at a loss

BEERHALLS GO PRIVATE

295

29/8/85

Sowetan

By NKPANE MAKOBANE

THE Orange-Vaal Development Board has resolved that sorghum beer outlets in its area be eventually handed over to the private sector to cut costs and ensure a fixed income.

Mr D C Ganz, the chief director of OVDB, said this had been decided because certain beerhalls and depots in the Vaal Triangle were losing money.

He said it was, however, not possible to lease a beerhall to a private person for his own account.

Only development boards are authorised to produce, pack, distribute and sell sorghum beer. It is illegal to transfer this authorisation to a private body.

"In order to overcome this problem, it was decided that black managers be appointed to manage the beerhalls and depots for their own accounts subject to certain conditions.

Damaged

"It must be pointed out that the board still remains the legal entity and will still be responsible for the cleanliness and orderliness on the premises," he said.

Mr Ganz said of the 173 applications to manage sorghum beer outlets, 21 were approved.

He said that in the Vaal Triangle managers had been appointed at all outlets.

Tenders for the board's bottle stores in the area have been allocated.

However, because these outlets were damaged during last September's riots, and pending ministerial approval, the transfer of the outlets has not been finalised.

Riots

Mr Ganz said in terms of Government policy, all liquor outlets owned by the development boards must be gradually phased out to the private sector.

It is expected he said, that the sorghum beer trade will be eventually phased out completely.

Following are sorghum beer outlets and their new managers: Deneysville Depot, Mr M Rabodila; Zamdela Beerhall, Mr E Lulama; Bophelong Beerhall, Mr P Mokoena; Boipatong Beerhall, Mr D Mpondo; Sharpeville A, Mr M Motsapi; Sharpeville B, Mr E Monaheng; Sharpeville C, Mr J Molise; Sharpeville E, Mr P Itso; Sharpeville F, Mr Lucas Manyama; Sharpeville H, Mr E Mohanoe; Mafube Beerhall, Mr G Gabuse; Hostel 1 Beerhall, Mr F Matima; Quaggasfontein Beerhall, Mr L Mofokeng; Koöperasiestoor, Mr B Motsapi; Zone 14 Depot, Mr A Dhlamini; Zone 13 Beerhall, Mr J Mokoena, Zone 12 Beerhall, Mr L Hlakotsa; Zone 11 Beerhall, Mr Z Jokozela; Zone 7 Beerhall, Mr E Vilakazi; Depot 4306, Mr Z Jokozela; and Depot 7 B, Mr E Vilakazi.

(or "old") example is chosen, the R500 a month rent paid to Mrs X by her employer is *not* excluded from Mr and Mrs X's joint income and it must be accounted for in the family's tax return. The amount of taxable income under the rental scheme effectively rises from R1 040 to R1 540 a month.

On this basis it would always seem that the new sub-paragraph is the better option, despite the non-applicability of the R20 000 abatement. But, says McGlashan, the question remains: why was the old sub-paragraph not deleted or altered when the new sub-paragraph was inserted into the Seventh Schedule this year? ■

FEATURE

INFORMAL SECTOR

Trapdoor or springboard?

While tinkers, tailors and established traders will benefit from programmes designed to help small business, hawkers may have little more to aspire to than a place in the shade.

The marginal people in South Africa's urban economy, they peddle their wares from the shade of large umbrellas — which give some protection against the weather but none against harassment. Deregulation and access to market stalls would materially improve their working conditions, but there is a view that the informal sector will never offer them more. As long as they are part of it, they will only subsist.

Says economist Bee Thompson: "There are no expansion opportunities. They sell to the poorest section of the community and can only operate if they have no overheads."

Thompson, who works in the research department of the Development Bank of Southern Africa, feels this is often overlooked by those who look to the informal sector to alleviate unemployment. "Too much is expected of it. It is seen as a vibrant little subeconomy, opening up all sorts of opportunities for people with vision. But it only exists because people are desperate. If you talk to them, you will find they would much prefer steady jobs." Says Keith Beavon, professor of human geography at the University of the Witwatersrand: "The term 'informal sector' to describe unemployment in a depression is simply a euphemism. Its existence is a symptom of a sick economy."

Beavon, who has spent the past six years investigating the role of the informal sector, specifically of Johannesburg, does not see it as a way out of poverty for any but a small number of people. "Most are trapped in a poverty loop."

Programmes to promote the informal sector are a short-term solution. "In the longer term you have to look at why people are forced to eke out an existence in this way."

Ultimately there can be no free enterprise if there is no free entry for blacks.

David Webster of the University of the Witwatersrand's Department of Social Anthropology believes the informal sector does little to benefit its participants. "Labour is more ruthlessly exploited by petty producers and small entrepreneurs than elsewhere. A 60-hour week is not uncommon and remuneration is frequently unconscionably low."

Such benefits as there are, he claims, accrue to "monopoly capital." An informal sector, providing only subsistence, assures them of "a stable and docile labour force — a reserve army of unemployed."

Capitalists could reasonably argue that, as a more affluent community consumes more, and as unemployment has manifestly failed to create a stable work force, their vested interests lie in upgrading communities rather than fostering dependence. The immediate problem, says Bob Tucker, chairman of the Law Reform Project, which co-ordinates attempts to deregulate business, is what you do for those without any other source of income. "There are probably 2m blacks unemployed. In the absence of any social security net, I would think any opportunity is better than none."

That there are people who would be better off in fixed employment is undoubtedly true. An awareness of the problem but a different view of the role of support programmes comes from Keith Foster of the Urban Foundation. "You have to distinguish between survivors and entrepreneurs" he says, and defines those who are self-employed only because they are displaced and desperate as "survivors. The best thing that can be done for them is to channel resources to those who are capable of generating the jobs."

So it is people with entrepreneurial potential that he will concentrate on.

" 'Entrepreneur' is an overworked word. To be an entrepreneur a person has to have specific qualities." Identifying these qualities is the immediate problem. He believes he can recognise them when he is able to make personal contact, but on a large scale this is impractical.

"What is needed is a test. So far I haven't found one which copes with the problem of illiteracy and a low-level education."

He has asked the National Institute of Personnel Research to assist and hopes to put together a package for 1986 that will provide role models for success, "changing the perception of free enterprise among the black community." The immediate aim is to upgrade backyard business, putting it into small industry structures.



Hawkers . . . struggling with their boots

In the PWV black industrial areas, various agencies help small business cut through red tape, arrange credit facilities and provide the services of a counsellor for costing, quality control, marketing and supply arrangements. And, for some, there is the opportunity to purchase a shareblock which gives ownership of the space they work in. But for real progress, blacks must be allowed to establish themselves in industrial areas now reserved for whites, says Foster, because proximity to markets is critical. He also believes the zoning laws should be altered so that householders from Houghton to Diepkloof could run table-top home industry operations. "The common law provides all the protection necessary against pollution, noise, and so on. People are entitled to peace and privacy but you don't have to keep enterprise out of the suburbs to get it." Perhaps the most interesting element of Foster's strategy is his determination that risk be reflected in the interest rates charged.

He arranges the credit and then works out how the borrower will pay for it. "Subsidies are finite. A business must be able to pay the market rate for credit." This is the test of viability and, in the end, the measure of achievement. ■



□ BUSINESS IS BUSINESS . . . but for most hawkers it's a trying time getting started and keeping on the right side of the law

Bureaucratic misery for street vendors

Government has accepted that deregulation is a prime generator of economic growth, yet so far there has been little action to throw out the mass of red tape. A *Business Day* writer recently toured Johannesburg and talked to some of the traders who bear the full brunt of restrictive regulations

STEPHEN CRANSTON

THE process of becoming a legal and licensed hawker in Johannesburg is a bureaucratic nightmare. The requirements are so complicated that many poor and ill-educated hawkers could unwittingly break the law.

Many of them would be unable to satisfy the requirements of "lawful residence" — which means that they would be unable to remain more than 72 hours in an area unless they were born there and had resided there continuously, or they had worked for one employer for not less than 10 years, or they had lived and worked there for not less than 15 years.

A minority of hawkers are licensed under the Black (Urban Areas) Consolidation Act 25 of 1945, but even they face harassment from the police.

One fruit seller in Hoek Street told me: "At the moment we have to pay a licence fee of R5 a month, but the authorities can put it up to what they like.

"If we are in the wrong location or are trading after hours the police can fine us R20, confiscate our goods or lock us up, or they find a reason to do so."

Like most hawkers the fruit seller has no alternative means of employment. He has been out of school for a year and still hoping to become an apprentice or a filing clerk.

There is little prospect of that happening at the moment and he has got to pay his R35 rent, his water and electricity bills and his R2,50 taxi rides from Soweto somehow.

Hawkers try to sell either fruit, clothes or trinkets and bottles labelled "Gordon's Gin" but containing home-brewed Gavini, often for very low profit margins.

During the recession their cheap clothing is treated as a fair alternative to the prohibitively priced items in the city's stores. This is one reason that hawkers are not allowed in Harrison, Loveday, Joubert and Eloff streets on Saturdays.

And that is just one of the long list of restrictions imposed on hawkers, which most of them are unaware of.

Even the licensed fruit seller was unaware that an applicant for a hawker's business has to advertise in the Press, in both English and Afrikaans, which costs about R80.

Hawkers are only too aware, though, of the "move-on" rule (laid down in s108 of the Licensing and Business control by-laws).

This requires them to move 25m to a new site every 60 minutes and prevents them from returning to any such site within 24 hours.

This regulation was instituted in the earliest days of Johannesburg for the purposes of traffic control, and it seems rather inappropriate today.

Many of the regulations effecting hawkers go back more than 30 years when the problems of urban blacks were far less evident.

The control of hawkers from designated stands and the traffic control regulations date back to the Administrator's Notice of June 29, 1934.

Types of hawking and the areas of operation permitted go back to May 27, 1953. Only the health regulations are more recent, being instituted in 1972 and 1976.

Supposedly, hawkers should be accommodated in fixed stalls which can be hired from the council for a specific purpose, such as the sale of fruit. However, the number of sites are limited — and have been for 27 years — and so there is excessive competition for stalls.

The hawkers in Johannesburg can be divided into three categories: licensed, unlicensed and illegal.

The illegal hawkers deal in stolen or defective goods — they are often seen furtively at street corners selling "genuine" gold watches.

Wholesalers in the Hoek Street area selling to hawkers deny that they represent a substantial part of the trade, but do admit that a large proportion of the hawkers are unlicensed and consequently have to move fast to avoid the police.

If a black man rather than becoming a hawker wished to go into business as a butcher in, for example, the Cape Town area, he has to overcome a quite staggering number of obstacles.

He has to apply for a trading site from the Administration Board in the black area. He may not acquire a trading site without the consent of the board nor dispose of his property without such consent.

The board can oblige the trader to make substantial alterations, to fence any site and provide adequate sanitary convenience.

He would be subject to such laws as the Basic Condition of Employment Act, the Wage Act, the Health Act, the Income Tax Act and the licensing regulations.

All this is assuming that the zoning regulations would allow a butchery to be set up — for example, there are no sites available in the black township of Guguletu.

The Small Business Development Corporation (SBDC) believes that the informal sector — and hawkers in particular — should be encouraged.

It points out that while a job in the industrial sector can cost R30 000 to create and in small business R3 000, a hawking job can be created for as little as R25.

The SBDC believes that government is still reluctant to encourage black employment. Last September the SBDC found an ally in Chief Buthelezi, who said to the Organisation of Livestock Producers that restrictions were effectively preventing blacks from retailing meat.

It was yet another example of the way in which blacks are excluded from the benefits of the free enterprise system, and explains why so many of them reject it.

Services Sector - Others

1986

Petrol-pump man robbed

Staff Reporter

ARMED robbers snatched R251 cash and a radio from a Mitchell's Plain petrol-pump attendant.

Mr Charles Brewis, 38, is the 20th late-night pump attendant to be robbed this year in the Western Cape.

He was threatened by three men about 11pm on Friday while on duty in Eisleben Road.

Most of the victims have been confronted by three armed men. Lieutenant Attie Laubscher, police liaison officer, declined to comment on whether the same gang is suspected of being responsible for the robberies.

No arrests have been made, he said.

Louw refused city mixed race schemes

Dispatch Reporter

EAST LONDON — The whites-only municipal pension and medical aid schemes were controlled by the Provincial Administration and the city council had no say in the matter, the director of personnel and management services, Mr Leon Deetlefs, said yesterday.

He was responding to inquiries why the municipality had the schemes on a racial basis while at the same time it purported to be an equal opportunities employer.

Mr Deetlefs said the municipality had applied to the administrator, Mr Gene Louw, to have the entire 2 500 staff complement on the same pension and medical aid schemes, but it had been refused.

Explaining the medical aid position, Mr Deetlefs said: "We took a ballot among our African staff about a medical aid scheme but the majority said they were not interested. Our coloured and Indian staff wanted medical aid and we got them a scheme with a company."

On the pension scheme, Mr Deetlefs said: "We have a pension scheme for our staff who are not white. This is also done through a company and the municipal contribution is the same for all."

Mr Deetlefs said the municipality was fully entitled to call itself an equal opportunity employer.

"The pension and medical aid rules are directives from Cape Town in which the municipality has no say. As I said we did apply to have all our staff on the same scheme but it was refused.

"Nevertheless even though our staff are on different schemes, the municipality contributions for each of its staff members are the same irrespective of race, colour or creed," Mr Deetlefs said.



Sordwana Bay is the venue for the National Ski boat fishing tournament to be held from February 17 to 21 this year. The Border team hoping to improve upon its third place achieved in the 1985 tournament comprises from left, Roy Bovey, Malcolm Boucher (captain) and Paddy Hart.

Municipal employees back down

Municipal Reporter

THE Durban Municipal Employees' Society has backed down from the strong stand it took against the nature of the pay increase given by the Durban City Council in July last year and the size of the January 1986 increase.

The DMES went to the Industrial Court because it wanted the July increase of R25 a month for all employees changed to a percentage increase and wanted more than the 5 percent increase given with effect from January this year.

In response to this, the council reduced the January pay increase to 3 percent.

Reinstated

Mr Dave Rogers, DMES chairman, said that for technical reasons the trade union had withdrawn its application to the Industrial Court and the council had reinstated the 5 percent increase.

This decision was ratified by the council recently.

Mr Rogers said the DMES had objected to the R25-a-month increase because it believed that employees should be paid according to their education and status.

Mrs Sybil Hotz, Management Committee chairman, said the committee had given the fixed-sum increase because it believed this would benefit employees at the bottom end of the pay scale.

She said the fixed-amount increase was one of the suggestions made to the committee by one of the four trade unions to which municipal employees belonged.

'We felt that in terms of industrial relations it was what the council should be doing,' Mrs Hotz said.

Union: conditions unequal

Dispatch Reporter

EAST LONDON — The secretary of the East London Municipal Workers Union, Mr G. H. van der Walt, yesterday slated the East London municipality's assessment of itself as an equal opportunities employer.

Mr Van der Walt said he strongly disagreed with, and was "shocked" by, the assessment made by the municipality's director of personnel and management services, Mr Leon Deetlefs, that even though municipal staff were on different benefit schemes, the municipality's contributions for each of its staff members was the same irrespective of race, colour or creed.

"We (the East London Municipal Workers' Union) are extremely disturbed about this statement. We can't accept that general statements are being made like this when they are blatant distortions of the facts," Mr Van der Walt said.

He said that a large gap existed between the municipality's contributions to white and black amployee benefit schemes and until this gap was rectified, East London's municipality had "no right" to call itself an equal opportunities employer.

White municipal employees contributed nine per cent of their salary to the pension scheme while the municipality's contribution was 21,4 per cent.

Black municipal employees contributed six per cent to a pension scheme, and the municipality's contribution here was also six per cent — a gap of 14,6 per cent between the municipality's contribution to the schemes.

Mr Van der Walt said all white municipal employees had to contribute to a compulsory life insurance scheme which covered the family of a male employee for five years after his death, or alternatively, covered the family of a female employee for 2½ years after her death. The municipality's contribution to this scheme was approximately 2,35 per cent and 1,18 per cent respectively.

"So, in fact, when the municipality's contribution to both the white pension and life insurance schemes are added together, white municipal employees benefit almost four times as much as the black employee," Mr Van der Walt said.

He added that only a very small percentage of black municipal employees could afford to contribute to the life insurance scheme.

Mr Van der Walt said that one of the municipality's conditions of employment for all white employees was that they join the South African Association of Municipal Employees — a "whites only" organisation.

"Black municipal employees may or may not join a union, but they cannot join the South African Association of Municipal Employees," he said.

"The East London municipality promised us and its employees that it would employ all its staff on an equal opportunities basis, but it has since shown very clearly that this is not the case," Mr Van der Walt added.

Men snatch R1 400 in 26th garage raid

295 AK641 14/2/86

Staff Reporter

LATE-NIGHT petrol station robbers snatched more than R1 400 in the 26th such robbery in the Western Cape this year.

Three armed men threatened an 8th Avenue, Kensington, attendant on Wednesday night and fled with R1 404.

The attendant, Mr Skosana Matzikula, 35, was not injured, said Lieutenant Attie Laubscher, police liaison officer.

This year armed men have robbed late-night station attendants of about R3 000 and at least four attendants have been shot and wounded.

Several methods of stopping the robberies have been suggested by bodies connected to the petrol industry.

The Garage Workers' Union has said it supports the proposal that garages demand exact payments for petrol sold late at night.

Recently Mr George Beckman, chairman of the Western Province division of the South African Motor Traders' Association, said he felt most garage owners did not feel a need to act because only a small percentage of the total number of garages had been robbed.

"If three out of 1 000 have hold-ups, it is difficult to convince the ramaining 977 until they, too, get robbed," Mr Beckman said recently.

Police have asked customers to pay with credit cards or the exact amount after hours to enable pump attendants to deposit cash in night safes.

All civil servants to get 10 p c pay increase

Mercury 17/2/80.

Mercury Correspondent

PRETORIA—Official sources here indicated last night that the Cabinet had decided on a flat 10 percent pay increase for all public-sector workers — Government and Provincial staff, the Post Office, Police, Prisons and Defence Force.

The information follows an angry clash at the weekend between officials representing 230 000 South African Transport Services workers and the Minister of Transport, Mr Hendrik Schoeman.

After Mr Schoeman told them they would be offered a 10 percent rise they were so angry they first of all stood up to leave, saying there was nothing more to talk about.

Called back

The minister called back the members and tried to explain the Cabinet's attitude against a background of South Africa's serious financial difficulties.

But the workers' leaders remained unhappy with the offer and went on to pass a motion of no confidence in the Cabinet.

Mr Schoeman had made the pay offer to the executive of the Federal Council of Transport Services Trade Unions and as a peace offering had told them their 30 percent cut in service bonuses would be restored in the new financial year.

"It was not enough, however, and after the meeting, federal council chairman Jimmy Zurich said since decisions on increases for transport services workers were apparently taken by the Cabinet, 'in future we will demand direct negotiations at Cabinet level'.

The Transport Minister obviously had no mandate to bargain and negotiate with his trade unions, Mr Zurich added.

He dismissed the 10 percent offer as an insult to all rail workers.

'We asked for 25 percent which would still have left a backlog when the huge increases in living costs over the past two years are taken into account.'

Meanwhile Public Servants' Association president Colin Cameron seemed resigned to the rest of the public sector getting 10 percent increases.

'We asked for an across-the-board increase of about 13 percent and so far we have had no indication from Government as to what the settlement is to be.'

He hoped for special treatment for workers in what he called areas in the Public Service with specific problems.

Post Office and Railways tariffs are expected to be raised again to finance the increases in the new financial year and to meet the bill for a 10 percent rise. Taxpayers would have to fork out nearly R700 million.

'Farm labourers most exploited'

FARM and domestic workers are the most exploited, oppressed and harassed members of the black working class in South Africa because employers take advantage of their employment contracts.

This is the view of the general secretary of the Black Domestic Workers Association, Mr Terrence Phiri, who called on the Government to implement legislation within the labour laws to protect thousands of these workers.

He was responding to the debate on the private members motion introduced by Mr Arend Poole (LP, Belhar) in the House of Representatives that a select committee be appointed to consider whether farm workers should be covered by the labour laws.

Mr Poole said farm workers had no protection under the labour laws, and this looked like legalised exploitation. They were excluded from the Labour Relations Act, Wage Act, Unemployment Insurance Act, and the Basic Conditions of Employment Act.



ARGUS 18/2/86

R650 taken in two petrol station robberies

Staff Reporter

FOUR armed robbers fled with R400 today after holding up a petrol station attendant.

Mr Wellington Naukidiku, 28, an attendant at a station in Jakkalsvlei Road, Bonteheuwel, was robbed soon after midnight, said Lieutenant Attie Laubscher, police liaison officer.

Last night a Philippi pump attendant was robbed of R250 by two armed men, bringing the number of station attendants robbed in the Western Cape this year to 28.

Mr S Bondele, 27, was robbed about 7.45pm while on duty at a Lansdowne Road service station.

No arrests have been made.

● A 62-year-old Simondium woman is in a serious condition in Paarl Hospital after being beaten with an iron pipe.

Mrs Magdalena Klein, owner of Vredelust Farm, was attacked about 10.15am yesterday by a man who surprised her as she walked through her back door, said Major Frank Alton, Boland police liaison officer.

Mrs Klein was beaten on the head and arms.

Shortly before the attack she had chased two youths out of her garden, he said.

An undisclosed sum of money was missing from the house. No arrests had been made, Major Alton added.

10 pc more for public sector

Parliamentary Staff

CAPE TOWN — Public servants will get a 10 per cent pay hike on April 1 and the the one-third service bonuses cuts introduced last year will be fully reinstated.

The increases — the first since January 1984 — will also apply to teachers and educationists at schools, technicons and colleges; the military, police and prisons services; and personnel attached to provincial bodies and statutory councils.

Announcing the increases last night, the Minister of Administration, Mr Eli Louw, said it was "not an easy decision for the government to commit itself to extra expenditure, but it has appreciation for the sacrifices that the public servants made in the past years".

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Talks on rural problems

295 02/4/86 DISPATCH

By ANDRE JORDAAN
Business Editor

ELLIOT — The difficulties facing farmers, the ageing of the white rural population and the lack of local authority financing are some of the issues being discussed at a symposium here on the development of the Region D hinterland.

The symposium has been arranged by the regional development advisory committee for Region D to compile a guide plan for positive action and development of the area.

Keynote speakers introduced various topics to be discussed yesterday:

● Movement away from towns and farms to the cities — Mr C. J. Nel, of Region 11 (Aliwal North) said the composition of the population was changing as whites left and black numbers increased.

The average age of white farmers was increasing with less than one per cent being under 25 and more than 45 per cent over 50.

Consequences of the population shift were a change in the types of services in the towns, the disappearance of entrepreneurs and consequent loss of job opportunities and lower living standards for blacks.

Housing and education could not keep pace with the increase in black numbers and state aid was becoming an important source of income in these areas, Mr Nel said.

● Commercial development — Mr N. P. R. van der Watt, of Region 8 (Humansdorp) emphasised the need for positive marketing, objective analysis of possibilities and the identification of problem areas like inadequate aid and funding, unfair competition, inadequate infrastructure and inefficient bureaucracy.

● Education — Dr G. H. Craven, of Region 9 (Aberdeen) pointed to the backlog in the provision of school facilities for blacks and also a decline in the number of white schools and the disappearance of white farm schools.

Rural children were sent to city schools, while the rural schools depended on "imported" children from other areas.

Dr Craven said the nature of South African society today also meant that questions relating to race could not be separated from a debate about education.

● Agriculture — Mr J. Erasmus, of Region 12 (Cradock) said agriculture was an important decentralised activity and provider of jobs.

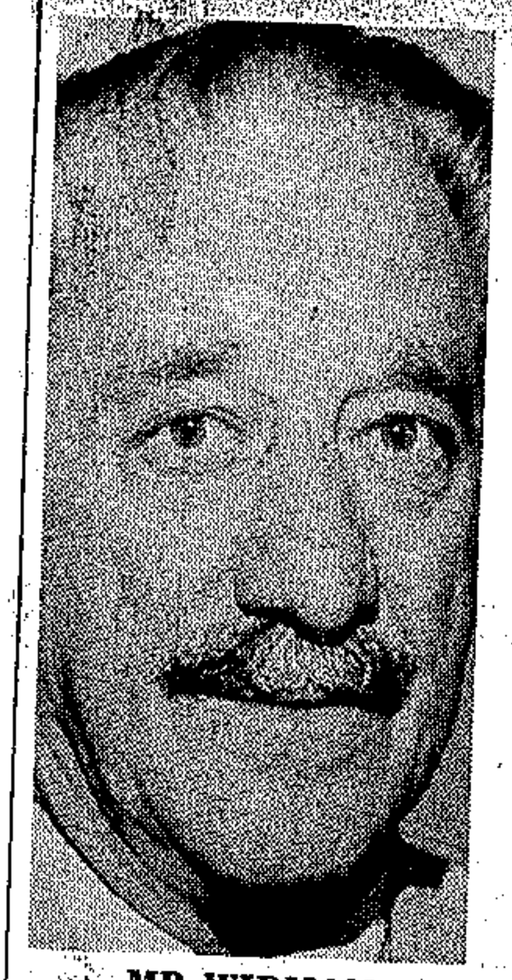
He said there had been a tendency to emphasise industrial and mining developments.

Agriculture was "hurting" at present with a huge debt burden and an aspect to be investigated should be more favourable financing arrangements and ways of encouraging young farmers to stay on the land.

Other areas were the availability of and training of labour, bargaining procedures between employer and employee, and the provision of housing for employees.

● Local authorities' lack of funds — Mr Cyril Manthe, of Beacon Bay, said this led to a vicious circle in which a lack of qualified staff, equipment and facilities hampered developments.

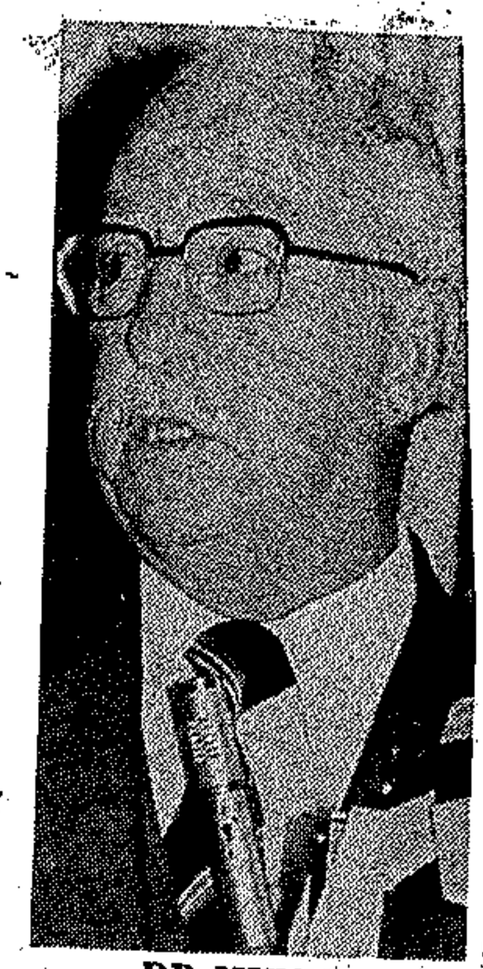
Mr Manthe also referred to lengthy delays in obtaining authority for projects from the first and the second tiers of government and to confusion and lack of co-ordination among local authorities since the new constitutional proposals.



MR WIDMAN

Widman says PO pay figures are misleading

Civil servants to get huge hikes — PFP



DR MUNNIK

CAPE TOWN — Not only Post Office workers, but the whole civil service would get a 21 per cent pay increase, Mr Alf Widman (PFP Hillbrow), said yesterday.

Speaking in the third reading of the Post Office Appropriation Bill, he said the ten per cent increase, together with the reinstatement of the three per cent salary cut and the bonus cheques, added up to 21,33 per cent.

If the minister, Dr Lapa Munnik, denied this, he should "get up in this House and tell me my figures are wrong".

The minister had attacked him for inaccuracies, said Mr Widman, but had not dealt with the inaccuracies in the budget that he himself had raised.

Among the most important of these were the R36 million deficit, the raising of postal tariffs from 12 to 14 cents and the framing of the budget in August last year, when the rand was worth almost ten US cents more than it was today.

Major Reuben Sive (PFP Bezuidenhout) said Dr Munnik had been "grossly negligent" in not explaining how his telecommunications service was going to meet the demands of the electronic revolution.

He said the flexibility and versatility of a country's telecommunication network was becoming increasingly important.

If the minister avoided the electronic revolution and concentrated only on improving basic services and avoiding luxuries, he was "fast precipitating South Africa into becoming a banana republic".

The new telecommunications were a product of computer programmes.

Although voice traffic still accounted for the lion's share of telecommunication services, some people said telecommunication ten years from now would consist mainly of data transfer. "I believe the phone company as we know it is dead," said Major Sive.

"What we have today is a completely new telecommunications business; the business of information movement management. That is why I say we who participate in the telecommunications debate must wake up from our Rip van Winkle sleep. This whole budget belongs to an era now gone."

There was no question that the government-sustained monopolies would have to go but there was a lot of doubt as to how they ought to go.

Mr Brian Page (NRP Umhlanga) said the Post Office should consider "contracting out" certain operations where the facilities it had were not adequate for its needs.

He said the express postal system was ineffective and should be phased out or revised. Express deliveries now cost at least R1,80 an item and arrived no sooner than normal mail.

An express item he had posted to his bank manager in Durban had arrived there after a personal note he had sent at the same time by standard mail. The manager's reply, also sent by express post, had arrived back at Parliament after a bank statement sent by normal mail.

Mr Loius Stofberg (HNP Sasolburg) said the HNP had good reason to believe its members' telephone conversations were being listened in on by the government.

He said Dr Munnik was misusing his position to try to undermine the opposition.

In reply, Dr Munnik said the Post Office had not overspent on any item but had been forced into a deficit by forces beyond its control.

He said inflation, the poor rand exchange rate and other factors had led to the Post Office's poor results.

"Our department did not overspend on one single item out of bad budgeting," he said.

Mr Widman had said the budget was based on too low a rand/dollar exchange rate. However, no one could say whether the rate would stay at its present level or fall again.

Dr Munnik said the Post Office was going to take expert advice on its financing system.

He added that experts had predicted the budget would only add 0,15 per cent to the inflation rate, or 0,2 per cent in the long term.

The Post Office intended installing about 14 000 additional telephones in Soweto in the near future.

He emphasised he would not allow installation to take place at the risk of assault on his department's employees and the destruction of Post Office equipment in an unrest situation.

Replying to Mr Peter Soal (PFP JHB North), who had earlier accused the minister of giving big businesses a "death blow" because of tariff increases, Dr Munnik said someone had to pay for the increases in order for the Post Office to "break square". In his speech, Mr Soal criticised the minister's reasons for the increased tariffs, one of which Dr Munnik attributed to the rising costs of specialised equipment.

"If one goes through the list there is hardly an item that has not been increased." Big business concerns and other organisations were most affected by the increases, Mr Soal said. —Sapa

Govt and PFP clash again on civil servants' salaries

ORMANDE POLLOK
Political Correspondent

THE Government and Opposition clashed again yesterday over salaries, with Mr Alf Widman, MP for Hillbrow, charging that not only Post Office workers were to get a 21 percent increase but that all civil servants would.

The row was started by Mr Pierre Cronje, PFP Greytown, earlier this week during the Post Office budget debate but Dr Munnik hit back and said his figures were incorrect.

In a statement later, Mr Cronje said Dr Munnik had in fact confirmed his views which led to a heated reply yesterday by Dr Munnik who said if Mr Cronje had to draw up a budget for anything the country would have to pray for mercy.

'He has created unwarranted expectations among civil service workers by suggesting the Post Office has broken ranks on the 10 percent increase,' said Mr Munnik.

Mr Cronje had taken a whole lot of figures, lumped them together and come to the conclusion that workers were getting 21 percent increases.

However, large sums of money which appeared on the salary bill were for specific purposes, such as achieving wage parity, and therefore went only to certain workers and could not be averaged out among all workers.

Other large amounts were on service bonuses for certain workers, and money was paid into pension and medical funds.

Mr Widman then said all civil servants were getting a 21 percent increase when the 10 percent increases, the reinstatement of the 3 percent cut and bonus cheques were taken into consideration.

CAAC Times 22/3/86

Two stations selling petrol at discount

Staff Reporter

AT LEAST two local service stations have followed the Pick 'n Pay Hypermarket lead in selling petrol at a discount on a coupon system, and many more could follow.

Rocklands Service Station in Mitchells Plain has begun selling petrol at a discount of 4c a litre in co-operation with the Wembley Supermarket nextdoor where coupons may be cashed against goods.

The service station manager, Mr A Isaacs, said they were "the first to follow" the lead given by Pick 'n Pay chief Mr Raymond Ackerman.

'Catch fire'

"I think it will catch fire," Mr Isaacs said. "There's been a lot of talk. Three or four service stations have approached us to find out how we have gone about it.

"People will be more aware and will be looking for this type of discount. I think maybe if you don't join in you will soon be out of business."

Mr Pierce Commerford, managing director of Rhoville Motors near the hypermarket in Brackenfell, agreed.

"Raymond Ackerman managed to get this thing through and I figured that what he is doing — getting a square deal for consumers — is good and I agree. But he is going to get all the business and we'll get nothing."

Attendants

So Rhoville Motors is also offering petrol at a discount on a coupon system. These coupons are redeemable against goods (excluding petrol) or services from Rhoville Motors.

The difference is, these small service stations are keeping on their petrol pump attendants while the hypermarket offer is on a self-service basis.

"We are keeping our people employed," said Mr Isaacs, while Mr Commerford said he was dead against self-service.

"You have to look at the human factor. About 40 000 blokes would be out of work if we all went self-service," he said.

Two garages robbed

Cape Times 2/4/86

Staff Reporter

TWO petrol attendants were robbed of more than R1 000 at the weekend — bringing to 34 the total of armed robberies on Peninsula service stations since January this year.

Hundreds of rands were also taken in several other armed robberies at the Easter weekend.

A police spokesman said yesterday that Mr Jombard Mbebe, 43, of Nissan Centre, Somerset Road, Green Point, was robbed of R540 on Saturday.

The suspected robber was armed, but no shots were fired.

On Friday two men, one with a firearm, robbed Mr Monty Dodwaxa, 40, of Rendezvous Motors, Voortrekker Road, Parow, of R600.

No shots were fired and no one was injured.

A City Tramways busdriver, Mr Norman Sampson, 35, was robbed of R40 by an armed man when he stopped at the Hanover Park terminus on Saturday morning.

Two men, one with a firearm, robbed the owner of a mobile shop of R450 on Saturday evening.

Mr Abraham Rosenkrag, 19, was standing next to his shop in Mitchells Plain, when he was accosted. He was not injured.

On Sunday Mr Melvyn Niclaas, 41, was robbed of R70 and a wristwatch worth R75 by two men, one armed, when he was walking along Bird Road in Athlone.

A Kuils River man, Mr Johannes Charles, 32, was surprised by two men, one armed with a sawn-off shotgun, who called at his home early on Monday morning.

When he opened the door of his Mimosa Street home they threatened him and robbed him of R61.

Pump attendant fights off gun, hammer attack

Crime Reporter

A STRAND petrol pump attendant drove off five robbers with his knobkierie after they threatened him with a gun and hit him on the head with a hammer.

Major Frank Alton, police liaison officer for the Boland, said Mr Caswell Lumbamba, 35, was on duty at Rola Motors in Main Road, The Strand, about 10pm yesterday when a car drove up.

The five passengers asked for R5 worth of petrol.

When Mr Lumbamba had put the petrol in the car, the driver drew a firearm and threatened him.

The five forced him into a cloakroom, where he kept his money bag, and hit him on the head with a hammer.

"Mr Lumbamba grabbed his kierie and let loose," Major Alton said.

His assailants fled, leaving behind the money bag. Mr Lumbamba was not seriously hurt, Major Alton said.

● Poor response to bid to step up garage security, Page 5.

Poor response on bid to step up garage security

Crime Reporter

A FRESH attempt is to be made to persuade Western Cape garage owners of the need for stronger security.

This year there have been 43 robberies at Peninsula garages in which thousands of rands has been stolen.

But a security seminar to be held on Saturday has had a poor response from garage owners — the group most in need of assistance, according to Mr George Beckman, chairman of the Western Province division of the South African Motor Traders' Association.

The seminar at Goudini Spa will be addressed by, among others, a senior member of the Murder and Robbery Squad and an insurance specialist.

Two attitudes

The question of security has been discussed by garage owners before but many do not want to step up measures to combat crime unless the competition does likewise.

It appears they believe that tighter security might drive customers to the next garage.

Some garages have taken steps. Mr Beckman is to build a bulletproof kiosk for a cashier and has employed security guards.

Others have agreed that one certain way to end the robberies is for owners to insist that clients pay the exact amount for the petrol — money which can be deposited immediately into a night safe.

But others say this will harm their trade — and ask why they should bother when proportionately there is little chance of their garages being attacked.

Dismissed

This argument is dismissed by owners who support greater security. They say that unless all garages take greater care gangsters will merely move from garages where there is security to garages where there is none.

Another argument used by the opponents of greater security is that "the pump attendants are behind the robberies". But police point out that this statement is difficult to prove, especially as owners tend to sack attendants after robberies before there has been enough time to investigate the crime fully.

Supporters of greater security say that measures such as the instant deposit of takings in night safes would cut down on the chances of an employee stealing, if this was the case.

● The seminar at Goudini Spar will also deal with theft at the pumps and banking procedures.



Picture: PETER STANFORD, The Argus.

The carcass of a huge sperm whale which washed up at Kommetjie last night.

A scientist is to investigate the stomach contents of the whale to see why it died.

Dr Peter Best of the Mammal Research Institute at the University of Pretoria said the whale appeared to have died some time ago at sea and was decomposed.

News of the dead whale drew several visitors but few recognised the gelatinous mass in the surf for what it was.

Dr Best, stationed in Cape Town, said the dark skin of the whale had floated off, making the pink remains even harder to recognise.

The stranding was not unusual, Dr Best said. There had been two others in the past 12 months.

Draft Bill gives uniformity to municipal polls

Staff Reporters

A DRAFT Bill on municipal elections is in the final stages of preparation and is likely to be published before the end of the parliamentary session.

It will probably be considered by a standing committee during the recess and go before Parliament during the next session, which starts in August.

According to Mr Len Dekker, director of constitutional promotion in the Department of Constitutional Development and Planning, the draft Bill provides uniform regulations for election procedures and regulations for councillors.

It complements the Franchise Act of 1984, which specifies who is eligible to vote in local authority elections.

Mr Dekker said it would be necessary for Parliament to pass the legislation this year so elections could be held in 1988.

The draft Bill is believed to be based largely on the Transvaal municipal ordinance, which is regarded as restrictive and gives the Administrator extensive powers in formulating the voters' roll and in the delimitation of wards.

JUMPED THE GUN

Although the draft Bill has not yet been published Goodwood Town Council appears to have jumped the gun by releasing a four-page summary to councillors and the Press at its monthly meeting last week, The Argus's Tygerberg Bureau reports.

At the meeting the Mayor, Mr Louwtjie Rothman, who is also chairman of the Divisional Council of the Cape, criticised the proposed legislation as unacceptable and said it was "being forced on the rest of the country by the Transvaal".

According to Goodwood's summary, the first municipal elections will take place in 1988 on a date to be determined by the Administrator.

Any local authority with more than 2 500 voters must be divided into wards, each with at least 500 voters.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45th garage robbery in W Cape

Crime Reporter

A LENTEGEUR petrol pump attendant was held up by two men who threatened him with a gun and stole R30.

The attack brought to 45 the number of hold-ups at garages in the Western Cape this year.

Police said Mr Basie Dwagi was on duty at the Lentegeur service station about 4.30am yesterday when he was robbed. No shots were fired and there were no injuries.

Gang robs, abducts garage attendant

Argus 15/7/86

295

Crime Reporter

A PETROL pump attendant was abducted by an armed gang who robbed him while he was on duty at a garage near Paarl.

Police believe the gang struck again at a garage in Wellington shortly after releasing the attendant 5km outside Paarl.

A hunt has been launched for the gang and the getaway car.

Boland police liaison officer Major Frank Alton said the gang first struck at 10.30pm yesterday at Dal Josephat Motors.

The attendant said a car drew up and the driver asked for petrol. Three men got out and threatened him with firearms.

SHOTS FIRED

They stole about R150 in cash as well as oil and soft drinks.

The attendant was forced into the car and was driven north direction. About 5km from Paarl he was told to get out of the car. As the car drove off, shots were fired at him, but he escaped unhurt.

About 20 minutes later five men in a car drove into Dalvale Motors in Wellington. "We believe it was the same gang," Major Alton said.

Two of the five men threatened the attendant and the gang escaped with about R900.

● A petrol pump attendant on duty at a Manenberg garage was held up early yesterday by two men, one of whom had a gun.

The robbers escaped with R10.

It was the 51st hold up at a garage in the greater Cape Town area this year.



Mrs Marlene Davidson at her koeksister stall with helpers Tarryn Davidson, Shandelle van Loggerenberg and Shaun and Ursula Davidson.

295

DD 31/07/86

Woman barred from selling koeksisters

Dispatch Reporter

EAST LONDON — A divorcee who sells koeksisters in Oxford Street to boost the family income has been ordered by the municipality to stop trading as she does not have a licence.

Mrs Marlene Davidson said the order from the chief health inspector, Mr Raymond Kriel, came shortly after the success of her operation was featured in the Daily Dispatch's Industrial Review.

"This is a real blow to me and I don't know how I am going to support my three children on the small maintenance I receive from my ex-husband. I also get a small social welfare grant," said Mrs Davidson who sells at least 1 500 koeksisters a week from her table in an alcove at a men's outfitters.

She said she desperately needed the R120 a week profit she made "otherwise we are going to starve".

Mr Kriel said yesterday he had taken action as Mrs Davidson was selling foodstuffs outside the confines of the law.

"The ordinance states that she is not allowed to sell in the street and that the kitchen in which the foodstuff is prepared must be passed by us."

Mr Kriel said he had invited Mrs Davidson to see him tomorrow when he would try to sort something out for her.

"We will try to regularise her position and then she will be able to make koeksisters to her heart's content but she will only be able sell to home industries outlets," he said.

But the home industries idea does not appeal to Mrs Davidson who is hoping "to go legal" when the kitchen at her Evans Street home in Milner Estate has been completed.

"I telephoned the home industries people but they say they have women who make their koeksisters for them. Even if they did buy from me, it would only be a few because they do not sell many.

"The position of my table enables me to sell a lot of koeksisters. People don't go into the shops to buy. Mine is really a passing trade and I feel I am providing a service," she said.

The city councillor for the ward in which Milner Estate falls, Mr Phillip Rohtbart, said he sympathised with Mrs Davidson in the light of the recession and he would do all in his power to see that her position is regularised within the framework of existing laws.

D D 6/8/85 (295)

Hawker control improved — Levey

Dispatch Reporter

EAST LONDON — There had been a "100 per cent improvement" in the control of hawkers and the central business district seemed to be cleaner since the city council had banned hawkers' runners from the CBD, the chairman of the retail sub-committee of the Chamber of Commerce, Mr K. Levey, said yesterday.

Mr Levey said he had received "only positive feedback" following the clampdown.

The manager of departmental store, Mr E. Lawrence, said he had seen a "definite improvement, although there were still hawkers in the area.

"There is less interference with customers, as the older and much better behaved hawkers are now the only ones operating.

"There is still some running around on Friday and Saturdays at closing time, and some runners still stand at the side entrance to the store, but on the whole there has been a genuine improvement, Mr Lawrence added.

The manager of a supermarket, Mr Richard Fuller, said he could only describe the present situation as "fantastic, although older hawkers were still operating in the area.

"The runners used to block the front entrance and created a problem and pickpocketing took place nearly every day."

Artisan's anger

JOHANNESBURG — The Artisans' Staff Association has "noted with anger" the recent increases approved to members of the cabinet, House of Assembly and senior civil servants, the association's president, Mr Jimmy Zurich, said in a statement yesterday. —Sapa

295 11/8/86 DD

Mayor calls for boycott of hawkers

Dispatch Reporter

GRAHAMSTOWN — In an urgent appeal to the public here the mayor, Dr Brian la Trobe, has asked people not to buy from hawkers in High Street.

This follows an assault on a young girl outside the city hall when she was mobbed by a number of hawkers, one of whom removed her purse.

Dr La Trobe said: "She is a girl of 15, small for her age. She was about to cross High Street to buy some things for her mother when she was surrounded by importune hawkers, one of whom stole her purse."

The girls was petrified, he added.

Dr La Trobe stressed that every possible step had been taken to accommodate hawkers who were pursuing a way to make a livelihood.

"Council has turned a blind eye. We have not required licences from people hawking their goods in the residential area. We even allocated a prime site near the station where they may carry on their business. But they will not use it."

Dr La Trobe said the only stricture imposed was that they should not hawk in the central business district.

They pestered shoppers, blocked shop entrances and importuned motorists from the minute they parked their cars, he said.

Dr La Trobe said the public should be aware of the facts.

Municipal health officials had found hawkers packing their produce into bags in the municipal toilet block behind the market. "The toilet is virtually permanently damaged so there is the danger of contamination from raw sewage," Dr La Trobe said.

Hawkers had been seen licking fruit to give it a polish and their boxes smelt of urine, he said.

Vegetables stolen from farms in Belmont Valley were also being sold. These, notably broccoli, could be coated with aflotoxin, a highly poisonous fungicide. If they were cooked and eaten before the required interval after spraying, the toxin could cause cancer of the liver.

Dr La Trobe said the South African Police were not keen to take action because when they made an arrest it was invariably followed by a stream of protest from the public.

"We have tried every possible means to solve the problem. Now I am desperate. I can only appeal to the public not to buy from hawkers in the CBD."

R228 000 'handshake'

DURBAN. — Chairman of the Ministers' Council in the House of Delegates, Mr Amichand Rajbansi, will receive a 'golden handshake' of twice his annual salary — R228 000 — and a tax-free monthly pension of more than R6 000 when he quits politics, according to high-placed sources in the House.

Mr Rajbansi will also retain his South African Airways golden pass which allows him free flights within South Africa for the rest of his life.

A senior member of the House yesterday confirmed the pension benefits, but added that all Cabinet ministers received similar benefits on retirement.

He said Mr Rajbansi would be paid out double his present annual salary of R114 000 because he would have served two terms of office — as chairman of the executive committee of the now-defunct South African Indian Council and as a Cabinet minister.

The chairman of the opposition Solidarity Party, Mr Ismail Omar, also confirmed that Mr Rajbansi would be paid two-thirds of his present monthly salary for life.

Mr Rajbansi was tight-lipped yesterday about his announcement to his party's caucus that he may quit politics.



Mr Rajbansi.

Mr Rajbansi said the statements made by the "highly-placed sources" were "not correct", but declined to elaborate.

He said the 'poison letter' row or family pressures had nothing to do with his announcement.

But in political circles Mr Rajbnasi's move was strongly speculated to be a tactic to draw sympathy from NPP loyalists and Nationalist political quarters, while serving to allay increasing family pressure on him to opt out. — Own Correspondent and Political Reporter

Thankful for his tankful

Staff Reporter

A MOTORIST was given a nasty scare — and a "free" tank of petrol — when he found himself in the middle of an armed robbery at a Kraaifontein service station yesterday.

The motorist, a bearded man driving a white Renault, pulled into the petrol station while four robbers — one pointing a firearm — were holding up two pump attendants about 6.10am.

The gang ordered one of the attendants to fill up the man's car, the owner of Kraaifontein Motors, Mr J Barnard, said yesterday.

Quickly

Then, not allowing the attendant to demand payment for the petrol, they told the motorist to drive away. He did — quickly.

Mr Barnard said the robbers had then locked the two attendants in their cubicle before entering the building.

Inside, they threatened Mr Jan Verkerk, 31 and forced him to hand them the keys to the safe.

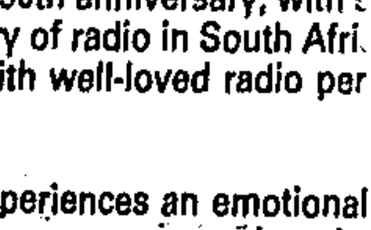
Taking the weekend's takings of R10 000, they made their getaway in a Peugeot.

Police said the car had been reported stolen in Sea Point in July.

TV tonig

TV schedules, supplied by the SABC, may be changed

00: **Hoekie vir Eensames. Sofa.**
35: **Fabels van Lafontaine. Die Muis wat té Veel Geëet Het.**
40: **Die Klein Brakkie. Die Posduif.**
45: **Wielie Walle**
00: **Pieriewieriepark**
15: **Langs die Pikkewyne. Die Speurders.**
45: **Nuus**
00: **Kompas**
05: **Dumêlang.** Noord-Sotho-kursus.
10: **Potpourri**
10: **Spioen. Die Rekenaarkalant.**
00: **News and Weather**
35: **Dallas. Hello ... Goodbye ... Hello.** Mandy tries to ruin JR's relationship with Sue Ellen moves by the cartel; Ben Stivers's presence t off strange memories for some of the Ewin
20: **Network**
10: **Fifty Years of Broadcasting.** Documentary tc memorate the SABC's 50th anniversary, with emphasis on the history of radio in South Afri featuring interviews with well-loved radio per ities.
00: **Late News**
05: **Take a Stand.** Jane experiences an emotional



Yul Brynner stars night's feature "Future World" TV4 at 9.33.

Plea for hawking sites in the CBD

Municipal Reporter

HAWKING sites similar to those established last year in Buffelsfontein Road should be established in Port Elizabeth's central business district, the Chamber of Commerce has urged.

This appeal is made in a letter to be tabled at today's monthly meeting of the City Council's Community Services Committee.

The Town Clerk, Mr Paul Botha, reports to the committee that because of the economic climate and as a result of ministerial appeals, the Traffic Department is lenient on itinerant hawkers and pedlars in prohibited areas.

Action was taken only when there were complaints, he said.

"Numerous requests have recently been received from people wishing to enter the hawking trade and it is felt that certain of the prohibited areas within the city could be deproclaimed."

The committee will be asked whether it is in favour of this or whether it has any other suggestions.

A letter from the Chamber of Commerce said businessmen in the CBD had made representations pointing out that the activities of hawkers had become more of a problem recently.

"The chamber certainly does not believe that, in these recessionary times, it would be appropriate to take harsh action against hawkers but, at the same time, it has to take cognisance of the views of its members."

The chamber recommended that an investigation be conducted to establish suitable hawking sites in the CBD in consultation with the chamber and hawkers.

● An appeal has also been made to the committee by the National Botanic Gardens Council for the establishment of a botanic garden in Settlers Park. This request was refused recently and a site in the upper Baakens Valley was proposed instead.

● The rent and instalment arrears position in municipal housing schemes is improving, it is reported to the committee.

● The holding of a motorcycle rally at Joorst Park is also on the agenda with the Traffic Department reluctant to recommend that the rally be permitted.

● The Beach Hotel is opposed to the opening ceremony of the summer season being held on the lawns in front of it but the Parks Department recommends the venue be retained.

Request to limit hawking

EAST LONDON — The city's 526 licensed hawkers have requested the municipality not to issue any more licences.

This was confirmed yesterday by the chairman of the action committee, Mr Neville Randall.

He said the city council had been told that there were approximately 60 unlicensed hawkers in the city, and they were "making things difficult" for the licensed hawkers.

"We have listened to their complaints, and I will now report back to council and see what can be done about the matter," Mr Randall said. — DDC

DD 12/9/86

Hawking under council spotlight

(295) Eve Post 21/10/86

By GAVAN O'CONNOR
Municipal Reporter

HAWKING in Port Elizabeth enters the spotlight again this afternoon when Mr Carl Coetzer, president of the Chamber of Commerce, discusses the establishment of a hawking site in the Central Business District with a City Council committee.

Numerous requests had been received from people wishing to become hawkers, it was reported to last month's meeting of the Community Services Committee.

Because of this it was felt some areas in which hawking was prohibited could be deproclaimed and the committee was asked whether it had any ideas or suggestions.

Simultaneously the chamber wrote to the council saying representations had been made by businessmen trading in the CBD who pointed out that hawking had become more of a problem recently.

"The chamber certainly does not believe that, in these recessionary times, it would be appropriate to take harsh action against hawkers but, at the same time, has to take cognisance of the views of its members," the letter said.

It recommended an investigation to establish suitable hawking sites in the CBD and Mr Coetzer offered to talk to councillors and officials.

Illegal and unlicensed hawkers trading in opposition to licensed hawkers and businesses needed control, the council said in 1976 representations for proclamation of areas from which hawking was prohibited.

This was contained in a report by the Medical Officer of Health, Dr J N Sher, and the Chief Traffic Officer, Mr Andy Augustyn, to this afternoon's committee meeting.

"These illegal hawkers with their misdemeanours such as pilfering, damage to, and littering in buildings, pestering motorists to buy their wares and begging, cause the public to be suspicious of the legal ones," the 1976 representations said.

The joint report added that it was appreciated that poltical, economical and other circumstances had changed dramatically and that it had to be borne in mind that the control of hawking entailed more than licensing, such as hygiene and aesthetics, which could not be overlooked.

"It is also appreciated that the State is in favour of deregulation, particularly as far as the small businessman is concerned," the report said.

With the high unemployment it was only natural that people should try to make a living.

Nevertheless, trading should take place in an orderly manner and if illegal hawking could be controlled in any other way, prohibited areas would not be necessary, the report concluded.

Now hawkers on the warpath

(295)
Sowetan 24/10/86

HAWKERS, who for many years have been harassed by the authorities while trying to sell their wares in the central business districts of South African cities, have finally come together to form an association that will fight for their rights.

Called the African Council of Nyangas and Hawkers Association (ACNHA), the new organisation also represents inyangas who also have been struggling for recognition by the authorities, employers and medical aid societies for a long time.

Formed in May this year, ACNHA already boosts a membership of 8 700 and it is expected that by the end of the year its membership will exceed the 10 000 mark.

Mr Lawrence Mavundla, general secretary of Acnha, told the *Sowetan* in an interview recently that his organisation had held many meetings with the Johannesburg City Council in a bid to have the city's by-laws which restrict hawking in the central areas, abolished.

Representations, he said, were also made to the State President Mr P W Botha and Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning, Mr Chris Heunis.

He said through ACNHA's efforts, hawkers in certain places in Johannesburg have been provided with shelters under which they now do their business.

"That, however, is not enough. We want more space to be made available for hawking in the CBDs," Mr Mavundla said.

He said: "The significance of hawking is that it creates jobs for many people who find themselves in the streets due to the economic recession and widespread retrenchments.

"What the authorities are not aware of is that by prohibiting hawkers from operating in the central areas they are persecuting the economy, instead of boosting it."

On the question of inyangas, who boost a membership of 5 000, Mr Mavundla said: "We don't have serious problems in that area."

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PE deals fairly with vendors – Town Clerk

295 Evening Post 18/11/82

Post Reporter

CONCERN by the Consumer Council that city councils were unnecessarily clamping down on street vendors, was unwarranted as far as the Port Elizabeth City Council was concerned, the Town Clerk, Mr P K Botha, said today.

He was responding to a Consumer Council statement that city councils were acting conterproductively by clamping down on hawkers.

Mr Botha told the Evening Post the local council's policy in this regard was clear.

"We do not take any action against street vendors unless a substantiated complaint is brought to our attention. We never take the initiative," he said.

According to Mr Botha, the council preferred to act in a positive manner and encourage free trade. The Consumer Council's concern did not apply to Port Elizabeth, he said.

"We try not to discourage such trade, especially in these hard times," he said. "Our policy is formulated. We do not act without good reason."

The Consumer Council saw the clampdown by councils as discouraging.

It added that street vendors provided for themselves and their families and should not be discouraged.

Vendors had shown they could render a valuable service to the community.

The council also slated traffic departments for allowing traffic officers to confiscate the goods of these entrepeneurs instead of "concentrating on the responsible task of ensuring a free flow of traffic".

Hawker's fate undecided

SOWETAN 2/1/86

295

A RAND Supreme Court judge yesterday reserved judgment in a case in which an Alexandra hawker challenged the authority of the Johannesburg City Council to seize his goods during October this year.

By JOSHUA RABOROKO

Mr Justice W R Vermooten reserved judgment when the 63-year-old Mr Sam Kunana had made an urgent application declaring that the seizure of his goods and their destruction was unlawful.

In papers before the court Mr Kunana argued that he was entitled to get his goods which included oranges apples and other vegetables back because he depended on them for a living.

He submitted that the money he received after selling the goods was used to support his six children.

"I need the goods back because I have to support my family," he said.

The city council had argued that Mr Kunana traded unlawfully, which was why his goods were confiscated on October 16.

(295)

Hawker loses in court case

THE Rand Supreme Court has dismissed an application by an Alexandra hawker to have the seizure of his goods by the Johannesburg City Council declared unlawful.

The application was brought before Mr Justice D O Vermooten by Mr Sam Kunama against the council for seizing his goods, which included two boxes of apples, a box of oranges and one-and-a-half bags of peanuts.

In dismissing the application, Mr Justice Vermooten said it was not a case in which the court should exercise its discretion and grant the declaratory orders.

Mr Kunama clearly had two remedies, he said: he could have paid the fine and got his goods back, or he could have instituted an action for damages for R130 in the magistrate's court or small claims court.

The application against the council was dismissed with costs.

SMAC

18/12/86 295

The Hoek Street Mall has a new lease a life

Now the hawkers also have a place in the sun

By Shirley Woodgate, Municipal Reporter

Johannesburg's hawkers are finally gaining recognition, but it has been a long haul from the days when the Cinderella salesmen first traded a couple of apples for a penny with the gold diggers on the Witwatersrand a century ago.

In the last seven years they have seen the relaxing of city's by-laws, then the allocation of hawkers' markets and recently the opening of the first fixed stalls in the Hoek Street Mall.

Today there are 800 licensed hawkers in the city: 295 whites, 181 Asians, 68 coloureds and 237 blacks.

The lot of the black small traders selling anything from boiled mealies to fruit, hats and sunglasses has been a twin battle against official harassment and the elements as they doggedly hung on, trying to eke out an honest living.

Their cause was taken up by people like councillors Mrs Janet Levine and Mrs Rae Graham and Professor Keith Beavon, head of the department of geography and environmental studies at the Witwatersrand University.

The first success ca only in 1979 when the city's management committee agreed in ciple to allow trading areas for hawkers.

A year later Profes Beavon referred to the "crisis situation" that black hawkers wexperiencing.

He slated the harasent the hawkers suffered at the hands of the authorities, pleaded fhe easing of by-laws forcing them to move every 20 minutes, thetting of red tape to get licences and an increase in the numbef fixed stalls.

In 1981 the 20 minu was pushed up to an hour and the hawkers were not allowed to rrn to the same place for 24 hours, but it was only a small recognit of the hawkers' rightful place in the economy.

Councillor Rae Gram took over the fight and pleaded repeatedly in council for the ng of the plethora of regulations governing hawkers. "Unrealistiontrols had failed to allow a controlled situation to emerge" she d.

"They weren't ask for handouts, they only wanted to be allowed to make a decent living. But they were being fined out of existence" said "Ma Graham" as she was known to the street vendors. She formed the Hawkers' Markets Committee who backed her efforts to hammer the council into establishing the fixed trading markets.

In 1984 four legal markets were agreed to: in Hoek Street Mall, at the New Doornfontein and Kazerne bus terminuses and at Faraday Station.

The growing body of people comprising South Africa's informal sector had by then gained the attention of the President's Council and the Small Business Development Corporation.

"We have been using First World legislation to regulate a Third World," said Mr Johan Naude, head of the SBDC's interest promotion, when Johannesburg announced its first moves to deregulate street vendors last year.

According to a council spokesman the licence fees of between R10 and R60 depending on the kind of goods sold, would fall away when the regional services councils were established.

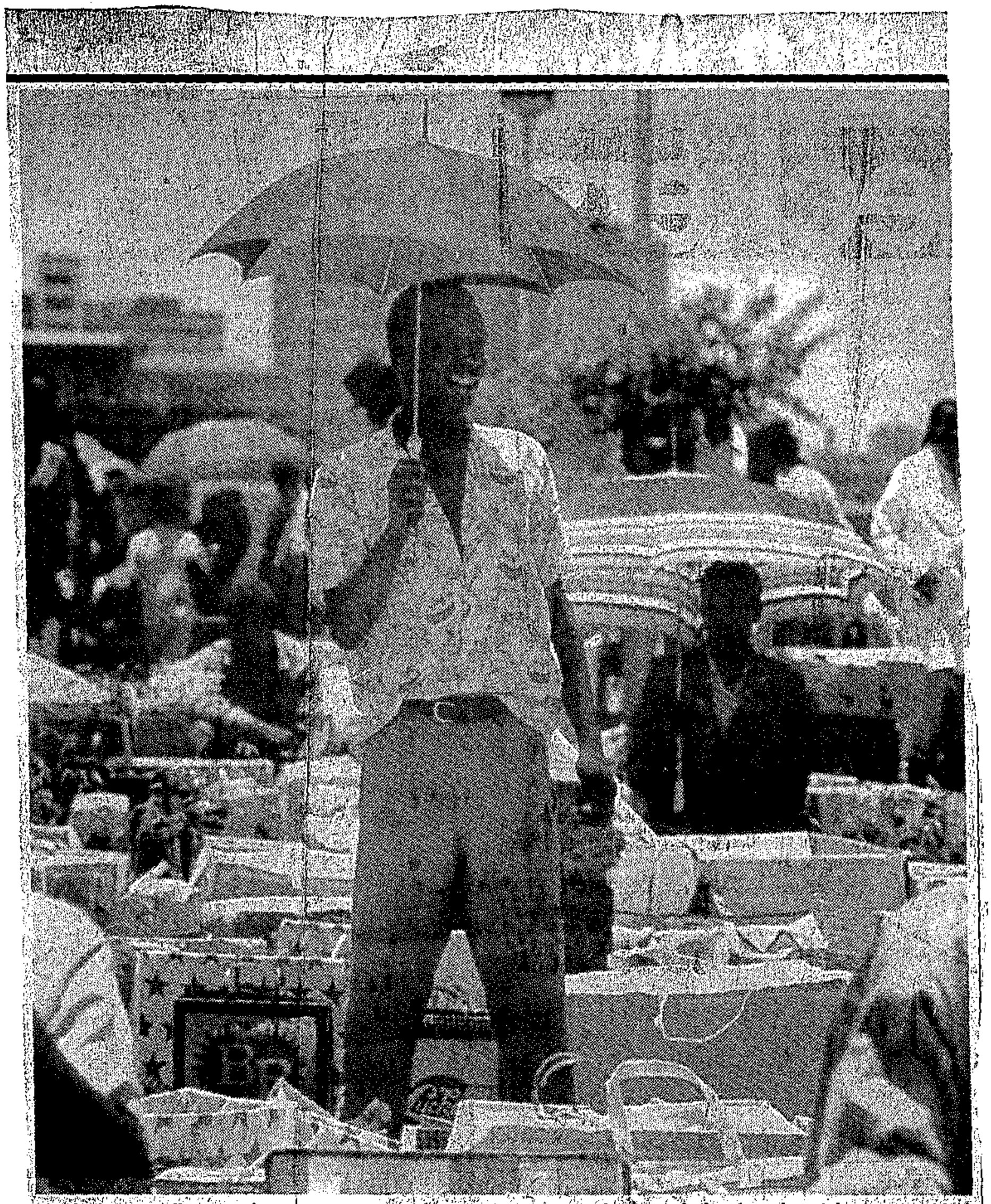
Mrs Graham is now pushing for them to be licensed. She has pointed out that the cost of setting them up in business is minimal compared with the R18 000 needed to create just one job in the Northern Transvaal.

"Hawkers are the end product of a long line and they must to be encouraged to the hilt," she said.



Mrs Eldah Kumalo sells a "muti" which when burnt calls up a punter's forefatherswho hand out tips on the day's racing certainties.

18/2/86



Carrybags selling at between 70 c and R7,95 are a vital part of the hawkers' business. Mr Ephraim Radebe works from 7 am to 8.30 pm every day and shelters under an umbrella from the sun or rain. ● Pictures by Ruvan Boshoff.

USED CAR MARKET

The chaos spreads

The agony of the new car market (see *Leaders*) is spilling over into SA's R2 billion-a-year used car trade. A shortage of good stock is pushing up prices strongly and causing more headaches for potential buyers.

And, unlikely as it sounds, some dealers charge that the cut in interest rates is actually adding to their difficulties. The problem is that the whole second-hand car market has been seriously distorted by the soaring cost of new cars.

Sales of second-hand cars have "rocketed," says Terry Sewell, marketing director of Wesbank subsidiary Sewells and author of *Fair Profit from Used Vehicles*. He tells the *FM* that sales of used cars are running at 26 000-30 000 a month. When new car sales fall, as they did in November to just over 13 000, something has to give.

The problem comes to a head when potential new car buyers, who have seen their chosen model drift beyond their reach because of across-the-board price hikes of 30%-35% this year, opt to buy a low-mileage used car.

This has brought a whole new market into the showrooms just when the owner who normally trades in after two years is deciding to keep his car for another year, again because he feels new cars are too expensive.

"We're being squeezed from both ends," says McCarthy Group joint MD Dudley Saville. "Demand is strong but we have far fewer vehicles coming onto the market." This is pushing up the price of used cars to unprecedented levels. He reckons the price of a good 30-month-old popular small Japanese car has been increased by some 50% by exceptional demand.

Fellow MD Theo Swart says the interest and mortgage rate cuts are adding to the problem by putting more money into potential buyers' pockets. "Previously undecided buyers will now come into the market. But there's a shortage of good used cars. With new car sales running at low levels there have not been enough trade-ins to build up second-hand stock."

Cargo Motors marketing director Clive de Kock says that in normal times the smoothly rising price of new cars pulls the used car price up gently with it. But motor manufacturers' big increases in the last few years have heightened the expectation of a seller of a two-year-old model. He demands a higher price from the dealer and the gap between new and used car prices begins to narrow.

Grobler reckons that while the ratio of used car to new sales was 1:1 until a few years ago, it's now up to 2:1 and sometimes even 2,5:1. He says: "Dealers are offering higher trade-in values just to get the stock. But this quickly translates to an even higher selling price." This becomes a new benchmark.

He says in some cases good used cars are becoming an appreciating asset: "In fact, the high level of demand for used cars has persuaded some dealers to open new car sales floors with the sole aim of getting their hands on good trade-in vehicles."

And Grobler forecasts: "This structural change in the whole car market could force finance houses to extend their funding to cars that are six or seven years old. They currently limit finance to cars that are four or five years old." ■

FINANCIAL 19/12/86

STREET TRADING

Cold comfort

295

A tough Supreme Court has dashed the hopes of Johannesburg's unlicensed hawkers by backing Johannesburg City council's seizure of a hawker's produce.

Although there's still the possibility of an appeal, vendors who refuse to quit the streets are considering whether to sue for the cost of lost produce.

At issue is the council's Transvaal Licensing Ordinance which empowers it to confiscate an illegal vendor's wares. Then, with the passage of time, the goods are declared unfit for human consumption in terms of health regulations and destroyed.

This is exactly what happened to Samie Kunama, an Alexandra father of six, when he was booked for the sixth time in Jeppe Street on October 16 and summonsed to appear in the Magistrate's Court.

Kunama, 53, one of the city's estimated 450 illegal hawkers, admitted his guilt but was unable to pay the R100 admission fine to secure the immediate release of his apples, oranges, bananas, and peanuts worth R130 with profits.

The Small Business Development Corporation (SBDC) tried to get the council to return the highly-perishable evidence. But when this failed and the produce was destroyed Kunama applied to the Supreme Court to have the council's actions declared unlawful.

The court ruled that to do so would set a precedent and the situation "could become intolerable."

The verdict is "a big disappointment," according to a spokesman for the SBDC which was pinning its hopes on forcing the council to change its approach to the ordinance. Down but not out, the SBDC is considering an appeal and will continue "its efforts to free hawkers in the CBD."

According to the secretary general of the countrywide African Hawkers Association, Lawrence Mavundla, Kunama's case highlights one of the main problems of illegal hawkers — the time it takes to get a licence. Kunama applied for one in May and has yet to receive it.

Unlike many others he was able to pay the R90 licence fee.

Mavundla believes the only solution to the problem is do away with licences. "Licensing does not give the council control over trading because so many hawkers cannot afford a licence," he says.

"We have been talking with the council since June and have even appealed to the State President and Chris Heunis. We are told they are still looking into the matter."

In the meantime, Mavundla says his organisation will back Kunama if he sues for damages in the Magistrates' or Small Claims Court. Kunama says he will be back on the streets with his wares, with or without a licence. ■

WEBSTER BOWS OUT

The transport scene loses one of its most colourful characters at the end of the year when Jack Webster, CE of the Public Carriers' Association (PCA), retires after more than 10 years in office. He will be succeeded by his deputy, Ian Moss, but will continue to act as a consultant to the PCA.

During his regime, Webster saw the PCA (originally the Professional Hauliers Association) progress from a small organisation representing a few leading hauliers into a national body with over 400 member companies.

He organised hauliers into a strong national body, and convinced government of the need to overhaul transport regulations affecting his members' operations. He also made a considerable personal contribution to the National Transport Policy Study (NTPS), which will see the end of the controversial permit system.

Webster was born in Leeds, England, in 1919, and the plain-speaking Yorkshireman did not always go down well with the South African authorities — but they had to concede he was usually right.

He has written over 40 papers on transport subjects and has served on many committees looking into the transport industry.

INFORMAL TRADE

FEATURE

A new look for hawkers

South Africans visiting Europe are usually impressed by the busy, yet relaxed atmosphere of its cities. Street markets and musicians add flavour to the otherwise grim, concrete jungles. This could be the new face of SA.

Although hawkers have somehow remained an integral part of our business community, they have for a long time not been accepted by the formal sector (*Business* December 19). The Prinsloo Commission in 1962 found the concept of hawking to be defunct and decided that the activities of hawkers should be restricted as far as possible.

Hawkers are subjected to a mass of regulations, some of which are almost impossible to control. For example, they have to pack their stock and move 25 m every hour and may not return to their original site within the next day. They are also confronted with a complicated licensing system, which very few understand and even fewer meet.

But there may be light at the end of the tunnel. The Johannesburg municipality has decided to relax hawking laws and it proposes that hawkers be allowed to trade on one spot for two hours. How much further the authorities are prepared to take deregulation remains to be seen. And when the provisional decision gets formal approval, is yet another matter. But it's promising that other suggestions still have to be discussed, probably in late January.

Nigel Mandy, chairman of Johnnesburg's CBD Association, says practical attitudes to hawkers have relaxed considerably — but the law still lags.

The economic recession and the abolition of influx control means more people are seeking jobs in cities, and hawkers provide for themselves without burdening taxpayers. It's often argued that the informal sector is not an avenue of capital accumulation and self-sustaining growth. This might apply in a wealthy country where there is food for everyone, but in SA there's still the problem of people supporting themselves.

However, one must distinguish between a goal and the means of getting there. To compare the situation in SA with that in Europe is not fair. Mandy points out that although hawkers in Europe seem to be subjected to minimum regulations, they are controlled by a code of conduct which has evolved over centuries.

Hawkers add colour to Johannesburg, but the consensus is that some regulation is necessary to ensure that narrow city streets are not cluttered.

At the start, at least, they'll have to be allocated special trading areas — Mandy suggests the Kerk Street mall. They should also be allowed free trading at bus and train terminals where they'll serve commuters.

The relationship between the informal and formal trading sectors has not been a happy one and they must be introduced to each other with care. Shopkeepers feel hawkers are seducing their customers. But the Small Business Development Corporation's Jo Schwenke says this fear is unjustified. Hawkers cater for different markets and buy stock from local shops.

Hawkers draw people into the city and, at the same time, help to keep the area safe and clean, says Schwenke. They like a lucrative site to which they can return and become known.

They're unlikely to allow loiterers on the site as this will discourage customers.

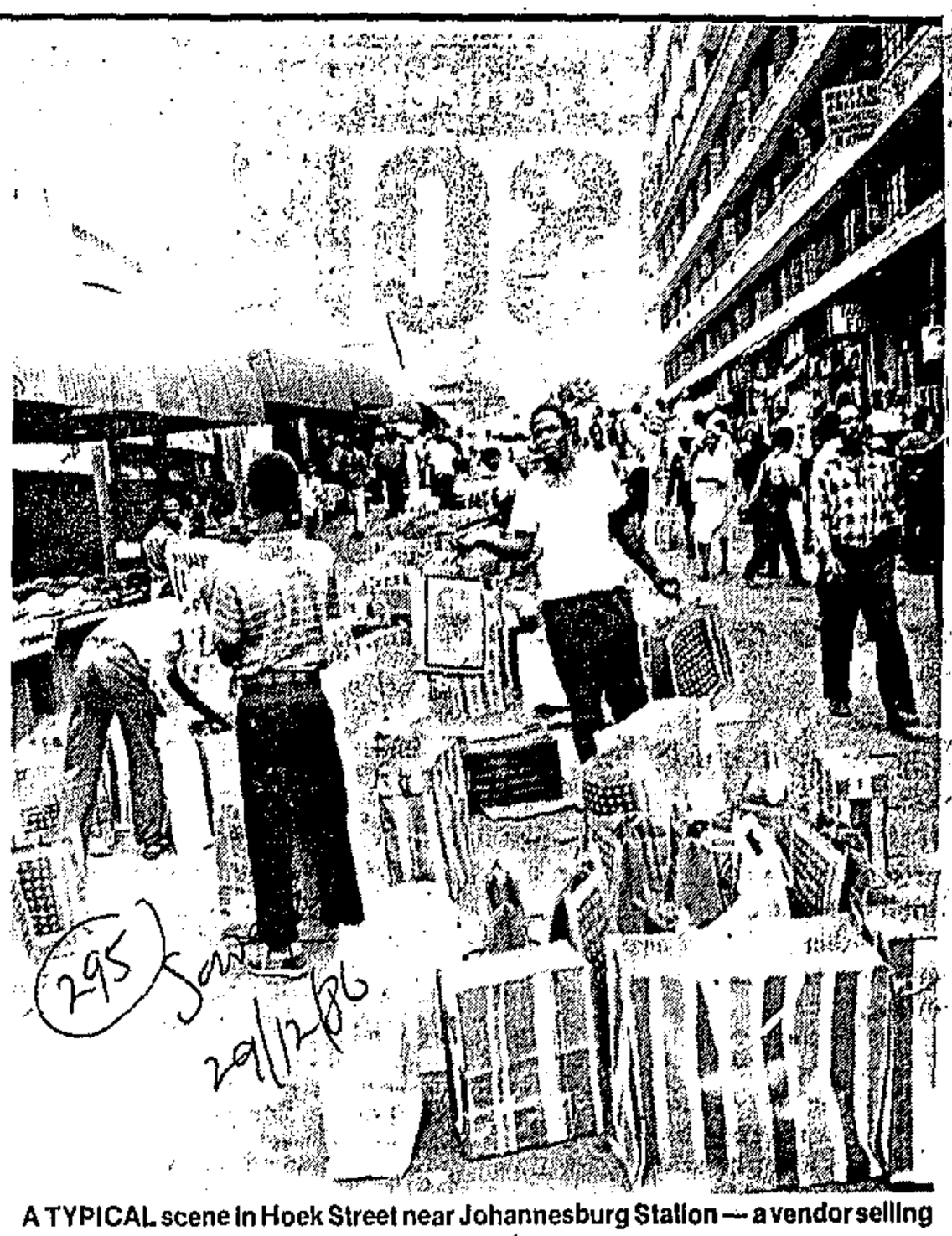
Hygiene can cause problems as hawkers have to transport goods over great distances. But this could be solved by providing storage areas, which, admittedly, could be difficult; and by scrapping the "moving" regulation. Consumers could also minimise this risk by buying only packaged foods.

White South African society has not yet been exposed to an active informal trading area and it would not be wise to throw them in at the deep end.

Perhaps it would be best to ease them into accepting hawkers as an exciting and cheap alternative to expensive shopping centres by promoting trade in the quasi-structured and pleasant environment of street markets.

After all, wouldn't it be pleasant to see tourism promoted by exposure to the country's colourful cities and markets instead of the lions (never mind the townships), which most tourists never see anyway?

ECONOMISTS are still uncertain about South Africa's economic prospects in 1987, but one thing they are unanimous about is that there will be no immediate recovery that will be enjoyed by all. As the uncertainty persists, *Sowetan* writer Nat Diseko spoke to some people who have found some sort of personal answer to financial problems . . .



A TYPICAL scene in Hoek Street near Johannesburg Station — a vendor selling paper carriers.

Hawking for life

FOCUS

WHEN the recession really started biting four years ago, there were retrenchments countrywide and the resulting unemployment caused people to start looking for alternatives to earn a livelihood.

With the hope of ever striking a job fading with every passing day, many retrenched people took to the streets — in the townships and the city — to try their hand at hawking.

In 1983, the Johannesburg Licensing Board received a whopping 2 243 applications for hawkers' licences, an increase of 324 on the 919 applications of the year before.

It is not only Africans who apply for hawkers' licences but people from the other race groups as well.

At the end of 1984, the 441 applications for hawkers' licences indicated a downturn in demand, but it picked up to 771 applications by the end of 1985. Significantly, more whites applied for hawkers' licences than members of other race groups. There were 295 applications by whites out of a total of 771.

In Johannesburg, especially on the city's fringes, there are many hawkers to be found on the pavements, some selling fruit and vegetables, while others sell a miscellany of goods ranging from paper-carriers to drawings and trinkets.

Former stage and recording star Sammy Brown is one of the many hawkers to be found selling their wares on the city's street corners.

Crest

About 15 years ago he was riding the crest of success with his talents very much in demand.

Not anymore. Today Sammy Brown employs his golden voice to draw the attention of passers-by to his cigarette stall on the pavement just outside the Johannesburg Station.

He said he had hit on hard times because of the recession. With singing engagements few and far between, he sells cigarettes as a stop-gap.

He said: "You can't depend on a one-off hit and sit down to wait for the royalties to trickle in. You have to do something in the meantime."

Mr M J van der Merwe, the secretary of the licensing board, said that in the past obtaining a hawkers' licence was more difficult because a prospective hawker had to advertise his intent in the newspapers before a licence could be granted.

"We made successful representations to the provincial authorities and this requirement has fallen away. We try to make it easier for people wanting to become entrepreneurs to obtain licences," Mr van der Merwe said.

Stalls

A city council regulation that hawkers move from one point to the next every hour has been the bane of many hawker's life. This month six new stalls for hawkers have been opened in the Hoek Street Mall so that hawkers do not have to move every hour from one point to another.

The Small Business Development Corporation, with the co-operation of the city council, has put up some shelters free of charge for hawkers. The SBDC is also considering giving people loans to get their enterprises off the ground.

Mr van der Merwe said he saw a hawker as an independent businessman who should be enjoying better status in society than a man who works for somebody else.

An old hand at the trade, Mr Peter Ndlovu (42), a father of six, decided to eke out a livelihood out of hawking as far back as 20 years ago.

He was having difficulty finding employment because of the scarcity of regular employment. What added to his problem was that he was fighting a losing battle trying to find his way out of the tangle of influx control red-tape.

"Initially I made sandwiches and sold them at railway stations. But obtaining a hawkers licence was very difficult so I had to give that up.

"I decided to sell my fruit and sandwiches on factory premises and this worked out well. My small business grew in leaps and bounds and today it is well organised and I am able to fend for my family," Mr Ndlovu said.

Retrenched

Today he has a small van for making deliveries and employs three helpers.

Mr Samuel Mahlasedi (33), who was retrenched three years ago, said he had survived on odd-jobs.

He said that he has to bring up two children aged ten and six alone.

Mr Mahlasedi ekes out a living by touting business on the pavement for a photographic studio that specialises in ID and passport photographs.

Hawkers are prosecuted by the Traffic Department if they contravene the city by-laws, like trading in the centre of town. They have also been prosecuted for trading without licences.

For many people wanting to be hawkers, the biggest problem is the initial capital outlay. It costs R10 to apply for a licence and the annual licence fee for selling food and drink is R60; R40 for non-edibles; and R20 for flowers.



The Media Council

THE South African Media Council is an independent body established to deal with various matters affecting media reporting and comment.

One of the council's functions is to receive and act upon complaints from members of the public who have not been able to get satisfaction by approaching a newspaper or other news

SERVICES SECTOR - OTHER

1987

JAN. — DECEMBER

'Illegal' Main St hawkers barred

19/11/87

By MICHEL DESMIDT

HAWKERS have been barred from operating "illegally" in Main Street and some have been charged after police received complaints from the public and shopkeepers.

Port Elizabeth's Chief Traffic Officer, Mr Andy Augustyn, said hawkers positioned on the pavement outside a large department store had been asked to leave last Tuesday and Wednesday.

Numerous complaints had been received from shopkeepers and pedestrians about hawkers obstructing the sidewalk.

The Eastern Cape police liaison officer, Major Eddie Everson, confirmed today that "a number" of hawkers had been charged for infringing provincial and municipal bylaws.

They had the option of paying a R50 admission-of-guilt fine.

Main Street was closed to hawkers, but his department had a "lenient" attitude to them and took action only on complaints.

Shopkeepers were angered by hawkers positioning themselves at shop entrances and had asked for their removal.

Consideration was given to the fact that for many people hawking was a livelihood, said Mr Augustyn.

"But they can't sit in front of concerns that sell similar goods and which pay rent and rates and operate under expensive conditions."

The manager of two Main Street clothing shops, Mr John Mowbray, said he had complained after hawkers had sold in his shops, interferred with sales staff and become abusive when asked to leave.

Sites for PE hawkers being studied

By DENISE BOUTALL

THE Port Elizabeth City Council is studying alternative sites for hawkers in the central business district, according to the Town Clerk, Mr P K Botha.

He said the council had received complaints about hawkers from the public and the Health Department was concerned about the lack of hygiene.

"We have been accomodating to hawkers, but the situation has become untenable," he said.

"Food is being unpacked and repacked on pavements and is a health hazard."

The Port Elizabeth Traffic Department and the South African Police have acted against hawkers after complaints and some hawkers have been charged with infringing municipal by-laws and provincial ordinances.

Mr Botha said the matter had been discussed by the Community Services Committee last week and would be discussed again next month.

"We are trying to identify areas where we can allow people to hawk on a more formal basis and we are thinking about providing them with stalls."

The manager, special projects, of the Small Business Development Corporation in Port Elizabeth, Mr Willie Fouché, said hawkers had a definite role to play in any economy.

Hawking was a dynamic activity and it was wrong to put undue restrictions on them, such as forcing them to move from one place to another every hour or two.

The SBDC was investigating ways of implementing a micro-loan system to enable people such as hawkers to raise small loans for a short period of time to launch their activities.

W/B ARGUS 7/2/87

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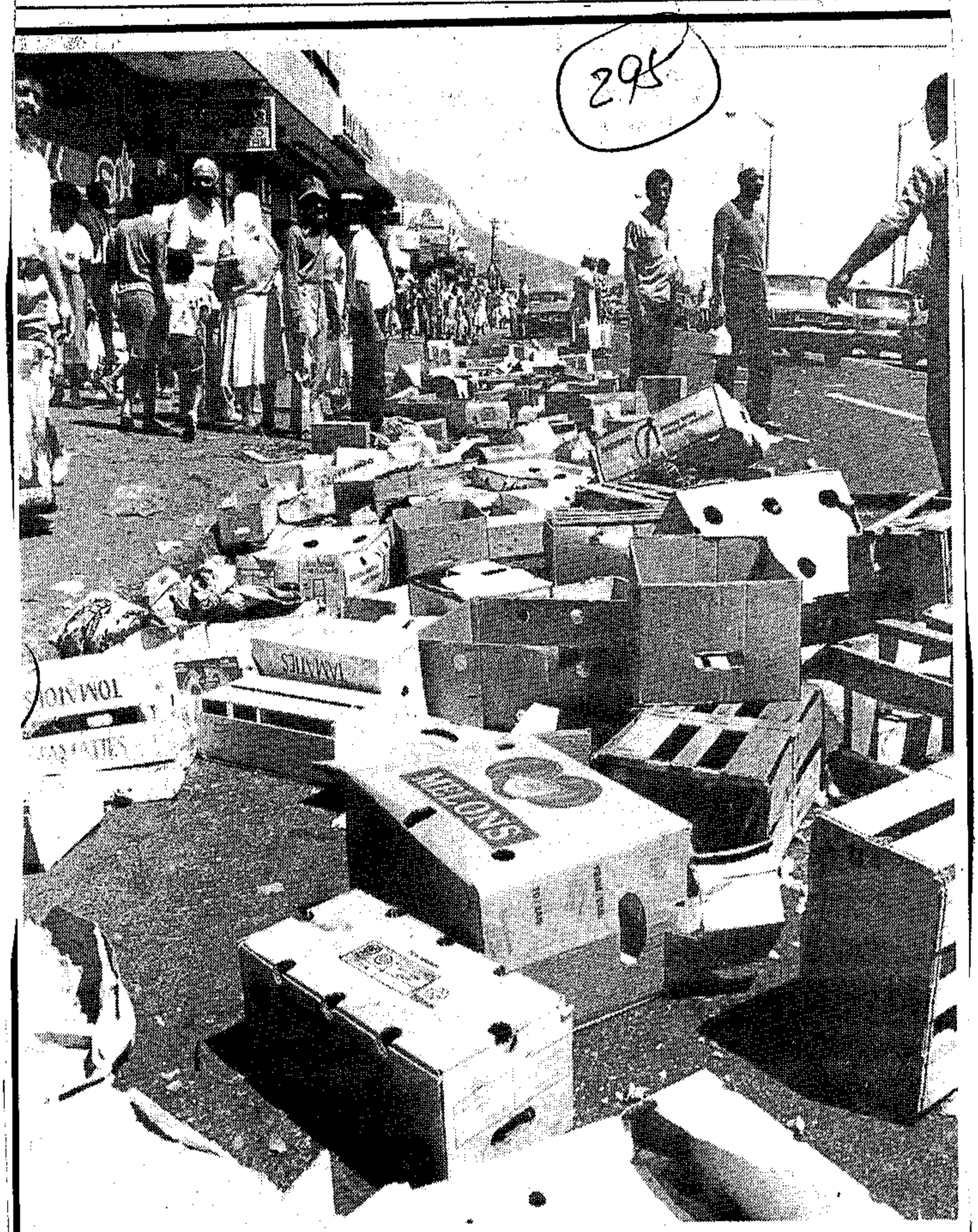


Fruit flies in frantic fracas

By ROBERT HOUWING
Weekend Argus Reporter

TRAFFIC was disrupted today while fruit, vegetables and wooden crates flew "like rocks" in Klipfontein Road, Rylands Estate after traffic police confiscated goods from angry hawkers.

Witnesses said that "at least a dozen" traffic police in four vans moved in about 11am and snapped up goods from about 10 fruit and vegetable sellers.

Irate hawkers protested and goods were flung about in the chaos. About an hour after the incident the side of the road was littered with broken crates and squashed fruit.

Hawkers said between them they lost several thousand rands in confiscated goods — their only income — and they believed that the traffic police action was "provocative".

● A spokesman for the Traffic Department, Chief Inspector W D Louw, said that the operation was "not a raid — just a normal law enforcement exercise".

"It is a long-standing dispute. Shopkeepers are up in arms because, they say, the hawkers take over the pavements in front of their shops."

Inspector Louw said that pavement hawking was prohibited in parts of Klipfontein Road, which passed through Rylands and Gatesville. He did not know if any hawkers were arrested or whether charges would be laid.

Hawker Mr Ismail Daniels said that no warnings were issued. "They just snatched our stuff — I spent more than R1 000 on goods at Epping Market today, and almost all of my stuff has gone. I have 16 children to feed."

Fruit and vegetable salesman Mr Ebrahim Patel denied that there was friction between hawkers and local shopkeepers. "Everyone generates business for each other.

"If any law has been transgressed why do no charges arise?"

Crusade for PE hawkers not over



Mr SOLLY RUBIN
. . . disappointed

THE rejection of six proposed hawking sites in Port Elizabeth's central business district (CBD) has not ended the crusade by two city councillors to get Market Square opened to vendors.

The issue is to be revived when it is discussed at the next City Council meeting on February 26. This was confirmed today by the Town Clerk, Mr Paul Botha.

Yesterday, the council's Community Services Committee rejected proposed CBD sites for hawkers and calls by two city councillors that Market Square be opened to fresh produce vendors.

The committee chairman, Mr J Nel, said the six sites were unacceptable because hawking in Main Street had upset traders, caused congestion and had raised the concern of the Health Department.

The Deputy Mayor, Mr Solly Rubin, who together with Mr Harold Davidson is championing the hawkers' plight, said he was "bitterly disappointed but not disheartened" by the committee's decision. He still believed the opening of Market Square was the only answer to finding trading sites for them.

Mr Rubin said the council should not unilaterally decide where hawkers could trade but rather make recommendations in consultation with them.

He said he favoured a natural setting similar to Art-in-the-Park and the fleamarkets held on the Parade in Cape Town.

As a counter to the "weight of facts" against the scheme, vendors should be allowed to operate on a small scale for a trial period to guage public reaction and the possible success of the venture.

Mr Harold Davidson said he had presented the committee with examples of successful fleamarkets established in Cape Town and Johannesburg. He felt PE could emulate these.

Mr Davidson said arguments that lack of support for the Buffelsfontein vendors' site justified not opening Market Square to hawkers was invalid because the site was not where people wanted it.

Kiosks on the square would bring vibrancy to the city and "give a sense of economic buoyancy", he said.

295 Cape Times 13/2/87

'Help our hawkers' — Curry



David Curry

THE MINISTER of Local Government, Housing and Agriculture, David Curry, yesterday made a passionate plea to the City Council to stop "hounding" city hawkers from the streets of the Mother City.

Speaking at a seminar yesterday hosted by Wesgro and the Cape Times, "Build a Better Cape", and attended by 200 people, Curry said: "We find that the traffic cops hound the hawkers who sell their fruit on the streets of Cape Town.

"I want to appeal to the City Council not to prosecute these hawkers.

"These people are self-employed. We must carry them high because they are independent, not hound them," Curry said to approving applause from delegates.

Discussing the housing problems of greater Cape Town, Curry said that low cost housing accommodated the "poverty of people". Housing should accommodate the "aspirations of people", he said.

Townships like Alexandria near Johannesburg were permanently occupied by security forces because of the socio-economic conditions prevailing there which promoted unrest.

Commenting on the 21st anniversary of the destruction of Distric Six, Curry said that the area was declared a slum area, and had then become a white area.

However, he added, District Six created more slums without solving the problems of the people.

Curry told the seminar that the R2 000m Blue Downs housing project providing 40 000 housing units near Kuils River also had the potential of a major industrial complex.

This major housing complex could also provide Cape Town's ailing building industry with a much needed employment boost, he said.

CAPE TIMES 295

rsday, February 19, 1987

New move on hawkers

Municipal Reporter

PROPOSALS enabling hawkers to enjoy greater street trading opportunities within two months are being drawn up, the City Council said yesterday.

The announcement came in a press release defending the council's traffic police raid on hawkers in Klipfontein Road, Rylands, last Saturday.

The council "and all ratepayers" could not allow "disorder", nor could it allow pedestrians to be "forced into the streets and possibly killed", the press release said.

The hawkers had ignored an earlier agreement that they would keep to official hawking sites, it said.

Mr Herman Marais, the Small Business Development Corporation's public relations officer, said "we believe what happened has once more emphasized the need for continued deregulation and the provision of infrastructure to informal traders".

Athlone 19/2/87 (295

New plan to create more street-trade opportunities

Staff Reporter

A PLAN to ease the street trading problems of hawkers has been promised within two months in the wake of anger over city council raids on street sellers in Klipfontein Road, Athlone.

The plan to create greater street trading opportunities, which forms part of the council's drive to deregulate small industries, will be tabled about April.

The raids, after complaints from shopkeepers at the Gatesville shopping complex, resulted in an "unpleasant incident which included the throwing of vegetables and fruit", said council spokesman Mr Ted Doman.

Official hawking sites, originally accepted by the hawkers, had apparently become unacceptable. They spread to pavements in front of established businesses and the council took action.

SERIOUS

Shopkeepers had complained about the "unsavoury behaviour" of hawkers.

Mr Doman said the council was serious about making it easier for the small businessman, including the hawker, to operate legally.

The Small Business Development Corporation expressed "disappointment at the disruption of hawking activities" in the raid. The corporation suggested that "disorder in business areas would have to be endured in future in the interests of job creation".

Mr Doman said this view "ignores the effects of these hawkers' activities on other traders who have permanent premises".

Hawkers and established businesses could live side by side. He cited the example of city centre hawkers who "operate without interference, as long as they don't become a nuisance".

Where page (2

It's a cat-and-mouse

Health Department's store rule a blow to licence hopes

HAWKERS trading in Port Elizabeth's central business district (CBD) stand little chance of ever getting a licence unless they have proper storeroom facilities.

It is illegal for hawkers to trade in the area with or without a licence — but even if the law was changed few, if any, would be likely to meet the health requirements required for a licence.

Port Elizabeth's municipal licensing officer, Mr T Eksteen, said it was absolutely essential for all hawkers to have a "decent, clean" storeroom for their produce before a licence to trade could be issued.

Licences cost R30 a year and were seldom refused if conditions were met, he said.

Health inspectors visited storerooms, which had to comply with municipal regulations, before licences were granted.

It took about three weeks for a licence to be processed.

Mr Eksteen said most of Main Street, especially the CBD, was a prohibited area for hawkers — licensed or unlicensed.

Those who contravened the municipal bylaw relating to hawking in prohibited areas faced a R50 fine.

Captain Peet Grobler, SA Police liaison officer for the Eastern Cape, said illegal hawking was a matter for the Traffic Department.

The police, he said, would only intervene in certain cases, as when hawkers caused a public disturbance.

Acting Chief Traffic Officer Mr John Jonker said his department acted only when a complaint was received.

However, if hawking took place in the vicinity of a shop entrance, it was a matter for the police.

Traffic officers sometimes removed fruit and vegetables belonging to illegal hawkers, but the goods could be reclaimed later, he added.



These women depend on the money from their potato and tomato sales for a living. Their favourite spot is also in Main Street.

life for Port Elizabeth's un

HAWKERS in Port Elizabeth's central business district are caught in the middle of a seemingly insoluble situation.

They sell fruit, vegetables and basketwork in the area where hawking is illegal as they seek to eke out a living and perhaps save their families from starvation.

And even if the Port Elizabeth City Council decides next week to allow hawking in the area, the hawkers will still be illegal — because it is highly unlikely that any of them will meet the requirements to get a licence.

Weekend Post reporter **RAYMOND HILL** investigated the situation for this special report. **COLIN URQUHART** took the pictures.

Hawkers chased from pillar to post

Feb 21 '87

Weekend Post Reporter

HAWKERS in Port Elizabeth, who lead a cat-and-mouse life with the men of the law, say they face starvation if they are driven out of the central business district (CBD).

Those spoken to this week said red tape had made it hard for them to trade.

Some said they did not know how to go about getting a licence, while others were still waiting for their applications to be approved.

The hawkers — mainly women — depend on their earnings as their sole source of income.

They came under the spotlight during the Christmas season when some were moved from their places in Main Street following complaints from the public.

In January, Deputy Mayor Mr Solly Rubin appealed to the Port Elizabeth City Council to allow hawkers to trade on Market Square.

No decision about their future has yet been taken and until then they lead a cat-and-mouse life with the police and municipal traffic officers.

The hawkers take a chance when they do business in the CBD area, especially during lunch hours, and move when they see law officers approaching.

Some said they and their children would starve if they were forced to leave the city centre to trade in the poverty-ridden townships.

Miss Gladys Johannes dearly wants the opportunity to sell her fruit and vegetables near the City Hall where business is reportedly brisk.

"I have no licence and am afraid of being fined and chased away by police and traffic officers," she complained.

Miss Johannes, of Soweto, Port Elizabeth, has eight school-going children She must support them on her earnings — just a few rands a day.

Her friends told her how they had been victimised for hawking in the central business area, and their tales have scared her from operating there.

She and her family will have no food without money from her sales.

Her "beat" is the Valley area, where her regular customers are kind towards her.

"Please help me to get a licence to hawk.

"Somebody gave me an application form to fill in. But it was the wrong form. I want to get a licence so that I can sell my goods in town every day and make more money without being caught," she said.

Miss Leonora Nyakata, 46, has six children, including four at school.

Her "stand" is on the pavement in Main Street, a few metres away from the City Treasurer's Department.

She was recently summonsed to pay a R50 fine for illegal hawking. "Fifty rands is too much. I haven't got it. I will just have to go to court and plead with the magistrate to give me a chance," she said.

She earns between R10 and R30 daily, and life would be a "bigger battle" if she was forced to leave the city centre.

"There is no money in the townships for hawkers like me," she said. She has debts to pay and her rent is R30 a month.

Miss Nyakata spends R3,70 on bus fares every week and gets up at 5am daily in summer and winter to go to the market for her produce.

"I worked in a factory in Deal Party for two years. But when I lost my job there, I started to sell fruit and vegetables to feed my family.

"I feel nervous every time I see a policeman and just pray that I don't get caught again," she said.

Mrs Rebecca Monqo, 36, of New Brighton, has 13 children, including eight stepchildren, whom she supports with the money earned from basket sales.

Recently she paid a fine of R50 for hawking without a licence. "I take up to R70 a day from my sales. But I do not know exactly how much my profit is," she said.

Miss Eugenia Piyo, 30, of Kwazakele, said officials had refused to give her a hawker's licence unless she had a proper stall. She takes up to R50 a day at her spot in the central business district.

"The police have removed my fruit and vegetables a few times already because I do not have a licence," she said.

licensed street sellers

Council juggled with problem for past three years



Hawker with a difference Mr HENNIE DE WEE "re-shapes" palm leaves by hand into beautiful designs and tries to make a living by selling them on the pavement in Main Street.

Weekend Post Reporter

THE fate of Port Elizabeth's illegal hawkers will be discussed again at a meeting of the Port Elizabeth City Council next week.

The subject was debated at length during a meeting of the council's Community Services Committee on February 10 when it was decided to refer the matter to the council's monthly meeting in the City Hall this Thursday at 5.30pm.

The controversy goes back to 1984 when municipal officials took action against hawkers at the corner of 17th Avenue and Buffelsfontein Road, Walmer.

The decision to move hawkers further away from the road was criticised by residents.

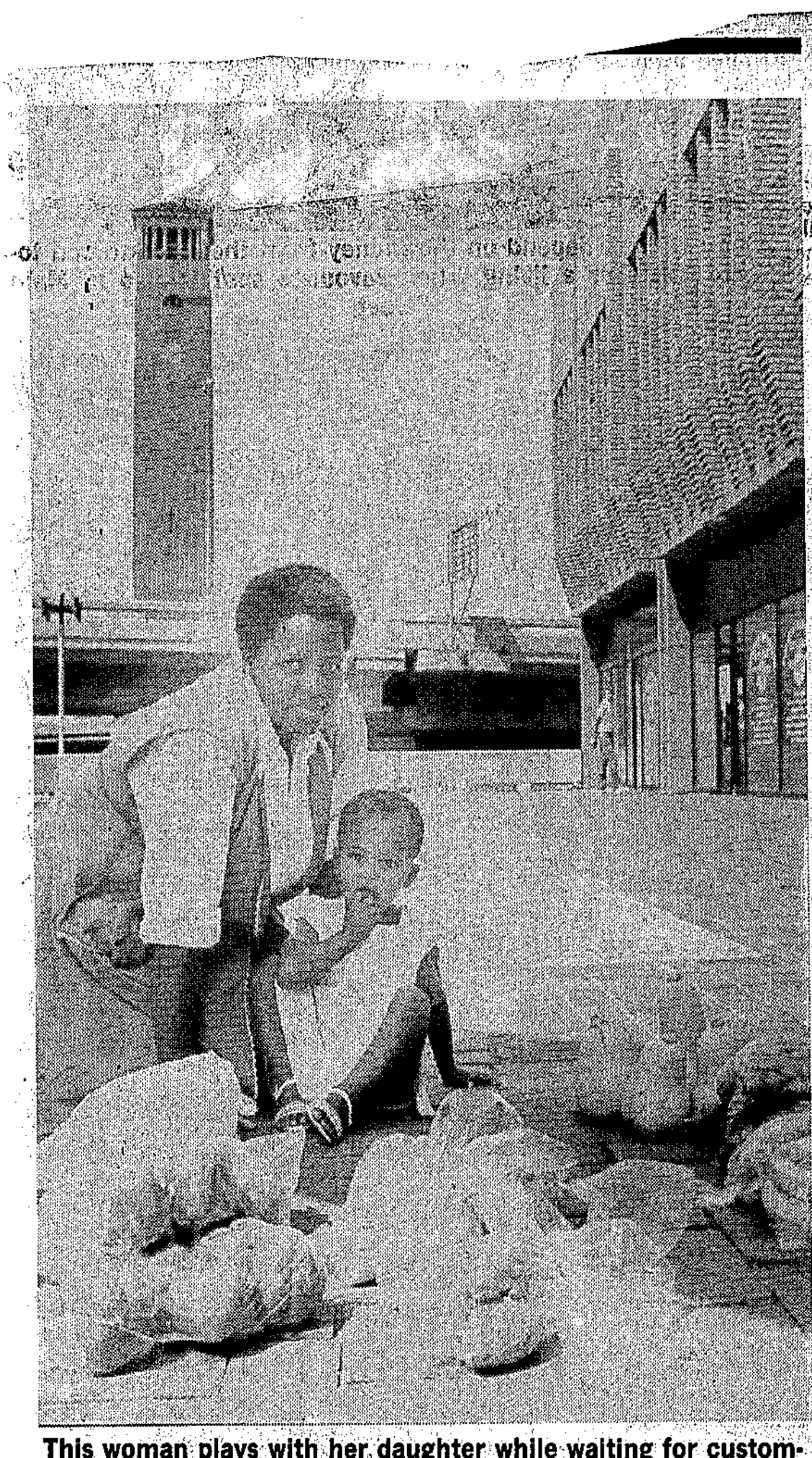
Later, the Community Services Committee made a concession, allowing hawkers to trade in the area at certain times only.

In February 1985 the council banned hawking in various other areas, including the length of Forest Hill and La Roche drives.

The reason given for the banning was problems of hygiene.

The Midland Chamber of Industries criticised the ban, saying there was high unemployment in the city.

Feb/21/87



This woman plays with her daughter while waiting for customers to buy her fruit and vegetables on Market Square during lunch hours.

Opposition towards the banning grew, and Mr Andrew Savage, Progressive Federal Party MP for Walmer, added his voice against the council's treatment of hawkers.

Former city councillor Mr Peter Sullivan said laws preventing hawkers from operating without a licence should be relaxed until the economic situation improved.

Walmer residents drew up a petition with at least 1 000 signatures, appealing for the ban to be lifted.

In 1986 the council provided proper facilities for hawkers to trade off Buffelsfontein Road.

But attention has since been focused on those in the CBD area.

Then the "hawker brigade" was boosted by the Christmas season and the authorities turned a blind eye until complaints were received from the public.

Hawkers were then turned away from the CBD, and the PE beth Chamber of Commerce proposed allowing them to trade legally on Market Square.

Now everybody is waiting for the next round of the hawker debate.

Feb/21
'87



In Main Street, Port Elizabeth, hawker Miss LEONORA NYAKATA — who constantly fears arrest — serves a customer during the lunchtime rush.



Basket-seller Miss REBECCA MONQO has become part of the Main Street scene — but her future is uncertain.

Let the hawkers use the square'

By MICHEL DESMIDT

PORT ELIZABETH'S Deputy Mayor, Mr Solly Rubin, has appealed to the City Council to allow hawkers to trade on Market Square.

This would afford them a living and create "a more vibrant Port Elizabeth", he said.

His call follows disclosures by the municipality that the square is not open to fruit and vegetable hawkers.

Another city councillor, Mr Harold Davidson, was the first to suggest that hawkers, who had been removed from Main Street after shopkeepers and pedestrians complained to the police, sell their produce on the square.

However, he said that at the time he had been unaware of licensing restrictions, which were passed before he came into office.

Mr Rubin, himself a Main Street shop owner, said the square — at present just a "good advertisment for bricks" — was an ideal venue for hawkers to operate in a controlled and hygienic manner.

Initially, hawkers should be exempted from the R15 licence until the economy improved, he said.



Mr SOLLY RUBIN
. . . ideal venue

Control and cleanliness would be enhanced by grouping the hawkers together and the resultant low administration costs would not warrant the R15 fee per hawker.

Shopkeepers, for their part, would no longer be affected by congestion and litter on the pavements.

Mr Rubin said he wanted to gauge the reaction of the public, shopkeepers and the Port Elizabeth Chamber of Commerce before pressing ahead with his proposal.

Mr Rubin said, however, if the idea found favour, he would request

Turn to Page 2

Let hawkers use the square, Rubin says

From Page 1

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licence, especially if stalls were set up.

Mr Jacobus Nel, chairman of the Community Services Committee, said Mr Carl Coetzer's proposal that areas of Main Street be set aside for formalised hawking was still under investigation.

Mr Coetzer submitted a memorandum to the committee last October and reiterated his plea again yesterday that the situation be improved and facilities be made available for hawkers in Main Street.

STREET VENDING

Step by step

Government, by and large, has been long on promises and short on action when it comes to deregulation. But now at least there are signs that a positive action programme may be finally emerging.

And first to feel the benefits in the long-suffering informal sector (*FM* February 20) are the ubiquitous street vendors.

In recent months Johannesburg, Cape Town, and now Durban, have moved to jettison archaic legislation and to co-ordinate their approach to street trading. In the main, they have dropped the requirement that vendors move on 25 m every hour or face prosecution and they are now prepared to licence vendors for static trading in specially demarcated areas.

According to Johannesburg Planning Director Cornelius Cronje the city now has four designated hawker trading pitches, the Hoek Street Mall, Kaserne bus terminus, Faraday railway station and the New Doornfontein bus terminus. All are equipped with basic amenities such as tables, stools, refuse bins and shelters. Demand for trading positions has been such that more are likely to follow.

Progress in Durban has been slower. So far Durban has declared only one, unofficial, hawker trading site — between the Berea Road railway station and Russell Street. Chief Town Planner Garth Williamson says the hawkers' response is being monitored.

In effective deregulation, however, Natal could well be in front. The provincial ordinance governing street trading has been amended to allow any local authority to designate fixed hawker trading areas if they see a need.

A spokesman for Williamson's department says the approach has been calculatedly cautious. The idea is to have proper regulatory and administrative systems in place before additional areas, which have already been indentified, are opened up to hawkers.

Another problem arises in fixing appropriate licence fees. Durban accepts that many of the smaller traders will remain marginal operators living a hand-to-mouth existence. For them the current R10 a year licence fee is probably appropriate.

But street trading operations in high profile locations and operated by offshoots of the formal business sector is another matter. Durban encourages such activity, especially around the Workshop shopping centre and along the beachfront.

Cape Town has got around the problem by charging kiosk vendors on its St George's Street mall what it considers are market related rentals. The vendors, who are apparently prospering, seem quite happy to pay.

Durban will probably follow a similar policy of grading small business trading opportunities and attaching to them what it considers an appropriate licence/rental fee — if only to cover the cost and maintenance of the services it provides.

But arriving at an equitable charge for what is essentially unexplored commercial territory is proving a little more difficult than expected. Hence the incremental approach.

As one official says: "A delicate balance has to be struck between arousing accusations of unfair competition from established traders and being equitable in developing opportunities for small business and job creation." ■

CITY/INTERNATIONAL

City delays decision on hawkers

ARGUS 4/3/87 298

Municipal Reporter

THE Cape Town City Council is waiting for reports from its deregulation committee before attempting to resolve the wrangle between illegal hawkers and established businesses in Klipfontein Road, Rylands.

The conflict reached a head early last month when the traffic control branch took "conventional law enforcement action" against hawkers, including confiscating their goods.

The branch's action was attacked by the Small Business Development Corporation, which said this type of "drastic action" was "not acceptable".

"Confiscation of trading stock of such a small undertaking is a serious blow endangering the livelihood of the trader and his dependants," the corporation said in a statement.

But Cape Town's traffic chief Mr Harry Attwood has hit back.

In a report to the city administrator, Mr Attwood said areas on the northern side of Klipfontein Road had been set aside for hawkers after consultation with hawkers, traders and the local management committees.

However, many hawkers continued to trade on the pavement on the southern side of the road.

"Obstruction"

"Besides breaking the law, these hawkers spread out on the relatively narrow sidewalk and force pedestrians to walk in the roadway, thereby endangering themselves and other road-users, as well as obstructing the entrances to shops," Mr Attwood said.

"It is fashionable today to use the term 'deregulation', and while this branch has recommended the elimination of a number of regulations it must be stated clearly that there will always be a need for hawkers to register, particularly where informal markets and other fixed stands are provided to avoid an area being monopolised by a 'fat cat hawker'."

The council's utilities and works committee, which considered the two reports, decided to wait for the council's deregulation committee to make its recommendations.

A council spokesman said perishable goods confiscated from hawkers were kept in the traffic branch's fridge overnight before being sold at a market. Any unsold items were condemned.

Non-perishables were sent to the council's store at Ndabeni and were sold at periodic council auctions.

"In terms of the municipal ordinance, the money (from the sales) is for the account of the council," he said.

Membership

100

27 335

3 650

15

31 100

Rubin to raise hawking problem again soon

295
9/3/87
Post

Post Reporter

THE issue of controlled hawking in Port Elizabeth's central business district is likely to be raised again at the next City Council meeting, says the Deputy Mayor, Mr Solly Rubin.

The council has failed to make any decision on the hawker "problem" and the *status quo* remains.

Mr Rubin said CBD shopkeepers were justifiably upset with the present situation and the council would have to address the problem again.

He favoured the Market Square being used for its orginal purpose — including the licensed hawking of vegetables, flowers and leatherwork.

Mr Rubin suggested that hawkers representatives be consulted before any decision is taken.

"If I was a hawker, I would not accept just any site allocated to me.

"I would take my business where the market was."

The Buffelsfontein hawking site, he said, was a "total disaster".

A store and toilets had been erected at a cost of R20 000.

But the area was used by a handful of traders only because it was poorly situated.

Licensed hawkers could be identified by an armband and a number and, from an established base like the square, they should be permitted to sell their goods in offices around the city, but not stockpile their wares on the pavement.

"In Europe, litter left by hawkers is cleaned up with a powerful hose.

"The same could be done on the market square in Port Elizabeth."

● At a meeting on Monday, the Wards 2 and 4 Civic Association, favoured designated sites for hawkers in the CBD.

Mr Patrick Bracher, chairman of the association, said the council seemed incapable of doing anything on the matter.

Cape Times 11/3/87

Heaven sent for hawkers

Staff Reporter

IF HEAVEN is a rented space past which about a million potential customers pass every day, the city's long-harassed hawkers are about to reap their rewards.

SA Transport Services, doing their bit to "build a better Cape", are already renting property to 104 hawkers at Cape Town station alone and are ready and waiting for more "ideas from the public".

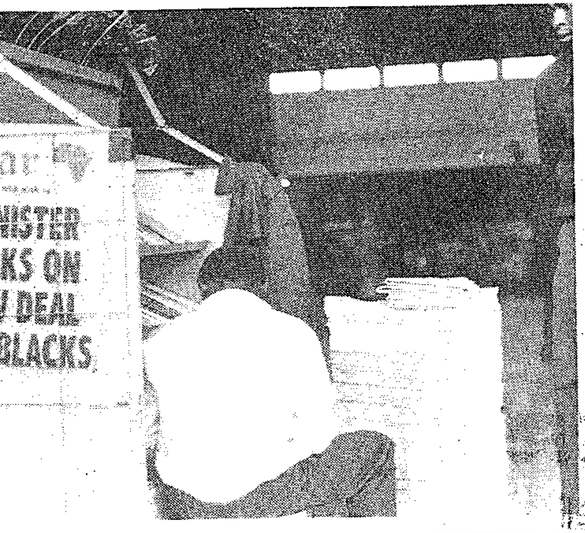
Keen to be seen to be helping out, a SATS team took the Minister of Local Government, Housing and Agriculture, David Curry, on a crack-of-dawn tour of local stations yesterday.

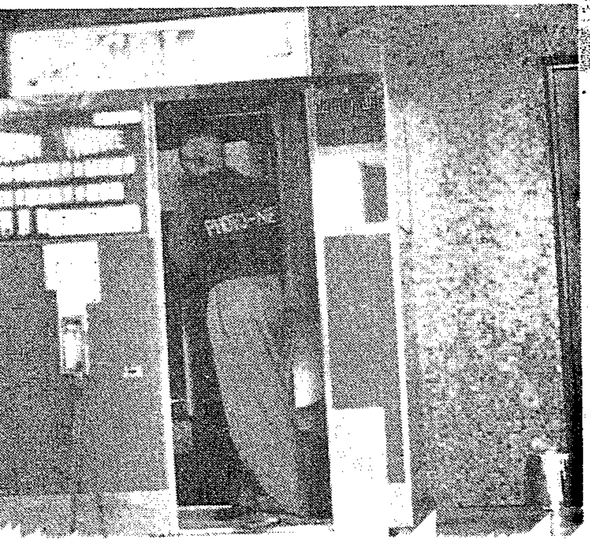
According to SATS PR man Jannie van Zyl, Curry was impressed and undertook to do what he could to see that hawkers currently exposed to the weather would soon be under cover.

Hawkers at Mitchells Plain station are paying R100 a month to SATS while those at Cape Town pay R25 a square metre a month. With 109 square metres leased already, SATS isn't doing too badly either.

And at the new flea market in front of the station, business is booming.

Vendors and platform performers create an ethnic kaleidoscope





Park Station — the hub around which Jo'burg revolves

295
24/3/87 Star p7

By Sol Makgabutlane

Pirate taximen, hawkers, shoeshine boys and thousands of passengers jostle each other at Johannesburg Station, the busiest railway station in South Africa.

You can buy anything from vendors — whose wares range from an Afro comb to a shoelace, from a guitar string to a can of Coke, from a pair of sunglasses to a packet of biscuits, from a beaded pendant to an "I Love Seshego" sticker.

Sweaty, muscular men sporting sombreros disappear down the platforms for their annual sojourn back home in the country areas to see their folks after 11 months digging gold in Gauteng.

They wear tight-fitting dungarees and high-heeled shoes, carrying tape decks blasting out Brenda Fassie.

Up near the ticket window a guy blocks your way, giving you the old one about just being out of jail and can you please help him with a train fare home. If you've been in Johannesburg long enough, this would be the 20th person to come with that story.

"Re lokisa ditlhako mo Park Station" (we repair shoes here at Park Station) declares a huge sign on the cabin of portable shop near the men's privy.

Beside the newspaper stand a choir of blind singers, its leader jingling a bell, plaintively intones a tune warning people of this world to mend their sinful ways.

People gather around and occasionally toss a coin into a plate. Train number 9527 to Soweto [illegible] at platform two booms an announcement over the PA system and some of the listeners crowding around the blind choir suddenly disengage and disappear down the platform.

Some palookas newly arrived from the sticks stand near the automatic photo machine, wondering just how does a machine take photographs on its own. Do the TV people hire such machines to film soccer matches? No, a passer-by lectures them, those are movie cameras, while this one takes still photographs.

"What are still photographs?"

"Like the one in your dompas."

While you are still watching this exchange, an over-zealous seller saunters over, sticks a pair of green sunglasses on your nose and produces a mirror for you to savour your improved looks.

"Nice, eh? You want them? Only R16."

You duck away after giving him a mild chastisement.

Outside, you are swamped by a flood of hawkers who peddle goods such as wallets, nail-clippers and herbs.

"What's that one for?" you point at what looks like dried beetroot.

"This one, my boy, is not for young people like you. It is for old men. Have you heard of umvusinkunzi (aphrodisiac)? This is the one. This one here (what looked like a bark) is for growing your hair. And that one there (it looks like a twig) is for those who want to do well at school."

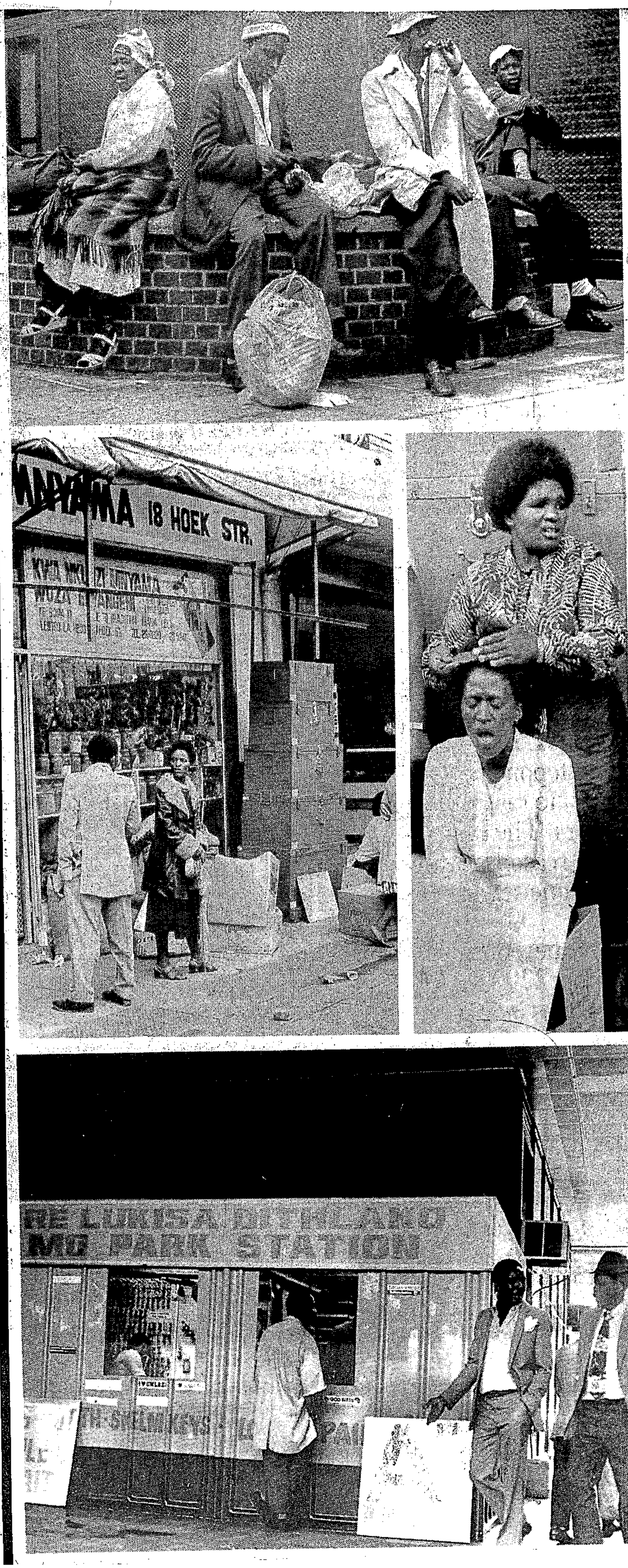
It is when you pass next to the taxis that you hear the strangest destinations: Madadeni (Newcastle), Mmabatho, Mbabane.

"Are you going to Umtata?"

"No, to Kentucky just across the park."



24/3/87



Hawkers' future to be decided in PE Council today

Municipal Reporter

THE future of the Buffelsfontein Road hawkers will be decided by the Port Elizabeth City Council's Community Services Committee this afternoon.

Three options, one of them being closure of the site, are suggested by the Director of Markets, Mr J H D McKenzie, to the committee.

Another option is that the entire site be leased on public tender and the last is that a pensioner be appointed to control the issuing of permits, orderly trading and cleanliness.

In his report, Mr McKenzie says the purpose of the Buffelsfontein hawking site was to legalise the activities of hawkers, to provide a more suitable and hygienic hawking area and to eliminate traffic congestion.

It consists of a tarred area with 18 marked parking bays for trucks, toilets, refuse facilities and public parking.

Permits to hawk there cost R130 a month or R8 a day for each site.

From July 1, 1986, to March 31, 1987, only 32 monthly and 168 daily permits had been issued, giving an average income of R600 a month.

Income would be R7 200 for the 1986-87 year while expenditure would be R20 500, Mr McKenzie says in his report.

"To make the Buffelsfontein Road hawkers' site a viable undertaking, all 18 stalls will have to be let on a monthly basis throughout the year and this, I am afraid, is highly unlikely," Mr McKenzie adds.

He says that any such hawkers' site would always be a burden to ratepayers and a problem to control.

For this reason, none of the larger cities or towns provided hawkers' sites.

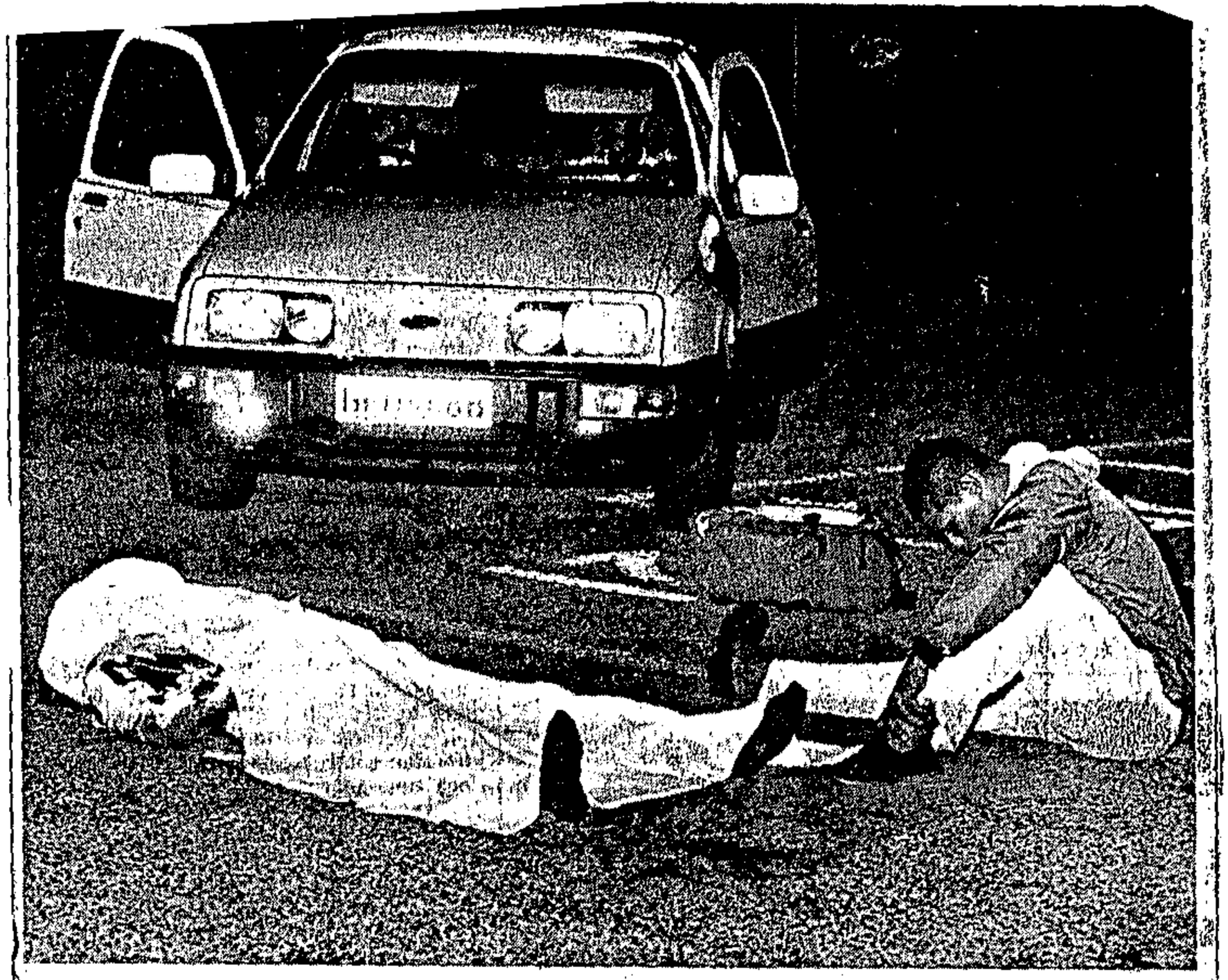
"I believe it is unfair for council to subsidise these hawkers — why not subsidise other types of retail outlet," he says.

Mr McKenzie says a major problem is caused by hawkers using the site without having obtained permits.

Control over the hawkers would include ensuring that they adhere to the conditions printed on the permit, including that no fruit or vegetables are off-loaded from vehicles for display or packing.

"It appears that the type of hawker making use of the site does not want to be controlled in any way," he says.

Another problem was that the storeroom for refuse containers was mainly used to store produce overnight

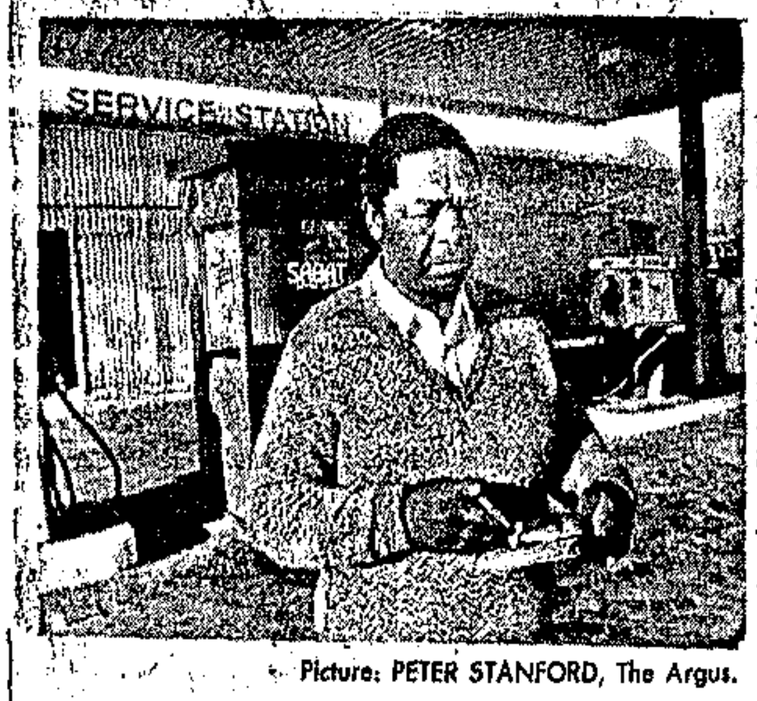


Picture: DOUG PITHEY, The Argus.

SHOCKED: Mr Terence Lackay sits near the body of the sailor stabbed to death in a parking lot on the Foreshore.

ARGUS 22/4/87 295

Pump attendant shot dead in Philippi service station hold-up



Picture: PETER STANFORD, The Argus.

GARAGE-KILLING: Manager Mr Bransby Sompeta at the spot where one of his employees was shot dead during a robbery.

By STEPHEN WROTTESLEY
Crime Reporter

A PETROL pump attendant was shot dead on the forecourt of a Philippi garage today in the latest in a spate of attacks at service stations.

A colleague fled as the gunman fired shots in the air. About R40 was stolen.

A seaman was stabbed to death on the Foreshore last night.

Police said the seaman had not been identified and the name of the attendant would be disclosed when his family had been told.

Robbers have netted nearly R1 000 in six garage hold-ups in the four days. A robbery at a seventh garage was thwarted by police.

Mr Bransby Sompeta, manager of the Thanduxolo Service Station in Lansdowne Road, said the shooting happened about 3.30am.

The garage is opposite Nyanga and close to Crossroads.

Two robbers approached two attendants on duty.

NIGHTCLUB

The surviving attendant said he saw one of the robbers pushing his colleague, who staggered backwards across the forecourt.

The other robber rushed to join his accomplice and the attendant heard a bang.

The office was looted and R40 was stolen.

The killing on the Foreshore happened just before 10pm.

It is understood the seaman met Mr Terence Lakay, 17, at a city nightclub and asked him to accompany him to his ship in Cape Town docks.

While crossing a parking lot on the Foreshore they were accosted by three men wearing balaclavas. The men threatened them with a knife and demanded money.

Mr Lackay ran for help and saw the seaman being stabbed in the stomach. When he returned the seaman was dead.

A murder docket has been opened. No arrests have been made.

Anyone with information is asked to contact Detective-Warrant Officer Harold Rossouw at ☎ 45 7324.

EASY CASH

A police spokesman said the spate of attacks on petrol attendants showed robbers viewed garages as a ready source of cash.

● At 7.15pm on Saturday Mr Atwell Mongwana, 37, was approached at the Maitland garage where he worked by three men who threatened him with a gun. The men stole R200.

● At 10pm on Sunday three men robbed Mr David Fredericks of R150 at Klipfontein Motors in Klipfontein Road, Manenberg.

● About 11pm on Sunday Mr Mathews Lonzi, 19, was robbed of two tins of oil by four armed men who attacked him at a Lansdowne garage.

● Mr E Mjole, 45, was attacked by an armed man at an Athlone garage about 3am on Monday and robbed of R100.

● Early yesterday police thwarted a hold-up at a garage in Kenridge after a tip-off.

● At 10.40pm yesterday, Mr Albert Somana, 45, was held up by two armed men at a Surrey Estate garage and robbed of R250.

● Twenty minutes later an attendant at a garage in Voortrekker Road, Kensington, was robbed of R100.

Hawkers sue Minister

THREE Mohlakeng street hawkers have issued summonses totalling R20 000 to the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, alleging that they were shot at by policemen while selling their wares in the township last year.

Two of the women are claiming R5 000 each for injuries sustained and the other, who was seriously hurt, is claiming R10 000.

The three are Mrs Sophie Ntsoelengoe of 397 Mathije Street, Mrs Nesta Mashiloane of 1015 Phokompe Street, and Mrs Margareth Malambe of 247 Chaka Street.

A lawyer representing the three yesterday confirmed that summonses have been issued.

295 DD 28/4/87

Council discord over carts for EL hawkers

Dispatch Reporter

EAST LONDON — Three-wheeled steel carts with rubber wheels may soon be a feature of the city — together with shoe shine stands.

The city council agreed in principle last night to the Small Business Development Corporation's (SBDC) innovation that will lead to better control of hawkers and eradicate the major littering problem allegedly caused by hawking.

A sample of the cart was presented to the city council before last night's meeting and during discussion on the matter in council, two councillors objected to the new carts being introduced.

The councillor for environment and culture, Mr Patrick Kay, recorded his dissent and said the hawkers' would cause bigger problems when they were put on wheels.

"The hawkers have been inflicted on the public without control and I foresee more problems," said Mr Kay.

He was supported by Mr Eric Whitaker who said all attempts to control the hawkers had failed.

Mr Donald Card, who had discussed the matter with the hawkers, said he did not want the wrong message to get out about the carts.

"The hawkers will have fixed areas and will not be allowed to push the carts all over the streets," he said.

Earlier the manager of the SBDC, Mr P. Strumpher, told council about the carts and said the corporation was willing to assist hawkers in securing the carts which could easily be handled by one person.

● The council also agreed last night that the administrator be requested to approve an increase in the R65 000 loan to build the hawkers stalls in Pontoon Road.

The over expenditure on the stalls has pushed the amount up to R70 000.

METROPOLITAN

Tribune 29/4/88

Council rethinks status of hawkers

Staff Reporter 295

THE existence of most of the city's hawkers and informal sector business operators as "fugitives" could end if the Cape Town City Council accepts the recommendations of a municipal inquiry and legalises street trading.

Council officials Miss Amanda Younge and Mr Simon Nicks investigated the informal sector two years ago at the request of the former city engineer, Mr Jan Brand.

They recommended that the council promote street trading by deregulating hawking, adopting a new management approach towards traders and helping to finance them, Miss Younge told a forum on hawking organised by the Small Business Development Corporation and the Cape Town Chamber of Commerce this week.

She said the council had been advised to allow street traders to have permanent stalls, discard regulations which required them to wear white overcoats, simplify licence requirements and turn areas from which they were prohibited into zones where they could trade freely.

Miss Younge said the recommendations would change the council's existing management policy of controlling and accommodating street traders.

Promotion

"We would like to see the promotion of street traders and more street markets established.

"We would also like to have a street trading manager, whose duty will be to promote, look after and control street trading," she said.

She warned that the council would have to maintain some existing regulations such as those governing littering.

Mr Nicks said a recent survey showed that there were 175 000 unemployed people in Cape Town. This figure could be as high as 700 000 by the turn of the century.

Of the city's unemployed, 40 percent lived in townships on the Cape Flats. Some were street traders and they earned between R60 and R100 a week. Wealthier traders took home about R1 000 a month.

The study had shown the largest concentration of street traders in Klipfontein Road, Athlone, where 120 were counted.

Sixty were counted in the city centre, he said.

It was clear from the study that the street traders needed to live close to their businesses and that they needed shelters, he said.

Former chairman of the Cape Town Chamber of Commerce Mr Philip Krawitz said the free enterprise system was important for peace, stability and for everyone to acquire wealth.

Hawking opened a route into free enterprise and had to be encouraged, he said.

"It is no use giving people the crumbs off the table. We must learn to share the cake with them," he said.

Council bid to quieten down city's buskers

CNR Times 5/5/87 / 295

Staff Reporter

IF the City Council has its way, street musicians playing in the city centre may in future have to tootle, strum and drum just a little more quietly — or at least without any electronic aids.

A recommendation from the City Planner, Mr David Jack, that the council control the hours during which buskers may ply their trade and that they do so without the assistance of amplifiers — unless otherwise specifically allowed to, was yesterday considered by two council committees.

However, the Utilities and Works Committee decided against Mr Jack's original proposal to limit the hours during which street musicians in the Cape Town municipal area would be allowed to perform.

Instead, the committee passed a recommendation that the playing of street music would be approved as long as buskers did not use amplification equipment without the approval of the City Administrator.

A second proposal, that bands of four people or more should be restricted to open areas of the city such as Greenmarket Square and Thibault Square, was accepted by the committee.

The proposals will be forwarded to Cape Town's CBD Assocation, the Merchants' Associations of Mitchells Plain, Wynberg and Athlone, the Chamber of Commerce, the Afrikaanse Sakekamer and the ratepayers' associations of Sea Point, Muizenberg and Camps Bay for their comments.

The Amenities and Health Committee, which controls busking on Greenmarket Square and which late yesterday also considered Mr Jack's proposals and recommendations, decided to maintain its 12.45pm-2pm allocation for all musical performers on the square.

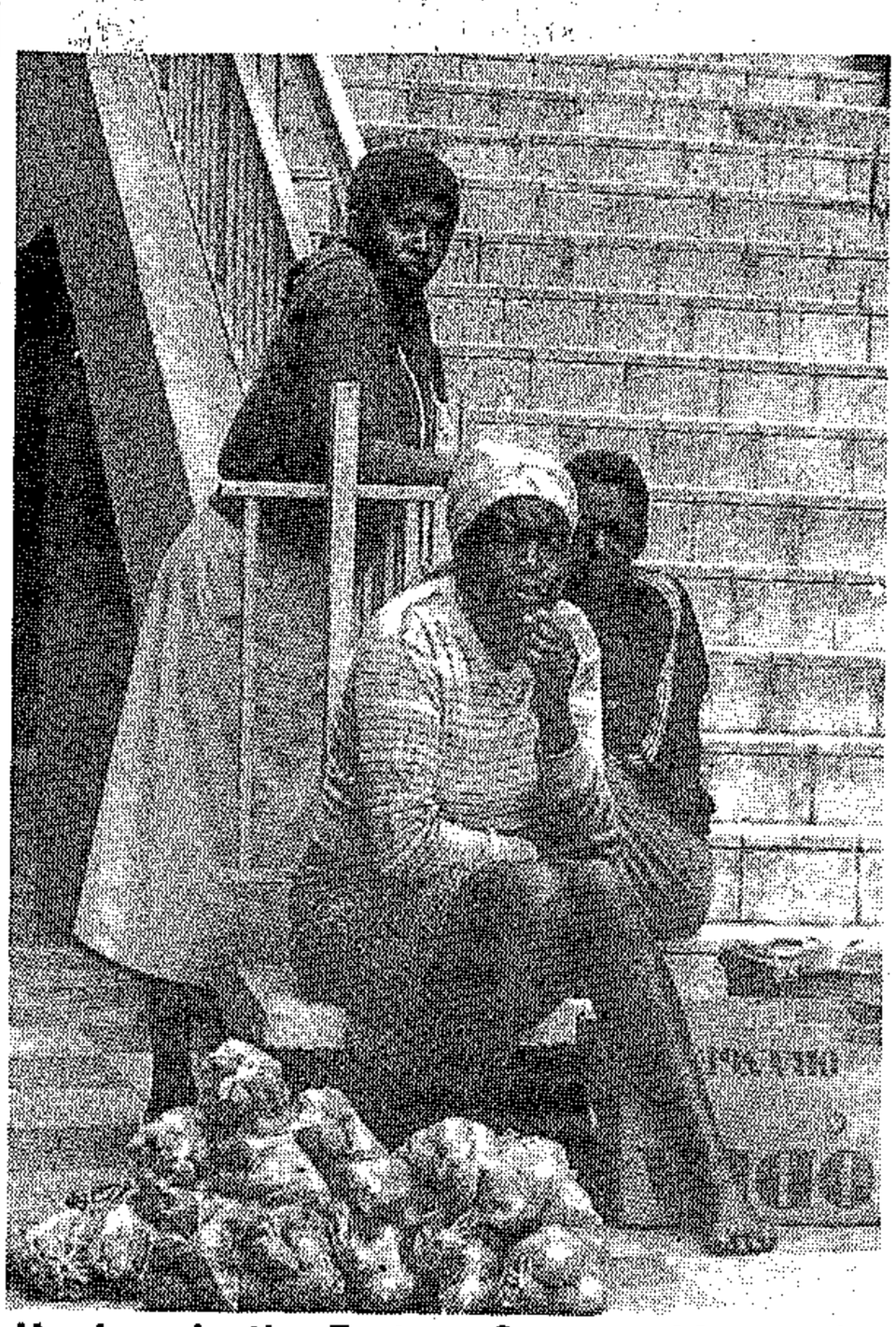
The recommendations will go before Exco later this month for ratification.

Mr Gerald Mongazi, of Langa, one of the city's regular, full-time buskers, said yesterday he did not wish to be limited to any particular playing times as even though he usually only played between 1pm and 2pm, there were times when he needed to perform for a longer period to earn enough money for the day.



A city busker, Gerald Mongazi

'Sell and run' hawkers may get own trading sites



Hawkers in the Eastern Cape could soon be changing their "sell and run" style of living to a more permanent existence as loose bags and boxes of products sold by casual hawkers (above) are replaced by Small Business Development Corporation mobile hawker stalls (below) and recognition by local authorities.



Mr DANNY MANSELL, senior manager of the SBDC in the Eastern Cape and Border.

By DENISE BOUTALL

HAWKERS, who at present live a kind of "sell and run" existence between customers and law enforcers, could be on the way to acceptance by local authorities in the Eastern Cape.

The Small Business Development Corporation (SBDC) plans to provide stalls to hawkers and help identify sites where they can trade without harassment, thus enabling them to save the money they currently pay on fines as part of their small profits.

Mr Danny Mansell, newly appointed senior manager of the SBDC in the Eastern Cape, has held discussions with hawkers and local authorities in various towns.

Now his proposals have been accepted by the municipalities of East London, King William's Town, Stutterheim, Queenstown, Cradock and Port Elizabeth.

Mr Mansell said there were about 5 000 hawkers in the Eastern Cape, 2 000 of them in Port Elizabeth.

They have an average turnour of about R20 a day from which they clear about R5 profit. In general they spend R30 a month on fines.

In spite of such modest beginnings many of them would become entrepreneurs.

"More than 80% of our loans are made to people who started their business careers as hawkers, taxi drivers or shebeen owners," said Mr Mansell.

The hawking issue has come to the forefront in many towns and cities, but was particularly acute in the Port Elizabeth because of the strict application of the regulations.

"Hawkers are part of the economic reality," Mr Mansell said.

" If they don't get an opportunity to improve themselves they will continue to operate in conditions which neither they nor the community find acceptable."

The SBDC had begun manufacturing mobile lock-up stalls and, once hawking sites were identified, it might also provide permanent stalls if these were acceptable to the municipalities.

In addition the SBDC would provide a back-up facility in the form of a lock-up area where stalls could be left at night and where food could be packed.

It would try to find sponsors for the stalls and if this was not possible would rent them at R15 a month.

The stalls were already being bought by hawkers trading in the townships.

Mr Mansell stressed that the SBDC was working closely with hawkers' associations and everything that was done had to be acceptable to them.

The corporation also made loans available to hawkers. They could borrow up to R200 to be repaid within eight weeks.

In Port Elizabeth there were already 120 hawkers who were partly financing their activities through such loans.

The SBDC was negotiating the allocation of hawking areas in the various towns and cities with the local authorities and the hawkers.

In East London three sites had been found.

Permanent stalls would be installed at the bottom of Caxton Street and mobile units would operate in the Frere Hospital area and along the bus route below the Oriental Plaza.

Mr Mansell said he hoped people in Port Elizabeth would come forward with ideas for sites.

Argus 14/5/87

METROPOLITAN

Move to stop petty hawking prosecutions

295

Staff Reporter

A CALL to halt prosecutions for petty hawking offences in Cape Town is to be made to the Attorney-General by the Small Business Development Corporation (SBDC).

It follows allegations by fruit and vegetable hawkers of a "crackdown" on their operations, in spite of the city council's already advanced moves to legalise hawking in the central business district.

In the past six weeks 13 hawkers have been prosecuted. Two were acquitted.

The hawkers complain they have been arrested and jailed and their vehicles and wares confiscated for contraventions of a municipal regulation for which the maximum penalty is a R30 fine.

Proceeds

In some cases hawkers have been arrested on Friday afternoons and kept in jail over the weekend awaiting trial on Monday or Tuesday.

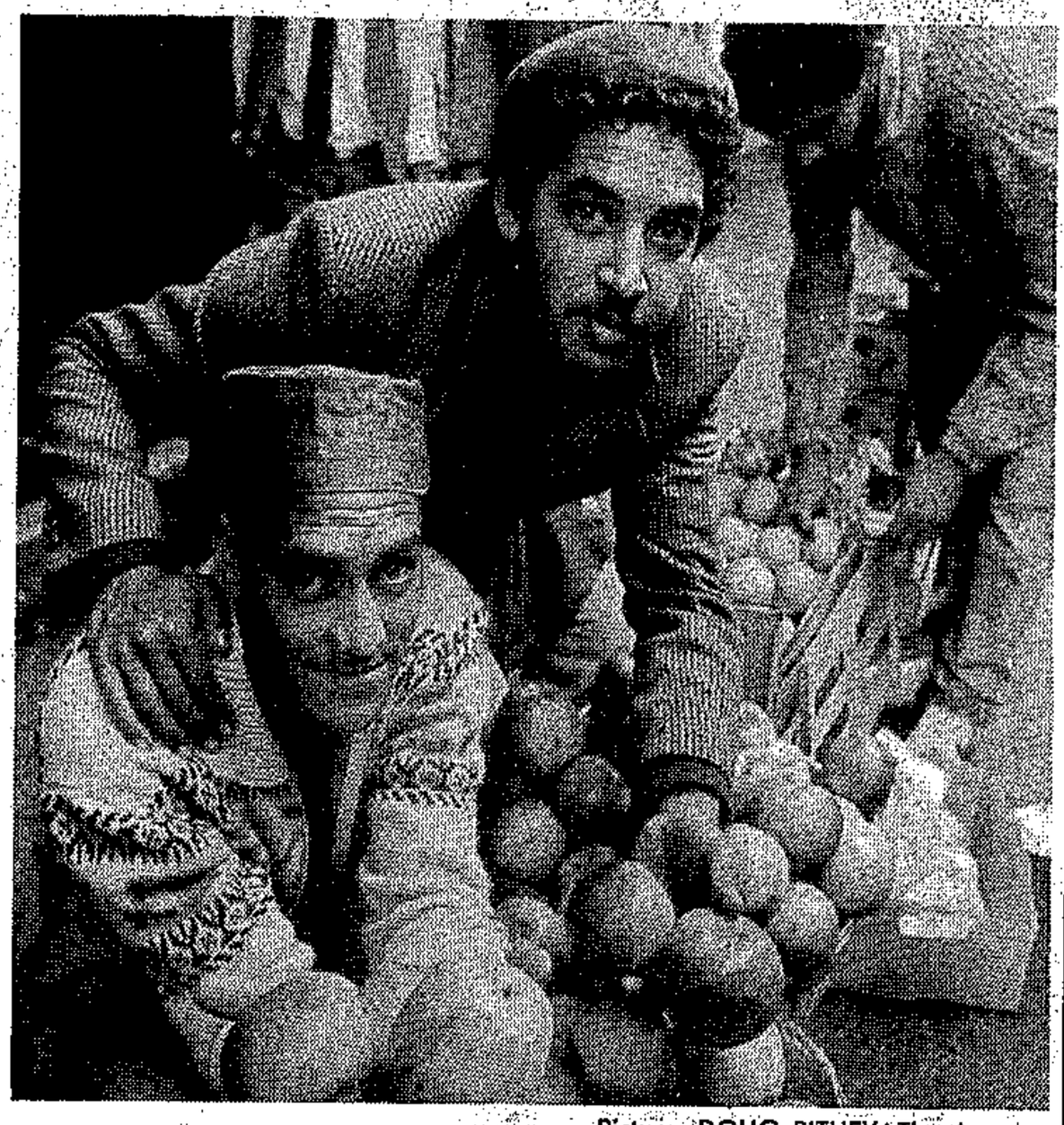
Their fruit and vegetables have been confiscated and sold when they have been convicted. The proceeds go to the city council.

The legal advisor on deregulation for the SBDC, Mr Herman Marais, said the corporation intended making representations to the attorney-general to halt prosecutions for petty hawking offences.

"We find this particularly strange at a time when South Africa needs to promote self employment.

"One is especially concerned about the fact that people are being locked up for an offence which carries a maximum penalty of only R30. We feel this generates disrespect for the law," he said.

"Confiscation of trading stock of such a small undertaking is a serious blow endangering the livelihood of the trader and his dependents."



Picture: DOUG PITHEY, The Argus.

Licensed "rand-a-bag" hawkers Mr Nazeem Mohammed, left, and Mr Mogammat Daniel, who recently spent weekends in jail after being arrested for not wearing white coats and trading in a prohibited area.

According to court records, licensed hawkers have been locked up and their stock confiscated for:

- Not wearing white coats;
- Not carrying licences;
- Parking in prohibited areas; and
- Not selling from a "barrow", ie: if the vendor steps across the road to make a sale, or if he displays his goods on the edge of the pavement he is off limits.

Licensed "rand-a-bag" hawkers Mr Mogammat Daniel and Mr Nazeem Mohammed recently spent weekends in jail after being arrested for not wearing white coats and trading in a prohibited area (next to the main post office). Both are married men. Each has three small children.

When they appeared in court the following week they were fined R10 for the first offence and R30 for the second.

Mr Daniel, a second-generation hawker, said hawkers had been "locked up" since his father's day. He had hoped, however, that this would stop in the light of the council's recently announced plan to legalise hawking in the CBD.

Traffic Chief Mr Harry Attwood denied a "crackdown".

He said hawkers would not be allowed to trade in "prohibited areas" even after a relaxation of the regulations.

"They have been arrested for this offence for as long as I have been here and until the law changes this will continue to happen," said Mr Attwood.

When hawkers were arrested they were taken to Caledon Square and handed over to the police, he said.

595 cy 5/6/87..

Hawkers scatter as goods are taken

Municipal Reporter

HAWKERS scattered in Rink Street at lunchtime yesterday as two officials of the Port Elizabeth Traffic Department confiscated their goods.

The incident was witnessed by Mrs Anne Grossmann, who said she was "horrified" at the sight of several adults running down the street screaming after a Traffic Department vehicle and a motorcycle stopped next to their position on the pavement.

Mrs Grossman said the hawkers grabbed what they could of their goods and the officers loaded the rest into their van.

She spoke to the Traffic Department and was told that complaints had been received from businesses in the area, who said the illegal hawkers were taking trade away from them.

"They are just trying to make enough money to put food in their children's bellies," she said.

The Acting Chief Traffic Officer, Mr Hennie Basson, confirmed today that complaints were received regularly from a doctor and various businesses in Rink Street.

"We have to respond to complaints of this nature, but it's a very sensitive situation. We have sympathy with hawkers' problems," he said.

"The only obvious solution is to confiscate their goods. They vanish."

The goods that were confiscated were handed to the South African Police for disposal, Mr Basson said.

The City Council has been unable to reach consensus on the best way to solve the hawking problem, though the Small Business Development Corporation intends to present proposals for a solution before the end of this month.

12 hawkers arrested

EAST LONDON — Approximately 12 hawkers were arrested yesterday by the East London City Police for various offences.

The superintendent of the city police department, Mr Graham Moore, said the arrests had not been as a result of any special drive by his department.

"There is nothing out of the ordinary in the arrests," he said.

"The Department of Health is very strict with people hawking foodstuffs without a licence."

"The people arrested were charged at the Fleet Street police station and their goods confiscated as evidence. They will appear in court soon," Mr Moore added. — DDR

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Hawkers bitter at confiscation of their stands



Buffelsfontein Road hawker Mr RANGA NAIDOO — at loggerheads with the Port Elizabeth City Council over confiscated stands — says he has been "forced" to display his produce on the ground.

Weekend Post Reporter

THE Buffelsfontein Road hawkers are again at loggerheads with the Port Elizabeth Municipality over their produce stands, which were confiscated this week for the third time.

On Wednesday, the stands of two of the hawkers who have sold fruit and vegetables from the site for over two years were removed by officials to the municipal depot at 5th Avenue, Walmer.

One of the hawkers, Mr Ranga Naidoo, accused the authorities of harassing them, hampering free enterprise and preventing them from making a living.

However, Town Clerk Mr Paul Botha said the Cleansing Department had complained that they received no co-operation from the hawkers.

Mr Naidoo said that about two years ago he built the 3,5-metre-long wood and iron stand to keep the fruit and vegetables off the ground and so that he could use his truck to go to market.

He moved the stand to a place behind the refuse building to hide it from public view every night.

Mr Naidoo said the municipal officials had on two previous occassions confiscated the stands.

Hawkers are not allowed to off-load their produce but must sell directly from their trucks and may not, for health reasons, display any produce on the ground.

"We offer a wide variety of produce and when we arrived on Wednesday what else could we do but lay some of our produce out on the ground," he said.

He had built the stands to keep the produce off the ground as well as to offer customers the chance of examining the goods before buying.

Pointing to a small building housing the refuse bins, Mr Naidoo said: "If you want to talk about health, look inside there. The cleansing men have not cleared the rubbish in there for days."

Mr Botha said the hawkers had been told repeatedly to clear their sites and not leave anything around overnight.

"But the Cleansing Department say they get no co-operation. The hawkers leave their sites in a terrible condition."

It was for this reason that the stands had been removed.

Mr Botha said the stands were not too bulky to be removed from the site every day.

"But I am sure that if can get some co-operation from the hawkers, we will be able to find some solution," he said.

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Medical payment shock for the elderly

By GWEN GILL

THOUSANDS of shocked pensioners arrived at Transvaal hospitals this week to find that their free medical services were free no longer.

Out of the blue, they found that every presription and visit to the hospital will now cost R2 each. This will mean a charge of at least R4 a month for pensioners who make regular visits to provincial hospitals.

"My wife and I have been getting free medical attention and drugs since 1972. It was the one service we believed we could rely on as we got older," said a furious Mr George Troskie, 76, of Brakpan.

"It's a disgrace. What have we worked for and paid tax for all these years?

"We're getting a pension rise in October of R20. What's the point of giving with one hand and taking back with the other?"

Another pensioner, a 75-year-old from Bez Valley, Johannesburg, who did not want to be named, was equally angry.

"Everyone was so shocked at the Johannesburg Hospital on Thursday. They couldn't believe they would have to pay in the future.

Reserve

"I have to see a doctor for my blood pressure and a specialist for my ulcer every three months. On top of that, there are prescriptions for three different pills every two months.

"That's quite a few rand every month that I just can't afford. And, like everything else, the cost will no doubt go up. This year R2, next year R4.

"I didn't have any money on me when they suddenly asked for R2 for my regular prescription this week, so I walked away without my medicine. Luckily I have a few pills in reserve."

The Administrator of the Transvaal announced the charges last Friday — but few people appear to have heard the news.

Mr Danie Kirstein, who has special responsibility for health on the six-man, multi-racial Executive Council of the Transvaal, said he believed R2 was a small sum.

"The council decided on these charges because we believe there is plenty of unused medicine lying around.

"If people have to pay, they'll tell the doctor if they've still got pills.

"As far as paying to see the doctor is concerned, some old people regard a trip to the hospital as an outing.

"We haven't got the funds to see everyone for a little cold."

The Bez Valley pensioner said the council's attitude was callous.

"First, R2 is a lot of money to anyone on a pension of R198.

Wrong

"Also, we have to take our empty packets and bottles back to prove we've finished them before we get more.

"As for a trip to hospital being an outing, that's ridiculous. You have to wait around for two hours to see the doctor, then another hour and a half to get your medicine," she said.

Mr Laurie Starfield, director of the Johannesburg Association for the Aged, said he disapproved of the arbitrary method of introducing the charge, and considered it very wrong to depart from the principle of free health care in this manner.

"We deeply regret the new charges and feel they're an unfair burden.

"The province's gain must be minimal in comparison to the sums it spends."

Job agencies report rise in business

NORMAN SHEPHERD

MORE jobs appear to be available this year than last. Employment agencies have been busier between January and June than in the same period last year.

Increased emigration of executives and professional staff over past years has left many top positions open. But there is also greater demand for skilled secretarial and clerical staff.

Colin Katz Associates reports a 62% rise in placements of financial managers, marketing directors, engineers and professional staff, compared with the first six months of 1986 — despite a 74% hike in agency fees.

Drake regional controller Willy Jansen says orders for highly qualified technical staff, skilled secretaries, word-processor operators and insurance staff have increased considerably, but the rise has not been as high as the corporate profit rise.

Kelly operations MD John Dawkins says orders are up more than 50% from last year, and the increased demand applies across the board to, among others, credit controllers, accountants, sales staff, secretaries, bookkeepers and receptionists.

Health hazard warning

Go slow by most of 1 200 city dustmen

CAPE TIMES 16/7/82



A WORK-TO-RULE by most of Cape Town's 1 200 dustmen is expected to affect refuse removal in almost every suburb of the municipality and will carry with it a health hazard, the City Engineer, Mr Des Riley, warned yesterday.

By PETER DENNEHY
Municipal Reporter

Mr Riley told a press conference that in some areas refuse would be removed only once a week, instead of the usual twice a week, for the duration of the work-to-rule.

He warned that less frequent removals could lead to a health hazard.

Rubbish will still be removed at least once a week.

Dustmen began the work-to-rule this week because of widespread dissatisfaction with the council's annual pay rise offer. The offer, a 10% increase, has been rejected by their union, the Cape Town Municipal Workers' Association (CTMWA).

Members of the public were advised yesterday to put out their rubbish bags on collection day just inside their properties, instead of in the streets, "because of the health hazard".

Placing the bags off the streets may slow down the dustmen even further.

The acting chairman of the executive committee, Mrs Eulalie Stott, and the chairman of the utilities and works committee, Mr Jack Frost, appealed yesterday to householders to ensure that dogs — regarded as the main culprits in ripping open refuse bags — were "kept off the streets at this time".

The CTMWA is still engaged in pay-rise negotiations with the council, and the union is not officially supporting the work-to-rule. The negotiations are due to resume on Tuesday next week.

The secretary of the CTMWA, Mr John Ernstzen, is in Johannesburg on union business, and his assistant, Mr Henry Kannemeyer, said the union had not organized the work-to-rule.

"People are not happy with council's 10% offer," Mr Kannemeyer said. Mr Riley said the work-to-rule was "well organized", but would not speculate on who had organized it.

Mrs Stott said the council's 10% offer would bring the dustmen's minimum wage up to R2,56 an hour, with an extra allowance of 16c an hour. They officially work a 46-hour week.

Suburbs affected

This means the minimum is about R112,62 a week now, and it is understood that the dustmen are seeking a R50 a week increase.

Mr Riley said that before the work-to-rule, the cleansing staff had worked so fast that they could go home early.

Suburbs in which refuse removals have already been affected include Claremont, Mowbray, Ottery, Bonteheuwel, Eastridge and Westridge in Mitchells Plain, and Muizenberg, Wynberg and Athlone. In the latter three, the backlog had been removed, Mr Riley said.

Working to rule means the dustmen return to their depots for lunch, as the council provides lunch on the job. This was "tremendously time-consuming", Mr Riley said.

Before the work-to-rule dustmen often used to run behind compactors, collecting refuse "on the trot".

The head of the cleansing department, Mr Tom de Bruin, said union members had behaved "very responsibly" and in such a way as to avoid friction and animosity.

He said all the council's cleansing staff received more than the laid-down minimum wage.

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Focus on Cape Town's prostitutes

Under a tc

QUOTE: "This kind of life is a gamble, either you win or you lose."

"I'VE been in the game for two years," said Mary, 26, an ex-Durbanite.

She left Durban five years ago "because my stepfather hated me and ill-treated my mother. I decided to hike to Cape Town as I could not stand this man any longer."

It took her four days to get to Cape Town.

"When I arrived here, I knew nobody. I met a woman on Cape Town station who bought me something to eat. We started talking and she told me I could stay with her in Observatory.

"She was very kind to me and later told me what type of work she was doing. One night she asked me to come with her to town. At first I hesitated but then I went along. I was afraid at first, but as time went on I got used to it.

"I pick and choose my men, as I am a very fussy person. Most of the men that come to us are well educated and business people. We also have a lot of clients from overseas.

"I have never had VD, because after I've finished the job, I immediately have a bath."

Like many others, Mary has regular medical checkups.

At the moment she is living with her brother in Bonteheuwel, who is a staunch Muslim.

"My sister-in-law just returned from her pilgrimage to Mecca. They are not aware of the type of work I am doing," she said.

"I usually have one man a night, but when it is short time, I get another one. My rates are never less than R60 a night."

Mary told SOUTH about a priest who picked her up one night.

"He took me to Sea Point where we had a nice long talk. He said he wanted to pray for me. He told me not to go back to the club. I told him that I did not earn any money that night and had to pay my rent. He gave me R120.

"He went back to Wales, and ever since I have been receiving R100 every week from him. He probably thinks that I have left my trade already. He writes to me regularly and sends me literature.

"If I find another job I will leave this one," she said. "This kind of life is a gamble, either you win or you lose. I work from Monday to Friday and weekends I am off. This is a heavy job, you know."

QUOTE: "I've got so many problems that I just have a mind to kill myself."

URSULA, a divorcee and mother of two children who lost her job four months ago, spends four days a week looking for work — on Fridays and Saturday nights she works as a prostitute.

She hates the job but does it to feed her children and to pay the rent of her Manenberg house.

Ursula left school in standard one to work in a "white woman's house".

She can't read or write. She used to work as a machinist but the factory burned down.

"Its so crazy, I've got so many problems that I just have a mind to kill myself," she said.

Ursula, whose drawn and lined face makes her look far older than her 30 years, is deeply moral, a devout Catholic and regards her payment as "the devil's money". But it feeds her children.

"Most of the time we just eat porridge," she said.

"This is not God's will, I think it is wrong. But there's just one small problem — money. If I could get welfare support for me and my kids you'll never see me in here."

She said she has been to "the welfare" — but they just tell her to fill in a form. "They don't believe that I can't read or write.

"If you tell the truth, they don't believe you. Its better to say your husband has been dead for 10 years," Ursula said.

Ursula divorced her husband after two years ago after eight years of marriage when he started sleeping with other women. He pays no maintenance.

She charges her clients — "decent men" — R70 or R80 and only has two clients a night. But she would prefer them to give her money instead of sleeping with her. She gratefully accepts gifts of R2 or R3 from regular clients.

An 18-year-old friend of hers who worked as a prostitute became pregnant with the child of a Chinese sailor. She tried to abort the baby by drinking a mixture of brandy, whisky and pills.

"If I didn't help her she would have been dead. It was a big sin. What's the use of killing your child. You should give it to someone who will love it," she said.

QUOTE: "I am sorry I ever tackled this job. It is a dangerous game."

SHARON, 24, of Mitchells Plain, says she started the "business" at the age of 21.

It all happened, she said, after the father of her four-year-old daughter dumped her.

"He did not support me or his child. My father died and I was the sole supporter of the family. I worked as a waitress at a restaurant in Cape Town but the money was not enough to support my mother, two brothers and my daughter.

"Night owls came to the restaurant. They used to boast about the fact that they earned R60 to R120 a night, and I only earned R60 a week. When I lost my job I decided to give it a go as things were real bad at home," she said.

Sharon's daughter and brothers are not aware of the type of work she does. They are told that she works night shift.

But her mother knows and has accepted it, although she was "very sad" in the beginning.

When Sharon first started in the business she was "scared". Within the first week she was arrested and fined R120 for soliciting. The first night she got "ripped off".

"The guy left without paying me. He took me to a hotel in the Strand and after he had his satisfaction he told me to find my own way home.

"What we do now to prevent this is get the customer to pay first. He has to leave the money with one of our colleagues."

Sharon has never been to the docks because it is "too dangerous".

"For me this type of work is not a sin, but I am sorry I ever tackled it. This is a dangerous game," she said.



Taking a taxi ride into the night



Letting loose to the beat of midnight music



Who is this woman and where does she go in the darkness?



Round midnight, the "Red Light District" is the only lively part of Cape Town

Seedy side

WALK through Riebeek and Waterkant streets in Cape Town after midnight and you'll think you have accidentally stepped on to a film set.

A nightlife that many Capetonians don't even know about thrives under neon lights, in smoky bars and luxerious discotheques.

Groups of seaman or even businessmen emerge from nightspots with women prostitutes on their arms.

They pile into waiting taxis which ferry them to the docks or to hotels in various parts of the Peninsula.

Walk into some nightclubs and you wouldn't know that the main trade was prostitution.

Some clubs have burly me door who only allow in a c type of patron, certainly n who may push drugs.

They are adamant, prostit may be morally wrong in s ple's eyes, but it is the dru addiction in other nightspo Cape Town that must be st out.

But in some smoky dives, who are either new at "the those who don't fit into the class" clubs, gyrate on the floors.

Women who are down on luck, or who have had the

deals of the dangerous "bus

ough veneer

TWO Cape Town women drowned recently when a taxi plunged over the edge of the jetty at the notorious "Taiwan Avenue" in Table Bay. One left behind a three-month-old baby, the child of a Taiwanese seaman. The women were prostitutes or "night people" plying their trade in an area many women regard as too dangerous to work in. Their deaths prompted a SOUTH investigation into the world of Cape Town's "night owls". SAHM VENTER and AYESHA ISMAIL report. BIEN KARLIE took the pictures

QUOTE: "The first time I hated myself. But after a while, you leave your heart at home."

CINDY, 29, a former administrative assistant who has been in the business for six months, once aspired to drive heavy duty mainland carriers.

The youngest of four daughters of a Steenberg family, she decided early she did not want the life of her sisters who all got married and settled down.

"I just felt I didn't want such a life — I wanted something different," said Cindy who has her matric.

"Some of my sisters are financially embarrassed. When they ask me for money, I give it to them with a smile on my face."

They think she works as a nightclub hostess.

Like most women prostitutes she started out by working the streets. Within two weeks she was trapped by police and spent 45 days in jail for "soliciting".

"I was allowed one phone call before I was charged, so I phoned my family and told them I was on the way to Joburg on holiday."

She charges a client between R50 and R100 for "short time".

"It depends on how long he takes," and up to R200 to spend the night.

"The first time I hated myself in the morning. But after a while you leave your heart at home," she said.

Cindy works from coffee bars and night clubs and does most of her business through hand signals through the window. Interested clients must go to her.

"The police can't touch us in here," she said.

She describes herself as sensitive and choosy — with a "sixth sense" and doesn't accept a client if she doesn't think he is a nice person.

Most of her clients are "businessmen" and many are regulars who phone her at home to make arrangements. She often gets taken out for a meal and is bought gifts.

She has never had any trouble from a client but the small knife she uses to cut biltong doubles as a self defence weapon "just in case".

Most of her clients are married and talk to her about their marital problems. One of her clients is an unmarried university lecturer.

"You've got to have your wits together with him. Sometimes I don't know what he's talking about, so I just keep quiet."

Cindy makes R580 a week — tax free. She used to earn R700 a month working in a department store.

"I'm not actually in this for the money. There are some evenings I don't feel like it, so I stay home."

She refuses to go to the docks because it is too risky and only accepts clients who speak English or Afrikaans.

"Most men prefer a certain type of girl. They don't only want her for her body — its what she stands for."

Cindy once "got close" to a client and saw him regularly for about four months.

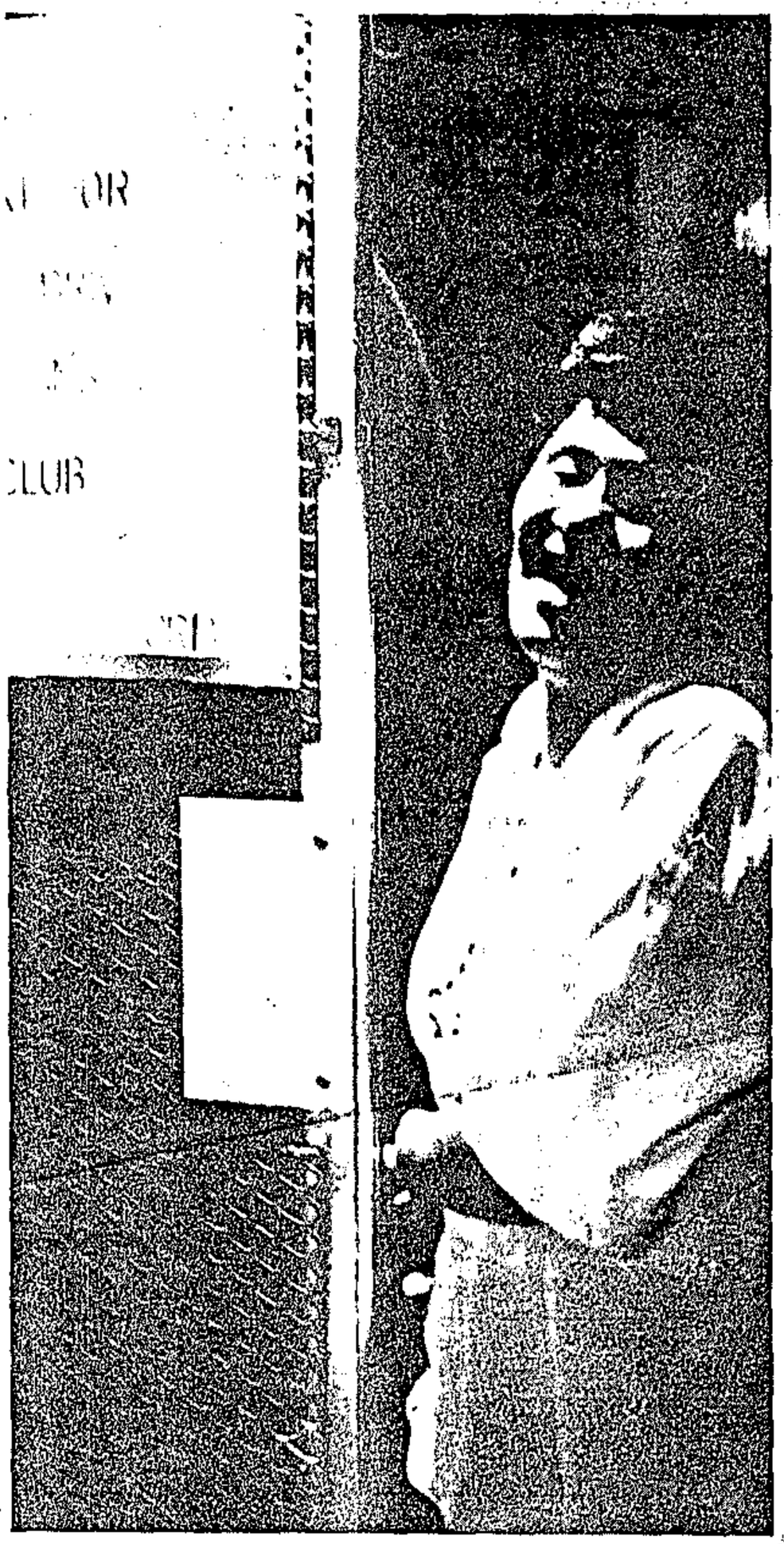
"But he got too possessive".

She thinks prostitution should be legalised "although I don't think it will happen here in the very near future".

Cindy who has given herself four or five years at the game doesn't regret her involvement . . . "not yet".

A song "The Great Pretender" blares over the radio.

"Just listen to the words," she said. "It suits this job because we have to pretend such a lot."



Friday night frenzy outside a late night-club

Mourned, 'forgotten in a week'

HUNDREDS of prostitutes in Cape Town believe they are misunderstood.

For most, it is a job they take very seriously. They work from nine to five — "nine at night to five in the morning" — and don't believe they deserve the negative publicity they often receive. They see themselves as providing a service.

Most say they don't do it because they like it, but because unemployment forces them.

It is a job for some, a profession for others. Most are the sole supporters of their families. Some are married to unemployed men.

Flood of seamen dwindled after Suez Canal

While some women are well educated, choosy about their clientele and take good care of themselves physically, with weekly medical check-ups; others are oblivious of the dangers of diseases such as Aids.

Under the tough veneer, many of these women are gentle and friendly and just want to be left to make the living some of them hate.

Some don't survive. According to an acquaintance of a woman who recently died,"she was mourned but forgotten in a week".

Many women from "up country", fed up with bad working conditions on farms and domestic work, head for the bright lights of Cape Town. When they come face to face with and unemployment, they take up "the game".

The more professional among them believe that if prostitution was legalised in South Africa, they could enjoy benefits of other workers such as unemployment benefits, medical aid and pension.

While some are as young as 12 years old, most of the older women have children to support and rent to pay.

The infamous beat of the docklands is seen as taboo by many women who say they would be asking for trouble by working the area.

Drugs should be stamped out ... not prostitution

Since the Suez Canal "crisis" of the 1960s and the more recent sanctions, the flood of foreign seamen to Cape Town dwindled.

Now the docks, seen as "a white elephant" are occupied mainly by Taiwanese ships and the source of most of the prostitutes' dock clientele. Hence the name "Taiwan Avenue".

Women prefer to work from bars and nightclubs and to take their customers to hotels.

They are adamant that they are not doing any harm and many are fiercly opposed to drugs which they believe should be stamped out instead of prostitution.

Several prostitutes complain of abuse from clients but feel they have a right to protection against exploitation.

According to a spokesperson for Rape Crisis everyone has the right to refuse sex and to have their refusal respected.

"Many people have the attitude that those who work as prostitutes have forfeited their right to say no to all kinds of abuse. Many might believe that prostitutes can't be raped. These attitudes makes it hard for a prostitute who has been sexually abused to speak out about it for fear that they wont be believed or taken seriously," she said.

"Rape Crisis supports the right of prostitutes to say no to any client and to refuse to do anything they don't feel comfortable about. Any man who ignored such a refusal would be committing sexual assault," the spokesperson said.

Dr Reg Coogan, Cape Town's Medical Officer of Health, said that while female prostitutes were only in danger of contracting Aids from bi-sexual males, there had been no cases in the city of females with Aids.

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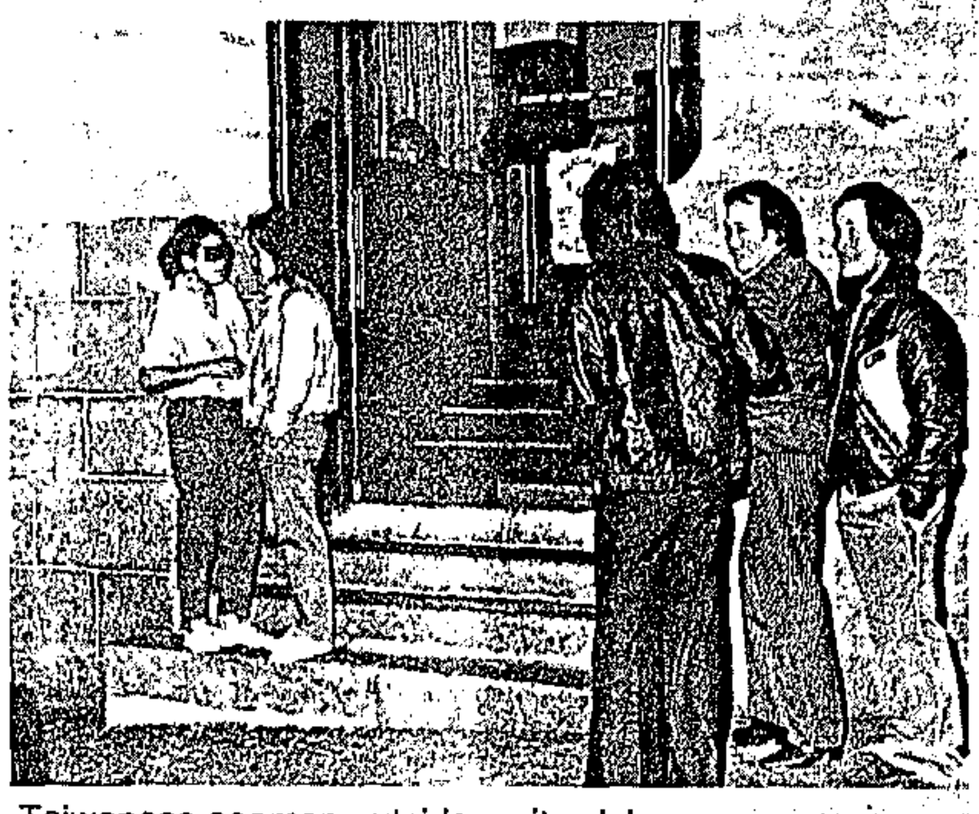
can be found there.

The seedy side of town is the home of women who can't pick and choose as some prostitutes can. Like a tiny middle-aged woman who spoke and looked for all the world like a little girl.

These women barely survive the competitive world of prostitution in Cape Town. They are tough, but look sad at the same time.

Those in the smarter clubs and bars don't associate with them; they are safer and more confident that what they are doing will not destroy them.

Most of them want to get out in time but for some it is already too late.



Taiwanese seamen outside a city club.

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Hawkers: request refused

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EAST LONDON — The city council has turned down a request from the Greater East London co-ordinating committee for representation on the hawkers' ad hoc committee.

The committee asked that its commercial and development sub-committee be permitted to participate in the activities of the hawkers' committee as it was felt it could make a positive contribution to the committee.

The council said the Central Business District Association already enjoyed representation on the hawkers' committee and the same representatives were members of the co-ordinating committee. — DDR

Hawkers may get stands in city centre

MR645 4/8/87

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Staff Reporter

HAWKERS may soon be allowed to lease stands in the centre of Cape Town.

The city's utilities and works committee yesterday approved a recommendation by the city administrator that hawking sites be granted under permit at R3 a square metre.

Similar stands at the Mitchell's Plain Town Centre are also planned.

If the principle of raising fees for hawking stands is approved, suitable paved sites elsewhere in the municipal area could be converted to "reserved stands".

The recommendation has to be passed by the executive committee and the full council.

Illegal

Hawkers operating illegally in the central business districts of Cape Town and Mitchell's Plain needed to be accommodated and legalised, said a report from the city administrator.

Throughout the municipal area, official hawking sites existed on a "first come, first served" basis, the report said.

"The system has worked well enough except that in some areas control of the use of stands has been usurped by monopolistic hawkers."

However, changes to the traffic by-law covering hawkers were envisaged in the light of the council's policy plan on street trading.

Charging fees and allocating sites to specific hawkers would cover administrative costs "and cause the hawker to develop a sense of responsibility for his stand as well as encourage him to ward off would-be intruders".

In the Cape Town CBD, 22 sites are earmarked for hawking.

● A proposal to close Old Klipfontein Road in central Athlone has been approved by the committee but discussions with interested parties will have to be held first.

This follows recent clashes between hawkers and the council's law enforcement arm, culminating in a row over a council raid on "illegal" Klipfontein Road hawkers.

The city planner reported that hawker stands would be located in the road and front footways.

Killing: Woman held

The Argus Bureau

PORT ELIZABETH. — A woman has been arrested in connection with the death of Mr Trevor Alexander Marshall whose body was found in the kitchen of his flat this week.

Mr Marshall, 28, had been stabbed in the heart.

The woman is expected to appear in court tomorrow.

TO ADVERTISE ON THIS PAGE — TELEPHONE EA

Rini promotes self-help housing

Dispatch Reporter

GRAHAMSTOWN — The Rini council has made available 300 sites for self-help housing in Makana's Kop extensions two and three.

At this juncture the sites will be available on 99-year leasehold terms, officials said.

The R2,3-million scheme will be administered and supervised by the Cape Provincial Administration.

The town clerk, Mr Koos Celliers, said: "We have asked for informal tenders for materials because we can buy cheaper in bulk."

These would remain in safe-keeping for intending home-builders to draw on as they need them, he said. This would ensure against the theft of materials from the building sites.

Mr Celliers said housing remained a pre-occupation of the council.

The council also hopes to sell off Fingo Village properties.

"The administrator must determine the selling price," Mr Celliers said.

He urged that the Group Areas Act be relaxed in terms of four properties now occupied by coloured families. Rini councillors have no objection.

The properties in question were granted or transferred to heads of households between 1856 and 1901.

They belong to intestate estates and awards must be made to the next-of-kin to wind up the estates. Rini councillors' sanction, however, was required before the matter could be submitted to the administrator.

Rini also holds the title deeds of a further 53 properties expropriated during the 1970's when the area was proclaimed for coloured and Indian groups.

Ultimately these could be sold back to the original owners or sold by public auction.

"The administrator must determine the selling price," Mr Celliers said.

A format of a draft agreement of a lease between occupier and lodger had also been drawn up, he said.

"This will provide a formal basis for leasing for an indefinite period."

The terms require a lodger to pay R5 a month for a shack and R10 a month for a room.

Escom has also applied for 40 sites to help their employees build houses.

In the meantime, various manufacturers of building materials have donated materials for a show house which has been erected adjacent to the Makana's Kop clinic.

The house was built departmentally.

"The aim is to show people what they can get from the suppliers: bricks, flooring, different finishes and so on," Mr Celliers said.

He said the Cape Provincial Administration would probably use the show house as offices while the Zenzele (self-help) project was underway.

Council plans hawkers' shelters

Dispatch Reporter

GRAHAMSTOWN — The Rini council is prepared to build shelters for hawkers — if the Hawkers' Guild will tell it where to construct them.

Several approaches to the guild have brought no response, it was revealed at a council meeting.

It was decided to go ahead and build one on a site in Raglan Road.

The site had been occupied by the Grahamstown Area Distress Relief Association (Gadra) and other welfare organisations, until it was burned down during unrest.

Gadra and the other welfare organisations now have premises within the grounds of the Day Hospital, in Cobden Street.

The town clerk, Mr Koos Celliers, said the R3 600 structure would be steel-framed with a roof of corrugated iron welded on.

The sides will be open. Within will be a concrete "table", from which hawkers may sell their wares.

The structure had been designed for maximum security and hygiene, Mr Celliers said.

It would be big enough for between two and three hawkers to utilise, he said.

"Unless we get some response from the hawkers, we will look at other sites traditionally used by them, for building more shelters."

● The Rini council is trying to acquire an area of commonage to the north east of the townships for recreation uses. It is a triangle of land enclosed by the existing and new roads to Fort Beaufort, and the East London road. It is not suitable for housing as the sewerage works are sited there.

● Rini councillors plan to use the new B. B. Zondani community centre in Fingo Village, as a revenue office for the convenience of Fingo Villagers and residents of other adjacent townships.

This will enable them to pay their rates at a more convenient point.

The "office" will be open on certain days between certain hours, to maintain security, Mr Celliers, said.

● The Rini administration took over the electricity trading account from the Grahamstown municipality from July 1.

Mr Celliers said: "We will now send out accounts and collect, athough we will still buy Escom power from Grahamstown."

Only when a master plan for the townships is effected and funds are available, is it likely Rini will build a sub-station, when they could buy directly from Escom.

Pietersburg's escort agency is in business

JOHANNESBURG — Pietersburg's first escort agency, with the exotic name of "Pandora's Box", opened for business this week with a temporary permit and four young women on its books.

The agency has met with considerable opposition, but one of the owners, Mr Vonnie Mare, said today all necessary conditions had been fulfilled — including the controversial medical tests for Aids and keeping a register of clients.

He said many telephone inquiries indicated that there was a demand for the services offfered by the agency, but further publicity was needed to place the operation on a sound business footing.

The agency will initially charge R170 for the services of an escort.

The young women employed by the agency will receive fixed salaries.

The agency is waiting for a decision on its application for clearance to operate permanently.

295 E.POST 6/8/87

Car-hire baby run by women wants Hertz

By David Carte

IMPERIAL Car Rental, the baby of the business run mainly by women, thought it had acquired the SA operations of Hertz this week.

Imperial told Business Times the deal had been clinched. But Sage, its partner in the transaction said "complications arising from conditions precedent" were threatening it.

Hertz is the biggest car-hire firm in the world and has been No 2 in SA after Avis. Sage's wholly owned subsidiary, Union & London, has owned Hertz in SA and paid a royalty for use of the name.

According to Imperial, it was to take 60% of the merged company against Sage's 40% and it would be in the driving seat of the enlarged operation.

4 000 cars

Both parties agreed that if it went through, Carol Scott, managing director of Imperial, would be managing director of the merged company and the executive chairman would be Bill Lynch, also of Imperial. Noel de Villiers, managing director of Hertz, would also be a director.

It has not been decided whether the company will be called Imperial-Hertz or Hertz-Imperial.

The combined company would have 4 000 cars, sales of R80-million a year and shareholders' funds of R17-million.

Imperial claims it would have 38% of the market — slightly less than the 40% it estimates that Avis controls.

The transaction was entirely between SA parties and no money would leave the country. The Hertz name would stay for 10 years at least.

The deal would be a great victory for Carol Scott and her mainly female team.

Miss Scott started Imperial Car Hire for Percy Abelkop's Imperial Group in January 1979 with one office, nine cars and a staff of two. The same year the team grew to 20 eager women.

Miss Scott says: "The market place was crowded and people said we were crazy. But we came in aggressively and worked hard — 17 hours a day 365 days a year.

"From the outset we were a people-orientated company with a strong team spirit and an outstanding sales side. The only way we could beat the opposition was through superior service."

In eight years, Imperial's market share grew to 19%. It was 10% only five years ago. Before the merger, there were 38 offices, a fleet of 1 700 cars and a staff of 400.

By 1982 the company had achieved an operating profit of R712 000. In 1985, its best year, Imperial made R3,1-million before interest and tax. Recession and a fall in tourism resulted in operating profit dropping to R2,4-million in 1986. But in the six months to December, Imperial had made R1,6-million and was heading for a record.

Mr Lynch is the only man in the top team envisaged by Imperial, but Miss Scott assures the men from Hertz there will be no sex discrimination once the deal goes through.



Carol Scott . . . a long way in a short time

She says there will be rationalisation benefits, but she is confident expansion in the market will prevent redundancies.

She believes the merged company will be able to handle a much bigger volume of business than before with the same number of people and cars — and fewer offices.

Miss Scott says competition will intensify because Avis and Imperial-Hertz would be roughly the same size. She pledges that standards of service will not be allowed to fall because of the increased size of the company.

On average Hertz and Imperial keep cars for only 20 000km, or seven or eight months. A merged firm would buy more than 4 000 cars a year.

Large sum

Imperial has represented Europcar in SA. It is not clear yet whether South Africans booking hire cars abroad through the proposed merged company would go to Europcar or Hertz. The plan was to use Hertz, but Europcar offered a large sum to maintain the link.

Imperial shares were issued at 275c, but bright prospects and rumours of this deal have lifted them to 600c. They could go higher.

Grinaker gets half Condecor

ANGLOVAAL's Grinaker Holdings has bought a 50% stake in Condecor, one of the Cape's fastest-growing development and construction companies.

Grinaker, a heavyweight in civil engineering, construction, building, mining, precast concrete and electronics throughout South Africa, sees the Condecor link as an extension of its move into the housing market in Natal and the Transvaal.

The group is established in Western and Southern Cape

Car hire giants ready for battle

BATTLE lines are being drawn in the car hire sector following the Imperial/-Hertz merger.

Industry sources said yesterday that an all out price war between market leader Avis and the newly emergent group was imminent.

Fleet totals are now seen to be fairly evenly matched, with the Hertz/Imperial units numbering in excess of 4 000 compared with Avis's 4 500.

Hertz chairman Noel de Villiers, who is to take a seat on the new board, said the conglomerate would engage in a head-on marketing confrontation.

"Without any question. Our aggresive approach will probably inspire the competition to react in a similar fashion. But have no doubts, the winner in the long run will be the customer."

While the opponents girded for the fight, observers said the only cloud hovering over the merger was possible

MICK COLLINS

Competition Board intervention.

Sources said yesterday that as far as they were aware no formal approach had yet been made to the board for its approval.

Reacting to the green-light announcement from UAL Merchant Bank, Imperial group shares, of which Imperial Car Rental is a wholly-owned subsidiary, moved down 20c yesterday to close at 610c. A previous high saw the share at 700c late last month. Market sources said the share had seen heavy profit taking ahead of the merger.

Meanwhile, figures released by the Bureau for Financial Analysis at the University of Pretoria showed that June's total revenue for the industry took a huge leap of 45,6% compared with June of the previous year.



16 Aug 87 Citizen (295)

Agency's grand promise to job seekers falls flat

By BONGANI HLATSHWAYO

OVER 100 work-seekers who had been employed by the SA Employment Representative Council, an employment agency, are up in arms over its president, Junior Ngubeni's, failure to pay them their salaries or secure them jobs.

Ngubeni claims that the company is bankrupt because it has incurred a loss of R14 000.

"We only have R3 800 at our disposal, so we have to divide it among all the workers," said Ngubeni.

The agency, founded in May, caters for the unemployed. In return for a registration fee of R9, work seekers receive identity cards, bearing the name of their company.

The company's policy stipulates that as soon as a person is registered, he automatically qualifies for a full salary at the end of the month.

Things came to a head at the end of July when those registered were supposed to get their pay. They were informed that some company officials had disappeared with money belonging to the company, so they could not receive their salaries.

Attempts by the workers to have a word with the president have proved futile as he allegedly refrains from attending meetings to discuss the conflict.

Imperial in driving seat as Hertz quits

THE merger of Imperial Car Rental and Hertz has become a takeover by Imperial — and a disinvestment by Hertz.

Business Times Reporter

Initially it was to be pooling of interests. The parties were trying to decide whether to call the company Hertz-Imperial or Imperial Hertz.

Now, because Hertz US could not give Imperial a cast-iron guarantee that it would permit the name to be used in the long term, Imperial will take the Hertz fleet and personnel and go it alone without the name.

Imperial Car Rental chairman Bill Lynch says: "We were reluctant to change our name, only to be obliged to change it again some time in the future"

Mainstream

Mr Lynch is not altogether sorry about the outcome.

"If you are in Europe or the States, in the mainstream of international tourism, an international car-hire name counts for a lot. But in SA we are off the beaten track.

"In Imperial we have shown that a SA company can take on the big international names and win. I really do not think we need the name all that much."

The SA character of Imperial could become a strong marketing advantage, particularly if US public opinion continues to be hostile towards this country.

Mr Lynch says: "I also do not believe the internationals can teach us much on the operational side."

Imperial believes Hertz will steer American customers visiting SA its way.

Imperial will continue to represent Europcar in SA.

The listed Imperial Group will have 60% of the combined operation and Sage's wholly owned subsidiary, Union & London, the balance.

Eventually, says Mr Lynch, the car-rental arm of Imperial will be listed. Imperial Group holders will be able to subscribe on terms still to be decided.

a pre-tax income of well over R1m.

Hertz: about to disinvest?

AS THE merger of car rental giants Hertz and Imperial goes ahead, Hertz's US parent has backed away from giving a firm commitment on the continued use of its name in SA.

The move, which is being seen as a prelude to an official disinvestmet announcement by Hertz, will leave Avis as the only major international car hire company in the country.

Weekend media reports quoted Im-

MICK COLLINS

perial chairman Bill Lynch as saying: "I really do not think we need the name all that much. I don't believe the internationals can teach us much on the operational side."

Industry sources said Imperial, which has been negotiating with Hertz with a view to pooling the companies' operations and fleets, would now have to decide on a new name.

Jobs rip-off!

(295) South 2/8 - 2/9/87

By AYESHA ALLIE

DESPERATE job seekers are being charged an "illegal" R9 fee by a Bellville firm to register for "possible" employment on the Mossel Bay oil-from-gas project due to come on line only in two years time.

The firm, South Coast Employment Agency, operates from the office of Skinner and Partners in the Boston Hotel Centre, Bellville.

It has been established that the firm - not listed as a business or known to firms and the local authority in Mossel Bay - is under investigation by the Department of Manpower.

Job seekers who had registered with the company can demand their money back, according to the Department of Manpower.

Mostly jobless people, who say they are responding to newspaper advertisements, crowd the firm's offices between 9am and 11am hoping to be part of the expected boom in Mossel Bay.

Yellow

They pay R1 which is believed to be for registration with the company and are given a yellow receipt with the Skinner and Partners stamp on it.

The R9, according to the secretary in the office, is for the job application form. For this payment a white receipt, also unsigned, is issued.

SOUTH reporters "applying" for jobs this week were told there was no guarantee of a job. The fee paid was not refundable.

When asked what the payment was for, the secretary said it covered stationery costs.

A Cape Town spokesperson of the Department of Manpower, Mr J A Visser, said he had already informed the company that it was illegal to charge people who make applications for a job.

He said the company had the right to charge only R1 for registration.

Turn to page 3

Jobless ripped off

From page 1

Mrs L R Jungle of the Department of Manpower in Bellville, said the company had been warned before about charging unemployed people a fee to get a job.

Jungle said the department was "well aware of the company's deeds. They've charged people before who complained."

She said people who had paid R9 should complain and they would be able to get their money back.

The Mossel Bay refinery contacted said it had no contract with South Coast Employment Agency.

A spokesperson for Moss Refineries, Mr R S Jakobs, said they "did not instruct any company in Cape Town or anywhere else to look for unemployed people".

"I don't know anything about employing people for the Mossel Bay project," he said.

A spokesperson for the Mossel Bay Municipality, Ms R Lotter, said there were long-term plans to start a gas and oil project but that would "only take place in a year or two".

"We've never called on anyone to apply for work as we don't have any," she said.

Help people

The manager of the firm could not be reached for comment after several attempts.

He was not available when the offices were visited and did not respond to telephone enquiries.

An office secretary, however, said the firm was "legal" and aimed to "help people obtain jobs".

She said the Department of Manpower was "aware" of the firm's activities. She confirmed that recruitment was for the Mossel Bay project.

27/8-2/9/87 South



Hope Centre last weekend
d Cape Town fans over two
heir way to see the concerts
bazo of Graceland fame. Hot
mela back-up singers Marilyn
and 19

Court bid to free retarded detainee

(229) 2/8-2/9/87 South

AN URGENT application to the Supreme Court for the release from detention of a mentally retarded teenager is being prepared, attorneys confirmed this week.

Nawaldien Thorpe, 18, a standard six pupil at Bontcheuwel High who sustained brain damage after an accident as a child, has been held under the Emergency regulations since August 11.

The district surgeon this week confirmed a diagnosis of "mild retardation". He had submitted his findings to the police.

Nawaldien was detained near the Bontcheuwel bus terminus while on an errand for his mother, Mrs Jasmien Thorpe.

Nawaaldien was detained for 14 days in May. He and four other youths appeared in court on a charge of public violence, but charges were dropped.

The police refused to comment and referred to regulation 3(8) of the Emergency Regulations which states that no person shall be entitled to any information relating to or about a detainee.

release 'imminent'

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already been visited by legal advisers to discuss the release.

According to well-placed sources, his release is "imminent". Unlike rumours last year of the release of Nelson Mandela, speculation is that this time it's for real.

Reporters camped outside Pollsmoor Prison for two weeks in anticipation of Mandela's release.

But this time the Government has admitted that the "administrative machinery has been set in motion" for the release of Mbeki.

South 2/8-2/9/87

Turn to page 2

Also see pages 2, 14 and 16

TIPS — PAGE 23

Illegal charges to job seekers

SOUTH REPORTER

A BELLVILLE employment company has until Friday to refund illegal fees it charged job seekers.

By then the company, which illegally charged unemployed people R10 to register for jobs, must prove to the Department of Manpower that it has returned all job seekers their money.

A spokesperson from the Department of Manpower, Mr J A Visser, said between 200-300 job seekers "registered" for work, according to the company, Skinner and Partners.

The department believed that the figure could be much higher.

Job seekers responded to advertisements by Skinner and Partners for people to register with them for employment at the Mossel Bay Project.

A SOUTH investigation found that job seekers had to pay R10 to "register" for possible employment.

A reporter who posed as a job seeker was told R1 was for registration (which all employment agencies charge) and R9 for stationery expenses.

Mr H Skinner, of Skinner and Partners, refused to speak to SOUTH. He said he had already spoken to the Department of Manpower.

Uniforms suggested for PE hawkers

295
10/9/87
EPOST

Municipal Reporter

NEW suggestions to improve hawking in Port Elizabeth city centre — with pavement trolleys, uniforms and even mini-loans to buy stock — come before PE's Community Services Committee today.

They are made by the Small Businessmen's Development Corporation (SBDC) and have the support of Mr Carl Fischer, the city's Director of Administration.

In a comprehensive report, the SBDC says that hawking — which has lately become a controversial issue — has changed its pattern in PE and mini-hawkers who trade from places where there are many pedestrians are popular.

The SBDC feels that the by-law forbidding trading in the CBD (which is not strictly enforced) should be reviewed and suggests the use of hawker carts at certain sites in the CBD area and parking bays marked on the sidewalks.

The SBDC suggests that hawkers be given uniforms which will give them a neater appearance and simplify their identification.

New Bill to curb escort activity

Sunday Times Reporter

PARLIAMENT this week took the first step towards tightening the restrictions on escort agencies — while the identities of a string of men were being protected in a Johannesburg court as they gave evidence in a sordid "sex-on-credit" case.

The Immorality Amendment Bill, introduced in Cape Town, is aimed mainly at escort agencies and provides for substantial increases in fines, as well as a review of protection under the Act to men and women.

It appears that once the new Bill becomes law, identities of witnesses will no longer be protected.



MIKLOS BAKO

In the Johannesburg Magistrate's Court this week a string of men, from all walks of life, including a company director, a teacher who serves on a community committee, a Stock Exchange employee, an analytical chemist and leading business and professional men appeared as State witnesses in the trial of agency boss Mr Andras Bako and his son Miklos, who were charged with procuring women for prostitution.

The men told the magistrate their lives and marriages "would be destroyed and their businesses and reputations irreparably damaged" if their names were made public for having sex with escorts.

Many of the men testified they "did not even know the names" of the escorts

Portable latrines a listing first

By Udo Rypstra

MYNKAR Holdings, which operates 2 000 portable latrines nationwide apart from manufacturing them in KwaZulu, will seek a listing on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange.

It claims to be the first such company in the world to seek a listing.

The listing is scheduled for November after a private placing of 3-million shares, aimed at raising R2,1-million, says chief executive Peter Brown.

"Our turnover has increased by 320% in steady increments from R2,29-million in 1983 to R7,32-million in the year to June 1987.

"It is a result of increasing ecological concern over sanitation and trade union insistence which in recent years has led to management of mining houses ensuring a dramatic improvement in underground sanitation standards," says Mr Brown.

The capital raised will go to expansion, particularly of the Mynkar group's hiring and sales network, and to repay borrowings for building up its delivery fleet.

Mr Brown says: "We have an unprecedented order book, primarily consisting of underground sanitation for mining houses."

The group has selling and hiring operations in Johannesburg, Cape Town, Port Elizabeth, Durban, Welkom and Glencoe, centre of the Northern Natal coalfields.

Early morning hot coffee and buns while you buy your fruit and veg on the Market Square? The square served as PE's market for more than 100 years with farmers bringing in wagonloads of fresh produce. DENISE BOUTALL discusses the interesting possibilities of this area in the city's centre echoing to the call of hawkers once more.

Square may soon echo to hawkers' call

PORT ELIZABETH's Market Square, which served as the city's market for more than 100 years, could come alive if some of the city's estimated 3 000 hawkers were to start trading there.

"I'd be only too happy if we could get people to sell things there," the Director, Administration, Mr Carl Fischer, said.

This week the City Council decided hawkers would be allowed to sell their wares from carts in Main Street, Strand Street, Rink Street and the beachfront.

The scheme, proposed by the Small Business Development Corporation, will run on a trial basis for three months.

The decision came after months of indecision and regular police raids on hawkers who have flocked to Main Street in the last two years in a bid to scratch a livelihood during the recession.

One man who clearly recalls the days when Market Square still fulfilled its original function is Mr Graham Allen, of Walmer, who provided a photograph of the market's activities as proof.

Mr Allen, whose father owned a grocery business in Westbourne Road, recalled that the market was held in the square every day and that particularly big markets were held on Tuesdays and Fridays.

"But everything had to be cleared away by 10am when the traffic started."

He said the vegetables and fruit were provided by farmers who brought their produce into the city in wagons.

The market started at 6am in the summer and 7am during winter.

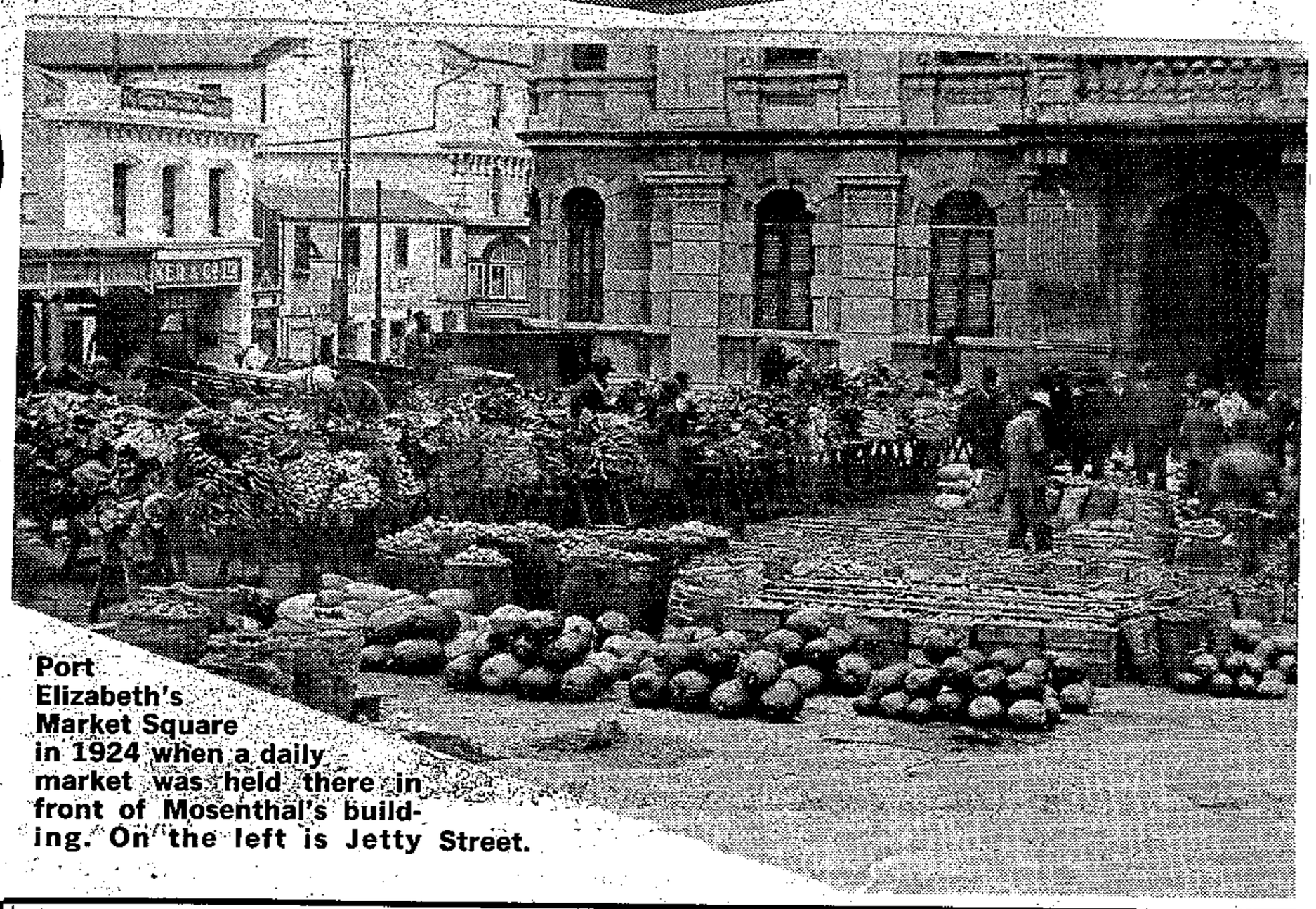
One man, Mr S F Hartel, ran a business selling coffee and buns to farmers and buyers alike. However, he had to give up when the market moved to its premises in Horton Street in 1928 when the municipality also built a cafe there.

Port Elizabeth's Director of Markets, Mr J H D McKenzie, said apart from the market on the square, a covered market was provided in Military Road in 1888.

From Horton Street the market moved to Diaz Road in 1948 and to its present site in Markman Township in 1976.

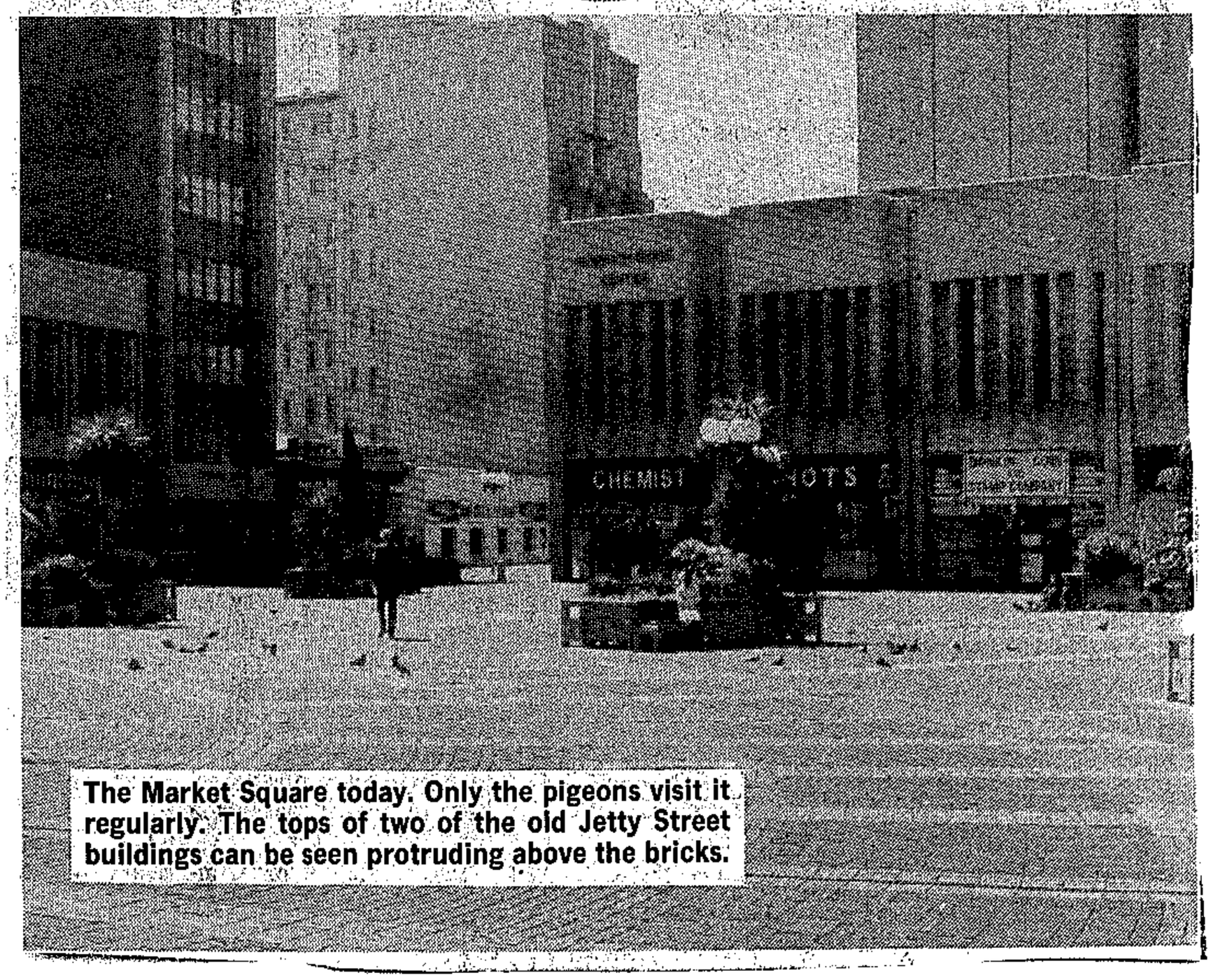
Mr Fischer said the council would like to encourage people to put up stalls on Market Square. "We're trying to bring life back to the area."

Crowds used to flock to it . . .



Port Elizabeth's Market Square in 1924 when a daily market was held there in front of Mosenthal's building. On the left is Jetty Street.

. . . but now it's for the birds



The Market Square today. Only the pigeons visit it regularly. The tops of two of the old Jetty Street buildings can be seen protruding above the bricks.

CITY PRESS, October 25, 1987 PAGE 3

295

Domestics get pittance from the black 'madams'

By SERUTHU SERUTHU

SOME black domestic workers employed by a growing middle-class in the Mangaung community earn salaries well below the breadline.

The workers, employed by prominent township figures who hold respectable positions in Bloemfontein or in the township, earn as little as R45 a month.

Some of the "madams" contacted for comment were reluctant to speak while others denied that they had servants in their employ and prefer to call them "relatives who help".

I spoke to several workers who said they were very unhappy at their place of employment, but because of the scarcity of employment, they could not leave.

A 35-year-old mother of three told *City Press* that she earned R60 a month and was provided with meals three times a day for a four-day week.

She said she was also given old clothes for her children.

One nursing sister – who did not want to be identified for professional reasons – said she had two domestics.

One did washing and ironing twice a week and she paid her R60 a month while the other was paid R40 a month for cleaning and cooking for the family.

Others said workers coming from the settlement area of Botshabelo were very expensive as they had to be provided with food and transport.

Some prominent Mangaung personalities said they had tried hard to get domestics from Mangaung to help with the house chores but many were not willing to work for a black person.

IMPERIAL

Changing mix

Activities: *Investment holding company with subsidiaries in transport and motor related businesses.*

Control: *The directors hold more than 6m shares.*

Chairman: *P Abelkop; joint managing directors: W Lynch and S Abelkop.*

Capital structure: *14m ords of 1c each. Market capitalisation: R84m.*

Share market: *Price: 600c. Yields: 2,9% on dividend; 6,5% on earnings; PE ratio, 15,5; cover, 2,4. 12-month high, 700c; low, 315c. Trading volume last quarter, 540 000 shares.*

Financial: *Year to June 25.*

	'86	'87
Debt:		
Short-term (Rm)	2,0	—
Long-term (Rm)	9,3	3,7
Debt:equity ratio	1,26	0,16
Shareholders' interest	17,5	38,0
Debt cover	0,28	1,39
Performance:		
	'86	**'87**
Return on cap (%)	14,2	20,5
Turnover (Rm)	160	219
Pre-int profit (Rm)	7,3	12,5
Pre-int margin (%)	0,46	0,56
Taxed profit (Rm)	2,4	4,5
Earnings (c)	22,4	38,7
Dividends	—	—
Net worth (c)	104	165

Imperial raised a few eyebrows when it announced it would be listed in the industrial holdings sector. Traditionally, the group was best known for its new and used vehicle business, so many assumed that the motor sector was more appropriate. But, as shown by the 1987 results, Imperial has expanded aggressively into the vehicle rental business.

RENTAL RACES

Pre-tax profit:	1986 Rm	1986 %	1987 Rm	1987 %
Car rental	0,7	17,5	3,1	34,5
Motor	2,2	54,2	2,9	32,4
Truck systems	1,2	28,3	2,9	33,1
	4,1	100,0	8,9	100,0

The move appears to make sense — particularly in the medium term, when the market is expected to adapt to the effects of substantial rises in new vehicle prices. Imperial's car rental division is growing rapidly. Divisional pre-tax profit jumped to R3,1m (R0,7m) in 1987.

The truck systems division, which, joint MD Bill Lynch estimates, generates about 80% of its profits from truck rental and transport contracts, increased pre-tax earnings to R2,9m (R1,2m). By my calculation that means 60% of group earnings came from the rental last year compared with the year-ago 38%.

The merger of Hertz with Imperial's rental division was also an opportunistic move. Imperial will own 60% of the equity of the enlarged business, with Union and London Finance, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Sage Holdings, holding the rest. Lynch says the enlarged Imperial car rental division is slightly smaller than market leader Avis. "Avis has about 40% of the market and we have 38%," he says. Adds Lynch: "Logically, if our rental business continues to grow at a reasonable rate we will soon be number one." The R18,7m which Imperial raised through its pre-listing share issue seems to have been put to good use. Debt:equity is down to only 0,16, radically better than the 1,26 of 1986. With only four months between the listing and the year-end, the full impact of the R7,6m reduction in total debt should only be felt this year. After tax, at a rate of 48,6%, shareholders' income nearly doubled to R4,4m (R2,3m) and could have been higher had interest paid not risen to R3,6m (R3,1m).

Lynch says turnover will reach R300m this year, representing a 37% growth rate after last year's 30% jump to R219m (R160m). The higher turnover includes the contribution from Hertz's car rental — 40% of earnings from the new enlarged Imperial rental division will go to Union and London Finance.

He expects earnings from this division to reach R6m, although the 140% increase in fleet vehicles suggests a higher figure. So Imperial should get at least R3,6m from its car rental division in 1988 against R3,1m last year. Recent acquisitions suggest that growth in the truck systems division might continue strongly in the short term. Last year it acquired 100% of Nationwide truck hire and 90% of Loadbodies. Lynch says that last week the group acquired a Pretoria truck building and refurbishing business.

Imperial's traditional motor business will probably be more subdued than the rental side, though it has performed creditably enough. Pre-tax earnings rose 28% to R2,9m (R2,2m). "We had a good year," Lynch says, "and Toyota continues to sell well through us, despite a temporary fall in car market share."

As next year's EPS will be on the full 14m capitalisation issue, the bottom line will have to grow by 22% to keep up with the increase and by a faster pace to sustain a real growth rate. This must put pressure on the group to perform in the short term. Management seem capable of doing this and investors apparently agree. At any rate, Lynch is forecasting taxed profits will grow by 50% this year.

Dave Edwards

Rental boosts sales

The booming car rental business looks set to underpin the improving fortunes of the motor industry.

Fleets are already over 30% larger than they were a year ago and the big three — Avis, Imperial and Budget — are budgeting for a further 30% growth in the coming year.

Between them they will be spending around R280m over the next 12 months on augmenting their fleets. This augurs well for the vehicle manufacturers, all of whom stand to benefit to a greater or lesser extent.

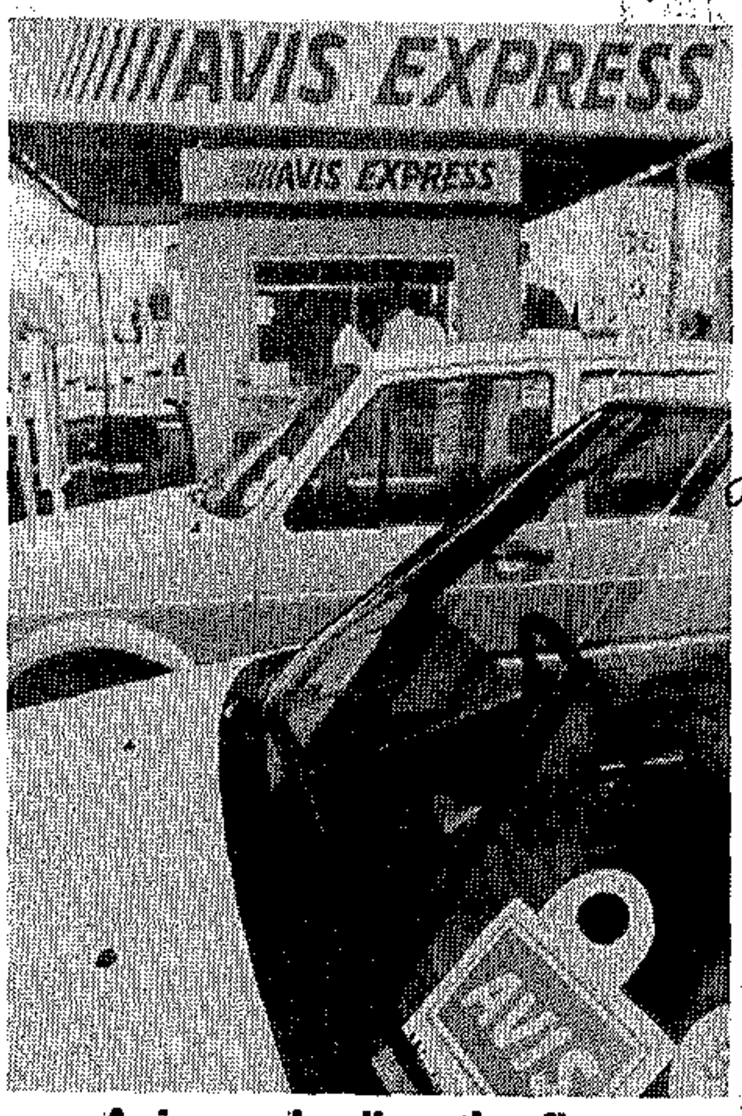
Carol Scott, MD of the now merged operations of Hertz and Imperial, says her organisation will spend R68m-R69m on purchasing 3 800 units in the coming year.

"Normally in this business you get troughs and peaks, but right now it is just a succession of peaks," she says. "We have to gear up to meet it." Scott says Imperial has close ties with Toyota, but that the budget will be spread across all the manufacturers.

Budget MD Pienkes du Plessis says while he has not finalised the budgets for the two companies in the group — Budget Rent-a-Car and Budget Auto-Lease — the combined spend on fleet replacement over the next 12 months will not be less than R60m.

30/10/87 F1M 8

But it is Avis which is going to be the real big spender, with R148m earmarked for fleet renewal. Again operations director Keith Oliver says all the major manufacturers will benefit, though he adds: "We do have a special relationship with Volkswagen.



Avis ... leading the fleet buying stakes

"At the end of the day it is the customer that dictates what vehicles you buy, and as customers' tastes cover the full spectrum of vehicles on the market, you have to provide that spectrum."

According to Oliver the rental market is so buoyant that even the usual dip in winter did not materialise this year.

National Association of Automobile Manufacturers of SA director Nico Vermeulen says while the rental sector only constitutes about 7,5% of overall vehicle sales (estimated at R3,8 billion this year), it is nonetheless an extremely important slice in the overall sales cake.

This view is confirmed by VW public relations manager Ronnie Kruger, with whom Avis recently placed a R55m order for 3 000 units. "The really important aspect of the rental business, quite apart from the sales themselves, is the marketing aspect. If you can get a fair slice of the business, your vehicles are being exposed daily to hundreds of potential buyers."

Total car rental revenue is currently running at around 40% above last year. The general credo of trying harder is obviously paying dividends. ■

Hawkers throng Mitchells Plain rail concourse

Nov 86/87

Staff Reporter

A 12-YEAR-OLD boy is one of countless stall-holders who make a living by selling anything from clothing to fruit and vegetables on the concourse of the Mitchells Plain station.

Daily, and especially at weekends, the concourse — a main pedestrian thoroughfare — houses many stalls, where commuters and shoppers can buy a vast array of goods.

The boy, Jeffrey Waterboer, said he had been forced to leave school in Std 5 because his father worked out of town and rarely gave his mother money.

With the R50 he earns weekly as a fruit-and-vegetable hawker, his mother cares for five children.

Jeffrey said he started work at 8am and continued till about 10pm. He had been hawking for a few months already, he said.

Mr Herman Manuel, 31, a father of three, said he was happy that he was allowed to hawk at the concourse after years of frustration.

He earned enough money to care for his family and provide a "loaf of bread and a candle".

"It is difficult to find work. Things were different when I left school, they now work with computers," he said.

Earlier he had hawked at the Mitchells Plain town centre, but traffic officials and police had harassed hawkers and confiscated goods. They had lost a lot of money, he said.

Mr Manuel said hawkers on the concourse were a great help to the public because they acted as a deterrent to criminal elements.

Mrs I Dreyer, who has three children, said that when her husband had become unemployed, they decided to set up a stall to make a living and now sold children's clothing.

Their hawking business ensured that they could at least eat every day, she said.

Mr John Davids said he had opened a clothing stall because he had no choice when he became unemployed. He now earned a living, he said.

Mr Faldie Lovell, of Eastridge, Mitchells Plain, one of 10 children, said his father's ill-health had forced him to find work.

He now sells spices at the concourse daily to earn money for the family. He would like to do other work but has been unable to find any, he said.

Mr M Patel, chairman of the Mitchells Plain Traders' Association, said the association had initiated the project because hawkers at the Mitchells Plain town centre were a problem as they sold the same goods as shop tenants.

After discussions with the City Council, SATS and the traffic police, the Informal Traders' Association had been established to ensure that hawking was controlled, he said.



MAKING A LIVING . . . Mrs I Dreyer at her stall on the concourse at Mitchells Plain station yesterday where she sells clothing to make a living.

Picture: GLENN SHERRATT



UPPORTING HIS FAMILY . . . Twelve-year-old Jeffrey Waterboer left ;ool to sell fruit and vegetables so that he could help support his family.

Picture: GLENN SHERRATT

CITY/NATIONAL

ARGUS 10/11/87

Office workers protest after hawker moved

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By JOHN YELD
Municipal Reporter

OFFICE workers in the Thibault Square area are upset over action by traffic officials who removed "their" hawker and confiscated his goods before setting up another hawker on the same site.

More than 120 people have signed a petition in protest, according to Mr Jakes Fennie of the National Institute for Social and Economic Development. The institute's offices are in the BP Centre which overlooks the square.

However, Cape Town's traffic chief Mr Wouter Smit said the hawker was not licensed and had been operating as an agent for an employer for "no more than two weeks".

Temporary hawking sites had been allocated while the city council considered deregulation and street trading, and the Thibault Square site had been allocated to a licensed hawker who had been waiting "for quite some time".

The site was, in any event, temporary as the square would be redeveloped soon, Mr Smit added.

"Joined the fray"

Mr Fennie said last week's incident was seen by several people including a "very senior director of BP" and that there was "quite an outcry".

Accusing the traffic officials of "taking the law into their own hands", Mr Fennie said the Small Business Development Corporation had "joined in the fray" and the Cape Town Chamber of Commerce would do the same.

He said: "It seems something has to be done about this."

Most of the hawkers had lived in District Six all their lives and the man who had been moved had been trading in the city centre for many years, he said.

"If we hope to see something happening in the centre of the city, disciplinary action will have to be taken against officials who bedevil relations," he said.

However, Mr Smit said the whole of the central business district had been a "hawker-prohibited area" for many years.

But he said: "We have allocated certain sites to hawkers in the CBD on a temporary basis while we are looking at deregulation over a much wider front."

The hawker who was moved was employed by a man who asked not be identified.

The employer said the hawker, known only as Anthony, had been in possession of a valid hawker's licence, although "not for long".

He had been working in Thibault Square for "four or five months" and had been ticketed by traffic officials twice, once for R80 and again for R30, the employer said.

● The street trading policy report is being referred to city council committees and is likely to reach the full council next month, a spokesman said.

'Hawker squad' grabs 18

B1 daily 11/11/87

23

SOPHIE TEMA

EIGHTEEN street hawkers were arrested in central Johannesburg yesterday and are to appear in court on charges of carrying on a business without a hawker's licence.

Most of the hawkers had their wares confiscated by the traffic department's "hawker squad".

A spokesman for the traffic department in City Deep said: "As long as the hawkers break the law, our people will arrest them."

Lawrence Mavundla, president of the African Council of Hawkers and Informal Business (Achib), said that since the beginning of October, 800 hawkers had been arrested in the city. Two-hundred had been convicted of trading without licences.

He said his organisation was to appeal to President P W Botha to scrap all laws restricting hawkers from selling their wares in city centres.

He said: "We will make representation from city council level upwards.

"Hawkers, like the informal business sector, are an integral part of the main stream of the country's economy.

"By scrapping laws that impede people from striving to make an honest living, Botha will not only be assisting the hawkers but would be instrumental in the creation of more job opportunities."

Mavundla said Achib was organising a conference early next year to discuss restrictions on hawkers.

His organisation had a membership of more than 12 000 hawkers in Johannesburg, Pretoria, Maritzburg, Durban and Port Elizabeth, he said.

Hawkers' meeting

THE African Council of Hawkers and Informal Business will hold an urgent meeting today to discuss problems faced by street hawkers.

The meeting, which starts at 9am will be held at Khotso House in Johannesburg. Officials of the Congress of South African Trade Unions, National Council of Trade Unions and independent trade unions have been invited.

295 Sowetan 18/11/18

Arrested

Mr Lawrence Mavundla, president of Achib said since last month about 800 of their members, all street hawkers, were arrested by the police in Tembisa and Johannesburg.

S95 Bldg 19/11/87

Hawkers call for help from business

SOPHIE TEMA

BLACK Johannesburg hawkers — who paid out more than R1m in fines last year — have called on trading companies and business people to support them against harassment by local authorities and the restrictions imposed on them.

At a meeting yesterday, hawkers set a December 1 deadline for trading companies and business people to submit a declaration of intent to the hawkers' organisation — the "African Council of Hawkers and Informal Business" (Achib).

They have also called on businessmen and traders to urge local authorities to deregulate all restrictions imposed on hawkers.

Harassment of hawkers continues unabated. Last week 18 were arrested for "carrying on businesses in the city without licenses", and 700 people were arrested in Tembisa last month for selling soft-drinks without licenses.

Achib president Lawrence Mavundla said the organisation had a membership of 12 000 and contributed R6,95m a month to the growth of the country's wealth.

He said Achib would call on all local authorities to allow hawkers to trade freely in all four provinces.

Achib is organising a meeting early next year with all local authorities in the PWV area to discuss harassment and restrictions.

Mavundla called for the formation of "deregulation committees" to examine the restrictions and to pressure for them to be lifted. One has already been formed.

(295) (88) South Nov 19-26 '87

ATHLONE FEATURE

Removal threat

By KURT SWART

SOME Athlone residents face possible removal following the City Council's plans to redevelop the business centre and widen a main road.

The Council is reviewing proposals to extend the business area south of Klipfontein Road as far as Boyd Avenue.

The area's civic association has attacked the proposals. "We feel the scheme definitely involves people losing their homes," a spokesperson for the Gleemoor Civic said.

"We have been canvassing residents and businessmen and they reject any development that involves expropriation."

Residents in the area faced a similar threat in April 1979 when about 150 families were issued with eviction notices by the Department of Community Development for the planned "upgrading" of the area. The civic took the matter to court and in December 1980 the department abandoned the scheme.

Warned

As a compromise the Council suggested rezoning the affected area for business use and residents would have the option of using their premises as shops.

Five properties on Louisvale Road have already been expropriated to make way for the extension of Jan Smuts Drive into Turfhall Road.

Residents in Louisvale Road were not surprised by the move. Mrs Farieda Harnaker said: "We were warned by the Council when our family bought the property nearly 40 years ago that we would have to move one day, so we are not really unhappy about it."

Praying

Mrs J van der Burg who rents a Council house said: "I'm praying that we get another house in Athlone. I don't want to be moved to Mitchell's Plain."

Mr S D Parker who owns three shops in Louisvale Road, said: "I'm negotiating for a good price and don't want to spoil my chances. I'm unhappy, but what can I do?" he said.

Amanda Young, of the City Council's Town Planning Branch said: "Council is in the process of reviewing existing development proposals for the Athlone Central Business District, some of which do not have community support — in particular the Boyd Avenue extension proposal.

"Council would like to satisfy the community demands if possible and would like to come to an agreement with local organisations on what should be done.

"We at Town Planning are very sincere in our dealings with the public and we wish to avoid any conflict."

Representatives of the City Council's Town Planning Branch met with businessmen, hawkers and residents recently to discuss the future growth and expansion of Athlone's CBD.

In a slide presentation the City Council showed several proposals for extending the CBD south of Aden Avenue and asked for comment, emphasising that nothing would be done without the consent of the people of Athlone.

"We wish to avoid expropriating people's houses. The most that will be necessary, we hope, is to take out portions of the front garden perhaps," a council speaker said.

"We also want to improve the traffic flow by possibly re-routing certain streets so that people can get in and out more easily."

The position of the hawkers was discussed and council proposed that Old Klipfontein Road should be closed to traffic on Fridays and Saturdays between Dobson and Lawrence roads, turning the area into a pedestrian mall.

Street trading would then continue on an organised basis, leaving the pavements free for shoppers. The hawkers would pay a nominal rent for their stalls.

"If we close the roads your trade will increase," a council speaker said. "Studies show that 95 percent of such areas work. Let us try it as an experiment. If it doesn't work we can always return to the present situation."

Hawkers

A speaker from the floor criticised the council's "pre-occupation with business when people in council houses in places like Bokmakierie and Kewtown were suffering". "It's immoral," he said.

Another speaker warned Council not to implement any proposal "unless you meet with the civic, the traders and representatives of the hawkers".

The council indicated they would welcome such a meeting.

Asked about the expropriations in Louisvale Road, the Town Planning Branch said they had nothing to do with it.

"That is part of the road planning for Greater Cape Town," a spokesperson said.



Hawkers ply their trade in Athlone's central business district. In terms of a re-development scheme they will move to a pedestrian mall between Dobson and Lawrence roads.

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MANY MORE IN-ST

Hawkers organise to fight harassment

HAWKERS are to fight all the apartheid laws that restrict them in their business because they considered themselves as part of the economic mainstream in the country, a meeting decided yesterday.

By JOSHUA RABOROKO

This decision was taken at a meeting called by the African Council of Hawkers and Informal Business, held in Johannesburg yesterday.

The hawkers' president, Mr Lawrence Mavundla, said they were often harassed, assaulted, their goods confiscated by local authorities in an attempt to stamp out their business.

The meeting, which was characterised by chanting of freedom songs and shouting of slogans, heard how hawkers have been restrained from trading in the Central Business District (CBD) and how their business was hampered because of the Group Areas Act, despite the fact that they have been granted licences.

Mr Mavundla said that they intended to meet all city councils in the Pretoria-Witwatersrand-Vereeniging area to explain their problems to them.

"We see ourselves as being part of the economic mainstream and creators of jobs.

"We also intend to consult lawyers who will brief us as to what measures to take in order to fight these laws," he said.

Mr Mavundla also accused big companies of hampering the progress that the hawkers were making in the city.

"We seek to forge links with trade union movements, community organisations like the United Democratic Front and the Azanian Peoples' Organisation. We want them to support us in our fight," he said.

The hawkers have also resolved to form a trust fund that will make loans available to small business to grow into big business.

An executive member of the Small Business Development Corporation (SBDC) Mr Caesar Kgampepe said black hawkers needed to fight for their rights because they were made by the political situation in this country to be where they are.

He said his organisation had involved itself in fighting for hawkers selling rights and other problems.

Many other speakers at the meeting, mainly females, described how they were harassed, kicked, arrested and their goods confiscated by local authorities.

(295) C/Pwns 22/11/87

OUR PROBLEMS NEED AFRICAN SOLUTIONS

In this article, BOGGIE MABOGOANE, managing director of a black-owned chemical manufacturing company in KwaThema, argues that the solution to South Africa's economic problems lies in a combining socialism and capitalism.



Hawkers, like these women from Stilfontein, practice the age-old economic system of Limaisim by helping each other to sell goods in a spirit of comradeship rather than competition.

ON reading the first part of Dr Duncan Innes' article, "Two sides of SA's economic debate" (*City Press*, Nov 15, 1987), one gets the impression that South Africa, and indeed Africa, should search for economic solutions from both the capitalist and socialist systems.

In July 1984, Unisa's business school published its findings that blacks distrust capitalism. The Human Sciences and Research Council found that blacks are against capitalism, but erroneously concluded that blacks are socialists (*Die Ekonoom*, Vol 2 of 1986).

The truth is that both systems are foreign to Mother Africa and both have made their contribution in the destruction, to some degree, of the soul and personality of black Africans.

Long before Karl Marx, John Mills and others were born, Africans practised their own economic system which we can Anglicise to "Limaisim" or "Litsemaisim" from ilima in both Xhosa and Zulu, letsema in all Sotho languages and itsima in Tsonga.

When asked what he thought of Litsemaisim, 73-year-old Mr HH Ngakane, the veteran East Rand leader, replied in Tswana: "Re godisitswe ke lone" (It raised us).

Mr AM Kumalo, 72, former trade unionist and now senior Nafcoc executive, said in Xhosa: "Yiyoke ieconomic system yezwelethu!" (This is our economic system).

Both these gentlemen were asked in English – and they speak impeccable English – but they chose to reply in the language they sucked from Africa's breast.

The founding father of Nafcoc, the late Mr Bigry Masekela, tried to implement Limaisim among traders but it was throttled by suppliers. The spirit of Limaisin which they wanted to inculcate among the traders was diametrically opposed to that of capitalism.

SAB's Meyer Kahn says: "Marketing is the blood of the corporate body. Good markets are always hungry. They regard the purchase of a competition product, or brand, as an insult." (*Financial Mail* 2/10/87).

Limaisim, on the other hand, does not speak of competitors, but of colleagues. In the rural areas, for example, any man will drive away cattle grazing in the fields, irrespective of whether the field is his or not because everyone who owns land is a colleague, a comrade, a fellow-sufferer.

In the urban areas, aunties go together to buy mealies, or one may go to buy mealies for both, while the other goes to buy say, fruit.

They sit side-by-side when selling and when one's mealies are finished, she will sell those of the other in the true spirit of comradeship. And the customer still has the freedom to choose which to buy from – unlike with socialism.

The old Afrikaner farming community also practises Limaisim among its members. A few months ago in the Western Transvaal, a farmer was to lose his farm in terms of the capitalist rules of liquidation.

The farmers in the area rallied around their colleague and the family farm was saved. Unfortunately, some farmers with their MBA degrees are beginning to reliquish Limaisim in favour of what they learn at the Harvards of the outside world.

The black African has adopted Limaisim to the money economy in the form of "Mgholisano," (stokvels). This has helped many to educate their children, despite their meagre earnings. Businessmen who cannot raise the loans they need practise "mgholisano", which is interest free.

For 16 years I tried to apply all that I had learnt about capitalist business to increase productivity.

Success was minimal. Recently I introduced Limaisin. In just one month, productivity and worker earnings increased by 60 percent, efficiency, concern and commitment was tops, grievances about sluggish workers were solved amicably and the customers did not reject a single product produced.

Equally important was the fact that my anxiety was reduced because the saying, "When the cat's away the mouse will play", was no longer applicable.

Limaisim is also applicable to education. During World War II, many high school teachers joined the war.

People like the president of the Soweto Civic Association, Dr Nt lato Motlana, who was d ing matric then, manage l to get excellent first-c lass passes because the few teachers at the igh schools in Pretoria practised Limaisin.

Even today, Limaisin can play a useful role, not only in relieving the teacher shortage at high schools, but also in producing good results.

It is sad that Africa should be looking at foreign economic policies when her own indigenous humane policy has sustained it for centuries.

The argument over which foreign policy is better or worse has made our continent the testing ground for the weaponry of the upholders of these foreign policies. The sons and daughters of Mother Africa have been cannon fodder, while their sons are miles away and secure in jobs which export goods of murder and genocide for the Africa market we have created.

When he recently returned from Harare, Clegg Babb, the Deputy Director General of Foreign Affairs, made sense when he said: "African problems need African solutions."

Indeed it is so. Our patriotic academics and fundis of all colours must now "cast down their buckets where they are".

Mother Africa started the first university in the world and made her contribution to the subject of maths. Limaisim, when studied closely and adopted to modern times, may even prove superior to the German mitbestimmung, the Japanese quality circles and the American Esop – Employee Stock Ownership Plan – which some South African companies wish to emulate.

At the 1983 Conference on Small Business, Dr Louis Rive – former Postmaster General – advised the delegates to look closer at Limaisim.

Taxation in capitalism is unfair, in that it penalises the harder, more successful worker, whether he or she is self-employed or a salary earner. In Limaisim, taxation is the same for all.

Social responsibility programs, which business regards as a "defence of capitalism" tend to teach our youth that this world owes them a living.

With Limaisim, SRPs are achievement-oriented and they inject pride in the deserving recepient.

Fortunately, some black SRP managers, like Windsor Shuenyane of SAB, are approaching some of their youth-SRP Limaistically.

Life on the streets is hell for SA hawkers

HAWKERS in the Central Business Districts and black townships lose thousands of rands daily because of harassment from the local authorities.

The new by-laws aimed at easing trading conditions for them are a farce because their goods are confiscated; hundreds of them arrested and they are often assaulted during raids.

According to Mr Laurence Mavundla, president of the African Council of Hawkers and Informal Business, these incidents happen despite the fact that most of them have licences to trade in the CBD and over large areas of the black townships.

Harassment of hawkers is in direct contrast to the experiences of their white counter-parts who run their trade without any interference from the local authorities, he said.

The African Council of Hawkers and Informal Business was formed in April last year and represents over 125 000 hawkers in South Africa.

Mr Mavindla says black hawkers in Johannesburg alone paid out more than R1-million in fines last year.

His association is calling for support from community organisations, trade unions and business to help them stop harassment.

He says although by-laws allow hawkers to sell their wares in the CBD other laws are used to persecute them.

"There are myriad of other laws which affect us in our daily operations which makes the by-laws a mockery.

"It seems black businessmen not only have to succeed against abnormal risks that entrepreneurs face, but have also to contend with the whole gamut of apartheid laws.

He says about 18 of their members were arrested for trading in the city and 700 were arrested in Tembisa township for selling soft drinks without licences recently.

"This is only the tip of the iceberg because hundreds of our members have been arrested and paid fines ranging between R50 to R100 in the past."

Most of them, mainly female entrepreneurs, have complained of harassment from the authorities who confiscate their fruit, soft drinks, vegetables and other goods.

He says one member, Mrs Sophie Malinga, who was arrested several times, was recently kicked and slapped in the face by officials when she resisted arrest after her goods were confiscated.

"This is the type of life our members have to contend with in their daily operations. Some of them, who are elderly people and pensioners, are forced to run away at times to escape arrest."

Mr Mavundla says big companies which distribute the products hawkers sell have also joined in the fray by chasing away hawkers.

"Hawkers earn their living by selling their products in order to support their families and take children to school, yet big companies stifle their attempts.

The association has written letters to companies that sell cigarettes, cosmetics, soft drinks and fruits, setting a December deadline for them to declare their position regarding the plight of hawkers.

"If they fail to give their position, then we will call upon community organisations, trade unions and political organisations to decide on what action to take," he said.

The association is demanding that the authorities should:

- Abolish all trade restrictions, including the Group Areas Act;
- Provide marketing places for hawkers;
- Help hawkers get licences;
- Stop harassment, arrests and consult with the association on matters relating to their business; and
- Help them get goods at cheap and reasonable prices.

The association is intending to hold a meeting next month with local authorities in the Pretoria — Witwatersrand-Vereeniging area to discuss harrassment and restrictions.

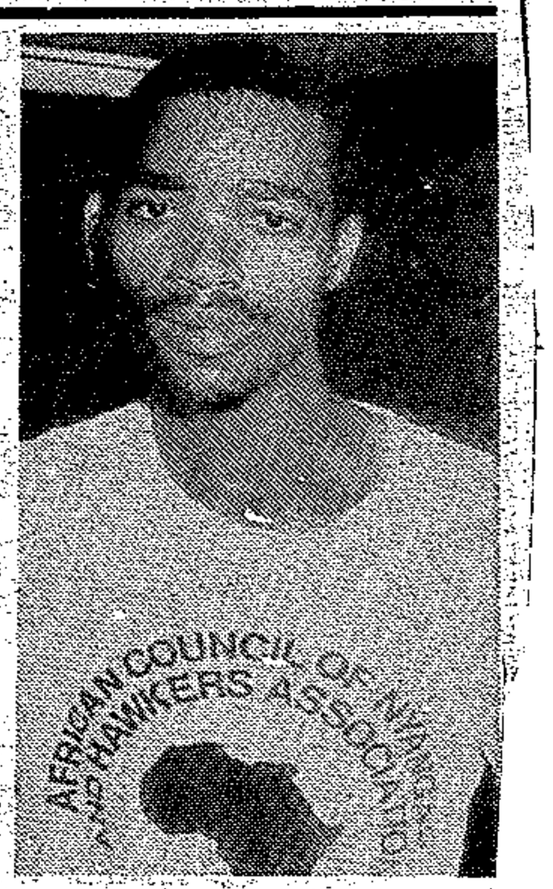
He called for the formation of a "deregulation committee" to examine the restrictions and to pressure for them to be lifted — one has since been formed in Johannesburg.

"We consider ourselves as being part of the mainstream of South Africa's economy and these restrictions hamstring our endeavours to do so," he says.

"We contribute about R6,5 million to the growth of the country's economy," he added.

The association is aiming at establishing a trust fund that will help hawkers to acquire skills in their trade.

Mr Siza Kgampepe, of the Small Business Development Corporation, says they have been involved in legal aspects of hawkers culminating in many court cases.



PRESIDENT of the Hawkers Association, Mr Lawrence Mavundla.

Sowetan Reporter

Bill won't put end to prostitutes — agencies

DANIEL SIMON

PROSTITUTION is here to stay, even if the Immorality Amendment Bill passes through Parliament, escort agencies say.

The Bill aims for stricter changes to certain provisions in the 1957 Immorality Act.

Agencies thought prostitution should be legalised, arguing the industry provided a valid service by offering a means of employment and acting as a deterrent against rape.

Supporting the legalisation call is Johannesburg Medical Officer of Health Dr H S Hurwitz.

Hurwitz said prostitution should be legalised so it could be more effectively controlled.

He said: "If prostitution were to be legalised and escort agencies became the contact, one would at least be able to know where to get hold of the girls for regular medical examinations and health check-ups."

The Bill, expected to come before Parliament next year, is aimed at closing loopholes in the Act by making prostitution "for reward" an offence and by increasing fines.

Phrases in various clauses, such as that relating to procuring, have been changed.

This is intended specially to restrain escort clubs from providing or obtaining sex for clients.

An escort agency spokesman said he found the whole issue "verkrampt". He said government should worry about giving people work, instead of picking on the ancient practice.

Another said: "There are about 1 000 employed women. This will take the bread out of their mouths."

SEX for sale!

295

C/Press 29/11/87

Special Report: REVELATION NTOULA

THE Free State gold fields are in the news again. Not because Indians have invaded the one-time strictly no-go towns, or because a white teenager has deserted her parents and boyfriend to live in an Odendaalsrus township, but because of the outbreak of a large sex-for-sale racket. The practice has been branded "cash-and-carry". The label, however, is not used in the conventional sense of buying and taking away goods. It is used to describe the act of paying spot cash and getting instant sex for your "money's worth".

Some blame the sex-for-sale boom on the high rate of unemployment in the budding gold fields townships, while others say it is in line with the high degree of promiscuity caused by the large number of migrant workers on the gold fields.

In contrast to other towns of the same size, there are at least four hostels in Thabong townships catering for an estimated population of 20 000.

About 5 000 are women migrant workers. A number of these are unemployed. Many come from as far afield as Transkei in search of work.

The 15 000 or so men occupying the other hostels are construction workers or migrant workers employed by the Thabong or Welkom town councils.

Another feature of Welkom is that it is surrounded by up to 13 mines employing thousands of workers from Lesotho, Transkei and Ciskei.

Apart from occasionally visiting their homelands, workers in the area spend most of their spare time in Thabong where they can enjoy female company.

Other than those who have relationships with domestic workers in white suburbs, workers have found that the only place where they can sexually satisfy themselves is in Thabong.

Taking into account the male mining population as well as those living in the hostels, it is estimated that the female/male ratio is one woman to 20 men.

This phenomenon has inevitably led to a high demand for women.

This unnatural situation, plus the unemployment factor, has made prostitution at the women's hostel one of the township's booming industries. The situation could soon rival official legal red-light districts found in Europe.

"Cash-and-carry", as the hostel has been nicknamed, is situated only a stone's throw from the local police station and the local town council offices.

The "Cash-and-carry" women who operate from inside the hostel sell anything from sex – a kiss, a fondle, a peek at their bodies – to liquor.

Prices charged vary from R10 to R50 depending of what the customer wants.

Also determining the price is the "quality" of the woman – whether the man prefers her fat, slender, tall or short.

Although business is brisk on week days, weekends are particularly lucrative when hundreds of men queue for their "bit of



Drive-in "cash-and-carry" ... a prospective client negotiates with a Free State street woman.

fun".

Weekday prices are usually lower than those at weekends, when the demand rises.

According to a "businesswoman" peak prices are charged on long weekends when demand is at its highest.

An on-the-spot investigation by a *City Press* team revealed that the women, some of them nude, while others only clad in blankets, operated in almost all the communal hostel dormitories.

There are about eight women in each room.

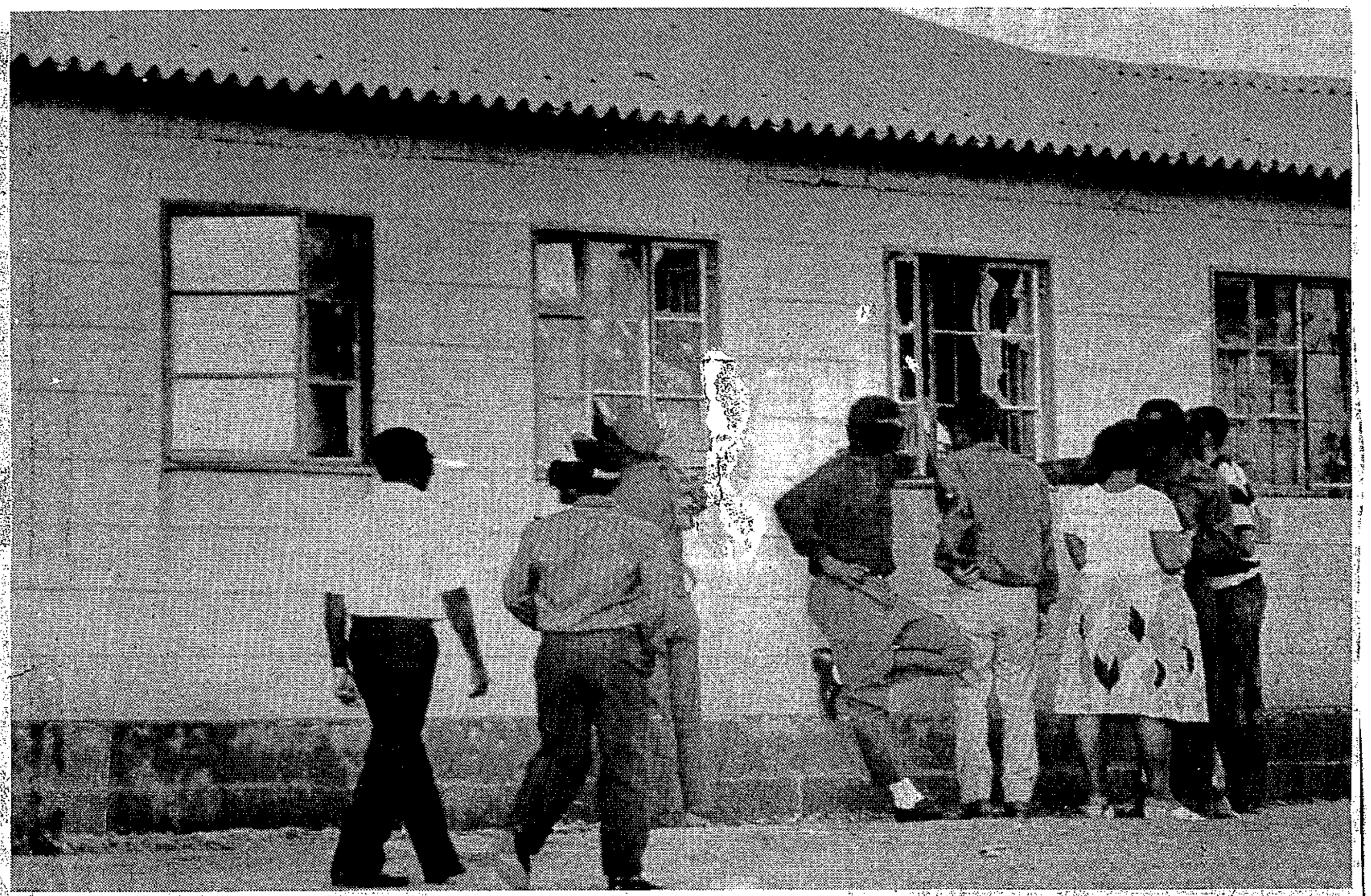
All the window panes of the dormitories facing the main road, where business is at its briskest, are broken, apparently to make it easier for prospective customers to view the "wares" before buying.

After agreeing on the price, the "customer" is ushered to a secret place in one of the rooms while others patiently wait their turn.

When the going is good, especially during weekends, business often takes place in the open dormitories in full view of other hostel dwellers or clients waiting their turn.

One of the wowem said the ability to make higher profits depended on how much she appealed to her customers and how many she could handle a day or within a specified time.

"Some of the women earn 10 times more than they did as regular workers," she said.



With 20 men to one woman in Welkom's Thabong township, sex-for-sale is big business. Here men peer through broken windows at the "wares" available in the local women's hostel.

Help us - hawkers

HAWKERS have called on the black community to take collective action against big companies and local authorities if they did not meet their demands by December 10.

At an emotion-charged meeting in Johannesburg yesterday, the hawkers resolved to fight against companies and authorities for harassing them and confiscating their goods during normal operations in cities and townships.

They targeted city councils throughout the country and several companies that manufacture cigarettes, beverages and cosmetics.

Mr Lawrence Mavundla, president of the African Council of Hawkers and Informal Business, told the meeting that the association has sent letters to the companies giving them an ultimatum to meet their demands before December 10.

The meeting, characterised by the chanting of freedom songs, shouting of slogans and poetry reading, was told that the hawkers demands included:

By JOSHUA RABOROKO

- Prices must go down by 10 percent;
- Consultation with hawkers before any prices were increased;
- The private sector should start looking into their problems; and
- The private sector must pressurise the Government to remove restrictions such as the Group Areas Act and other by-laws.

Mr Mavundla said the harassment, arrests and confiscation of hawkers' goods were continuing.

"We need to take action against these people because we earn our living by selling the goods they confiscate daily," he said.

An organiser of the Black Allied Workers Union, Mr Obed Mack, said hawkers' problems were similar to those of workers in big companies.



HAWKERS at their meeting in Johannesburg yesterday.

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THE ECONOMY

The small guys send their warning to big business

Some 12 000 harassed hawkers send an ultimatum to their suppliers: stop the restrictions on us or we stop buying your goods.
By HILARY JOFFE

THEIR goods are confiscated, they are harassed and arrested and there are restrictions on where and when they can trade. Now the street hawkers have decided to strike back.

The 12 000-member African Council of Hawkers and Informal Businesses this week threatened to boycott the products of Colgate Palmolive, Coca Cola and the Johannesburg Market at City Deep unless the private sector and local authorities respond to their demands by December 10.

The hawkers are putting pressure on big business to lower wholesale prices and take their problems seriously. And they are demanding of local authorities that restrictions on their trading be abolished.

"If the private sector is prepared to do anything they must state their position to us before December 10," said ACHIB president Laurence Mavundla.

The hawkers said they may have to boycott the products they sell in an attempt to make the private sector, particularly the suppliers of fruit, cosmetics and soft drinks, understand and act on their problems.

Chambers of commerce in Tembisa and Randfontein have prevented hawkers from trading, Mavundla said. "They forget they rely on us: without us buying from them they wouldn't have income," he said.

In Tembisa 700 hawkers were arrested and convicted on charges of trading in a restricted area. "These people were arrested for selling Coca Cola and what did Coca Cola do about it?"

In Johannesburg 800 traders had their goods confiscated. ACHIB members believe local authorities confiscate their goods and give them back to the suppliers, who then resell them.

ACHIB's demands to the private sector include:

- Prices must go down by 10 percent
- Suppliers must consult with hawkers before any price increases are effected
- They must put pressure on the government for removal of restrictions such as the Group Areas Act and those contained in city by-laws.
- "They must stop thinking for the people. They must come to the people and ask them what they want."

Speakers at the meeting emphasised that hawkers did not want handouts: they were striving to "make an honest living" and wanted free trading.

But Mavundla said many companies who claimed to be helping informal business must be misdirecting their funds to "those bougeoisie who have got big shops. The people who deserve it are not getting it," he said.

The hawkers are demanding that local authorities lift by-laws and regulations which restrict them from trading in central business districts, prohibit Saturday trading and stop them trading within 400m of a general dealer.

Many hawkers are harassed despite the fact that they are licensed to trade — about 150 000 now have licences. ACHIB, an organisation which was started last year, helps traders get licenses from the Johannesburg City Council.

ACHIB says the estimated 900 000 people in hawking and informal sector manufacturing were led into these activities in an attempt to survive in the face of high unemployment.

"The hawkers and informal business sector is a powerful internal part of the main stream economy. They contribute to job creation and to wealth creation," ACHIB says.

The problems hawkers experience include lack of finance, harassment and lack of buying power and representation, said the organisation.

Mavundla says ACHIB invited managing directors of the companies it is threatening to boycott to its meeting.

But a spokesman for Colgate Palmolive says the ultiimatum comes as a surprise to the company, which probably would have responded to an invitation to the hawkers' meeting. ACHIB should contact Colgate directly to discuss its demands. The spokesman said as far as he knew, Colgate did not have direct dealing with the hawkers, who bought mainly from wholesalers.

Escort agency bosses acquitted

JOHANNESBURG — It is business as usual at the Romance Escort Agency in Johannesburg today.

The owner, Mr Andras Bako, and the manager, his son, Miklos, were acquitted yesterday in the Johannesburg Regional Court on charges of procuring.

The Romance Escort Agency was believed to be the first Transvaal agency to have its management charged with procuring women to have sex with clients, alternatively, assisting to procure and attempting to procure.

Despite the acquittal, Mr Andras Bako is willing to sell up.

"If someone makes me a very good offer for the agency, I'll consider it," a very relieved Mr Andras Bako said at the end of the 12-day trial.

He said the entire matter "had been very strenuous".

In delivering his judgment yesterday, the magistrate, Mr I J J Luther, noted that a number of clients testified that they took out escorts from the Romance Agency and had sex with them at other venues.

The magistrate noted that the two accused had, on the evidence of these witnesses, taken no active steps to bring about intercourse between the clients and the escorts.

While the two might have suspected that the escorts were being taken out for sex, "acquiscence" could not be construed as an active step, as described in the Act.

Then there was the police action towards the end of January last year that culminated with the arrest of the two accused and the laying of charges against them, Mr Luther said.

However the court was not satisfied beyond reasonable doubt that the evidence regarding the police action could be relied on, the magistrate said.

The defence team earlier pointed out to the court that the transcripts of tape recordings allegedly made during the police action had not even been handed in to the court as evidence.

The magistrate noted that sexual intercourse was not an essential ingredient for a conviction on a charge of attempting to procure.

However, the evidence regarding the police action, where the escorts undressed and were taken into custody before anything happened, was unsatisfactory, Mr Luther said. — Sapa

Cape Times 14/12/87

Grooms attack guards with bricks, pangas

Own Correspondent

DURBAN. — Friction between the grooms and security personnel at Summerveld racehorse training grounds turned into a full-scale battle at the weekend when 650 panga, brick and stick-wielding grooms attacked the sleeping quarters of the grounds' security guards.

The attack on the complex of 16 rooms took place about 11pm while most of the 40 inhabitants were asleep.

Police eventually used teargas to disperse the crowd.

During the 30-minute rampage, windows were smashed, doors were broken down and furniture was hacked to pieces.

Municipalities look at hawkers project

BESSIE BOUWER

A FEW municipalities want to set up projects such as the trial one for fresh produce hawkers in Port Elizabeth.

They have approached the Small Business Development Corporation (SBDC) for advice on this, after the success of the windy city project.

The SBDC's Naas Meyer said yesterday reports had been sent to local authorities as far away as Nelspruit to advise on introducing hawker carts in trading areas.

He said many businesses had praised the SBDC for tackling unemployment in Port Elizabeth by trying to upgrade hawking.

Objections

The three-month trial project, introduced two months ago, had overcome many hawking problems — including the blocking of shop entrances, pedestrian traffic hazards, the display of goods on dirty pavements and littering.

But a snap survey showed some shopkeepers still objected to the CBD hawkers.

One objection was that hawkers did not pre-pack their fruit and vegetables at the storage depot where they kept their carts, but at their trading spots in Main Street.

Meyer said the hawkers (all women) could not pre-pack at the central storage depot in Strand Street because they could not push a fully-loaded cart up a steep side-street. They also did not have enough time to pre-pack at the municipal market because they had to get to the CBD for peak trading hours.

He added they would lose a lot of sales by pre-packing away from their trading site.

Pre-packing lasted between 30 and 45 minutes and, as produce was sold at the same time, this matter could not be considered a major irritation to shopkeepers.

Meyer said the SBDC had not received a single complaint from the public about hawkers littering.

Members of the CBD Fresh Produce Hawkers' Association were committed to cleanliness, he said.

They were aware misconduct could jeopardise the future of the project.

Association members had to adhere to a strict code of conduct and faced disciplinary action from the executive committee, said Meyer.

Overheads

Asked if the hawkers posed unfair competition for shopkeepers who paid rates and taxes for their facilities, he said there was no specialist fresh produce shop in Main Street.

As licensed traders, hawkers had overheads to cover, including rent for the carts and storage space. Further expenses included an insurance premium and transport charges to and from the market.

Meyer reminded irate CBD shopkeepers that hawkers were trading illegally in Main Street before the SBDC project was implemented.

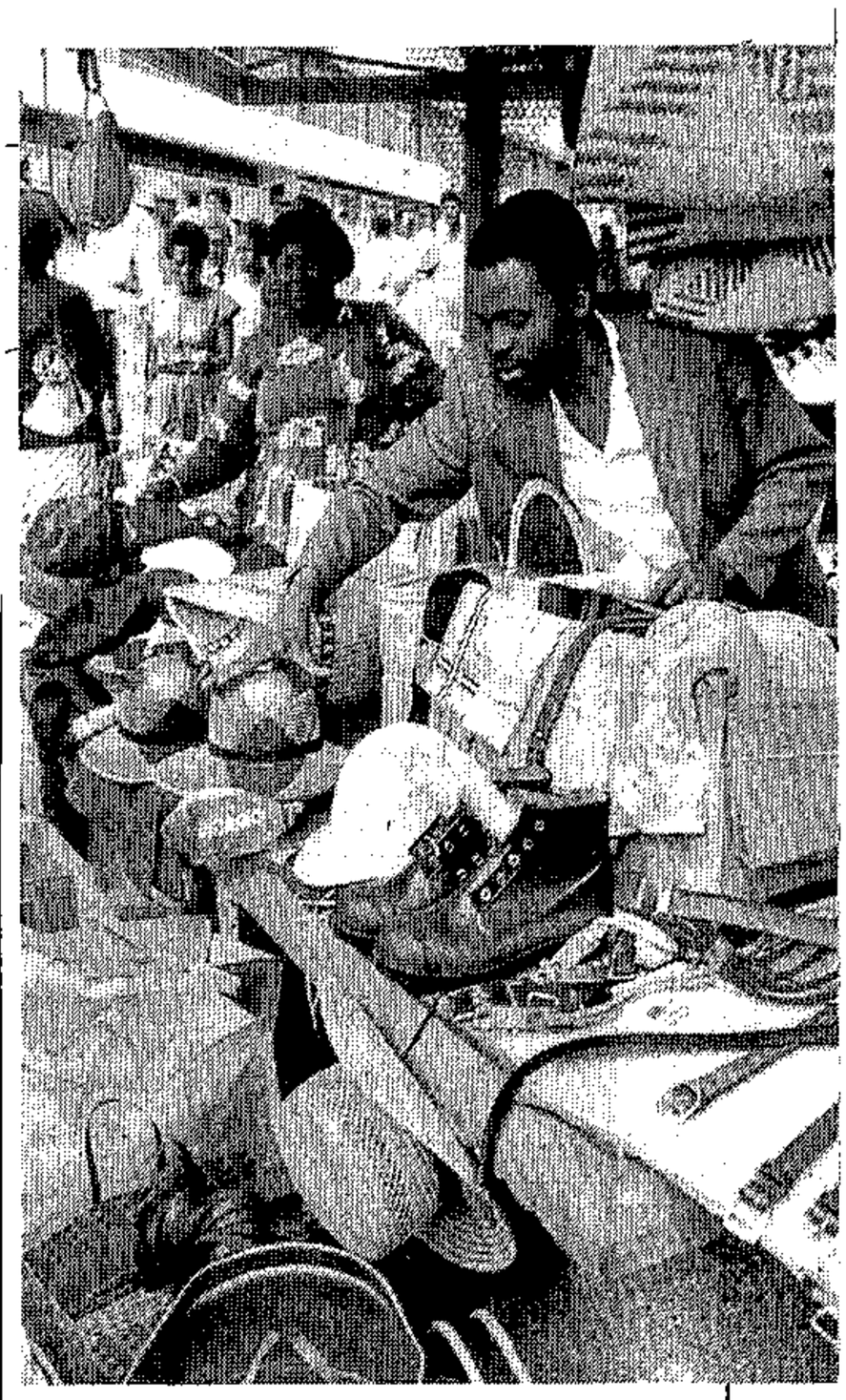
Traders make a plea

15/12/87

MANY hawkers whose goods have been confiscated during police raids have called on authorities to stop harassing them because they want to earn an honest living.

The call was made by more than 1 000 traders who formed the Siphamandla (give us strength) Hawkers Association in Maritzburg at the weekend.

The newly-formed association is to seek links with the Johannesburg-based African Council of Hawkers and Informal Business in order to fight against harassment of their members. (295)



A match for big business? Street hawker at work

HAWKERS (295) FM 8/12/87

Call to arms

Empty threats? It may look like the tail trying to wag the dog, but hawkers insist they have the power to sway big business. Their first task, however, may be to persuade big business of their existence.

Lawrence Mavundla, president of the African Council of Hawkers and Informal Businessmen (ACHIB), is threatening a boycott of suppliers by his 13 000 members if they don't show more support for the informal sector.

If his members — most of them in Natal and Transvaal — take action, the country's estimated 150 000 other hawkers won't be far behind, he asserts.

Mavundla says: "Our membership spends R81m a year at wholesalers. I would say the total 150 000 hawkers in SA spend in the region of R1 billion."

ACHIB is demanding that hawkers be consulted before wholesale prices are increased on the goods they trade. It also wants the private sector to investigate hawkers' problems and pressure government to remove the Group Areas Act and trading restrictions that hamper hawkers.

Under pressure

"Local authorities are harassing us only because they are under pressure from shopkeepers who see hawkers as a threat to their business," Mavundla asserts. "But what is free enterprise if it isn't competition? Harassment of hawkers continues unabated. In Tembisa alone, 700 people were arrested last month for hawking without a licence. Until big business co-operates with us, we will boycott their products, starting with Coca-Cola and Colgate Palmolive."

Although the Small Business Development Corporation (SBDC) describes ACHIB as a "relevant organisation," big business is hardly quaking in its boots thus far. Colgate won't comment, but Amalgamated Beverage Industries, the local manufacturer of Coca-Cola, is bemused. Says MD Alex Reid: "I don't know anything about hawkers and even less about this organisation and who they represent."

But both the City Deep fruit market and Rembrandt have indicated they will "consult" with hawkers in the future to try to sort out their problems, Mavundla says. ■

295 B/day 22/12/87

No respite for street vendors

SOPHIE TEMA

BLACK hawkers have been on Johannesburg's pavements since it was a dusty mining town, but have never been entirely free of harassment by police and traffic department officials.

This is the view of Lawrence Mavundla, president of the African Council of Hawkers and Informal Business (Achib), who is spearheading a campaign to have street vendors finally recognised as an integral part of the country's economy.

The drive to break down officialdom's determination to curtail an informal sector that contributes R1bn in wholesale purchases throughout the country is gaining momentum.

Achib has now pledged to flex its economic muscle through a campaign not to buy from big business that does not support its bid for free trading.

Mavundla says Achib has a membership of 13 000 hawkers who spend R81m a year at wholesalers while SA's estimated total of 150 000 hawkers spend about R1bn a year.

Unhygienic

He argues that while in cities like Hong Kong or London street vendors have become a natural part of the informal sector, in Johannesburg they are continually harassed and humiliated by officials.

The first intensive campaign to rid Johannesburg of its illegal street sellers was started by city council authorities in the 1960s and the last coffee cart was forcibly removed from the streets of Johannesburg in 1964.

The action taken by the authorities — after complaints by health inspectors that the coffee carts were unhygienic — deprived thousands of blacks who worked in industrial areas from the services of the "quick food hawkers" who served them with early morning coffee, cheap snacks and lunches.

During this period more than 700 coffee carts were cleared from Johannesburg's street corners and impounded by the city health department.

After the clampdown on coffee carts, the arrest of hawkers by police and the traffic department abated.

But the Johannesburg railway station or "Park Station" as it was commonly called soon became the mecca for illegal fruit and vegetable vendors, while other parts of the city were occupied by Indian flower-sellers who later formed the Indian Flower Sellers' Association (IFSA).

But the harassment of hawkers was resumed by police and the traffic department in the early 1970s.

The flower business had become a great success and this prompted Johannesburg's flower sellers to appeal to the city council to provide more points from which to sell.

But the Johannesburg traffic department was working on a four-point plan to remove all illegal roadside trading in flowers, fruit, vegetables and even curios.

Hawkers almost disappeared from Johannesburg's streets as the traffic department's "hawker squad", formed in March 1979, raided almost daily.

In 1984 the authorities decided to give hawkers a six-month trial run to sell their wares until the city council ordinances could be amended.

The trial was a success and the council allowed freer trading, although hawkers were still not allowed to trade without licences.

The campaign against unlicensed hawkers has continued since then.

Vendors say official steps against them have been stepped up in recent months. Some have reported having their wares scattered on pavements and sometimes crushed under the wheels of heavy police trucks.

Illegal traders in the CBD have had soft goods and fruit confiscated and scores of hawkers have been arrested and fined up to R300.

The squad has also moved into black, coloured and Indian townships, where hundreds of people have been arrested for not complying with their licences.

The city council said the clampdown on hawkers started because of complaints from shopkeepers that their customers were being taken away by the illegal traders.

The plight of vendors was taken up last year by a watchdog group of the Consumer Council, which pointed out the "street sellers provide for themselves and their families without being a burden to the taxpayer and should not be discouraged".

Several meetings

To highlight the need for hawking in central business districts, the African Council of Nyangas and Hawkers Association (ACNHA) was formed in May last year and later became known as the African Council of Hawkers and Informal Business (Achib), which is continuing a struggle for recognition of its members.

Mavundla says Achib has held severalmeetings with city council authorities to push for the legalisation of all hawkers and the abolishment of all by-laws which restrict hawkers from trading in the central areas.

The Cape Town Chamber of Commerce has also joined in the call for the recognition of hawkers.

Achib members now plan not to support any trading companies, wholesalers, soft-drink companies, cosmetic companies and businesses if they do not support their cause.

CAR DEALS

(295)

Buying rental

Long-term rental schemes are helping individuals to claw their way back into the new car market. McCarthy Group joint MD Theo Swart says private motorists are becoming a significant factor as a result.

Government is still dragging its heels on re-introducing private leasing, so car traders have taken matters into their own hands through rental schemes, says Swart. "The schemes are proving extremely popular with private buyers, who have only to convince the bank that they are a good credit risk."

Cars can be rented for as little as R300 a month. A full-maintenance contract may include all services and repairs, tyres (in some cases), battery and exhaust system. No deposit is needed, and the rental period generally covers three years or 60 000km, with GST payable on monthly rental.

Full-maintenance rental differs significantly from full-maintenance leasing, where GST has to be paid when the vehicle is bought and again at the expiry of the lease (unless the car is traded in).

If a car is leased, it can be taken over by the lessee. In the case of rental, the vehicle remains the property of the rental company.

Says Swart: "For the hard-pressed individual who can't afford to pay up front, but is nevertheless still a good credit risk, this is the perfect alternative."

All big vehicle manufacturers provide, through their dealers, an assortment of financial packages. These offer a variety of full maintenance leases or rental schemes, with certain optional exclusions to reduce monthly repayments. Some even have provision for insurance.

Swart says that in 1982 the split between private and fleet customers was roughly 50/50; This year, fleet customers accounted for over 70% of sales. "It is good to see the pendulum beginning to swing back." ■

CAR RENTAL (295)

Too late to rent

Holidaymakers hoping for a last-minute hire car over Christmas are likely to be disappointed.

The big three rental companies — Imperial, Avis and Budget — are almost booked out for the whole of the holiday season.

Booking has been heaviest in coastal centres but in the eastern Transvaal, too, it is practically impossible to rent a car at the moment.

Avis MD Tony Langley says that despite having boosted its fleet from 4 500 vehicles a year ago to 6 000 today, the company still cannot meet demand. "We are completely sold out in the Cape and very nearly in Durban.

"We simply cannot meet demand anywhere on some models, particularly kombi-type vehicles. Industry growth is nothing short of phenomenal."

Langley adds that the number of transactions now being handled by Avis is running at more than 30% ahead of last year.

Imperial head Carol Scott says her company has 1 000 vehicles in Cape Town and all are booked to the end of the holidays. She adds: "The main reason is that, while Cape Town has become arguably the most popular holiday spot for this time of the year, people are no longer prepared to drive there. They would rather fly and rent a car at the other end.

"This doesn't apply to the same extent in Durban, but we are very busy there, too. We are also extremely busy in Port Elizabeth and George.

In fact, we've got a real bumper season coming up."

Budget has also shown enormous growth. According to marketing development manager Russell Shiels, the company has recorded 60% more rental days this year than last year and has had to expand its fleet to cope. ■

First hawkers' trolleys cause stir in city centre

295 Eve Post 19/10/87

THE First 11 "A-la-carte" hawkers' trolleys in Port Elizabeth city centre made their appearance today and caused quite a stir.

When the colourful fresh produce carts were brought on to the Market Square for an official launch, a crowd swiftly gathered and watched the Mayor, Mr Solly Rubin, perform the ceremony.

The trolleys are all white with "A la carte" written in blue. The hawkers themselves wear blue uniforms.

The carts have been approved by the municipality and will operate in the paved areas opposite near the VSN Centre, opposite John Carr at the intersection with Donkin Street, opposite OK Bazaars/Markhams, at the intersection with St Mary's Terrace opposite Fogarty's and the side walk in front of Ackermans.

Mr Rubin performed the launch ceremony by cutting a ribbon while Mrs Georgina Jiza, president of the Central Business District Fresh Produce Hawkers' Association, and Mr Danny Mansell, regional manager of the Small Business Development Corporation (SBDC) looked on.

In his brief opening remarks, Mr Mansell said the co-operation between the hawkers and the SBDC during the trial period of the first three months would lay the future for their continued existence in the CBD-area.

In a Press statement, SBDC said the introduction of hawker carts in the Port Elizabeth CBD area, pioneered by the SBDC was seen as a major breakthrough for fresh produce hawkers.

The SBDC felt that the project was aimed at improving hawking in Port Elizabeth's city centre by formalising and upgrading hawkers and in the process making them more acceptable.



The Mayor of Port Elizabeth, Mr SOLLY RUBIN, toasts Mrs LULAMA NYAKATYA, chairman of the CBD Fresh Produce Hawkers Association, at the launch of the first organised mobile hawker carts for hawkers in Port Elizabeth's Central Business District today.

'Jobs rip-off' agency closed

17-23/12/87 South

295

By AYESHA ALLIE

A BELLVILLE company, which illegally operated as an unemployment agency, has been closed following an expose in a recent edition of SOUTH.

H Skinner and Partners, of Boston House, advertised employment for job-seekers.

It is believed between 200-300 desperate job-seekers "registered" for possible employment at the South Coast Mossel Bay Project. Applicants were charged a fee of R10.

'Rip-off'

A job-seeker who read the "jobs rip-off" story in SOUTH, contacted officials at the Department of Manpower, who started investigations.

A spokesman, Mr J A Visser, said the company had been warned several times previously to stop charging job-seekers. They had operated without a licence.

The company was ordered to return all fees to applicants.

"The Department will not issue a licence to the company until it has returned the fees," Visser said.

Several attempts to contact Skinner failed.

Visser said he had ordered Manpower officials in Bellville to visit Skinner's office regularly, but they always found the office locked.

A similar agency in Port Elizabeth had been closed by the police recently, he said.

"This agency also offered jobs on the 'South Coast'. A friend of Skinner's operated that illegal agency," he said.

The Department could only charge the company once people who registered for jobs there made sworn affidavits.

"People must be alert where they apply for jobs. If they are not sure about a company, they must contact the Department of Manpower who has a list of all registered agencies," he said.

He advised people to report unregistered agencies.

Informal sector could be economic solution

Reprinted from the Get Ahead Foundation Newsletter

DAILY one reads statements in the Press about the need to create jobs. These statements come from businessmen, politicians, economists and political leaders.

An article, in a financial daily newspaper of a year ago, said that 60 percent of the Soweto workforce was unemployed. This problem obviously becomes more acute the further one moves from industrial areas.

We are delighted to report that we at Get Ahead concentrate on job creation. Much of what we do is aimed at creating opportunities for people to earn money so that they can support their families.

We are constantly on the lookout for opportunities to create jobs and tend to concentrate on efforts in developing the informal sector or "underground economy".

Virtually everything we do, is "illegal" although in our view not immoral. We do not believe that it is immoral to help a vendor start business, only to find that that person may be trading illegally because of unduly harsh laws. It will soon be two years from when the government passed its deregulatory Act in terms of which the State President could suspend any law or regulation which impededed economic growth or small business. Nothing has happened yet. We carry on undeterred.

It makes good economic sense to develop the informal sector. If one looks carefully at the economies of Japan, Korea and Taiwan – which are soon to become the economic masters of the world – one finds that they are strong because they are export-driven, earning valuable foreign currency.

More particularly, however, the economies of these countries are strong because the informal sector provides up to 80 percent of their gross domestic products.

Thus one constantly hears about goods being assembled in backyards and informal businesses simply being allowed to start wherever they wish. In South Africa the informal sector accounts for about five percent of our GDP.

Our chairman Nthato Motlana stresses the need for people to become economically active. He states that the flip-side to political power is economic power.

He urges all our township people to become active in the economy and to start learning how to earn good money. He stresses that in a post apartheid society, we must be creators of wealth and not beggars, draining the available resources and hampering development.

Responding to a reguest from the Acornhoek community for classrooms, we conducted an investigation and found that of the 27 000 children at school there, 14 000 did not have classrooms.

Thus 60 percent of the school population is being educated under trees, simple shanty structures, or simply in the open veld.

Kris Kobach – a student from Harvard University – joined up with our Acornhoek co-ordinator, Thola Ngobeni. They soon put together a committee representing the community.

This committee and the community obligated themselves to collecting funds towards building new classrooms at one particular school (Funjiwa). The school previously had no classrooms whatsoever.

Apart from the financial obligation, the community also undertook to seek out the unemployed who would assist with the project.

Funds provided by sponsors helped Get Ahead provide the major portion of the funding.



Nthato Motlana

Thus it became a partnership between Get Ahead, the community and the labour force.

We moved in quickly and found a builder and more particularly, hired many unemployed people.

These people helped dig foundations, others went in search of stones and sand – which were brought on site manually – and others fetched water in huge plastic bottles. Even the children participated!

Very soon the classrooms were being built and will soon be completed.

Not only did we create jobs, but we created a lasting structure of benefit to the community.

6/12/87 CPress

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Vendors told to trade in old GST form for new one

THE Commissioner for Inland Revenue has declared that sales tax registration certificates issued to any vendors in terms of Section 12 of the Sales Tax Act 1978, in a form prescribed prior to June 1, this year will no longer be valid with effect from December 1.

Vendors or hawkers and importers not in possesion of the new computerised sales tax registration certificates, will not be in a position to claim exemption from sales tax when buying stock for trading purposes.

A warning to retailers and importers was issued this week by the Associated Chambers of Commerce of South Africa advising them about the validity of sales tax registration certificates.

It states that they will not from December 1, this year be in a position to claim exemption until they are in possession of a new certificate.

Furthermore, in terms of Section 15 (3) (e) of the Sales Tax Act, any person who, with a wrongful intent to avoid bearing tax payable on purchases or imports, makes use of a registration certificate which is no longer valid, commits an offence.

Vendors who have not yet obtained their new certificates are urged immediately to call personally at the offices of their nearest Receiver of Revenue, with their old certificates, or possibly VB1, and possibly obtain their new computer printed certificates while they wait.

Suppliers to such vendors are urged to ensure that their staff are acquainted with the new requirements, so that sales tax is charged on sales to customers not holding the new registration certificates.

Ultimatum to City Council in PE hawking dispute



Mr W D MANSELL, senior manager of the SBDC in the Eastern Cape.

By RAYMOND HILL

THE Small Business Development Corporation (SBDC) has threatened to withdraw from involvement in the permanent establishment of hawkers in Port Elizabeth's Central Business District unless the City Council is more co-operative in solving problems.

The corporation's views are set out in a letter to the chairman of the council's Community Services Committee.

Details of the letter were disclosed yesterday by the regional manager of the SBDC, Mr W D Mansell, following a warning to hawkers by the director of administration, Mr Carl Fischer, to "play the game by the rules" or face the possibility of exclusion from the CBD.

Mr Fischer issued the warning at a meeting with hawkers and an SBDC representative on Thursday. He said shopkeepers had complained to councillors.

In October, hawkers were provided with carts by the SBDC and given permission by the council to trade in the CBD until February, when the matter would be reviewed.

Mr Mansell said he had sent a letter to the council stating that unless it was more co-operative in finding a solution to the hawking problem, the SBDC would withdraw from the whole exercise. He was shocked by Mr Fischer's threats, he said.

"The Small Business Development Corporation tried to solve the hawker problem in the interests of the community. We also wanted to protect and help entrepreneurs in establishing businesses," he said.

He said he wanted to know who the complainants were, but nobody could identify them.

In his letter Mr Mansell made proposals to deal with specific problems that had arisen. He suggested a pedestrian crossing be placed where two of the hawkers were operating and that hawkers be allowed to leave their boxes at their stalls for about 20 minutes while they unpacked their goods.

The chairman of the Port Elizabeth Hawkers' Association, Mrs Lulama Nyakatya, said the public had nothing but praise for the 10 hawkers in the CBD.

She could not believe that anybody had complained and said she would like to know who they were.

Mrs Nyakatya said she was "sad and disappointed" at the threats made by Mr Fischer.

At the meeting Mr Fischer is reported to have said:

- Hawkers were packaging their goods in the streets instead of at the store.
- If trolleys were too heavy to push, then hawkers should carry their wares on their heads.
- When it rained hawkers should stay in their alloted positions or go home.
- Hawkers had to adhere strictly to the conditions laid down by the council.

Mrs Nyakatya said hawkers lost up to R50 a day when they were forced to shut because of the rain. "I do not know of any of the hawkers who leave their carts to sell vegetables on the pavements when it rains.

"I am worried about the threats because we depend on our vegetable sales for a living," she said.

In an interview yesterday, Mr Fischer said shopkeepers had complained to councillors that:

- Onion peels were being blown about as a result the hawkers packaging their goods in Main Street.
- The boxes in which they brought their vegetables were not being removed and some hawkers were starting to display their goods on the ground.
- One hawker was operating from the pavement instead of from the island in the middle of the street.

The president of the Port Elizabeth Chamber of Commerce, Mr Carl Coetzer, called on the authorities and businessmen in the CBD to be more tolerant of hawkers, who were a "disadvantaged" group.

"We should give the hawkers the opportunity of coming into the mainstream of the economy.

"There are bound to be some ups and down when anybody has suddenly got to comply with a new set of rules. We should, therefore, be more tolerant towards them," he said.

(295) SOWN 3/12/87.

Agency had range of escorts, court hears

By Bruce Anderson

Ex-policewomen, university students, air hostesses and women who had boyfriends in the police force were among the women who worked as escorts at the Romance Escort Agency, said agency owner, Mr Andras Bako (48), in his evidence in the Johannesburg Magistrate's Court yesterday.

Mr Bako and his son Mr Miklos Bako (27) gave evidence in their own defence. They have pleaded not guilty to charges of procuring women for sex.

Earlier, a defence application for the discharge of the State case against the two men was refused by Magistrate J J Truter.

Part of the State evidence was that Mr Bako senior had pulled off an escort's "boob tube" in front of a client and said that the woman in question had "nice boobs". Mr Miklos Bako said it was "inconceivable" that his father would act in such a manner in front of a client, because the escort agency was high class and most of the escorts would leave the agency if they were treated in this way.

Under cross-examination, Mr Bako senior said he did suspect intercourse was taking place between escorts and clients. But if he had to dismiss every woman whom he suspected of having intercourse with a client, he would have to dismiss a lot of women.

The magistrate said it appeared from the escort agency register that there was a "considerable" demand for the type of escort service offered by Romance. He said it appeared the women were "only too willing to have intercourse with clients".

The hearing continues.

Bako 'kept lists of important clients'

The sophisticated marketing methods used by an escort agency formed part of the evidence yesterday of Mr Miklos Bako (27), the manager of the Romance escort agency.

Mr Bako and his father, Mr Andras Bako, are charged with procuring women for sex.

Mr Miklos Bako told the court he had a university degree in marketing and had geared the marketing of the agency to maximise profits.

He said the agency catered mainly for high-powered businessmen and that it provided escorts who would accompany businessmen to conferences — even if they were travelling overseas.

KEPT LISTS

He said the agency had provided two Portugese-speaking escorts to accompany businessmen on a trip to Rio de Janeiro. He had also sent women on trips to the United States on several occasions.

He said he also kept a list of all the important clients for exclusive parties thrown by the agency at Christmas, New Year and on the agency's anniversary.

Records had also been kept of the most popular escorts at the agency by keeping a list of the woman available and making a mark next to an escort's name every time a customer called and asked for her.

AT EASE

Mr Bako said he had also charted the agency's peak times and tried to arrange it so that the most popular escorts were available at peak times.

He said the agency dealt with influential businessman and that he was at great pains to put clients at ease and match them with women he thought suitable.

"I class myself as an excellent salesperson," he told the court.

The third area or abrasion, wages

Conference told of harassment by the police

'Cut red tape so hawkers can make honest living'

Deregulate our economy — prof

The need to deregulate South Africa's hamstrung economy was more urgent than in any other parts of the world, a Wits legal expert, Professor Louise Tager, told 200 hawkers, Traffic Department officials and city councillors at Friday's Achib conference.

"Deregulation is the means whereby socio-economic apartheid will be dismantled", she said.

This message was given special poignancy a few hours later when local authorities carried out a mass raid on hawkers in the Johannesburg station area.

The hawkers were each fined R100 for "doing business without a licence" and their goods were confiscated.

"The main resistance to deregulation comes from those groups who have vested interests," Professor Tager said.

"The vested interest group which impacts most adversely on hawkers and street vendors is the retail traders.

"They oppose the deregulation of the laws affecting street trading on the grounds of unfair competition but it is really the hawkers who are are subjected to unfair competition."

Professor Tager said the need to obtain a hawker's licence was a restriction on the hawker's right to enter the marketplace.

By Sally Sealey

Hawkers were not asking the Government for handouts but rather for the abolition of the myriad of laws affecting their efforts to make an honest living, Mr Lawrence Mavundla, president of the African Council of Hawkers and Informal Business (Achib), said in Johannesburg on Friday.

He was addressing an Achib conference attended by 200 hawkers, city councillors and senior members of the traffic department.

MOBILISATION

Achib is an umbrella organisation that promotes the interests of street vendors, hawkers and informal business in central business districts.

It was founded in 1986 and there are at least 13 000 members in the PWV area, of whom 4 000 are in Soweto.

Mr Mavundla said Achib stood for black economic freedom, and believed that real political equality could be achieved only through the economic mobilisation of blacks for the purpose of securing a redistribution of economic opportunities and development.

Rising unemployment had led to at least 1 million blacks participating in the informal sector throughout South Africa, he said.

These people were blocked from entering the mainstream economy by trading restictions, a lack of finance, and inadequate representation.

Obtaining a licence to operate legally was often a difficult and costly process, so most hawkers operated without one and were subject to constant police harassment and steep fines.

Mr Mavundla said his organisation was approached by hundreds of unemployed people every day, but it was becoming increasingly difficult to encourage them to fend for themselves.

Hawkers were constantly harassed by local authorities and "our goods are confiscated and sold by the Johannesburg local authorities who are adding to their budget at the expense of the poor", he said.

UNEMPLOYMENT

It was only when you made people self-sufficient that the unemployment problem would be solved, Mr Mavundla said.

But hawkers would not be discouraged. "We are people who want to make an honest living; we want the local authorities to give us back our dignity and get rid of the red tape restricting our businesses," he said.

Hawkers ask for their share of the economy

B Day 18/11/88

THE key to a sound economy and the remedy for unemployment lay in freeing the informal business sector from the many regulations restricting it, local authorities and the private sector were told in Johannesburg on Friday.

And some speakers at the conference where the African Council of Hawkers and Informal Business (Achib) met city councils and the private sector laid the blame for over-regulation squarely on the private sector as the "protected party".

Job Creation SA director Ian Hetherington said: "Originally many of the regulations were deliberately and openly imposed to stop blacks competing with whites in business. Many of these blatantly discriminatory regulations have been removed in recent years.

Subtle

"But a new, subtle discrimination has taken their place. This is to make it increasingly impossible to start a business legally — in other words to raise the barriers to entry."

Citing the established private sector, the unions and government as the big-vested interests in over-regulation, Hetherington said: "We need their help to remove these barriers."

He said for the private sector the result would be a bigger domestic market for its goods and services; for the unions there would be the possibility of alternative jobs for retrenched union members and also a larger group of workers from which to recruit members; and for government more economic activity and, therefore, greater tax collections and less need for welfare expenditure.

THEO RAWANA

Professor Louise Tager, of Wits University, said: "The tendency is to blame government and other legislative bodies for over-regulation. We should not overlook the fact that through regulation established business enjoys a substantial measure of protection from competition.

"The main resistance to deregulation does not come from government but from those groups who have vested interests. Everyone supports deregulation as long as it does not affect them.

"The vested interest which impacts most on hawkers and street vendors is the retail traders."

She said they opposed deregulation of laws affecting street trading on grounds of unfair competition, saying they paid rent, rates and taxes while hawkers had no overheads.

Tager said: "Hawkers must not be looked upon as a health risk and a nuisance — they must be accepted as important members of the [illegible] business community."

Reserve Bank deputy-governor Professor J A Lombard said the basic mistake was the assumption that economic activity would continue to depend mainly on the behaviour of the white population.

Exclusive

"The exclusive population of the First World system is not expanding. Moreover, per capita consumption in that stationary population has, on the average, reached the level where more expansion tends to lead to expenditure in the rest of the world rather than in SA."

Achib president Lawrence Mavundla said hawkers did not want hand-outs, they simply wanted to be left alone. "Hawkers are harassed, arrested and have their goods confiscated and yet these people help in fighting unemployment. In Johannesburg we have 1 300 hawkers who in turn employ four or five people each."

He called on other local authorities to follow the example set by the Johannesburg City Council in lifting some of the restrictive by-laws and on the private sector to help in promoting informal business.

Hawkers may soon get new trade venues

Municipal Reporter

Hawkers in Johannesburg may soon be allowed to use poorly patronised parking garages as venues for fresh-produce food halls, particularly those near major bus terminuses or taxi ranks.

Addressing a conference on "Deregulation — the City Councils and the Private Sector" in Johannesburg last week, the town clerk, Mr Manie Venter, said these outlets would attract custom from people who used public or private transport.

Outlining council policy, Mr Venter said it was felt the further development throughout the city of so-called "peoples' markets" or street markets should be supported.

"In the long run, market forces determine the number of traders who operate profitably in any area."

NEED FOR CONTINUED CONTROL

Emphasising the need for continued control, he said it was wrong to depart from established procedures, allowing total freedom to trade indiscriminately and behave in conflict with the needs of others.

"If a free-for-all situation developed and people traded when and where they liked, this would not be in the interest of established hawkers or even newcomers, and could have a serious effect on local economies," he said.

Mr Venter listed changes which had been made to laws governing street traders and itinerant hawkers, and improvements which had been embarked on over the past 10 years.

These included the establishment of four permanent pitches at Hoek Street, New Doornfontein, Faraday and Kazerne. The Hoek Street venue had been extended with the help of the Small Business Development Corporation in 1986.

Leave us alone - hawkers

THE private sector and the Government have been called upon to lift trading restrictions immediately and to stop the harrassment of black hawkers in the city centres and townships.

More than 200 black hawkers took this decision at the annual congress of the African Council of Hawkers and Informal Business in Johannesburg at the weekend.

Members of the Johannesburg Traffic Department, backed by the SAP, raided hawkers in the city's station area only hours after the congress began.

Hawkers were arrested and fined R100 each for trading without licences. Their goods were confiscated.

Ironically, senior traffic

By JOSHUA RABOROKO

department members, city council department members and city council officials attended the conference which highlighted problems facing black entrepreneurs.

The president of ACHIB, Mr Lawrence Mavundla, and Progressive Federal Party MP Mr Rupert Lorimer have slammed the raid, calling it "petty and unnecessary".

Mr Johan Naude of the Small Business Development Corporation said the raid was unnecessary.

A Johannesburg Traffic Department spokesman said the raid followed a complaint to his department.

The congress resolved that the private sector should help them if they wanted hawkers to continue supporting them.

"We want to earn a decent living and the private sector must help us," Mr Mavundla said.

He said the private sector should also support employment training projects.

A hawker who has traded in the city since 1961 said many people were not granted new trading rights when they tried to renew their licences.

He said they were arrested indiscriminately because the authorities did not check whether they had been granted new licences.

595

Sunday Times 21/1/88

HAWKERS (295)

New respectability

Though much has been done to liberalise trading, total deregulation is still a long way off for Johannesburg's street hawkers.

This emerged from deliberations at the African Council of Hawkers and Informal Businessmen's (Achib) first major conference last week.

The Johannesburg town clerk, for one, insists that hawkers should not be allowed to trade on pavements outside business premises, unless they pay a fee to store owners concerned.

"If the amenity of access to business premises is destroyed or impeded, then the value of such premises would fall, and so would the proceeds from property tax. The authorities would then have to look elsewhere to make good the loss of income," he warns.

Hawkers, it emerged, are unhappy about the amendements to the by-laws relating to

FINANCIAL MAIL JANUARY 22 1988

Instead of abolishing the by-law requiring hawkers to move every hour, fixed spot trading times have been extended to two hours. And hawkers may now trade 100 m from competing shops, but not in their immediate vicinity.

Hawkers may never be entirely satisfied with regulations — but then councils do have other vested interests. Such is the impasse that Achib president Lawrence Mavundla describes a local authority fine as "blaming God for creating us black."

This confrontational stance is shared by his members — at question time officials were inundated with complaints about arrests and poor washroom facilities — something the council has promised to look into.

To Nafcoc general secretary, Gaby Mokgoko, the ramifications could be even wider — black faith in the free enterprise system could be at stake.

"Too little is done to remove the barriers which have shut off the black business community from the mainstream of economic life. The true spirit of free enterprise demands the lifting of all legal restrictions on black businessmen. Any business that is developed in an artificially restricted milieu can at best achieve only stunted and limited growth."

But licensing officials argue that if hawkers are to be treated as legitimate businessmen, they should also pay taxes. Already, they note, hawkers are liable for regional service councils levies, calculated at R1 per R1 000 on turnover and R2,50 per R1 000 on payrolls and drawings.

They add that in countries where street trading is common, like France and Portugal, there is an unwritten law that traders are responsible for cleaning up their own stall area — a custom seldom observed in SA. ■

Hawkers protest

100 HELD IN WEEKEND RAID

HUNDREDS of letters have been sent to Johannesburg shop owners requesting them to help hawkers who have had problems with the authorities.

The letters were issued by the African Council of Hawkers and Informal Business.

ACHIB'S president,

By JOSHUA RABOROKO

Mr Lawrence Mavundla, yesterday said about 100 hawkers were arrested and their goods confiscated by Johannesburg traffic officials during a raid in the city at the weekend.

He said they have consulted a lawyer over the matter.

Protest

In the letters, ACHIB informs Johannesburg employers about the hawkers' plight. It also appeals to traders who support the hawkers to donate to a fund set up by ACHIB.

Mr Mavundla also said they intended to hold a meeting with the Johannesburg Municipality soon to protest against the arrest of hawkers.

A spokesman for the Johannesburg Traffic Department has confirmed the raid and said it was conducted after a complaint had been lodged with them.



Mr LAWRENCE Mavundla.

Hawkers 'within rights'

THEO RAWANA

THE Hoek Street area, where Johannesburg hawkers have been charged for failing to move every two hours, was demarcated for them and regulation did not apply there, SBDC's head of business development Johan Naude said yesterday.

Naude was reacting to repeated traffic department swoops that resulted in some hawkers paying fines for not observing the regulation, while others were fined for trading without licences.

After meeting African Council of Hawkers and Informal Business (Achib) president Lawrence Mavundla, traffic department PRO Eric Hill said on Monday: "We acted after shop-owners in the area complained that the hawkers constituted unfair competition, because they did not pay rent, pedestrians complained that the hawkers blocked their path and motorists complained that because of this, pedestrians crowded the street, blocking traffic.

"The traffic department has a duty to enforce the law."

595 B/day 28/1/88

Hawkers 'have to move on'



● It was business as usual yesterday for this hawker (left) in the Hoek Street mall, scene of several recent traffic department swoops.
Picture: SUSAN FLOOD

HAWKERS who had not been allocated stalls were required to move every two hours, even outside of the "restricted" trade areas, Johannesburg traffic department PRO Eric Hill said yesterday.

Hill was reacting to SBDC business development head Johan Naude's assertion that hawkers in Hoek Street were operating in an area demarkated for them and this regulation did not apply there.

Lenasia Traders and Professional Associ-

THEO RAWANA

ation chairman Ebrahim Saloojee yesterday called for the creation of flea markets. He said he was not calling for uncontrolled hawking. "Control is easy if facilities are created".

He said the central issue in the repeated swoops on the Hoek Street hawkers was colour, with the traders white and hawkers black.

About 100 hawkers have been fined in the past two weeks amid claims that the traffic department acted after complaints from neighbouring shop-owners.

BUSINESS

98pc staff take share offer

DD 29/11/88

JOHANNESBURG — An offer of five Anglo American Corporation shares each in 1988, made in terms of the Anglo American Group Employees Shareholder Scheme, has been accepted by more than 98 per cent of the corporation's 2 445 eligible employees.

The offer, to head office employees with at least two years' service, was accepted by 2 402 and declined by 43.

Anglo's chairman, Mr Gavin Relly, said he was encouraged by the positive response at head office and hopeful that both shareholders and employees in associated companies would similarly endorse the scheme.

Meetings of associated companies to seek their shareholders' approval to join the scheme will be held shortly.

"It should be noted that the problems of communicating information about the scheme, particularly on the mines, will be much greater than at head office and consequently, the level of acceptance is unlikely to be as high," Mr Relly said.

Implementation of the scheme in participating associated companies begins in February and will continue until April.

The scheme is a long-term project and will run for a minimum period of five years.

It is hoped that, over time, employees unfamiliar with share ownership will gain knowledge of and confidence in the scheme.

The secretary of the power Mine Workers' Union, Mr Cyril Rampahosa, rejected the offer of shares when it was first announced. — DDC

Avis, AA deal

DD 29/11/88

295

JOHANNESBURG — The Automobile Association has appointed Avis, the country's largest car rental company, as its official car rental contractor.

The AA appointment, which took effect on January 1, entitles the association's 650 000 members to special rates as well as to a variety of exclusive special offers, in South Africa and internationally — including the facility of acquiring Avis credit cards.

All Avis Renters will automatically be entitled to free use of the AA's breakdown and certain other services.

Avis managing director, Mr Tony Langley, said his company would be working closely with the AA in developing new leisure travel packages which would be purpose-designed for the AA membership.

In addition, AA members will be given the opportunity to test-rent new models when these are introduced, and to acquire cars when they are retired from the Avis fleet.

Mr Peter Elliott, AA director-general, said the AA had been influenced in its decision to appoint Avis by the range of additional benefits that Avis could offer AA members.

Other considerations had been the size of its fleet - currently running at around 6 000 cars -and the spread of its branch network, which has some 85 outlets in business centres, major suburbs and holiday resorts and at all airports throughout the country.

The fact that Avis is able to provide its services internationally as well as domestically had been another consideration, he said. — Sapa

Assocom says omens look good

DD 29/11/88

JOHANNESBURG — Assocom's business confidence index (BCI) has made a further upward shift in January to 98 points, from 97,3 in December and 97,1 in November.

"This reflects the renewal of economic growth which is gaining the upper hand over the continuing bear trend on the JSE and the recent small rises in interest rates," says Assocom.

"The economic evidence now points to the likelihood of a 3 to 3,5 per cent real growth rate in 1988."

Among the positive influences this month were: real imports continued upwards, real retail sales rose strongly, the inflation rate fell, the number of immigrants exceeded the number of emigrants and insolvencies declined. Negative influences were the continuing bear trend on the JSE, the slight upward movement of interest rates, motor vehicle stock shortages and a slight increase in unemployment.

"The economic omens for 1988 look very favourable," Assocom comments.

"By the end of last year the economic upturn had gathered considerable momentum, especially if the activities of the informal sector are also taken into account. Both corporate and consumer credit demand are rising."

"It seems as if the South African economy has now moved into the next phase of the economic upswing. In a perverse way disinvestment and sanctions may have stimulated a measure of growth through the new challenges they pose to the business community."

Assocom believes inflation this year is likely to remain at about the same level as in 1987.

Economic policy had an even more important role to play than last year.

"The big question now is not so much South Africa's economic performance in 1988, but rather whether it will be sustained into 1989. There will be a greater need this year to keep the economy on an even keel. The success of such a policy will, in its turn, help long-term business planning and underpin confidence," Assocom says. — Sapa

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Delta's new chief

PORT ELIZABETH — Mr Keith Butler-Wheelhouse has been appointed chairman and chief executive officer of Delta Motor Corporation, the company announced here yesterday.

In addition, Mr Len Abrahamse — who has been a non-executive director of Delta Motor Corporation since its inception — has been appointed deputy chairman of the company.

These appointments - both effective immediately - follow the death last year of Mr Bob Price, who was the first chairman of the newly founded South African company.

Mr Butler-Wheelhouse, a former director of General Motors South African, became Delta's managing director when a South African management team took over control of the company on January 1, 1987. Together with the late Mr Price, he has guided Delta through a successful first year of operation. — DDC

Sugar prices

LONDON — RAW: No4 Contract indicator $147. No6 Clf Contract Feb/Mar $201,20. No6 Caribbean/UK Freight element $33. No6 Fobs Contract Equivalent $228,20. WHITE: No5 Fobs Contract Feb/Mar $258. — Sapa-Rns

PLEASE STOP THE HARASSMENT — HAWKERS

City/Pres 31/1/88. 295



Hawkers on the march through the streets of Johannesburg this week. Pic: EVANS MBOWENI

By KHUME KANGALA

ABOUT 300 Johannesburg hawkers this week demonstrated in protest against harassment by traffic department officials.

The demonstrations followed a short meeting held by the hawkers at Khotso House in search of a proper solution to their plight.

Recent incidents in which authorities raided and confiscated hawkers' goods have occured in the past two weeks.

The first raids occured on January 15, when most hawkers had gone to the conference organised by the African Council of Hawkers and Informal Businesses.

At this conference Achib had complained about the harassment of hawkers by the authorities.

The second incident occured on January 22 when about 100 hawkers were arrested and taken, with their confiscated goods, to the City Deep market.

Some of those arrested in the second raid had valid licences.

At the Khotso House meeting, Achib accused shop traders of direct involvement in the harassment of hawkers.

The harassment of hawkers which had been going on for over 60 years would not end unless hawkers united, Achib said.

Achib president Lawrence Mavundla said the authorities should not divide hawkers by providing shelter to some and leave others without.

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Council to act against illegal home business

By Shirley Woodgate, Municipal Reporter

Star 4/2/88 (295)

Johannesburg's planning department is planning to get tough on businesses which are being illegally conducted from private houses.

Commenting on the move which is likely to have a far reaching effect throughout the city's suburbs, Mr Eddy Magid, who chaired Tuesday's meeting of the planning committee in the absence of Mr Hennie Schoeman, who was ill, said:

"I have called for a report on the powers that are available to us in order to penalise people who illegally conduct businesses from their homes.

"The officials have been asked to consider handing out spot fines or some sort of penalties retrospective to when the illegal activities started."

Mr Magid said illegal businesses were rife in residential areas.

Call for Bill of Rights for hawkers

DD 4/2/88 295

JOHANNESBURG — The Small Business Development Corporation (SBDC) appealed yesterday to the government to introduce a special "business charter" in the form of a Bill of Rights to protect small entrepreneurs in the informal sector from harassment by bureaucracy.

The appeal came from the general manager development services, Mr Mike Smuts, who urged the establishment to guarantee street traders and hawkers freedom to operate without red-tape hassles.

The recommendations came after a fresh wave of official action against street traders in the Johannesburg city centre.

Mr Smuts expressed particular concern over recent enforced removals of several black hawkers and traders from the Hoek Street Mall, which the SBDC helped to launch as a market reserved for informal-sector operations.

Harassment of the informal sector was still occurring, in spite of recommendations by the Economic Affairs Committee of the President's Council that needless regulations and red tape should not be allowed to be obstacles to black entrepreneurs setting out to launch their own business enterprises.

"There have been voices of encouragement at parliamentary level and several obsolete regulations have disappeared," Mr Smuts said.

"But there are still many incidents of harassment by bureaucrats at municipal level using antiquated by-laws to order the removal of street traders on one excuse or another — such as causing litter problems, or stepping across a particular invisible boundary, or offences under obscure traffic laws.

"Sometimes there is also harassment by vested interests inside the established formal sector which resent competition and cause hassles to street traders who venture into what they regard as their own sales territories.

"They fail to see the longer-term benefits of a strong informal sector to the entire economy and to their own businesses."

"It is both tragic and farcical that harassment is allowed to continue," Mr Smuts said. — Sapa

Avis is AA agent

295 11/2/88

THE Automobile Association has appointed Avis its official car rental contractor.

The appointment from January 1 entitles the AA's 650 000 members to special rate and offers here and abroad. Avis renters are also entitled to free use of the AA's brekdown service.

"We will work closely with the AA to develop new leisure travel packages," says Avis managing director Tony Langley. AA members will be able to test-rent new models and will be able to buy cars when they are retired from the Avis fleet.

STREET TRADING

Harassed hawkers

Stand ready for some stiff opposition from vested interest in the business community to government's grand plans to deregulate. The saga of Johannesburg's street traders could be a precursor of things to come.

According to the city's head of traffic and security, John Pearce, 312 hawkers were arrested between January 1 and February 5 — compared with a monthly average of 240. The reason: a sharp increase in complaints of illegal trading from established traders.

Typically, African Council of Hawkers and Informal Businessmen (Achib) president Lawrence Mavundla says while the private sector claims to support hawkers and free enterprise, it continues to balk at them setting up shop near their outlets. It makes use of outmoded regulations enforced by the traffic department to harass them.

What makes it worse is that hawkers' goods are often confiscated, causing personal loss. The head of business development at the Small Business Development Corporation (SBDC), Johan Naude, says hawker squads have the right to confiscate goods to use as evidence in court — but in most cases goods



Shoeshine . . . not so fine

are perishable.

CBD Association chairman Nigel Mandy maintains hawkers' business should be centred on transport interchanges. "They shouldn't intrude on the prime retail areas and make them untidy. Cities all over the world restrict hawkers' movements. But I do think the authorities are often over-zealous in their prosecutions. It would be much better if this could be settled by negotiation."

Some improvements could be on the way. Acting chief licence officer Cathy Filmalter says the licensing department is trying to deregulate. "We have made representations to abolish the rule requiring hawkers to move every two hours and to allow them to renew their licences rather than apply for a new one every year."

Mavundla admits the licensing department has been helpful. "A licence used to take eight months to process but now it takes only two days."

Naude says it is time the traffic department entered into the same spirit. "A law enforcement officer should have the discretion to decide whether a trader's complaint against a hawker is justified, instead of automatically acting on it. But, of course, as long as laws restricting street trading exist, somebody will use them as a stick to beat hawkers." ■

Car rental firms launch price war

Star 16/2/88

295

By Magnus Heystek
Finance Editor

A price war has broken out in the highly competitive car rental market after Budget Rent-A-Car, smallest of the so-called Big Three, yesterday announced a daily flat rate scheme, available to local customers for the first time.

Market leader Avis immediately responded with a similar scheme. Imperial-Hertz said it would be "burning the midnight oil" before a final decision was made.

Flat rates — referring to a fixed rental irrespective of distance travelled — have until now been available only for rental periods longer than four days.

In making the announcement, Budget MD Mr Pienkes du Plessis said: "Despite the fact that it is common in Europe and the US, South African rental firms have shied away from this concept. The bulk of our business comes from the business sector and we feel that a daily flat rate will benefit them as they can accurately assess their costs beforehand. It is a move the industry has been waiting for and should broaden the rental market considerably."

Mr Du Plessis is also chairman of Motorvia, the holding company which gained control of loss-making Budget Rent-A-Car in 1986. The company has since been turned around to profitability and now controls about 20 percent of the local market. Avis has control of roughly 45 percent, while recently merged Imperial-Hertz controls just over 30 percent.

Avis MD Mr Tony Langley said last night his company had no option but to offer a similar scheme in order "to protect market share".

"The unlimited rate really pays off for the customer who travels more than about 80 km per day. From that point on, he's effectively getting a free ride," Mr Langley said. This would particularly appeal to holiday-makers, he felt.

He said fixed rates had certain advantages for rental firms as costs were controlled. It did, however, tend to a have a negative impact on the lifespan of fleet cars, he added.

A spokeswoman for Imperial-Hertz, Mrs Maureen Jackson, hit out at the announcement, calling it an effort on the part of Budget to increase market share.

"The US car rental industry went through a similar price-cutting phase several years ago and left a number of casualties in its wake.

"It's also incorrect to compare South African conditions with those in Germany, for instance. The distances travelled in South Africa by car renters tend to be far greater, making such a scheme quite risky.

"I also find it strange that the announcement of flat rates comes at a time when the car rental industry is going through a period of phenomenal growth, with customers being turned away daily due to a shortage of cars," she said.

Mr Du Plessis, however, stressed that flat rates charged by his company were commercialy viable, adding that his company had already placed orders for an additional 3 500 new cars, with eight branches being added to its national distribution network.

All three spokespersons confirmed that the car rental industry conservatively estimated to be worth about R400 million per annum, was experiencing exceptional growth, with demand for cars during peak hours far outstripping supply.

This comes after a lean period of nearly four years during which Budget had to be rescued from insolvency by Motorvia and Santambank and also resulted in US giant Hertz withdrawing from the South African market and its acquisition by Imperial Car Hire.

VW expecting large slice of R80m plan

PORT ELIZABETH — Volkswagen SA are expecting a large slice of the R80m replacement and expansion scheme announced by Budget Rent-a-car.

The order, which VW estimate to be in the region of R20m to R25m, will be the second from a car-hire firm within the past year.

While the car rental company on Tuesday declined to give details of how their orders would be split, a spokesman from VW said dealers had indicated that 1 000 out of a total of 3 500 vehicles would be purchased from them.

Budget's executive director, Mr Louis de Waal, said the order would be divided among VW, Samcor, Mercedes-Benz, BMW, Toyota and the Delta Motor Corporation.

He declined to give a breakdown of the order or to comment on VW's claim or reports that the order from Delta was for the new Kadett Cub.

The cars, of which 2 500 would replace the companies existing fleet and 1 000 would be new, would be purchased according to availability and demand, he said.

VW's general manager, public affairs, Mr Ronnie Kruger, said the plant was working at full capacity and turning out 280 vehicles a day.

Late last year the Uitenhage plant received a boost with an order worth R50m from Avis. — DDC

Car rental war

DTD 18/2/88 (295)

JOHANNESBURG — A price war has broken out in the highly competitive car rental market after the smallest of the three largest rental companies announced a daily flat rate scheme.

The market leader Avis immediately responded to Budget Rent-a-Car's move with a similar scheme. Imperial-Hertz said it had not yet made a final decision.

Flat rates — a fixed rental irrespective of distance travelled — have until now been available only for rental periods longer than four days.

The Budget managing director, Mr Pienkes du Plessis, said: "The bulk of our business comes from the business sector and we feel that a daily flat rate will benefit them."

Budget Rent-a-Car controls about 20 per cent of the local market; Avis roughly 45 per cent; and recently-merged Imperial-Hertz just over 30 per cent.

The Avis managing director, Mr Tony Langley said his company had no option but to offer a similar scheme.

A spokesman for Imperial-Hertz, Mrs Maureen Jackson, said the move was an effort on the part of Budget to increase market share.

VEHICLE RENTALS

Thin end of the wedge?

Banks and finance houses have joined forces with the motor industry in a tug-o'-war with the Registrar over the future of recently introduced car rental schemes.

At this stage, the battleground is a point of principle over disclosure of financing details, but vehicle manufacturers and dealers fear it may extend to a broader assault by government on the whole rental system.

Officials of the Association of General Banks and Finance Houses, Motor Industries Federation (MIF) and National Automobile Dealers Association (Nada), met representatives of the Registrar of Financial Institutions in Pretoria last week to discuss rental schemes. Banks handed over a detailed submission, which the Registrar is now studying.

The argument is over interpretations of the Usury Act and how much detailed disclosure institutions should be required to make to Pretoria when financing rental deals. Institutions argue that, apart from cost, a car rental is no different from TV or any other rental agreement and, therefore, falls outside the Act.

The Registrar disagrees. A spokesman says there is a difference between operational and financing contracts. In the case of a TV, the deal is between supplier and customer; car rental schemes constitute a full financial package involving three parties — customer, supplier and bank.

The spokesman says the Registrar has nothing against car rental agreements *per se*, only the lack of disclosure. But, according to a senior banking official: "If there were full disclosure, that would be contrary to the whole essence of rental business. We are fighting a point of principle here."

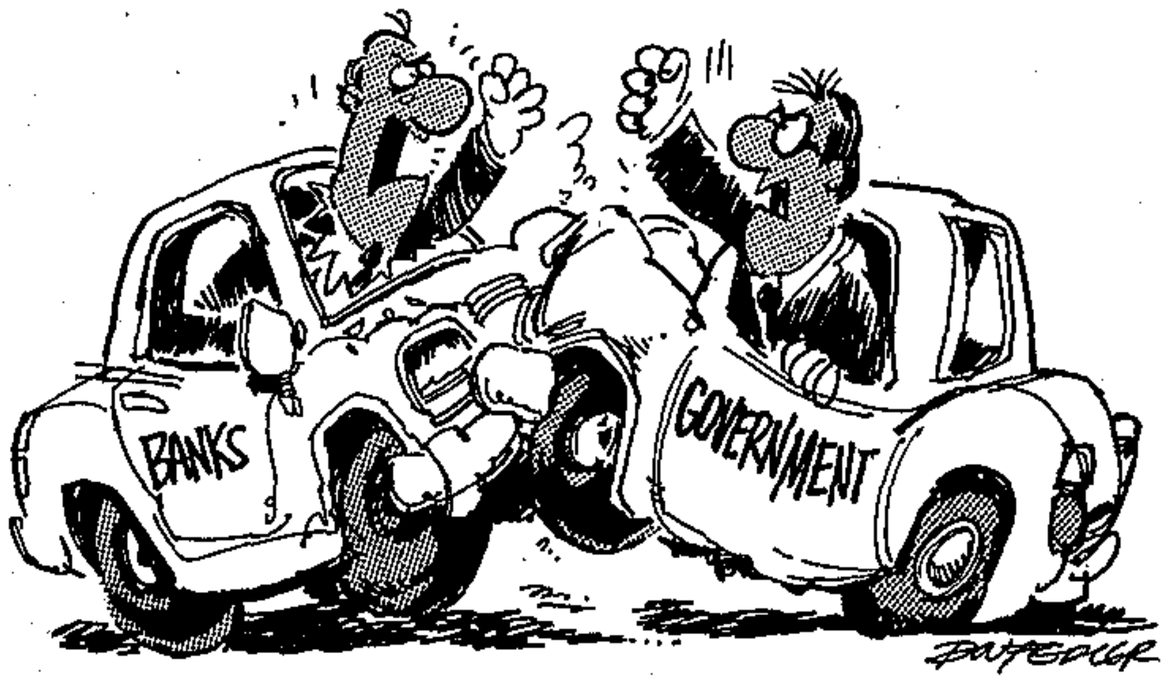
And he rejects the notion that the Act is needed to protect buyers from unscrupulous finance houses. "This is a competitive business. There is no question of trying to make a killing."

Vehicle manufacturers and dealers, however, fear it may go deeper than that. They say some government officials have expressed unease at the level of private vehicle rentals and suggest curbs are being considered. Government's main fear is that rental agreements, which need no deposit, may put vehicles within reach of people who realistically cannot afford them.

Banks and dealers alike reject this, claiming finance houses are best qualified to decide customers' creditworthiness. The motor industry, with some justification, is concerned that any curbs could threaten the growth the industry has enjoyed lately.

The weakened rand and soaring prices previously put cars beyond the reach of nearly all but the fleet-buyer. Rental options have brought the private buyer back into the market as a significant force. To remove him, it argues, would be to send the industry back to the depths of depression.

Theo Swart, joint MD of the McCarthy Group, says: "Private rentals have given the industry the injection it needed. It would be sad if the government were to remove rental options from the motor industry. By increasing sales, it has contributed to jobs and growth. The motor industry is the second biggest employer in the country. It plays a significant role in the economy. It would be crazy to throw all that away."



If rentals are allowed to remain, expect the industry to press for further financial packages to be accepted — particularly private leasing. At present, car leasing agreements are acceptable only if they can be claimed against income tax, effectively restricting agreements to companies and certain professionals.

"We had private leasing before, then the government stopped it," says Swart. "I see no reason why it shouldn't come back." ■

SIT 21/2/88 295

Manpower Mirror by JULIE WALKER

Fly-by-nights rip off black job-seekers

By Julie Walker

THE National Manpower Commission has recommended that it be prohibited for personnel and placement agencies to charge job-seekers.

The acceptable method is for the employer to pay a fee to a personnel agency for the supplying staff.

Colin Katz of Colin Katz Associates says it is already not permitted by law to charge the job-seeker.

A spokesman for the Association of Personnel Services (APSO) says a maximum of R1 registration fee plus 7,5% of the first month's salary or part thereof may be charged. APSO recommended to the commission that the system of charging the work-seeker be scrapped to avoid the exploitation of unemployed blacks.

Voluntary

APSO membership is voluntary, and Mr Katz believes there are many fly-by-night agencies who charge a registration fee of R50 or more with the promise that they will find work for the unemployed.

They operate for a short time in the black market, make a lot of money and disappear.

Promises are tempting to the black work-seeker. Mr Katz says that as many as half of the companies looking for staff specify "whites only". He says that many companies, from small to large, not only South African but also some multinationals, pay lip service to the concept of equal opportunity for all, but continue to turn away blacks.

Jessie Clossie, general manager of Anglo Personnel Services, says that her firm is able to place black graduates, but often encounters resistance from the employer.

"We believe that if a man is qualified to do the job his colour should not matter. We try to educate those employers who insist on whites."

It is inevitable that SA will draw increasingly on the pool of skilled blacks entering the job market.

Mr Katz says his company has more blacks on its books than in the past, but it will be a slow process before total acceptability of all colours in the work place can be achieved.

Criterion

Mrs Clossie says that business has never been so healthy.

"We had a phenomenal 1987. We have a balance of job-seekers and employment opportunities."

She says married women with children are also being tempted back to work.

Christo Constantaras of The Personnel Concept says that in the three professional fields in which his company operates, employers do not specify race.

"Skills, not colour, are the criterion.

"The Personnel Concept concentrates on the engineering, accountancy and computer professions."

Mr Constantaras says, however, that although employers may accept all races in principle, some of them pay blacks less than whites.

Women may also be subjected to pay discrimination, although the practice is not rife.

Education

Mr Constantaras says that a well-qualified black work-seeker can be fussy and difficult to place even though job offers are made.

Another problem faces those who have been educated at black universities. Although the standard of education may be as high as that given by other universities, commerce and industry are slow to accept the fact.

It is not the black job-seeker's fault that his degree does not have the same credibility as from a white university, and he understandably believes he is the victim of continued discrimination.

378 have joined Achib this year

Flood of new hawkers swells informal sector

SOPHIE TEMA

THERE has been a vast increase in the number of new dealers in the informal business sector in recent months, according to the African Council of Hawkers and Informal Business (Achib).

Achib has registered 378 new members since January this year.

Council president Lawrence Mavundla said the organisation now had more than 150 000 registered hawkers and vendors in the country.

Mavundla said although hawkers had no formal recorded wages or salary income, they had become part of the job-creating machinery and contributed R1bn to the country's economy.

Rashid Alli, executive member of the Small Business Advisory Services (SBAS), said members of the informal sector stood between a struggling population and economic disaster in the country.

He said: "Thousands of work-seekers have come into the job market and almost half of the black population are young people under 19.

"Therefore, with hundreds of work-seeking adults and their dependents, that means between a quarter and half of the population have no recorded wage or salary income."

Alli said: "The informal sector has about 100 000 black-owned taxis — each one a small business; 150 000 hawkers and vendors; 50 000 small shopkeepers, 70 000 or more small manufacturers — many of the backyard type — and several thousand small builders who promote employment for the jobless.

"There are also at least half a million black-owned businesses — mostly small and some technically illegal according to one or more of the hundreds of rules and regulations which restrict them from economic freedom — providing jobs for the unemployed."

THE African Council of Hawkers and Informal Business is to hold a general meeting for all its members at Khotso House, Johannesburg, at 9am today, to establish a formal organisational structure.

At the meeting, members will elect a new executive committee; officials to run the seven branches of Achib has already started in the Transvaal; representatives to negotiate with

295 Sowetan 24/2/88

IMPERIAL

295 FM 26/2/88

Diluted

An increase of 56% in issued shares hindered Imperial's interim performance at bottom line. Though earnings rose 90% to R4,2m (R2,2m), EPS rose only 38% to 30,2c (21,9c) in the six months to December 25. Still, considering the group has had to work on rationalising certain divisions, this is a creditable performance.

Joint MD Bill Lynch tells me the main surge came from Imperial's expanded rental division after it acquired major competitor Hertz. The acquisition effectively doubled Imperial's market share. Says Lynch: "During the last three months of 1987, our combined turnover grew about 75%, well ahead of the 46% increase mentioned for the market as a whole. Rental division earnings contributed about 30% of the group total."

The motor division was hampered by scarcity of new cars and the used car business was not as buoyant as a year ago. "There seems to be an element of buyers switching back to new cars," Lynch says. The division's turnover increased by about 30%.

He says the truck division enjoyed even stronger turnover growth. "It was dynamic and up about 70%." But this increase includes contributions from acquisitions Nationwide and De Jongh's Engineering.

"Overall," says Lynch, "we maintained a healthy divisional balance." Though the interest bill fell against the comparable period in 1986, year-end debt:equity has risen to some 40% (last year's listing cut Imperial 100% gearing to insignificant level). Lynch does not see the present debt level a problem. "If interest rates should climb rapidly, and we don't expect this, we have short-term capacity to correct the situation."

Imperial has a balanced business mix with its rental business usually doing well in recession. And there must be more opportunity to streamline after acquisitions. Lynch says the new car business could keep growing for another couple of years.

At 375c, the share is well up on the 275c pre-listing issue price a year ago. Imperial has yet to show the really strong EPS growth which has recently been characteristic of the motor industry. It could come through in the second half.

Dave Edwards

Vehicle leasing set for R450m

Business Times Reporter

THE full-maintenance and long-term vehicle leasing market — worth R50-million a year — is expected to grow to R450-million in the next five years.

Pienkes du Plessis, executive chairman of Motorvia — the largest vehicle transporter in SA and holding company of Budget Rent a Car — says the recently formed subsidiary, Budget Autolease, entered the long-term leasing market in July 1987 and is showing profits.

"We expect this area of our business to make a major contribution to the growth of the group," says Mr du Plessis.

"The full-maintenance leasing business in SA is in its infancy. In the UK and the US, full-maintenance leasing accounts for 20% and 35% respectively of new-car sales. It accounts for only 6% in SA."

Budget Autolease has vehicles worth more than R12-million on the road under its ful- maintenance leasing scheme. Motorvia accounts for about 68% of the vehicle transport market — moving 20 000 vehicles a month. Its main suppliers are Toyota, Volkswagen and Samcor.

A national computer network — running off a mainframe at the group's headquarters in Parktown, Johannesburg — has been developed to control and co-ordinate the operations of Motorvia, Budget Rent a Car and Budget Autolease.



A FIGHTER FOR TRADERS RIGHTS

Sowetan 4/3/88

295

MRS Beauty Nkosi who has braved winds, rain and raids for 21 years as a hawker outside the Johannesburg station, was last week elected the full-time treasurer of the African Council of Hawkers and Informal Businesses.

Mrs Nkosi joined Achib, an organisation fighting for hawkers' rights, in 1986 when it was formed. She is also chairman of the United Women for Informal Traders (Uwit), an organisation she founded in 1986.

The organisation has an estimated membership of 200 in Johannesburg, Tembisa and the Vaal Triangle.

"Uwit was formed to assist ordinary women who take to the streets and pavements selling their goods trying to make ends meet but with no basic business knowledge," said Mrs Nkosi.

This Soweto mother of three got into the selling trade in 1967 when she got married to a hawker. Her husband left the trade

By PHANGISILE MTSHALI

soon after the marriage and she continued on her own.

"Because I am a mother I used to get to my stand after I had finished with my household chores," said Mrs Nkosi. "And I would leave again at 5pm to prepare supper for my family. I was always a full-time housewife."

Nights in jail

"In my 21 years as a hawker I have spent countless nights in jail and have lost a fortune in fines. For every raid we are fined R100 and sometimes the stock is taken."

Mrs Nkosi says the formation of Uwit and Achid were a result of continuous raids by the traffic department, railway police and South African Police.

"We are fighting for licences and we also handle cases when some of the licence holders are raided and held," she explained.

"To upgrade hawkers' knowledge we organised cooking classes, held twice a week, for those who sell food and basic lessons in sewing for those who sell clothes.

"We also teach basic business skills like marketing, stock control, territory planning and investments."

Although Mrs Nkosi is now an office bearer she still keeps her stand and has hired someone to man it.

"We aim to make the women on the pavement aware that they are important to the society and the Government," Mrs Nkosi explained.

"The authorities must respect women and not throw them in their vans during raids. This happens while some women are pregnant and others are not well," she said.

FOR THOSE

Hawkers urged to fight for rights

PRESIDENT of the African Council of Hawkers and Informal Business, Mr Lawrence Mavundla, has warned hawkers to fight for their rights because they contributed to the economy of the country.

Addressing the annul general mecting of the council in Johannesburg this week, he urged members to remain united in their fight against harassment, arrests ad confiscation of their merchandise.

Mr Mavundla said if members did not pay their subscription fees they would have no control over the officials who run the organisation.

He said some members approached the organisation only when they had problems. Members did not pay their subscription fees.

"Our duty is to do what is right for our community. But if we have to meet the conditions of all the different companies, churches and political organisations who fund us, we will lose our credibility," he said.

• See page 10.

MANPOWER MIRROR by JULIE WALKER

The other side of black agency coin

THE practice of charging job-seekers is uncommon in white employment agencies, but almost usual in those who deal with blacks.

Two weeks ago, Manpower Mirror looked at potential changes in legislation regarding the charging of job-seekers by employment agencies. At present the law allows agencies to charge job-seekers, but a recommendation for the repeal of this provision has been made by the National Manpower Commission.

None of the larger employment agencies approached by Business Times charges the job-seeker or candidate. The preferred method of earning commission is to charge the employer.

One personnel agency says it several black employment bureaux charge the job-seeker. It is often done in a dishonest manner, the employment agency disappearing shortly after attracting candidates and collecting fees.

Modest deposit

Mrs Elizabeth Stander, of the Kwa-Moshomong black employment agency in Pretoria, says Business Times carried only one side of the story. She says that perhaps only two in a hundred potential candidates can be placed.

"We charge a modest deposit of R10 or R20 for administrative costs, but it does not come anywhere near covering the total.

"Many of our candidates are unqualified and have little education. They do not know what a curriculum vitae is. Many of them have not worked for several years and have eight children to support. They are penniless."

Pretoria is particularly bad for employment, and many companies are unwilling to accept qualified black staff, insisting on white employees.

"We feel sorry for blacks and try our best to place them, but their expectations are often unrealistic. We may suggest an employer and say that the job offered will pay R400 or R500 a month. That is realistic for someone with neither experience nor qualification, but he wants much more.

"We have school-leavers who want R900 a month. They wonder why they cannot find a job."

Drivers

Mrs Stander says her company placed 89 job-seekers in the first seven weeks of 1988.

She says some employers also have high unreasonable expectations.

"We have a flood of drivers. But some employers want them to drive to Durban and back in a day for R300 a month. That is not on. Many say they will not take card-carrying trade union members who may be politically inclined, yet still require leadership qualities. They try to avoid the trouble-causers".

Kwa-Moshomong, which means place for work, says it distributes leaflets to potential employers who phone when they need workers.

Costly

Mrs Stander says some black employment agencies charge a registration fee, but specify that once placed, the candidate must pay between 7,5% and 20% of his salary for the first three months he works.

The administration of work-seekers is costly. A five-page application form must be completed.

"Many of them do not understand all the words and we are obliged to employ staff who speak black languages to assist with the filling in of the form. These are then photocopied.

"We obtain a credit-rating for the candidate. Such a clearance costs R3,50.

"Our consultants telephone prospective employers. It can take days to get even a nibble."

The average starting salary varies — drivers can expect R450 to R600 a month. Other workers may have to accept as little as R300 a month.

It's a ball for car renters

SIF 6/3/88 (295)

CONSUMERS are laughing all the way in their rental cars as the Big Three — Avis, Budget and Imperial — dig deeper into their profits to finance their "Who's Best?" campaigns.

Following in the tracks left by Budget after it introduced a day-one flat rate two weeks ago, Avis and Imperial have lowered their charges.

Avis and Imperial have introduced special rates on certain makes of cars to give Budget, which wants to "Rate Best", a run for its money.

The Big Three have ordered more than R250-million worth of new cars. Avis will spend more than R100-million and its competitors about R80-million each on new vehicles.

The Big Three offer a flat rental rate from the first day, and not one that is applicable over four or more days. Alternatively, customers may pay the previous tariff if it is cheaper.

By Udo Rypstra

Budget was the first to introduce the new rate. Avis and Imperial followed.

The flat rate — R79 a day for a Group A car — is good for Imperial customers who travel more than 113km a day, Budget drivers who cover more than 105km and Avis renters who do more than 80km.

The average distance travelled from the Jan Smuts Airport car rental depots is about 100km.

The Big Three brought their tariffs in line through the SA Vehicle Rental & Leasing Association after heavy discounting of up to 60% on some tariffs endangered Budget. The move by Budget, now backed by Motorvia, to break away from the fold with a cheaper day tariff is said to have taken Avis and Imperial by surprise.

Avis matched Budget's tariff almost immediately, but Imperial took a week "of consideration" before following.

The three companies say they do not wish to become involved in a price war.

Imperial managing director Carol Scott says the rate adjustment will cost her company about 3% in lost revenue.

The industry does not have to reduce rates for lack of business — there is a shortage of cars at airports.

Miss Scott believes that rates will have to be increased to compensate up for an expected 18% rise in car prices, higher staff salaries, maintenance costs and other overheads.

"Cut rates further, and something has got to give. Service will suffer. That is the last thing the SA businessman wants."

Imperial has introduced a "special" — an air-conditioned Corolla 1600cc for R85 a day.

Avis, after the resumption of supplies from Mercedes-Benz, has resumed its half-price rental on these makes. It rents the 200 model for R42 a day and 60c a kilometre, or R105 a day on the unlimited rate.

Imperial's major problem, says Miss Scott, is to increase its fleet of 4 200 vehicles as soon as manufacturers can deliver the cars.

"Since December, we have put on an additional 1 400 cars. We receive requests for as many as 62 cars from one flight to Jan Smuts and have to turn customers away. We plan to buy 4 000 cars this year."

Legal guide for laymen

(295) Star 7/3/88

The Transvaal Law Society has published a leaflet to guide people who feel they have grounds for a complaint of unprofessional conduct against their attorney.

"Lawyers are entrusted with asserting or defending the rights of their clients before the courts and thus have a high standing in the community," says the president of the society, Mr Cyril Jaffe.

"It is therefore fitting that, like doctors, they should try to ensure that no member of their profession is allowed to sully that standing by unprofessional conduct."

COUNCIL'S POWERS

The leaflet says the disciplinary powers of the council of a provincial law society are limited to reprimanding attorneys or imposing fines of up to R2 000.

However, if the council feels that the attorney concerned may have been guilty of more serious unprofessional conduct, it will instruct its attorneys to start proceedings against him in the Supreme Court, to have his name removed from the roll or have him suspended from practice.

The leaflet also says: "If the conduct giving rise to a complaint is likely to form the subject of civil or criminal proceedings, the council will usually not adjudicate on it until those proceedings have run their course.

NO JURISDICTION

"The council does not have jurisdiction to investigate complaints of alleged incompetence or negligence. However, complaints of gross incompetence or gross negligence may form the subject of a disciplinary inquiry.

"Furthermore, a council has no jurisdiction to award compensation if an attorney has been negligent.

"The council can and does investigate complaints regarding the ethical behaviour of attorneys over whom it has jurisdiction."

The leaflet is available free of charge from The Law Society of the Transvaal, P O Box 1493, Pretoria 0001, or telephone the society at (012) 322-7296.

Achib calls for jobless to take up hawking

THE African Council of Hawkers and Informal Business (Achib) has called on all unemployed to look to hawking as an employment option rather than accept hand-outs.

Achib was reacting to Operation Hunger's estimate that it would have to feed 1,2-million people this year because of the high unemployment rate and lack of opportunities for unskilled workers.

THEO RAWANA

Achib believes many people can be absorbed into hawking, earn a good living and start a cycle of entrepreneurship within their families.

Achib general secretary Nomsa Makae said: "It takes only R135 to set up as a hawker and this money can be paid back within a week."

91 AIDS cases

PRETORIA — Out of a total of 91 South Africans, mostly homosexual or bisexual men, diagnosed as AIDS cases, 59 have died, the Department of National Health announced yesterday.

REPORTS: Own Correspondents and Sapa-Reuter

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Ccawusa still split into two factions

ALAN FINE

ONE of the two factions in the Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers' Union (Ccawusa) refused on Sunday to take part in the Johannesburg branch AGM, confirming that January's court agreement has not healed union divisions.

The branch AGM was one of eight to be held in terms of the court settlement. Delegates elected at the gatherings are to attend a national conference of the union to be held by mid-May.

The Johannesburg meeting refused to support the adoption of the Freedom Charter.

PFP hits at govt's R13,4bn pay bill

PRETORIA — PFP criticism of the latest public servants' pay bill — which has soared in five years by 151% to R13,4bn (R5,3bn in 1982/83) — has been sharp.

PFP finance spokesman Harry Schwarz said government should take swift and effective action to curb such staggering costs.

As a percentage of GDP, public-service pay rose from 6,5% to 7,6%. As a percentage of state revenue, the pay bill soared from 28,8% to 33,5%.

Schwarz said an ever-increasing share of the GDP was being lavished on maintaining the public service. Somewhere a halt had to be called and surely that was now.

And it would not help to privatise services which were profitable.

GERALD REILLY

As well, the huge amounts spent on ideological activities should be halted or drastically trimmed.

The R13,4bn pay bill breaks down into: wages and salaries R9,7bn (R3,9bn five years ago); bonuses R594m (R216m); housing subsidies R449m (R92m); medical aid contributions R215m (R71m); pension contributions R1,8bn (R701m); car schemes R21,5m (R8,2m); leave and retirement gratuities R109m (R36m); other direct and indirect benefits R474m (R249m).

A school for photographers

Soweto 913188 295

A PHOTOGRAPHERS' association has been launched in Johannesburg.

The SA Photographers' Association is the brainchild of the African Council of Hawkers and Informal Businesses.

Mr Victor Mabaso, the head of the association, said the organisation was established to forge links between photographers and concerns servicing them.

The association will hold a series of meetings starting tonight at the Methodist Church, Kagiso 2 (7pm); Methodist Youth Centre, Central Western Jabavu (2pm) tomorrow; AME Church, 2972 Mohlakeng, Friday (6,30pm).

Beauty Nkosi fights for hawkers' rights



BEAUTY NKOSI: "We aim to make the women on the pavement aware that they are important to society."

By Phangisile Mtshali

Wind, rain and raids for 21 years have not deterred Mrs Beauty Nkosi from hawking outside the Johannsburg station.

And it is her firsthand experience of the problems facing hawkers that led to her election as full-time treasurer of the African Council of Hawkers and Informal Businesses (Achib).

Mrs Nkosi joined Achib, an organisation fighting for hawkers' rights, in 1986 when it was formed. She is chairman of the United Women for Informal Traders (Uwit), an organisation she founded in 1986.

"Uwit was formed to assist ordinary women who take to the streets and pavements, selling their goods trying to make ends meet but with no basic business knowledge," said Mrs Nkosi.

This Soweto mother of three entered the selling trade in 1967 when she married a hawker. Her husband left the trade, and she continued on her own.

"Because I am a mother I used to get to my stand after I had finished with my household chores," said Mrs Nkosi. "And I would leave again at 5 pm to prepare supper for my family. I was always a full-time housewife."

"In my 21 years as a hawker I have spent countless nights in jail and have lost a fortune in fines. For every raid we are fined R100 and sometimes the stock is taken."

Mrs Nkosi says the formation of Uwit and Achid resulted from the continuous raids by the traffic department, railway police and South African Police.

"We are fighting for licences and we also handle cases when some of the licence holders are raided and held," she explained.

"To upgrade hawkers' knowledge we organised cooking classes, held twice a week, for those who sell food and basic lessons in sewing for those who sell clothes.

"We also teach basic business skills like marketing, stock control, territory planning and investments."

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"The authorities must respect women and not throw them in their vans during raids. This happens while some women are pregnant," she said.

MODE. 1 2 3 4 5
MAG % 101.2 85.0 75.0 70.7 61.5
REG. 0.506 0.425 0.375 0.354 0.308
TOLS ±0.030 INS. MEASURED FROM LEAD EDGE TO HORIZONTAL REF.
HORIZONTAL REFERENCE LINE 11"
VERTICAL REFERENCE LINE 10"
FIELD USE ONLY

Hawking could ease feeding scheme load

By Robyn Chalmers

MANY of the estimated 1,3-million people Operation Hunger will feed this year could earn a living by hawking, which has an annual turnover of more than R1-billion.

Operation Hunger executive director Ina Perlman says the formal business sector cannot accommodate the huge number of people who are unemployed. Many people earn their bread and butter in the informal business and industrial sector.

Mrs Perlman says: "In the rural areas people rely on farming for employment. But drought or severe floods, both of which have happened recently, send the rate of unemployment soaring.

"People then rely on outside sources of income, and when there are no jobs to be found in the city, they are in real trouble. Most blacks are vulnerable to forces in the market which are beyond their control."

The African Council of Hawkers and Informal Businesses (Achib) believes that many people can be absorbed into the 150 000 large hawking community.

A capital outlay of R135 is needed, but an Achib spokesman says it can be paid back in a few weeks, after which the hawker owns his "business", and the cycle of entrepreneurship begins.

Mrs Perlman welcomes the idea of a move into hawking, provided that the authorities look at the "reality" of the position and relax laws and regulations governing hawkers and street traders.

This is a problem for all hawkers. Achibs president Lawrence Mavundla says hawkers have been on city pavements since they were laid and have been harassed by police and officials for as long.

Hawking is seen by Achib as a stepping stone to the informal sector, and there will not be too many hawkers on the streets as they are constantly moving to bigger and better things.



□ MAKHUBELA . . . "lot more a man can do than sitting back and sulking"

Two take a shine to back free enterprise

A SHINING example of defeat-turned-to-victory is shown by JSE shoe-cleaning duo Isaiah "Mr Nugget" Hlathswayo and Derrick "Dr Nugget" Makhubela.

The likeable pair have emerged from being victims of the national job slump to becoming part of Johannesburg's financial scene — just shining shoes.

The men, first sponsored with polish and shoe-cleaning kit by the SBDC and Reckitt & Coleman, command so much popularity that even other companies have taken the cue and offered assistance.

With stockbrokers and executives from neighbouring companies among their clientele, the men have moved Insurers AA Life to come forward and supply cover from sun and rain in the form of beach umbrellas, and Kiwi Shoe Polish supplied them with shoe-shine kits, stands and polish.

Retrenched

Hlatshwayo had been working for a cartage company and Makhubela for a fried-chicken outlet when retrenchments forced the 27-year-old bachelors on to the street in 1986.

When the SBDC got to know of their plight, it offered them a R50 loan each and Reckitt & Coleman supplied shoe-cleaning kits, polish and stands.

AA Life assistant GM (marketing) Bruce Howard says the company admired the men's business drive. "It was a small gesture of appreciation, since we felt the men needed 'cover' of some sort," he says.

Kiwi production manager David Grey says his company has always been active in helping the informal sector. "We are doing it on a larger scale in Natal and we intend to do more now in the Transvaal," he says.

The two men have, in response to demand, spread their services to mending heels and supplying shoe laces.

Makhubela has tried his hand at making sandals, and says people have started placing orders for these.

The men, whose initial conflict with some JSE officials who wanted them off the JSE premises sparked a petition by about 300 stockbrokers demanding their reinstatement, are now well settled, making R50 to R60 a day from their trade.

"We have always taken care to keep the area we work in clean and everybody is happy with the service we are rendering," says Hlatshwayo.

Makhubela says their venture has turned his loss of a job into victory. "There is a lot more a man can do than sitting back and sulking because he has lost a job," he says.

The two men, both now 28, are single.

THEO RAWANA



Hoek Street hawker, Mr Sammy Brown, yesterday took delivery of a new hotdog stall which had the queues forming while Mr Jonathan Duma played the "Hawkers' Song", even before the first hotdogs were ready. ● Picture by Sean Woods.

Street battle to be top dog hots up

(295) SMA 15/3/88.

By Shirley Woodgate, Municipal Reporter

Johannesburg's hotdog street war heated up yesterday with the launch of a prototype mobile stall by the African Council of Hawkers (ACH) at the Hoek Street mall.

Entrepreneur Mr Sammy Brown was selling hotdogs like hotcakes within minutes of taking delivery of the gleaming R2 000 stainless steel stand designed on the lines of a coffee cart.

Priced at only R1, the toasted rolls and sausage covered in tomato sauce and mustard undercut his competitors based behind the Stock Exchange by at least 66 percent.

The arrival of the mobile stall was yet another minor milestone in the informal sector's fight to establish itself as a force in the city, said Miss Vicki Sussens, public relations officer of the 14 000-strong ACH.

"Our first task was to get rid of the stringent city by-laws restricting the street vendors. The first breakthrough was when the council changed the regulations forcing hawkers to move every 20 minutes and set up business more than 400 m from the nearest general dealer, to remaining for two hours and dealing only 100 m away.

"Now they are able to establish a fixed clientele."

She estimated there were 900 000 informal businessmen in South Africa, with a buying power of R1 billion. The hawkers spent about R28 million a year at the City Deep vegetable and fruit market alone.

A recent developmemt was that large companies which wanted to sell their products on the black market were approaching ACH to do business which white salesmen were unable to tap, Miss Sussens said.

D/P 1/7/3/85

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All sorts make use of EL pawnbrokers

Daily Dispatch Reporter

EAST LONDON — A Daily Dispatch survey found that the class of clients who go to pawnbrokers has not changed to a great extent, although some pawnbrokers did report an increase in upper class customers.

A report in a British newspaper said pawnbrokers were claiming that the trade was "eager to shrug off the old image of raggedness and desperation, and to clothe itself in the well-tailored stripes of today's executives".

However, it does not seem as though this applies to pawnbrokers here, although the owner of a pawn shop on the West Bank, Mr Ian Miles, said he had had a few "richer people from the richer areas like Bunker's Hill and Beacon Bay".

But he added that the majority of his clients were from the lower classes.

Mr Miles said the main pledges from his "richer" clients were things like television sets, video machines and hi-fis.

"Some of them are rather blase about coming in to sell their stuff while others are much quieter," he said.

Mrs Marina Fourie, from a pawnbrokers shop in Quigney, said their clients were from "all walks of life, but mainly those who battle".

"Most of our pledges are things that people can get their value on and it is usually jewellery," she said.

Mrs Fourie cited shortage of food as the main reason for people having to pawn their belongings.

She also felt many of the people were embarrassed about having to sell their things as they had never done it before.

She added, however, that they try to make their customers feel at ease as "everyone gets into that situation at some stage".

The owner of a pawnshop in Cambridge, Mrs Joanne Breetzke, said the current recession was affecting everyone, not only the poorer classes, but said there were "no really rich people" who came in to sell their things.

"It is mainly the middle and lower classes," she added.

She said lots of very good quality things are brought in, which sells well because "people know what quality is and are willing to pay for it".

She said there were customers who were still embarrassed, while others just didn't care.

"We just want to do a service to help people, and try to make them feel at ease," she said.

Faith in ads 'may take a knock'



Consumer confidence in advertising could be "destroyed" if comparative ads were given any form of official sanction in South Africa.

According to the chairman of Headlines Advertising & Marketing, Roy Mortimer, there were too many opportunists in the marketing and advertising industries who would abuse the ground rules of effective comparative advertising to the extent that the credibility of all advertising could suffer in the eyes of the consumer.

CHRIS MOERDYK

Mr Mortimer is vice-chairman of the Advertising Standards Authority copy committee and a member of the Newspaper Press Union's advertising standards committee.

He said it was understandable that advertising agencies wanted to keep their clients happy and would do "almost anything in some instances" to maintain good relationships.

He added: "In the years I have been involved on these committees there have been innumerable cases where agencies have deliberately flaunted the codes because they knew the ads would appear only once or twice before being outlawed.

"This shows a total lack of responsibility and I believe if comparative advertising is officially sanctioned we will have this sort of irresponsible action increasing four-fold."

Mr Mortimer said the credibility of advertising in the consumer's mind in America "took a terrible knock" when they realised claims and counter-claims were being made about points which were of minor importance to them.

He recalled: "At an annual meeting of the American Association of Advertising Agencies a few years ago the AAAA's president, Leonard Matthews, said the ad industry in the US had been the victim of a terrible disservice when it was urged to come out and name names, show the other brand and let the fur fly in the presumed interest of a better-informed consumer.

"Len Matthews says as a result, the largest number of complaints handled by the regulatory body for the industry in America concern comparative advertisements.

"There is, he says, too much of a temptation to mislead."



SQUARING UP: Does comparative advertising really give the small guy a fighting chance against his bigger competitors — or will the consumer get hurt when the stones start flying?

Smart work 'is the answer to agency squeeze'

Spiralling costs, a chronic skills shortage — a likely scenario for the South African advertising industry in 1988.

What's to be done? Young & Rubicam CE David McKinstry believes the answer is greater productivity and how advertising people apply it to their situation.

He says: "Agencies can expect increased pressure on margins from clients looking to save on advertising costs, coupled with the parallel pressure of a shortage of top talent in South Africa, particularly in the creative area.

"That we may find some relief in a rising economy and a more stable political climate does not detract from the fact that we have to do everything possible to improve productivity.

"In our business, computers and mechanical aids are of limited help. Productivity comes down to personal contribution. It's not just a question of working harder; most of our people work incredibly hard anyway. It is a question of working smarter.

"Most of our clients face similar pressures. Their competitive environments continue to harden and there is also a shortage of good marketing people in this country, so working smarter is also in their interests.

"This means tighter first-time briefs, fewer and shorter meetings, fewer people at meetings and getting to the solution, whether strategic or creative, with less wheelspin."

Man receives fees, disappears

Jobseekers exploited by certain agencies

by June Bearzi,
Star Line

Certain unscrupulous employment agencies have been exploiting desperate jobseekers by illegally charging registration fees of more than R1 with a promise of securing work for them.

Star Line recently highlighted the plight of hundreds of unemployed people, mostly black, who paid amounts ranging from R9 to R20 to SA Employment Representative Council and Funda Employment Training College run by a Soweto businessman, Mr Junior Ngubeni.

Several applicants said that after they had paid the fees they were told to collect identity cards bearing the agency's name the following week. They were told the cards would entitle them to a full salary at the end of the month.

But soon after they paid the cash, Mr Ngubeni disappeared from the Ascot Mansions premises in Johannesburg.

Mrs Patience Lorimer, the National Administrator of APSO (Association of Personnel Service Organisations of South Africa), which represents personnel consultancies in South Africa, told Star Line that legislation passed under the Guidance and Placement Act of 1981 outlawed the levying of registration fees of more than R1 or 7½ percent of the first pay cheque.

APSO president, Mr R M Silver, added: "APSO deplores the charging to applicants of a fee for finding them work and whenever we become aware of such activites we report them to the Department of Manpower.

The National Manpower Commission had published a report recently in which it took up APSO recommendation that the *charging of fees to workseekers* should be prohibited.

A 'learning vacation'

Education Reporter

An exciting cultural programme has been put together for the second Autumn School at Wits University to be held between May 5 and 8.

It will be opened with an art exhibition and chamber music recital on the evening of May 5, and will include lectures, workshops, drama, music, film, fine art, tours, displays, sport, a craft market, a "hot sausage and mealie" bar and a rock 'n roll evening.

Lectures and workshops will be loosely structured around four themes and will explore Africa (township life, Third World issues, art, literature and music), Holism, the Women's Movement and Shakespeare. There will also be lectures of general interest.

The Wits Drama School will stage "The War of Roses", an adaptation of four Shakespeare plays, and Athol Fugard's play, "No Good Friday". A festival of Woody Allen films will be shown.

The St Mary's Cathedral Choir, the Wits Orchestra and jazz and brass bands will also perform.

The Autumn School "learning vacation" is open to students, past students, staff, their families and friends.

For programmes, which include booking sheets, telephone the Office of Alumni Affairs at 716-3481 or the Centre for Continuing Education at 716-5508.

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Free-wheeling hawkers still labour under tight restraints

Black business remained restricted by legislation and municipal regulations in 1987, says the South African Institute of Race Relations (SAIRR).

It writes in its latest edition of *Social and Economic Update* that continuing action against hawkers in Johannesburg suggested that there was still a gap between stated government intentions and official practices affecting black business.

As a consequence of the continuing restrictions, various organisations have been formed to campaign for small traders' rights and which ascribe their emergence to the hostility or indifference of white business and government.

"It may be significant that these new groups appear to be more militant than more established black business organisations and have stated a greater willingness to use tactics such as demonstrations and selective boycotts," SAIRR says.

SVEN LUNSCHE

The quarter under review also provided further evidence that the removal of formal restrictions would not on its own ensure black business development and "the elimination of historical backlogs might require a far bigger injection of government and private-sector resources than either has thus far been willing to give," says SAIRR.

The institute says hundreds of hawkers have been arrested for allegedly trading without a licence or contravening regulations requiring them to move their stands regularly throughout the day.



Johannesburg vendors — still under pressure

Avis orders 8 200 cars

295

AVIS, SA's largest car rental firm, has placed a record order with the motor industry.

It will spend R193-million on 8 200 new cars and mini-buses for rental and another R55-million on cars for its leasing division.

The cars will be bought from the beginning of next month and represent a conservative estimate of fleet demand. More vehicles will probably be bought later in the year.

The purchase is about 50% higher than the previous record — Avis's 5 400 order in 1987.

Of the 8 200 vehicles, 3 5000 will be Volkswagen micro-buses, Golfs and Jettas, 750 Toyotas, 650 Mercedes-Benzes, of which 500 will be Mercedes 200E, 350 Fords, 450 Opel Kadetts, 2 200 Nissan Skylines and

By Don Robertson

Sentras, and 300 3 Series BMWs.

Managing director Tony Langley says rental days increased by 40% in the year to March. The average rental time has risen from 4,75 to 5,5 days.

He ascribes this to an increase in business activity, an almost doubling of the tourist market and a rise in the number of blacks using the service.

Mr Langley says the hire market will probably buy about 15 000 new cars this year, representing about 15% of expected motor industry sales.

Avis has opened 10 branches, bringing the total to 92. Several branches have been upgraded.

"Demand for car rental — in both the leisure and business sectors — has increased in the past few months and we have had to expand our operation.

"Besides the expansion of our branch network, we have built up our fleet to a record 8 500 cars.

"The optimum rental for each car is 21 days a month. We are renting our cars for 24 days a month. This suggests that we will soon have to increase our fleet," says Mr Langley.

However, the company faces considerable losses as a result of accidents and theft which amount to about R1-million a month. Avis reports about 250 thefts a month, of which about 150 vehicles are recovered.

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March 28 1988

SOWETAN, Mo

BLACK TRADERS IN UPHILL STRUGGLE

Sowetan 28/3 188 (295) (347) (358)

BLACK business remained restricted by racial legislation and municipal regulations as 1987 drew to a close.

And continuing action against hawkers in Johannesburg suggested that there was still a gap between stated government intentions and official practices which affect black business.

These findings are highlighted in the latest *Social and Economic Update*, a regular review of social and economic conditions in South Africa, published by the South African Institute of Race Relations in Johannesburg.

Update says that one apparent consequence of continuing restrictions on black business is the formation of organisations such as the African Council of Hawkers and Informal Businesses (ACHIB), the Black Poultry Association, the Johannesburg CBD Chamber of Commerce and the SECHABA/SIZWE Co-Operative, which campaign for small traders rights.

"It may be significant that these new groups appear to be more militant than more established black business organisations and have stated a greater willingness to use tactics such as demonstrations and selective boycotts.

Statements by spokesmen for these organisations suggest that their emergence is a reaction to what they see as the hostility or indifference of white business and the Government; their emergence may therefore constitute a growing challenge to the practices of both groups," *Update* says.

The quarter under review also provided further evidence that the removal of formal restrictions would not on its own ensure black business development.

Still restricted by regulations

Backlog

As in other areas surveyed, the elimination of historical backlogs might require a far bigger injection of government and private sector resources than either had thus far been willing to give.

Turning to specific constraints placed on black businesses, the publication points out that hundreds of hawkers have been arrested in Johannesburg for allegedly trading without a licence or contravening regulations which require them to move at regular intervals throughout the day.



STREET trader . . . harassed by officialdom.

Unlike other business people hawkers must annually renew their licences which are obtained from local authorities. According to a small business specialist, white local authorities often adopt a "paternalistic and prejudiced attitude to hawkers, a legacy of the past when they were considered a nuisance."

Update points out that industrial areas established since the passing of the Group Areas Act in 1950 are open to industrialists of a particular race only, usually whites. However, areas established before then are open to all races — one enterprise developer estimates that about 67% of industrial areas are thus open.

Despite this, however, black access to these areas is extremely limited in practice because prospective black industrialists do not know where the open areas are situated and can determine the precise areas only by consulting a surveyor's office.

The publication also reported on constraints on black businessmen imposed by what may appear to be an unlikely source — black local authorities.

Q'town yes to street vendors

Daily Dispatch Reporter

QUEENSTOWN — Vendors selling hotdogs, boerewors rolls and braaivleis from carts will soon be seen on Queenstown pavements.

The town council has agreed to follow this trend which is popular in Port Elizabeth and East London, but prospective operators will have to comply with the strict requirements of the municipal health department.

Before agreeing to the scheme the council approached the Afrikaanse Sakekamer, the Chamber of Commerce and the SAP for their comments.

They had no objection and the Sakekamer replied that it welcomed this type of enterprise.

The council has stipulated that besides obtaining a hawker's licence, operators must buy foodstuffs from an approved supplier.

It also decided that a private individual would be allowed to operate only one cart from residential premises, but an existing business would not be restricted to the number of carts.

Vendors will not be allowed to trade in the town's main street or near a business which sells cooked foodstuffs.

The council also intends asking the Small Business Development Corporation to introduce specially constructed hawker carts.

The corporation leases these carts at a nominal fee to hawkers selling fresh produce.

Home-businesses are booming in SA

New call to lift reins off the informal sector

By Michael Chester

There are now no fewer than 1,5 million home mini-business ventures in South Africa, earning more than R20 billion a year.

Most go unrecorded in official statistics and operate without trade licences.

The new estimates of the mushroom growth of the informal sector of the business world come from a nation-wide survey by the Self-Employment Institute (SEI).

Mr Theo Rudman, executive director of the SEI, argues that the success of operations proves the enormous potential role of the informal sector as a booster to economic growth — if the Government orders a halt to bureaucratic harassment of mini-businesses with out-moded rules and regulations.

Equally important, he believes, is Government recognition of the sector's role as a catalyst to close the economic gap between the rich-and-poor First World and Third World elements of South African society, with action to allow them equal opportunity to exercise their inter-dependent business initiatives.

Research by the SEI shows that no fewer than 300 000 white families are now running business bee-hives at their homes — and pulling in an annual R1 800 million.

Here, says Mr Rudman, the main motive is to pad out normal wages and salaries to protect standards of living from erosion by high taxation and inflation.

Typical off-the-record part-time operations by white families are activities such as evening freelance work by accountants and architects, moonlight services by plumbers and electricians and knitting and sewing by housewives who sell their products at neighbourhood weekend flea markets.

The number of black families running their own unofficial businesses — hawkers to backyard motor repair mechanics — is now estimated at no fewer than 1,2 million, with a combined annual turnover of a staggering R15 billion to R20 billion a year.

Here the main motivation is the sheer necessity to find alternatives to unemployment, or else bolster low wages or flex initiatives as business entrepreneurs to join the main economic mainstream.

The dimensions of unrecorded trade have been underscored by a recent phenomenal surge in the circulation of bank notes that first mystified the SA Reserve Bank — until it discovered the cause was the amount of cash flowing in and out of the informal sector, which is inclined to insist on cash rather than cheques or credit cards in its transactions.

"The scale of operations makes the mind boggle," says Mr Rudman. "And it is high time that South Africa gave its informal sector full recognition and encouragement as a new generator of economic growth — rather than throttle it with bureaucratic rules and regulations.

"So far in South Africa we have been trying to enforce First World standards on all business ventures, which has slammed the door on much of the Third World and forced it underground.

Yet, encouragement of the informal sector can provide the bridges to mobilise the full potential of the entire population.

"It has been estimated that South Africa would need to spend at least R4,5 billion a year inside the formal sector over the next decade and beyond to create all the new jobs needed to cope with the population explosion and the school-leavers expected to hit the labour market.

"We need to face the blunt fact that the cash will not be forthcoming.

"There has to be an entirely new and radical approach to the problem. And it is the informal sector that holds most of the solutions."

The SEI now plans to propose two specific channels of action by the Government:

- A far bigger allocation of funds to finance training programmes to teach basic job skills to unemployed workers, with much more emphasis on basic management methods to groom a new generation of self-employed entrepreneurs.
- The appointment of a special ombudsman, or commissioner, to monitor existing and any proposed new pieces of legislation to weed out unnecessary restrictions and ensure a fair deal for the informal sector.

Mr Rudman underlines the recent findings by the Institute of Futures Research, at Stellenbosch University, that while 7,7 million South Africans had full-time jobs at a 1985 count, no fewer than 4,3 million were entirely jobless or else only partially employed.

"We can no longer afford to ignore the opportunity to mobilise the vast proportion of our labour force that is in limbo and to crack an unemployment problem that threatens to grow into a crisis unless there is action.

"Britain and Taiwan are perfect examples of economies that have given relatively free rein to their informal sectors, with astonishing results. South Africa simply dare not leave itself trailing behind."

THE ECONOMY

HAWKERS are tackling township shop owners now that their campaign against harassment in Johannesburg and Tembisa has succeeded.

Township shopkeepers are afraid of competition from the hawkers, according to Laurence Mavundla, president of the 13 500-member African Council of Hawkers and Informal Businesses (Achib).

In an interview this week in Johannesburg, he said his organisation's members were still struggling to acquire trading licences from black local authorities, whereas white councils were willing to negotiate.

Achib has called on township shop owners to cut their opening hours to nine hours per day during the week and half-days on Saturdays and to close down on Sundays, so that hawkers will have a chance to operate.

Mavundla said most shops in the townships operate from six in the morning till nine in the evening every day, and hawkers were restricted from operating while shops remained open.

And he accused shopkeepers of exploiting their workers, who were not being paid overtime.

Mavundla said he expected trade unions would support Achib in its call for shorter working hours. "The shops should do this on their own, before the unions can get in," he said.

Achib has also called on township shop owners to stop serving in community councils where, Mavundla said, they manipulate their positions to protect their own interests.

"They implement laws which are restrictive to the hawkers and the spaza shops — little shops which people run from their homes in the townships — which is a clear indication that they are not there to represent the community," he said.

He accused shop owners on community councils of instructing municipal police to raid the hawkers "because they are a threat to their existing business".

The Achib president said his organisation "rejects any form of exploitation either from white or black capitalists".

But Achib has not approached the National African Federated Chamber of Commerce and Industries (Nafcoc), the organisation to which most township shop owners belong.

Nafcoc representative GM Mokgoko said his organisation would discuss the issue with the hawkers if Achib put a formal proposal to the federation. Nafcoc would then forward Achib's demands to its 18 regional branches and a decision would have to be made on a national level.

The Small Business Development Corporation's (SBDC) Johan Naudé disagreed with Achib's proposal that township shop hours be restricted because, he said, this was counter to free market principles. Instead, the SBDC supported the scrapping of shop hour regulations.

He confirmed that established traders were worried about competition from the hawkers. But he urged township councils to allow hawkers to operate freely and support the concept of small business.

Naudé said there had been some raids on hawkers earlier this year in Johannesburg but all in all the situation had improved.

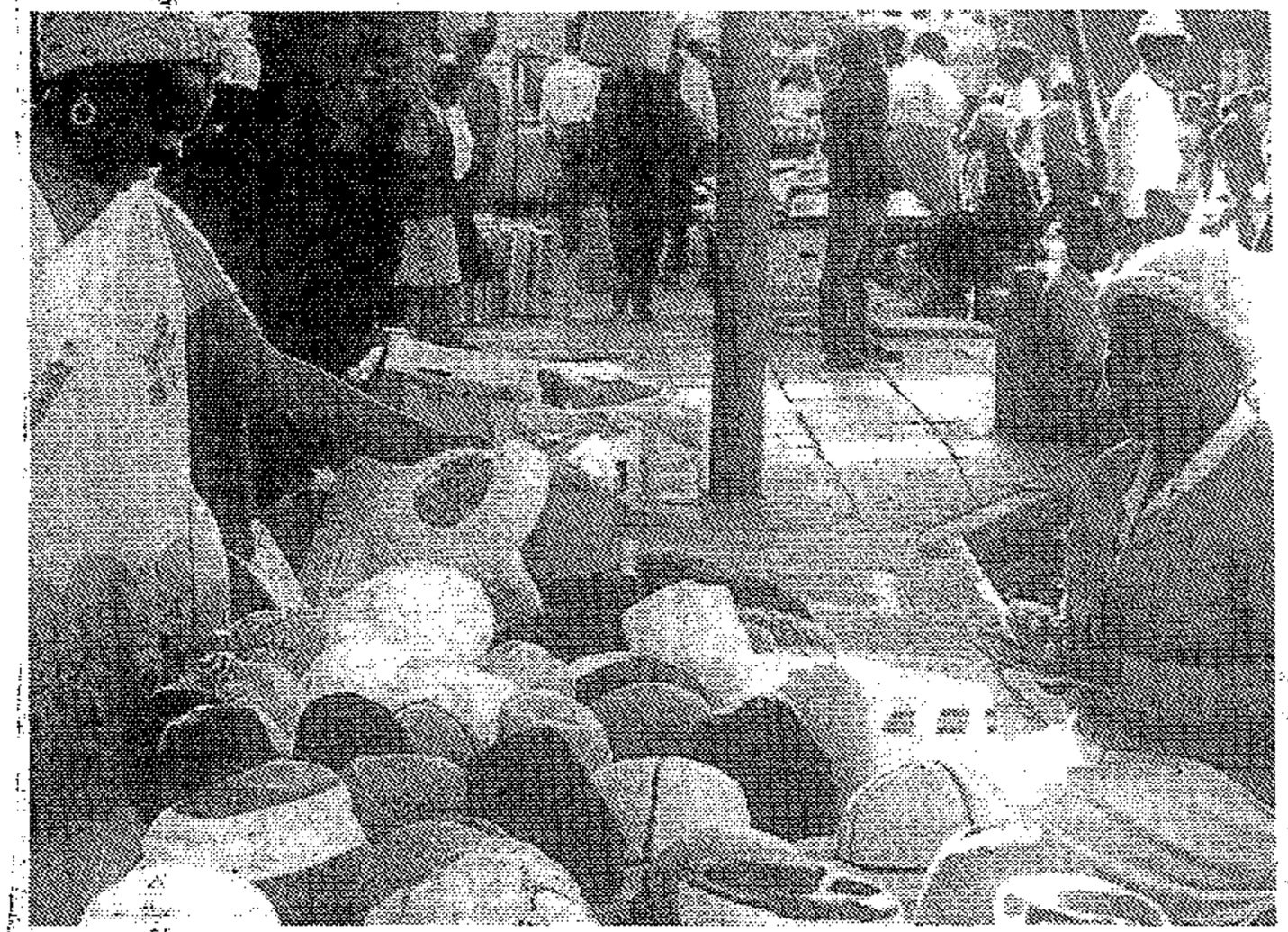
He said: "Local authorities are beginning to realise that street vendors can play an important role in stimulating economic growth."

The Johannesburg City Council has changed its regulations over the past

W/Mercury 15-21/4/88

Township hawkers' biggest rivals: (295) black shop owners

Black hawkers have won their battles against harassment in white areas, but in many black townships their struggles continue. The reason: black shop-owners fear the competition. MZIMKULU MALUNGA reports



year, making it easier for hawkers to acquire licences and to operate.

The council's acting chief licence officer, Kathy Filmalter, said changes in the regulation since 1986/7 included:

- simplifying the application form for the hawker's licence which makes it easier to complete; the city council is also trying to get the rules changed so that hawkers' licences can be renewed annually (instead of their having to re-apply each year);
- the requirement that the hawkers give notice in both English and Afrikaans papers of their intention to trade has been scrapped;
- a change in the laws affecting hawkers trading in the Central Business District: hawkers are no longer requred to stay 400m away from a general dealer but are now allowed to trade as close as 100m, as long they are not selling the same commodities as the shop;
- the stipulated movement of street vendors has been extended from one to two hours;
- the restricted area has been reduced substantially, giving hawkers a bigger area in which to trade;
- the city council has demarcated hawkers' pitches in the restricted area where hawkers are allowed to trade without having to move every two hours.

Filmalter said the council was looking for other demarcated areas for hawkers.

The restricted area, in which hawkers cannot trade, is bounded by West, Troye, Plein and Anderson Streets. But within this area, the Hoek Street mall has been demarcated for hawkers. There they can trade freely without having to move every two hours.

Faraday bus terminus, New Doornfontein bus terminus and Kasene bus terminus have also been demarcated for the hawkers.

Outside the restricted area hawkers can trade but have to move every two hours.

Filmalter said: "We are still working to make things easier for the hawkers." She called on hawkers to keep their trading areas clean and asked them not to "obstruct traffic and pedestrian movement".

Rent-a-Rig just keeps growing

By Tom Hood

CAPE TOWN — Keith Blair and John Sanders have come a long way on their Rent-a-Rig trucks — and they intend going a lot further.

Their company, Sure Group Holdings (Suregro), has grown to cover a wide range of transport-related interests. The Epping-based company had a turnover of R16,2 million last year. Projected turnover for 1988 is R19,1 million.

The initiative which started when the two former Britons bought assets from Rennies Rigging in 1976. The specialised machine-moving company they started, Rent-a-Rig, has just rolled on and on since then.

Rent-a-Rig is, in spite of its catchy name, not a business where one rents a vehicle. It hires out trucks with drivers for the specialist moving of cargoes. Much of this business is with big corporations. It operates a fleet of about 100 trucks to all parts of South and Southern Africa and has branches in Durban, Johannesburg and Port Elizabeth.

Rent-a-Rig started a self-perpetuating chain and other interests followed.

Sanders, a mechanical engineer, and Blair, a marketing specialist, have succeeded in getting their interests to overlap and complement each other — no mean feat in an nvironment where businessmen compete un givingly.

They have carefully separated their business and homes lives. It's all business when they're at their industrial park premises in Epping.

"'We have a board meeting every day," said Blair, whose office is directly adjacent to Sanders'," so we can take decisions rapidly."

Business mushroomed from this.

Out of the machine-moving enterprise evolved the Forklift Hire operation (1983); a parts division (Sureparts in 1985), which sells original equipment parts for the heavy truck industry on a national basis;and a materials handling enterprise (Surequip, also 1985).

Surequip's business is the sale of new forklifts, parts and tyres as well as the refurbishment of forklifts.

The company operates over 280 forklifts. It took over Paardeneiland-based Phoenix Forktrucks earlier this year to make it the largest forklift operator in the country. It has the dealerships for top-of-the-range Lansing, Mitsubishi and NYK forklifts. Philosophies

Sureparts has also seen major growth. It now operates in major centres around the country. Last year it acquired the Foden and Kenworth truck dealerships. These trucks, neither of which have been marketed widely in South Africa, are being assembled in Epping.

The first four units were sold ahead of completion. About 20 of the pantecnicans will be produced this year.

The spreading out of the company was not the result of a corporate policy or objective, but followed gradually in a natural process as Blair and Sanders negotiated venture by venture.

The company has been built on solid foundations. Sanders and Blair are men with basic philosophies which they have stuck to.

"We've built our business up around people," said Sanders.

Suregro now employs about 300 people, many of who have been with the copany since its inception.

"Participation in profits is meaningful to our employees," said Blair.

Incentive is very important to Blair and Sanders. All the employees work for a bonus and the directors feel that this incentive puts pleasure in the work.It may be that Suregro has not followed business norms, but Sanders and Blair's "hands-on" style of management speaks for itself.

A profit participation scheme is followed among Suregro's white-collar staff.

"We speak to all the people who are employed here. We've got good people," added Sanders simply.

Shop-owners protest

TOWNSHIP shop-owners have come out against what they claim is unfair competition from supermarket chains.

They also face increased competition from 150 000 hawkers.

African Council of Hawkers and Informal Businesses (Achib) president Laurence Mavundla says his organisation has difficulty in receiving licences from black authorities.

By Robyn Chalmers

"Many of the town councillors have interests in township stores and protect them by not granting licences."

Publicity secretary Vicki Sussens says Achib's deregulation committee negotiates with town councillors for better conditions, but efforts are often thwarted.

Most township store owners belong to the National African Federated Chamber of Commerce and Industries (Nafcoc) and treasurer Sy Kutumela defends their position.

Stifled

"Hawkers and shop-owners should not be fighting, but working together to achieve a more balanced competitive field with the large white-owned stores.

"Black business has been stifled for a long time. Because we were late starters, we are far behind white businesses."

Mr Kutumela estimates that township shops take about 10% of black spending money because of the constraints placed on them.

"We have small stores, limited goods and are far from manufacturers. We also have a captive market as opposed to their open-ended market," he says.

Better prices, good merchandising and improving the facilities and size of stores are a few ways Mr Kutumela sees for increasing business.

Another problem is the mushrooming of white-owned stores on the borders of townships, and black shops acting as fronts for white businesses.

The Greater Soweto Chamber of Commerce and Industries (GSCCI) has set up a committee to investigate this and has formed a community chest to plough some money back into the community.

Committee leader Snowy Mashigo says: "A major township wholesaler has been found guilty of acting as a front for a white-owned business, and township traders are being encouraged to buy stock elsewhere."

988

Avis in front rank

AVIS Car Leasing plans to deliver 5 000 cars this year worth R120-million, confirming its position as market leader in the full maintenance leasing market.

Avis Leasing's emergence as a top seller has been caused by its ability to specialise in fleet management. It says it provides a total service to fleet operators and professionals.

"This includes the acquisition of vehicles, providing finance, managing maintenance, resolving technical problems and disposal of the vehicle at the end of the contract," says general manager Greville Wilson.

"Our clients are not exposed to the risks of guaranteed buy-backs, unexpected repair bills and of negotiating with various parties to acquire and manage a fleet."

Avis charges its clients a monthly rental which can be fixed or adjusted to suit the client's needs.

Women set up business alongside muti traders

Star 4/5/08

By Sally Sealey

For anyone looking for colourful yet reasonably priced pillows in Johannesburg, the "Mai Mai" market is the place to go.

A group of women have set up business outside the popular market, alongside muti traders and cabinet makers.

The market, which is between Durban and Anderson streets, just under the M2 East in Johannesburg, is named after a brand of sorghum beer, which continues to be brewed despite the authorities' disapproval.

The women would not give their names.

NO LICENCES

Said one: "We are often harassed by the police, they confiscate our cushions and often take one of us with them. We pay a R100 fine, but our goods are never returned".

A spokesman for the Johannesburg Traffic and Security Department, Mr Eric Hill said: "We don't conduct raids as such, we generally respond to complaints. The women were arrested because they did not have licences. Their goods are confiscated and on the payment of a fine, returned to them."

The women said they had been trading at the Mai Mai market for many years and all they wanted to do was to trade legally.

Every day there are between 20 and 30 women making cushions.

Wharton-Hood claim 'fatuous'

Star 7/5/88, 295

A CLAIM by Liberty Life joint managing director Dorian Wharton-Hood on this page last week that public service campaigns are a waste of time has drawn vigorous reaction from David McKinstry, chief executive of Young & Rubicam in South Africa.

Mr Wharton-Hood, says Mr McKinstry, "offers no substantiation for this fatuous statement and I believe his remarks show a clear misunderstanding of how advertising works and what its role is in public service campaigns.

"Of course advertising is merely one of the means of persuading people to change attitudes and any cause is better served if it is supported in a cohesive way by other channels of persuasion like PR and promotion and personal selling.

"But to dismiss advertising's role in this communications mix as 'a waste' is just nonsense."

The objective of most public service campaigns is to get people to buy an idea, says Mr McKinstry.

The change in attitudes is difficult to measure, but nonetheless it is possible to do so.

"In South Africa, there is no question that advertising has played its part in moulding public opinion for causes such as SANTA, Child Welfare, Family Planning and of course the Literacy Campaign run by the Ad Council.

"In the latter campaign, we know that after six months in a representative sample of white urban adults, 90 percent held the view that illiteracy was a major problem in South Africa and more significantly almost 90 percent believed that it was the task of all South Africans to contribute to its solution — results that were due almost entirely to the power of advertising."

Some public service campaigns may work better than others and some might not work at all, "but that's true of commercials as well.

"The weight of evidence in South Africa and all round the world is that advertising has a crucial and positive role to play in public service issues."

Service for gran Moyo

Sowetan 9/5/88

295

By SY MAKARINGE

Mrs HARRIET Moyo, pioneer of black hawking, who died in 1986, was remembered at a moving commemoration service held at the Central Methodist Church in Johannesburg on Saturday.

Speakers at the service, organised by the African Council of Hawkers and Informal Business (Achib), included Mr Lawrence Mavundla, Achib's president, Mr Khulu Sibiya, editor of *City Press* and Mrs Beauty Nkosi, chairperson of the United Women for Informal Traders.

Mrs Moyo, who was known as Granny Moyo, started hawking outside the Johannesburg railway station in 1927. She died about two years ago after sustaining injuries in a police raid. raid.

Speakers said Mrs Moyo was "a tigress" whose wish was that hawkers should not have to stay on the streets forever. They said her wish was gradually becoming true.

Mrs Nkosi, who worked with Mrs Moyo for many years, said she vividly remembered her as a very kind, but courageous woman who devoted her whole life in fighting for the rights of the black hawker.

Harassed

She said although Mrs Moyo was continually harassed and arrested by traffic officers, she did not give up.

"Granny Moyo worked as a hawker to support her family. But in the eyes of the authorities, she was breaking the law. She was a tigress," she said.

Mr Sibiya urged the hawkers to continue from where Mrs Moyo left off. He said they should start ignoring "inappropriate" laws.

Stokvels have a party as they get financial support

By MZIMKULU MALUNGA

THE African Bank is to provide financial assistance to the National Stokvels Association of South Africa (Nasasa).

"Our kind of assistance will depend on the stokvel association's needs," says Loni Mamatela, assistant chief executive of the African Bank.

In his opening address at the launch of the Soweto branch of Nasasa stokvels association, the executive director of the bank, Gaby Magomola, emphasised the need for blacks to work together for economic progress and pledged his bank's support to the stokvel movement.

A stokvel is an association of people who aim to accumulate money, contributing towards a common pool and sharing those contributions on rotational basis.

They range in size from huge burial societies to small informal groups of half-a-dozen people.

Stokvel members agree to contribute a certain amount weekly or monthly to the common pot. Each month the major part of that pot is given to a different member. A cycle must be completed before a member can resign.

Often the money is distributed at a stokvel gathering on a weekend, and liquor and food are sold by the host, who is appointed on a rotating basis. In other cases, a fixed amount of money is donated to the host.

Stokvel association savings are generally used for emergency cases — for example, for funeral expenses on the death of a member.

Nasasa chairman Khehla Lukhele says stokvels play an important role in economic and social structures. "But if the stokvels are to be instrumental in the upgrading of black people's living conditions, then their economic functions have to be more than emphasised." He says stokvels are a "people's effort" to combat their major problem, which is unemployment.

The stokvels association also includes burial societies and *makhotla*. "Some stokvels with burial schemes have been seen providing social suport to their members, accommodation and all funeral arrangements thus reducing the need for pauper burials," says Lukhele.

Stokvels are not liqour outlets, he says, and not all feature alcohol, which is laid on in any case only "to supplement the income of the host". Lukhele says his organisation wants stokvels to be more acceptable to the community. "People have to develop trust in the association," he says.

Mamatela says with their huge buying power, stokvels contribute a great deal to the economic growth of the country. But "from their origin, they have been informal."

Business consultant Moss Leoka, addressing the launch of the Soweto branch, advised stokvels to try and win the respect of the community if they hoped to be successful economic entities.

It is the duty of stokvels to consult the community whenever they have a party, he said, adding that there is a need for security committees "that would see to it that patrons and the community's lives are not threatened".

He appealed to the association to co-operate with community organisations such as the National Federation of Chambers of Commerce.

And he warned stokvels against seeking recognition through legislation, advising them that recognition ought to be sought from the community and authorities.

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13-19/5/88 W Mail (295)

Contrav is travelling comfortably

Star 26/5/88

Newly listed Columbia subsidiary Concorde Travel Holdings (Contrav) has posted impressive results for the financial period to end March 1988.

The group reported a 157 per cent increase in attributable earnings to an annualised R1,34 million in 1988. This figure was also 28,9 percent ahead of Contrav's forecast according to its prospectus published in October 1987.

Earnings per share also displayed a significant improvement, increasing by 65 percent to 8,4c.

According to Chief Executive Allan Lunz: "Contrav's successful amalgamation of Peltours, Columbia Travel and Concorde Travel resulted in synergistic benefits for the merged entity."

The Grouphas cash resources of some R3,9 million and a liquidity ratio of 1,95:1. Contrav has declared a dividend of 2c for the nine months to March 31.

Contrav is presently trading at 45c per share which translates to an historic PE ratio of only 5,4 times compared to the present sector average of 13,6 times.

Mini-businesses account for 27 percent of national wealth

Informal sector: panacea to unemployment crisis

They commute between Soweto and Johannesburg to operate as street traders selling everything from fresh fruit to hamburgers, shoelaces to cuff links, plastic shopping bags to watches.

They work 9 to 5 as chartered accountants or architects in the bustling office blocks of Rosebank or Sandton, but at weekends at home in the quiet suburbs they retreat to their dens to fatten out their salaries with freelance assignments — out of view to the taxman.

They are housewives in Alexandra who gather in the afternoons to run knitting and sewing circles to make dresses and woollen jumpers — all to go on sale at local Saturday morning street stalls.

They are housewives in Northcliff who skip bridge or tennis twice a week to run similar circles, baking cakes and cookies, embroidering table napkins — padding out their shopping allowances with sales at weekend neighbourhood fleamarkets.

They beat unemployment by running backyard workshops that repair cars or vacuum cleaners, by making furniture in a spare back-room and by operating shebeens.

They are painters and plumbers and electricians known around the neighbourhood, whether Lenasia or Parktown North, to be on call in the evenings and at weekends to do a bit of odd-job moonlighting — cash on the nail, no invoices, no GST or income tax hassles.

The common denominator is that their mini-businesses go officially unrecorded. Most have no trade licence. Their operations make no appearance in the statistics that pour out of Government offices.



Mr Len Apfel, retired businessman-cum-hawker.

Invisible

Together, they form what economists call the informal sector — or, more descriptively, the underground economy.

In combination they form an invisible economic power-house that Mr Theo Rudman, director of the Self-Employment Institute, estimates has grown to such phenomenal dimensions that it can count its annual cash turnover in billions of rands.

He traces the development of the informal sector in a new book whose title might well reflect the vast potential that has yet to be tapped: "The Third World — South Africa's Hidden Wealth".

Although it might be widely assumed that the informal sector is the exclusive territory of the black community, Mr Rudman is convinced that no fewer than 300 000 white families are now running unofficial mini-businesses from their homes — worth about R1 800 million a year.

But it is the black community that dominates the informal sector, with overall income of between R15 and R20 billion a year, sums so vast that they make nonsense of official figures about the total economy.

Mr Rudman estimates that the mini-businesses — formed out of sheer necessity as an alternative to unemployment or as ventures intended to repair the damage caused to family budgets by inflation and high taxation — now account for no less than 27 percent of the entire national wealth of South Africa as it is measured by gross domestic product.

By MICHAEL CHESTER

Regulations

Not that Government rules and regulations have made it easy going for the growth of the informal sector. Mr Rudman quotes reports from the African Council of Hawkers and Informal Businesses that street traders in Johannesburg alone had to fork out more than R1 million in fines in 1986.

Yet the authorities should have been thankful over the way the informal sector has been helping to hold the lid on an over-boil of the unemployment crisis in recent years, according to the facts unearthed in the book.

For instance, on figures supplied by the Institute of Futures Research at Stellenbosch University, South Africa needs to create at least 450 000 new jobs every year until the year 2000 even to keep pace with the population explosion.

Mr Clem Sunter of Anglo American, whose High Road and Low Road scenarios of South Africa's future caused a stir a year or so ago, underlines the problem in a foreword.

To create all those extra jobs, he writes, the economic growth rate needs to be pumped up by at least 5 or 6 percent year in and year out. In fact, income per head, in real terms that take inflation into account, actually sank between 1975 and 1985 — by a dramatic 8,5 percent.

Optimistic

Mr Sunter, like the author, nurses a deep-ingrained optimism that South Africa can lick its economic and unemployment in the end — if it selects the correct strategies: "But it must discover the treasure buried deep in its people and turn it to its full advantage."

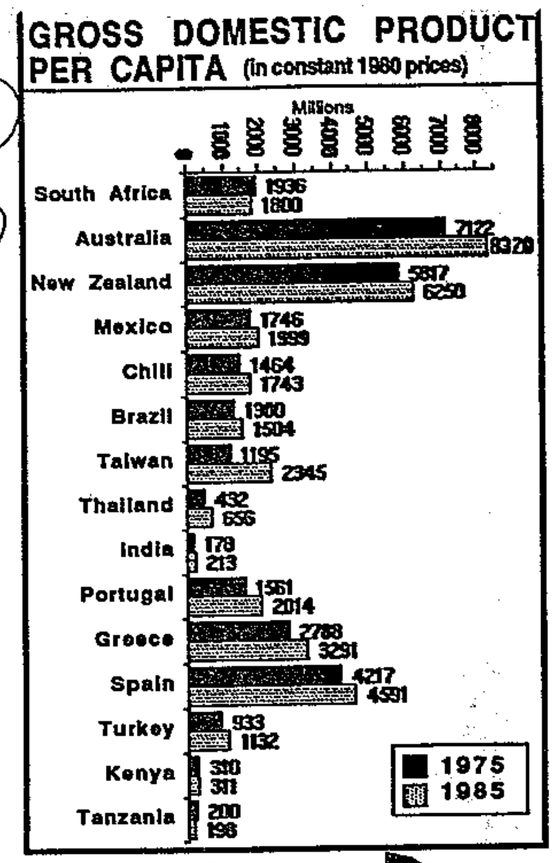
In the mainstream of the book, Mr Rudman delves into the entanglement of red tape in regulations and restrictions that have held the reins on the huge tide of informal-sector operations.

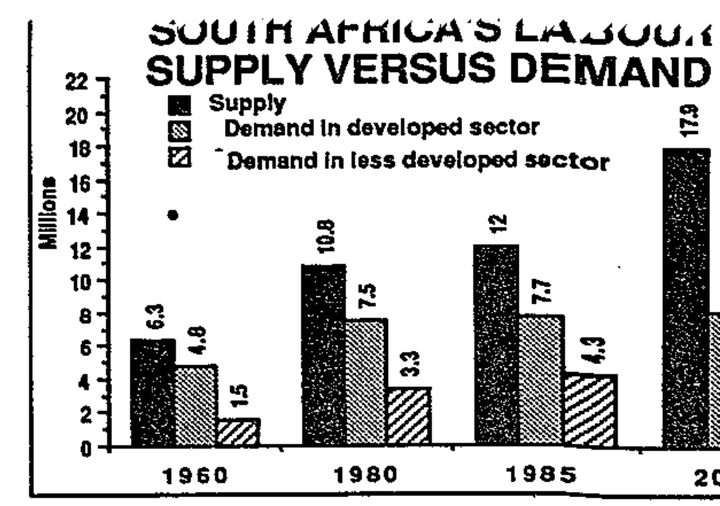
It builds up to advice to the Government on five major measures:

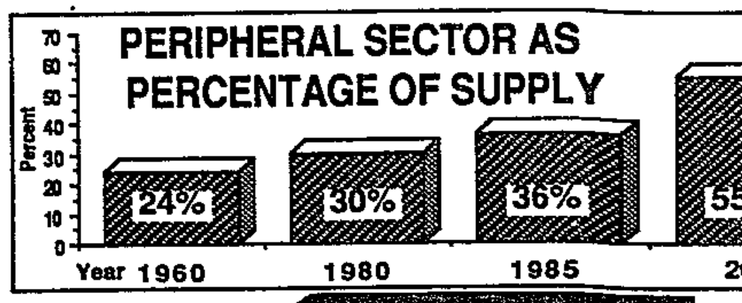
- Eliminating restrictive legislation on small enterprises.
- Establishing a national training programme aimed at the informal sector.
- Making small loans easily available to informal ventures.
- Opening business premises in white areas to all races.
- Converting the informal trader into a taxpayer in the formal sector.

Mr Rudman also takes readers on a quick global tour to find proof of the success of an unleashed informal sector in such countries as the United States, Britain and Taiwan.

- "The Third World: South Africa's Hidden Wealth", published by Business Dynamics, R16,95 plus GST.







Graphs by Liz Warder







Above: Sotho hawkers Mathobo Lomile and Mayselisa Letlotlo travel from Lesotho to Johannesburg to buy supplies. They are served by shop assistant Harriet Lebuso. Right: Mr Nelson Matlale sells from his pavement "shop" in Noord Street, Johannesburg.

o- Miss Venecia de Klerk gically. — Sapa.

AA stages financial fightback to break even

Staff Reporter

In less than two years since the collapse of AA Mutual insurance company, the Automobile Association has virtually broken even and has considerably strengthened its balance sheet, the AA announced yesterday.

Director-general Mr Peter Elliot said the AA had achieved a R2,8 million swing in its operating division.

"We sold all our listed securities just three weeks before the October 1987 JSE crash. The result was an extraordinary surplus of R7,7 million.

"But the main feature of our recovery is the improvement from an operating loss of R3 065 000 in 1986 to a negligible R180 000 last year and a bottom line swing of R18 500 000 — a surplus of R8 443 593 compared with a deficit of R10 172 131 in 1986."

A decline in membership was stopped by the end of 1987 and revenue had risen to R23,59 million.

which it accused others.

Meyerton's rates up by 17 percent

Vereeniging Bureau,

Meyerton Town Council approved an increase of about 17 percent in assessment rates for the coming financial year at its annual budget meeting last night.

Presenting a record budget of slightly more than R24,5 million, management committee chairman Mr Danie MacLean said the total increase in assessment rates included an average rise of 7 percent for basic levies, sewerage and refuse removal.

Rental ban threatens car sales

29/5/88 ST Times 295

A MAJOR blow for the motor industry has been delivered by the Government's proposed ban on the sale of cars through private rental agreements.

The ban could cut car sales by 5% this year. Forecast sales are between 225 000 and 230 000.

The motor and dealer industries are expected to ask the Government to reconsider its action.

The sharp improvement in vehicle sales since the beginning of June last year was largely due to the introduction by dealers of this form of sale which requires no deposit.

Example

But on May 9, Finance Minister Barend du Plessis asked financial institutions to stop offering these deals and indicated that rental schemes would be prohibited under the Usury Act.

As a result no financial institution now offers private rental schemes.

Rental schemes for companies, however are still valid.

The rental scheme scenario has tempted institutions to introduce closely related purchase deals.

A common example is a deal in which the motorist negotiates a buy-

By Don Robertson

back price with the institution and pays off capital only on the difference between the purchase price and the buy-back value.

The buyer of a luxury car costing R100 000 and with a negotiated buy-back of R70 000 after three years would have to pay back R30 000 of the capital amount.

The motorist has, however, to pay interest on the full amount. But by reducing the capital amount to be repaid, monthly instalments are much lower than normal.

Private rental schemes have become popular with "wheels banks". Three financial institutions say private rental business has grown to about 15% of annual turnover.

Any move by the motor industry to challenge the Government's decision will be supported by the banks.

Banks and the motor industry say the move is an indication of the Government's economic panic.

Johan Smuts, general manager of Santam Bank, says about 10% of his institution's activities are private rental.

"There is a need for this type of finance deal, especially in the case of people who are given a car allowance."

Wesbank says between 10% and 15% of its book is in private rentals.

A spokesman for another large financial institutions says the scheme bypassed minimum deposit rates and took the place of instalment credit and finance lease sales. Business was excellent until it was stopped.

Motor manufacturers say that the Government's decision could cut sales by at least 5%.

Shortages

They see the banning of private rentals leading to an increase in used-car sales.

A spokesman for a manufacturer says the industry has lost another "marketing tool" in private rental which, together with the increase in deposits and other action taken by the Government to reduce credit spending, could hit new-car sales.

Others, however, say the current stock shortages experienced by all manufacturers could be alleviated.

Theo Swart, joint managing director of the McCarthy Group, who was one of the prime movers in introducing rental schemes for individuals, is disappointed that the Government has taken this step, although he understands its problems.

☐ To Page 3

Rental ban

☐ From Page 1

"Because of the decline in disposable income in the past few years, many individuals have been unable to save enough for a deposit, but are still creditworthy.

"In granting these loans, the banks were not being irresponsible — it was not indiscriminate credit."

Prohibitive

The cost of maintaining existing cars is becoming prohibitive and replacement buying is increasing. This, says Mr Swart, was one of the main reasons for the increase in cars sales to more than 200 000 last year from 174 000 in 1986.

He believes the withdrawal of private rentals will reduce car sales by about 5% this year.

The industry has been hit by the increase in minimum deposits and the decision to charge GST up front in lease deals. These factors alone could reduce sales by a few more percentage points.

Five years ago, private car purchases made up 60% of all new-car sales. The figure fell to 20% between 1985 and 1986. Last year, private purchases rose to about 70% of sales, largely because of private rentals.

Mr Swart says that once the effects of the Government's move are known, the industry through the National Association of Automobile Manufacturers of SA and the National Automobile Dealers Association will probably approach the authorities to reconsider the ban on private rentals.

Motorvia takes different road to listing

Star 3/6/88

295

By Magnus Heystek, Finance Editor

Motorvia Limited, the holding company of Motorvia, Budget Rent-A-Car and Budget Auto Lease, is to be listed on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange on June 15 by way of a private placement.

But, contrary to the route it might have followed before the Great Crash of 1987, it has decided to issue 3,25 million, 13 percent unsecured, subordinated convertible debentures at 180c per debenture.

These debentures must be converted into ordinary shares no later than December 31 1993, or when the total dividend on the ordinary shares exceeds the interest payments.

At the same time, Finansbank is offering, also by way of a private placement, 750 000 shares in Motorvia to selected clients and institutions at 180c a share. Finansbank is underwriting the convertible debenture offer.

After the listing, 21,75 million shares will be in issue, with company directors holding 68 percent of the issued share capital.

"This route," says Mr Pienkes du Plessis, chairman of Motorvia, "is in many ways preferable to listing in a bull market. Financial institutions often prefer debentures to ordinary shares because they offer sound, long-term growth prospects." He was speaking at a presentation of the company to analysts and stockbrokers earlier this week.

Motorvia's primary interests are in the transport industry and inthe motor rental and leasing financing businesses. It also holds 14 percent of listed Presto, a leading containerised transporter.

Motorvia started up as a transporter of new vehicles between manufacturer and retailer more than 20 years ago and today dominates this market. Motorvia transports about 70 percent of all new vehicles between manufacturer and retailer in Southern Africa, using sophisticated computer systems. Major clients include SA's foremost vehicle manufacturers Toyota, Samcor and Volkswagen. Transport is done by road (more than 1 000 drivers are at any given time on the road), by rail and by sea.

Motorvia is also the holding company of Budget Rent-A-Car. Motorvia first became involved in the then loss-making Budget Rent-A-Car in 1984 when it acquired a stake of 50 percent, later increasing this stake to 100 percent. Budget Rent-A-Car has since been turned around to profitability and is currently the fastest-growing car rental agency in SA, with roughly 20 percent of the market.

Latest offspring of Motorvia is Budget Autolease, a full-maintenance, long-term leasing business, which complements Budget Rent-A-Cars short-term leasing activities. Full maintenance leasing is set to become a major factor in the vehicle financing business and Budget Autolease has already established itself as a prominent player in this market, according to Mr du Plessis.

Motorvia's profit history reflects a steady, if not impressive growth in revenue and earnings.

Turnover rose from R26,3 million in the year to December 31 1983 to R93,7 million last year. Attributable income dropped from R1,65 million in the 1983 financial year to R1,2 million the next, but grew to R,8 million in 1985, R3,4 million in 1986 and R5,5 million last year. Forecast earnings for the current financial year are R,3 million.

The drop in earnings in 1984 coincided with the recessionary conditions then prevailing in the motor industry.

The balance sheet reflected long-term, interest-bearing debt of R584 million at the end of 197, which will be more than redeemed by the R585 million raised by the listing, leaving Motorvia totally ungeared, with the exception of the debt on the debentures.

At the issue price of 180c a share, Motorvia has been pitched at an historic P/E yield of 7. The earnings forecast for the current financial year of 33,4c a share, reduces the forward P/E to 5,3.

The sponsoring brokers are Senekal, Mouton and Kitshoff in collaboration with Fergusson Bros, Hall Steward and Co.

State may act on small business restrictions

A GROUP of 34 big players in the small business world have put forward an innovative proposal to the Government for a Small Business Proposal Act.

By Robyn Chalmers

Called the Sunnyside Group, participants which include SBDC, First National Bank, Achib, Sabta, Shell SA, Assocom and the Urban Foundation put their proposal to the Government in February.

They have had a response from the Government and a steering committee of the group met recently to discuss it.

One of the most important items in the proposal is the creation of the post of a small business commissioner to promote small business.

The proposal states: "His office should have the right to identify restrictive legislation and be able to ask the Government and local authorities to show why small enterprises should not be exempt from them.

"The commissioner and his assistants ought to be given the right to hold public hearings at which existing and proposed laws are reviewed for their adverse effect on small enterprises."

Laws

The proposed act also includes a definition of small enterprise as one which employs no more than 20 people, has an annual turnover not exceeding R250 000 and employs capital not exceeding R100 000.

Another major point put forward is the reviewing of all existing legislation over a three-year period, whereby each department involved reduces unnecessary or restrictive laws.

Job creation manager Ian Hetherington is a member of the group, and says the proposal came out of a number of factors — the high unemployment rate, the excessive regulation of business and the inadequacy of current reforms.

"Unemployment is at crises level which is both a cause and a consequence of low economic growth. Neither the State nor formal large businesses can provide a solution.

"Business is highly overregulated which affects smaller enterprises more than larger. The result is a growing disrespect for the law with more and more people moving into the informal sector," says Mr Hetherington.

In SA, piecemeal amendment of laws is being effected to bring relief to small enterprises, but Mr Hetherington says this is too haphazard, superficial and slow.

"Although the White Paper on Privatisation and Deregulation was a good declaration, we are not happy about its implementation," he says.

HAWKERS 295 FM

Ware to be seen

Hawkers want to use their growing numbers and selling muscle to win discounts from big business.

The African Council for Hawkers and Informal Business (Achib) is inviting manufacturers and distributors to become associate members of the 14 000-strong organisation.

For a R10 000 membership fee, says Achib, they can have access to this fast-growing informal sector.

"By getting in on the ground floor, big business will ensure they can join in our growing success," says spokeswoman Vicky Sussens.

Future plans include computerising members and stock requirements, so corporate members can pitch their sales accordingly.

While there is no scientific way to assess the size of SA's informal small business sector, Cape Town University economist Brian Kantor puts it at 15%-40% of GDP. Small Business Development Corporation MD Ben Vosloo says roughly 50% of all businesses in SA may be unrecorded.

Annual hawking sales in SA are estimated at R1,8bn. So it is understandable that Achib should want to use this financial clout to attract big business's co-operation.

The association has already won concessions. Through discussions with local and provincial government officials on issues like restrictive trading constraints and licensing requirements, Achib says the Johannesburg municipality has liberalised its policy and more hawkers can operate legally and freely. The co-operation of several black local councils has also been obtained.

"Black buying power is increasing apace. Our aim is to assist more and more of our members to move up the ladder of corporate success, says Sussens.

As an example of innovative thinking, Achib has proposed that financial institutions utilise the "group pressure" system in ensuring repayment of loans, where normal security or collateral is insufficient. Should one member of a business group renege on repayment, the whole group will be called and told that nobody will obtain any further finance unless the member "coughs up."

"This is a simple method of ensuring repayment, but is often scoffed at in formal business circles. All informal groups are well-organised," says Sussens.

Achib is still mainly limited to the PWV area, but plans to extend its services and operations. Marketing executive Duncan Mehlomakulu says the new initiative is intended to help put Achib on the map.

Associate members will be asked to provide 30 days' credit — and socio-economic assistance to underprivileged communities.

"We see this as a reasonable request. We offer them easy entry into an area that is unknown to most formal businesses. Other benefits are that most deals are done in cash, while loan facilities are repaid within days, based on the cash nature of the business," he says.

"We aim to educate formal businesses about the buying and selling habits of the informal sector. This hidden sector of the economy must be made more visible." ▩

Decline foreseen (295) in car rentals boom

By Sven Lünsche

The dramatic rate of increase in the car rental industry since late last year is likely to taper off towards the end of 1988, although growth will remain positive, says Econometrix analyst Tony Twine.

The growth in the industry, as measured by the index for the number of rental days, was up by a year-on-year 60 percent in January, but Mr Twine expects it to fall to about five percent at the end of 1988, leaving the industry with average growth of over 30 percent for the year.

WINDFALLS

"Despite the fact that recent windfall gains are decreasing slightly, the car rental industry will remain a very profitable business to be in," Mr Twine says, pointing out that over the period 1985 to 1987 gross revenue per unit sale rose faster than inflation.

The booming trend is confirmed by May figures for the industry, provided by the Bureau for Financial Analysis at the University of Pretoria.

They show that car fleets were nearly 39 percent bigger than the same time last year.

As a result, total revenue increased by 37,6 percent over May last year — an improvement in real income of 24 percent.

The index for the number of rental days increased by 37,2 percent.

Mr Twine estimates that although the current growth in car fleets could fall by an average of 35 percent this year, "no violent sell-offs will be seen".

In this light, he sees Avis's recent decision to expand its fleet by R258 million worth of new cars as a rational business decision.

"They had a 60 percent growth in hire-days at their benchmark, and firms have to have the cars now to service the growth, although demand may fall off later," he says.

The bureau says that more people made use of rented cars in May this year than in the same month in 1987, but kept them for considerably longer periods and drove longer distances.

Mr Twine says this could push up the administrative costs per car and, combined with the fact that the growth in car fleets was slightly higher than revenue increases, could slightly reduce earnings growth per vehicle this year.

The bureau says that all four provinces recorded an increase in revenue kilometers ranging from 54 percent in the Transvaal to 32,2 percent in Natal, with an average for the country as a whole of 37,68 percent.

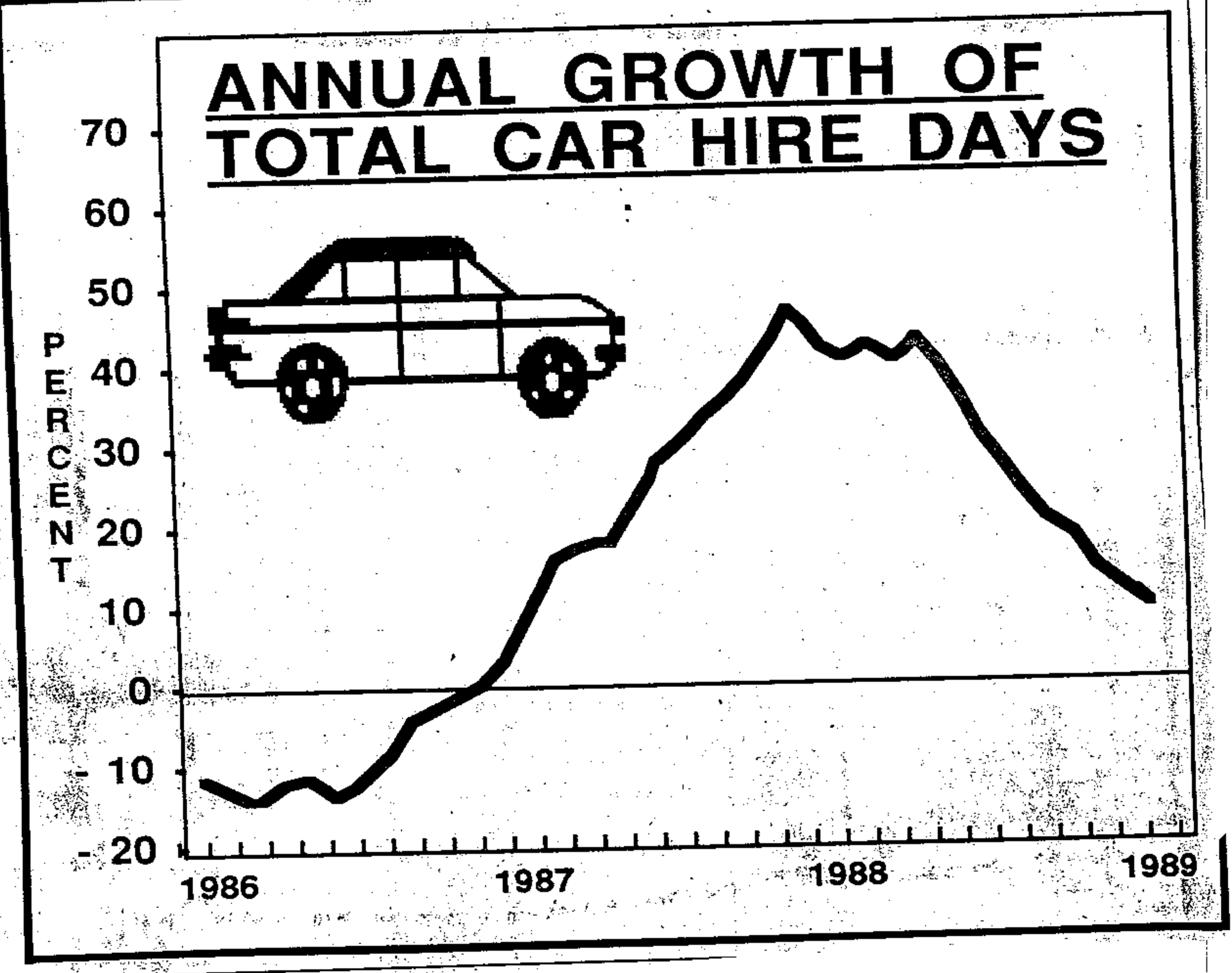
Reflecting the growth across the country, Hertz Leasing yesterday announced an expansion of its operating base from the PWV area to Pretoria, Cape Town and Durban.

Hertz Leasing is a significant player in SA's fast-growing full maintenance leasing (FML) market.

The total FML market is estimated to be worth close to R200 million a year. FML's popularity, says Nigel Webb, MD of Hertz, is owed to reduced monthly outlay for vehicle usage, with tremendous advantages to the corporate client.

Benefits for companies using FML to finance company cars include tax advantages, maintenance as part of the contract at a pre-determined fixed cost, cash flow benefits and reduced administration.

On growth prospects, Mr Webb says: "We expect to see the same growth pattern from out branches as we've seen in the PWV area over the last two years — that is an annual doubling in turnover."



Kings and Wilsons to merge

Finance Staff

Kings Parking and Wilsons Parking are to merge tomorrow.

While the Kings and Wilson names will be retained for trading purposes, a new holding company known as Interpark (Pty) Limited has been established.

Federale Volksbeleggings, which owned 90 percent of Kings, will have a 45 percent interest in Interpark, while Sage Property Holdings and Wilson Australia, which jointly own Wilson, will each have a 27,5 percent interest.

Peet van der Walt, an executive director of Federale Volksbeleggings, will be the chairman of Interpark. Alan Calenborne, formerly development director of Kings, has been appointed managing director and Larry Schneider, formerly general manager of Wilson, will be the deputy managing director.

Interpark will control 110 car parks with more than 40 000 parking bays in major centres and at airports throughout South Africa. It will also operate the toll roads at Tsitsikamma in the Cape, Marianhill in Natal and Kranskop in the Transvaal.

The Competition Board has advised that, with the information at its disposal, it is not aware of any circumstances which do not justify the proposed merger in the public interest.

Coming out of the closet

Prostitutes are often scorned — even by the men who make use of them. Their views are rarely heard. But a university-educated leader of Rio's prostitutes — herself a former street walker — is changing all that. ANTHONY SWIFT talks to a woman who is holding up an embarrassing mirror to society.



Gabriela Silva Leite

DE JANEIRO. —
paigning for a society that has further need of prostitution ns an unlikely activity for a er of prostitutes — particularly a country where the oldest ession absorbs the lives of some million women and girls.

Ve will not be here to see it but believe we can fight for such a ety," says Gabriela Silva Leite, rmer call-girl and a key figure in prostitutes' movement in Brazil.

rostitutes are suited for such a sion, she argues, because of r clear perspective of the social sexual aberrations of machismo.

hy and courageous, Silva is led at bringing prostitution out he closet and holding it up as a ror to society. The poster behind desk enjoins: "Women, be you easy virtue or not, you must ak out."

he says: "Prostitution is society's tion. It can be understood only he light of the wider context of ety's morals and ways in which ple can relate. In macho, istian societies women are ded into two camps — the wives men and mothers of their dren who must be pure, and the s, prostitutes or lovers."

Hypocrisy

en are equally divided: "The must live out the serious role orker, husband, father, along the notion that he is somehow of a man if he has many other en. So prostitution is one of the that supports his concept of y."

e believes it is unsurprising in a fix that men often retreat the challenge of finding a creative relationship with n into self-absorbed carnality, ted in the use of children — own or child prostitutes.

hat is terrible is not that a 10-old girl will work as a tute to survive. It is that we reached a state of sexual sion and hypocrisy where men tracted to 10-year-old girls — ape their own children — and pornographic movies are in which children are made eate a fantastical world for line pleasure."

e are those who walk the s to help the family survive; who become pregnant and are away from home; single ers abandoned by their ds with no other means of t."

a was unemployed herself and confused at the end of the s dream" when she went into ution in Sao Paulo. Unusually as middle-class and had l at university. In her new tion she also found a cause.

"I was horrified by police treatment of prostitutes, the attitudes of housewives, the lack of everything — health or hospital provision, welfare assistance of any kind."

She campaigned against a policeman who was beating up prostitutes, and after his transfer, the campaigners set up a small permanent office.

Her campaigning activities broadened and she is now co-ordinator of a programme on "Prostitution and Self-Respect" for the Institute for Religious Studies.

The prostitutes in Rio de Janeiro have been able to respond quickly to the AIDS issue, advocating the use of condoms.

In the Mengue, Brazil's oldest "red light" district, they have mobilised opinion to defeat threats to bulldoze the houses they work from by a charismatic church wanting to set up a television station there.

They have collaborated in the establishment of a school for the children of prostitutes, which they hope will be duplicated in other states. Also in Rio, the prostitutes have largely rid themselves of pimps and "madames", though parasitic police remain a problem.

Organisation has stimulated camaraderie. Experienced prostitutes who previously might have fought newcomers are now more likely to warn them against the dangers of disease, drugs, police or involvement with pimps.

A woman who can avoid becoming embroiled with a pimp or the police and stay away from drugs can have a reasonable life — a house, a car — and can save some money. Otherwise there is no social support available to her.

"A prostitute is not recognised as a working citizen and so has no rights to social welfare, state pension, health allowance or unemployment pay.

"Conservatives see us as a necessary evil; we must exist to preserve The Family. But the woman who works in this necessary evil is seen as lazy and sexually disturbed, someone to be kept in ghettos and controlled by the police.

"The Left's idea is that prostitution is the result of savage capitalism and the day they win their revolution they will put all of us women to work in the factories to help the country grow. I do not believe prostitution will end with the socialist revolution because the revolution does not solve the question of the relationship between men and women.

"The churches also have an abolitionist view. But they can't supply alternative employment for all women they would take out of prostitution to lead a 'normal' life."

She points out that society does not accept them as human beings with wishes of their own.

"When they see prostitutes organising to claim the rights of citizenship, both left and right think it is absurd. Neither realise we can finish prostitution only when the prostitutes themselves can show their faces in public."

Great deal

She considers it possible for a prostitute to be happy and successfully raise her children. There is a great deal of warmth within a prostitution zone, she says, and the great problem is the way society treats prostitutes and their children.

"When I went into prostitution I had a lot of middle-class prejudice. But I think I learned how to be a woman while walking the streets. It enabled me to see the contradictions any woman in our society is subjected to — and any man.

"I worked in a poor zone — I was already too old for alternatives — and talked a lot to my customers. Many were minimum wage-earners from the north-east who had left their wives and children to find work on the construction sites in the cities. They hoped one day to bring their families to live with them, but few ever managed.

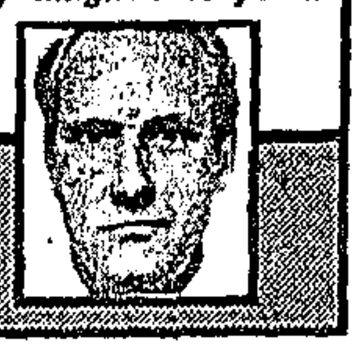
She believes in the possibility of a less hypocritical form of family than we have now and a different relationship between men and woman, one where they can really be companions and each one's sexuality be seen as a normal thing.

"Meanwhile we must organise as professionals so that tomorrow they don't gather all the prostitutes up and put them in factories without asking if that is what they want."

Sector with best future

MONEY MATTERS

by Magnus Heystek



WITH the official economy seemingly heading towards a period of slower growth, it seems the unofficial or informal sector of the economy will have to be the main creator of employment opportunities.

I use the word "official" on purpose as even the Government has now recognised the existence of a huge and rapidly growing "unofficial or informal economy".

Some economists are of the opinion that this informal economy constitutes anything between 10 and 30 percent of the Gross Domestic Product.

The informal sector is made up of any business-related activity which ranges from the casual gardener you employ to the proliferation of hawkers and taxis on our roads.

After decades of trying to regulate the economy the authorities seem to have realised this is an impossible task.

By freeing the economy from this stranglehold on entrepreneurship, of the black community in particular, it is creating jobs and output at a much faster rate than the official economy could ever hope to do.

To create a job in the official, or regulated economy, costs anything up to R40 000 depending on the level of technology used.

But for a couple of hundred rands an enterprising person can set up a shoe-cleaning operation which can earn him and his family a living.

Although difficult to measure, economists use several indicators to keep track of the informal economy ranging from wholesale trade figures and the growth in the money supply to sales of beer and matches.

Using these figures it is calculated that the informal economy in the last two years grew at annualised rates of around 10 percent as opposed to only 3 percent in the formal economy.

Growth in this sector of the economy is also less import-intensive, which means less pressure on the current account of the balance of payments.

It's another reason why the Government is urged to speed up its programmes for deregulation and privatisation.

An example of what can be achieved by the informal economy is the phenomenal growth in the black taxi business.

(However, it's ironic that the SA Black Taxi Association (SABTA) is now calling on government to regulate the industry to guard against "outsiders" entering the industry.)

With greater freedom on the movement of capital and labour in the black communities I won't be surprised to see the emergence of a black Sanlam in the next decade or two.

Sanlam was started with the combined savings of Afrikaners 70 years ago and is today one of the largest financial-industrial groups in South Africa. Don't be surprised to see something similar happening in the black community.

registered with the Department of Home Affairs.

burg last weekend, a statement was issued calling on

agencies can be closed down permanently.

itself.

And there are fears that

one outcry.

Other media experts

Sponsors wanted for Achib scheme

Press 3/7/88

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By SOPHIE TEMA

THE African Council of Hawkers and Informal Business has appealed to companies to sponsor about five unemployed people every month at a cost of R800 a group to become hawkers.

The move is part of the organisation's Unemployment Creation Project, established last year to assist jobless people.

Achib has written to 21 companies asking for sponsorship. According to Achib president Lawrence Mavundla the organisation has had over 600 applications from people who wanted to become members but who do not have the finance to start up.

"It costs R135 to set up a hawker – R100 for stock and R35 for licensing and the organisation's joining fee," he said. Achib will charge an additional R125 a month to cover administration costs.

Mavundla said Achib had set up more than 900 hawkers last year. Because of mounting unemployment, the organisation decided to go on a campaign to interest more companies to become involved.

"The problem of unemployment affects the whole of South Africa and therefore an appeal is being made to companies to come forward and help.

The project will boost the organisation's marketing arm by providing an outlet for people who want to launch new products onto the market. Their products will be stocked and promoted by the sponsored hawkers."

New bill helps informal sector

THE conversion of certain rights to the leasehold Bill currently before Parliament could have a significant impact on informal sector business development in black towns throughout South Africa.

The Bill would have the effect of repealing outdated regulations that severely restrict business activities.

The present regulations, which were originally promulgated in terms of the repealed Black (Urban Areas) Consolidation Act, 1945, for example provide for the allocation of trading sites, the type of businesses which may be conducted on such sites and the restriction of hawking activities.

Of specific importance would be the repeal of provisions that prohibit home businesses. It is envisaged that regulations providing for the use of residential buildings for business purposes will be drafted. Thousands of backyard businesses currently operate illegally and in most instances are prosecuted by local authorities.

Businesses such as tuck shops, dressmakers, laundry services and various other home crafts could in future be permitted from home if the dominant use of the property remains residential.

Agencies spring to fill strikers' jobs

Cape Times 4/7/88

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — About 30 companies have sprung up in the Pretoria-Witwatersrand-Vereeniging area in recent months specializing in supplying non-union strike-breaking labour.

A second new management strategy to counter labour unrest is the growing trend of race subsitition: The substitution of non-black for black employees, industry spokesman say.

PE Corporate Services director Mr Rob Daniel said a recent survey had shown that about 20% of employers in both the engineering and food sectors were either considering or actually implementing a policy of race substitution.

He said managements opting for this approach believed coloured people, Indians and whites were less susceptible, if at all, to politically motivated disruptions to production.

Assocom spokesman Mr Vincent Brett said partial race substitution was a viable preventive measure against industrial unrest, and he confirmed it was being considered by some employers.

He said any subsequent rise in black unemployment levels was something unions should be addressing, and they should have considered the possibilty of black job replacement before advocating strike action.

Partial substitution was feasible given that a substantial number of whites were unemployed, and there had been a narrowing in wage differentials over the past few years, Mr Brett said.

Labour Unlimited MD Mr Pat O'Sullivan said that during the two weeks covering the June stayaways she provided labour to 60 companies and received inquiries from at least another 70 organizations.

She said 900 workers were signed out by her company alone during the June 6-8 stayaway, and estimated that at least another 30 companies in the PWV area were doing as well as hers.

She added that the new climate among employers was likely to effect a 300% growth in her business in the next year.

Three other labour contractors reported substantial increases in inquiries for non-unionized or white labour since the beginning of the year.

Nactu assistant general secretary Mr Pandelani Nefolovhodwe protested bitterly against these trends. He said management was using the stayaways as an excuse to get rid of black labour in a climate of structural unemployment.

Union federations would fight every such effort made by employers.

He said some Indians and coloured people may be co-opted into filling vacancies left by blacks, but it was impossible to replace the black workforce.

One metal industry employer, HH Roberts MD Mr Morris Curtis, warned against the use of the temporary substitute labour option.

He said he had used this option during last year's metal industry strike and it had long-lasting negative effects on management/worker relations.

And Institute for Industrial Relations director Mr Mike Miles said race substitution was not a long-term solution as many causes of industrial unrest would apply to substitute workers of other races in the future.

The hawkers call and Gillette answers

HAWKERS have called on the private sector to fund an Employment Creation Project — and at least one company has responded.

Nomsa Mokae of Achib — the African Council of Hawkers and Informal Business — said so far the scheme has created over 900 jobs. But "the problem is not only licences, but also capital", she said.

The scheme was mooted last year in the wake of a high unemployment rate in the country. "Unemployed people come to our offices for help and we don't have money to fund them; that's why we are calling on companies to help us in this regard," she said.

Participants in the project would sponsor a group of five prospective hawkers by paying each R135 a month to cover the cost of fees and stock.

She said the project would also be used to provide an outlet for people who wanted to launch new products on to the market. However Achib required those companies to give discounts to the hawkers as well as contribute to the association's deregulation drive.

Mokae said Achib has written letters to 21 companies asking them to sponsor the scheme, and so far Gillette SA

BY MZIMKULU MALUNGA

Limited had promised to sponsor people in the East Rand.

Gilette managing director, John Ford, told *Weekly Mail* the company was "fitting in the scheme which Achib has put together to give employment to people as hawkers". If the project went well "we will expand the operation".

Meanwhile, Laurence Mavundla, Achib president, said this week letters had been sent to 40 companies asking them to become part of a "hawkers' deregulation drive".

In the letter the organisation indicated some municipal by-laws which governed the hawkers' trading practices have been changed in eight city councils on the East and West Rand and in Johannesburg.

These included:

- The reduction of the distance the hawker had to maintain from a general dealer from 400 metres to 100 metres.
- The lengthening of the time hawkers can stay in one spot in a restricted area — from 20 minutes to two hours — and the demarcation of areas for hawkers.
- The abolition of the requirement that hawkers had to place an advert in both English and Afrikaans newspapers stating their intention to hawk.

Achib said in places where the deregulation drive had been successful, "hawkers are trebling their incomes and moving up the scale to tuck-shop ownership. We also had several applications for formal shop ownership." With these the association said the private sector was going to benefit and the economy of the country could also be bolstered.

Achib said it had so far managed to licence 9 600 hawkers in Johannesburg, 3 000 in Tembisa, over 1 000 in the Vaal, 30 in Voslorus, and 300 in the western Transvaal town of Carletonville.

Addressing the Institute of Directors luncheon at the Braamfontein Hotel, Mavundla listed problems faced by unlicenced hawkers as follows:

- They did not have access to finance or to major wholesalers;
- They were victims of harassment by police.

He said the hawkers' combined buying power was R1-billion annually and with the help of the private sector "the buying power of these people could reach R22 billion".

"They are tomorrow's banking cli-

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Hawkers call, Gillette answers

● From PAGE 16

ents," Mavundla said, "insurance customers, house owners, car owners, shopkeepers. As their income rises, they become greater consumers of more sophisticated goods."

Acting chief licencing officer of the Johannesburg City Council, Kathy Filmalter, told *WM* "the council is firmly committed to the principle of deregulation and the promotion of small business". She said the city council was considering the existing legislation and a proposal had been made to the Transvaal Municipal Association, which serves as a bridge between local and provincial authorities, to streamline the licence renewal procedure.

"The council has co-operated very closely from the outset with Achib and it remains prepared to co-operate," she said.

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Ministry of Industry

Silly laws make us criminals —hawkers' leader

MG's 12/7/88

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Staff Reporter

THE Government was wasting money and stifling the growth of the informal sector by criminalising hawkers with "silly laws", says Mr Lawrence Mavundla, president of the African Council of Hawkers and Informal Business.

Addressing about 100 delegates to the National Student Federation's annual congress in Stellenbosch yesterday, Mr Mavundla, a former cosmetics and jewellery hawker, called on local authorities to scrap all "hawker squads".

"A lot of State money is being wasted on policing hawkers. Local authorities employ people whose duty it is to go around raiding hawkers, destroying their goods and giving them R100 fines.

"For instance, in Johannesburg there are now about 350 people employed to help destroy existing informal businesses."

MARKET FORCES

He urged the Government to remove "unnecessary barriers" such as a requirement of having to sell wares more than 400m away from formal-sector retailers and allowing market forces to dictate where consumers bought their goods.

"The Government can't offer employment. These people (hawkers) are employing themselves," he said.

Mr Mavundla also criticised black urban councils for "protecting the vested interests of their own members".

"Many black councillors get on to councils, not because they want to serve the community but because they want to implement laws restricting competition to themselves."

Vaal hawkers form their own association

By KLAAS MOTLOUNG

HAWKERS in the Vaal Triangle have formed an orgnisation to protect themselves against alleged police harassment.

The organisation – the Vaal Hawkers' and Informal Business Association –was formed after attempts to get licenses from the Lekoa City Council had failed.

The vendors claim local police arrest them and at times confisticate their goods. This had resulted in the hawkers deciding to band together for their protection, they said.

They added when they applied for licenses to the council they were only granted selling permits. On many occasions they were simply turned down, they said.

Those granted permits complained that they were only allowed to sell seasonal products such as maize and had to renew their permits every three months. Each permit cost R45.

Jonas Ntshingila, executive member of the new hawker body, said it was formed for all hawkers, unemployed and disabled people, widows and orphans so that they too could "do something for themselves". He said hawkers were the "lifeblood" of the South African economy. They "boosted" the economy of the country, he said.

The association has already issued identity cards to its 800 members while waiting for their licenses and the alloction of sites where they can sell their goods.

Desegregation fails to attract black business

By Kaizer Nyatsumba

The opening of central business districts (CBD) to all races over a year-and-a-half ago on the Witwatersrand has not resulted in any dramatic change in the number of non-whites owning businesses in cities and towns, a survey conducted by The Star has revealed.

In Randburg, no applications have been received from blacks, Indians or coloureds since the CBD there was declared open to all races, a spokesman for Randburg Town Council said. The spokesman said 32 hawkers' licences had been granted to non-whites in the past year.

Germiston had received about 30 applications, "mostly from Indians", and almost all of them had been granted, a spokesman said.

Kempton Park had received only seven applications for trading in the CBD area and all had been granted, according to a spokesman for the Kempton Park trade licensing office.

In Randfontein and Krugersdorp on the West Rand, and in Alberton, Nigel and Brakpan on the East Rand, the CBD areas were not yet open to all races, spokesmen told The Star. The Boksburg chief trade licensing officer said as far as she knew the CBD was not open to all races.

A spokesman for the Benoni trade licensing office could not say how many applications his office had received from non-whites "because we do not have a separate list for blacks; we keep all applications and files together and the names are only listed alphabetically".

FEW BLACKS

Mr O Eksteen, Roodepoort chief trade licensing officer, said while the Roodepoort CBD was open to all races, there were "very few blacks, if any at all, trading there because the only way they can come in is when a certain business closes down".

Indian traders, however, were well represented because one side of Roodepoort had been open to Indian traders for years, Mr Eksteen said.

Although the Springs CBD area has now been open to all races for over a year, there were still no black traders in the town, a spokesman for the Springs trade licensing office said.

This, the spokesman said, was because there had to be premises available for new businesses for applications to be approved.

No applications from non-whites had been received by his office, the spokesman said.

In Johannesburg there were about 9 600 licensed street vendors, the majority of whom were non-whites, according to Johannesburg acting chief licensing officer, Mrs Cathy Filmalter.

Mrs Filmalter said it was not possible to say how many black traders there were in Johannesburg, because "we do not distinguish between blacks and whites anymore".

The Johannesburg CBD was opened to all races in February 1986 for trade, industry, professions, entertainment, educational and religious activities.

Mr Nigel Mandy, chairman of the Central Business District Association (CBDA), said there were many non-whites trading in Johannesburg, but there were "no statistics kept since race is no longer a factor".

Lecture on rise of hawkers

Hawkers or street traders are an integral part of the informal sector of any thriving city. In Johannesburg, they offer any kind of product and service from selling firewood and car hubcaps to shining shoes.

Under the presidency of Mr Lawrence Mavundla, the African Council of Hawkers and Informal Business (ACHIB) was formed two years ago with the primary objective of combating harassment of hawkers.

Mr Mavundla will address a public meeting on the "The Rise of the Hawker", outlining the origin and plans of this fast-growing organisation, on July 26 at the Rheinallt Jones Memorial Hall, Auden House, 68 De Korte Street, Braamfontein, at 6 pm.

Anyone interested can contact Miss K Mvabaza at (011)403-3600, extension 243.

Graveyard crackdown

Sowetan 20/7/88

THE Soweto Funeral Undertakers Association and the Soweto City Council's Parks Department, responsible for the allocation of graves in Soweto, this week agreed to co-operate in a major crackdown against illegal undertakers.

The agreement was reached during an open, informal meeting between the head of the Parks Department, Mr Gerald Watson, his senior officer Mr Gibson Lebudi and executive members of the SFUA led by chairman Mr Kenny Sihlali and treasurer, Mr M A Lekoane.

Despite the agreement the SFUA executive expressed its dissatisfaction at the council's efforts to curb illegal undertakers.

They said the council's granting of licences to applicants who had "no necessary facilities" required for undertaking was "encouraging" illegal undertakers.

They also said some people operated as undertakers when they were only licensed to sell wreaths and other funeral items.

In response Mr Lebudi said the inspection of undertaking facilities was the duty of the health department. His office was not involved in the issuing of undertaking licences. (295)

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Plans for hawkers in tourism

THEO RAWANA

DAVEYTON mayor Tom Boya has plans for hawkers to play a bigger role in the SA tourism industry.

Boya, United Municipalities of SA (Umsa) president and recently elected World Conference of Mayors (WCM) Trust Committee chairman, said yesterday he was on a campaign to get hawkers to sell their wares and handicrafts directly to tourists.

"Let us take the example of countries like Taiwan, where tourists buy directly from hawkers. In SA tourists breeze in and out of the townships in a tourist bus without sharing any of their wealth. We want to see guides taking people to places where hawkers sell their wares."

The issue is also to be discussed at the Umsa meeting in Krugersdorp next month.

EMPLOYING THE AIRWAVES

Radio Orion, the SABC's late night radio station, has joined forces with a personnel agency to provide an over-the-air employment service.

Presenter Robin Alexander broadcasts a list of available jobs between 12.30 am and 1.30 am, then invites listeners to phone in and apply.

"The beauty of the system is that we can reach all over the country and place, say, a draftsman in Messina with an architect in Walvis Bay," says Alexander.

He says the idea was stirred by emotional requests from listeners for help in finding work. Now, with the help of Drake Personnel, the radio presenter offers to put work-seekers in touch with employers.

Drake's Alexander Zellers says the service has a one-in-three success rate, with an average of 150 callers looking for jobs each morning. For many of them, it is a last resort.

"We come across a lot of distressed people and people who don't have marketable skills," says Zellers. "They may also have physical and mental problems, so placing them can be a problem unless we have help from big companies."

Hawkers are being illegally arrested, says chief of body

By Inga Molzen

At least two hundred hawkers or street traders, offering a range of products and services to the public, were arrested in Johannesburg yesterday.

The president of the 14 000-member African Council of Hawkers and Informal Businesses (Achib), Mr Lawrence Mavundla, said these were entrepreneurs, self-employed people who were "trying to eke out an honest living in the face of massive unemployment".

"When are we in South Africa going to stop being so short-sighted? The economic development of my people poses a healthy alternative to violence for change in South Africa," he told an audience at a SA Institute of Race Relations meeting last night.

Many hawkers were illiterate and did not know when they had been improperly prosecuted until they approached Achib for help.

Last year, Achib negotiated the release of over R1 million worth of confiscated goods on members' behalf. This money should rightfully have gone back into the economy, Mr Mavundla said.

Economics is the greatest reformer

Star 29/7/81

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A speech made by **LAWRENCE MAVUNDLA**, president of the African Council of Hawkers and Informal Businesses at SA Megatrends — the High Road conferences, at Turffontein Race Club, on Wednesday.

I started the struggle in 1976 because I was not satisfied with the education I received, with the way our fathers have been treated.

I was a child and I realised my parents were being exploited. That blacks were taught that whites were bosses. That white women should be called "missus." I said to myself in my life I will not call anyone boss or missus.

We all had an understanding when we saw cars with company logos driving in the townships that they were promoting themselves in order to exploit us more.

When I was a shop steward at East Driefontein mine, I made a lot of representations on behalf of workers. I was fired after organising a strike. It seemed the workers were also not taken into account.

Power

Disillusioned, I felt the only solution to change things would be to burn things down, to fight. Only in this way would we obtain power.

After being fired, I decided the best way of making a living without having a boss would be to sell products. To be a hawker.

It was then that I realised it is economics which will change the political situation in this country.

This is because when I am selling, I am not affected by exploitation. Selling brings one independence.

When you sell, the AWB comes to buy. The PFP comes to buy. And they talk to you while they are buying.

Platform

This is the best way of meeting on an equal footing. When blacks and whites meet on a business platform, they each need something from the other. They have to talk. There can be no more powerful and yet more peaceful way of promoting mutual understanding and equality.

Blacks are beginning ot understand this. The members of Achib understand this. They realise this is a solution.

A hawker who is arrested one day will be back at the same spot the next day. He will pass money through the bars of the police van to ask his friend to buy more stock.

Hawkers have been harassed by local authorities, shop owners and police for more than a 100 years. Yet they remain on the streets because it is a job that does not have exploitation. A job in which a man can feel independent. In which he can do business with whomever he likes. And in which he can dictate the terms.

The rise of our hawkers is a good example of the power of economics in making people listen.

Today major manufacturers are wooing hawkers. They see them as a vehicle to distribute products in the black market.

Instability

However, the motivation is profit. It is not good enough. We have major problems of unemployment and over-regulation. It is a problem that affects everyone. Because it stifles the economy and because it causes instability.

The private sector is by no means working towards change.

Daily, we read in the papers managing directors of big corporations saying nice things. They talk about a lot of money that they are prepared to contribute towards the peace and stability of the country.

But, they don't put their money where their mouth is. They have lost credibility with the grass roots people. Grass roots people have stopped listening, stopped believing.

When they decide to spend money they don't ask the community what it wants. They think for us. The result is projects that are not workable. Projects that will only end up being boycotted.

And they pump millions of rands into sports. I ask myself — will sports feed the hundreds of mouths that are hungry?

How do you companies justify retrenching people, people who are illiterate and don't know about PR, then spend money on sports for PR purposes.

I wonder and worry on a daily basis about what big corporations think about unemployment. The Cosatu unemployment union puts the unemployment figure at 6,5 million.

Unemployment is going to bring about another 1976. People like my self, who hold the power for a peaceful solution, are getting discouraged.

I, too, am losing credibility with the grass roots people. This is because I am not getting support to create employment and to remove restrictions which prevent people from entering the mainstream economy.

I have approached more than 90 companies to support two important projects — a deregulation drive and employment creation scheme. Yet I have only received support from six of them. It doesn't make sense.

The same corporations which make nice statements in the press about the need to boost the economy and create employment. These are the same people who say no to me.

Converted

I have given myself twelve months to speak to these people. To urge them to put their money where their mouth is.

If there is no genuine response than I might have to believe again that fighting is the only way to solve this country's problems.

Yesterday a hawker walked into our offices. He was converted to hawking from crime. He has killed two people, stolen and stoned. He came to us because he is being harassed by police. Even though he has a licence. What do you think this person is going to do when he loses faith in hawking?



Can I tell you what you should be doing to stop this. And can I be telling you this for the last time?

(1) Support projects that are for economic change in this country. Like our organisation.

(2) Support employment creation projects.

(3) Back the deregulation of unjust laws.

(4) Give us the skills that you have in order to make us viable.

(5) Stop thinking for us. Do not embark on any project to "help" us without asking us first what we need.

(6) Stop regarding investment in black business as charity. The stimulation of black business means money spent with you. It is a straight business investment.

(7) Stop thinking only of short-term profits. Long-term investment in worthwhile, grass-roots projects means a more stable future.

(8) Stop sloganeering in the press and start working practically and non-confrontationally.

Black drivers put car rentals in higher gear

295 B/Day 5/8/88

BLACK motorists are giving the car-rental business a big boost.

Their swing to weekend specials has significantly bumped up booking for the first half of the year.

SA Vehicle Rental and Leasing Association president Tony Langley said last night that there was a massive black influx into the market for luxury cars and minibuses.

He added that hiring of weekend specials for leisure were up by 30% in the January-June period. Total improvement in that sector was 35%.

Langley said rental days had also increased by 38,4% to 1,6-million in the same period.

HELOISE HENNING

Privatisation and black demand had raised car rentals by 25,3% to 317 434 compared with the same period last year.

Langley said that of the R75,3m revenue (up 45,1%) in the first half, 6% was utilised by semi-government organisations such as the HSRC and the CSIR which had privatised fleets in agreements that allowed rental organisations to take back cars at week-ends.

He expected this sector of the business to double next year.

The Government Garage still owned a fleet of 17 500 cars against the 11 500 owned by car rental firms. Langley said the prospects of privatisation in this area for rental agencies was tremendous.

The number of business rentals increased by 18% and was now 60% of the total market.

Langley, also Avis Rent-a-Car MD, said prices, which rose by 9% in June,

● To Page 2

Car rentals boosted into higher gear

● From Page 1

295 B/Day 5/8/88

were set to rise by another 9% next month because of car price increases and interest rates.

He added that the healthy state of the market could turn into problems by next year if rises in rentals were not made.

He said the increase in the number of rental days was the true measure of growth in the industry.

Revenue per rental day rose by 12,8% in 1986, 7,4% in 1987 and 4,8% in 1988.

Hawkers' leader already a legend

By PAULA FRAY



At 30, Lawrence Mavundla, founder and president of the African Council of Hawkers and Informal Business (Achib), has already gained the status of a legend among the people he serves — but he will not allow himself to be swayed by it.

His entry into the world of organised hawking is well-known among Achib members. While travelling to work one morning he noticed hawkers being chased by policemen. As they scattered, one old woman, Granny Harriet Moyo, could not escape.

The sight of her being arrested decided him that, as a community worker, he had to do something.

The rest, as they say, is history.

Since he started organising black hawkers in 1986, Mr Mavundla has become known for his passionate pleas for deregulation and the recognition of hawkers as an important, thriving part of the economy.

Mr Mavundla was born in Natal and attended Enturneni Primary and then a high school in Empande. When his parents separated, he moved to the Transvaal. He got his training in trade unions, he says.

BASIC EDUCATION

Unmarried, he lives alone. His work takes up much of his time.

Soft-spoken Mr Mavundla had a basic education — he went only as far as Form 2 — yet he can capture the attention of Achib members as well as top business executives and council members.

Not everyone listens.

In January, only hours after a hawkers' conference, aimed at relieving the plight of this informal sector, police raided hawkers' stands.

But he still has a pragmatic approach: negotiation rather than confrontation is his first choice.

His union background and organisation skills have helped Achib rise from a small unorganised group to one of the biggest (it has more than 14 000 members) and most formalised hawker groups in South Africa.

Hawkers 'hounded in vote-catching drive'

HAWKERS are being harassed and arrested increasingly since the October municipal election campaigns began, according to Mr Lawrence Mavundla, president of the African Council of Hawkers and Informal Businesses (Achib).

"It seems local authorities are trying to impress voters by clearing hawkers out of certain areas. As a result, the number who are evicted and arrested has increased," said Mr Mavundla.

This week the 14 000-member hawkers' organisation placed full-page newspaper advertisements in the form of open letters addressed to all mayors,

PAT DEVEREAUX

councillors and town clerks requesting that all city by-laws relating to street vendors and restricting hawkers from trading freely be reviewed.

Hawkers offer solutions to many of the country's problems; they create employment for themselves and others in a situation of rampant unemployment; they make a massive contribution to the economy; and they earn an honest living instead of turning to crime, the advertisement said.

It also requested that the prosecution of street vendors be halted and laws restricting their trade be repealed.

"We used the advert to convey our message to all those local authorities — there are about 700 — we have not been able to meet," said the head of the trading organisation.

Progressive Federal Party leader in the Johannesburg City Council, Mr Tony Leon, confirmed that hawkers were being harassed. "In May this year, the traffic department took action against Braamfontein hawkers after being told to do so by National Party councillor, Mr Hein Kruger," said Mr Leon.

"And on the same day that the Town Clerk was calling for the integration of hawkers, hundreds were being rounded up by the traffic department," he added.

Mr Leon said problems needed to resolved urgently and a common policy between the management committee and hawkers tharshed out.

"It is a sad reflection when Achib has to place full-page advertisements to get the attention of local authorities."

Liaison officer for the Small Business Development Corporation, Mr Johan Naude said: "It is a tragic situation — the raids and arrests of hawkers are shortsighted. These people are simply trying to make an honest living and are treated like criminals."

Mr Mavundla this week announced that Achib had assisted the police in apprehending a man who sold fraudu-

Raw deal in life of a street-seller



PITIFUL EXISTENCE: This woman faces prosecution for hawking mealies — her living.

lent licences to vendors using a licensing department letterhead.

The licensing fraud could involve about 20 000 hawkers on the Witwatersrand, according to Mr Mavundla.

He said the fraud was uncovered after many hawkers had approached Achib complaining that they had been arrested despite having licences.

HEALTH PROBE ON VENDORS

'Guidelines for eating places are needed'

SOUTH Africa's proliferating population of street vendors is presenting the authorities with a headache and they are currently the subject of an investigation by the health officers association.

This was revealed at this week's sessions of the Fedhasa congress in Durban by Mr Koos Richter, who serves on the national council of the Health Officers Association.

The investigation is being held together with Fedhasa and has been prompted by the confusion that the growing population of street vendors has caused in municipal and other circles.

The investigation forms part of a broader probe into a possible hygiene grading system for all food serving establishments from five star hotels down to the street vendor.

Seven basic principles are being looked at as a guideline for a grading system of eating establishments of all kinds.

These include the food handler himself, the process of food handling, equipment, utensils, infestations, toilet facilities and garbage handling.

The objective is to arrive at an overall standard, nationally applied, for cleanliness in food serving establishments are as strict as any found in the Western world.

The emergence of the street vendors had brought attention on the need for more specific, fundamental cleanliness standards, Mr Richter said.

The new president of Fedhasa Mr David Wigley says the idea behind the investigation is not to kill private enterprise. "Our attitude is that free enterprise must prevail. Competition with established food serving outlets that are subject to strict health regulations is not the issue — although such establishments are at a disadvantage cost wise relative to the casual street vendor.

"What we are concerned about are the hygienic standards," Mr Wigley pointed out.

Mr Richter added: "It is probably only a matter of time before a food poisoning incident occurs due to a street food vendor. All they need at the moment is a hawkers licence.

The situation posed a serious dilemma however.

"The question is where do you draw the line," said Mr Richter.

Over regulation could kill the street vendor and in view of the contribution such operators could make to creating job opportunities, this was obviously not the intention.

Moreover the Government was in favour of private enterprise and deregulation. New red tape was also therefore not the objective. The dilemma lay in arriving at a workable solution which protected the interests of the public and those of the street vendor.

Fedhasa restaurant and catering committee chairman, Mr Brian Bowman, undertook to investigate the regulations that apply to such vendors in New York, where he pointed out they had operated safely for decades.

Dull day for JSE shiners

(295 Star 12/18/88)

By Kaiser Nyatsumba

Shoe-shining material and equipment, together with 30 pairs of shoes valued at about R1 500, were damaged and hurled on to the pavement outside the JSE on Wednesday morning.

One shoe-shiner, Mr Isaia Hlatshwayo (29), said 30 pairs of clients' shoes were lost.

Mr Hlatshwayo said a JSE security officer told him a Mr Scholtz had broken a chain on his cart, pushed it on to the pavement and destroyed the equipment.

Another shoe-shiner, Mr Derrick Magubela, said the chain around his equipment was broken but nothing was lost.

JSE public relations manager, Mrs Rita Wilson, said there had been an unfortunate misunderstanding and the equipment had only been removed from JSE premises but not damaged.

JSE security officers said they had earlier asked Mr Hlatshwayo and Mr Magubela not to leave their equipment on the premises at night.

Mr Hlatshwayo admitted he had been told this, but said the security officers should have told him before he went home that his equipment would be removed and thrown into the street if he left it on the premises.

Mrs Wilson said the JSE had no plans to evict the shoe-shiners and was building two kiosks for them free of charge.



'This side, Mr Nugget!' . . . the normally hearty cry of Mr Isaia Hlatshwayo lost some of its merriness when he found his wares scattered outside the Johannesburg Stock Exchange.



Suddenly, selling fruit from the sidewalk has become a hot potato.

12/8/88 Star (295)

Hawkers at centre of big Jo'burg row

Hawking on the streets of Johannesburg has become an emotional and increasingly controversial issue, with hawkers saying they are harassed by the authorities and the City Council saying they have broken new ground by drastically cutting through much of the red tape which previously regulated hawking.

Shopowners have also entered the arena — saying hawkers are affecting their businesses with the advantage of not having high overheads.

With the dramatic increase of licensed hawkers in Johannesburg from 1 004 in 1987 to 9 600 in 1988 it has become obvious that the City Council, shopowners and hawkers will have to try to reach a compromise acceptable to all.

The hawkers say:

By KAIZER NYATSUMBA

The African Council of Hawkers and Informal Businesses (Achib) says: "Restrictive and unjust laws prevent our members from trading freely and from making the contribution to the economy that this country needs.

"The laws restricting them are: that they should operate within a specified distance from general traders, that they have to move every every few hours, and that they cannot operate in a restricted area.

"We wish to encourage law enforcement officers to stop harassing hawkers and informal businesses and to rather concentrate on he real criminals of society. We make this request on the following grounds:

- "Hawkers and informal businesses create employment for themselves and others at a time of rampant unemployment. Unemployment figures have been cited by some groups as being as high as 6,5 million.
- "Hawkers and informal businesses make a vast contribution to the economy of the country. One researcher estimated their combined annual buying power to be over R1,8 billion.
- "We earn an honest living instead of turning to crime, yet we are being treated as common criminals.
- "Retailers regard us as unfair competition since we do not pay rents and taxes. Yet we pay large sums of fines. And often hawking is the only entry point into the economy for many of us.

"Many retailers today in the townships started off as hawkers. Therefore harassing hawkers prevents them from rising up to shop ownership. This goes against the principle of free enterprise and at the same time limits the growth of the economy.

- "Lastly, we believe that by finding employment and earning an honest living, hawkers are contributing to the peace and stability of the country."

The council says:

By DEBORAH SMITH

The Johannesburg City Council is committed to deregulation and the promotion of small businesses, but also has an obligation to protect the rights of licensed dealers, says Chief Licensing Officer Mrs Cathy Filmalter.

The council has a sub-committee on deregulation and many restrictions have been eliminated. "Johannesburg has set the example and if neighbouring authorities also deregulated we would not have a huge influx of hawkers," she says.

The council has opened specially demarcated areas where hawkers can trade freely without having to move every two hours.

More points where hawkers can set up stalls within and outside the restricted area are still being identified by the council.

The restricted area, where hawkers cannot trade except at demarcated points, has been decreased and is now bordered by Plein, Troye, Anderson and West streets.

Mrs Filmalter says hawkers in the past were not allowed to trade within 400 m of a dealer but now are allowed within 100 m.

Hawkers are now obliged to move only every two hours whereas in the past they had to move every hour.

This rule was to prevent hawkers from obstructing pedestrian and motor traffic.

The council has made representation to the Municipal Association of the Transvaal to amend the licence ordinance to provide for the annual renewal of hawking licences.

They are allowed to trade on Saturdays.

Hawkers no longer pay licence fees, but there is a R10 application fee, and with food sales an additional R20 inspection fee.

Mrs Filmalter adds that inspectors only reacted to complaints from the public and shop owners, and goods are confiscated only when hawkers refuse to co-operate.

The Pope

THE STAR COLOUR MAGAZI

THIS GLOSSY MAGAZINE — AVAILABLE FRO
OF ONE OF THE MOST MOVING EVENTS THAT

LAWRENCE MAVUNDLA

Golden pavements

Lawrence Mavundla (30), president of the African Council of Hawkers and Informal Businesses (Achib), seems to have consigned his life to tilting at the establishment.

As a schoolboy militant he was in the thick of the action during the 1976 Soweto riots — he even had an arm broken by a police baton to prove it. Now he has taken on vested interests in the business community by pressing vigorously for the rights of hawkers and *spaza* township shops to be respected.

It is a standpoint that has endeared him to those whom he has chosen to represent — if not the people charged with enforcing Johannesburg's outmoded municipal by-laws governing street trading.

Born on June 16 1958, at Eshowe in Natal, of a Zulu mother and Xhosa father, Mavundla finished his matric at the Ntumeni High School in Zululand. He was a regular visitor to Johannesburg and, obviously emotionally fired by the moment, was caught up in the maelstrom of the rioting of the Seventies.

To his credit, there is no trace of bitterness or hatred against the "system" or its administrators in the character of the man — even though he has spent most of his life in a selfless quest to assist his fellow black citizens achieve economic justice.

Harassing hawkers

"In fact," he says, "I sometimes prefer to deal with the AWB types as I know exactly where I stand with them. I can therefore deal and communicate with them openly and honestly. The same does not always apply to liberals, whom I sometimes find to be rather dishonest in their dealings with the black informal sector."

A man of great enthusiasm, energy and a burning passion to see justice done to black hawkers and "informal" businessmen struggling against a maze of antiquated provincial and local government regulations, Mavundla last week hit the headlines with a two-page advertising blitz calling for a stop to the undue harassment of SA's estimated 900 000 hawkers.

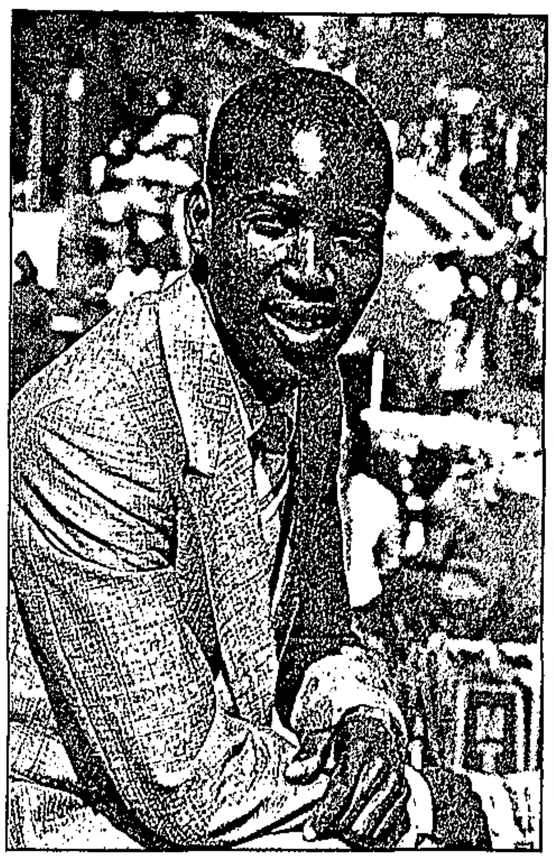
In short, he called upon magistrates and public prosecutors to ease their convictions of hawkers found to be trading "illegally" (operating within a specified distance from general traders, not moving every few hours and operating within a "restricted" area). His arguments in favour of a cessation of prosecutions were compelling. Mavundla said that hawkers and informal traders created employment, had a combined annual buying power of around R1,8bn, earned an honest living instead of turning to crime, and had to pay huge fines as the price for circumventing the rigidities of the law.

"We wish to encourage law enforcement officers to stop harassing hawkers and informal businesses and to get them to concentrate on the real criminals in society. By finding employment and earning an honest living, hawkers are contributing to peace and stability in the country," he says.

Ironically, while the Johannesburg City Council's 12-man traffic police "hawker squad" is the body mainly responsible for the daily persecution of Achib's 14 000 paid-up members, Mavundla does not see the officials as Achib's only threat.

"The challenge to the informal sector comes from vested interests within the black and white business sectors, who are unhappy about what they see as 'unfair' competition by hawkers. Especially in the townships, where the local councils are frequently made up of black businessmen, they are against hawkers taking away their custom," he contends.

This puts an interesting focus on the relations between Achib's members and the formalised black business sector, effectively represented by the National African Chambers of Commerce (Nafcoc). Mavundla claims in Tembisa alone there are about 2 000 *spaza* shops (run from black township homes), compared with 30 "formal" shops.



Mavundla . . . always looking for a better deal

"If the retailers are nurtured at the expense of hawkers by government, local authorities and wholesalers (the latter often coerced by retailers not to supply hawkers) then these parties are guilty of stunting an important growth sector of the economy."

Thus far Mavundla's lobbying has been highly effective — leading to 9 000 hawkers' licences being issued in Johannesburg so far this year, compared with only 260 for the whole of 1987.

After his encounter with the authorities in 1976, Mavundla joined the East Driefontein Gold Mining Company at Carletonville as a miner, where he progressed rapidly to shop steward. His concern with his people's economic (and political) plight surfaced again in 1985 when he was involved in strike action to rectify a situation where white miners received better housing, social and pay benefits than their black colleagues.

As a consequence of that protest Mavundla was fired, along with 21 other black shop stewards and 7 000 miners. But while his 21 colleagues were arrested and given bail of R300 each, Mavundla was jailed in Potchefstroom prison for two weeks. Too good an opportunity to miss, he even tried to change prison circumstances for the better, going on a hunger strike in the process.

Eventually, his bail was set at R3 000 and his release arranged by the National Union of Mineworkers. The trial against the strikers took three months, but ultimately the miners won the day — and a better deal.

Buoyed by his victory, Mavundla and three colleagues decided to go into the hawking business, selling cosmetics on black commuter trains. But they soon ran into the kind of problem common to all "illegal" traders.

"We sold out stock worth R400 every three days and made a profit of about R220 on that amount. Subsequently, we branched out into Natal and sold old clothes on the sugar farms at the end of each month. I still have an interest in this business," he says.

Organising unions

While in Natal, he was instrumental in organising 8 000-odd sugar plantation labourers into the National Union of Farmworkers. Seven months later, he assisted Natal railway workers, as national organiser, in their union activities. This was followed by organisational activities for the African Postal Telecommunications and Allied Workers' Union until early 1986.

"In April of that year I saw an old woman hawker being harassed by the police and decided to devote my time to helping hawkers. On May 6 about 200 hawkers attended a meeting in Johannesburg and we formed the Street Vendors and Hawkers Committee. Immediate problems were long delays in getting licences, costly advertising required and strict rules applicable to hawkers."

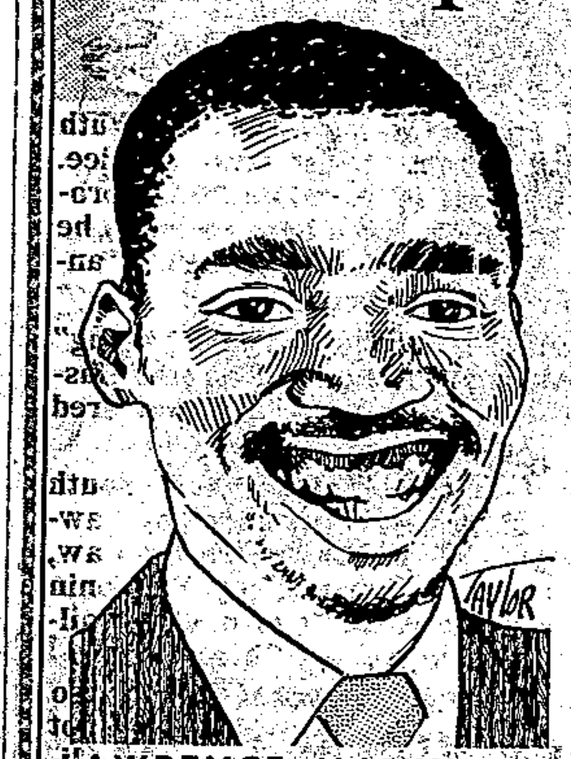
Tying up with the 9 000-strong *nyanga* (witchdoctor) movement, they formed the African Council of Nyangas and Hawkers Association, which existed until September 1987, when the hawkers hived off and went their own way. Achib was officially formed on September 19 1987, with Mavundla elected as president.

Starting from a small base, Achib has developed into a powerful lobby, with 12 full-time staff serving 14 000 paid-up members. Two organisers are in the field full time as part of a national membership drive to write up new members.

It's only a beginning. There is clearly still a long way to go yet. At this point hawkers are struggling for a place under the sun too — and to have their voices, through those like Mavundla who articulate their aspirations best, heard. Maybe, in time, their real worth will be recognised.

NEWS

Raid spurred to action the champion of the man in the street



LAWRENCE MAVUNDLA: Heads 14 000-strong hawkers' union.

IN HIS well-cut suit, mixing with the country's top businessmen, he could be mistaken for a city slicker. That would be a mistake, for Mr Lawrence Bhekinkosi Mavundla is actually a champion of "the man in the street".

Founder and president of the African Council of Hawkers and Informal Business (Achib), the softly spoken Mavundla, appearing much younger than his 30 years, has forced high-powered businessmen and councillors to recognise the plight of the informal sector.

Now heading the 14 000-strong hawkers' union, the man who his colleagues, with good reason, call tireless, never rests on his laurels and still goes from farm to farm hawking jewellery and cosmetics.

"I recognised the need for an organisation of hawkers after witnessing a raid. Some policemen threw an old woman hawker, granny Harriet Moyo, into their van. Then they drove over the fruit she had been selling," Mr Mavundla told The Saturday Star.

Days after this incident, a meeting was called that saw the birth of Achib in 1986.

The story illustrates Mr Mavundla's energy and burning passion to see justice done to black people struggling against a maze of antiquated local-government regulations.

This trait was evident from as early as 1976 when as a schoolboy he was in the forefront of the Soweto student riots and had his arm broken under the impact of a police baton.

As president of Achib, Mr Mavundla has become a well-known figure addressing high-powered business meetings in an attempt to gain sponsorship for hawkers and pleading with local authorities and businessmen for deregulation of the laws that govern the street vendors' lives.

He believes in negotiation rather than confrontation. "I will speak to anyone — no matter what his political beliefs — who is willing to discuss and do something," he said.

Personality

LAWRENCE MAVUNDLA

Written by: PAT DEVEREAUX

Mr Mavundla's organising skills were gained while travelling between farms as a hawker when he spotted the need for a farmworkers' union. He became instrumental in organising about 8 000 sugar plantation labourers into the National Union of Farmworkers in 1985.

He also played a pivotal role in organisational activities for the South African Railways, Harbours and Allied Workers' Union and the SA Postal Telecommunications and Allied Workers Union in 1986.

He sees hawking as one way of helping to solve the country's massive unemployment problem.

"We are hoping to form a national hawking organisation and plan to link up with international hawking organisations," he added.

Born in Natal on June 16 1958 to a musician father and teacher mother, Mr Mavundla completed his schooling at Ntumeni High School.

While working as a miner and member of the National Union of Mineworkers, he was elected shop steward at East Driefontein gold mining company in Carletonville. He was later fired along with 22 others for organising a strike.

This led him to decide to work for himself, and he began hawking goods instead.

Although he is the father of three children and describes himself as a family man, he has not yet decided to marry. "My work does not allow for marriage at the moment," he explained.

Asked how he had managed to achieve so much in the fight for the rights of the man in the street, Mr Mavundla quipped: "My name, Lawrence, means 'the source of ideas'."

So you thought the concept of meals-on-wheels was new?

Wait till you hear the sad story of pioneering blacks



City workers queueing to get a taste of the new Jo'burg craze.

By SOPHIE TEMA

THE food cart industry which has taken Johannesburg by storm is not new.

What is new with the modernised version – introduced by 22-year-old B Comm student Karl Gribnitz last year – is that it has the full backing of mainstream industry and the Johannesburg City Council.

A myriad of discriminatory laws killed the industry when it was first started by blacks in the 40s.

During this period big companies did not have canteen amenities and workers, who often left their homes very early in the morning without having had breakfast, bought their food from the coffee-carts.

The carts were finally removed in 1964 after an intensive campaign by the Johannesburg City Council to rid the town of illegal traders following complaints by health inspectors that they were unhygienic.

The removal of the coffee-carts deprived blacks who worked in industrial areas the services of the "quick food hawkers" who served them with a cup of coffee and a vetkoek before the start of a hard day's work. Cheap snacks and lunches were also served during the lunch-hour.

More than 700 of them were removed from Johannesburg's street corners and impounded by the city's health department.

Now, 24 years later, the fast food cart has reappeared.

Unlike the black coffee-cart owners though, whites running the new food-on-wheels industry do so without interference from local authorities.

Achib denies health hazard claim

By STAN MHLONGO

THE African Council of Hawkers and Informal Business this week slammed the Catering, Restaurant and Tearoom Association for claiming hawkers presented a health hazard to the public.

Achib publicity secretary Vicky Sussens said she had suspected that health regulations "were being grossly exaggerated to prevent hawkers from operating in the city".

The attack on the hawker operations came from a CRTA statement this week that claimed vending carts did not have sneeze guards and vendors also handled money and food, which was unhygienic.

She asked: "Where does one ever see sneeze guards in cafes?"

The CRTA claimed that it wanted to ensure that the hawkers did not damage the industry's image.

Complaints at arrest of hawkers

By Shirley Woodgate,
Municipal Reporter

Johannesburg's Traffic and Security Department has been strongly condemned for alleged harsh treatment of 15 women selling hand-knitted bedspreads and of two icecream vendors at Zoo Lake on Sunday.

Visitors to the park were incensed when the women were rounded up and taken away.

"They were no threat to any one and were merely trying to make a honest living. Why not do something positive for a change and instead of arresting these people from the poorer section of the economy, charge them R10 for a hawking license to legitimise their efforts to earn enough money to eat?" one man said.

"It was disgusting to see these women being shoved into the van despite protests from the crowd," said another bystander.

Mr Eric Hill, liaison officer for the Traffic and Security Department, said: "The department acted on continuous complaints from the public about three different points in Johannesburg at Zoo Lake, Highpoint and West Park Cemetery.

"All the hawkers at Zoo Lake had permits but were trading outside the confines of their permits, in this case in the park."

Syria	—	1	—	—	—
Thailand	—	1	—	—	1
Turkey	7	4	12	12	3
United Arab Emirates	—	—	—	2	—
Total	333	218	480	559	447
America					
Argentina	46	51	76	106	68
Bahamas	1	1	2	—	2
Barbados	—	—	—	—	3
Bermuda	4	—	4	—	—
Bolivia	1	4	11	11	5
Brazil	21	24	64	87	51
Canada	58	64	189	262	231
Chile	14	9	16	29	8
Columbia	1	5	—	8	2
Costa Rica	—	—	—	1	—
Cuba	—	—	—	—	1
Dominican Republic	—	1	—	—	—
Ecuador	—	—	—	2	—
French Guiana	—	—	—	1	—
Grenada	—	—	—	—	1
Guatemala	1	—	—	—	—
Jamaica	1	—	—	—	—
Mexico	2	—	2	—	5
Paraguay	—	7	19	—	6
Peru	4	2	4	5	1
Surinam	—	—	—	1	—
USA	202	170	279	389	305
Uruguay	6	4	7	12	3
Venezuela	13	15	11	12	3
West Indies	—	—	—	—	2
Total	375	357	684	926	697
Oceania					
Australia	101	78	198	354	298
Christmas Islands	—	—	—	—	2
Fiji	—	—	—	1	—
New Hebrides	—	—	—	1	—
New Zealand	45	39	97	113	107
Total	146	117	295	469	407
Unspecified	28	46	—	—	1
Grand Total	7 459	6 947	17 195	28 691	30 385

(b) (ii) to (iv) Statistics according to country of origin in the case of Coloureds, Indians and Blacks are, due to the small numbers involved, not being maintained on this basis. Such statistics are therefore not readily available.

Pavement vendors: policy of deregulation:

1330. Mr C J DERBY-LEWIS asked the Minister for Administration and Privatisation:

(1) Whether the Government's policy of deregulation applies to pavement vendors; if so, to what extent;

(2) whether the activities of these vendors are monitored in terms of (a) general sales tax payments and (b) health requirements; if so, in what manner;

(3) whether this type of deregulation is applicable to vendors of all race groups; if not, (a) why not and (b) to which race groups does it apply;

(4) whether there are any restrictions on the areas in which this type of deregulation is applicable; if so, what restrictions;

(5) whether there are any restrictions on the items which can be purchased through these vendors; if so, what restrictions?

The MINISTER FOR ADMINISTRATION AND PRIVATISATION:

(1) Yes; to the extent that commercial activities of vendors are reconcilable with the existing statutory regulations.

(2) (a) Yes; in so far as it is practically implementable;

(b) Yes; in so far as it is practically implementable.

(3) Yes.

(4) Yes; those restrictions normally imposed by the licensing and local authority concerned.

(5) Yes; those restrictions normally imposed by the licensing authority concerned.

Income tax paid:
Income tax paid: Orange Free State

1338. Mr S S VAN DER MERWE asked the Minister of Finance:

(a) How many (i) Whites, (ii) Blacks, (iii) Indians and (iv) Coloureds paid personal income tax in the Orange Free State in 1986 and 1987, respectively, and (b) what was the total amount paid by each of these race groups in this province in each such year?

The MINISTER OF FINANCE:

1987 FINANCIAL YEAR

Population Group	Number of Taxpayers	Collections
		R
Whites	107 374	500 002 548
Asians	24	27 938
Coloureds	2 998	2 803 397
Blacks	18 143	11 783 807
Total	128 539	514 617 690

1988 FINANCIAL YEAR

Population Group	Number of Taxpayers	Collections
		R
Whites	105 117	592 135 848
Asians	21	61 842
Coloureds	3 081	3 772 354
Blacks	19 634	22 448 597
Total	127 853	618 418 641

Notes:

(1) The analysis of the collections for the 1986/87 and 1987/88 financial years was done on the basis of the value of assessments issued in respect of the 1986 and 1987 years of assessment.

(2) The amounts reflected in respect of Asians do not necessarily mean that they were resident in the OFS. It would appear that some Asians residing in an adjoining province find it more convenient to conduct their tax affairs at the nearest Revenue Office which happens to be in the OFS.

(3) The above analysis does not take into account taxpayers who fall under the final deduction system.

Marburg/Margate industrial areas

1340. Mr C J DERBY-LEWIS asked the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning:

(1) To what extent have sites in the Marburg industrial area in Natal been allocated;

(2) whether consideration has been given or is to be given to declaring the Margate industrial area to be a decentralized area; if not, why not; if so, when is it anticipated that the area will be so declared?

The MINISTER OF CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING:

(1) Plots in the *Marburg industrial area* have been allocated as follows:

295 B1Day 24/8/87

Hawkers take on the city

THEO RAWANA

HAWKERS are going out on to the streets of Johannesburg in a campaign to defy all those city by-laws which they see as unjust.

"And they will refuse to pay the fines required to release confiscated goods — we want to see every case going to court," said African Council for Hawkers and Informal Business (Achib) president Lawrence Mavundla yesterday.

He said a legal fund had been started to prepare for the flood of cases expected.

The hawkers complain of stepped-up harassment by the authorities in recent weeks.

Mavundla said regulations previously not heard of had been introduced.

"Now we are required to trade 10 metres away from an intersection; and hawkers must put on white coats ... and this after we have been making representations to the council to scrap unjust trading laws. Hawkers are being used as a means of winning votes."

He said 70 hawkers were arrested last week and 10 had their goods confiscated yesterday.

"The regulations are designed to create a monopoly for retailers and this is against the spirit of free enterprise."

We won't obey, say traders ... and 23 are arrested

BY MZIMKULU MALUNGA

JOHANNESBURG hawkers this week launched a civil disobedience campaign to defy restrictions on informal trading — and already 23 hawkers have been arrested.

Yesterday about 50 hawkers marched up and down Johannesburg's Hoek Street to demand an end to harassment.

Most wore T-shirts stating: "Please don't arrest this person for making an honest living! Concentrate on criminals."

The 23 arrested — for hawking less than 100 metres from a general dealer — will not pay admission of guilt fines, according to Lawrence Mavundla, president of the African Council of Hawkers and Informal Sector (Achib).

"We are not going to pay any fines," he said. "We are taking each and every case to court."

The 14 000-strong Achib launched its "anti-harassment campaign" on Monday, resolving to openly defy "unjust laws restricting hawking".

But the Johannesburg City Council's Traffic and Security department said this week "the necessary enforcement" would continue — "until such time as restrictions are removed and existing laws changed".

The hawkers' campaign is due to last as long as laws exist restricting them from trading freely, Mavundla said.

"We are registering our dissatisfaction and we think the best way is to go around breaking these unjust laws," he said.

The campaign is focused on three laws which govern hawkers' trading:

- In some areas hawkers cannot stay in one area for more than two-hours;
- They are not allowed to trade 100 metres from a general dealer selling similar goods, and

●To PAGE 2

We won't obey, say hawkers

●From PAGE 1

●They are not allowed to trade in a restricted area.

The campaign also intends opposing the confiscation of hawkers' products.

Achib has written to the Johannesburg City Council asking it to review the laws governing hawking.

"Things are moving very slowly. Our people want to sell," said Mavundla. "We are making representations every year to the city council to remove these unjust trading laws but the response — although sweet — is accompanied by continued harassment."

Johannesburg City Council's licensing officer, Kathy Filmalter, said the area where hawkers were restricted from trading had decreased "substantially".

She said the council acted only if there was a complaint from members of the public — most of the complaints were from shopkeepers.

Filmalter claimed her council had done more than any other local authority to ease restrictions on hawkers.

Mavundla blamed shopkeepers for the on-going harassment saying they feared hawkers as "unfair competition".

He believes the recent raids on hawkers were an attempt by the council to win shopkeepers' support in the October municipal elections.

Mavundla said hawking created jobs and estimated the combined buying power of the hawkers presently at R1,8 billion rand.

He called on the managing directors of all major companies to write letters asking local city councils to stop harassing hawkers.

Mavundla said the statute books were filled with laws restricting hawkers and Achib were still discovering them. "One person was arrested for trading 100 metres from an intersection, a law we have never heard of before."

295 B/Day 26/8/88

Jo'burg hawkers on the march in CBD

BRONWYN ADAMS

ABOUT 40 hawkers paraded through the streets of Johannesburg yesterday as part of an anti-harassment campaign organised by the 14 000-strong African Council of Hawkers and Informal Business (Achib).

Hawkers wearing T-shirts and carrying banners stating "don't arrest us for earning an honest living" and "viva the people's market" marched down Jeppe Street to the Hoek Street Mall and then up Noord Street.

They were followed by 300 hot-dog vendors.

The demonstration ended when police were spotted on the scene. But Achib president Lawrence Mavundla said protests would continue until unfair regulations governing hawkers were dropped.

Mavundla said hawkers had agreed to ignore fines and take serious cases of harassment by police, the SADF and traffic officials to court. He said the number of fines issued by the traffic department increased from 26 to 60 during the past week. And he attributed that to the municipal elections.

Achib had retaliated by taking two cases of alleged malicious damage to property and theft by officials, and four cases of alleged assault against hawkers to court.

Protected

Mavundla accused established retailers of keeping the laws intact, saying they were protected by the regulations.

He said the SBDC and Get Ahead Foundation were the only formal bodies taking part in the lobby at present. They were providing legal support and writing letters to city councils requesting the abandonment of restrictive legislation.

Pavement liberation

Durban has taken the bull by the horns in allowing offal-sellers to become "legitimate."

This forms part of the City Council's policy of progressively liberating pavement trade from historical restrictions — something Johannesburg could take note of.

At the heart of the council policy is a relaxation of licensing laws in order to promote small business ventures and job opportunities, principally in the Third World environment on the city fringes. In the process, the character of the CBD and the remodelled beachfront has also undergone a transformation.

Hotdog vendors and trinket sellers have been operating on the lower Marine Parade for almost a year. Each reputedly generates net profits of more than R4 000 a month. In the CBD, after initial anxiety from fast-food outlets, hotdog carts have been part of the pavement furniture since last summer.

In short, Durban finally confronted reality. A futile policy of trying to fine hawkers off the pavement, was replaced by one of studiously ignoring breaches of city by-laws on health and the obstruction of public thoroughfares. Finally, the decision was taken to introduce minimum control and administration, relax by-laws and licence fees and legalise the inevitable.

Covered concrete stalls that can be hosed-down daily have now been built for the offal-sellers by the SBDC and will be formally handed over to the council later this month. These will be provided on a first-come-first-served basis at a "nominal" fee to the hawkers.

In an associated development a Natal Provincial Administration ordinance was amended to allow the council to charge a differentiated licence fee for street vendors. A licence normally costs R38,50 a year. But the council may now, with the Administrator's approval, sell licences at R10 a year.

Further evidence of a "new attitude of tolerance aimed at encouraging informal traders and the creation of jobs" was the establishment of a large paved area in Brook Street, near the new Berea Road station, for around 300 hawkers who may be licensed on a daily or annual basis.

These vendors, who hawk basics to passing commuters entering the city from the station, join the more familiar curio and bead sellers on the city's upper Marine Parade — who pay R10 a month for their sites and have organised their own committee to regulate disputes over trading sites.

Beachfront hawkers operating from barrows pay a standard R38,50 licence fee, in addition to the cost of buying the standardised barrows. They are free to operate 24 hours a day and, after 6 pm, may move from the lower Marine Parade to a paved area outside the dolphinarium.

Within the CBD the council has licensed hotdog sellers on the basis that each vendor is allocated a city block in which to operate. An individual may hold no more than two licences and may not operate in adjacent city blocks.

Health and aesthetic design specifications pushes the price of the carts up to around R5 000, and operators must satisfy health officials that the kitchen bases from which they operate comply with council health regulations.

The council takes considerable pride in its achievements. One official told the *FM*: "We are 100% satisfied that we are the leaders in the country as far as promoting pavement trade is concerned." ■

Hawkers start street protest against laws

By SOPHIE TEMA

HAWKERS in Johannesburg and the Free State yesterday launched a protest against harassment by the authorities.

African Council of Hawkers and Informal Business president Lawrence Mavundla said: "The hawkers decided on this move simply because the authorities have for many years harassed the informal businessman despite numerous representations made by Achib for the abolition of trading restrictions.

"Laws against hawkers restrict them from trading freely and creating employment.

"Hawkers have to pay fines of between R50 and R100 daily and have between R100 and R3 000 worth of stock confiscated for failing to comply with the council by-laws.

"Hawkers and informal businesses are creating work for themselves and other jobless people in a time of rampant unemployment.

The laws against which the protest was staged are:

- Hawkers cannot operate within a specified distance from general traders selling similar goods – they must be 100 metres away and 10 metres from an intersection.
- They must not trade in restricted areas.



Hawkers down tools for protest against harassment by the authorities.

Accused of infringing health and wage laws

Street vendors hurting cafes

BRONWYN ADAMS

STREET FOOD vendors should have their licences cancelled and be taken off the streets because they are ruining small restaurant and cafe owners, Catering, Restaurant and Tearoom Association (Catra) director Frank Swarbreck said at the weekend.

Swarbreck accused owners of hot-dogs and other foods of infringing both health and minimum wage laws. He said many "informal businessmen" were paying workers R5 a day — a wage well below government's stipulated minimum.

Swarbreck said that health inspectors could not monitor how vendors prepared their food, as they were constantly on the move. He said this was likely to result in a lowering of standards and an increase in the incidence of food poisoning. He added that this would be catastrophic for the food industry as a whole.

Swarbreck said, however, that there was nothing hindering health officials from patrolling areas frequented by street vendors, performing spot inspections on carts and handing out fines.

Small Business Development manager Johan Naude challenged Swarbreck to cite one case of food poisoning originating from a vendor.

Swarbreck replied that there had been no such case to date.

Naude said the minimum wage argument was not applicable, as vendors were providing otherwise unemployed people with a means to a livelihood.

Swarbreck said that the fact that vendors and hawkers were continually receiving fines indicated that they were infringing laws.

African Council of Hawkers and Informal Business (Achib) president Lawrence Mavundla said that very few fines were received for infringements of hygiene regulations. He said that members of the informal sector were mainly fined for trading more than two hours on one spot and operating in restricted areas.

Swarbreck said Catra, representing 4 000 small formal businesses, would lobby for the tightening up of all regulations relating to the informal sector, especially those associated with the production, sale and distribution of food.

Achib's Mavundla said that the informal sector would be demanding the scrapping of such legislation, which was out-dated, inappropriate and protected small retailers.

295 Star 30/8/88

Hawkers get a mixed reception

Municipal Reporter

Hawkers were not asking for hand-outs, merely the removal of unreasonable controls which would allow them to perform as decent humans, Mrs Rae Graham (PFP) said at last night's council meeting.

Appealing for a compromise with the hawkers, she said if they were not harassed they would never be seen in the courts.

She called for the provision of more land for hawkers' pitches, saying a third of the labour in the city were members of the informal sector yet the council treated them as though they were minimal.

Mr Geoff Stark (Ind) appealed for more flexibility in council dealings with hawkers, with less control and more managament.

Mr Ernie Fabel (NP) said the council would support hawkers within certain parameters, including health regulations and licensing.

COMPLAINTS

Mr Cecil Long, chairman of the health and environment committee, said licensing was done in an orderly manner and sites had to be kept tidy.

Vendors would not be allowed to monopolise pavements to the detriment of pedestrians, the cause of most complaints from the public, said Mr Long.

He said the behaviour of hawkers who wore protest T-shirts was uncalled for.

He claimed that Mr Lawrence Mavundla acted aggressively at a meeting when he alleged all people in local government were not Christians.

A meeting had been arranged with the council and hawkers in September when their points would be sympathetically considered, Mr Long said.

Imperial's profits up 93%

ROBERT GENTLE

THE Imperial group, which has interests in car rental, truck systems and motor retailing, has shown a 93% leap in attributable profits to R8,57m (R4,43m) on a 47% increase in turnover to R321m (R219m).

Reporting for the year to June 25 1988, the diversified industrial group saw all three of its divisions performing strongly.

Although the motor division remained the largest contributor to turnover, it was the car rental division which generated the most pre-tax profits.

These were 80% higher at R15,9m (R8,86m).

Also aiding the bottom line was a barely changed tax bill of R4,98m (R4,31m), the result of taxed losses i the group's subsidiaries.

These, combined with a lower interest bill, saw net taxed profits soar 140% to R10,9m (R4,55m).

In spite of the sharp increase in outside shareholders' interest — R2,5m compared to R115 000 — earnings a share were 61,2c, well ahead of the previous year's figure of 38,7c.

Imperial joint MD Stephen Abelkop said operating margins were up in both the motor and car rental divisions, while the truck systems division held firm.

All three divisions were said to be well positioned for further growth in the coming year.

esday August 2 1988

Open trading 'out of the question'

Urgent appeal to ease restrictions on city hawkers

By Shirley Woodgate,
Municipal Reporter

An urgent appeal to magistrates, prosecutors, mayors, councillors and town clerks to ease restrictions controlling hawkers has received a cool reception from the Johannesburg City Council.

In two full-page advertisements today, Mr Lawrence Mavundla, president of the African Council of Hawkers and Informal Businesses, has called for the repeal of laws restricting vendors from operating close to retailers, the opening up of all restricted areas, registration instead of licensing, the scrapping of laws forcing hawkers to move at intervals, a halt to harassment by traffic officials, and a sympathetic ear when vendors are prosecuted.

He said hawkers with an estimated buying power of R1,8 billion made a vast contribution to the economy and were regarded as criminals although they were making an honest living.

Retailers regarded them as unfair competition yet they paid huge sums in fines. Often hawking was the only entry into the economy and restrictions went against the principle of free enterprise.

Mr Cecil Long, chairman of the council's Health and Environmental Committee, dismissed the appeal for open trading as "out of the question". He said the council leaned over backwards to accommodate hawkers but there was a major obligation to businesses which paid the bulk of the rates in the city.

"Removal of restrictions and regulations is a recipe for chaos and while we will seriously consider Mr Mavundla's requests, on the face of it they are impractical," he said.

City councillor, Mrs Rae Graham, known as a champion of the hawkers' cause, said there was a case for waiving licences where hawkers had traded for many years, but some form of control was necessary.

She urged more hawkers' pitches in areas frequented by pedestrians.

Mr Nigel Mandy, chairman of the Central Business District Association, said hawkers played a significant role but should be allowed in specific areas not in the prime retail area.

Project to launch 2 000 hawkers

CHRISTOPHER TUCHER (295)

A PROGRAMME to sponsor hawkers — which could create 2 000 new jobs in the next year — has been introduced, says African Council of Hawkers and Informal Business (Achib) president Lawrence Mavundla. B|Day 3|8|88

Achib's scheme, the Employment Creation Project, calls for sponsors to provide seed capital for at least five new hawkers each month.

A hawker needs R135 to start up business — R100 for stock and R35 for licensing and Achib fees.

Achib already has two committed sponsors and 20 "good prospects", each of which would fund at least 60 hawkers within a year.

In contrast to job creation in a big business context, which according to government estimates costs more that R20 000 a job, Achib called its programme "cheap and simple".

Many have no other way to feed their families

City centre hawkers risk prison to sell their goods

By Deborah Smith

Arrest and the confiscation of their goods are two of the daily problems facing Johannesburg hawkers who seem resigned to their fate and are accustomed to restocking their stalls at regular intervals.

Despite constant harassment from the traffic department and the police, these entrepreneurs continue to sell their wares, which range from food to cosmetics, clothing and costume jewellery.

Most have no choice because, as breadwinners, they are striving to support their families.

They are willing to work a 12-hour day, not including the hours spent travelling to the city.

They also have to unpack and display their goods at the start of each work day and then transport them home again.

With the exception of one trader, who said he had been trading all his life, all the hawkers reported they had started selling in the streets because they were unable to find other employment.

Hawkers in the vicinity of the station said they had "twice as much trouble" as people selling in other areas as they were raided by the railway police as well as by traffic officials.

One trader, who preferred not to be named for fear of reprisals, said: "They fine you and take away your goods, even if you have a licence, so most of the people run away and leave their goods as soon as they see the police approaching."

COURT

Another complained that if hawkers did not have money to pay the fine, they were taken to court and charged.

There is, however, a great spirit of camaraderie among the traders, who have a system of warning each other when raiding officials are on the warpath.

A man who sold carrier bags said he was lucky to have a good relationship with the owner of a shop, where he stored his stock if he saw the police approaching.

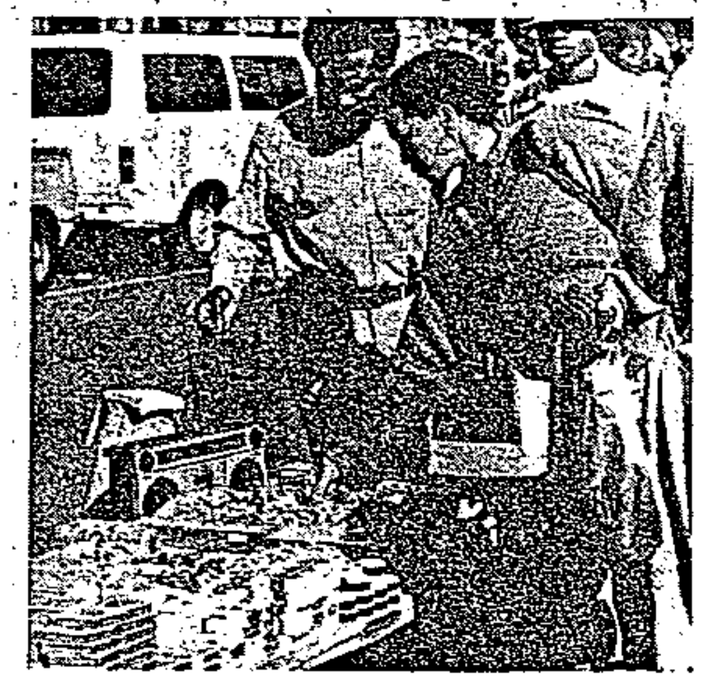
But he hasn't always been lucky enough to escape and, after twice being fined R100 and having his goods confiscated three times, despite being licensed, he has decided not to renew his licence because it "didn't serve" any purpose".

Hawkers said their licences required them to move every hour, which was impossible if they had set up a store.

As they close their stalls for the night, sometimes as late at 7.30, many hawkers chain their tables to lamp posts and deposit their wares in lockers at the station

Others have storage space at the shops where they bought their goods, while many take their goods home.

For most it was a case of long hours of travelling, visiting the market and a full day's trading for sometimes as little as R20 profit.



Hawkers operate under difficult conditions and work long hours in order to support their families. Most said they had resorted to hawking as they could not find other work.



These industrious women spend their days selling soup outside the station and even go to the trouble of preparing samples for their customers to taste.



Street vendors in Johannesburg sell anything from fresh fruit to clothing.

"Prices stay low with this knockout blow!"

Lucky says

The big little man



BY CHRIS MOERDYK

The long established small trader is at last being recognised as an important factor in the economy.

Small businesses, or the "informal sector" as the economists call hot-dog stands, pavement vendors and backyard manufacturers, have been around for centuries.

But it is only in the past eight years that the little man has taken his rightful place among the industrial conglomerates and retail chains that have dominated South African commerce and industry for so long. And an important place it is too.

Economic clout

The Small Business Development Corporation, now reputed to be the most successful development exercise of its kind in the world, believes that the economic clout of the informal sector has long been underestimated and could be contributing as much as a third of South Africa's gross domestic product.

In a survey of the informal sector entitled "Roots of Enterprise" published by *Leadership* magazine, two factors emerged as prime contributors to the resurgence of this sector that even today, is looked down on and in many cases outlawed as illegal.

The first was the establishment of the Small Business Development Corporation with its considerable financial clout and ability to influence government and big business.

The second factor has been the start made by Government to dismantle the heavy curtain of red tape that has restricted small business from developing and, in many cases, sending it underground.

Chairman of the SBDC's board of directors, Dr Anton Rupert, comments in "Roots of Enterprise" that under normal circumstances the best thing to do for small business would be to keep out of its way and simply provide the space for it to operate unfettered.

"But, in South Africa, circumstances are not normal," he says.

"On the one hand there is a concentration of business interests — and thus capital resources — in the hands of a few large enterprises. On the other hand there is a great backlog of business facilities and financing, especially in black urban areas.

"This backlog is closely linked to the dual nature of the South African ecomomy — First World rules and standards are often applied unthinkingly in Third World circumstances."

The creation of the SBDC is significant, says Dr Rupert, in that it gave expression to a concept that took root throughout the world in the 1970's: That economic growth is dependent on the creative powers of the individual. It became clear that the small entrepreneur who dared to establish a new business with his own capital, held the key to future prosperity.

"This realisation was strengthened by the great changes triggered by the recession which followed the oil price shock in 1973. Throughout the world rationalisation became the order of the day in many large enterprises. The effect was that they became less and less able to satisfy the growing demand for jobs.

"The situation was no different in South Africa. Nor is it today. Large enterprises are still not adequate sources of employment for the 300 000 people who enter the labour market each year. All eyes are now fixed on small business."

But just how important is the informal sector to South Africa's economic mill? How important is it in terms of solving the unemployment bogey that hangs over the country like the Sword of Damocles?

Mr Wolfgang Thomas, deputy general manager of the SBDC in the western Cape, concedes that the informal sector's contribution is difficult to estimate, mainly becaue of the lack of official statistics.

"Possibly the biggest stumbling block to a realistic assessment of the informal sector is that South Africa's official statistics on the gross domestic product do not include all economic activities. In line with other semi-developed countries, the understatement may easily be about 30 percent, much of which is informal sector contribution to national product and national income."

Mr Thomas adds that if this adjustment is taken into account, certain "guestimates" may give an indication of the magnitude involved.

- Out of a total of 1 million business establishments, about 62 percent are unlicensed, unrecorded or non-taxed business establishments and self-employment units in the informal sector.

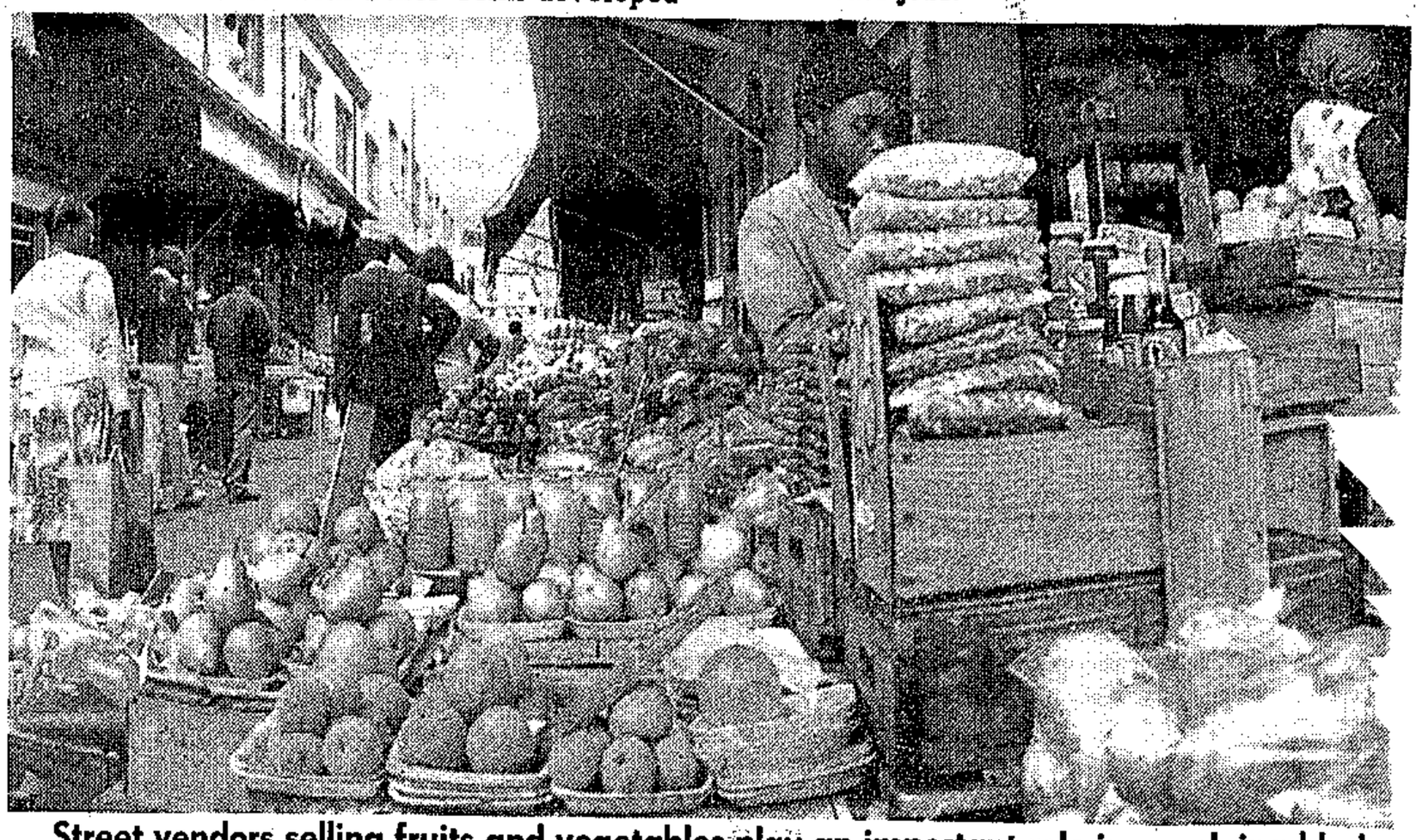
Engaged

- On the basis of a population of 36 million people in greater South Africa (including the black states) and a labour supply of 12 m to 13 m, just under a third are engaged full-time or part-time in the informal sector
- Of the 350 000 people who enter the labour market annually, the segment taken up by the informal sector may be as high as 42 percent

Given these statistics, it is clear that the informal sector is not only vital but strategic to the economy. Is enough being done to stimulate it?

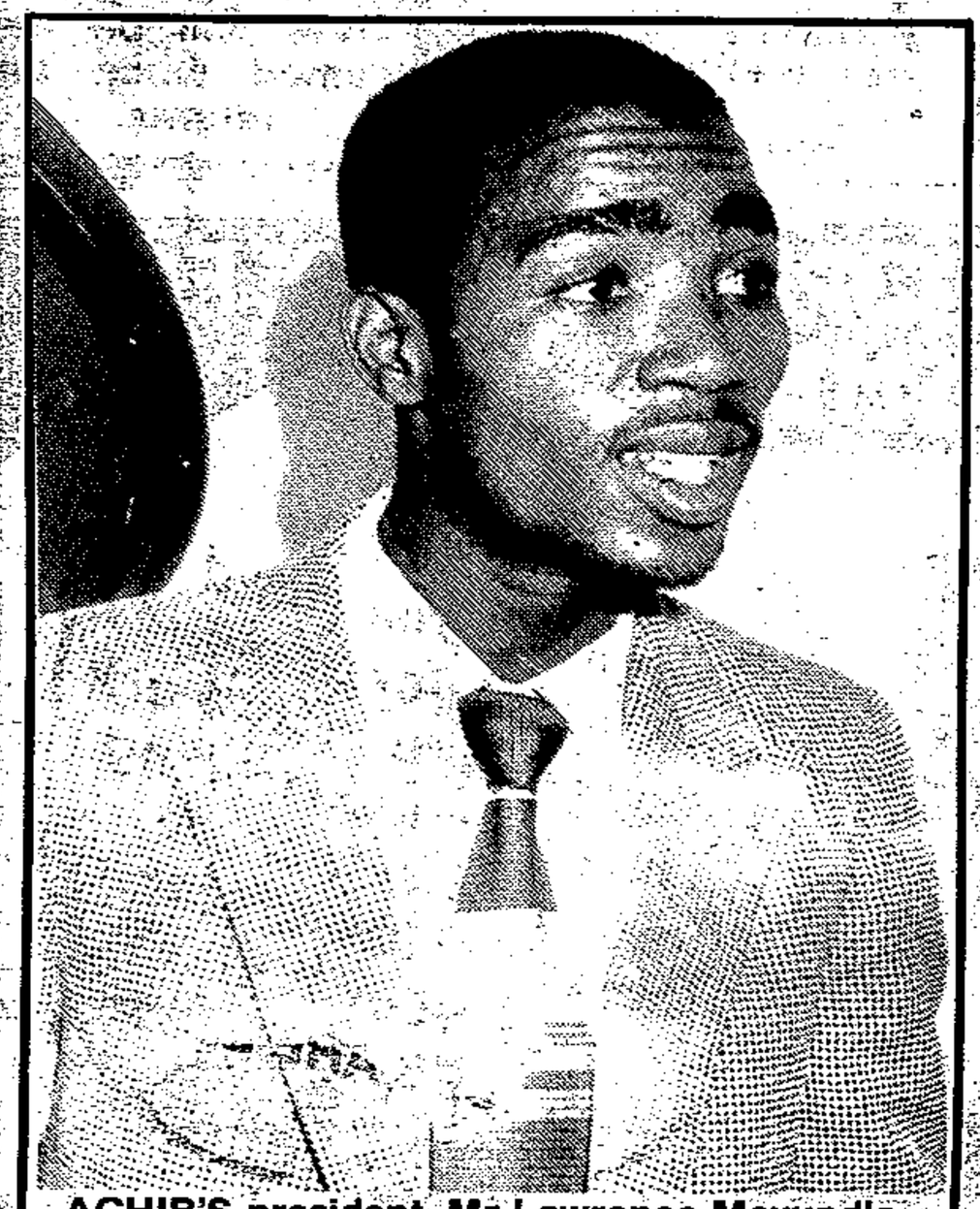
Mr Leon Louw, executive director of the Free Market Foundation says in "Roots of Enterpise" that deregulation remains a stumbling block.

"With sanctions already imposed on South Africa and the threat of more to come, it is important that Government gets out of the way of the entrepreneurs and allows them to use all the opportunities available to produce wealth and create jobs."



Street vendors selling fruits and vegetables play an important role in supplying black housewives with fresh produce.

Hawkers deceived



ACHIB'S president, Mr Lawrence Mavundla.

By JOSHUA RABOROKO

MORE than 20 000 hawkers on the Reef have paid R80 each for trading licences — only to find that they were forged.

Announcing this at a Press conference in Johannesburg yesterday, the president of the African Council of Hawkers and Informal Business, Mr Lawrence Mavundla, also said the hawkers allegedly paid R5 a month for tax to the conman.

Mr Mavundla said hawkers were arrested, harassed and had their goods confiscated by local authorities, despite producing licences. It was then that they discovered the forgeries.

The council has confronted the man and handed him over to the Johannesburg hawkers squad.

Mr J van der Nest, of the Johannesburg City Council hawkers Squad, declined to comment on the issue. He referred all inquiries to the council's public relations officer.

Mr J Venter of the Johannesburg Council public relations, was not available for comment yesterday.

Mr Mavundla has blamed the local authorities for delaying issuing the licences to hawkers and said: "They have created a situation where such elements will take advantage to exploit our members."

He explained that the false licences had the same letterheads as those issued by the Johannesburg City Council and "we wonder how this man got hold of such documents."

He has warned all hawkers to be on the look-out for people issuing false licences, adding "only the local authorities and Achib are the sources through which licences can be obtained."

Mr Mavundla has also appealed to the authorities to speed-up their efforts to grant hawkers licences, otherwise, he advised, "there would be chaos in the economy of the country."

Big venture

THE first black-owned fruit and vegetable mini-market which cost R500 000 will be opened in Orlando West, Soweto at 7am today.

The managing director of the market, Mr Freddie Tshilongo, who started his business as a hawker in Johannesburg and Soweto, said he, with the assistance of another business leader, Mr George Negota, raised part of the money from the Small Business Development Corporation.

He said: "The aim of the market is to attract as many hawkers and other business people as possible to support their own people in the townships.

"We are also hoping to attract black farmers to come and sell their produce in townships. We will like to avail opportunities to our people to buy fruit and vegetables cheaply instead of travelling to white towns," he added.

"For a long time we have been depending on white-owned markets for our vegetables and fruit, now it is time we do things ourselves," he said.

The market is situated near the Pelican night-club.

295 bldg 7/9/88

Informal sector's income as high as 40% of SA's GDP

CHRISTOPHER TUCHER

WHEN economists say that SA's gross domestic product hovers around R140b, they may be understating real economic activity by more than 30%. This gap between recorded and real GDP — the "informal sector" — is business conducted beyond the reach of licensing boards, statisticians and the taxman.

For many, this informal sector is a panacea for the socio-economic problems of SA. "It is the most important thing going in the economy," says University of Cape Town Professor Brian Kantor. "The formal sector is not providing jobs."

Others are less convinced. For the trades unions — to whom Kantor partially attributes the slowdown in jobs — the informal sector is indicative of blacks' ability to survive economically. But they warn against pinning hopes for black economic liberation to it.

Numsa national organiser Jeff Schreiner worries that the enthusiasm for the informal sector will exempt its workers from legal protection, such as a minimum wage, and undermine the progress made by the unions. Regardless, he finds it "extremely unlikely that it alone will resolve unemployment".

In recent years, more than 900 000 street vendors, hawking fresh fruits and bright textiles, have brought both colour and commerce into city business districts and provided township distribution outlets for large merchandisers. Minibus taxis crowd the streets, and in township backyards panelbeaters and mechanics have sprung up to service them.

A recent study by the SA Development Bank estimates that blacks earn 26% of their personal income "informally," nearly as much as they earn in the mines. One in every four working blacks is employed in this "underground economy".

Furthermore, while formal GDP stagnates the unmeasured economy is burgeoning. Wolfgang Thomas of the Small Business Development Corporation estimates that it has grown from 20% of GDP in the Seventies to more than 30% today. Kantor believes the figure may be as high as 40%.

Several factors account for this growth.



☐ KANTOR ... "most important"

Township unrest in 1985-86 gave a great boost to the informal sector. White shops were boycotted and large merchandisers, such as SA Breweries, were kept out of the townships. "Police began closing their eyes to shebeens and thousands of small businesses grew up in the wake of the township trouble," says Thomas.

The scrapping of influx control in 1986 has brought millions of blacks into urban areas. Because the formal sector could not accommodate them, they have found work in other ways. Taxis, hawkers and house-builders have sprung up to serve them. Even the shacks which new town-dwellers build themselves each represent R1 000-R2 000 of unrecorded value, says Thomas.

A large and growing "underground economy" is not exclusively South African, nor is it particular to the Third World. Advanced economies like Italy and the US also contend with 15%-30% unrecorded business activity.

Reserve Bank Deputy Governor Jan Lombard thinks the situation in SA is special. Whereas in the rest of the world "underground economies" have sprung up in order to avoid the taxman, in SA the key has been to escape the costs of complying to business restrictions and licensing laws.

Wolfgang Thomas says that "in a country like SA, where blacks find so many things illegal and are weary of rules and regulations, it is naive to think our unmeasured economy is less than in other countries." Black business is growing and maturing, but is not yet streamlining itself into a formal framework.

But Thomas thinks "formalisation" of the informal sector is inevitable. Citing recent steps to deregulate black small business (e.g., taxis, hawkers, and work-at-home), he observes that street vendors are linking up to win purchasing discounts and independent taxi drivers are forming fleets.



☐ LOMBARD ... SA is special

As the informal sector matures the upward trend in its proportion to GDP will revert.

While the informal sector bears great significance for black business, it is not just blacks who are working "underground".

Estimates suggest that more than 300 000 white families are "moonlighting" and doing business in their homes. With the formal sector in the doldrums, says Thomas, "the number of white and coloured households that have had to take up a second job is enormous".

Thomas estimates the informal sector to be 30% of GDP. He provides the following breakdown:

☐ The black informal sector — 10%-12%;
☐ The white informal sector — 8%-10%;
☐ The criminal economy, such as drugs and prostitution — 6%-7%; and
☐ The formal sector understatement — 4%.

But "informal" means unrecorded, says Job Creation director Ian Hethrington. So by definition it is unknown. "Any attempt to quantify it can only be based on anecdotal evidence."

But economists will die trying — each with his own methodology.

Thomas's method is based on models of international economies and contrasts SA with other countries. Brian Kantor takes a monetary approach, focusing on notes-in-circulation relative to GDP. He concludes that the informal sector could be as great as 40% of GDP.

Kantor points out that the informal sector is a pure cash economy. Since 1981 he has observed that, despite increased financial sophistication and the proliferation of automatic teller machines, the ratio of currency to GDP has risen.

However, they quantify it: all agree that the informal sector is immense and that it has serious implications for tax and monetary policy.

The taxmen are catching on. A key reason for the proposed move to value added tax (VAT) is to broaden the tax base by capturing sales in the informal sector, says Commissioner of Inland Revenue Clive Kingon.

Because the GST taxes only at the point of sale, every step in the value added chain escapes the sales tax. VAT will catch each step except the final retail sale.

The Reserve Bank's Lombard sees a need for better understanding of the informal sector.

"In the classical sense, the Reserve Bank studies effects of national income on the money supply and balance of payments. But in SA, as in any developing country, we have a duty to extend its focus further than that."

'I don't want your charity, white man'

LAWRENCE MAVUNDLA has a plain and very direct message for business: "I don't want your charity, white man."

He does not say it aggressively or insultingly, but with the lilt of purpose. Mavundla, 30-year-old President of Achib (African Council of Hawkers and Informal Businesses) is not in business to make enemies or score political points, but, quite simply, to do business.

Two themes hammer through everything he says.

The first is that "the private sector does not owe us anything — except the right to make an honest living." The second is that business in SA is completely off target with its community aid and social responsibility programmes.

'Wrong concept'

"There is a wrong concept in most South African and in the American companies and organisations which have budgets for the community. They budget a lot of money for education and housing and charity to organisations that run feeding schemes and all of that.

"My feeling is that they are very wrong by so doing. If they were to give the black people an opportunity to make a living for themselves black people would be able to build their own houses, they would be able to send their own children to school.



LAWRENCE MAVUNDLA (left), president of the African Council of Hawkers and Informal Businesses (Achib), talks to Deputy Editor NEIL JACOBSOHN

"So what I am urging the companies to do is to change their approach into pumping more money into organisations like ours, which are for the development of the people," says Mavundla.

His urging has met with some success in a series of meetings with senior businessmen. Mavundla has been trekking from corporate HQ to corporate HQ asking not for charity but for what he calls an investment — sums of money which Achib then uses as grass-seed capital to set up new hawking businesses.

"So far we have started 900 jobs since January, not counting the jobs created by hawkers themselves in Johannesburg and Soweto ... each hawker employs between one and three people. And there are 9 600 licensed hawkers here, all people the private sector cannot accommodate with the charity approach," says Mavundla.

He believes that much of the social unrest in SA is due to unemployment. "When people are on charity they become beggars. What happens is that they are depending on you, on social responsibility programmes. Depending makes them dissatisfied.

"But if you let people develop themselves in business they become your customers, and you are creating stability in the country."

Harassed

Then, he says: "You can take down all the walls and burglar proofing in the houses there in the northern suburbs."

Much of Mavundla's time is taken up with fighting what Achib calls unjust trading laws. "The criminals are resting, and people who want to make an honest living are being harassed by the authorities," he says.

To try and get something done, he is going right to the top.

"I am writing an open letter to the State President asking him to use his powers to stop the regulations which mean harassment of traders," says Mavundla. "The best argument for all political sides is to give people jobs."

REVIEWS

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Hawkers to flex muscles

THE African Council of Hawkers and Informal Businesses, which represents the interests of about 14000 hawkers in the PWV area, is to flex its business muscle and open a branch in Durban soon.

Achib's marketing manager, Mr Duncan Mehlomakhulu said yesterday that it was the intention of his organisation to open a branch in Durban and resuscitate their defunct office in Empangeni.

He said Achib had been mainly concentrating on the Pretoria-Witwatersrand-Vereeniging area, but after receiving a letter from the Durban City Council requesting them to help solve the city's hawker problems, Durban because the next city for them to open an office.

Mr Mehlomakhulu said he could not say exactly when the branch would be opened.

SAB donates vehicle to hawker group

By SELLO SERIPE

THE African Council of Hawkers and Informal Business this week received a boost from SA Breweries when the company handed over a vehicle for the organisation's use.

The giant SAB recently donated R156 000 to the Small Business Development Centre for the construction of the country's first hawkers market in Mamelodi, Pretoria.

Handing over the vehicle to Achib president Lawrence Mavundla, SAB's community affairs manager, Windsor Shuenyane, said that as a company that championed the free enterprise system, SAB recognised the importance of developing the small businessman and the community.

"When Achib's president approached us for assistance, he stressed that the association aimed to be self-sufficient within three years.

"As we believe in helping the community to help itself, we are delighted to help the association," Shuenyane said.

He stressed that Achib was contributing to solving the high unemployment in SA, pointing out the informal trading sector contributed between 25 and 30 percent of the country's Gross National Product.

Achib's 13 000 paid up members alone spend R81-million a year at wholesalers and R21-million at the City Deep produce market in Johannesburg.

"South Africa's hawkers are building a future for themselves by creating pride out of despair.

"They deserve the support of big business," Shuenyane added.



Achib's Lawrence Mavundla (left) receives key from Winsdor Sheunyane (centre) and Victor Nkosi.

In and out of jail: Granny Moyo and the hawkers

The hawkers have a 'patron saint', of their own: Granny Moyo, who died aged 101 and could proudly boast that she 'never worked for a white man' ... or carried a licence. By MZIMKULU MALUNGA

THE Moyo family has been hawking for 60 years and the matriarch, Harriet Moyo, was the driving force behind the formation of the 14 000-strong hawkers association.

Granny Moyo, as she is called, died in 1986 at the age of 101 — only a day after the formation of the African Council of Nyangas and Hawkers Association which was later called African Council of Hawkers and Informal Business (Achib).

She started hawking at Johannesburg Station in 1927 and never carried a hawking licence.

Lawrence Mavundla, Achib's president, said before Granny died "she instructed me (from her hospital bed) to ensure that hawkers did not have to spend all their lives in the streets like she did. They must be allowed to rise".

He first saw Granny Moyo in 1986 when she was chased by the police and thrown into a van "as if she were an apple box". Her products were scattered on the ground, said Mavundla.

Of her 14 children only two outlived her. The two daughters and a granddaughter are still hawking at the same place in Johannesburg Station where Granny Moyo sat.

Peggy Moyo, 44, told *Weekly Mail* that she started hawking at the age of eight and had never worked at any other spot.

In 1960, when she had her first child, Granny Moyo helped her open her own business. Until



Granny Moyo: 60 years hawking in Johannesburg streets

served customers slowly."

"In 1949 we went to stay in White City from George Goch and every day when I returned from school, I came right here to help *'U gogo'* (Granny) with the business."

But memories of harassment by the Marshall Square police (the predecessor of John Vorster Square) have not died. "Sometimes a three-wheeled scooter came and took her (Granny) away. It was painful but eventually I got used to it," said Peggy Moyo, glancing at the packets of peanuts packed smartly before her.

"At first they (the police) did not arrest me because I was young, but when they noticed that I was helping her they also came for me," said this big woman in a pink dress.

She recounted another incident: "Granny always told me this story. 'One day, while you were still

Nkosi. "In court you were sentenced to 10 days if you did not have R10 or 20 days if if you did not have R20," said Nkosi. "But when we got out, we went back to sell again. We never stopped.

"I remember one day when the police came, Granny pretended to faint because she was now too old to run away. But that did not stop them (the police) from arresting her," said Nkosi.

Nkosi said the hawkers were told first by the police and then by the traffic police to acquire licences. Because they did not have "storages" — a place to store their products at night — their applications failed. Yet they still paid 50 cents a day for leaving their goods at the station.

Granny Moyo died on May 7 1986. Every year since then Achib has held a commemoration service for the "hero of the hawkers".

This 'health' claim is plain nonsense, says hawkers' chief

BY MZIMKULU MALUNGA

HAWKERS this week attacked the private sector for advocating a tightening of restrictions on informal trading because of hygiene problems.

The president of the African Council of Hawkers and Informal Business (Achib), Lawrence Mavundla, said hygiene was a red herring.

"If there was a hygienic problem it would be customers complaining not hawker competitors."

The Catering, Restaurant and Tearoom Association (CTRA) has called for "clamps on street vendors" on the grounds that hawkers were causing health problems.

Mavundla said the private sector was worried hawkers were taking business away from them; regarding street vendors as unfair competition.

He said such a stand went "against the principles of free enterprise, especially at a time when many sectors are calling for the development of the informal sector as a partial solution to many of the country's problems".

CTRA's executive director Frank Swarbeck said his organisation felt "if regulations, whether in the licensing or health department exist, then they must be carried out.

"If a street vendor comes 100 metres from an established shop and there is no law to prevent it, then that is unfair. It is unfair competition, which is bad for the economy."

Swarbeck said many of his association's members were also involved in the hawking business. He argued CTRA members had to pay rent and were subject to regular inspection checks by the health department as well as the Industrial Council.

Swarbeck said the CTRA's aim was not to "set dogs on the small businessman". He felt shopkeepers would not benefit if restrictions on hawkers were lifted.

Achib has repeatedly called for the repealing of regulations preventing its members from trading freely. It argues where hawkers were allowed to trade without disturbance they became shopowners.

Mavundla said shopowners were concerned about street vendors becoming formal traders.

Swarbeck disputed this. "It would be dangerous for us to say there should be a limit on people coming into the shopkeeping business."

Mavundla said the informal sector provided employment at a time when there was widespread unemployment in the country. Achib estimated hawkers contributed 40 percent of the officially recorded Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

According to Professor Keith Beavon, head of geography and enviromental studies at the University of the Witwatersrand, the CTRA's move echoed similar action by shopkeepers against coffee cart owners over the years.

"Not a single court has yet upheld a case against vendors on the grounds of unfair competition. They ruled the market sorts itself out. As a result shopowners resorted to other arguments, such as hygiene," he said.

Rod Gribnitz, general manager of Piccanini Food, a chain of hotdog stands, said shopkeepers regarded the stands as an unfair competition.

He disputed CTRA's claim that vendors were not subjected to health inspections. "We are basically in the same boat."

Peggy herself has six children and her eldest daughter, Dudu-zile, is hawking opposite her at the corner of Hoek and Noord streets.

"Most of us in this family, had never worked anywhere other than in this business. Granny taught all of us how to handle it. Even those who have died, died in this field," said Peggy Moyo.

"She was wild with business and was angered by anybody who

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a baby I took you to work. Then the police came and I ran away, leaving you behind.' The police took me, knowing Granny would return to fetch me.

"Granny had never gone to school but she could speak both English and Afrikaans. She had never worked for white man. She owned a horse-drawn cart and she drove herself around town," said Peggy Moyo.

"*Gogo* had been in and out of the cell many times, sometimes paying fines. But I remember one time they locked her up for more than a week. When she was released, she came back here and started hawking again."

Beauty Nkosi, from Emdeni in Soweto, started hawking at Johannesburg Station in 1966 and met Granny Moyo there. Nkosi runs the Hawkers Women's Group which was formed at Granny's suggestion, who realised the need for such an organisation.

In the 1960s the fine for illegal hawking was between R10 and R20. Today, the fine has increased to R200.

"If you did not have money you had to sleep in the cell," said

70 hawkers summoned to court

THEO RAWANA

ABOUT 70 Johannesburg hawkers had been summoned to court since the African Council of Hawkers and Informal Business (Achib) started its anti-harassment campaign three weeks ago, Achib said yeaterday.

Achib legal adviser Francis Moleko said in that time there had been five instances of alleged assault by traffic officials, about R2 000 worth of goods confiscated and fines of up to R100 each.

Achib believes by-laws restricting hawkers are there to protect retailers against what they fear as unfair competition. Moleko said: "So far not a single court has upheld a case against hawkers on the grounds of unfair competition. The courts have ruled that the market should sort itself out."

A Johannesburg traffic police spokesman said he could not comment on Achib's allegations unless he was given details of the cases referred to.

595 B Bday 15/9/88.

Informal sector now an economic force — Vosloo

THEO RAWANA

THE INFORMAL sector was growing rapidly and was an economic force to be reckoned with, SBDC MD Ben Vosloo said in Johannesburg this week.

Announcing the launch of the SBDC's National Small Business Week, Vosloo said there was strong evidence small businesses had entered a period of advancement and development of unequalled intensity.

"Figures released by the Information Trust Corporation for the first six months of 1988 . . . indicate a significant drop of 20% in company insolvencies when compared with the corresponding period last year. At the same time company registrations have also increased by 20%," said Vosloo.

The number of loans granted under the corporation's Small Business Start-Up Fund showed a continued increase in the past quarter (April-June 1988), compared with the first quarter.

Introducing the slogan Let Small Business Boom, Vosloo said this was important because SA faced an unacceptably low rate of economic growth, rising unemployment,a population growth rate reaching crisis proportions and an inequitable distribution of wealth.

"It is common knowledge the small business sector can make a meaningful contribution towards addressing each of these challenges," said Vosloo.

He said the boom of small businesses was necessary because they were cost-effective job creators, could satisfy the market need for basic and specialised goods often not available from large manufacturers, they promoted healthy competition and aided the promotion of free enterprise.

Vosloo said the public sector should include the financing of small business development as a priority in a national strategic economic plan.

Among the objectives of the week, which will be run nationally from October 31 to November 6, are:

- ☒ Promote the important role of the small business sector;
- ☐ Create a more favourable climate for small business through deregulation;
- Promote entrepreneurship as a career choice among scholars; and
- ☐ Encourage small businessmen to improve methods and management systems.

Small business growing

By BONGANI HLATSHWAYO

SOUTH Africa's small business sector was entering a period of unequaled advancement and development, Small Business Development Corporation director Dr Ben Vosloo said this week.

Vosloo was speaking at the official launch of the Small Business Week in Johannesburg. Business Week will be held at four main centres in the country.

Vosloo said there was an upsurge in the activities of the informal sector and this was coupled with a corresponding increase in loans granted under the SBDC's Small Business Start-up Fund.

"It is important to let small business boom since this sector can make a meaningful contribution to addressing the three major challenges facing the South African economy.

"These are the unacceptable low rate of economic growth, rising unemployment and high population growth and the unequal distribution of wealth," said Vosloo.

The objectives of the Small Business Week include:

- Creating a more favourable climate for small business through deregulation.
- Encouraging small businessmen to improve their management systems.

18/1/88 Pretoria

80 years on — and still the cafe-hawker row simmers

HAWKERS and cafe owners are arguing bitterly, accusing one another of territorial poaching.

By Jane Dutton

The feud has been simmering since 1907 when hawkers first clashed with cafe owners.

The Catering, Tearoom and Restaurant Association (CTRA), representing the cafe owners, has launched a campaign to restrict hawkers by enforcing health laws.

African Council of Hawkers and Informal Businessess (Achib) publicity secretary Vicki Sussens says that by disallowing this informal sector to develop, retailers are setting up a monopoly.

"Some manufactures are supporting these carts, but they are scared to do so openly," says Miss Sussens.

"Employment provides a stable community. Hawkers do not spend their lives on the streets. Today's hawkers are tomorrow's shopkeepers."

CTRA believes lower standards bring the food trade into disrepute. It says health laws affecting perishable food are difficult to implement and should be more stringent for hawkers.

Chief executive Frank Swarbeck says: "It is unfair that cafes and small shops have to undergo strict health checks and not the hawkers."

Miss Sussens replies: "The health aspect is a red herring. If there were a problem, why have the public not complained?"

Hawkers have been receiving "smoke and smell" complaints since 1907 and she believes the underlying grievance is that of unfair competition.

"Cafes complain when a hawker is too close to their business and sells similar goods to theirs. This is silly because cafes have hundreds of different brands and hawkers only a few."

Hawkers and cafe owners should not be fighting, says Miss Sussens. They could help one another by working together — people buying from a hawker could see something they want in a cafe, both sides benefiting.

Mr Swarbeck says: "It is tough on cafe owners who pay a high rent when someone intrudes on their business. Overtrading can be a bad thing."

Achib disagrees, saying the success of Tembisa, which accommodates 2 500 informal businesses, is an indication that all groups can survive.

CTRA says: "We subscribe to providing employment, but hawkers must stick top the rules."

Mr Swarbeck says: "It is ludicrous to say we don't welcome competition. Cafe owners also have carts and we encourage this. The war is among the hawkers themselves."

explain that to the ratepayers.

INFORMAL SECTOR

Scouting for talent

SA cannot underestimate the importance of the informal sector as a potential provider of jobs. One obstacle to the growth of this unrecorded economy is the difficulty in raising small sums of capital to get started. In an attempt to fill the gap, a credit guarantee scheme to provide financing to the informal business sector is to be launched.

Details of the Black Enterprises Trust (BET) project were released when the magazine *Black Enterprise* celebrated its first birthday recently.

BET is an independent trust which oversees the publishing and marketing of *Black Enterprise*. It now intends to embark on a number of other projects.

The creation of a credit guarantee fund is aimed at establishing "a central fund which will be used as collateral for viable, new businesses the trustees nominate," says BET trustee Sam Alexander.

Other development projects are aimed at linking small and big business in a number of schemes including a plan to join forces with the Urban Foundation (UF) to expand the foundation's directory of black business sup-

FINANCIAL MAIL SEPTEMBER 23 1988

pliers. The directory provides information for local big business and multinationals — many of which have adopted a policy of "buying black." The directory currently lists some 2 000 black businesses. The BET and UF hope to double the entries.

"The directory has been so successful in connecting individuals and businesses that this year the estimated trade between them will exceed R27m," notes Alexander.

The trust does not only see a role for itself in promoting the informal sector, to which it pays tribute: "The fact that since 1981, 2,5m workseekers have entered the SA economy and somehow kept body and soul together, despite declining work opportunities in the formal sector, is a credit to the informal or unrecorded sector," says BET's Lazarus Zim.

In the long term, the trust advocates bringing untapped informal sector talent into the formal sector as a means of boosting the economy.

"The informal sector is a concrete indication that blacks not only want to work, but that they are so innovative and self-reliant that they create their own jobs," Zim says.

But it would be to the advantage of whites to embark on a programme of black economic empowerment in the formal sector, he suggests. "A black managerial class could alleviate the load of overextended white managers, spread the tax burden and create wealth which, in turn, would create a climate conducive to a shared future instead of fighting over a diminishing economic cake." ■

Avis in Soweto

295

AVIS has established the first car rental operation in Soweto — its 101st in SA.

The Soweto fleet in Jabulani will have an initial 100 vehicles. Managing director Tony Langley says they are needed because of the large number of weekend rentals.

"An upsurge in business from the black market has been a major factor in the car rental industry's volume growth in recent months," he says.

25/9/88 ST Times

Imperial guards against spending decline

Star 3/10/85

295

By Sven Forssman

The Imperial Group has been insulating itself against a drop in consumer expenditure, says chairman Percy Abelkop.

"The vast majority of income is derived from the business sector," he says in the annual report.

"The restrictions on credit and the private leasing of vehicles occurred towards the end of the financial year to June and these, together with those recently announced, are bound to have a dampening effect on spending."

He says it is group policy to balance the activities in vehicle rental, motor trading and transport.

Management attempts to balance activities is illustrated in the report which shows that on turnover, motors was the largest division at 51 percent, followed by truck systems at 28,6 percent and car rental at 20,3 percent.

But, at pre-tax level, car rental contributed 38,4 percent, truck systems 32 percent and motors 29,6 percent.

Travel agents fight to recoup Games losses

(295) By Winnie Graham 3/10/88

The Association of Southern African Travel Agents (Asata) is to take up the case of five of its members who lost about R1 million when South African tourists were banned from the Olympic Games in Seoul.

The matter is also expected to feature prominently on the agenda of Asata's 29th congress which takes place in Portugal from October 19 to 23.

A spokeswoman for the association said last week that the agents were claiming refunds to cover their losses from the Olympic Games Committee but, if that failed, Asata would approach the international law department of the Universal Federation of Travel Agents Associations (UFTAA).

"It is ironic that the 170 South Africans have been banned at the very time the Olympic Games Committee is contemplating whether or not South Africa should be allowed to participate in the next games," she added.

The travel agents expect the airlines to re-imburse them on the short-notice cancellations.

TOUR BROKERS

But travel packages, including tickets to the games, land arrangements and hotel accommodation, were bought from European tour brokers and paid in advance.

They cannot retrieve their prepayments for land arrangements.

"The loss is disastrous for the South African travel industry," the spokeswoman said.

'Harassed' hawkers plan to meet

295 By Janet Heard 4/10/88

About 15 hawkers were arrested and had their goods confiscated for trading in a restricted Johannesburg city area yesterday. They were given fines ranging from R50 to R100.

According to the president of the African Council of Hawkers and Informal Businesses (ACHIB), Mr Lawrence B Mavundla, the number arrested yesterday was not unusual. "This is a daily example of normal hawker harassment in South Africa," he said.

"If they harass more than 40 people a day, then we call it unusual."

Mr Mavundla said a national meeting had been planned for October 28, where methods to prevent arrest would be discussed. "I will not rest until this matter is resolved", Mr Mavundla said.

Drugs, prostitution and theft boost informal sector

'Shadow' economy shock

U/S Argus 22/10/88 295

By DICK USHER
Business Staff

SOUTH Africa's informal sector, contrary to the dreams of official planners, is largely fuelled by illegal activities.

While the official dream seems to be of the unemployed who cannot be accommodated in the formal sector being made economically active by industriously producing burglar guards and school uniforms, or doing backyard motor repairs and small bricklaying and plumbing jobs, the reality is of a massive "shadow economy" running on drugs, prostitution, gambling, illegal liquor selling, pirate taxis and theft.

Even the shebeen and black taxi industries, now held up as models of what can be accomplished by deregulation of the informal sector, were illegal until very recently.

Estimates of the size of the informal sector relative to the overall economy run between 30 and 45 percent, to which the shadow economy — an informal sector within the informal sector — makes by far the greatest contribution.

Mr Willem Roets, an economic consultant, said that because of its very nature, it was very difficult to estimate the size of the informal sector or derive models for its role in the economy.

But some idea of its size can be grasped from official statistics on dagga confiscations alone.

Dagga seized during 1986 was valued at R2,1-billion and in 1987 R1,2-billion, reflecting a drop not in use or cultivation but a police force less able to cope, according to narcotics experts.

Even if the 1986 total seized represented half what is grown, which seems unlikely, it means a cash inflow of at least R2-billion into the shadow economy.

Comparatively, in the formal sector, the civil engineering industry last year received contracts worth about R3,5-billion.

Statistics on other aspects of the informal sector are equally shadowy.

Prostitutes, gamblers, thieves, crayfish poachers and pirate taxi operators are unlikely to report their income or its source to the Receiver of Revenue, but insurance industry statistics show that car theft alone stood at about R700-million last year.

Pressure

Meanwhile, Mr Roets points out, the pressure on the informal sector is increasing in direct proportion to jobs lost in the formal sector.

Between 1980 and 1986 the number of jobs in the formal sector shrank by 147 000.

At the same time, employment in the general government sector increased by 30 percent between 1980 and 1986, but in the "business" sector of the civil service — South African Transport Services and the Post Office — it declined by 20 percent.

Mr Roets said this represented an increasing burden on the private sector.

Another burden on the formal sector was due to the shortage of information and models applying to the shadow economy.

Economic and financial planning could only be done for the formal sector. But the size of the informal sector made formal planning very hit and miss.

ober 24 1988

Noord Street deserted after snap raid

Hawkers squad nets 'thousands' in goods

Star 4/10/88 (295)

By Janet Heard

At least 50 hawkers had their goods confiscated by the hawkers squad in a raid on Johannesburg's Noord Street on Friday.

Within a few minutes, Noord Street — which is not a restricted trading area and is normally a hive of activity — was cleared of all but a few traders.

The goods were taken to the City Deep market, where they were kept until hawkers paid fines.

One hawker whose goods were confiscated, said: "How are we expected to feed ourselves? We are trying to earn an honest living because nobody can provide us with jobs."

Mr Kleinbooi Matsegen, who has a licence, said he went to the shop and left his stall at the corner of Noord and Wanderers streets under the care of his 14-year old nephew.

The squad arrived, and confiscated the goods because his nephew did not have the licence with him.

Mr Matsegen said Friday was his busiest day, and he had R8 000 of goods at his stall. He spent the whole day negotiating to get his goods back at City Deep market.

A spokesman for the hawkers squad said Friday's raid was part of a routine check.

He said goods were confiscated where traders had no licence, or if they did not move 100 metres every few hours.

He said hawkers were also fined for obstructing the pavement.

'Harassment by five groups'

Hawkers in the PWV area met this morning at the Central Methodist Mission in Johannesburg. They have condemned the routine raids by the Hawkers Squad and said they planned action to prevent further harassment.

The African Council of Hawkers and Informal Businesses (Achib) president, Mr Lawrence Mavundla, said the frustration among hawkers was reaching dangerous levels.

He targeted five pressure groups — local authorities, manufacturers, wholesalers, retailers and financial institutions.

Councils' by-laws restricted hawkers, financial institutions did not provide hawkers with loans, wholesalers did not supply hawkers freely, manufacturers favoured retailers at the expense of hawkers, and retailers called the police to harass hawkers.

"Government says it wants to boost the informal economy and yet they have no idea how badly hawkers are harassed.

"We are campaigning to gain economic rights for hawkers who contribute millions each year to the economy, and these five groups hold the key to us gaining our rights," Mr Mavundla said.

Hawkers move to end harassment

Star 25/10/88

295

By Janet Heard

Harassed hawkers are planning to hit back in a bid to force their recognition in the market place.

About 300 hawkers from the PWV region met in the Central Methodist Mission in Johannesburg yesterday to draw up a plan to fight harassment by hawker squads and businesses, and seek ways to ease the restrictions on their trading.

The meeting was attended by members of the African Council of Hawkers and Informal Businesses (Achib), which has 14 000 members in the PWV region.

Plans for five letters to be sent to pressure groups against hawkers were drafted. These include local authorities, retailers, manufacturers, financial institutions and wholesalers.

The letters explain the problems hawkers experience and provide a list of proposals for making life easier for them.

295 Chron 30/10/88

Achib restores the dignity of the jobless

Highly skilled people are among the unemployed



ECP candidates receive their first stock from ECP director Nomsa Mabena.

By SOPHIE TEMA

THE Employment Creation Project of the African Council of Hawkers and Informal Business, formed to create jobs for the unemployed, already has 138 members – some of them highly skilled people.

ECP has received scores of applications from people who lost their jobs through retrenchments and strikes.

ECP was started after Achib had received over 600 queries from people wishing to become hawkers but did not have the capital to buy stock.

Among the applicants are retrenched mineworkers, two salespeople, many panel beaters, a printer, a heavy-duty driver, several machine operators, a tour guide and a clerk.

Wilson Malaza, a former salesman, said he used to make no more than R20 a week when he started selling on the street corners of the townships, but within a month of joining ECP his earnings went up to R100 a week.

This has been expressed by most of the 138 members.

"I decided to become a hawker because my earnings in commission as a salesman could not feed my family. I can now maintain them properly because I know what it is to be self-sufficient," said Malaza.

Said ECP director and Achib general secretary Nomsa Mabena: "It is a tragedy that most of our applicants are highly skilled people who have been searching, in some cases, for more than three years for work.

"According to recent research, unemployment is as high as 6,5-million, which makes it impossible to find employment. ECP offers the unemployed a chance to regain their dignity by being their own employers."

Mabena said many Achib members have successfully used their hawking income to rise to entrepreneur level.

"The project has approached formal business to provide capital that will help new hawkers get licenses, stock and advice.

"The new hawker is also encouraged to contribute R10 to the project's fund to assist other members of the organisation," said Mabena.

'Bridging the information gap'

CP Reporter

A CONFERENCE aimed at bridging the information gap between informal businesses and the corporate world is to be held at the Market Theatre on November 16 and 17.

The event, entitled the informal sector conference on "Bridging the Information Gap" between the informal and formal sectors, has been organised by Systems Conferences in conjunction with the African Council of Hawkers and Informal Businesses.

Issues pertinent to this sector of the economy will be addressed by persons directly and indirectly active in the informal sector.

"The aim of the conference," says Achib president Lawrence Mavundla, "is to let the corporate world hear from informal sector spokesmen what the informal sector is all about, what its problems are, and what the corporate world should do if it wishes to work with the informal sector."

Speaking on the importance of the conference, Rashid Alli, director of the Small Business Advisory Service and a consultant to Achib, says "the corporate world formulates strategies according to figures and theories. But by its nature, it is impossible to quantify the informal sector. This creates an information gap which result in misconceptions on both sides."

Their aspirations were simply to be given the chance to be self-sufficient, and to create their own jobs.

For further information on the conference, contact Nicky Fehrsen at tel (011) 789-1808.

Hawkers hit at Govt, private sector

Star 3/11/88

(295)

By Janet Heard

The African Council of Hawkers and Informal Businesses (Achib) launched an attack against the Government and the private sector at a meeting recently, saying that while they spoke loudly about boosting the informal sector, they did not grasp the problems hawkers experienced.

Reacting to raids on hawkers, Achib president Mr Lawrence Mavundla said harassment affected the economy indirectly.

He cited as an example two hawkers, Mr Kleinbooi Matsegeng and Mr Peter Maluleke, who lost a combined income of R1 500 and had R3 000 worth of goods confiscated in a week.

"This money should be pouring back into the economy and not into the coffers of the council, where it is spent on policing more hawkers," Mr Mavundla said.

Mr Matsegeng left his nephew in charge of his stand while he went to buy more stock. His nephew was fined R100 for not having a licence and over R2 000 worth of goods were confiscated, Mr Mavundla said.

Mr Maluleke was fined for blocking the pavement. When he went to retrieve his goods from City Deep market, he said he received only one carrier bag of cosmetics. He said more than R1 000 worth of goods was missing, but he could not prove this because the officials confiscating the goods did not make an official note of his goods.

"When hawkers are primed by many researchers to make a major contribution to righting the economy and to solving unemployment, it is a poor show that they are still being treated in this manner", Mr Mavundla said.

● A spokesman for the hawkers' squad at the Johannesburg traffic department, Mr Eric Hill, said people were not fined at the scene, but they and their goods were taken to City Deep market, where they were issued with a receipt both parties agreed to. When the fine was paid, the goods were returned, he said.

Asata chief warns on air fares

By Paula Fray

Air fares are fast approaching the level of public resistance.

This is the view of the president of the Association of South African Travel Agents (Asata), Mr Rupert Lawlor.

He said the 8 percent increase announced this week was the second since October 1 and another could be expected in March-April.

"If that happens we are looking at an overall increase of some 30 percent in a year. We are fast approaching public resistance," he warned.

SOWETAN, Tuesday, November 29, 1988

BLACK TAXIS TO BOYCOTT BOKSBURG BUSINESSES

BLACK organisations are to work-out strategies to oppose the Boksburg Town Council's decision to reintroduce petty apartheid.

The council is controlled by the Conservative Party.

The Foundation for African Business and Consumer Services (Fabcos), representing the organisations, said it will do everything in its power to work against the putting up of "whites only" signs in the town.

The organisations involved are the South African Black Taxi Association, the National Black Consumer Union, African Builders Association, Fabcos Marketing, South African Cottage Industries, National Stokvel and Savings Association and the National Hawkers Association.

In a statement Fabcos said it looked with despair at this attempt to revive the "Verwoerdian" policy of "baaskap" in an attempt to polarise further our communities."

"Fabcos has noted that the council was elected by the white citizens of Boksburg and it seems to have the support of the business committee.

Roots

Fabcos has resolved to:

- Do everything in its power to work against implementation of this unacceptable "whites only" legislation.
- Consult with grass roots membership in and around Boksburg to work out strategies to signal opposition to the council's decision.
- To look out at, and investigate ways to make shopping and the general purchase of goods and services more and easily available to black consumers, possibly by way of reduced shopping trips through taxis to neighbouring shopping centres.
- Call on big business to liaise with Fabcos to intervene in the Conservative Party's reintroduction of petty apartheid in Boksburg before it is too late.

Mr Tom Boya, president of Umsa, said his organisation condemned the act by the Boksburg Town Council as not being conducive to good race relations in the country.

A Vosloorus businessman, Mr Justice Radebe, said the people of Vosloorus were angry and bitter and had referred to the CP's act as a "national insult."

"We have experienced petty apartheid in the past and we don't want to experience it again," Mr Radebe said.

He said a petition opposing the "racist act" would soon be presented to the Government by the people of Vosloorus.

'Whites only legislation unacceptable'

By JOSHUA RABOROKO and Sapa

show their attitude towards this turning back of the "clock."

In other developments the Natal Football Association has banned all its clubs from playing any games in the town in future.

The South African Road Runners Association has already expressed its opposition and the Amateur Swimming Union has vowed to defy the whites-only signs at swimming pools.

Several other sporting organisations are likely to follow. Big businesses are considering withdrawing sport sponsorships.

However, the Boksburg Management Committee is unperturbed. Mr Gideon Fourie, chairman of the committee said sports bodies in the town were powerless and he did not care about pressure from any race group, sport administrators or businessmen.

The United Municipalities of SA (Umsa) has urged the Government to

Laws turn traders into criminals — Tager

THE SA legal system had turned honest traders into criminals by creating an SAP Hawkers Squad, Harmful Business Practices Committee chairman Professor Louise Tager said yesterday.

Speaking at the Informal Sector Conference held at Johannesburg's Market Theatre, she said she was shocked that every hawker she had met at a recent national symposium had had encounters with the police, had been arrested and jailed, had had their goods confiscated and had criminal records because of their businesses.

395 HELOISE HENNING Business Day 18/11/88

Many of the laws were meaningless to the traders. They had been arrested because they did not have a licence, or they were trading less than the required 10m from an intersection. Licences were found to be sold by bogus officials and hawkers were also victims of bribery and protection rackets, she said.

"What is an 'intersection'? Many lawyers, including myself, have found the definition of one elusive."

Tager called for the revision and deregulation of by-laws.

"There is no doubt that the laws treat the street vendor unfairly. They are oppressive and have a racial bias. Local authority by-laws demand that vendors have to take out a new licence every year, he may not renew an old one. He must wear a white coat, display his name in writing of a particular size, he may not trade within 400m of a store selling the same goods, the move-on rule

● To Page 2 ⇨

Laws turn traders into criminals — Tager

⇦ ● From Page 1

gives him between 20 minutes and two hours in a particular spot, a limitation is placed on the number of employees he may have and his goods may be seized or confiscated."

The by-laws were controls against "overtrading", which conflicted with government's policy on competition.

□ About 100m from the Market Theatre in Bree Street, a Business Day reporter, leaving the conference, encountered a tussle between a hawker and an SAP Hawkers Squad member. The sergeant had torn up the hawker's licence, saying it was a photocopy of a licence he believed belonged to the hawker's brother. The sergeant threatened the young man with arrest and the confiscation of his fruit, as the SAP had also "received complaints" that he was not 10m from the intersection.

A Hawkers Squad spokesman could not be reached for comment last night.

Hawkers' association launched

Star. 29/11/87
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Pretoria Correspondent

The informal sector had employed 2 million people in its phenomenal 80s boom and had grown four times faster than the formal sector, according to Mr Phil Khumalo, managing director of Business Challenge.

Mr Khumalo was addressing about 400 people during the official launch yesterday of the National Hawkers' Association (NHA) in Pretoria.

The State President, Mr P W Botha, and the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, were guests of honour.

Also present were Mr James Ngcoya, president of Sabta; Mr Godfrey Ntlatleng, executive vice-president of Sabta; Mrs Philly Makhudu, chief executive of the NHA.

"Although unrecorded in official statistics, the new 'people's sector' was an invisible powerhouse that now accounted for at least 25 percent of real economic activity in South Africa," said Mr Khumalo.

He said businessmen had still not realised the enormous potential and mutual economic benefits of closer co-operation.

In her speech, Mrs Makhudu said she was aware of the moral support the State President was giving the informal sector and of his support for deregulation and privatisation.



President Botha and Mr Adriaan Vlok chat to one of the hawkers at the launch of the National Hawkers Association at the Blood Street taxi rank in Pretoria yesterday.

GPG Times 25/11/81 (295-

Twice as many hawkers on city's streets

Municipal Reporter

HAWKERS on the streets of Cape Town have doubled in number over the past year — 2 945 licences were issued last year and 5 951 this year up to November 15.

The City Council has also set up new structures to help it implement the recommendations of a wide-ranging new "positive" street trading policy plan which it accepted late last year.

Cape Town still has a hawker control unit consisting of a sub-inspector in the traffic department and three teams of two men, but the city now has a far more tolerant approach towards street trading than previously.

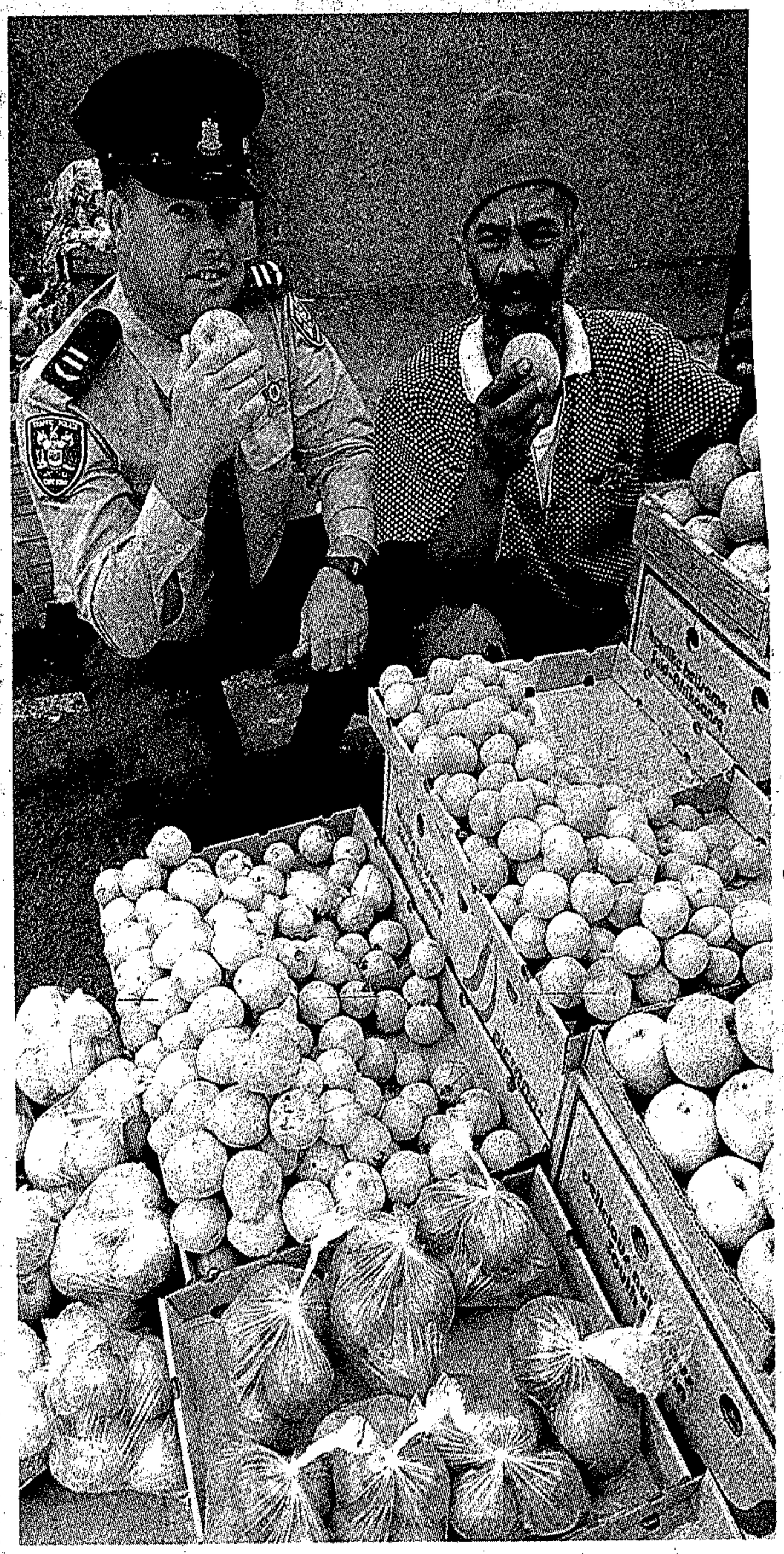
A senior council spokesman said yesterday that the city was taking the lead in "doing its utmost" to assist the street trader and promote the informal sector.

The requirement that new business licences should be applied for each year, rather than having existing ones renewed, is to be dropped soon.

Fruit and vegetable vendors are supposed to wear white coats, but this is not enforced in Cape Town.

The council is also going to provide R150 000 a year for shelters throughout the city for hawkers' use.

In Johannesburg, Professor Louise Tager, chairman of a committee on harmful business practices, told a recent Informal Sector Conference that honest traders were being turned into criminals by unfair laws.



HAWKER AND "HAWK" ... Mr Mogamat Maim of Mitchells Plain hawks legally in Parliament Street, Cape Town, as sub-inspector Chris du Prins of the traffic department's hawker control unit looks on. The city is more tolerant of hawking than most municipalities and it is deregulating even further while maintaining some controls.
Picture: GLENN SHERRATT

"There is no doubt that the laws treat the street vendor unfairly," she said. There were limitations were on the number of employees they may have and how long they stayed in one spot, she added.

CBDA wants control changes

Problems caused by street trading

Shopkeepers should be allowed to trade on pavements outside their own premises, the Central Business District Association (CBDA) has said in a new report on hawking and street trading in Johannesburg.

Highlighting the problems of businessmen, the CBDA retailers' discussion group stressed that traders in the formal sector were disadvantaged because their hawker competitors did not have to pay rent, GST or income tax, and were allowed prominent streetside pitches.

ENFORCEMENT DIFFICULT

The group also observed that some of the street trading appeared to be conducted by bigger businesses using multiple drop-off points, but it would be difficult to enforce controls favouring genuinely small and independent street traders.

"Food vending presents particular problems, with the formal trader being subjected to many expensive health and business requirements. Another matter of concern is obstruction of doorways and window displays, a problem aggravated during bad weather.

"Controlled flea markets are acceptable and could include craft-making and displays," the CBDA group said.

By Shirley Woodgate, Municipal Reporter

Turning to the problems facing hawkers, some of which the CBDA is actively trying to have redressed, the report said that despite the fact that the city council relaxed the by-laws controlling street hawkers in October 1987, there were certain other concessions which could be considered.

The area of total prohibition of street trading could be made even smaller and stands should be allocated to particular traders who would be responsible for keeping that area clean.

BLANKET PROHIBITION

"Current experience shows the unenforceability of a blanket prohibition.

"It would be better to identify specific areas in which street trading is prohibited and to demarcate those by painted markings on the pavement, as was done in London.

"Street trading can in suitable circumstances add life and animation to public places and these vendors could be useful sources of information for crime prevention," the CBDA said.

Business training boost for black hawkers

Black hawkers are to be helped up the business ladder with a series of basic training courses to be launched jointly by the African Council of Hawkers and Informal Businesses and the Free Market Foundation.

The initial sponsors of the scheme are First National Bank and Nestle, but talks are in

By Michael Chester

progress with other major corporations about wider support.

The first courses will be run in Johannesburg and Vereeniging.

Training will cover pricing and marketing, consumer relations, guidelines to regulations and laws affecting the informal sector — and basic management principles.

"Our members are natural entrepreneurs who have already scored successes despite masses of restrictions and little or no business background," says Achib executive Mr Duncan Mehlomakulu, co-ordinator of the project.

Miss Shirley Tait of the Free Market Training Division says hawkers are becoming the backboneof the economy. "They need all the encouragement that big business can provide to help them make an even bigger contribution to overall economic growth."

Sowetan 6/12/88

They will learn more about trade

By JOSHUA RABOROKO

THE African Council of Hawkers and Informal Business has appointed the training division of the Free Market Foundation to run a course in basic business principles for its members.

Achib's publicity secretary, Ms Vicki Sussens, said access to the courses was arranged by the hawkers association after requests came from members who wanted to learn more about business.

Founder sponsors are the First National Bank and Nestle. Other major corporations have shown interest in the project.

The courses, which run for three days, have already started in Johannesburg and Vereeniging. The foundation has also made available its other centres in Durban, Pretoria, Port Elizabeth and Cape Town.

Subject 295

Subjects include: prices and profits, the role of the consumer in controlling prices, marketing, regulations affecting informal traders, licensing laws, how companies are formed and how they stay in business.

"Hawkers are the backbone of the economy. They need to be productive and create employment. This takes a load off the Government and it creates a healthy economy," according to the manager of the Johannesburg branch of the Free Training division, Ms Shirley Tait.

"Our members are natural entrepreneurs who have already shown success despite restrictions and little or no business backgrounds. By providing them with training we believe there is no end to heights they can reach," Achib's coordinator of the project, Mr Duncan Mehlomekulu said.

Racist Boksburg becomes hostile

C/Press 11/12/88

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Rotten bananas bear testimony to bad times

By CHARLES MOGALE

RACIST Boksburg became hostile this week.

Contrary to two weeks ago, when traders openly confessed to loss of earnings due to the Conservative Party's proclamation of a return to petty apartheid, most traders approached this week flatly refused to discuss the matter.

The situation in the small East Rand town this week was tense, with only a smattering of blacks in shops. Gone was the traditional Christmas rush of blacks.

Here and there, a sign on a window made a somewhat meek appeal for reconsideration: "All races still welcome." However, the signs were largely ignored as blacks from Vosloorus and Reiger Park went to spend their money in the neighbouring towns of Germiston and Alberton.

Gavin Gardiner, a furniture store owner in central Boksburg told Sapa this week: "I am not selling anything, business is going down."

Already, there is talk that several businesses in the area are closing down.

Inside a large, well-known furniture chain store in Leeuwport Street, the only people seen inside for more than an hour were two white and four black staffers. One of the blacks, dressed in Santa Claus garb, spent a lonely time at the door of the shop.

Now and then he tried a smile, but ended up with only a cheerful grimace.

Approached for comment, the manager of the store, who refused to give his name, said business was bad, "but not that bad". He would not discuss the matter further.

A woman at the till of a fastfood outlet also refused to discuss the matter. Rotting bananas and almost shop-soiled cartons of soft-drinks and milk on the shelves bore testimony to bad times.

"I don't want to discuss politics. Leave me out of it," she said.

Even in the post office, which does not fall under the control of the Boksburg Municipality, race relations were visibly at a very low ebb. The trend was to politely ask white customers if they could be helped, and to demand brashly of blacks: "Wat soek jy?"

A man clad in khaki shorts in a hardware store would not even wait for reporters to introduce themselves. Smoking idly in his deserted shop, he shook his head and muttered: "No, no, no, no," before turning his back.

In Vosloorus, taximen had mixed fortunes.

Said Koos Buti Ntwe: "People just don't go to Boksburg anymore. I have even decided to operate locally only, unless I am lucky enough to get a load. We sometimes spend up to three hours waiting for our taxis to fill up. We are losing a lot, but our people have the right to withhold their money from racists."

James Makuto, whose taxi operates between Vosloorus and Germiston, said business had never been so good.

"More and more people are travelling to Germiston," he said.

Triple tragedy as Vaal youths die in crash

By SINNAH KUNENE

THOUSANDS of Sharpeville residents will be burying three local youths tomorrow who were killed when the truck they were travelling in ran out of control on the highway to Johannesburg this week.

Those killed are twin Johannes. Pumpi Skin, 13, Jeremiah Stoffel, 14, both pupils at Moeli Primary School, and George Koki , Masedi, 14, of Tshebetso High School – all of Phomolong Section.

The fourth victim and driver of the horse-and-trailer Tumi Radebe, 21, will be buried at Koppies in the Free State on Sunday.

According to bottle-store owner Ratladi Monnakgotla, the the driver and the three youths had gone to fetch liquor from Johannesburg when the truck ran out of control and crashed, killing all its passengers.

"I just do not know what happened . . . but it seems the driver lost control of the vehicle. All I can say now is that I have lost my bright little boys who loved school and were prepared to fight for their education," lamented Monnakgotla, who was also their guardian.

Monnakgotla has offered to pay for the funeral and catering costs.

A mass funeral for the three, who had passed their examinations last week, will be held at the Sharpeville Hall tomorrow.

Kopano, a 23-member burial society which consists of businessmen and socialites from the Vaal and West Rand, has donated cash and groceries to assist the families.



Jeremiah Stoffel Untimely death



Stompi Skin, Pumpi's twin , . . sad, but alive.



George Koki Masedi High school pupil.

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Soweto officials to remain in jobs

C/Press 11/12/88

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By SOPHIE TEMA

TOWN clerk Nico Malan and secretary L Geldenhuys resigned from the Soweto City Council this week – but reversed their decisions on Wednesday morning at a special meeting called by the council's executive committee.

Malan confirmed that he and Geldenhuys had resigned from the council and said: "We withdrew our decisions after our differences had been ironed out."

Soweto mayor Sam Mkhwanazi confirmed that the two officials had withdrawn their resignations and were retaining their positions as town clerk and town secretary.

At a Press conference held at the chambers, Malan announced the "Keep Soweto Clean" campaign which starts in the townships tomorrow.

Mkhwanazi said the campaign was to be a massive project which would need the support of all Soweto residents, including businessmen, housewives, children and community leaders.

The campaign is to be a on-going project for which the government has already given R2-million.

Political comment and Newsbills by K. Sibiya. Headlines and sub-editing by F. Alberts, all of 204 Eloff Street Ext, Johannesburg.

Achib looks forward to huge growth — Mavundla

Hawkers to become a force

THE African Council of Hawkers and Informal Businesses, founded two years ago by a former trade unionist, Mr Lawrence Bhekinkosi Mavundla, has grown rapidly.

It has grown to 14 000 members in the Pretoria-Witwatersrand - Vaal Triangle area and has plans to become a force to protect the interests of street vendors and informal business nationally.

Achib is a non-profit organisation which adopts an economic rather than political platform. It has no affiliation with nor does it allow itself to be dictated to by any other organisation.

It believes that hawking is one of the few entrepreneurial entry points for people who have little finance or education.

Hawking is therefore seen as a vehicle to move people from unemployment, up the informal business scale, and so into the formal sector.

In January this year Achib called on big business to support hawkers or face boycott action.

Big business did not respond, there was no boycott, but hawkers insist they have the power to sway big business.

In February after it held a conference on hawkers and deregulation, economists hailed the hawkers as "a force to be reckoned with," while others referred to hawkers as "smouse het in groot rol in die economie" (hawkers have a major role in the economy).

This was the beginning of a year that would prove that Achib did indeed have the power to sway not only big business, but local authorities as well.

During 1988:

- 21 local authorities opened their doors to negotiate with Achib;
- 500 hawkers cases were settled out of court and one hundred were won in court;
- 31 manufacturers approached Achib for help in reaching the informal sector;
- wholesalers are talking to Achib about dealing directly with its members. At the beginning of the year the wholesalers refused to do so;
- banks and insurance companies, which would not provide loans or cover to hawkers, are now talking to Achib; and
- companies sponsored 200 unemployed people to become hawkers.

Mr Mavundla, former shop steward of the National Union of Mineworkers and now Achib president, says the organisation pursues a policy of consolidation before expanding.

However, it has now decided to recruit members in the Free State and its head office staff has swelled from five to 20 people.

Three-quarters of its members are spaza shop owners (shops run from home).

Study

A Perri and Associates study revealed that the average turnover of spaza shops is R15 000 a month and that there are probably over 20 000 spaza shops on the Reef.

"As spaza shop ownership is the next step up the informal business scale from hawking, this indicates there is economic movement in the sector," says Mr Mavundla.

He attributes this success in negotiating with certain town councils to ease restrictions against hawkers.

"Now that Achib has persuaded the Tembisa council to stop harassment, the hawkers are doing well and all want to open spaza shops here," he adds.

Another reason is that Achib has extended into areas such as squatter camps and Khutsong spaza shops flourish due to a lack of other formal shops.

Mr Mabundla was this year rewarded for his good work with the 1988 Free Market Award and the October 1988 KWV 10-Year-Old Brandy Excellence Award.

But Achib's biggest reward has been the recognition gained for hawkers and spaza shops. This has catapulted them into the forefront of the economic stage.

Some estimates showing their power are: that informal traders account for 30 percent of all fresh produce sales — they spend R29 million a year at the City Deep Market in Johannesburg alone; that annually, they spend R45-million on cosmetics, R720 million on rice and R1,2 billion on mealie meal.

Wholesalers and manufacturers have done a major turnaround, recognising that this is a market not to be ignored.

When Achib first approached manufacturers for support, many responded that hawkers did not sell their products. Neither was there great interest in supplying them.

Today Achib is working closely with the same people to provide a distribution network of products from manufacturers to its members. The network will be in place by early next year.

"We plan to key in on market trends, such as the informal sector which is growing faster than the formal. There could be opportunities for them to become a supplier of stock to hawkers and other informal traders," says Mr Albert Koopman of Trador.

Support

Makro's financial director, Mr Jon Lavies, has described the hawkers as an "economic powerhouse."

And Mr Mervyn King, executive chairman of the Frame Group, (which includes Metro), heralded: "The era of pavement liberation is upon us in South Africa."

But Achib still has a long way to go towards gaining the support of the retailers, contends Mr Mavundla.

In August, the Hillbrow Traders' Association sharply criticised calls by Achib for the scrapping of laws affecting hawkers.

"Imagine 10 hawkers blocking the pavements outside a shop selling identical articles," was one of the criticisms levelled against hawkers this year.

However, there were positive signs when the Soweto Independent Shopkeepers Association's chairman, Mr Thami Skenjana, called for closer co-operation between hawkers and retailers.

"They are, after all, the retailers of tomorrow," he asserted.

Times Media Limited MD, Mr Stephen Mulholland wrote: "Black power in South Africa — that is, the power to destroy apartheid — flows not from the barrel of the gun . . . but from economic gain."

Mr Mavundla regards the informal sector as being the solution to many of the country's problems.

"It creates employment at a time of rampant unemployment; allows people to earn an honest living instead of turning to crime; contributes 40 percent to Gross Domestic Product and promotes self-sufficiency."

He also believes economics will bring South Africa together as they need to do business together for the economic survival of the country.

"Economics and not politics are going to find the solutions," he says.

Last month, Achib initiated a conference to bridge the gap between the private and the informal sectors.

"We have made a great deal of headway," says Mr Mavundla, "but there is still a long road ahead of us.

Nation

"We need now to throw out terminology that divides South Africans into black and white sectors and think about ourselves as one nation.

"To do this we need to have a common goal, which must be the economic advancement of all peoples. The gap between formal and informal sectors must be closed by forging closer business ties between the two and bringing the informal sector into the mainstream economy."

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Star 30/12/88 (295)

Councillor loses agency

By Kaizer Nyatsumba

A car rental company is to terminate its agency relationship with a newly elected Conservative Party town councillor in Brakpan, Mr Billy Olivier, because of the town's apartheid policies, it was disclosed yesterday.

Announcing his company's decision to cease trading in Brakpan through Mr Olivier of Billy Olivier Motors, the executive director of Budget Rent-a-Car, Mr Louis de Waal, said Budget Rent-a-Car was an international company which did business with "all kinds of people".

Their agreement will effectively cease on February 28.

"In the prevailing climate of disinvestment, we believe we cannot be seen to be involved in an agency relationship with a Conservative Party town councillor in Brakpan who promotes the enforcing of separate amenities. We believe that the Conservative Party is, through its office bearers at municipal level, attempting to turn the clock back.

"While the separate amenities legislation that is being enforced was put in place by the Government, it appears that these measures had been 'dying an evolutionary death' until the stance taken by the Conservative Party after the outcome of the municipal elections," said Mr de Waal.

The decision was taken because of loss of business from established clients and "the travel industry."

Attempts last night to contact Mr Olivier or the CP MP for Brakpan, Mr F J le Roux, drew a blank.