

SOCIAL SECURITY - CHILD CARE

1996

JANUARY - APRIL

Cabinet sets up probe into places of safety

TYRONE SEALE
Political Staff

~~298~~ (298)
ARG 4/4/96

THE cabinet has commissioned an investigation into the availability of suitable places of safety where unsentenced children suspected of serious crimes can be held.

The cabinet gave its approval yesterday, shortly after Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi revealed that more than 50 000 juveniles between the ages of seven and 17 were arrested last year for offences ranging from robbery to rape and murder.

Mr Mufamadi's disclosure was contained in a written reply to a question tabled in the senate by the National Party's Gert Koornhof.

The exact figure of 50 261 is based only on computer-based data from the Crime Administration Services. As this system is used mainly in urban centres, the statistics do not reflect the situation at all urban police stations and reflect even less the situation in rural areas.

The investigation is to be carried out by an existing inter-ministerial committee, under the leadership of deputy Welfare and Population Development Minister Geraldine Fraser-Moleketi, which has been focusing on youth at risk.

'Give samie duty back'

NON-GOVERNMENT organisations (NGOs) in the poorest region of South Africa, the Eastern Cape, rejoiced this week at the decision to hand back the administration of the fraud-hit school feeding schemes to them.

But at least one East Cape branch of the SA National Civic Organisation (Sanco) berated the decision.

Sanco's Mdantsane spokesman, Mzwandile Buzani, said this week that people who were known to local communities – such as vetkoek sellers and local bakers – should be running the scheme.

Buzani said the RDP was about "starting from the bottom" and empowering people in their communities.

"Who are these NGOs? They are faceless people in our communities," he said.

This kind of comment has fuelled speculation that Sanco has been ma-

Civic organisation says locals should run feeding scheme – but 'faceless' NGOs are worried about misuse of funds

nipulating the decision regarding who in the community should receive scheme contracts.

It is an open secret that Sanco and NGOs have for some time been at loggerheads over the scheme.

In 1993 certain Sanco officials in Port Elizabeth were exposed for selling food parcels or using them to feed their own families.

But Buzani has rejected suggestions that Sanco wanted to dominate the scheme for its own benefit.

He said Sanco in the East London area had a proven track record of honesty and capability.

Meanwhile, NGOs were delighted at the prospect of running the

scheme. Some, including Operation Hunger, were running the scheme for years before the government took it over in 1994.

The co-ordinator of East London's NGO coalition, Sarah Hugo, said this week that although it was the government's duty to provide basic services, they did not have the capacity.

"Certain NGOs are very competent and experienced and would be very good at running this type of scheme," she said.

She said the coalition was concerned about the misuse of funds by certain government officials and was disappointed that they had been

marginalised by the changeover of government.

She said this had been exacerbated when donor funding was redirected to the new government.

She questioned the capacity of community-based organisations to run the scheme – as demanded by Sanco – saying that many of these organisations did not have the administrative capacity to run the schemes.

"It may be laudable for community organisations to take over the scheme, but NGOs have the credibility and capacity and many have worked with these communities for years," Hugo said.

Border Institute of Primary Health director Nomathemba Mazaleni said NGOs were "very in touch" with communities and would be able to run feeding schemes with less red tape than the government.

Strict criteria

She was confident that NGOs would be able to work with Sanco, but stressed that the government should lay down strict criteria for the handling of the scheme's money.

"They shouldn't give NGOs millions. They should give them enough money for three months and then evaluate the programme," she said.

She said many NGOs had built-in evaluation systems.

Mazaleni was "unhappy" with the way the government was presently running the scheme, saying rural areas were often neglected.

"NGOs go where the government doesn't go, so a joint effort would work well," she said.

She said the idea of handing the scheme over to street hawkers was impractical, as there were no hawkers in the rural areas.

Department of Health Liaison Officer Khulilekile Bata said that his department had already requested the Public Service Commission to organise a tender for the adminis-

(298) CP 7/14/96

tration of the scheme. Bata said many administrative problems, fraud and delays had dogged the government-run feeding scheme, and his department believed that handing the schemes back to NGOs might curb the problems.

He said NGOs chosen would be allocated between R18 million and R22 million every month to feed the children.

Other provinces, including Gauteng and the Western Cape, have already handed their feeding schemes over to NGOs.

It has been estimated that about 1.7 million Eastern Cape children benefited from "Mandela's sandwiches" last year.

A University of Cape Town report this year said about 61 percent of South Africa's children lived in poverty, with 38 percent of children from poor families having stunted growth because of malnutrition. – Ecna

Suffer little children as SA adds up the toll

TYRONE SEALE
Political Staff

(298)
ARU 12/4/96

POLICE investigated more than 6 000 cases of crime against children during January and February.

The exact figure of 6 058 has been supplied by Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi in a written reply to a question tabled in the senate by Gert Koornhof (NP).

The minister's reply does not indicate how many of these cases were solved, how many arrests were made or how many convictions were secured.

The figures do show that between January 1 and February 29 police investigated 2 321 cases of rape involving children.

The rest of the figures are: incest 40; indecent assault 724; Sexual Offences Act violations, including statutory rape, 183; attempted murder 42, serious assault 628; common assault 837; abduction 202; kidnapping 198; Child Care Act violations, including neglect and ill-treatment, 622, and other cases, including public indecency, 128.

The South African Police Service has 32 Child Protection Units country-wide, while 65 smaller towns are served by police personnel trained specifically.

In 1985 there were 2,3 police members for every 1 000 people, or 52 590 police members for a population of 23 360 497 (excluding the then homelands).

Today, with a population of 41 244 000, there are 102 340 police members, or 2,5 policemen or women for every 1 000 people. These figures are contained in a written reply by Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi to a question tabled in the national assembly by Douglas Gibson (DP).

Caring arm of law strikes at sex abuse, violence in the home

By BETSY SPRATT

(298)

Star 13/4/96

The telephone rings at Braamfontein's Domestic Violence, Sexual Abuse and Child Abuse Unit, the nation's first police group to focus on sexual violence.

"My six-year-old daughter has been sexually abused," the caller tells Constable Solly Selesho, one of the policemen manning the 24-hour operation.

He is one of 40 personnel - 20 assigned to sexual offences, 17 to child protection and three to domestic violence - trained to handle complaints in a sensitive manner. Sixteen are women.

Selesho, along with Sergeant Peter Mashapu, responds to the woman's call.

"My mother and I checked and we can tell she has been sexually abused," the woman says shortly after their arrival at her Parkview flat. "She's staying with my mother now."

The woman says she believes the child was abused by her 12-year-old cousin. Selesho tells her that, because he is a minor, they will not be able to detain the boy.

He suggests she takes her daughter to the Medicolegal Clinic in Hillbrow for an examination, the first step in beginning an official investigation. The clinic serves the Johannesburg magisterial district and provides legal and medical services for victims after a charge has been laid.

Dr Lorna Martin, senior district surgeon at the Medicolegal Clinic, was the liaison between the unit, the District Surgeon's office of Johannesburg and the National Network on Violence Against Women in the creation of the unit.

The new operation enables the police to fetch a victim from the police station or place of safety, bring her (or him) to the unit to take a statement and, finally, send the victim for a medical examination and to a social worker.

The new procedures will prevent common mistakes, such as the victim being taken to a station outside the

jurisdiction of the scene of the crime, or police personnel failing to send the complainant for a medical examination after taking a statement.

Concentrating the procedures in one unit, and giving the group jurisdiction in each of Johannesburg's 29 police stations, will increase the arrest rate in crimes ranging from rape to attempted murder.

"But many times, the callers get us confused with what social workers do," says Sheshago on the way back from Parkview.

"We get calls saying a mother isn't taking care of her children properly, or hasn't fed the children. That is not our job. That is more for the department of welfare."

The efficiency of a specialised unit will aid in stemming the tide of sexual violence, which is reaching crisis levels in Johannesburg and the Western Cape. This kind of crime is more prevalent on public holidays and weekends and occurs more often in summer than winter.

In 1995, according to Martin, the Medicolegal Clinic handled 898 cases in central Johannesburg alone, while there were 2 000 cases reported in Soweto.

Two of the unit's officers will be trained to handle the victim's symptoms, ranging from shock and hyste-

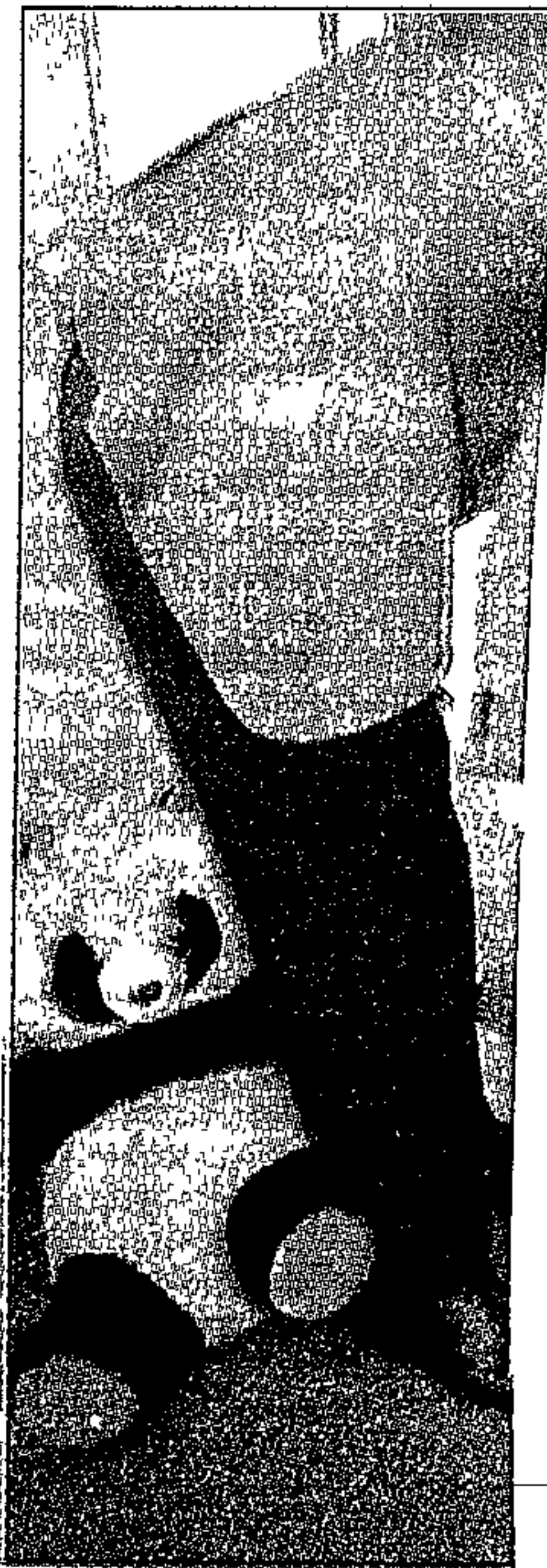
ria to the long-term post traumatic stress disorder. A Gauteng gender-sensitivity training project is being developed by the ministry of safety and security to improve police personnel's ability to handle trauma - that of the victim, as well as their own.

"People must understand that we're just human," Mashapu says, on the way to a complaint of children being found abandoned in the streets of Yeoville. "We don't have superhuman powers. There is just so much we can do."

The Domestic Violence, Sexual Abuse and Child Abuse Unit is located at 51 Juta Street, in Braamfontein and can be reached on (011) 403-3413.



DELICATE TASK: One of the top officers in the new unit is Captain Edward Hutchens, head of the child protection section



LEADING THE WAY: Captain Hutchens and his team are trained to be ser-

the real

UNDERCURRENT
AFFAIRS



**JON
Qwelane**

must be allowed to carry dangerous weapons; what I argued is that the Government must not be surprised if the is ignored, and I stated reas Macozoma's exotic "logic" typical but dishonest: you not with me, therefore you

(248)

AR 16/4/96

Trying to hold

MICHELLE LERNER and
JERMAINE CRAIG
Staff Reporters

POOOR security, numerous escapes, inadequate funding, and fears among social workers, juvenile offenders and the public, have plunged the juvenile care system into severe "crisis".

And it's for these reasons that the entire system of housing awaiting trial youngsters needs to be revisited and revamped, according to Geraldine Fraser-Moleketi who heads an inter-ministerial committee that will investigate the issue in the months ahead.

"We have a major problem with how the residential care system is functioning right now," said the Deputy Minister of Welfare and Population Development.

"It's a crisis we've inherited and we need to figure out how to solve it without creating a new crisis."

There are a total of 33 "places of safety" in the country, which house juvenile detainees accused of crimes ranging from murder to rape, robbery and housebreaking.

Presently the centres fall under the mandate of the Welfare Department, which lacks the adequate resources to deal with the type of violent offenders coming into the system.

In just one night this month, eight children escaped from the Western Cape's only juvenile detention centre, Bonnytoun Place of Safety, in Wynberg. Since the beginning of the year, 62 children have escaped from the centre and only 23 were returned, authorities say.

The situation poses a danger to the public as children, some of whom have been involved in heinous crimes, are escaping from these centres almost at will.

"It's so easy to run away from here," said one 16-year-old gangster at Bonnytoun who has been committing crimes since he was six, and who admitted murdering three people.

"Some of the boys who escaped were gangsters. They just kicked the door down and jumped over the fence. They need tighter security here."

The boy said he was a "diamond" (one of the most important

Where rape has just become a way of life

Staff Reporters

THERE are no security fences around the grounds at Bonnytoun detention centre in Wynberg. Children wander freely in the halls and play soccer on the grassy fields.

The guards never carry weapons. But behind the walls of the green-roofed buildings live boys awaiting trial on charges like murder, rape and robbery.

Drug-use, gang activity and acts of sodomy are rife beyond the standard white security gates - in dormitories where suspected murderers sleep beside children accused of theft and housebreaking.

"As soon as there's an empty bed we fill it," said social worker Sharon Van Wyk. "We often can't afford to give consideration to the seriousness of the crime."

One 12-year-old revealed how three other boys raped him and a friend during their first few nights at the centre. Now, he says, it's just become a way of life for most of the boys.

And although the centre has a strict disciplinary code, children said dagga and other drugs were easily smuggled in.

Social workers are sometimes attacked, security guards fear for their own safety, and escapes happen fairly often.

"You turn your back and they can take the keys," said Ms Van Wyk. "If they run, the best you can do is run after them."

Bonnycastle is registered as a place of safety where guards and others are prohibited from using force. The centre was converted from a home for truant, abused and neglected children a little more than a year ago.

And although many admit security is inadequate, most say the 12 to 17-year-olds who live there are also victims of abuse and circumstance, issues which must be addressed if they are to re-enter society.

"The system can often leave kids more scarred than they were when

they came in," said Geraldine Fraser-Moleketi, Deputy Minister of Welfare and Population Development, who is also heading up an inter-ministerial committee to investigate the issues.

Candid interviews by The Argus with some of the boys at Bonnytoun showed they were children who came from broken homes, who often grew up on the streets and for whom violence was a way of life.

One 16-year-old boy joined a gang 10 years ago after his brother was murdered by a rival group.

He said he became a gangster to take "revenge" on his brother's killers and started hanging out on the streets and smoking dagga at the age of six.

With his voice steady and face unchanged, he described how he committed his first murder at the age of 12 in "self-defence". A judge acquitted him that time.

Now, four years later, he is facing murder charges again for shooting dead two people in a gang fight. He vows to leave that violent life behind, but expects to serve a prison sentence for his crimes.

Another 13-year-old accused of rape told of an abusive relationship at home which drove him out of the house three years ago. Averting his eyes, he admits to mixing with the "wrong" crowd and witnessing the rape of a 27-year-old woman.

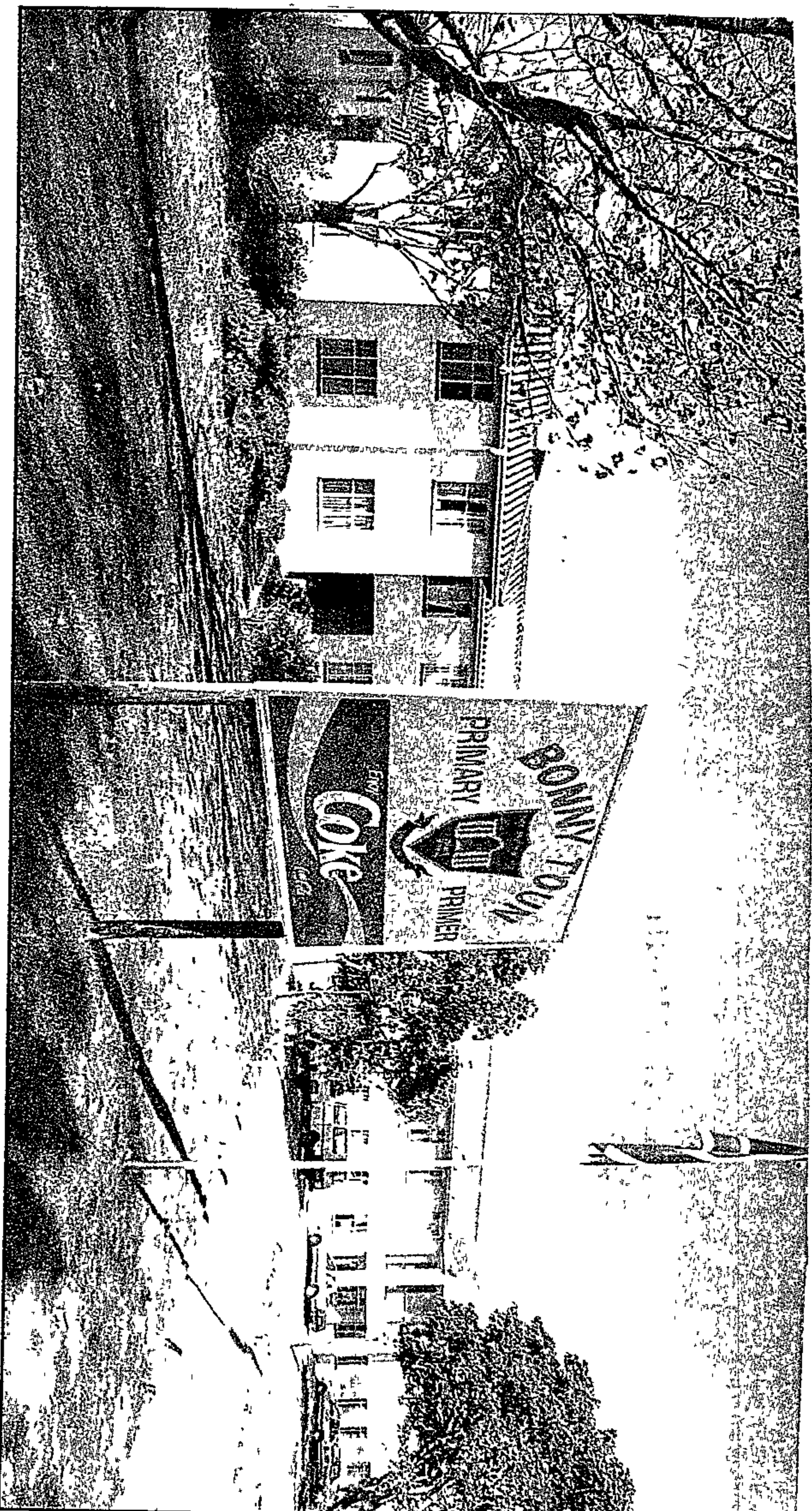
Although the boys all said they wanted to change, centre staff and others say rehabilitation seldom happens. And that, they say, is exactly where the system needs to change.

"It's not just the structural security of these places that needs to be upgraded," said Ms Fraser-Moleketi. "The whole system needs to be transformed. It's not walls that fix society."

The inter-ministerial committee will investigate security, both for detainees and the public, as well as tackle the question of rehabilitation and breaking the cycle of violence.

Places of danger
(298) Argus 16/4/96
Young offenders at detention centres has become a nightmare

ARG 16/4/96



PLACE OF SAFETY? The Western Cape's only detention centre for children awaiting trial, Bonnytown, faces serious security problems for staff, detainees and the public. An inter-ministerial committee is investigating the concerns facing this centre and others across the country.

members) in one of Cape Town's largest and most violent gangs and that he feared gang members would bust into the centre if they discovered where he was being held

Security guards are also apprehensive, especially in the wake of recent gang violence at Pollsmoor prison and other locations

Guards are unarmed and not allowed to use force on the children, even when encountering violence or attempted break-outs

Social worker Sharon van Wyk said the staff were "confused" by the lack of a co-ordinated response by government since President Mandela ordered that all children be removed from prisons last year

She said the centre was not equipped to handle the serious offenders it had seen since being converted from a refuge for victims of abuse and neglect

"Why don't we fall under the jurisdiction of correctional services?" asked Ms Van Wyk "Then at least we would be covered"

The success of rehabilitation programmes has been limited so far, according to social workers and government ministers, and they haven't been successful in breaking the cycle of violence.

"Rehabilitation seldom happens," said Ms Van Wyk. "The boys come back three or four times, sometimes more"

Ms Fraser-Moleketi said the cen-

tres had to be decentralised, increased in number and more evenly dispersed in different regions of the country.

She was adamant that moving the centres to the jurisdiction of Correctional Services would not alleviate the problem

The government's focus should be to address community diversion programmes, she said, rather than to systematically dump the problem on Correctional Services.

She added that structural changes alone were not an acceptable solution and revealed that a model detention centre in Mpumalanga would be a pilot project for the country. The inter-ministerial committee includes

members from the departments of Welfare, Correctional Services, Justice, and Safety and Security

While the committee tackles the issues, the Correctional Services department promised its full co-operation with Welfare and centre authorities

"We have to look at the existing system and work from there," said Correctional Services spokesperson Bert Slabbert.

"If the centres are not secure, let's make them secure. If staff are not trained, let's help train them. If we need to arm the guards, let's arm the guards. But you can't operate these places like adult prisons. That only makes things worse," he said

Gauteng school feeding scheme grows

(298) Star 17/4/96
By LEE-ANN ALFREDS
Education Reporter

Undeterred by large-scale abuse in other provinces, Gauteng's Schools Feeding Scheme is going from strength to strength, with pupils in Alexandra and the East Rand set to receive a small high-energy meal every day from the end of the month.

The scheme, which initially fed 70 000 pupils at schools in rural and disadvantaged areas in Gauteng, has already been extended twice since its establishment in September 1994.

Mother and Child Health and Nutrition Director Dr Carol Marshall said the scheme provided 175 915 children in the province with a high-energy "snack" - a peanut butter sandwich and glass of milk or fruit juice - every

school day.

She said the amount allocated to the scheme had been increased from R27-million last year to R46-million this year with food for each child costing 82c a day.

Marshall said no allegations into abuse of the scheme were being investigated. This was confirmed by a member of the standing committee for health, Jack Bloom, who said that "officially" there was no abuse of the scheme.

But Marshall said that the province was waiting for the results of the national audit which was planned for all the provinces.

The audit was announced earlier this year after fraud and corruption were uncovered in the feeding schemes of the Eastern Cape, KwaZulu Natal, Mpumalanga, the Western Cape and the Northern Province.

Africa told to square up to child sex abuse ⁽²⁹⁸⁾

ALG 20/4/96

PRETORIA. - All African governments and non-governmental organisations should attend the upcoming world congress against commercial sexual exploitation of children to avoid being isolated from policy making, said Unicef.

The United Nations Children's Fund in a statement, on behalf of participants to a preparatory conference in Pretoria this week, said Africa need-

ed to come out strongly against gross violations of children's rights.

"The continent cannot afford to go unheard at the world congress, or we risk being left behind.

"Every country should ensure we are not isolated from an international move to eradicate sexual abuse against children," said Phyllis Byrd of the All African Conference of Churches. - Sapa.

Sex tourists prey on kids

AFRICAN CHILDREN – mostly girls but also some boys – are increasingly falling prey to sex tourism, prostitution and rape, an international conference on child sex was told in Pretoria this week.

Civil wars, poverty and the AIDS epidemic have left millions of African pre-teens and adolescents without a source of income or a stable family environment – and many end up selling sex to survive, said Kimberley Gamble-Payne, an advisor to the United Nations Children's Fund.

African countries have few laws or resources to protect children's rights, she said.

As a result, paedophiles from Europe, slave-traders from the Middle East, and a legion of local pimps, madames and other abusers have begun trafficking African children in what Gamble-Payne calls a growing commercial market.

In Zambia, known sex offenders often walk free, even if they have confessed their crimes to authorities. In Sierra Leone, victims of the child sex trade are frequently orphans of the country's five-year war; they sell their bodies to foreign soldiers and fishermen for as little as 20c.

□ South African children are also vulnerable to exploitation and AIDS, said Geraldine Frasier-Moleketi,

(298) CP 21/4/96
deputy welfare minister; but here the problem comes from within.

Until the country's transition to democracy in 1994, it was isolated from the international community. Even now, there are probably few foreign sex-offenders here, she said.

Yet paedophilia is increasing, Frasier-Moleketi told AFP – and authorities should prepare for a possible influx of male sex tourists.

In Hillbrow, Johannesburg, local paedophiles openly proposition pre-adolescent street boys without being punished, she said.

"At this point, there are times when we can do little to protect these children," she said. "Unless we catch perpetrators in the actual act (of sex), they are often let off the hook."

Frasier-Moleketi hopes South Africans will begin lifting the "veil of secrecy" that surrounds child sex. Some men use traditional beliefs as an excuse to take pre-teenaged girlfriends, she said, even though no cultures actually condone child abuse.

□ Zambian government official Scholastica Chisense believes tribal superstitions are behind many cases of child abuse.

"Some men believe (mistakenly) that if they have sex with their children they will become rich or be cured of AIDS," she said – Sapa-AFP

Call to curb scourge of children's injuries

Health Reporter

(298)

ARLT 24/4/96

THE epidemic of children's injuries in South Africa can be countered by incorporating safety strategies into services such as schooling, nutrition, primary health care and formal housing

So says David Bass, head of paediatric trauma at Red Cross Children's Hospital, writing in the latest edition of Trauma Review. Dr Bass says that for those who survive the first four years of life, injury is the most likely cause of disability and death, until the fourth decade of life.

Injury, he says, is a major public health problem and in most cases it is the culmination of predictable and preventable factors. Dr Bass says the rate of urbanisation and motorisation will put increasing numbers of children at risk of fatal and disabling injuries.

Hungry kids let down again

(298) *Sowetan 25/4/96*

EAST Cape government officials and parliamentarians once again failed to arrive for an important meeting on Tuesday. This could affect the feeding of thousands of hungry children in the region.

The inter-departmental meeting was aimed at devising a coordinated Government strategy to feed Eastern Cape school children.

Organisers had sought to come up with a plan to re-start the province's beleaguered school feeding scheme.

Obstacles

The failed meeting was just one more delay in ensuring that President Nelson Mandela's promise to feed the country's children is fulfilled.

Parliamentary health and welfare committee member Nomsa Jajula told *Ecn* yesterday that obstacles in delivering food had involved several departments which had been invited to the meeting.

Representatives from Departments and

parliamentary committees in finance, health and welfare and the Reconstruction and Development Programme (RDP) failed to show up. Only representatives of Kader Asmal's Water Affairs Ministry sent apologies for their non-attendance.

Although invitations were received by the MEC's for health and welfare, public works and agriculture, their representatives failed to attend without explanation.

ANC MP Gloria Barry said: "It is unacceptable that they can just blatantly ignore it (the invitations). It is not the first time this has happened."

The scheme has been plagued by problems since its inception in the Eastern Cape. It collapsed altogether last year as a result of a multimillion rand fraud, allegedly carried out by contractors and officials.

The chairman of Tuesday's meeting, Mr Mike Xego, said the committee would send out invitations again for the departments to attend another meeting next week. He hoped they would have better luck.

Giving jobless youth a target

Star 25/4/96
BY PATRICK PHOSA

Entrepreneurship can be a catalyst for a change in breaking the cycle of despair and hopelessness in the youth and channel their energy into positive activities.

This was said by Kathorus Youth Plumbing Skills Project director Stanley Mohapi in his call on "the out-of-school and unemployable" Katlehong, Tokoza and Vosloorus youths to come forward and take part in the project.

Mohapi said the project, which was initiated in 1994 had already trained 70 youths. Forty-three of them are "gainfully employed" and some are self-employed.

Mohapi said the youth had enormous potential to become successful individuals, adding that they were the ones faced with the challenge of building a prosperous economy.

He said the project would make the youths survive the "destructive and potentially dangerous activities and extraordinary challenges and risks" they faced.

"It can provide motivation to work hard, uncover and strengthen hidden talent and enable the youth to create their own wealth," Mohapi said.

The project is sponsored by the Young Entrepreneur Foundation.

Training is free and interviews for the next course start tomorrow.

Phone Stanley Mohapi or Judith Sono: (011) 884-0270 or fax (011) 884-5672.

System 'fails the abused'

BD 26/4/96
Nomavenda Mathiane

THE realignment of systems of government to enable them to deliver services to communities was the invariable challenge facing countries in transition, Centre for the Study of Violence and Reconciliation director Graeme Simpson said yesterday.

Responding to questions raised at a seminar in Johannesburg dealing with abused children, Simpson said the discussions had raised serious questions which indicated that the criminal justice system was failing to deal with crime, as were the police, the teachers and society. (298)

Social worker Dorothy Mdhuli, who works with abused children at Zamokuhle clinic in Soweto, told the seminar township teachers were operating under stressful conditions. Some of them had confessed to her that they, like their pupils, also needed trauma therapy.

Mdhuli spoke of the need for teachers to be aware of child abuse, and to be trained not only to detect children who were victims of abuse, but to know how to handle them.

She said some of the teachers made fun of such children, passing the information around and causing more damage.

Psychologist Marilyn Donaldson, working at the same clinic, told of a young child who had been deserted by her mother and abused by her father and lived in fear for her life.

Lawyer Amanda Dissel from the Centre for the Study of Violence and Reconciliation highlighted flaws in the criminal justice system.

She said the system failed to deal with juveniles, and tended to treat the youth as it treated adults. She said that there was a constant battle between the justice and the correctional services departments with regard to juvenile delinquents.

The next seminar will be held on May 29.

Land sale funds for street children

(298) ARG 30/4/96

Metro Reporter

THE Cape Town City Council has decided that a portion of its Social Development Capital Fund - made up of money raised through land sales, including the Clifton bungalows - should be put towards establishing a suitable infrastructure for street children.

It decided that the fund should be used for specific housing or related infrastructure or upgrading projects, and also for projects of urgent need related to the RDP - particularly where they were "characterised by the element of social responsibility".

Relief funds 297 huge spree spent in

■ The Khayelitsha emergency relief fund has been cleaned out by squatters' demands for TV sets, hi-fis and other luxuries.

JEAN LE MAY
Staff Reporter

EMERGENCY relief money given to the Lingeletu West transitional council has been used to buy TV sets, hi-fi equipment, tapes, duvets and other luxury items for squatters whose homes were burned down.

Provincial and state emergency funds are taxpayers' money and are supposed to be used only for "life-sustaining necessities for people in dire need".

Town clerk Wouter Loots told Saturday Argus that about R184 000 was given to the council by the province and other donors. Another R132 000 was given by the province through the SA Red Cross.

Last week about R105 000 was left in the emergency kitty.

But Kenny Hart, official buyer for the council, was taken hostage by a squatters' forum and told he would not be released until he filled a shopping list which would wipe out the surplus.

The list included 67 black and white TV sets, 39 hi-fi sets, 25 tapes, liquor, cigarettes, duvets, fitted sheets, duvet covers, bedfrills, batteries, pots and pans and groceries worth R7 000.

The squatters were from Site B, Khayelitsha, which was devastated by a fire which destroyed 330 shacks late in January, leaving about 2 000 people homeless.

Mr Loots told Saturday Argus that the council authorised the expenditure on luxuries because it decided that relief money was intended to replace possessions lost in the fire as well as for emergency supplies.

"I am sorry that all the relief money has now been spent because it may have been needed if there is another fire," he said.

Early last week a squatters' forum said at a meeting with Mr

Loots and other officials that it wanted the rest of the money to be handed over.

The next day Mr Hart turned up for another meeting which had been arranged with the squatters' forum.

But he found himself the only official there.

He was given a list of demands, he told Saturday Argus, which included the luxury items on the shopping list as well as grocery staples and building materials. He explained that he could not buy anything without authorisation, but this fell on deaf ears.

"I was told I would not be allowed out of the building until I had obtained authorisation. I telephoned Mr Loots, who was at a council meeting in Kraaifontein. A little while later I was telephoned and told to have council cheques made out for not more than R100 000.

"I rushed to Kraaifontein to have the cheques signed and handed them over to the squatter leaders, who went shopping for everything on the list except the liquor and cigarettes, which the council refused to buy."

The fire left almost 2 000 people homeless. It was said to have been started by a pot of food left on an open-flame stove while the housewife went out to watch the televised soccer match in which Bafana Bafana beat Angola.

Nobody was injured in the fire, but SA Red Cross field worker Sindisa Ripaya said many people had been unable to save anything. He said the homeless were being housed temporarily in the Lingeletu Resource Centre.

Relief flowed in after the fire. Mr Loots said R100 000 had been given by "the welfare department" and R84 000 by the provincial administration of the Western Cape, as well as a few small private donations.

"We had some of our own money as well," he said.

He said the council had spent about R80 000 on plastic sheeting, poles and foam mattresses, leaving a surplus of R105 000.

A spokesman for the provincial department of social services said it had channelled its grant of R132 000 through the SA Red Cross,

with strict instructions that it was to be used only for "the provisioning of life-sustaining necessities".

SA Red Cross regional chairman Douglas Davidson said invoices showed it had been spent mostly on blankets.

The Red Cross also appealed to the public for donations to its Khayelitsha Disaster Relief Fund, to be paid into a trust account at a bank.

A spokeswoman said at the time that the Red Cross was distributing food and blankets, but "we are terribly short of foodstuffs, especially non-perishables, baby bottles, baby food and napkins".

The Western Cape Round Table gave R25 000 worth of blankets and plastic sheeting. Shoprite Checkers donated tinned food, bread and milk, and organised public donations of clothes, tinned food and blankets.

Meanwhile Lingeletu West council started upgrading the burnt-out area, putting in bucket lavatories and water connections and building roads through the shack sites to make it easier for the fire brigade to get in if there were another fire.

The homeless, who were by then living in Khayelitsha Community Hall or with relatives, said early in February that they were tired of living in the hall and wanted to start rebuilding.

They started asking questions about the remaining R105 000.

William Damiso, a squatters' committee member, said that when residents heard about the relief money, they expected it to be given to them as individuals.

In mid-February they started putting pressure on the committee to allow them to rebuild their shacks on the burnt-out site, rejecting an offer by the council to give them a serviced site.

The committee members hastily demarcated sites to allow rebuilding to begin.

The squatters also rejected the bucket lavatories, saying they wanted ones that flushed.

The council said this was impracticable because the site was intended for a school and they would have to move eventually.

ARG 20/4/95

Township school teaches handicapped brave young ones laughter and hope

ADELE BALETA
Staff Reporter

THE RUSTED, black-marked sign outside the Tembalethu School for the Physically Disabled in Gugulethu in no way prepares the visitor for the happy atmosphere and bubbling chatter behind the classroom walls.

The school is for children with varying degrees of physical disability, but who are able to benefit from education.

One of the newest arrivals is 13-year-old Ayandi Mili, who was born with tuberculosis meningitis and as a result is a cerebral palsy triplegic. He was unable to walk to the school near his village in the Transkei and has never been educated.

Ayandi's mother works in Cape Town and his family decided to bring him to Tembalethu to give him the opportunity for an education and for a brighter future.

Occupational therapist Merrill Rybnika says Ayandi is settling into his new environment well and, when asked if he had made friends, he smiled and pointed to a beaming child in his class.

In another classroom, 10-year-old Luvuyo

Yandu, who is a cerebral palsy quadriplegic and who cannot speak or use his arms and legs, has learned to communicate with his eyebrows.

Another child who is learning to write with her foot has finished for the day and the teacher helps her to put her shoe back on.

The future of these children, and many others like them who have special needs, is currently being placed high on the education department's agenda.

The issues at stake are whether to give them the option of becoming part of the mainstream education system, thereby integrating them into the community, or whether to cater for their needs in special schools like Tembalethu.

Lobbyists for the inclusion approach acknowledge that their view represents a vision of a new system that still needs to be tested, researched and piloted. But they claim that, correctly implemented, it can yield positive results.

The acting principal of Tembalethu, Stephen Raubenheimer, does not believe that inclusive education can work in the South African context.

"It has been tried and it has failed in other countries," he says - an opinion that has been challenged by supporters of inclusive education, who point to some countries where it has been implemented with a measure of success.

Mr Raubenheimer says prejudicial attitudes to the disabled are a hangover from the apartheid days.

"We have always been out of the schooling system. But these children cannot do what other children in mainstream schools do. Many schools are not wheelchair-friendly and there are no resources to make them so.

"Some teachers are faced with over 60 children in a class. How can they possibly fulfil the needs of disabled children?"

Mr Raubenheimer said special schools faced an increase in pupil numbers, but there were no more staff appointments.

"From July 95 to January 96 our pupil numbers increased by 60."

At least three buses for transporting disabled children to Tembalethu had been hijacked and in one case children were thrown off the bus.

Mrs Rybnika believes that community involvement with disabled children is a good idea, but a long-term issue.

"There are many children who are isolated from the community by under-educated parents who are ashamed of their disabled children."

She said many disabled children went to mainstream schools, but were sent home by overburdened teachers who were not trained to deal with their needs.

Alternatively, children were kept on in mainstream schools and ended up failing year after year causing major damage to their self-esteem.

"Children who arrive here are often sad, but within a few days they lighten up and whiz past you in the passage with smiles on their faces."

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Debate on schools for the disabled

ADELE BALETA
Staff Reporter

THE sensitive question of whether mentally and physically disabled people can be taught in mainstream schools, universities and colleges is the subject of heated debate and is only likely to be settled when the government makes a policy decision.

While lobbyists for a single inclusive education system are opposed to "banishing" disabled children to special schools, other groups believe that educating disabled children in classes with children with no disabilities would be disastrous for everyone.

The Ministry of Education is to appoint a National Commission on Special Needs in Education to review the principles and policies regarding special education.

Two committees have been set up to investigate and research the issue, one of which - the national curricula committee - has already accepted inclusive education in principle, according to well placed sources.

The pro-inclusion groups say it's a human rights issue and believe that sending children with special education needs to ordinary schools, with the necessary support systems to meet their needs, is the most effective way of fighting discriminatory attitudes towards the disabled, creating welcoming communities and building an inclusive society.

Supporting their position with a proclamation from a world conference on special needs education held in Salamanca in Spain in 1994, these groups - which include the South African Federal Council on Disability - believe an education system should be designed and programmes implemented to take into account each child's unique characteristics, interests, abilities and learning needs.

Different styles and rates of learning, and different language needs - in the case of deaf learners where their first language is sign language - would have to be accommodated.

The anti-lobbyists believe inclusion, which they say "sounds good in principle",

■ The recently integrated education dispensation is facing a contentious new challenge to open the doors of mainstream schools to physically and mentally disabled children.

is an unattainable ideal for an education system that is already in crisis and underscored by high pupil-teacher ratios and teacher retrenchments. This system, therefore, does not meet the needs of those children currently in mainstream schools.

They do not believe that South Africa can afford it in the short or long term.

There is also the fear that children with disabilities would suffer cruel attacks in the mainstream school system and question whether the rights of those without disabilities will be respected.

Many raised concerns that, because of the high pupil to teacher ratio, there would be heavier burdens placed on teachers who would have to worry about children with special needs.

One of the strongest opposers of inclusion comes from the deaf community.

Social worker for the Deaf Community of Cape Town Wilma Niewoudt says: "Access to information for deaf children is best via sign language. The best place for this in special schools for deaf children, with full sign language being used in the classroom."

She adds that a deaf child in a hearing school, even with an interpreter, "will not receive full information that is needed for the psycho-social development and well being of the deaf children".

Deaf Federation of South Africa PRO Carol Corey, who has a deaf daughter, says that deaf people - whether they communicate through sign language or lip/speech reading - require specialised and intensive teaching.

"Inclusive schooling for the deaf would confine these brilliant and courageous people to untold frustration, isolation and a break down in confidence."

She adds that children who are not disabled can become aware and sensitive to disabled children by being in contact through school sport, theatre and exchange visits, but to include deaf students in hearing schools would sacrifice their education and the "costs would be too much to bear".

Washiela Sait, the national co-ordinator of the Disabled Children's Action Group who has a disabled child currently in a special school, says: "Inclusive education cannot happen overnight. It's a vision for a future education system and a paradigm shift from the segregated system that we have now."

"We are not looking for quick fix solutions and we understand what the problems of the current education system are, but we believe inclusion is the only way that people's fear of disability will be reduced."

"We do not want our children pushed into special schools in a system which has failed them. We are also not advocating dumping children into mainstream schools if they cannot cope. We need to have an inclusive system that caters for all needs. Inclusion has to be an option."

"We are also not advocating the closure of special schools, which are expensive, but that they become resource centres where adult basic education is taught, for example. Outreach programmes should be conducted from them, and parents with disabled children need to be drawn in and allowed to participate."

Mrs Sait says that staff with specialist skills, like occupational therapists, need to go to ordinary schools and give advice to teachers on how to deal with children with disabilities in their classes.

She added that it was time that parents had a say in where their children should be placed.

It should not be left exclusively to doctors, social workers and church workers.

Project co-ordinator of the Cape Mental Health Society Ekin Kensch believes in taking a "rational middleground" on the issue.

She said the society was already in the process of giving preschool teachers the support and training they needed to cope with disabled children from an early age.

"I think it's important that parents can get to the point where they can take their mentally or physically disabled child onto the bus and not feel ashamed."

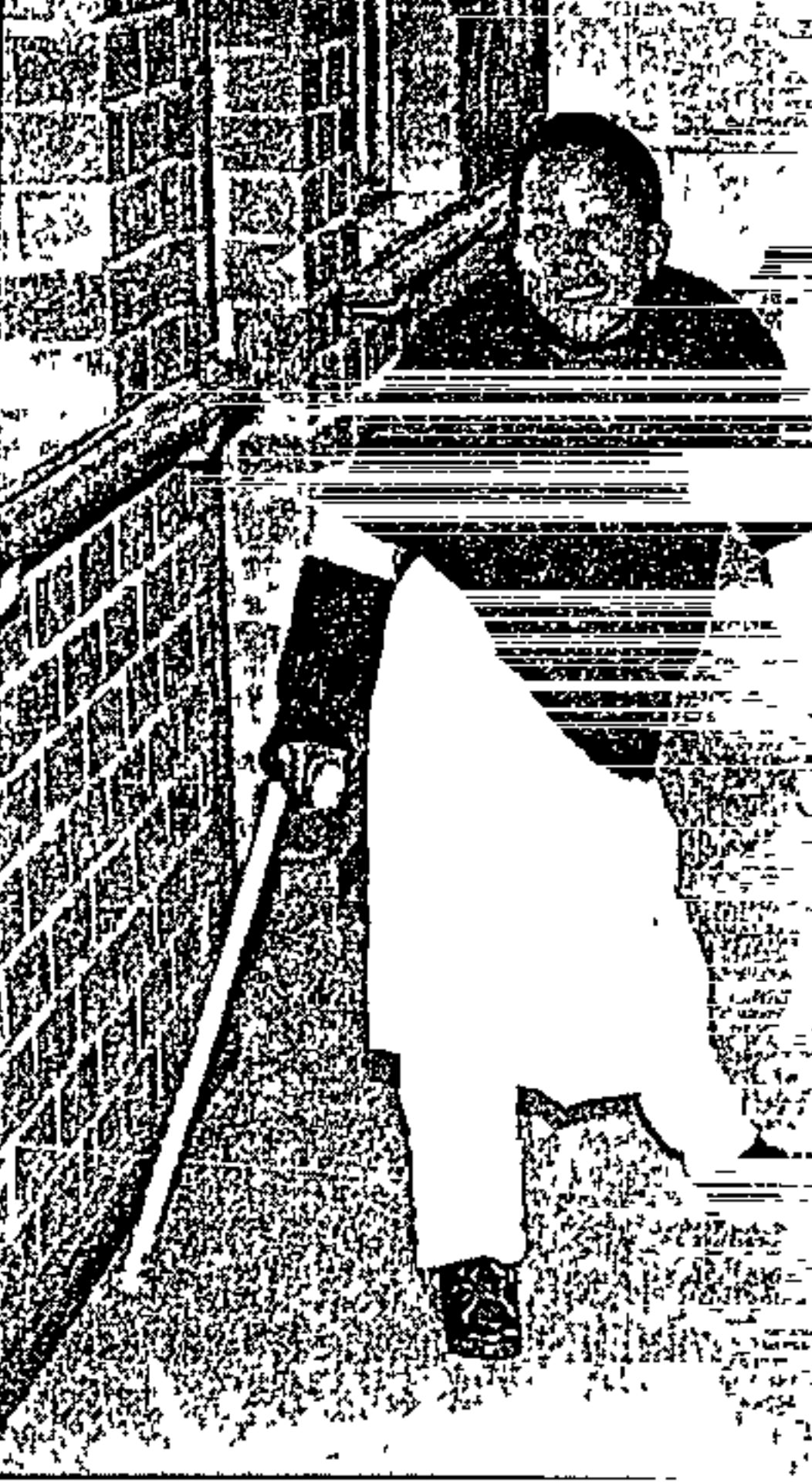
She believes the worst case scenarios would be to dump children who are not coping into mainstream schools, but at the same time there are also problems with the opposite view of keeping disabled children separate from the community.

The important aspect was to begin training teachers at the earliest level possible to cope with disabled children.

According to Vista Nova psychologist Jean Du Plessis, the critical issue in the debate is the rights of the individual child and not the implementation of a policy which sounds good.

"It would be cruel and insensitive to put a child in a situation where he or she is not coping. There are stresses in the mainstream which could cause some disabled children to crumble. We place people in the mainstream in a very careful way and usually on a trial basis," he said.

In spite of the divergent views, there is consensus that the issues need to be debated and concerned parties at all levels of education need to be consulted before policy decisions are made.



SPECIAL CARE Teacher Monica Marna gives 13-year-old Ayandi Mili special attention during a lesson on vowels.

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HELPING HAND:

Left: Luvuyo Tyhulu, 10, is a cerebral palsy quadriplegic who cannot walk, use his hands or talk - but he has learned to communicate by moving his eyebrows. A colleague helps to push his wheelchair around.

PROGRESS:

Below: Thuleka Nditha, 11, Noluthando Makhali, 10, and Siphwe Ntshayi, 14, take time out to go for tea.

Pictures: JACK LESTRADE



Welfare 'probe': officials accused

(297)
ST(M) 21/4/96

By JESSICA BEZUIDENHOUT

SENIOR officials in the Department of Welfare and Social Services have been accused of covering up for colleagues implicated in the recently completed forensic investigation that cost the department close to a million rand.

Disillusioned staff members claimed this week that the much heralded inquiry, which saw former Social Welfare and Population Development Minister Abe Williams resign from his post two months ago, had been reduced to "catching the small fry".

Said one: "It seems the only purpose of the investigation was to score political points and now that it's been done, all else is forgotten."

Staff told the Sunday Times they were concerned because the names of certain officials allegedly implicated in various irregular activities seemed to have "got lost along the way". They accused one official, reportedly still in his post, of allegedly ignoring the proper tender procedure when awarding a R900 000 contract to replace the telephone system at the department's offices in Wynberg, Mitchells Plain and Athlone.

It has been claimed the tender was granted "as a matter of fact" to a Strand businessman who was a close friend of the official concerned.

According to the staff, this official was among those due to be suspended last week, but the Sunday Times has ascertained that the official is still in his office and has not received a letter of suspension.

However, Western Cape Minister of Health Ebrahim Rasool has refuted the claims and has reiterated his commitment to exposing wrongdoers.

A departmental statement said 25 staff had been implicated. One had already been dismissed. The process of suspending 11 members was already in progress.

Other cases required further investigation.

Shadow falls over lights of progress

By RAY HARTLEY
Political Correspondent

GOVERNMENT's most successful RDP project — to electrify 400 000 houses a year — has come under fire from investors, trade unions and non-governmental organisations, raising doubts about its ability to pay for itself.

The project, which is being undertaken by Eskom and local authorities, has failed to deliver levels of electricity consumption promised to investors, some of whom have begun to question their decision to place money with the programme.

The Sunday Times has learnt that Old Mutual, a major investor in the programme, has been involved in behind-the-scenes talks with Eskom to work out ways of protecting its investment.

The electrification of low-cost housing was financed on the basis that investment returns would be linked directly to the amount of electricity used.

For the programme to be sustainable, consumers need to use around 400 kilowatt-hours of electricity a month on average, according to Johan du Plessis of the Electricity Regulator, an independent body that oversees the electricity industry.

Instead, they have been using just over 100 kilowatt-hours, leading to low investment returns.

Old Mutual and Eskom officials were reluctant to comment this week, but confirmed that talks were under way.

Old Mutual's chief portfolio manager Adré Smit said: "It's a private matter between us and them."

An Eskom official said: "If investors went into it to make some-



UNDER CURRENT ... Lizzie Silaule's Ivory Park spaza shop uses less electricity than predicted Picture: JON HRUSA

thing for their own pockets, I would question why they went into it in the first place."

In October last year, Eskom's Henry Simonsen, who has since left the parastatal, drafted a report on the state of the electrification programme and its prospects. But his findings have been kept under wraps by Eskom officials. Mr Simonsen would not disclose the contents of the report this week, but it is believed to detail problems of under-consumption and non-payment by newly electrified households.

An Eskom statement released to the Sunday Times confirmed

that low consumption, non-payment and the theft of electricity were problems.

It said: "Merely to recover the interest Eskom pays on the loans it has taken to do the electrification, and its supply cost, the average electrification customer should use, say 140 kilowatt-hours a month."

Meanwhile, Mark Pickering, of the non-governmental Mineral and Energy Policy Centre, has questioned the impartiality of the National Electricity Regulator.

Mr Pickering and other development officials have asked why the regulator's administration

was made up of seconded Eskom officials and why former Eskom chief executive officer Ian McRae was made chairman of the regulator's board.

"Dr McRae is driving the process in a dogmatic fashion," Mr Pickering said.

Mr du Plessis defended the impartiality of the regulator, saying that Dr McRae was the person best qualified for the job precisely because of his Eskom experience. He said Dr McRae's decisions had to be approved by eight independent board members.

Eskom personnel had been seconded to set up the administration, but all posts had subsequently been advertised, he said.

But Mr Pickering said electrification resources were being used inefficiently, with some big urban areas left unconnected because local authorities were unable to finance electrification.

The huge settlement of Duncan Village outside East London had remained without electricity, while Eskom concentrated on far-flung rural communities in the former Ciskei and Transkei, areas where payment and consumption were low, he said.

The National Union of Mineworkers has meanwhile planned countrywide marches on Eskom offices to protest against what it sees as attempts to privatise distribution by creating independent regional electricity providers.

NUM organiser France Baleni said his organisation had reached an agreement with Eskom that it would take over electrification programmes if local authorities could not cope financially.

But Eskom had "gone behind our backs" with its plan to establish regional distributors, he said.

Transformation of bank stymied

Robyn Chalmers

THE transformation of the Development Bank of Southern Africa, which will see it streamlined to focus on the financing of infrastructure, has been stymied by slow restructuring at provincial and local government level.

The finance ministry had broadly accepted the transformation team's report on the bank last year, and proposals for the overall restructuring of development finance institutions were being considered.

But Sapa reports that Development Bank chairman Wiseman Nkuhlu told an open sitting of the task group on government communications yesterday that unfinished policy formation by the finance ministry had retarded the transformation.

He warned that if transformation did not take place rapidly, staff and other stakeholders would lose confidence in the process. This could lead to disillusionment, discontent and low morale.

Bank operations GM Div Botha said yesterday that the lack of provincial borrowing powers and inadequate financial and managerial capacity at local government level had caused problems for the bank.

"The provincial and local governments are among our major clients, and we have noticed a reduction in applications (for financing), largely as a result of the restructuring taking place at these levels."

The finance ministry was aware of the situation, "but we cannot expect the overhaul at provincial and local government level overnight".

Botha said the transformation within the bank was moving ahead well.

An affirmative action programme had been undertaken to ensure equality regarding gender and race within its ranks. However, bank sources said there had been rumblings within the bank for some time about management was steamrolling the transformation process.

The sources said that more than 10% of the bank's staff had resigned over the past year. The majority had been professional staff. Most, it was believed, had gone to the private sector.

Recently appointed bank CE Ian Goldin could not be contacted for comment. He takes up his post on Monday. Goldin has made it clear, however, that the issue of transformation will be high on the agenda.

Linda Ensor

CAPE TOWN — The protracted gestation of the Provincial Development Council Bill is being further prolonged by a renewed outbreak of conflict between the ANC and NP on the composition of the council.

Two key issues on which the parties disagreed were the inclusion of RDP forums and of provincial government representatives in the structure of the council, which is intended to spearhead development

Still no consensus on development Bill

in the Western Cape.

The ANC has argued for RDP forums to be legislated for, and wants provincial government represented on the council to give it teeth.

It claimed broad consensus on these issues had been unilaterally overturned when NP MP Arnold de Jager took over as finance commit-

tee chairman.

De Jager said the NP believed the council should be an independent, purely advisory body. It was not possible for provincial government to advise itself.

He added that the RDP forums should be included in the constitution of the council, rather than proscribed in

legislation.

ANC spokesman Cameron Dugmore saw the NP move as an attempt to undermine the RDP and consolidate the control of agriculture MEC Lampie Fick over developmental work.

He noted that business and labour supported the position of the ANC, which would be mobilising opposition among NGOs to the NP's proposals.

The finance committee meets on Wednesday to formally decide on the Bill.

23/4/96

NATIONAL CHICK LIMITED

NATIONAL CHICK LIMITED

(Incorporated in the Republic of South Africa)
(Formerly National Chick Farms (Proprietary) Limited)
(Registration number 80/08743/06)
("National Chick")

RESULT OF THE PRIVATE PLACING

FirstCorp Merchant Bank Limited is authorised to announce that the private placing of 8 800 000 ordinary shares at an issue price of 375 cents per share was successfully completed.

Posting of ordinary share certificates

Share certificates will be mailed to shareholders, with whom the shares were placed, today.

Listing on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange ("the JSE")

The listing of the 31 660 000 ordinary shares will commence today under the abbreviated name "NatChix" in the Industrial - "Food" sector of the JSE list.

Johannesburg
23 April 1996



Look at laws to help disabled

Tim Cohen

CAPE TOWN — Government is considering new legislation to assist disabled people, including changes to labour and social welfare laws and changes to building regulations, a government discussion paper states.

The paper on an Integrated National Disability Strategy is a first step towards a white paper on the disabled and sets in motion mechanisms for developing an "overall strategy".

The document criticises existing labour legislation for not taking into account sufficiently the special circumstances of disabled people. Industrial legislation was silent on the subject of dismissal of disabled people and only the common law, as interpreted by the courts, prevailed.

The courts in the past have held that if employees can no longer perform the basic functions of their jobs, employers have to provide alternative jobs where available. But in reality few alternative jobs are available and few employees have access to courts.

Employees with disabilities are often forced to retire or dismissed on the grounds of "continued ill health", even if they can perform their duties, the document notes.

The document criticises the regulations on social security grants as "very strict", so that disabled people find it hard to get them.

For example, a means test is applied which excludes anyone who earns more than R333 a month. The application procedure is uneven, as different medical practitioners seem to make different decisions about whether a person is sufficiently disabled to be entitled to a grant.

On physical access to buildings, the document proposes that a realistic budget be granted to allow upgrading of public buildings. It proposes the introduction of tax incentives to owners of private sector buildings that require upgrading and the application of a "no-access-no-funding" policy.

The document says legislation which deals specifically with disabled people's circumstances is needed.

Local govt to get greater financial say

Mduduzi ka Harvey

THE Transition to Local Democracy Bill aimed to give local authorities a greater say on financing and budgeting, deputy Constitutional Development minister Valli Moosa said.

The legislation, which will replace the Local Government Transition Act, is expected to be enacted during the current parliamentary session. It is designed to ensure that local government has the security of an equitable share of revenue and will not be dictated to by provinces or central government.

Moosa said yesterday that in contrast with current practice, where councils could budget only on an annual basis, the Bill would facilitate longer-term financial planning. It would also empower local government to make recommendations on taxation and limitations on the raising of taxes.

The legislation would give author-

ities loan-raising capacity by enabling them to enter into financial markets.

In line with government plans to establish local government as a distinct tier of rule, Moosa said, the new constitution would give local authorities representation in the proposed Council of Provinces. They would have a say on legislation regarding local government at central government level.

On the Masakhane campaign, aimed at creating a culture of payment for services, he said the figures indicated between 70% and 80% of income due to authorities was being received.

The problem of inexperienced new councillors was being addressed as a priority. More than 1 000 councillors had already been trained.

An intergovernmental task team had been formed to look into aspects of rural government, which suffered from a lack of administrative infrastructure and inadequate revenue, Moosa said.

NGOs set to adopt programme of action

By Sowetan Business Correspondent

A HOST of non-governmental organisation representatives and Civil Society Activists (CSA) will adopt a programme of action for NGOs at an international conference at Eskom Centre in Midrand on Sunday.

The meeting is a forum for the preparation of proposals and interventions for the ninth United Nations Conference on Trade and Development's (Unctad IX) convention that starts on Friday at Gallagher Estate.

Plan to mobilise

The CSA and the NGOs plan to mobilise support against what they describe as the "neo-liberal agenda" of international finance houses which, they also charge, creates havoc in the lives of many people and in the environment.

Many of the participants at the parallel NGO event say they spent the past two years analysing the

grassroots implications of the policies that are likely to be discussed by governments at Unctad IX.

If they have their way, Unctad IX promises some interesting features.

The CSAs are "bitter" and "critical" of the operations of international institutions like the World Bank, International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Trade Organisation (WTO).

Information reaching *Sowetan Business* indicates that the CSAs are planning an onslaught on the three world clubs at Unctad IX for maintaining a hold on certain policies that impinge on economic independence, especially that of developing countries.

Sharing information

Starting today, the CSAs and NGOs from across the globe will share information and caucus within their subregions. Over the next two days they will develop an African NGO perspective on four key Unctad IX thematic areas:

- Globalisation and liberalisation – the role of transnational corporations

and international institutions like the World Bank, IMF and WTO and the question of national sovereignty and the ability of governments to formulate their own economic policies.

- Capital flows – finance and investment issues and the need to avoid scandals like the famous Mexican crash and proposals for the introduction of a tax on similar financial flows. The CSAs urge South Africa and other developing nations to resist signing a proposed Multilateral Investment Agreement (MIA), which will, in practice, remove host governments' control over the operations of multi-national companies.

- Trade and development – the impact of the GATT agreement on development options in developing nations. The CSAs argue the trade negotiations were undemocratic and that the United States wants to control and manipulate the WTO.

- Regional integration should be promoted and not blocked by the rules governing international trade.

(297) Sowetan 24/4/96

'Developing a vision': RDP report details how money is spent

JOSEPH ARANES
Municipal Reporter

ARG 24/4/96 province.

(297)

THE reconstruction and development programme (RDP) is slowly but surely changing the lives of many people in the Western Cape and is fast fulfilling its role of improving the lives of previously neglected communities.

In the latest status report on the RDP in the province, Kamy Chetty, chief director of the economic affairs department, said the programme had been implemented effectively in the province and in the country as a whole.

"The RDP is and will continue to make a visible impact for people on the ground. Its success cannot be measured by the results of individual projects alone, whether they are successful or not.

"It goes far beyond that. It has been instrumental in encouraging the creation of basic infrastructure and gearing all the line departments towards the principles of the programme. What is important is to develop a vision and to ensure that mechanisms are in place for effective consultation with both roleplayers and communities, and this has been happening in the province."

Ms Chetty said implementation had started on a number of projects in the province and the department was identifying the needs of communities and responding to them.

The status report on the RDP presidential lead projects of the province reveals:

- The community based public works programme, which aims to ensure rapid delivery of community based, labour intensive programmes, has been allocated an amount of R6,2 million from the transport and public works department, and R3 million from the Independent Development Trust. The money is being used for 23 infrastructure projects throughout the province, two of which have been completed.

- The clean and green campaign is aimed at the removal of alien vegetation, bush clearing, the creation of parks, tree planting and soil stabilisation. Work is being carried out on 21 projects in the region, predominantly in the Cape Metropolitan Area, totalling R8 million. Phase one of the project has been completed which included the removal of debris along major roads.

- The culture-of-learning programme focuses on the restoration and renovation of schools in the

Since 1994 R31,6 million has been allocated to the project. Business plans have been drawn and the money is being spent on the renovation of schools and the upgrading of laboratories and science rooms. So far 43 contracts have been completed.

- An amount of R1 million has been allocated to the Masakhane Campaign although it is not a project but more a campaign to promote the establishment of legitimate local government authorities and facilitating payment for services.

- Work is being carried out on the integrated serviced-land project which is addressing the needs of several Cape Flats communities.

To date, R78 million has been spent and a further R108 million committed in terms of existing contracts.

A total 8 000 completed and serviced sites are ready for the application of subsidies and the provision of schools, clinics and other essential community facilities. More than 40 000 families will benefit from the project.

- The provincial unit of the national nutrition and social development programme has been the forerunner in the field of schoolfeeding since the inception of the programme in 1991. The Peninsula Schoolfeeding Association is feeding 297 498 pupils in 786 schools, while other organisations and individuals feed another 36 983 pupils in 157 schools.

- The municipal infrastructure programme consists mainly of water supply and sewerage networks, road and stormwater drainage, street lighting and refuse removal. An amount of R56 million has been set aside for the programme and construction has started on 29 projects, and a further 15 are in various stages of design.

- The fynbos water-conservation project in the province received R13,5 million for the initial phase of the project and aims to clear important water-catchment areas of alien species that reduce the natural run-off in the mountains by as much as 30 percent. The project is under way in a number of rural towns and employs about 3 070 people.

Other RDP projects in the province include the redevelopment of District Six, the building of multi-purpose centres in many townships and towns, and free health care for pregnant women and children under six, and the pilot land reform project which consists of land restitution to benefit victims of forced removal.

Anti-social problems – the homeless given a say

Southern Reporter

(297) ARLT 24/4/96

FACED with the problem of anti-social behaviour among the homeless, the Lansdowne community has drawn not only those unhappy with the situation but the homeless as well into the decision-making process by giving them representation on the shelter executive committee.

The shelter is sited in Polaris Road in the Nerissa industrial area and will accommodate 40 people, ultimately offering skills training during the day.

Enid Newton, a civic leader said: "The only way forward in solving the problem of anti-social behaviour is to have all the role players represented."

Environmental and health officer Andre Volschenk said: "The health department cannot continue to clean up after the homeless. The time has come to tackle the problem at grass-roots level and we fully support the community's stand on this issue and are fully behind it in its efforts to put in place a rehabilitation and education programme."

Sister Pat Hewitson, who runs a clinic in the area, said poor sanitation among the homeless posed a threat to public health.

Harold Holmes, secretary of the executive committee said the city council had requested that a shelter be established as a means of promoting better hygiene and rehabilitation among this sector of society.

A grant of R34 000 has given the shelter's coffers an unexpected boost and while much still has to be done in the way of fundraising it is hoped phase one, the building, will be complete next July.

In addition the Department of Manpower has offered to train a squad of unemployed people from the area to construct the building.

The project manager, John Mulder, said: "The anticipated costs are R500 000 which we are appealing to the community to find"

We want the community involved and hope that those in the building industry will come forward with materials or expertise. Tony Naidoo, general manager of the Landdrost Hotel, has made the hotel available to the executive committee as a venue for meetings and believes the Lansdowne, Ottery and Wetton people will respond positively to the appeal.

Anyone wanting to become involved can call Harold Holmes at 761-0940 or John Mulder at 697 4158.

Police probe as R1-m RDP 'showcase' (297) money disappears

ARG 25/4/96

The Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. - The apparent disappearance of between R900 000 and R1,5-million in delegates' money after an aborted RDP showcase, was nothing more than "unfortunate circumstances," according to Diane Barclay-Beuthin, director of the company that organised the conference.

Fraud charges were laid by delegates last Wednesday after The Conference Corporation abruptly cancelled the conference. The company's Sandton offices are closed and its telephone lines suspended.

Ms. Barclay-Beuthin said last night the top-level showcase was sabotaged by repeated postponements at the request of the former RDP office.

Connie Molusi, a spokesman for the former RDP office said the office had distanced itself from the conference.

The SAP Commercial Crime Unit is investigating charges of fraud against the company, and expects to make a breakthrough next week.

'RDP' showcase: R1-m fraud probe

Arw 25/4/96

(297)

By TAMSEN DE BEER

The apparent disappearance of between R900 000 and R1,5-million in delegates' money after an aborted RDP showcase was nothing more than "unfortunate circumstances", according to Diane Barclay-Beuthin, director of the company that organised the conference.

Fraud charges were laid by delegates last Wednesday after The Conference Corporation abruptly cancelled the conference. The company's Sandton offices are closed and its telephone lines suspended.

Barclay-Beuthin spoke to The Star last night, saying the top-level showcase was sabotaged by repeated postponements at the request of the former RDP office.

The showcase was postponed four times, extending the company's overheads over a pe-

riod of eight months, she said.

"As far as I'm concerned, it is a simple case of very unfortunate possible liquidation," she said, adding that the company had run three successful conferences in the past.

"We have never been put in this position before," she said. She left the company about five weeks ago when she separated from her husband, Ross Barclay-Beuthin, also a director, and cousin of the notorious bouncer Gary Beuthin.

Connie Molusi, a spokesman for the former RDP office said the office had previously distanced itself from the conference, adding that the office was not involved in any way with the organisation of the conference.

Barclay-Beuthin said the company's books were "all in order" when she left the company. "I believe that to date they are in order."

The SAP Commercial Crime Unit is investigating charges of fraud against the company, and expects to make a breakthrough next week.

Investigating officer Capt Pine Pienaar said yesterday he intended taking statements from the estranged couple and commercial director Karen Oosthuizen.

Police said the showcase was organised independently of the RDP office.

Organisers claimed eight government ministers would make speeches, and that awards would be handed out by President Mandela.

"At least 70% of those people had confirmed by the time I left the company," said Barclay-Beuthin. But Mandela had at that stage not agreed, she said.

Numerous companies said they lost tens of thousands of rands.

More significantly, the trustees will consider proposals for landmark changes in the role and structure of the IDT. While the trust will continue to focus on improving the quality of life of the poor — "that will always be our reason for existing", Ramphele says — after six years it will do it differently.

The difference turns about money. The IDT has used up the bulk of the funds with which it was entrusted in the national Budget of March 1990, together with the substantial interest earned on those funds, in all some R3.1 bn. Instead of being a dispenser of its own funds, therefore, the trust intends to use its hard-learned expertise to help others spend their funds effectively.

CE Prof Merlyn Mehl, initially IDT director of education, describes the trust as "an accident of history".

"Imagine a yet-to-be-formed board of independent — very independent — trustees being given R2bn of taxpayers' money to spend as they saw fit on the socioeconomic upliftment of the poor, by a government in the process of negotiating its way out of power. It could happen only once — and only in SA."

The initiative was essentially that of then President FW de Klerk — in the heady days that were to gain him a share of the Nobel Peace Prize — and of his finance minister, Barend du Plessis.

Born in sin, as some have said of the IDT, the trustees — led for the first three years by former judge Jan Steyn, who had headed the Urban Foundation — took the pot of gold, invested it while they decided how to tackle development in ways that would have a lasting effect on poverty, and then, supported by a small team of skilled executives, proceeded to make their mark on SA's shattered social fabric.

"We realised we had been given an opportunity that would not come again, and we had better not blow it," says deputy CEO Ben van der Ross, former director of housing.

When I joined the IDT as communications director in April 1991, the one fact the person in the street seemed to know about the IDT was that it earned R1m a day in interest. That was true at that time but my task was to show how the trust was using its fortune.

In the years since then, massive development programmes have been rolled out:

□ R750m for 110 incremental hous-

ing projects around the country;
□ R300m for school building through 10 regional trusts;
□ R100m for new and upgraded clinics;
□ R70m for a new approach to education;

□ R130m for tertiary loan funding; and
□ R170m for rural community employment programmes.

The figures blur the mind, and the spending of the money has been secondary to how it was spent.

More than five years down the track, it is not the big things that stand out, says Mesh Maforah, present director of education, but "the little things in the villages behind the mountain". Here, for the first time in their history, communities have had a say in the provision of classrooms for their children's schooling. Most of them, a study showed, had been successful in raising the IDT's stipulated 10% contribution to the cost. If they could not do it in cash, they did it in sweat.

From its earliest days, the IDT insisted that poor communities be drawn into any initiative designed to affect their lives.

These days, they are not just drawn in, they often manage projects from start to finish. The talent, both latent and actual, that has been unearthed has been startling.

A phalanx of community facilitators appointed by the IDT has carried out the function of capacity building. In its relatively short life the IDT has created role models for sound development. Government policies and programmes incorporate them, notably in housing, public works and tertiary loan funding.

Conscious of the skills and experience at its disposal, the trust has decided not to spend its last remaining funds and shut up shop. It will remain in business — but in a different way. "We know that never again will we be given one huge, untrammelled lump sum to manage," says Mehl.

The IDT will sell itself in future as a body that can help others spend the considerable amounts of money they have at their disposal. In development parlance, it will act as an independent facilitation agency which can do creative rapid and different things to address the plight of the very poor. The emphasis will be on creative, rapid and different.

Its first customer is the public works ministry which entrusted

its first major project was to create a single database of teachers in the employ of the amalgamated Northern Province education department.

To ensure it has sufficient professional forces on the ground, the IDT is extending its number of provincial offices from the current four to one in every province. Experienced community facilitators will be attached to each office.

In addition to the Northern Province, requests for assistance have come from the Eastern Cape, Free State and Northern Cape governments. The IDT will not move away entirely from a funding role.

It has sufficient money in the kitty to cover its own overheads on an ongoing basis and to allocate about R100m a year to projects of its own.

Through its new approach it aims to facilitate the spending of another R350m a year.

It will thus remain easily the largest nongovernmental development organisation in the country, committed to making a difference to the lives of the poor.

□ Nuttall is communications director of the IDT.

26/04/96

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ON MONDAY the trustees of the Independent Development Trust — better known as the IDT — will gather at the trust's national office in Cape Town for their 50th board meeting, nearly six years after the hectic period in August 1990 in that Nelson Mandela from prison.

Most of the 13 trustees, headed as chairman by Mamphele Ramphele, vice-chancellor elect of UCT, have served on the board since inception. Some have not missed a single meeting. On the agenda on Monday will be requests from the executive committee to approve items of expenditure for projects in the areas of education, community infrastructure and urban and rural development. They will lift the total outlay by the IDT to close to R2,9bn, and the number of projects funded to more than 8 700.

FW's baby will find a new way to bring help to the poor

JOLYON NUTTALL

(297)

BD 26/4/96

R70m of its R250m RDP-approved funds in the 1995/96 Budget to the IDT's community employment programme in rural areas. The money has created thousands of short-term job opportunities and vital community assets. This success is symbolised by the Amatimolwa community, situated 35km southwest of Greytown in KwaZulu-Natal, which built a 20km road by hand to make their village accessible to vehicles. The building of the road was identified as a priority by the village development committee.

Many government departments at national and provincial level are desperate to ensure that funds allocated to them are used in an effective way. A critical need in all provinces has been shown to be the availability of accurate data which, to base decisions. Here the IDT's information technology unit has been engaged.

Call for proposals on poor nations

~~34~~ (297)
John Dlodlu

BD 26/4/96

SA, host to this year's UN Conference on Trade and Development, wanted "concrete proposals" to be established to reverse the misfortunes of the world's poorest nations, trade and industry ministerial adviser on Unctad Trevor Abrahams said yesterday.

Abrahams said at a pre-conference briefing that SA wanted the gathering — which opens on Saturday — to tackle the problems of developing countries, especially least developed nations.

"We don't want verbal commitments.... Unctad's work needs to make a difference (to the lives of those in least developed nations)".

Abrahams said SA, which takes over the rotating four-year presidency of Unctad, wanted the conference to put in place monitoring and evaluation mechanisms to ensure that "Unctad does not end on May 11".

SA was concerned about the effects of continued marginalisation of poorer countries.

SA delegation member Xavier Carim said increased trade and investment opportunities stemming from the former GATT would be enjoyed chiefly by rich nations. Marginalised nations, which were not part of the networks of the 1980s, would not reap substantial benefits.

Carim, a trade and industry department deputy director for bilateral relations, said SA felt new partnerships between governments and all development players — such as non-governmental organisations — should be formed to address the problems of marginalisation and negative migration trends.

He said that Unctad should continue to follow its historical roles of policy formulation and technical assistance to developing countries in order to improve trade efficiency.

Smooth path for foreign aid

M+G(BM) 26/4-2/5/96 (297)

Simon Segal

THE government has finally moved to smooth the path of foreign aid, after years of difficulties and frustrations encountered by foreign donors.

It has closed the interdepartmental International Development Cooperation Committee chaired by Elty Links, who has been appointed South Africa's ambassador to the European Union. Instead, all official development assistance now falls under the Department of Finance, which acts as a one-stop point of interaction with donors.

This should go some way to improving the interaction with donors and disbursing the monies, as well as data gathering. Finance department figures show that since the Government of National Unity came to power in 1994, up to the end of the 1995/1996 fiscal year, a total R12,8-billion had been pledged to South Africa. Of this 69% is to the government and parastatals; the rest to non-government and private institutions.

From government's latest survey, in 1994, the biggest donors include:

- United States — \$600-million over three years;
 - Britain — £1,25-billion, £100-million over three years; the rest being guarantees for export credit;
 - Japan — \$1,3-billion over two years, \$300-million in official development assistance, \$500-million in export/import loans and \$500-million in government guarantees for commercial loans;
 - France — R3-billion, mainly in concessionary loans and
 - The European Commission — 110-million-ecus (some R450-million). This still has to be finalised.
- The R12,8-billion in pledges includes some R2-billion in grant aid (48% earmarked for government), technical assistance of R1,6-billion, arms

(58% for government), R1,8-billion in government trade guaranteed loans and R6,5-billion in pledges of concessionary finance.

So far, disbursements have been slow. For instance, the grant monies for government go through the Reconstruction and Development Programme Fund. By January about R130-million had been paid out. In addition, about R1-billion has been committed in concessionary loans.

Finance officials are confident this will change rapidly — monies will flow more smoothly now that agreements have been reached with virtually all the donors. Project agreements are starting to be implemented.

Normalised international relations have shifted the focus of development co-operation with South Africa to enhancing trade, private investment and development loan funding. Grant assistance will be more limited once this initial flurry is spent.

Thus international development financial institutions will gradually replace aid donors in providing concessionary finance.

Monies mentioned are \$1-billion from the World Bank once it finalises South Africa's country assistance strategy, 300-million ecus from the European Investment Bank, \$300-million from the African Development Bank, R1,5-billion from the European Investment Bank and \$250-million from the Japanese.

With this aid projects will also shift to being more value-added as opposed to "soft" projects such as democratisation programmes.

In the end, aid and donations are useful for social upliftment, but cannot support long-term economic growth. Only long-term fixed investment can do this.

But South Africa is still waiting for foreigners to play a big role in that

Truth commissioner is haunted by her history

M&G 26/4 - 2/5/96 (292)(294)

Claims of fraud have surfaced to haunt truth commission official Hlengiwe Mkhize. **Stefaans Brümmer** reports

TRUTH commissioner Hlengiwe Mkhize, head of the truth body's reparations committee, is at the centre of a storm over the "collapse" of a non-governmental organisation racked by allegations of maladministration.

In February remaining staffers of the National Children and Violence Trust (NCVT), founded by Mkhize, were dismissed — after they had passed a vote of no-confidence in Mkhize and her co-trustees. Several former employees have made serious allegations, but ask to remain anonymous for now.

The *Mail & Guardian* is in possession of documents in which foreign donors were alerted as early as December about "concerns" over the way the organisation was run, and in which, inter alia, a "trustee" states that his signature was faked in the deed of trust. Mkhize acknowledged this week that it was not the "trustee's" own signature — a fact which will probably invalidate the registration of the trust.

At the centre of the dispute are questions over the extent to which Mkhize, co-chair of the board of trustees, was still directly involved in running the organisation during the six months up to February during which tensions came to a head.

Mkhize, who became director of mental health and substance abuse in the Department of National Health last August, maintains she removed herself from the day-to-day activities of the NCVT when she started in that position, and asked that questions be put to her co-chair, Dr Cecil Manitswana. Said Mkhize: "It is not something that I feel responsible for. Since last July I have not been in a position to make any firm decisions."

However, a former employee claimed that Mkhize was still in charge "by remote control" from her Department of National Health office in Pretoria.

The *M&G* also has information that it was Mkhize herself who in December interviewed Patronella Molefe for the post of director, responsible for the day-to-day administration of the NCVT from its national office in Johannesburg. The *M&G* is also in possession of minutes of a meeting in January where Mkhize was present, and references in other documents to at least a degree of involvement since August last year.

Until Molefe started as director in January this year, Mkhize herself held the post of director — on paper at least. But Mkhize maintains that since August another national office employee, Paul Ntsooa, had "acted" as director.

Molefe started as director on January 3, a post she held until February 12, when she was dismissed together with other employees. From the documentation in possession of the *M&G* it appears she thought she did not have full access to information relating to the administration of the organisation.

Minutes of a meeting held on January 7 show Molefe was already concerned about her own position. According to the minutes, Mkhize and one other trustee were present at the

meeting. Neither co-chair Manitswana nor Ntsooa — who by then had been dismissed — were present.

Manitswana, contacted late during the *M&G* investigation, said he could not be expected to answer questions at short notice.

The organisation, known previously as the Children and Violence in South Africa Project, was founded in the early 1990s by Mkhize, a clinical psychologist, who was then a member of Wits University's Psychology Department. The project, aiming to help children exposed to violence, was administered by the university.

There is some uncertainty about the exact time it was started — documentation prepared for funders say 1990, although Wits' deputy registrar (research) Marge Cairns said in writing this week that "as far as I am aware, the project was initiated in 1991 and established in 1992".

In intervening years, up to nine regional "networks" were set up in different parts of the country to counsel children and train communities in dealing with the effects of violence on children, and donor funds became available from Radda Barnen (Swedish Save the Children) and other local and foreign donors.

In 1994 the organisation started a process of dissociating itself from Wits, and on October 16 last year it was finally registered with the Master of the Supreme Court in Pretoria as an independent trust, with seven trustees, including Mkhize and Manitswana. On October 31 the last funds still administered by Wits were transferred to the trust.

In April 1994 already, Mkhize had started a relationship with the United States-based funding agency, the Christian Children's Fund (CCF). In an agreement reached on April 26 1994, the CCF agreed to give NCVT \$62 700 for the remainder of the year — \$60 000 in cash and the rest in the form of a notebook computer. The agreed budget earmarked R2 500 a month for each of three co-ordinators (who head regional networks), among other expenses.

But soon dissatisfaction from the "networks" set in, with claims that expenses for items such as travel or catering at workshops were not being met. Co-ordinators complained they were not being paid their expected remuneration.

On December 26 last year, a member of the regional network in Kagiso wrote to a Luanda-based representative of a funding agency which appears to be the CCF, complaining "about how things are handled" at the trust and "poor or lack of communication" between the trust and the network. A follow-up letter from the Kagiso co-ordinator to the same funder's representative in February stated that "the situation has worsened" and alleged "corruption and embezzlement of funds".

Meanwhile, on January 31 this year, Mark Shomer, the CCF's director of contracts and grants, wrote to director Molefe in reply to a query from her: "I was surprised by your comment that you did not know whether the \$30 000 for the second term [the second installment of the CCF's

\$60 000 grant] was received and how it was spent. Our records show that on September 12 1995, CCF wired \$30 000. Letters from Hlengiwe Mkhize (September 20 1995) and Dr Manitswana (September 21 1995) thanked us for the transfer.

"I hope you are able to confirm that these funds were properly received. It was my impression that this was NCVT's main source of funding for the past few months."

Matters came to a head late in January when delegates from the networks and national office staff met in Johannesburg for the NCVT's annual "strategic planning meeting". Mkhize and other trustees did not attend.

The minutes of the session note several demands for greater transparency, among other things in "the recruitment of staff, their conditions of service, salaries and contracts" — and state that "the feeling of the delegation was that the current board of trustees was illegal — meaning that its appointment was against decisions taken in a strategic planning meeting held in January 1995 [which held that the networks should be represented on the board]."

On February 12, the national office staff and co-ordinators were dismissed by Manitswana. Several have lodged complaints with the Department of Labour, alleging the Basic Conditions of Employment Act has been contravened in that they were not paid or were underpaid.

Specific allegations include:

- That the Rev Michel Barrette's signature was faked in the deed of trust when the trust was registered last October. Barrette was overseas at the time. He lodged a complaint with the Master of the Supreme Court earlier this month, pointing out that although he had expressed a willingness to serve as trustee before he left the country, he first wanted to see the final text of the deed before deciding, and that the signature was not his.

Mkhize said this week: "When the trust was formalised, we showed the lawyer and auditor the correspondence [which indicated Barrette's willingness to serve] and either a lawyer or auditor said he could sign for him."

This is illegal, and probably invalidates the registration as the deed stipulates a minimum of seven trustees — and Barrette was the seventh.

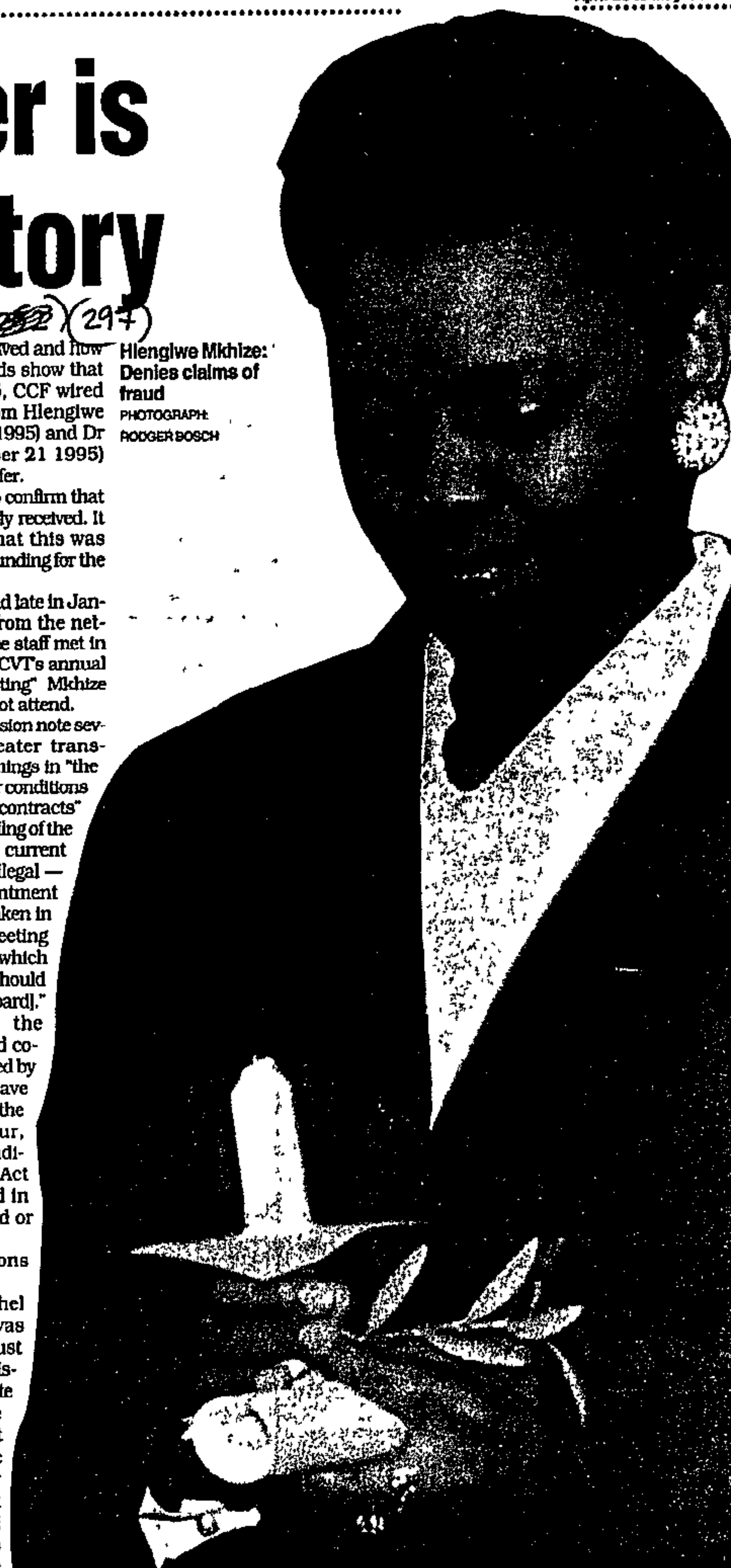
Barrette complained to the trustees this year, but received the written reply that "it is shocking for the trustees that you have chosen to question their credibility and you are even exploring ways of having the trust investigated".

- An employee states that she saw cheque counterfoils relating to three separate occasions during the second half of last year when Mkhize had written herself cheques ranging between about R3 000 and R5 000 for services rendered to the trust. Mkhize denied she had issued any such cheques, or that she had been remunerated by the trust at all since it separated from Wits.

- The notebook computer donated by CCF as a grant in kind to the NCVT has been in the personal possession of

Hlengiwe Mkhize: Denies claims of fraud

PHOTOGRAPH: RODGER BOSCH



Mkhize ever since it was donated. Mkhize said the donors knew she had it, and it was "agreed" she would continue using it. A representative of CCF in the US said this week: "She knows it is for the use of the trust."

- Ntsooa, the "acting director" — who was dismissed by the NCVT in December — wrote to Mkhize on January 26 pleading poverty. The *M&G* has what appears to be a copy of this letter, in which he says he includes a cheque issued by the National Peace Accord Trust (NPAT) to the NCVT. He states that the cheque is due to the NCVT on the basis of a contract he signed with the NPAT during 1995 "for Mphule's input in Katorus".

Former employees claim the cheque had been claimed from MPAT in January, even though the services of "Mphule" had been terminated at least the month before. In his letter to Mkhize, Ntsooa asks "whether it is possible for you to negotiate that I be given another cheque to the same value by NCVT in exchange from the one from NPAT, because if we were to ask [illegible name] to issue another cheque in my name it might complicate matters even worse".

Mkhize said this week that in spite of her knowledge of the apparent irregularity, "I couldn't prosecute him ... because I felt as a person he should

not be buried."

The Department of Health confirmed this week that Ntsooa had served as a consultant to its Directorate of Mental Health and Substance Abuse, of which Mkhize is formally still head, for three weeks in February.

- Financial statements for the trust were not submitted to CCF in January, as specified in the funding agreement with CCF. The CCF representative said they were "still expecting it", but that it had not become a matter of too great concern yet.

Mkhize said this week she believed she was unfairly targeted by former employees, whose bitterness stemmed from expectations for disbursements from limited funds. "People working at a low level thought there was money, and were making more and more unrealistic demands."

The CCF representative said he was aware "that there are different versions of the story" to that put by disenchanted employees, and that the budget — which CCF accepted could be applied flexibly — and further budget proposals which have been made but had not been implemented may have raised false expectations.

This week's evidence at the truth commission, PAGE 10

A Sowetan Business Souvenir Edition

Opportunities for emerging entrepreneurs

By Lilit Bruce

THE Soweto Chamber of Commerce and Industries and the Johannesburg Chamber of Commerce and Industry have together launched an initiative to support the RDP and business development in Gauteng.

The initiative, called Business Link, is a vehicle for identifying projects, opportunities for business projects and opportunities for business creation between the established and emerging sectors.

It seeks to make matches between established businesses throughout the world with the products, technology and finance, and small local emerging businesses.

The initiative has published a list of projects that range from aerated production and bakery equipment manufacture to tomato sauce production, a travel agency and a vocational training school. They currently seek entrepreneurs for joint ventures.

Emerging business

It is an attempt to combine the needs of emerging business with the goals and needs of established business for mutual advantage.

The key needs of emerging business in seeking to establish viable enterprises are access to expertise, proven business opportunities and resources. Established business, on the other hand, needs access to the large market of seven million in Soweto on a viable and acceptable basis. The established sector is able to provide the expertise technology, sound management support and favourable access to resources and supplies.

Typical models for cooperation include various forms of partnerships, joint ventures, franchising, contract work, supply outsourcing, agencies and distribution agreements.

Emergent entrepreneurs can take advantage of the opportunities by contacting project coordinator Mr Don Nott on (011) 726-5300.

US firm 'aids' RDP aims

By Lilit Bruce

UMBONO, which means vision in Zulu, is a company established on November 21 1995 to make private equity investments, primarily in South Africa. The company may also make investments in other countries in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Umbono Investcorp's objective is to achieve high rates of capital appreciation in the medium to long term by focusing on private equity investments.

Charles Allison, the black American managing director, explains: "US pension fund money comes to South Africa through our operation. We have elected to focus on raising capital from offshore."

While companies owned and managed by stakeholders across the full ethnic spectrum are viewed by Umbono Investcorp as potential investments, Umbono Investcorp will, by the nature of the investments it selects, promote the eco-

'US pension fund money comes to South Africa'

with racially progressive procurement policies.

As a result, Umbono Investcorp will make a positive contribution towards the Reconstruction and Development Programme's black economic empowerment objectives. Umbono is also poised to play a vital role in the development of the country's small and medium sized enterprises, as the structure of South Africa's financial markets does not allow sufficient access to private equity type funding.

In pursuit of its investment objectives, Umbono has at its disposal the most sophisticated tools and strategies available in the investment management and private equity industry.

Note: The Calvert Fund, an open-ended mutual fund, which was launched on April 12 1995 in Washington, DC US, facilitated the formation of Umbono Investcorp through the setting up of a local holding company.



President Nelson Mandela and King Hussein of Jordan in Pretoria last Friday. King Hussein is in South Africa to attend the Unctad meeting.

PIC PAT SEBOKO

Erwin takes on the Unctad presidency

newspaper 29/4/96

By Ross Herbert

South Africa's presidency of Unctad could bring her new First World foes

SOUTH AFRICA IS, depending on one's confidence in the Government's diplomatic skills, either about to embark on a four-year collision course with the developed world or take a leadership role in sensitising world institutions to the plight of the developing world.

The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (Unctad) started on Saturday in Midrand near Johannesburg.

South Africa has been active in setting the agenda for the 14-day event, and Alec Erwin, Minister of Trade and Industry, will begin his term as president of the organisation for the next four years.

As an organisation, Unctad is struggling to find a mission. It is under severe budget pressure from donor nations critical of the ineffectiveness and bureaucracy of the United Nations (UN) system.

The question central to the Unctad conference is: What should be done with the organisation, if anything?

Its trade functions have largely been eclipsed by the formation of the World Trade Organisation (WTO). The World Bank, International Monetary Fund (IMF) and others now call the tune in development.

Free trade policy

There is a significant belief among senior Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) staff that the free-trade philosophy that imbues WTO, the World Bank and IMF has often worked to the detriment of the developing world.

Some speak conspiratorially about the First World duping the Third World into a WTO that is by definition unfair to the developing world.

The DTI team preparing strategy for Unctad wants the organisation to become adviser and advocate for the least developed countries, many of which do not have the resources, expertise or savvy to go into WTO negotiations and strike an advantageous deal.

And herein lies the potential conflict.

The developed countries, and the United States in particular, want Unctad to be scaled down and to stay out of WTO affairs. Moreover, their diplomats say Unctad has long been stuck in

a "South-versus-North, developing-versus-developed-world" mindset.

They want the confrontation to end and are not eager to fund an Unctad that is a soapbox for criticism of the developed world. The US also wants Unctad to be confined to providing research and technical trade support.

South Africa plans to advocate a much broader, more controversial agenda. DTI wants greater debt relief for developing countries.

There is also discussion, but no clear decision, over whether formally to ask to extend the phase-in period over which the developing world must remove its trade barriers.

South Africa, with its large reserve of international goodwill, is uniquely positioned to influence the developed world. And advocacy does not necessarily have to turn into antagonism.

Influential position

If managed well, the presidency of Unctad could secure an influential position for South Africa as honest broker in world disputes. Realistically, the situation is more complicated.

Erwin may be president of Unctad but he will not necessarily control its bureaucracy. He will get the blame from a First World irritated by Unctad criticism. There is sympathy in developed countries for debt relief, but other issues will find determined First World opposition.

The US and Europe will press for linking labour standards into the WTO process so that nations engaging in child labour or slave labour could be brought before the WTO and possibly forced to pay penalties.

Developing world diplomats see this as meddling and disguised protectionism. Similarly, DTI plans to lobby to keep environmental restrictions out of the WTO.

The developed world, heavily swayed by pro-environment activists, will take a hard line on countries rapping forests and fisheries. If South Africa really champions delinkage of labour and environmental standards, it will find a hostile audience in many developed countries.

Unctad's fate will be determined largely by the size of its budget. If the

wealthy nations have already decided to effectively gut Unctad, has South Africa taken on a losing cause that will drain precious staff time in DTI for the next four years and deliver few tangible benefits to South Africa?

And how hard should South Africa push and what does South Africa gain in fighting battles for its developing world friends? Most of the issues DTI plans to champion have little direct benefit for South Africa.

For itself, South Africa is now lobbying for more, not less, free trade with Europe. South Africa does not need debt relief and faces no major environmental linkage issues.

Labour standards

On labour standards, DTI's position is actually contrary to that of the Congress of South African Trade Unions (Cosatu). Cosatu wants to force developing world economies to comply with international labour standards so that South African labour is not priced out of the market.

Taking on a Third World advocacy role in Unctad cannot be viewed in isolation. Alfred Nzo, Minister of Foreign Affairs, recently expressed South African solidarity with Libya.

Gauteng premier Tokyo Sexwale has just returned from a trade mission with Cuba. And the controversial American Louis Farrakhan met President Nelson Mandela.

So far South African trade has benefited immensely from appearing to be the only responsible nation in Africa. What risk does the country run if world perception shifts and the world sees South Africa as the friend of rogues?

One London currency trader, who was briefed last week by Trevor Manuel, Minister of Finance, expressed surprise that South Africa had aligned itself with Libya at a time when the rand was plunging in value.

As he put it: "If the markets were more aware of that, they would be alarmed."

Libya is seen in the market view as a leper. I think it would be highly counterproductive if South Africa is seen repeating its support of Libya." — *Independent Foreign Service*

UN conference focuses on rich-poor divide

Choice of SA to host gathering symbolises country's return to international world, says UN official

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29/4/76

By SAPA AND TROYE LUND

A meeting of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development opened at Midrand near Pretoria on Saturday with warnings that the gap between rich and poor might be widening.

Most of the world's people were no more secure at the end of the 20th century than they had been during the Cold War, President Nelson Mandela told the meeting.

"Poverty and need continue to blight their lives," he said.

The UN meeting, one of the largest to be held in Africa and the first to be held in South Africa, opened with a mass choir of 400 children singing the national anthems, traditional dancers and the pounding of an African drum.

The choice of South Africa to host the United Nations summit



on trade and development (Unctad) was more than symbolic of the country's return into the international world of states, said Unctad secretary-general Rubens Rucupero.

At a press conference before the opening ceremony, Rucupero said SA faced the same problem as the world economy: it had a vast and widening gap between rich and poor which had to be narrowed.

This is the main theme some

3 000 UN delegates from 188 states will debate over the next two weeks of the Unctad conference at Gallagher Estate in Midrand.

Rucupero stressed SA was now not only an important world leader but a living demonstration that development in Africa was not impossible.

He also emphasised that the conference aimed to set up concrete mechanisms that would deliver better services to developing countries and "make a difference in people's lives".

Minister of Trade and Industry Alec Erwin, who will be president of Unctad for the next four years, yesterday said he intended to make Unctad an "aggressive and dynamic organisation" that implemented concrete support systems for developing countries to grow by improving on issues like financial and trade efficiency.

One in 3 000 delegates objects to accommodation

Of the 3 000 UN delegates attending the conference on trade and development at Gallagher Estate in Midrand only one has complained that the accommodation was not acceptable.

The Russian delegate was not satisfied with his hotel because he said there were no restaurants nearby and he could not find anywhere to go for his first meal on Friday evening after he arrived.

Delegates are staying in 29 Johannesburg, Midrand and Pretoria hotels which a UN team that visited the country last year inspected and approved as being of a sufficiently high international standard.

Rod Rutter, the American Express representative who is based at the conference and who had dealt with the hotel bookings, said: "There are plenty of restaurants the man could have gone to. He just did not know the area."

After getting better acquainted with the area around his hotel, the Russian delegate is reported to be "not as disgruntled" and said he would stay in his hotel. — Staff Reporter.

UN rules bar Taiwanese journalists from conference

By TROYE LUND

Taiwanese journalists, no matter which country their publication is affiliated to, have been barred from the UN Conference on Trade and Development (Unctad) because their country is not a member of the organisation.

South African delegates, including government ministers, attending the conference in Midrand near Johannesburg agreed that the barring was unfair but said SA as host country "still had to play by UN rules".

Taiwanese citizen Chang Jer-Shong confronted Unctad's Secretary-General Rubens Rucupero on the issue at one of the first press conferences of the summit this weekend.

"This is unbelievable. It seems to say that non-member nations have no right of access to information, no right to read the newspaper or watch television. The UN charter does not allow for gagging of the press and does not intend to discriminate journalists in carrying out their work," said Jer-Shong.

Jer-Shong, who has been a journalist for 30 years, works for the Chinese Central News Agency which is based in Taiwan and distributes news to China. Rucupero asked the chief of media accreditation, Sonya Lecca, to reply to Jer-Shong.

In a written reply, Lecca said Jer-Shong could not be allowed to cover the event because of a decision taken by the UN's General Assembly in 1971 which declares "there is an indissoluble link between an accredited correspondent and the agency he/she represents".

That same UN meeting ruled that all accreditation from journalists representing "government-supported media in Taiwan" be withdrawn. Jer-Shong is not satisfied and intends to fight his exclusion: "I have covered a great number of UN events before and have never been denied the opportunity I should be judged as a journalist not as a representative of Taiwan."

Although Jer-Shong is the only Taiwanese journalist at Midrand, more of his colleagues were expected to arrive later this week.

Plans to help strife and poverty-stricken families in the pipeline

By PRISCILLA SINGH

One of the most significant days on the calendar every year is Family Day, which is being celebrated nationally today.

The UN has also declared 1996 the International Year for the Eradication of Poverty.

The Department of Welfare said that in keeping with the theme it was focusing on helping families in need this year.

It has already established a developmental programme for unemployed women with chil-

dren under five years old.

Increasing economic stress facing households has been highlighted as a major contributor to family problems.

Those living below the poverty line, as well as poor single-parent families – which are predominantly female-headed households – were the worst affected, said Department of Welfare spokesman Michael Fumarola.

Although urbanisation was a major cause of family troubles, it was poverty which probably had the most profound effect on the

stability of a family, he said.

In South Africa, poverty has a marked rural dimension, and it has been estimated that about 75% of the poor live in rural areas.

"Family dysfunction sets in when poverty is combined with environmental stress and feelings of powerlessness and frustration," said Fumarola.

He added that, as stated in the Draft White Paper for Social Welfare, families in need of special support would be offered the necessary assistance, and family-centred programmes would be devel-

oped in rural areas and underserved urban settlements.

In addition, the Lund Committee on Child and Family Support, appointed by the Ministry of Welfare, is investigating the possibility of increasing parental support through the private maintenance system with the Justice Department. It is also completing a critical appraisal of the existing system of state support to single families and is exploring an alternative policy in social security for families and other economic empowerment strategies.

Eskom faces hidden costs in low price bid

Robyn Chalmers

ESKOM's aim to provide SA with the cheapest electricity in the world had hidden costs which would have a huge effect on the future environment, according to a study under the Cosatu-linked industrial strategy project.

The study, conducted by the University of Cape Town's energy and development research centre researcher Clive van Horen, said hidden costs included injuries and mortalities in coal mines and the effects of air pollution on health.

There was also the threat of greenhouse gas emission which could lead to SA facing internationally imposed emission reduction targets, and the cost of state subsidies to the nuclear industry.

The main reasons for SA's low price of electricity were the abundance of coal reserves close to power stations and the high level of expertise in Eskom.

However, Van Horen said the electricity price was artificially low because inadequate attention had been paid to the environment and the associated health costs of generating it.

Trade and industry department director-general Zavareh Rustonjee said it was vital to consider the medium- and long-term consequences of neglecting the environmental effects of electrification.

Van Horen said should Eskom continue to meet its target on price reduction, the average electricity price in 2000 would be 60% of 1987 prices.

"This is likely to encourage a heavily energy- and resource-intensive growth path which, once taken, could be difficult to redirect," he said.

Reshuffle a blow to community groups

Theo Rawana

THE impending closure of the RDP office following the recent Cabinet reshuffle had thrown community-based organisations into confusion over the fate of a funding mechanism former minister Jay Naidoo was to co-ordinate, the groups said yesterday.

National Community-Based Development Organisations Network secretary-general Shuffle Mokwele said the network's envisaged participation in a task group had been dealt a blow by the Cabinet reshuffle. The task group was to work towards the establishment of the National Development Agency when the Transitional National Development Trust's period of existence expired after two years.

"Although the establishment of the NDA task group has taken an unnecessarily long period of time, it was always hoped that the RDP ministry would continue to facilitate its establishment. With the closure of the RDP ministry, it is no longer clear as to who or which department will take the responsibility to co-ordinate efforts towards the ultimate establishment of a funding mechanism for non-governmental and community-based development organisations' projects and programmes," Mokwele said.

The networks seek clarity on this matter as the NDA process is viewed as

its lifeblood, he said.

Mokwele said his organisation was also opposed to the Independent Development Trust and the Kagiso Trust being the sole players in the task of communicating with the communities in the area of development.

"The network is opposed to a situation where only the IDT and the Kagiso Trust will be responsible for consultations within communities while community structures are passively looking on. In the view of the network, this will be against the principle of a people-driven process which the RDP is all about."

He said the network had made a submission to the transitional development trust, whose secretariat comprises the IDT and Kagiso Trust, to consider the decentralisation of the trust's process.

Although the network and other stakeholders had participated in the establishment of the trust, the organisation could not form part of the secretariat as it had no resources. There were also no funds which the trust could use to employ the services of the network.

Mokwele said central and provincial government had an obligation to assist community-based organisations to be sustainable. "To this end, they should be considerate to the plight of these organisations without prejudice," he said.

Eric Molobi, chairman of the trustees who decide on the issue, was not available for comment yesterday.

NGOs walk where others fear to tread

(297) MtG 12-18/4/96

NGOs are playing a role that government and business cannot, so it would be foolish to allow them to die for lack of funding, argues **Helmut Bertelsmann**

TWENTY-SEVEN years ago, when I was at university, the world was inhabited by two kinds of creatures: Afrikaners, who supported the Nats, and English, who were liberal. Each had their sub-species: some Afrikaners were 'verlig' (the good guys) and some English were conservative (they worked for the 'specials').

Somewhere on the periphery were the people they were all arguing about: the blacks. It was a lekker world, really. You could be one hell of a rebel (on Afrikaners or English campuses), but you would always be protected. Not in your wildest dreams would you doubt that a job was waiting for you after varsity: the system needed every qualified whitey it could find — never mind if you had shouted off your mouth a bit as a student: 'reality' would soon teach you better.

As, in fact, it did.

Most of the guys I was with in those years seem to have learnt the two basic lessons of life very quickly: money is the root of all survival, and, if you can't beat them, make a deal with them. What happened to all those granite principles that these fellows declared they would die for, then?

It is not a fashionable question.

There are those of us who were stupid enough to carry that strange Sixties idealism into our adult lives, in one form or another. Some stuck to basically liberal ideals, others became more and more 'progressive' or radical. Some of us ended up in what was, 10 years ago, the exciting and pulsating world of the NGOs (non-governmental organisations).

These were or are groups of people who did what the government would or could not do to help people in those areas where most whites had it good and most blacks had it bad: education, health, housing, adult literacy, basic nutrition and so on.

At one stage, we were the darlings of the corporate sector and the embassies, partly because of the activities of an American reverend named H Sullivan. Remember him? In those days, donations from big business and international trust funds were fairly easy to come by. Some of us did excellent work.

My organisation, for example, started with one little matric college in a disused furniture store 13 years ago. Today, we run seven secondary and teacher upgrading institutions. Our work teaches thousands of adult learners and un/underqualified teachers every year. By



extension, about two million kids per year get a better education as a result of the work we do.

And now, suddenly, there is no more money. By some strange logic, our democratic election two years ago means we are not needed any more. As if, by the waving of some magic wand, our new government would get rid of all the woes that befall the poor, the un/undereducated, and the hungry in this country.

Surrounding the world of the NGOs there are many myths. One of these is that, because there are so many NGOs, there is 'duplication'.

There is, in fact, virtually no duplication in the work that the many NGOs in the country do — and most certainly not after the attrition we've suffered since the smoothies that liked to appear on photographs with us 10 years ago have deserted us. Today even the most productive and inventive NGOs are about to die.

One of the reasons for this is that there are powerful people who glibly proclaim that NGOs which haven't 'demonstrated commitment to internal transformation' can't really expect to be supported for work which, ultimately, should have a 'transformational' effect instead of 'merely perpetuating the power relationships of the past'.

In plain English, it means that NGOs that are still run by whites can forget about getting

government contracts or RDP funds.

But the impossible task is this: find an able, preferably suitably qualified, black person who is prepared to run your organisation for the kind of salary that you can pay — without any of those lovely perks — who is not already in a top job in government or the corporate sector. In today's South Africa, that calls for divine or mythical intervention.

Aha, our critics — who enjoy the benefits of accelerated wisdom — exclaim, but you should have 'developed' and 'trained' your own people

in the years gone by, so that you could have promoted people from the ranks of the disadvantaged into your management positions.

Old hat. We did exactly that, for years. Those 'developed disadvantaged' are

now in the same places you find our most ardent critics — behind big desks in the offices of government, parastatals or international companies, nurtured by us, the forgotten NGOs, to enjoy 'packages' our own executives can only dream of.

It's exactly like leaving teaching and going into educational management — you get further and further removed from what it was all supposed to be about — the people in need.

When you take the time to return to that part of the real world, you realise that nothing has changed. Rural schools still do not have

running water or electricity, many don't have roofs, the teachers don't know what to do because nobody has taken the time or money to 'develop' them, and the kids drop out even before they have really started trying.

I don't blame anyone, really — but, while the people suffer, while the NGOs are bursting with experience, expertise and creative imagination to alleviate at least some of that suffering, the fat cats lord it over us: 'If you want partnerships (contracts) with us, forget about counting on your track record from the past.'

Worse, if track record (in our case: 14 000 successful ex-students, 6 000 of them teachers teaching 2-million kids per year) doesn't count, how are you going to prevent the worst excesses of the Sullivan era? How are you going to prevent throwing money away at smooth talkers who claim 'community support' — and not much else?

Worse still, you are more than happy to enter into cosy deals with all those guys whose pig-headed dedication to 'separate development' or 'plural democracy' 20, 30 years ago delayed liberation by decades — those types who recently decided that luxurious yuppiedom and lucrative 'consultancies' were, after all, more attractive than dying for separate schools or exclusively pigmented municipalities.

Yet you are happy to abandon us, people who, admittedly, may not have risked detention and death, but who were prepared to make significant sacrifices to 'deliver' RDP long before it became the nation's most well-known acronym.

If I knew that our work would be continued by government — or anybody else, for that matter — if the remaining NGOs were to fade into oblivion, I would shed a tear or two for the dissolution of some wonderful teams of dedicated and creative people, but I would gladly accept the process as inevitable.

But that won't happen. If we go, opportunities and life chances for thousands of people go as well. At the risk of sounding arrogant, it is simply a fact that no national or provincial government department is ready to take over from where we may be forced to leave off.

Today, even the strongest and biggest NGOs are about to die. If they disappear, and they will if something isn't done immediately, the country — and a sizeable number of 'the poorest of the poor' — will lose an RDP lifeline that will not be replaced.

Bold and imaginative intervention is needed now to save the NGOs that deserve to be saved — not for the sake of their survival as such, but for the sake of the people they serve, the very people whose new South Africa this was supposed to be.

Bertelsmann is director educational services (schools), Promat Colleges

Task team will decide the future of the RDP

(297) M.G. 12-18/4/96
Gaye Davis

POLITICAL decisions on the reallocation of Reconstruction and Development Programme functions are expected to be made within the next two weeks.

A task team set up by Deputy President Thabo Mbeki has already begun its work. Its members are Cabinet secretary Professor Jakes Gerwel, advisers to Mbeki Moss Frank Chikane, RDP director general Bernie Fanaroff and Tanya Abrahamse-Lamola, chief director of the RDP's Development Facilitation unit.

"Our task is to look at what's there and to make recommendations to the deputy president as to what should go where. He will then discuss the recommendations with his ministers," Ngoasheng said.

No decision has been made on relocating the RDP's development and planning unit within Mbeki's office, but there is a view that the presidency needs a planning and strategic management capacity.

"The level and extent of this is under discussion. We will present our options and he will take the decision," Ngoasheng said.

Another aspect of the team's investigation is "to look at various options which may or may not include a political driver of the RDP," Ngoasheng said.

It is understood that RDP officials are concerned that no one will be politically responsible for that part of the RDP which deals with change once functions are reallocated to line ministries.

Ngoasheng said the RDP office has "done a splendid job" in getting the government to work in non-traditional, cross-sectoral ways. "I personally think that that kind of work needs to be nurtured and continued."

The team wants to resolve things as soon as possible, he said. "We want to create certainty in people's lives, in departments and in the provinces — everyone is waiting for some guidance. We want to complete our work as soon as we can. We should have an indication within the next two weeks with regard to political decisions on the reallocations," he said.

Mbeki to give details of RDP office's closure

(297) Star 13/4/96

Cape Town – Deputy President Thabo Mbeki is expected to account to Parliament's Reconstruction and Development Programme committee next week about the closure of the RDP office.

No date has been set for the meeting.

President Mandela announced the office's closure during the cabinet reshuffle on March 28, when RDP Minister Jay Naidoo was transferred to the posts, telecommunications and broadcasting portfolio.

Mbeki has been given the task of overseeing the re-allocation of projects, while the RDP fund has been transferred to the Finance Department.

A task team has been set up in Mbeki's office to look into the allocation of responsibilities and projects undertaken by the RDP office to other government departments. – Sapa

Welfare dept aims to empower jobless women

By PRISCILLA SINGH

The Department of Welfare has announced a flagship programme targeted at unemployed women with children under five.

The idea is to develop programmes which create self-reliance in line with the Beijing Platform for Action, which commits the Government to providing women with opportunities empowering them to change their situations.

Project manager Marion Stewart and co-ordinator Louise Erasmus of the National Welfare Department defined the structure for the programme in February this year.

"The aim is to facilitate educational and employment opportunities for women and their children to break the cycle of disadvantage and poverty which would also help to reduce their potential dependency on the State.

"The greatest challenge facing the Government is the extent to which it can impact positively on reducing poverty and unemploy-

ment," said Stewart.

The Department estimates about six million people are unemployed and about 10-million families live below the poverty line.

She said about 20 projects are expected to be implemented in the nine provinces and each province had been asked to identify at least one project for implementation within the next two months.

Educational and training opportunities for women would be increased so they could provide for the basic needs of their families and their skills developed to enhance their overall functioning.

Children under five would be provided with "developmentally appropriate education" to increase their chances of achieving and learning.

It had been suggested that consideration be given to "needy" provinces and that potential participants be ranked according to need, including single parent families, special needs groups, farmworkers, teenage mothers and rural women.

'Parastatals must now work towards RDP programmes'

Star 15/4/96 (297)

By JIVIAL RANTAO
Political Reporter

The North West government is to restructure its multibillion-rand state-owned enterprises so the parastatals can serve the RDP and objectives outlined in the central Government's national growth development strategy.

North West MEC for finance and economic affairs, Martin Kuscus told a conference held in Mmabatho last week to discuss the restructuring process and that the parastatals should be geared towards the promotion of economic growth and development.

The delivery of basic needs was also a priority. Kuscus said debates on the restructuring of state-owned enterprises highlighted the need for a national strategic framework based on principles agreed between the Government and labour.

Kuscus said it was important to acknowledge the historical legacy inherited under the new dispensation.

He said the former governments developed a set of state-supported institutions which were not designed to serve the objectives of the present government.

However, he said it was to be expected that those institutions would be restructured to serve the strategic objectives of the GNU.

"The restructuring of parastatals in the province needs to be guided by a set of

principles within which individual cases can be assessed, but which will provide a perspective of consistency so the process is not perceived to be an ad hoc exercise," he said.

Kuscus cautioned that in view of the limitations on the availability of public funds, there should be the most efficient utilisation of government and public finances by maximising revenues and ending cross-subsidisation.

"In Singapore and New Zealand the objective was to encourage foreign investment.

"This was achieved by enhancing the visibility and image of the country, attracting capital and bringing vitally needed knowhow.

"In Chile and Italy the objective was to develop

equity markets encouraging savings and developing pension fund systems," said Kuscus.

Kuscus said the sensitive question of retrenchments needed to be addressed.

"Where restructuring potentially has negative consequences for workers, a social plan must be negotiated with the relevant unions at the enterprise level which takes account of the workers' interests," he said.

He said countries like Argentina and Mexico restructured with the objective of improving government finances by maximising revenues and ending cross subsidisation.

**Important
to admit
the past**

Boesak case still under scrutiny

Staff Reporter

(297) ARL 16/4/96

A DECISION whether to prosecute former African National Congress Western Cape leader Allan Boesak in connection with alleged financial irregularities in the now-defunct Foundation for Peace and Justice (FPJ) will not be taken before August.

A spokesman in Cape attorney-general Frank Kahn's office said yesterday the 5 000-page report by the Office for Serious Economic Offences was

still being examined by advocates Jan "J C" Gerber and Steven Powell.

The investigation of the organisation headed by Dr Boesak, was completed in January and the report handed to Minister of Justice Dullah Omar and Mr Kahn.

The document would not be made public as this could unduly influence those deciding if anybody would be charged, Mr Kahn had said earlier.

University students to be involved in RDP work

Mduduzi ka Harvey

THE University of Pretoria's Centre for Human Rights has embarked on a programme to involve university students from SA's academic institutions in doing work for reconstruction and development.

Centre acting director Prof Christof Heyns said during the first two weeks of April, 70 students from eight universities were involved in development work in Venda and the Maputland area in KwaZulu-Natal.

Students were involved in the renovation and building

of schools. Heyns said the project would eventually be aimed at engaging students from all over Southern Africa in the development of the region on a large scale.

Part of the wider plan in the next two years is expected to draw students from Botswana, Zimbabwe and Angola not only for development and reconstruction projects, but also for democracy and human rights education.

From July the centre plans to start a pilot project with 140 students from Southern African countries.

Heyns said the centre was

lobbying the European Union for funding, and it was also looking for community involvement, where communities would identify which projects were needed in their own localities.

The students are paid R10 a day and the centre was also looking at paying community members for low-cost development projects.

A survey by the SA Communications Service, meanwhile, indicated that more than 30% of people in Northern Province had never heard of the RDP and almost 60% said its objectives were not

being met, reports Sapa.

Researchers polled mainly rural respondents with varying levels of basic education.

The survey, conducted earlier this year, found that of those who were aware of the RDP, six out of 10 people believed the programme was contributing to their lives and job creation. Also, 10,2% of the respondents said they were not interested in receiving information on the RDP because of "ineffectiveness" or because they did not directly benefit from it. However, 32,4% felt they were benefiting from the RDP.

Govt acts to remove donors' frustrations

John Dlodlu

DEPUTY Finance Minister Gill Marcus announced far-reaching changes yesterday in government's relations with the donor community as well as in intergovernmental financial relations.

A key change in the state's relations with the donors was the closure of the international development co-operation committee — chaired by the finance department — after difficulties and frustrations encountered by the donors, Marcus told delegates at a conference organised by the SA International Development Forum.

"All official development assistance will now be the responsibility of the finance department, as will the RDP Fund," she said.

The finance department would now act as a one-stop point of interaction with donors, and annual consultations with donors would be reviewed to enhance decision-making and expand interaction to help in programming aid in line with government priorities.

The department had begun a series of seminars to familiarise other departments and provinces with donor practices.

On intergovernmental fiscal relations, Marcus, former chairman of the parliamentary portfolio committee on finance, said that for the first time finance MECs would each draw up and present their own provincial budgets. This practice, replacing the function committees system, would give provinces more responsibility and account-

ability on budget allocations.

"All three tiers of government will account at the level at which spending takes place," Marcus said.

Although there were nine provincial audit offices, "it is the national office that remains responsible for the auditing of all local and metropolitan spending".

Sapa reports Marcus said SA had received grant aid of about R2bn by the end of the 1995/96 financial year, 52% of which had been earmarked for either non-government organisations or the private sector. In the same period, R1,6bn in technical assistance had been pledged, 58% of which was earmarked for government. Pledges for concessionary finance stood at about R6,5bn.

Finance Minister Trevor Manuel told donors government intended to reduce inflation in line with SA's main trading partners and competitors to enhance growth and development. He reiterated government's commitment to "gradualism" in the removal of the remaining foreign exchange restrictions. "In due course, the remaining exchange control measures will be steadily removed." Government, he said, wanted to substantially increase long-term foreign capital inflows to supplement domestic equity investment.

In line with its commitment to fiscal discipline, a series of initiatives was under way, including establishing the revenue service, an expenditure evaluation unit, a new cash management system and systematic revision of public debt management.

(297) BD 16/4/96

Challenge of poverty in SA

John Dlodlo

BD 16/4/96

(297)

GOVERNMENT has called on its partners in the international donor community to generate higher levels of economic growth to address problems of poverty and underdevelopment in SA.

Opening a donors' conference — organised by the SA International Development Forum — Deputy President Thabo Mbeki said yesterday the greatest challenge facing SA today was to solve the country's "scourge of poverty and underdevelopment".

"This demands that the government of national unity, in partnership with yourselves, the international as-

sistance community, continues to pursue policies and programmes which will deepen the development process and engender high levels of economic growth."

In a reference to the sudden closure of the RDP office two weeks ago, the deputy president, who spearheads government's growth and development strategy, said the RDP "was not and cannot be reduced" to the activities of any single ministry.

He said after the shifting of the RDP fund into the finance department, government departments would continue organising their budgets to achieve the goals of the RDP.

Govt launches project to stop benefits fraud

17/4/96 (297) (223)
Linda Ensor

CAPE TOWN — A R1m campaign to make SA's social security system more efficient and eliminate fraud and corruption was announced by Welfare Minister Patrick MacKenzie yesterday.

Of the R11,5bn paid out last year to 2,8-million beneficiaries nationwide, an estimated R1bn was lost through fraud and leakage, providing scope for substantial savings if the system was cleaned up.

MacKenzie said there were indications that the fraud included beneficiaries, departmental officials and syndicates involved in organised crime. In many cases people who died months ago were still receiving pensions.

Prosecutions were expected to result from the initiative, but its main long-term objective was to restructure the system and make it free of fraud and corruption.

Independent people have been appointed to oversee the programme, which was aimed at identifying the areas of fraud and corruption; improving the management and efficiency of the system to prevent it recurring; and improving service delivery.

Uniform standards and procedures would be established nationally, internal controls tightened up and the records of all beneficiaries on the books of all provincial departments reviewed.

Frank Chikane, adviser to Deputy President Thabo Mbeki, was appointed chairman of the co-ordinating committee, Adv Wim Trengrove as head of the task group on fraud and corruption, which would also consist of two police officers, and University of Western Cape professor Pieter le Roux as chairman of the social security systems task group. Eskom GM Danie du Plessis, on secondment to government, would act as national programme manager.

Provincial and departmental representatives and independent experts would be appointed to serve on the task groups.

Welfare director-general Leila Patel said that on May 1 a national, uniform computer system with a single database and linking all the provinces would come into operation. A social grant register would also come into being.

The committee would submit a report on its findings and recommendations to MacKenzie within six months.

Donors asked to facilitate dialogue

John Dludlu

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WORLD Bank vice-president for Africa Callisto Madavo has called on the donor community to facilitate dialogue between member states and to back growing regional partnerships.

Madavo told the two-day foreign donors' conference organised by the SA International Development Forum in Pretoria that such a role was inevitable for the bank, given growing global co-operation. The bank's Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency, for example, had taken a lead in enhancing trade among developing countries and promoting global investment in Africa's growing markets.

The bank was committed to a partnership with governments, the private sector, nongovernmental agencies,

communities and people.

The SA trade and industry department's small business promotion centre chief director Alistair Ruiters announced a series of initiatives to foster closer co-operation with the donors.

These included appointing a co-ordinator to liaise with donors, holding quarterly progress briefings and dealing with donors on supporting small business development strategy.

Water Affairs Minister Kader Asmal, whose department had already received over R300m in foreign aid, said this year was the year in which the delivery process would be consolidated to take a longer-term approach.

Asmal said the Mandela administration saw the development of the sub-Saharan region as an integral part of the national development strategy.

Survey: tourism inaccessible to disabled

Theo Rawana

ABOUT 3-million disabled southern Africans were denied access to many holiday and leisure facilities, an SA Tourism Board survey has found.

The survey, commissioned to assist Satour in its "national accessibility scheme", found only 48% of respondents went on holiday last year, and 50% of these stayed with friends or relatives — "possibly indicative of the lack of appropriate facilities in SA establishments".

The physically disabled encountered the most problems, with 100% of these travellers experiencing parking problems. More than 88% of the physically disabled respondents were dissatisfied with accommodation facilities, 80% with transport and 78% with public facilities.

"The disabled are forced to become

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'handicapped' due to environments which emphasise their disabilities and it is for this reason that Satour has launched the national accessibility scheme," said Satour standards director Greg McManus. The scheme aimed to encourage owners, developers and operators of tourist accommodation and facilities to become more accessible to the vast market of disabled and aged.

It offered accreditation to establishments meeting the required criteria researched and developed from similar international programmes.

Meanwhile, the finalists of this year's Satour tourism awards have been announced. Satour said the Grande Roche Hotel, last year's hotel of the year, was in the running again and would face competition from Magaliesburg's Mount Grace, Hunter's Country House in Plet-

tenberg Bay and Walkerson's Country Manor in Dullstroom.

Contenders for the guest house award included last year's winner Mimosa Lodge and nearby neighbour Kingna Lodge, Paarl's Mountain Shadows, Bloemfontein's Hobbit House, De Rust's Oulap and Kiepersol's Blue Mountain Lodge.

The bed and breakfast contenders included Plettenberg Bay's Cottage Pie, Knysna's Leisure Isle, Sea Point's Olaf's and Muizenberg's Miramar. Finalists of the self-catering establishment of the year include Noordhoek's Monkey Valley, Knysna's Old Drift Forest Lodge, Pilgrim's Rest's Crystal Springs and Aventura Badplaas.

The winners will be announced on May 7 at a gala ceremony at the Durban City Hall.

Communities without income given priority

(122) BD 18/4/96
Mduzizi ka Harvey (297)

POOR communities countrywide with no hope of any income have become the priority of the National Business Initiative, which from a budget of more than R800 000 for special projects has implemented six programmes aimed at facilitating income-generation.

In a bid to restore hope and pride in the village of Hertzog in the Mpofu district in the Eastern Cape, which was left destitute when commercial farming ceased, the community formed the Hertzog agricultural co-operative which raised a commercial loan to grow food for own consumption and for sale.

To date the co-operative has 83 shareholders, to whom each was allocated a 1ha plot. After the harvesting of several crops since the scheme was started in 1994, the project has yielded R2 000 a quarter hectare.

Initiative senior economics manager Brian Craig said it also targeted the once conflict-ridden Stutterheim community in the Eastern Cape because of its unemployment and the poor services, particularly in black areas, as the primary focus of its activities.

With the help of an external consultant, a development strategy was identified to address poverty in the area. This culminated in the formation of the Stutterheim Development Foundation to channel and control funds.

Through community participation, the foundation has provided 900 serviced housing sites, built schools and a

day care centre. A business advice centre was set up for entrepreneurs.

In addition, periodic markets and support for small-scale farmers and businesses have been implemented.

In Port Elizabeth, the initiative helped establish a self employment centre which offers advice to small entrepreneurs starting their own businesses, training and providing skills. It has also rented work space occupied by 30 businesses, with the largest employing 18 locals, while providing marketing and administrative advice.

Craig said changes in the national policy had affected the former Ciskei homeland, resulting in the closure of factories and the loss of 2 000 jobs, constituting a 46% unemployment rate.

These circumstances, he said, led to the formation of the Atlantis Reconstruction and Development Forum, which has been responsible for establishing a community radio station and a business information centre to support emerging firms. The forum is at the forefront of training locals to install prepayment meters, and providing business opportunities in the construction of a Magistrate's Court by using local labour and through tenders.

In the KwaZulu-Natal communities of Umbumbulu and Amanzimtoti, a local enterprise agency was set up in 1993. Its sole purpose was to develop small business by providing advice, training, access to sources of finance and encourage co-operation between small and big local business.

RDP office's demise a smart move to allow govt some breathing space

MD 18/4/96

(297)

Grant Mitchell

THE announcement by government that the RDP national office would be closed and chief co-ordinator Jay Naidoo relocated has sent waves of uncertainty through the development community, big and small business and government itself. Does it mean the end of the RDP?

The answer must be an emphatic no. Without an RDP-type programme, SA has very little chance of pulling itself out of the unemployment and poverty trap, and moving along the road of development. Why then the decision to close the RDP office?

The decision was a strategic political one and in no way represents a change in government thinking. Too many resources, both human and financial, are invested in the RDP for it to be abandoned.

Doing away with the national office is rather to move the spotlight away from the RDP in order that government may not be held to ransom for "failure to deliver".

The electorate has high expectations, and the RDP has been held out as a beacon of hope. In many ways it has been unable to live up to promises. Housing and health care are acknowledged failures: some progress has been made in urban renewal projects, school refurbishment, clinic building and the culture of learning.

But the progress is too slow for an impatient electorate, and failures are always better advertised than successes.

Coupled with this has been the poor image of Naidoo in the minds of the public.

Whilst he was a greatly admired union leader, somehow the role of RDP minister (without portfolio) sat uneasily with him.

In government circles his department was not popular. He was responsible for advising line departments on reorientation to the RDP. As any human resources director will tell you, this requires a combination of dialogue, persuasion, positive profile and

political acumen.

Naidoo, in a new portfolio in a new government, lacked the necessary resources and experience. This does not mean he will not make a contribution to government. He was simply the wrong person in the wrong place at the wrong time.

The RDP will continue under a different guise. Its financial relocation to the finance department means an administrative shift rather than a political change in direction.

Line departments will report on developments in their own areas. While this means more accountability, which makes more managerial sense, there is some role for a "watchdog" such as the old national RDP office used to, or rather was supposed to, play.

It remains to be seen how government handles the overview of the programme.

Presidential projects

Projects on the ground will continue. One example is the Katorus project, one of the biggest urban renewal programmes in the country, covering the areas of Katerhong, Vosloorus and Tokoza on the East Rand. The programme is one of the presidential lead projects and involves some R645m from the RDP and R2,411m from other state funds, committed for a period of five years.

By any standards it is an ambitious programme involving housing repair (damaged during political unrest), hostel upgrading, sewage, water and road repair/upgrading and the development of satellite police stations and community policing. In addition there are a number of other initiatives; the fostering of business/community partnership; the market society initiative which aims to regenerate the use and development of market places as a means of economic opportunity and development. Such an ambitious scheme has the sup-

port of local government, local chambers of commerce and industries and individual business people.

It also has the expertise of a number of development specialists seconded to the programme. While not underestimating the scale of the problems involved, one is left with the feeling that there is a combination of goodwill, expertise, sound planning and the sheer will to succeed.

This embodies the true spirit of the RDP: a new way of doing business that involves stakeholder consultation and participation.

The area of small and micro-enterprise development is crucial in the regeneration and revival of townships, many of which were partially destroyed by the ravages of political violence.

The RDP is about developing this joint team work approach: big and small business in partnership with government.

One school of thought suggest that the placing of RDP projects within each line department will increase the efficiency of the overall programme as accountability will be held at the point of execution. Such an approach makes sound business sense.

But it is also important that the successes are advertised, not just for reasons of political expediency, but because success stories will add impetus to momentum for further development.

Government should make the public aware of what the RDP is — not through mere slogans but through tangible development projects.

With a combination of successes on the ground and responsible media reporting, the reconstruction of SA, in both social and economic terms, can be viewed in its proper context: not as "quick-fix" solutions but as slow and incremental change, which over time will reveal positive results.

□ Mitchell is the publisher of The Tracker, a quarterly brief on reconstruction in SA.

Reconstruction 'still official policy'

POLITICAL STAFF

RECONSTRUCTION and development remained the official policy of the government and would not be diluted by the closure of the RDP office, Deputy President Thabo Mbeki said yesterday.

Addressing a meeting of Parliament's portfolio committee on reconstruction and development at his Tuynhuys offices, Mbeki also announced that all central planning and policy functions of the RDP would now fall under the presidency. This included the Economic Advisory Service and the Central Statistical Services.

President Nelson Mandela announced earlier this month that the RDP office will close and that Minister without Portfolio Mr Jay Naidoo would be redeployed as Minister of Posts, Telecommunications and Broadcasting.

Mbeki said reconstruction and

development "constitutes the policy of the government. The closure of the RDP office has no impact on the pursuit of that policy".

RDP programmes could not be implemented in a way that they were a "ghetto function".

Departments could not conduct "business as usual" with 99% of their budgets and then spend one per cent on RDP.

"That approach is wrong," Mbeki said.

Programmes that sought to uplift marginal groups such as women, youth, the disabled and children would be monitored within the presidency.

The RDP Fund would fall under the Ministry of Finance and responsibility for municipal infrastructure would go to the Department of Trade and Industry and provincial and local governments.

"None of these programmes is being closed down," said Mbeki.

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RDP is 'on course and working' to fulfil 25-year vision ⁽²⁹⁷⁾

Press has focused on perceived lack of delivery rather than project's enormous achievements

PRETORIA BUREAU

The Reconstruction and Development Programme is on course and is working despite a commonly held public perception that it is not doing its job, officials insist.

The RDP office says the R7,5-billion budget for various projects this year shows how significant the programme is to South Africa.

"Debate in public and the media clearly indicates that the RDP vision to change the role of the government has a general appeal," says an RDP newsletter.

"This is not surprising in a country where ordinary people often feel helpless about influencing the manner in which government works."

Commenting that the visibility of the RDP was increasing rapidly, the newsletter adds that business plans worth more than R8-billion have already been passed by the programme's steering committee and money has been made available to line function departments to ensure the implementation of the projects.

"By June, it is estimated that there will be contractors on more than 43 000 sites of RDP programmes around the country," it adds.

The publication says crime and corruption represent one of the biggest challenges to the RDP, describing them as "a

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major handicap to growth and development".

The problem is being tackled through an integrated information system, a police project funded by the RDP which will allow the police to track down offenders in what it calls a more comprehensive manner.

The publication defends Jay Naidoo (the former Minister in the Office of the President who was in control of the RDP) for his role in the project development, saying that in the past two years "he not only had to juggle budgets for RDP projects, but had to bear the brunt of unpopular decisions made by Cabinet to prioritise them."

"To add insult to injury, the eyes of the press focused on a perceived lack of delivery rather than the enormous achievements of the RDP," the newsletter says.

It adds that success has been achieved in various areas, particularly in regard to 22 presidential lead projects, which include nutrition programmes, municipal infrastructure programmes, public works, urban renewal, water conservation, electrification and education in general.

A 25-year vision for development has also been part of the RDP, and it is expected that this will receive an important boost as a result of data obtained during the national census later this year.

Crime and corruption are a major handicap to development

New homes for RDP functions

BY CHRISTO VOISCHENK

CT(BR) 19/4/96

Cape Town — Most of the functions of the defunct RDP office would be transferred to the ministry of finance, with presidential and other projects becoming the responsibility of the national ministries, deputy president Thabo Mbeki announced yesterday.

The team responsible for formulating strategy would be relocated to Mbeki's office together with the Central Statistical Service, the Central Economic Advisory Services and the disability, gender and children's programmes. Personnel from the RDP office would be placed at national ministries.

Bernie Fanaroff, the administrative head of the RDP office, would move to Mbeki's office.

Other transferred functions included the administration of the South African International Development Forum and the disbursement of funds received from the international donor community.

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(73) (297)
BY CHRISTO VOLSCHENK

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RDP conference con nets organisers R1,7m

OWN CORRESPONDENT

JOHANNESBURG: A high-powered RDP showcase conference involving hundreds of South Africa's business elite has been cancelled at the last minute by the organisers, who have vanished without trace — as has about R1,7 million in delegates' money.

An estimated 650 delegates had each paid organisers of the event, The Conference Corporation, R2 250 to attend today's conference, and about R375 extra for a gala dinner with President Nelson Mandela tonight.

But when approached about Mandela's attendance, his spokesman, Mr Parks Mankahlana, said: "We know nothing about this conference."

A source at Gallagher Estate, Midrand, where the conference was to be held, confirmed the organisers had cancelled the booking on Monday.

The directors of the Conference Corporation appear to have vanished with about R1,7m.

On Wednesday night, the corporation faxed a curt notification of the

cancellation to delegates: "Due to circumstances beyond the company's control, we regret to inform you that, until further notice, this event will not take place as planned on this Friday, 19 April 1996."

No contact numbers or details about delegates' money being refunded were given.

The corporation's telephone and fax lines were apparently suspended on Tuesday. All attempts to contact it have failed.

The corporation's letterhead states that it is a limited company, but it does not appear to have been registered.

Among those listed to speak at the conference were several ministers, including former Minister without Portfolio Jay Naidoo.

A spokesman for Naidoo, Connie Molusi, denied the RDP office was involved.

Penta Publications group editorial director Jon Qwelane said he had been asked to chair the event, but the arrangement had not been confirmed.

Conference organisers vanish with R1,7-m⁽²⁹⁷⁾

Star 19/4/96

BY TAMSEN DE BEER

A conference that was supposed to be a high-powered RDP showcase involving hundreds of members of the business elite today has been cancelled at the last minute and the organisers have vanished with about R1,7-million in delegates' money.

An estimated 650 delegates had each paid the organisers, who called themselves The Conference Corporation (CC), R2 250 to attend, and about R375 extra for a gala dinner with President Nelson Mandela tonight.

But Parks Mankahlana, a presidential spokesman, said about Mandela's attendance: "We know nothing about this conference."

A source at Gallagher Estate, Midrand, where the conference was due to be held, confirmed CC had cancelled the booking on Monday.

On Wednesday night, a curt notification of the cancellation was faxed to delegates by CC.

"Due to circumstances beyond the company's control, we regret to inform you that, until further notice, this event will not take place as planned on this Friday, 19 April 1996," read the notice.

But they left no contact numbers or details about delegates' money being refunded.

Sources confirmed that the company's telephone and fax lines were suspended on Tuesday with a substantial amount owing.

Attempts by The Star and numerous delegates to reach the company proved fruitless.

The company letterhead states it is a proprietary limited (pty ltd) company. But investigations into a 1968 registration number on the letterhead drew a blank.

One irate delegate who was supposed to attend the conference said a conversation with an employee at the company's Sandton offices on Monday was abruptly terminated after she was told: "We have to leave the office now."

NGOs are not about to roll over

The 'good times' may be over for non-governmental organisations, but that doesn't mean they should just roll over and die, argues **Thandi Orleyn**

(297)
MGT 19-25/4/96

ON a number of occasions over the past two years, and most recently again last week, the *Mail & Guardian* has published articles highlighting the difficulties facing many non-governmental organisations (NGOs). In many cases the articles have contained pleas for some kind of dramatic intervention to save NGOs from collapse, lest all the good work they do is lost to the Reconstruction and Development Programme and the communities they serve.

The implication, spelt out to a greater or lesser extent, is that NGO funding has been suddenly withdrawn by the (mainly foreign) donors, and that someone, presumably the government, must step in to ensure that the previous levels of funding are maintained.

In 1996, two years after the establishment of the Government of National Unity, this tune is becoming repetitive. We know that a number of NGOs, both large and small, have collapsed despite many of them having played very significant roles in the past. Many others have had to retrench staff and restructure themselves. There may be more NGOs that also fall by the wayside, but it is alarmist in the extreme to suggest, as Helmut Bertelsmann argued ("NGOs walk where others fear to tread", April 12 to 18), that "even the most productive and inventive" and "even the strongest and biggest" NGOs are about to die.

The demise of some NGOs can be attributed at least in part to changing donor priorities, although other factors also need to be considered. NGOs themselves have in many cases failed to adapt to the changing environment.

We know also that there have been examples of NGO mismanagement, improper accounting and unconventional practices that will undoubtedly have alarmed many of the traditional donors.

However, the new writing has been on the wall for some time now. It was inevitable that donor priorities would change once an accountable and democratic government committed to processes of development was engaging with the

international donor community. Donors would naturally prefer to start channelling increasing proportions of their funds (for which they have to account to taxpayers in their own countries) to elected and accountable government structures (elected by the very communities that NGOs often claim to "represent").

Indeed, it is essential for effective RDP delivery that foreign aid should be integrated into the general strategies of the new government in order to facilitate the integration of programmes and provide much-needed co-ordination. This is why the inter-governmental donor conferences that took place in 1994, and will be taking place again next week, are so important.

Nonetheless, the fact is that many foreign donors have continued to channel funding into the NGO sector, albeit at decreasing levels, and recognise the important role that we play. Not unnaturally, particularly in the light of some of the well-publicised cases of NGO mismanagement referred to above, these donors now need to see greater levels of accountability and evidence of the impact of their funding, and the challenge for the NGO sector is to respond to these new imperatives and to demonstrate that they can deliver effectively.

There is little value in worrying about the problems of trying to find black NGO managers, or feeling betrayed when people who cut their teeth in NGOs take advantage of the new opportunities that are at last opening up for people of all races.

The real issue is not about the credibility of NGOs which have white male leaders, as Bertelsmann implied (there are still well-established NGOs which are led by white men), but rather one of implementing real affirmative action strategies which result in a workforce that is increasingly representative of South African society in terms of race and gender profiles. This is obviously also a criti-

cal issue for the public sector and the corporate world.

NGOs should not expect to rely on their past "track record" when seeking new work. The urgency of RDP delivery requires fresh and innovative thinking from organisations and people who are not content simply to rest on past laurels earned in the struggle. At the Independent Mediation Service of South Africa (Imssa) we believe that we are only as good as our last intervention, and we cannot expect favours from anyone.

As NGOs we need to take charge of our own destiny, rather than seeing ourselves as victims of the new dispensation and as abandoned by former colleagues who are now in government. Critically, we in the NGO sector must work to ensure our long-term survival.

This means examining our organisations internally, as well as repositioning them in a rapidly changing external environment. It is no easy fix and requires considerable hard work. We have to change our organisational mindsets and, critically, our whole organisational culture.

The "good times" are over, and we know that we cannot rely forever on continued foreign funding. So we have to diversify our funding base, tender for work, seek new partnerships and opportunities, refocus our energies on delivering measurable results and high-quality

work, review our budgeting and financial procedures, empower and train our people.

In doing this we need to develop a sharp new vision of what our role as NGOs can be, and a renewed determination to succeed in our vitally important work, so that NGOs, large and small, will be around at the turn of the century to help address the huge challenges that lie ahead as part of a vibrant and lively civil society. The new democracy deserves no less.

Thandi Orleyn is National Director Independent Mediation Service of South Africa

We need to take charge of our own destiny, rather than seeing ourselves as victims of the new dispensation

the people who have food [Interjections.] What we are asking the Minister is this: Is she telling members in this House that there are no needy pupils in the 14 000 schools of this land?

I have been a schoolteacher since 1962, and I can tell her that in every school throughout this country there will be some pupils who are needy, because there is a 47% unemployment rate in this country. Now here she comes, proudly advised by her Ministry, telling us that in the 14 000 schools in this country there are no needy children without food. I find that hard to believe. She should check her facts, because I can tell her right now that the ones she has now are wrong [Interjections.]

We are pleased that the Minister is going to have this new programme and that people are going to look into this problem. We are pleased that she is going to appoint people in the provinces who will vet the system, people who will check the system to see that no fraud or corruption takes place. We are happy about that. We are pleased that she is taking such progressive steps.

We would like to know, when we table that question again next year, what progress the Minister has made from this time to that time. That is what we want. This House needs to know how the Ministry is improving. This House needs to know that we are not having our children robbed of food in this country. That is the issue. Those who are stealing money from our children must be put behind bars. We would also like to know from the Minister for Health how many of those people were fired or prosecuted or brought to book in the different divisions in the nine provinces in this country. That is what I would like to know [Interjections.]

We would like to suggest to the hon the Minister for Health that as has been done in the Western Cape, use should be made of hawkers for the RDP, hawkers who could be trained in nutrition, in order to provide food for those children. The programme in the Western Cape is very successful [Time expired.]

THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH Madam Speaker, firstly I would just like to point out to the hon member that it is the duty of the provinces to target the schools at which children should be fed, not that of the national Government.

Secondly, I do take exception to a member, while we are discussing the nutrition scheme, saying that I must be investigated. If hon members come here to get facts about the feeding scheme, that is

what they should be doing. I do take exception to being told that I should be investigated. [Interjections.]

THE SPEAKER. Order!

THE MINISTER. Thirdly, I would also like to point out that those who were found to have misappropriated funds were investigated. Some of them have been arrested. I think that the Minister for Safety and Security can indicate how many have been arrested and how far the investigations have progressed.

Debate concluded

Mossgas: partial or complete disposal

4 MR L M GREEN asked the Minister of Mineral and Energy Affairs:

Whether, with reference to the announcement that the Central Energy Fund has appointed financial and technical advisers to advise on the partial or complete disposal of Mossgas, the workers at Mossgas sites will in any way be adversely affected by such partial or complete disposal, if not, what will be the status of such workers, if so, what steps will be taken to protect such workers against any losses?

N404E INT

THE MINISTER OF MINERAL AND ENERGY AFFAIRS. Madam Speaker, hon members will remember that the Cabinet decided, on 6 December 1995, that the market should be tested in order to see what private sector interest there may be in investing in Mossgas. The CEF, the State-owned holding company of Mossgas, appointed the Rand Merchant Bank, Arthur D Little and Chem Systems as advisers to assist in managing the process of testing the market.

Short-listed prospective investors will submit final proposals by early August 1996. Following the selection of preferred bidders and subsequent negotiations, the restructuring could be completed by October this year, but at this moment there is no certainty that Mossgas will be sold, because that will depend on whether we will accept the offers that will be made. No decision has been made up to now to dispose of Mossgas, either partially or completely. Therefore it is not yet possible to anticipate the future use for which a privately owned Mossgas would be developed.

It is this future use that will give an indication as to how employees may possibly be affected in the

event of restructuring taking place. The impact on existing employment and the creation of further job opportunities in future will play key roles in the evaluation of any offers to restructure Mossgas. With the national framework agreement in place, and the labour unions continually consulted and informed, the interests of the workers are being taken care of.

MR L M GREEN. Madam Speaker, our concern, raised in this debate today, is how the possible privatisation of Mossgas will affect the lives and families of the 1 200 workers.

Although the Cabinet has made available the amount of R485 million in order to extend the life of Mossgas to the year 2001, we are concerned that the Government is paying more than R1 000 an hour, plus expenses, to overseas consultants to establish the short-term and medium-term viability of Mossgas.

Which industry in the private sector can afford to hire consultants at more than R1 000 an hour? Why is there such a huge disparity between the fees paid for foreign consultants and those for our own local consultants?

The Mossgas monitoring panel, which is the consulting body for Mossgas, has earned in excess of R6,5 million. If one compares the wages or salaries of the ordinary hard-working Mossgas workers, who produce most of the wealth, to those of foreign consultants, it is no wonder that the workers have had to turn to the Chemical Workers Industrial Union to protect their jobs and their future at Mossgas.

We are concerned at the sudden resignations of both Roy Pithey and John Theo. We are led to believe this has happened as a result of bureaucratic bungling by the Minister's department.

We also believe that conditions attached to the R485 million will allow the State to back out of the project at any time, leaving the 1 200 workers and their families destitute. The Chemical Workers Industrial Union and the workers of Mossgas need to know today whether they will still have a share in this operation, and whether there will still be jobs for them as far as this operation is concerned.

How much consultation is being done with the union at present? The Minister says that this is being done on a daily basis. Is the Mossgas monitoring panel in contact with the demands and the grievances of the workers?

We need more information regarding the input of the Chemical Workers Industrial Union and the number of proposals that are being used in the deliberations regarding the future of Mossgas. We urge the Government to take firm steps to ensure that the activities of the Department of Mineral and Energy Affairs do not undermine the rights of workers.

***MR J A JORDAAN.** Madam Speaker, if one travels over the mountain from Mossel Bay, where Mossgas is—to Kannaland—the people there refer to Mossgas as "Moeragas" (marsh gas). [Laughter.]

When I participate in a debate with the ACDP, I find myself tempted to refer to terms which one encounters in the order of baptism. I then want to say that Mossgas or "Moeragas" was "conceived and born in sin" [Laughter.] We all know that the father of Mossgas was a previous State President, Mr P W Botha. When one looks at his old constituency—at the roads, the airport, and so on—it becomes clear that he acted with a large degree of subjectivity, despite the need, of the country at that stage.

However, since then Mossgas has been treated like an orphan. No one wants to stand in as the father to this orphan. This in turn leads to indecisiveness, as is clear from certain agreements and announcements made by the hon Deputy President Mr Mbeki on 6 December and what followed after intervention on the part of the workers.

In this country we believe in transparency. Our party believes that there must be transparency. However, it is also of critical importance that certain decisions must be made with regard to the future of an institution such as Mossgas. I am convinced that the indecisiveness resulted in the best expertise being lost in the process. We believe that decisions must be taken as soon as possible and that the private sector must be involved as much as possible.

We are also convinced that instead of workers having to fear for their job security, there are opportunities for the extension of job opportunities in diversification. The capital needed for this purpose can naturally not come from the taxpayers' pockets. I believe this is the road we must take in future [Time expired.]

THE MINISTER OF MINERAL AND ENERGY AFFAIRS. Madam Speaker, without mentioning names . . .

Kingdom, Australia and other countries. We are not an exception to the rule.

Secondly, we have even met with the SA Rugby Football Union, we have discussed the problem with them and we have made it abundantly clear that this is the route we are going to follow. Certain concessions are beginning to emerge, something which is not, however, going to deter us from pursuing this particular goal.

Consultations are going on with the relevant sports organisations, and there are no objections whatsoever from that quarter [Time expired.] [Applause]

Debate concluded.

Meals for needy schoolchildren

3 Dr K RAJOO asked the Minister for Health:

(1) Whether she or her Department has considered any methods of providing meals for needy schoolchildren and their families; if not, why not; is so, what are the relevant details;

(2) whether any evidence of fraud perpetrated in respect of the school feeding scheme has been uncovered, if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what steps have been taken with a view to curtail such fraud?

N403E.INT

The MINISTER FOR HEALTH: Madam Speaker, the school-feeding scheme targets 15 894 schools countrywide. It feeds 5 866 000 children a day. The total budget from 1994 to date has been R972,84 million. Over the past two years 0,61% of that total budget has been proven to have been misappropriated.

It is important to put this feeding scheme into perspective. It was announced by the President during his first speech to Parliament in 1994. It had to be implemented within the first 100 days of his presidency, and it was mainly aimed at getting children back to school and dealing with hunger at school.

In so far as hunger and the culture of learning is concerned, this feeding scheme has done very well. But in terms of the nutrition of the family, the department is very much aware of the fact that it is important to have an integrated nutrition scheme that provides food security to the family, and also feeds children, particularly those under five.

It is very important to feed children under five because malnutrition at that age can actually cause retarded brain growth. If one does not feed children well by the time they are five, one has actually missed the boat in terms of their brain growth. So to start feeding them at school is actually too late in terms of their nutritional needs. [Interjections.]

It is important that the department is developing an integrated scheme that is going to provide food security within the household to enable communities to become self-reliant, and not create further dependency by means of food hand-outs. The emphasis will be on community empowerment, whereby communities themselves will decide on nutritional and food-related issues, including decisions on how and where to produce food and how to procure food. Whilst the integrated nutrition programme, with its focus on strengthening household food security so that each family will be able to meet the nutritional needs of its members, is being developed ... [Time expired.]

Dr K RAJOO: Madam Speaker, we are thankful to the Minister for giving us a very careful study of this particular question. I am very interested to know that, as she says, 15 894 schools are in this feeding scheme, but there are 29 000 schools in South Africa. What has happened to the rest of the schools? What has happened to the rest of the students as far as feeding is concerned? [Interjections.] That is what we would like to know. We understand that the Minister has a big portfolio and has a large number of students to feed. We understand that

As we stated last year on this particular question, it is better to feed the family rather than one child, because when we simply feed a child, that child goes back to a hungry home where there may be other children who are not getting this feeding scheme benefit. [Interjections.] Therefore I am pleased that the Ministry and its departmental officials have looked into this matter and come to the realisation that children under five need to be fed far more urgently than older children who are at school. The retardation and brain growth patterns are well known throughout the health sector, where these things are studied.

But we are also concerned about other factors. We are concerned about the high level of fraud in this country. Our question specifically asks: What has the Ministry been doing, from last year to this year, about this fraud? How is it being addressed?

What plans are being put into effect? How effective are these plans? Those are the questions we want the Ministry to answer, and they have not been answered. [Interjections.]

The SPEAKER: Order! Please proceed.

Dr K RAJOO: I would like to point out to the hon. the Minister that the Director-General of Education stated on 1 February 1996 that R10,1 million had been allocated for a contract for the creation of a geographical information system. I would like to appeal to the Minister to use this new system, which tracks every school and every child in the whole country. It will tell her the exact number of children who need to come onto the feeding scheme, and that is important if we are to get a better system in this country. [Interjections.]

As far as the fraud is concerned, especially in Gauteng, 25,8% of the total money for feeding schemes was involved in fraud. This is recorded in the newspaper, and I will pass on the information. In the Eastern Cape 17,3% of the total money was involved. [Interjections.] [Time expired.]

The SPEAKER: Order! Hon members will please allow the debate to be heard.

The MINISTER FOR HEALTH: Madam Speaker, firstly, I would like to inform the hon. member that this feeding scheme is for the needy, not for the likes of him and me, who can afford to feed their children. [Interjections.] [Applause]

The 14 000 schools that are not in the feeding scheme are not targeted because the feeding scheme is targeted at the very poor in this country.

In terms of fraud, as I said, I have indicated that 0,61% of the total budget has been proven to have been misappropriated over the past two years. What the department and the provinces have done—it should be noted that this feeding scheme takes place in the provinces, not at national level—is the following. We and the RDP office have hired a firm to do a rapid audit, to check what the problems are that are causing this fraud. A rapid audit was done in the Eastern Cape and the Western Cape, and from its results we are putting into place a programme which was recommended by the firm in order to deal with some of the shortcomings of the scheme.

However, we have also asked this firm to continue the audit in all the other provinces, because the initial rapid audit was done in two provinces only. Once we have received the results from all the other provinces, which will enable us to see

whether the problems are common or whether each province has its own unique problems, we will be able to implement measures to curb this fraud.

Also, the RDP office is appointing management consultants in all the provinces to help them to develop the capacity to deal with this programme. [Time expired.]

Rev M ABRAHAM: Madam Speaker, I wish to remind the hon. the Minister that the R28 million fraud that was committed in the Eastern Cape earlier this year, particularly in the primary school nutrition programme, shows a serious inadequacy in the education system. I am suggesting that all fraudulent activities must be investigated thoroughly, including the activities of the hon. the Minister herself. Where there has been an irresponsible use of money, such an incident needs to be investigated thoroughly.

The way the ANC majority in the Government has closed ranks with the embattled Minister concerning the money allocated to *Sarafina 2* smacks of a major cover-up. [Interjections.] The Minister should not be heading this matter, because she herself needs to be investigated first.

According to the official statistics there are over 6 000 schools and about 2,8 million pupils in the Eastern Cape. This would make it the largest school system in the country, although the province has a smaller population than either Gauteng or KwaZulu-Natal. Before the Government announced the scheme, dozens of NGOs were successfully feeding hundreds of thousands of schoolchildren across the country. The Eastern Cape government told the NGOs that their services were no longer necessary. [Interjections.]

However, in the Western Cape the scheme is largely NGO-driven and it has been very successful. In the Western Cape the cost of feeding a child has been kept to under 30 cents a day, less than half the cost in the Eastern Cape. The Government will have to co-ordinate the efforts of its various departments, and build partnerships with civil society. It should bring back the NGOs in order to transform the feeding scheme into a force for integrated development.

Finally, let us not forget *Sarafina 2*. [Interjections.] We want to see if she who dances last, dances best.

Dr K RAJOO: Madam Speaker, we understand very clearly that this feeding scheme is not for us,

Mr R K SIZANI Mr Speaker, arising from the Minister's question.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER. Order! You mean "reply". I hope the Minister did not put a question to you!

Mr R K SIZANI Yes, arising from the Minister's reply, if the information that he has given us is correct, why is he instituting an inquiry into the fishing quotas and corruption under a judge?

The MINISTER Mr Speaker, the hon member has not listened to the details of the investigation which has been instituted. The allegations investigated concern members of the quota board who are not qualified in terms of the Act—that is the allegation—to serve on the quota board. It has nothing whatsoever to do with public servants [Interjections]

The DEPUTY SPEAKER. Order! Are there any further questions? Mrs De Lille, are you happy? Mrs P DE LILLE No, Mr Speaker I will engage the services of the *Mail and Guardian*. I think they will help me to get those names.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER That is a great pity, because this is perhaps a better forum. Be that as it may, we have to be friendly to the press.

List of State assets

*7. Mr C A WYNGAARD asked the Minister for Public Enterprises:

- (1) Whether her Department is compiling a list of all State assets, if not, why not; if so, when will the task be completed;
- (2) whether such list is to be tabled in Parliament; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (3) whether she will make a statement on the matter?

N256E

The MINISTER FOR PUBLIC ENTERPRISES:

- (1) Yes We are dealing with two aspects here, namely
 - State assets of a non-commercial nature, and
 - State assets of a commercial nature
- In so far as the assets of a commercial nature are concerned my Department is compiling a list of these assets. With

regard to what I might call physical assets, the responsibility lies with the Ministers of Public Works and of Land Affairs.

- (2) Although it has not been requested by Parliament, I am willing to table it when the list is completed
- (3) No.

Business interrupted in accordance with Rule 199(3) of the Standing Rules for the National Assembly.

Prisoners: previous convictions

*9. Mr A J LEON asked the Minister of Correctional Services

- (a) How many persons currently in South African prisons had previously been convicted of other offences, (b) what percentage of the total prison population does this constitute and (c) in respect of what date is this information furnished?

N259E

The MINISTER OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES:

- (a) The figures in prisons country-wide are not readily available and can only be obtained through a time-consuming, expensive and manpower-intensive national survey. However, the following figures applicable to sentenced prisoners at three of the country's prisons have been made available in order to provide some perspective on the matter:

• Pretoria Local Prison — 571
• Pretoria Central Prison — 750
• Pretoria Maximum Prison — 192

- (b) 57,5% of the total prison population at Pretoria Local Prison
67,3% of the total prison population at Pretoria Central Prison
61% of the total prison population at Pretoria Maximum Prison.

- (c) Pretoria Local Prison — 96/03/18
Pretoria Central Prison — 96/03/06
Pretoria Maximum Prison — 96/03/06

Primary School Nutrition Programme: amount budgeted

*10. Mr M J ELLIS asked the Minister for Health

- (1) What amount was budgeted in the 1995/96 financial year for each child to be fed in terms of the Primary School Nutrition Programme;
- (2) whether her Department and/or any provincial departments have established the

actual cost per child of this programme, if not, why not, if so, what is the cost?

N260E

The MINISTER FOR HEALTH

The following table reflects the situation per province and at national level.

Province	Average budget allocation per child	Average actual cost per child
Western Cape	50c per child per day	Fixed allocation of 50c per child per day irrespective of actual cost
Northern Cape	88c per child per day	150c per child per day
Eastern Cape	53c per child per day in urban areas 68c per child per day in rural areas	61c per child per day
Free State	25c per child per day	25c per child per day
KwaZulu-Natal	55c per child per day	Fixed allocation of 55c per child per day irrespective of actual cost
Gauteng	88c per child per day	96c per child per day
North West	76c per child per day	58c per child per day
Mpumalanga	68c per child per day	Fixed allocation of 68c per child per day irrespective of actual cost
Northern Province	73c per child per day	73c per child per day
National Average	64c per child per day	71c per child per day

Health care: restructuring

*11 Mr M J ELLIS asked the Minister for Health:

- (1) Whether her Department produced any documentation in 1995 in regard to the restructuring of health care in South Africa, if so, (a) what was the name of each such document produced and (b) on what date was each document released;
- (2) whether such documents were made available to the Portfolio Committee on Health; if not, why not; if so, on what dates;
- (3) whether the said Committee is being fully and timeously briefed in regard to such documents and other activities of her Department, if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

N261E

The MINISTER FOR HEALTH:

Yes, (a) and (b)

- (1) Restructuring the National Health System for Universal Primary Health Care (Draft), released on 19 June 1995
- (2) Position Paper on the Decentralisation of Hospital Management (Draft); released on 8 December 1995.
- (3) Towards a National Health System (Draft), released on 3 November 1995.

Conditions in mental hospitals

*14. Mrs D GOVENDER asked the Minister for Health:

- (1) Whether she has been informed about the alleged appalling conditions prevailing in mental hospitals; if so,
- (2) whether she intends taking any action in this regard; if not, why not; if so, what action, *Hansard 20/3/96*

Hansard 20/3/96

Child care unit: (248)

cases of child molestation investigated

170 Mr J C N WAUGH asked the Minister for Safety and Security +

(a) How many cases of child molestation did the child care unit of the South African Police Service investigate during each of the past two calendar years and (b) in how many of these cases could the child care unit determine whether pornography played a contributing role in such child molestation?

N312E

The MINISTER FOR SAFETY AND SECURITY

(a) A summary of the number of cases (crimes committed against children under the age of 18 years) which the Child Protection Unit and specialised individuals dealt with (the former police agencies excluded) are appended hereunder:

	January- December 1994	January- December 1995
Rape	7 559	10 037
Sodomy	491	660
Incest	156	221
Indecent assault	3 904	4 044
Act 23/1957 (Sexual Offences)	1 094	1 121
Attempted murder	213	244
Assault (GBH)	1 905	2 272
Assault common	3 246	3 768
Abduction	743	805
Kidnapping	906	978
Act 74/1983 (Child Care)	2 694	3 499
Other cases e.g. public indecency	753	833

Absconders/ Runaways	1 013	952
Missing children	477	651
Total	25 154	30 085

(b) Although the Child Protection Units do not keep separate statistics on the number of cases where pornography played a contributing role in such crimes, there are confirmed cases where:

- the perpetrator showed pornography to his victim(s) in the process of seducing the child, and
- some perpetrators recorded videos and/or photographed their deeds with their victim(s).

SAPS members killed/injured

173 Mr D H M GIBSON asked the Minister for Safety and Security:

(a) How many members of the South African Police Service were (i) killed and (ii) injured in 1995 and (b) how many persons had as a result been (i) arrested, (ii) brought to trial and (iii) convicted as at the latest specified date for which information is available?

N331E

The MINISTER FOR SAFETY AND SECURITY:

- (a) (i) 212
- (b) (i) 829
- (a) (ii) and (b)(ii) and (iii) To obtain the information, faxes will have to be sent to all the police stations country-wide, thereby placing an extra burden on limited manpower and financial resources. Members will have to be withdrawn from other duties and specially allocated to peruse dockets and registers.

QUESTIONS

Indicates translated version

For written reply.

Masterbond: funds/Reserve Bank

61 Prof B TUROK asked the Minister of Finance:

- (1) Whether he or his Department has tracked the funds realised by the sale of Masterbond property holdings after its collapse; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details,
- (2) whether the Reserve Bank has overseen the debenture operations of Masterbond since 1989, if not, why not, if so, what are the relevant details,
- (3) whether the Reserve Bank gave any financial support to (a) Masterbond, (b) Bankorp or Absa Bank, (c) Cape Investment Bank and/or (d) Pretoria Bank; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, in each case, (i) when, (ii) by what amount and (iii) from what budget?

N141E

The MINISTER OF FINANCE:

- (1) The alienation of property in terms of the curatorship takes place with the approval of the Supreme Court in terms of the provisions of section 6(5) of the Financial Institutions (Investment of Funds) Act, 1984 (Act No 39 of 1984). Regular reports are made to investors on progress achieved in this regard and copies of the reports to such investors are furnished to the Supreme Court as well as the Financial Services Board and are also available for public inspection at the office of the curators. Schedules which set out the latest state of affairs in the participation mortgage and debenture mortgage schemes (Annexures "A" and "B") are attached hereto.
- (2) The debenture operations of Masterbond were subject to the provisions of the Companies Act, 1973, (Act 61 of 1973). The Office for Banks, therefore, had no powers of supervision over Masterbond. However, Masterbond did not register any prospectuses in terms of which it made offers of shares and/or debentures to the public under section 155 of the Companies Act, 1973. Further detail in this regard will be furnished by the Minister of Trade and Industry in his response to question No 60, which had been asked to that Minister by the Hon Member
- (3) (a) Masterbond. No financial support
- (b) Bankorp/ABSA: (i) and (ii) Yes, financial support of R1 125 million was provided from 1991 to 1995. This support replaced earlier financial assistance to Bankorp from 1985 to 1990 (iii) Financial support was provided in the form of a loan through money creation by the Reserve Bank. The investment of the loan proceeds by Bankorp/ABSA yielded the amount of financial support. The loan was fully repaid in 1995 and the money created earlier was destroyed
- (c) Cape Investment Bank: (i) Yes, in 1991/92 (ii) Financial support of R33 million was provided to CIB itself and R30 million to depositors of CIB (iii) Financial support to CIB itself was provided mainly in the form of a loan through money creation by the Reserve Bank. The investment of the loan proceeds by CIB yielded the relevant amount of financial support. The remaining part of the financial assistance was treated as an expenditure item on the Reserve Bank's income statement. The repayment of deposits was financed out of a special reserve created by a transfer from the Reserve Bank's after-tax net profit.
- (d) Pretoria Bank: (i) No financial support was provided to Pretoria Bank itself, but deposits with Pretoria Bank were repaid through the appointed curator by the Reserve Bank in 1991/92. (ii) Deposits to an amount of R172 million were repaid, but out of the subsequent realisation of assets by the curator an amount of R94 million was repaid to the Reserve Bank, leaving a net amount of

Gauteng govt is picketed (298)

By Wilson Ramothata

WELFARE organisations this week picketed outside the Gauteng Legislature, calling on the government to reverse subsidy cuts it imposed on child welfare services.

The two-hour demonstration ended when a memorandum was handed to Gauteng director of welfare services Mrs Margaret Davies.

The demonstrators appealed to the provincial government to ensure that adequate funds are budgeted to address the current explosive situation in social services.

The recent cuts have put welfare organisations into a state of collapse.

Sowetan 14/3/96

New move on visitation rights

By Lorna Schmidt
Investigative Unit

PARENTS may soon lose their exclusive legal rights of control over who gains access to their children.

This is in terms of a proposed new move by the South African Law Commission to give grandparents, other relatives, friends and even neighbours who have been denied access to chil-

dren, recourse to the law to gain visitation rights. This development follows the approval by Cabinet last week for legislation which recognises the rights of unmarried fathers.

Details are contained in a Law Commission working paper which looks at the granting of visitation rights to grandparents and all other interested people. Entitled "The Granting of Visitation Rights to Grandparents of Minor

(298) Sowetan 15/3/96

Children", the paper recommends that if grandparents or any other persons who have a relationship with a child are denied visitation rights they may apply to court for an order granting them access to the child. The court shall, however, not grant such an order unless it is satisfied that it is in the best interest of the child.

According to the Commission, the present common law position in which parents have the exclusive rights to decide to whom and under what circumstances to grant access rights or visitation rights, does not in all cases meet the current needs of society and the adjustment of our law in this regard is "necessary". The Commission feels that "there may be circumstances where an uncle or aunt, godparents or even friends and neighbours, could claim visitation rights".

Feeding scheme under attack

Overspending, fraud and inadequate planning have hit the presidential feeding scheme. **Rod Amner and Beth Houston** report

THE government's R623-million presidential feeding scheme has a limited impact on the nutritional well-being of primary school children, according to a report released exclusively to *Reconstruct*.

The Primary School Nutrition Programme (PSNP) is "alleviating temporary hunger" and improving concentration and attendance in many needy schools, says the report, which was compiled by the National Progressive Primary Health Care Network (NPPHCN).

But, the report adds, children are receiving only a small proportion of their daily energy and nutritional needs (20% of Required Dietary Allowance for energy, and about 50% for protein). Also, "opportunities are being missed to provide more nutritious and substantive meals" where they are most needed: among the babies.

'If we are trying to improve the nutritional status of children, the PSNP is a waste of money'

Says NPPHCN director Irwin Friedman: "If I were asked where to direct R623-million for malnutrition, I would direct it towards pre-schools, because that is where kids are actually dying — there is a huge pre-school movement and they are desperate for government assistance."

According to the recent Reconstruction and Development Pro-

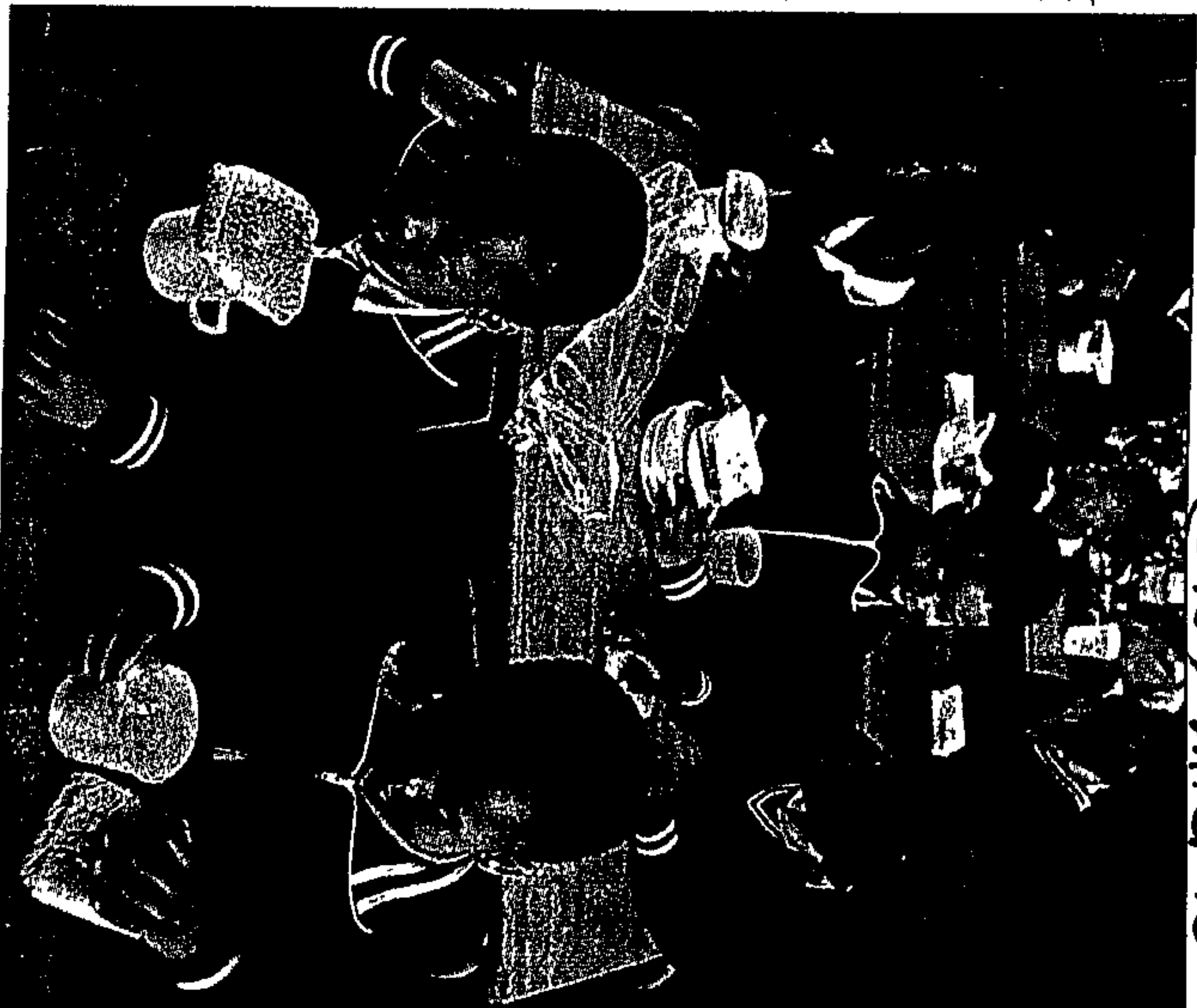
gramme (RDP)/World Bank report on poverty in South Africa, "stunting [insufficient height for age] occurs among 38% of ultra-poor children under the age of five". If malnutrition goes unattended at the pre-primary level, learning problems are encountered in the school-going years.

The NPPHCN report was compiled after the discovery of widespread fraud in the Eastern Cape feeding scheme in August 1995. It was released to the government in October. Despite numerous requests, the report has only just been made available to the press.

Friedman says despite its name, the PSNP is more of an educational aid than a nutritional intervention. "There is a benefit in having some sort of a primary school nutrition programme if the country can afford it, but mainly because it attracts children to school and helps them get through the school day."

Operation Hunger's Eastern Cape manager, Sheelagh Shaver adds: "If we are trying to improve the nutritional status of children, the PSNP is a waste of money. Children suffering from micro-nutrient malnutrition are not best served by getting whole food because there are more effective and economical ways of doing this."

Before the PSNP took over, Opera-



(298) M+G 15-21/3/96

Feeding schemes: 'The quality, timing and supply of food is problematic'

PHOTOGRAPH: HENNER FRANKENFELD

tion Hunger used to run community kitchens parallel to feeding children in over 1 000 of the neediest schools in the Eastern Cape, which meant that schoolchildren had somewhere

to go during the holidays.

Under the PSNP, primary school pupils are only fed on schooldays. Even then, "the quality, timing and supply of food — especially in periph-

eral areas — is problematic", the report says. The report also criticises the "virtual absence of non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and community-based organisations (CBOs) participation" in the feeding scheme in the Eastern Cape. Dozens of respected NGOs fed hundreds of thousands of schoolchildren for many years before the PSNP started, but the government chose to ignore their expertise and experience.

East Cape children didn't receive their "Mandela sandwiches" in the third term of 1995 because the PSNP had already grossly overspent its budget. Part of the money was lost to fraud, but an even greater problem was the lack of any reliable data about the education system, which meant that officials were unable to target the neediest schools.

Indiscriminate feeding led to reports of "food fights" in middle-class schools and most of the budget was burned up in just one school term. Eastern Cape pupils had to again wait until the seventh week of the current school term until the scheme was bailed out by a R35-million grant from the Department of Health. Only children from Sub A to Standard Two will be fed in the remaining three weeks of term.

A representative for the PSNP in the Eastern Cape, Khulekile Bata, says the scheme was "started by the president and must go ahead."

Many NGOs argue that the scheme's vote-catching potential is insufficient justification for spending R623-million a year on it.



FOR THE CHILDREN: Jeremy Ractliffe, the man Nelson Mandela chose as chief executive trustee of the Nelson Mandela Children's Fund

Youthful enthusiasm makes Ractliffe ideal for children's fund

NELSON MANDELA is a canny head-hunter, if his choice of Jeremy Ractliffe is anything to go by. If only they had asked the President to audition the Aids education campaign candidates.

Mr Ractliffe, chief executive trustee of the Nelson Mandela Children's Fund, is a mass of contradictions in an age of narrow specialisation - a realistic idealist who can do a job of work and stick to a budget.

Father to 11 (six of his own, plus a marital "merger" including wife Gail's quads, plus one), he retired recently as Murray and Roberts' group commercial director and director of the holding company.

He clearly enjoys fathering the multitudes, and knows the price of porridge and school exercise books.

So - just when his wife imagined they were in for a bit of retirement leisure - he was head-hunted for the Mandela Fund.

At first he agreed to work a weekly "three days and three nights" in order to get the project going. Predictably, given the character of the man, the schedule soon expanded to a six-day week.

Mr Ractliffe says he was known at Murray and Roberts as a workaholic. The implication is that he might as well use spare energy for do-gooding.



INTERFACE

LEN ASHTON
talks to Jeremy Ractliffe

He is enormously enthused by what is being accomplished and sees vindication of his own youthful ideals in the experience.

"It's great because I think the President is a special person."

"When I introduced him at the Pavarotti dinner, I referred to my concept, when young, of Man as an heroic being: that the experience of joy is our purpose in life, and that productive achievement is our noblest activity."

Whence all this high-mindedness? Was he influenced by a particular philosopher? "I was a great fan of Martin Buber."

"We used to read a lot. I believe life has to be a win-win situation. My school? Bishops. There were masters who influenced me, who were enthusiastic. Notably, a history master."

Mr Ractliffe says he admires the President "because he really is a noble person, with an ability to experience joy even under the most trying circumstances - and he is certainly most productive."

Mr Ractliffe agreed that having many children himself helped in tackling a project like this.

"Kids teach you a lot. If you can act as a catalyst for their discovery of themselves, the experience can be very fulfilling."

The work of the fund has confirmed his view that, basically, people do want to participate positively in society, "and it's amazing how they do, if given the opportunity."

He added: "Of course, people are different but basically their values are the same. The children in a squatter camp want, essentially, exactly the same as other children."

The fund provides grants for homeless children all over the country, education for those who have had inadequate training, projects for the disabled and projects for children in prison, or so-called places of safety. There is also provision for disaster relief, as in the case of some badly burned children.

"When the project started, it was just me and a secretary, and then Vincent Kgomo, a

young man with a BComm degree.

"From the beginning of last month we doubled our staff - now we have a grant manager, an accountant and an office manager."

Mr Ractliffe continued: "There was a time in my life when I was inspired by philosophy and religion. I had a partners' desk, and my first wife and I used to sit up and study till two or three in the morning."

"This process, when I was in my thirties, opened up my mind and firmed my concept of Man as an heroic being. People are wonderful - sometimes they don't know how wonderful they are."

"As for children - well, I don't set values for children. You create an environment in which they can discover their own values."

People all over the world are contributing to the project. "They come to us with schemes to help. It is this thing of people wanting to make a contribution."

"My wish is to create an innovative project in each of the four focus areas of the fund. A project which, because it works so well, can be replicated in different parts of the country, so that it can have a major impact in what we are trying to achieve. The private sector has been very responsive. It does a lot in this country, sometimes very quietly."

And so does Mr Ractliffe.

Forum to help fight child abuse

Star 19/3/96 (298)

By TROYE LUND

A child protection unit (CPU) community police forum has, for the first time, been established in Greater Johannesburg to assist the unit's 19 staff members in solving and funding the 200 new cases they receive every month.

The forum of 10 civilians from all areas of Johannesburg was formalised at the weekend after the CPU took them on a tour of child-crime "hot spots".

"I need mostly heart and involvement from these people. They must come to grips with what we are up against," said CPU Captain Pi Pretorius.

He stressed that the forum begins work at a time when his unit is starting from rock bottom.

Five of his six staff have been transferred to other divisions.

Pretorius is left with one experienced officer and 16 "groentjies" (trainees from police college)

whom he and the unit's other captain will have to train. Pretorius' team has five cars to work 29 police station areas.

Pretorius is adamant that the CPU has to become multidisciplinary, with social workers and psychologists working with the police.

He said he would be relying on the community to help provide funds or volunteers to add to his team.

Pretorius also needs help from the community to establish programmes for the training of police officers who are not CPU employees.

The CPU captain is tired of dealing with cases where the police have not known what to do.

He illustrated by referring to a rape which occurred at the weekend.

The officer at the police station at which the teenager reported the case took the statement but

"never thought" to send her for the medical examination which Pretorius said was crucial for prosecution.

Pretorius also told of how untrained police officers post him reports of rape and child abuse.

"They take three weeks to get to me and I must then face the victims after nothing has been done and it is too late to do anything.

"No, this is not how it is supposed to work."

A spokesman for the community forum, who does not want to be named, said members of the forum had been appalled at the conditions under which the CPU was expected to operate.

"We all feel passionate and are committed to making a difference and will motivate our communities to contribute," said the spokesman.

The forum will meet again on Monday and once a month after that.

New unit to focus on family violence

By ANSO THOM

Crime Reporter

Star 20/3/96

A police unit concentrating on domestic violence, child protection and sexual violence started operating in Johannesburg this week.

Headed by former Child Protection Unit and Narcotics Bureau commander Supt Willie Botha, the new unit aims to provide a "sensitive and un-deviating service to victims of traumatic crimes".

Police spokesman Sgt Mark Reynolds said an investigating officer from the unit called to the scene of a crime would handle the docket from day one, including the court case.

"The victim will be dealing with only one police member," Reynolds said at a press conference yesterday.

He added it was difficult to gauge the severity of domestic violence.

"In time we will be able to draw up criteria on which cases we will handle," he said.

The unit will be manned by existing Child Protection Unit members, and policemen and women brought in from surrounding police stations.

Each of the nine policing areas in Gauteng will receive such a unit.

All rape cases; indecent assault; common and serious assault cases which occur in a family context; attempted murder cases which occur in a family context; offences under the Sexual Offences Act and sodomy; and incest and sexual offences where mentally handicapped people are involved will be handled by the new unit.

The unit can be reached on (011) 403-3413 or after hours on 10111.

Shocking rise in abuse of children

Star 21/3/96
By **PATRICK BULGER**
Political Correspondent

(298)

Cape Town - Safety and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi yesterday provided shocking details of increased abuse against children.

Mufamadi, replying to a question from James Waugh of the NP, told Parliament that the rape of children rose from 7 559 cases in 1994 to 10 037 last year.

Other crimes against children are also up. Crimes against children, including sodomy, went up from 491 cases in 1994 to 660 last year.

Other crimes include indecent assault: 4 044 last year and 3 904 in 1994, sexual offences: 1 121 last year and 1 094 in 1994, attempted murder: 244 last year and 213 in 1994, assault: 3 768 last year and 3 246 in 1994, common assault: 3 768 last year and 3 246 in 1994.

In total there were 30 085 cases of crimes against children last year as opposed to 25 154 cases in 1994.

Asked to comment on the role of pornography in these crimes, Mufamadi said there were confirmed cases where the perpetrators showed pornography to their victims.

Rand/pound
Gold



GRIM FACTS: Sydney Mufamadi

Rise in child abuse cases

POLITICAL STAFF

SAFETY and Security Minister Sydney Mufamadi provided details yesterday of an increase number of reported cases of child abuse.

Mufamadi, replying to a question from Mr James Waugh of the National Party, told Parliament that the number of reported cases of children being raped had risen from 7 559 in 1994 to 10 037 last year.

Other reported crimes against children were also up. These include sodomy — up from 491 cases in 1994 to 660 cases last year.

Other crimes include: Indecent assault, 4 044 cases last year and 3 904 in 1994; sexual offences, 1 121 compared with 1 094 in 1994; attempted murder, 244 (213 in 1994); assault 3 768 (3 246 in 1994), common assault 3 768 (3 246 in 1994).

ET 21/3/96 (298)

Minister fails to block Bill giving courts power to hold children in jail

(298) (258) Star 28/3/96

Cape Town - A Bill giving courts the power to order suspected child criminals be held in jails or police cells was passed by the Senate yesterday, in spite of a plea from Correctional Services Minister Dr Sipo Mzimela for members to vote against it.

Mzimela said there was no space in prisons to separate children from hardened criminals, while there were enough places of safety for awaiting-trial children, and these could easily be made escape proof.

"It is on your consciences, the question of these youngsters," he said.

"It is your responsibility not just to pass the buck but to

make sure that justice is really done.

"The fact (children) don't sit in places of power like this does not give us a licence to mess their lives up."

ANC Senator Dennis Bloem said his party had backed Mzimela last year when he amended the Act to get awaiting-trial children out of prisons and police cells.

However, Mzimela had not heeded a warning to phase in the legislation.

This led to a public outcry when the children that were charged with serious crimes escaped.

The IFP recorded its objection to the Bill. - Sapa.

YET ANOTHER COMMISSION

SA's newest politically correct institution is the National Youth Commission, a juvenile bureaucracy which is being set up to empower the lost generation

Its primary responsibility is to create a national youth development policy that will form part of the RDP.

The 1996-1997 Budget sets aside R60m for youth development.

According to the National Youth Commission Bill, SA needs a commission "to redress the imbalances of the past and to create a national youth policy aimed at empowering the youth and allowing them to realise their full potential through basic education and training and optimal access to opportunities."

The Bill, passed by the National Assembly and due before the Senate this week, defines a youth as someone between the ages of 14 and 35.

The need for a youth commission was first expressed by President Nelson Mandela in his inaugural speech. It is not mandated by the constitution, as are the Human Rights Commission, the Truth & Reconciliation Commission, the Commission on Gender Equality and the Commission on Restitution of Land Rights. And the need for its existence is also less convincing.

It could be argued that the elderly and the disabled are just as deserving of special attention and that government is setting a dangerous precedent. Deputy President Thabo Mbeki recently received a proposal from organisations for the disabled, endorsed by the RDP office, for a commission for the disabled. His policy adviser, Vusi Mavimbela, says if the elderly come up with a strong argument, a commission for the elderly "will be considered seriously."

Is this political correctness gone mad?

The Bill says the commission will be a link between government and the youth sector, but it provides no means of ensuring that the commission reflects their views or informs them of its work.

More alarming is the commission's power to monitor and review the policies and practices of any organ of State, pub-

lic body or any other people, bodies or institutions with regard to youth matters and to pass judgment on their performance by issuing recommendations

Given that commissioners may be members of government, this watchdog provision could be seen as an attempt by government to interfere in the affairs of private youth organisations.

It is particularly relevant as the youth sector is considering creating a National Youth Council, a nonstatutory representative forum that would function independently of the commission

The provision was introduced by an ad hoc parliamentary committee appointed to vet the Bill. It was chaired by ANC MP Ned Kekana (32) and ANC Senator Lassy Chuiwayo (29), both ANC Youth League national executive members

The committee also amended the selection procedures so that the majority of commissioners are appointed by the President on the advice of a parliamentary committee, on which ANC members automatically predominate, after a nomination process involving the public

As a statutory body, the commission may evaluate any Act of parliament or any existing or proposed law in the light of a national youth policy and can recommend new legislation to aid in the implementation of such a policy

It may also implement measures to redress past imbalances, assess the needs, opportunities and challenges facing the youth and prioritise resource allocation to the sector in consultation with government. But it will not have the power to execute its own policy decisions. That would be the prerogative of a youth ministry. In its absence, youth policy will be implemented by the departments

A dedicated ministry would have been first prize for most youth organisations. The commission is the softer option agreed to by government. Some senior MPs even see it as an alternative to Mandela's former plan to give 14-year-olds the vote

The DP Youth opposes the commission in principle, arguing that it would duplicate the work of the departments and absorb resources that could be better employed by nongovernmental organisations and others engaged in delivery.

A lobby group in the organisation fears it could even result in "jobs for pals" unless the appointment procedure is "depoliticised."

Despite its reservations, the DP joined all parties in expressing support for the

commission in the National Assembly. The same outcome is likely in the Senate. All parties will be equally to blame when the chickens come home to roost. ■

Security guards ignore calls to return to work

BD 29/3/96

Renee Grawitzky

THE majority of security workers on strike in Durban failed to heed final ultimatums to return to work yesterday and continued to demand the immediate scrapping of wage determination in the security industry which was seen as an "apartheid law".

A number of security companies affected by the strike have already begun dismissing workers.

The strike, involving about 3 000 workers, turned violent this week when police clashed with workers and a number of incidents of violence and intimidation by striking workers against non-striking workers, were reported. The situation in Durban yesterday appeared to be calm.

National Security Workers' Union national organiser Moffat Ndlovu called on government yesterday to intervene in resolving the strike and to ensure that new working conditions were introduced in the industry.

He said employers did not comply with any legislation and it had led to "slavery" where guards were working up to 24 hours a day.

Meanwhile, about 8 000 members of the Transport and General Workers' Union are set to march on the labour department in Johannesburg today.

The union said the march would highlight the demand for the immediate promulgation of a labour order which would amend the current determination and effect wage increases and changes to conditions of employment. The union is also demanding the establishment of a national industrial council in security, cleaning and goods.

SA National Security Employers' Association chairman Don Masterson said employers were also demanding the immediate implementation of the labour order.

The union said a nationwide programme of action would be initiated if the labour department failed to respond positively by immediately promulgating the legislation.

At the heart of the amendments is the deletion of a clause exempting small and new employers from complying with all provisions in the determination. This, according to the industry, has left more than half of the 110 000 security guards unprotected.

thdraws child abuse motion

BD 29/3/96

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legislature withdrew a motion for the granting of bail and suspects in the Vaal area, with NP members on a racial issue.

forward by ANC MP Pule house to express outrage at white suspects whose vic- These actions, the motion

from the trial of Ramajwe a farmer living in the Vaal sexually abusing 14 farm- between seven and 14. He 500 bail in the Vanderbijl-

park Magistrate's Court, to appear on April 4.

The motion also called on the house to condemn the "apparent ongoing abuse" of black children in the Vaal area. This was condoned by suspects being released on "minimal bail" of R2 500 and the high-profile protection of suspects by police.

The PAC and African Christian Democratic Party supported the motion. The DP and NP objected to child abuse being discussed on a racial basis. The ANC retaliated, saying the police and justice systems were tainted with racism as a result of apartheid.

Malefane said child abuse was a "disgusting travesty of justice". Abuse would be perpetuated in the "backyards" of Gauteng as long as child abusers were unexposed. He later withdrew the motion in terms of Rule 33, allowing a member to withdraw a motion with the house's consent. The NP had earlier objected to the motion, as it referred to a still unfinished trial.

DP MP Jack Bloom said the justice ministry had "serious questions" to answer in a number of cases where bail seemed to be lenient. PAC MP Khoisan X said some courts clearly did not view child abuse as "serious enough" to warrant setting a tougher bail.

'GPs unable to identify child sexual abuse'

Survey shows doctors reluctant to report suspicions

ADELE BALETA
Staff Reporter

MOST general practitioners who encounter children frequently in the course of their work are unable to identify cases of child sexual abuse.

This has caused concern among social welfare agencies, which are already struggling with low identification rates in South African.

The country has a high prevalence of child sexual abuse.

Doctors in private practice have blamed inadequate undergraduate education and training in the field of child sexual abuse for not being able to pick up cases in routine medical examinations and report them to the police and social welfare agencies.

In a recent study, Dr Steven Collings of the University of Natal's Psychology Department found that 91,2 percent of 137 GPs who had been practising for an average of 19 years, felt their medical training had not adequately equipped them to identify cases of child sexual abuse.

He said the study could apply to GPs nationally because similar training existed at medical schools at universities throughout the country.

In spite of the fact that medical practitioners were

■ Doctors in private practice who encounter children frequently say they do not have the right training to identify child sexual abuse.

required by law to report cases of child sexual abuse in South Africa, most GPs surveyed (80,6 percent) expressed reluctance to report cases of abuse either to police or social welfare agencies.

Dr Collings said the doctors' main concerns were: inadequate undergraduate training, lack of exposure to the problem - on average respondents reported they had come across only one case of sexual abuse for every five years of practice - a fear of jeopardising traditional physician-patient relationships and a reluctance to become involved in court cases.

A total of 39,4 percent of doctors approached in the study indicated they would "definitely" report future cases of abuse they came across.

Anne Marx, Child Welfare Society Unit Manager of the investigation team into alleged child abuse, said the low identification rate of cases by GPs was problematic as it meant fewer referrals and children were sent back to dangerous situations.

The upshot of this was that by the time trained people saw abused children they were "very damaged".

"We see, for example, many

children when it's too late, like 14-year-olds who are pregnant and who have been abused since they were five," she said.

In terms of Section 42 of the Child Care Act of 1993, it is mandatory for doctors to report cases of child abuse even if only a suspicion exists that abuse is taking place.

"Some doctors who do not want to be involved in lengthy, complicated court proceedings and who believe they have a child who has been abused try to take on the case themselves even though they are not adequately trained."

This practice created difficulties as doctors were not dealing effectively with the problem.

"The abuse continues and gets worse."

She suggested doctors immediately refer cases to the experts and people working in the area even if only a suspicion existed that abuse was taking place.

David Bass, head of Red Cross Children's Hospital Trauma Services, said education and training in the field had been stepped up for undergraduates with the increasing incidence of child sexual abuse.

"In the 1970s the issue was

not even discussed at medical school. Now the issue is continuously making its way into curricula."

He said that clinical students were taught about child sexual abuse but the best that could be done was to try and get students to recognise the signs.

Dr Bass was sympathetic to GPs, saying that it was not always easy to pick up the signs which were at times subtle.

He said doctors had established relationships with their patients and it was difficult to expose the family to scrutiny, especially if there was a chance that the doctor could be wrong.

"The results of an incorrect diagnosis, especially in a rural practice, could be detrimental to a GP who relies on his practice. It's difficult to be judgmental in this issue," he said.

Dr Bass suggested GPs put the rights of the child first and refer cases of suspected child abuse to any paediatric department at the tertiary hospitals or to the child welfare or child protection unit.

The Academy of Family Practitioners, which had branches in all the major centres, held regular refresher courses which could be of benefit in this case.

"A group of general practitioners could request courses," he said.

(298) 30/3/96

Teachers could be jailed for giving pupils six of the best

ARG 7/3/96
ESANN de KOCK,
Education Reporter

TEACHERS face three months in jail for giving any pupil six of the best.

That is one of the provisions of the draft South African Schools Bill, which outlaws corporal punishment at schools.

The National Professional Teachers' Organisation of South Africa (Naptosa) has expressed concern over the "severity of the proposed penalty", warning that corporal punishment is a sensitive issue and "one should per-

haps not get too emotional" about it.

Naptosa said it accepted there was no place in the South African constitution for corporal punishment and added that amendments could be made to the bill.

The South African Democratic Teachers' Union also acknowledged the controversial nature of the clauses, but said it had "long campaigned against the use of corporal punishment in schools. We see the practice as cruel and inhuman and no compelling interest has been proved which can justify the practice. It has not been shown to be an effective deterrent".



WORKING THE STREETS: Two teenage hookers wait for clients on a Green Point street.

PICTURE: BENNY GOOL

Child prostitutes work city streets

CT 8/3/96

(298)

STAFF WRITER

THE little girl standing on the kerb late at night was dressed in a very tight black outfit.

Under the dim lights of the busy Green Point street she stood, pigeon-toed, waiting for a client to pull up nearby so she could "do business".

A Cape Times team, working on a story on child prostitution in Cape Town, watched this child for a long

while one night last weekend as she worked "her turf" quietly and diligently through the evening.

Child prostitution is not new to Cape Town and is becoming a growing problem as many parents opt out of their parental responsibilities, said police spokesman Captain Johan Sterrenberg.

"Girls become prostitutes for different reasons — mostly they are runaways who have tried to escape an

unhappy home life and go into prostitution to make money."

Some were as young as 13, but mostly they were about 15 or 16, he said.

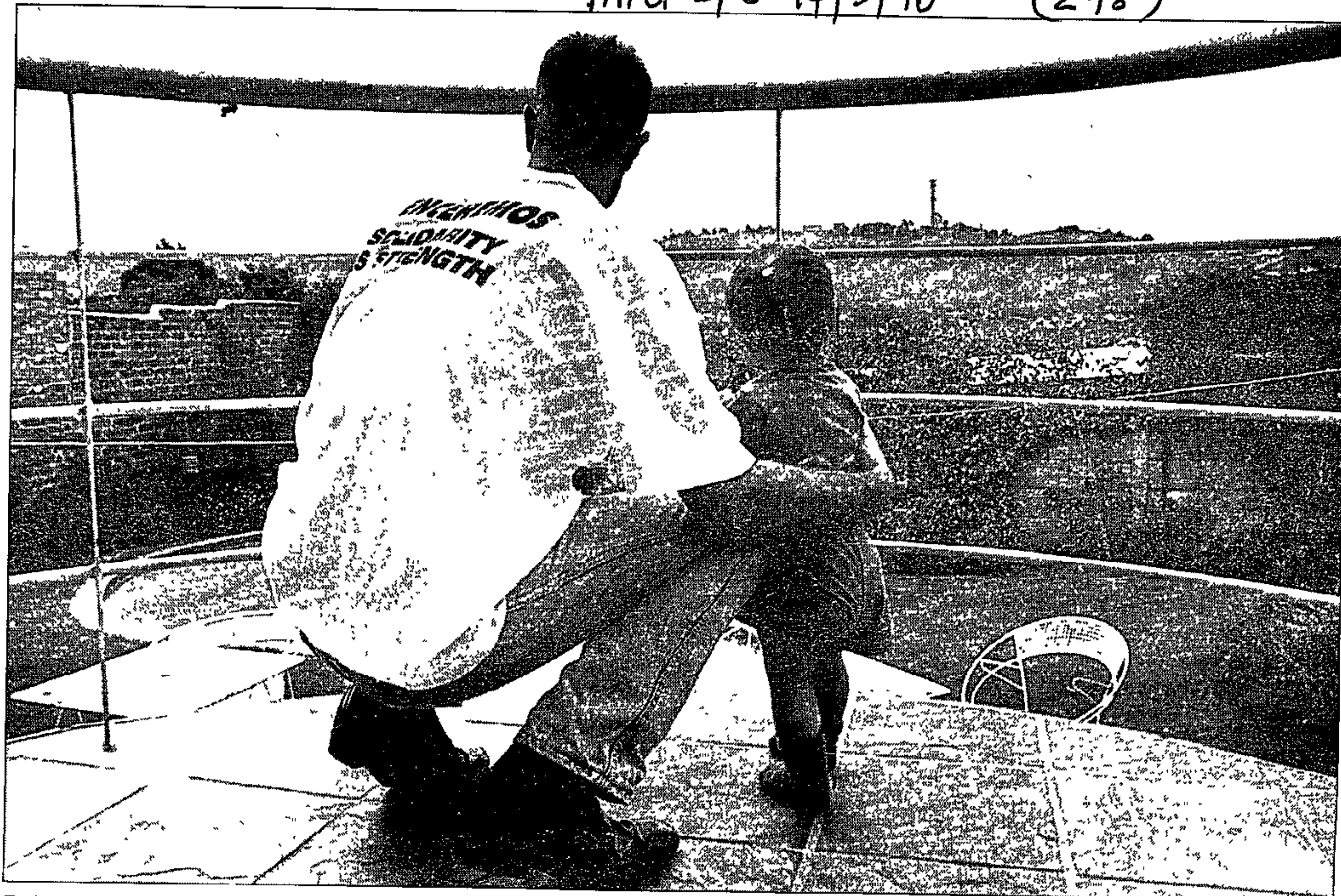
Police only arrested them if there was a complaint from the public — otherwise they were sometimes held for peddling drugs or theft.

Sterrenberg said parents had to help their children to make wise decisions in difficult situations.

the way for unmarried dads

MtG 8-14/3/96

(298)



Father love: The battle waged by fathers to gain access to their illegitimate children may be won

PHOTO RUTH MOTHAU

award guardianship to fathers if it is judged to be in the interest of the child.

"The legal position as it stands has evolved over centuries against the background of the realities of society," reported the Law Commission after investigating whether natural fathers should have improved access to their children. "The commission is not convinced of any change having taken place that would justify a drastic inversion of that legal position."

The commission found there were many complaints from unmarried fathers about the high cost of an application to the supreme court to obtain access to their children. It has proposed family courts be established on par with magistrate's courts.

The draft Bill proposes the court may grant natural fathers access to their illegitimate children if it is satisfied this is in the best interest of the child. The court could set conditions for such access.

If a child is put up for adoption, the natural father will, as far as possible, be informed of any such proceedings and be given the oppor-

tunity to apply to adopt the child himself.

This proposal comes too late for unmarried father Lawrie Fraser, who launched a much-publicised attempt to stop the adoption of his unborn child but lost his application last week. The child's mother, National Symphony Orchestra violinist Adrianna Naude, opposed his application, and won. The child's adoptive parents are planning to leave South Africa. The court ruled against his appeal, saying ensuing litigation between him and his former lover would not be in the child's best interest. His only recourse now is the Constitutional Court.

Kids After Relationships End (Kare), a Cape Town support group for unmarried and divorced parents, welcomed the draft legislation. Kare has, since it was established in 1994, provided advice and support for hundreds of parents deprived of access to their children.

"The most important message we want to get across is that all of this has nothing to do with the parents. It's about children who have the right to have a healthy, normal relationship with both parents," said Kare founder and chairman Kevin Brookes.

"Up until now the judicial system has discriminated severely against non-custodial parents, who in most cases are the fathers. Yet, most women work today and men are equally capable of taking kids to school in the morning, collecting them in the evening, feeding them and spending quality time with them at weekends.

Some companies even allow men paternity leave, in recognition of the important role they play. So it's about time the law recognises this as well."

Family advocate Hester Fouche also welcomed the new legislation, saying it paved the way to settling an "emotional issue" for many couples.

However, she urged the Ministry of Justice to speed up the establishment of family courts so parents did not have to go through the "agony" and expense of a supreme court battle for custody of their children.

John Williams's name has been changed to protect the identity of his daughter.

Relief on

(298)

Unmarried fathers who want to raise their illegitimate children could have the right to do so, if draft legislation before the Cabinet is approved, reports **Rehana Rossouw**

JOHAN WILLIAMS (25), a printer from Mitchells Plain, is forced to sneak visits with his six-year-old daughter at her Sunday school class. The child's mother cut off Williams's access to the child six months ago when he refused to grant permission for her new husband to adopt the child.

The child has been told not to tell her mother of the clandestine visits because she might be kept at home on Sundays and not see her father for months while her parents' battle rages in the supreme court.

As an unmarried father, he has no automatic right of access to his daughter; his relationship with her was dependent on her mother's goodwill. But Williams comes from a loving home and still lives with his parents. For him, children must have two parents "for a solid foundation for life."

"I've been an excellent father, anyone who knows me can tell. Since my daughter was a few months old, I've been collecting her from her mother most weekends and keeping her with me," he said.

"I'm not saying her mother is incompetent, but we were both 19 years old when she fell pregnant, and she didn't want motherhood to affect her social life. So I was the one who put off going out weekends and sat with the baby.

"Now there's a new man on the scene and he doesn't want a child other people will know is not his. He's told my child's mother the only way he'll accept my daughter is if she has his name. If he's making such conditions, then he will probably never accept her like a real father. She's better off with me."

Williams has provided child support weekly since the little girl was born.

His battle for custody will take a different turn if draft legislation proposed by Justice Minister Dullah Omar to the Cabinet this week passes Parliament's scrutiny.

The Bill on the Powers of Natural Fathers of Illegitimate Children improves access, custody and guardianship for unmarried fathers.

It interprets the new reality of 1990s men who are increasingly proving they can be equal partners in not only making children but rearing them as well.

At present, natural fathers of illegitimate children do not have any rights to guardianship of their children merely by virtue of their paternity. These rights are only enjoyed by mothers, save in exceptional cases where a court may

MTG 8-14103/96

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Fines, jail urged for cane-wielders

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ARLT 9/3/96

WILLIAM-MERVIN GUMEDE, Staff Reporter

TEACHERS who cane pupils should be fined or jailed for three months, says the SA Democratic Teachers Union (Sadtu).

The organisation was responding to the draft South African Schools Bill, which proposes outlawing corporal punishment.

"Sadtu welcomes the spirit of the draft South African Schools Bill as it sets national norms for admissions, fees, language and school governance. Sadtu has long campaigned against the use of corporal punishment in schools and we see the practice as cruel and inhumane.

"No compelling interest has been proved which can justify the practice. It has not been shown to be an effective deterrent. Its effect is likely to be coarsening and degrading rather than rehabilitative," said Sadtu president Duncan Hindle.

"In South Africa violence in the surrounding community is reflected in schools. This fact makes it imperative for all education stakeholders — community members, parents, teachers and pupils — to work together to find alternatives to the use of violence for conflict resolution."

Mr Hindle said it was crucial that stakeholders reached consensus on suitable disciplinary methods for teachers still caning pupils.

The union also said it was opposed to moves by the Education Department to make payment of school fees compulsory.

"The union is committed to the principle of free and compulsory education and is opposed to compulsory school fees," he said.

The bill includes an option that provides for state funding and allows governing bodies to raise funds which can be used to upgrade schools and to employ more teachers.

It also proposes a fee threshold be introduced, which means that people whose parents earn more than the threshold will have to pay the class fees.

Hindle said his organisation will meet education authorities to discuss further the funding proposals in the bill.

Lawyers urge new deal on visitation rights

PRETORIA. — Parents and guardians should no longer have the sole right to determine who could be granted access to their children under 18 and under what circumstances access could be given, the SA Law Commission proposed here.

In a working paper gazetted in Pretoria, the commission suggested grandparents denied visitation rights by a legal guardian should be able to apply for a court order granting them access.

People claiming family ties or other relationships with a minor child should also be allowed to apply for such an order if it was in the child's best interests.

In such cases the court would determine the conditions for visitation.

Interested parties should comment on the working paper by March 30, the commission said.
— Sapa,

(298) (298)
ARL 9/3/96

Plan for a tax to benefit youth

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THE National Youth Commission could be funded by a special tax, a parliamentary committee on the Youth Commission Bill heard at the start of its two-day hearing in Cape Town today.

This would ensure a sustainable income for the commission, said Shawn Johnston, director of the Future Links South Africa education trust.

The revenue could be generated by a tax on the tobacco and liquor industries, on all foreign companies trading in the country, or on all foreign nationals living in South Africa. ARG 11/3/96

Other possibilities included a tax on all government ministers and parliamentarians, an annual corporate youth tax on South African companies, and cutting the defence force budget and allotting the money to the commission instead, he said. The commission is expected to design a national youth policy framework. — Sapa.

Play's AIDS message seen as simplistic

Kathryn Strachan

THE Gauteng health department will be meeting representatives of the R14m AIDS play Sarafina 2 today to find ways of getting high school children to attend the production, which opened in Soweto at the weekend.

Gauteng's director of communicable diseases Dr Liz Floyd said following a workshop yesterday of organisations that had attended the production, their ideas on improving the script would be con-

veyed to director Mbongeni Nge-ma. Floyd felt it was a very attractive musical, which conveyed a simple key message on protection against AIDS to the youth — its target audience.

However, it did not give much depth on the topic of AIDS or on the experience of someone with AIDS. Long-term relationships or abstaining from sex were also not presented as options, she said.

Set in a Zulu cultural context with a theme of AIDS killing people in the same way as the fighting

in the region, the production was designed for rural people in KwaZulu-Natal. Floyd believed this Zulu focus and its purely English and Zulu delivery would have to be changed for it to reach a wider spectrum of people.

Health ministry spokesman Vincent Hlongwane said yesterday that the ministry was "reasonably happy" with the production.

It was a "work in progress" and would need to improve.

Comment: Page 14

Busy year in prospect for Mandela Children's Fund

Nomavenda Mathiane

IT WAS exciting to receive a million rand from overseas donors for the Nelson Mandela Children's Fund, but it was humbling to get a pledge of R1 a month from a pensioner, the fund's chief executive trustee Jeremy Ractliffe said recently.

The Nelson Mandela Children's Fund, started by President Mandela in June 1994 when he pledged a third of his salary for five years, has received R20m.

Of this total, 60% has come from overseas donors — including actor Denzel Washington and tycoon Theodore Forstmann — who each donated \$1m.

More than R1,55m has been spent on children's projects from the Nelson Mandela Children's Fund since its inception, and with R2,56m allocated grants this year to go to 154 projects.

All in all, the fund will spend R4m for this year, and R5m for 1997, of which R1m of that amount is already earmarked for special projects.

Of the money, 65% has been spent on homeless children, 20% on education, 13% on disabled children, 1% on disasters and 1% on children in detention or prisons.

Although the Nelson Mandela Children's Fund administration networks with NGOs, organisations in need of funding can apply directly to the fund.

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Govt in talks with business over teen offenders

(298)

Star 12/3/96

By Jovial Rantao

Political Reporter

The Government has entered into negotiations with business aimed at establishing a joint partnership for the erection of secure care centres for youths under 18 awaiting trial for serious crimes such as armed robbery, murder and rape.

Deputy Welfare Minister Geraldine Fraser-Moleketi said the move would be part of attempts by the Government and the private sector to combat crime and encourage an environment conducive to economic growth.

"Business has shown an interest in entering into a partnership with the Government and we are identifying areas where they can help us.

"There are a number of ways

in which they can intervene. These include financial support and helping us to identify under-utilised buildings which can be transformed into secure care centres," Fraser-Moleketi said.

She said other avenues being explored included deploying retired businessmen for management duties at the centres. Fraser-Moleketi yesterday met a delegation from the Business Against Crime Initiative to discuss the envisaged co-operation.

She made a presentation to the BACI yesterday and the organisation is expected to forward proposals to Business South Africa.

The deputy minister said there was much help available from the private sector which the Government should take advantage of.

"We need to put pressure on big business to take their social responsibility further and plough (profits) back to the communities in the areas of youth development and fighting unemployment.

"Young people involved in serious crimes need to be rehabilitated, trained and integrated into the workforce. Young people who get involved in crime are exploited by big crime syndicates," she said.

Fraser-Moleketi said the private sector could, in line with the Government's economic growth strategy, make inputs to fight poverty and unemployment. The envisaged youth commission, expected to be established soon, would have a crucial role to play in the development and rehabilitation of young people.

Adopt a child call to Cape parents

ARG 13/3/96 (298)

Staff Reporter

CHILD Welfare Society workers have issued a desperate plea to black and coloured communities following the abandoning of two babies in the past three weeks.

The Western Cape continues to have a shortage of adoptive parents in these communities, social workers say.

Baby "Cindy" was just a few hours old when authorities found her discarded in a ditch, wrapped in a red tartan blanket. She is presently in emergency foster care.

Another baby boy, now three months old, was left at Tygerberg Hospital after his 19-year-old mother decided she could not care for him. The young woman is not financially stable and has little family support.

Like many in her position, an increasing number of black and coloured mothers are forced to abandon their children or put them up for adoption. But the real problem, say child welfare officials, is that mostly whites are stepping up to fill the role as adoptive or foster parents.

"Adoption seems to be a cultural taboo in the black communities and we're obviously not effectively reaching out to the coloured ones," says social worker Jackie Wijker.

The Child Welfare Society frowns on mixed-race arrangements, although it puts placing a child ahead of racial or cultural considerations.

"I know it's a sensitive issue, but we have to address it," says Morag Scordilis, another social

worker with the organisation. "An adoptive child has enough problems without bringing cultural differences into the situation."

Complicating the scenario is the presence of private agencies offering adoption services, officials add. Rather than dealing with abandoned children, says Ms Scordilis, they tend to seek out pregnant mothers who have indicated a desire to give up their babies.

The private route caters for prospective parents often losing the child's welfare as the central focus, she says. It also makes the job of public agencies a lot harder.

Where private agencies tend to be costly, public ones charge fees for adoption based on a sliding scale only. Foster par-

ents, on the other hand, are paid monthly for their services and only care for children for two years at a time.

During this period, biological parents are given the opportunity to change their lifestyles, and visits between parent and child are encouraged.

Child Welfare also needs individuals willing to provide emergency foster care for children removed from their homes because of neglect, and physical or emotional abuse. Emergency care generally lasts for about six weeks, during which a child's case is handled by authorities and future arrangements are made.

Anyone interested in opening up their homes can contact Jackie Wijkers or Marag Scordilis at 644 170.

Police plead with mothers to claim abandoned babes

The Argus Correspondent
PORT ELIZABETH. - Police have appealed to the mothers of two babies abandoned in Port Elizabeth and Uitenhage at the weekend to come forward to claim their children, and for any witnesses to contact the police.

A baby girl, only a few days old, is being cared for at Erica House in Port Elizabeth after a man left her in a paper bag at a house in Bloemendal on Saturday.

The man, about 25 years old, left the paper packet containing the baby at the Scholtz Street home of Loretta Muller.

The man was about 1,5m tall and of medium build. He was wearing grey trousers and a brown jersey. Anyone with information is asked to contact Inspector Ebrahim Cloete at 431 996 or 432 037.

In the second incident, at 11am on Friday, a woman handed a six-month-old baby girl to a woman outside a sports shop in the Uitenhage Mall, asking her to take care of her while she went to buy something. The woman did not return to fetch the baby.

The little girl is being taken care of at the Uitenhage Provincial Hospital.

Police have appealed to the baby's mother to come forward.

Anyone with information is asked to contact Sergeant Alicia Blom at 992 6111.

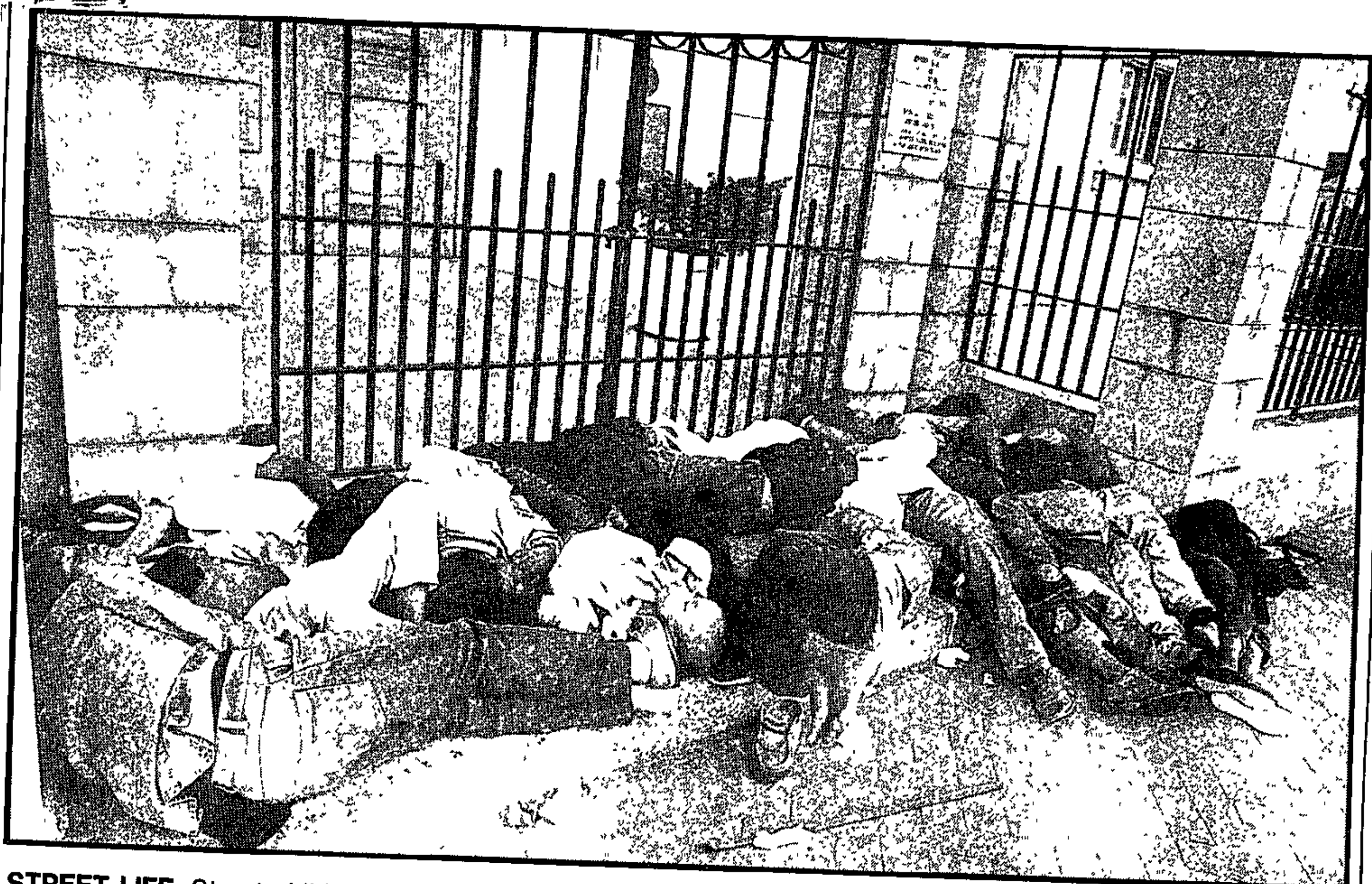
ALG 13/3/96

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Picture: HANNES THIART, The Argus.

OPEN ARMS: Cynthia Sheppard poses with "Baby Cindy" in her arms. The infant was found abandoned in a ditch in Pinelands about three weeks ago when she was just a few hours old. Ms Sheppard is caring for her as part of an emergency foster care programme until other arrangements can be made.



STREET LIFE: Street children huddle for warmth in front of the Groote Kerk in Adderley Street. The issue of vagrancy and possible solutions is being hotly debated by the Cape Town City Council. (298)

Picture DOUG PITHEY, The Argus

Street people 'could hinder Cape tourism'

Municipal Reporter

TOURISM and business in Cape Town will suffer if the problem of street people continues, a city councillor has warned.

During a Cape Town City Council debate yesterday on proposals to deal with vagrants, Clive Keegan said concrete plans must be made and money spent on the problem, otherwise "in five years' time, when the whole city is awash with marauding bands of feral children, we will assemble again and say: 'Let us do something'". ARG 1/3/96

The council's housing committee proposed the adoption of a report arising from a conference on the issue.

Among recommendations by the council's housing committee were that the city administrator liaise with government bodies and welfare organisations on problems identified by them, that it declare its support for the resolution of problems, and that department heads should act when possible.

The council agreed with Mr Keegan's proposal that the report be sent back to the committee for further recommendations.

By TSEPISO LEFALATSA

THERE was a time when Phola Park was at war with itself, but now the squatter camp is finally at peace.

The East Rand squatter camp at last has a primary school because of the hard work and dedication of a lot of people. Tsukie Molisana realised the need for a school in the community and got to work.

She began by approaching companies for donations and the school was built by the community. Even then there were problems, like feeding the children, as many came from very poor families with little food.

Molisana then met Pastor Bert Pretorius, who approached Kolosus Holdings Limited. Thus the Kolosus Feeding Scheme was established at the beginning of this year for the development and upliftment of the community.

The scheme, which received a donation of R150 000 from Kolosus, began feeding the 850 children of Encochoyini Primary School.

The children receive bread and milk every morning as part of the government's feeding scheme, which is followed by the mid-morning meal from Kolosus.

The food is prepared every morning at the South African National Defence Force base and transported 10 km to the school.

The meal, which consists of soya mince and pap, is prepared by three people employed by the pastor.

The food is given to the children at 11 am every day, and for most of them this is their only meal of the day. With no electricity in the camp, and a shortage of water, the food is appreciated by all.

This is evident in the fact that the parents of the children leave their homes every day to dish-out to them at school.

Molisana, who is the principal of the school, said that since the feeding scheme began, attendan-

Feeding scheme in Phola Park gets kids hungry for learning



NOSH-UP! . . . Encochoyini Primary School children are improving their marks with a lesson in success — their mid-morning meal gets them going. ■ Pici SIWE RADEBE

ce had increased and children are motivated — as welfare and education cannot be separated.

Nalphy Lesoma, assistant public relations officer of Kolosus, said the company was proud to be part of this wonderful project because they believe in the ad-

vancement of the community, especially places that were plagued by war in the past, like Phola Park.

The work being done in Phola Park is an example to all, especially when it brings smiles to the innocent faces of primary school children.

Proposed porn law 'fails children'

(298) CT 4/3/96

ON THE LEVEL

EVELYN HOLTZHAUSEN

Attorney-general Frank Kahn exposes his views on porn and the law.



PORNOGRAPHY bores Cape attorney-general Frank Kahn, only the application of the law excites him, particularly when the law is as clear as crystal and cuts through cant like a shard of glass. That way it's easier for Kahn to do his job, keep the bad from corrupting the good and protect society from what the law defines as ugly. The problem, as regards pornography, he says, is that under the interim constitution, anything goes. Leaning back into the soft, red

leather chair in his office, he says: "I don't claim to be the moral gatekeeper of society, nor am I a Mrs Grundy, but the controls, as proposed in the act, are unpoliceable, unenforceable and unworkable." In fact, he claims, they make the law an ass, and that to Kahn, is unacceptable. The law is the law, it is right and good and should be enforceable. Particularly in a society such as ours, which he claims is seriously "dysfunctional" because of the high rate of violent crime — especially child abuse and rape.

He is referring to the proposed Films and Publications Bill.

In written evidence to the committee dealing with the bill, Kahn said it was essential that the schedules which define what material is unacceptable be clearly and concisely worded for the benefit of the public, distribu-

tors of pornography and not least, for the police and lawmen, who would have to enforce the law.

The wording of the proposed bill is, he says, "vague", "confusing" and sometimes even "illogical", which makes entire sections legally unsound and unconstitutional.

The task group charged with drafting the proposed legislation has recognised that a line should be drawn between material that is clearly perceived as harmful to society and that which merely represents abhorrent social behaviour.

Kahn submits that the proposed bill fails to clearly draw that line.

"My thinking about porn is not relevant," he says. "It's the law that's important. It must be clear, unambiguous and enforceable."

However, Kahn is not telling the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth when he says porn merely bores him. It worries him. Particularly where children are concerned and because he believes it degrades women.

"We know that paedophiles use porn to lure children into their clutches," he says. "Every time we find a paedophile, we find porn."

Seventeen thousand children are known to have been subjected to sexual abuse already this year.

"What are we saying to them when we legalise porn? We are gambling with their future. And it's no good calling for parental guidance as the control. Most child abuse takes place in private homes."

"We don't allow rape under parental control or in private, behind closed doors, nor bestiality nor mur-



UNHAPPY: Western Cape attorney-general Frank Kahn.

der. There the law is clear and enforceable," he asserts.

"Under the proposed law children can be exploited. Child porn is simply not dealt with. In the USA and Canada pictures of children which 'intend to arouse' are outlawed. The proposed bill merely talks of not showing genitals, but allows them to be shown if there is artistic merit, or they are 'in context'. And there is no restriction on the written word, so writing about children involved in sex acts will be allowed. It's just not acceptable."

But it's not only child porn that concerns Kahn. Women, he says, are degraded by porn. "Just when they are establishing themselves in our society, along comes this degrading material. It says, 'Screw me, that's what I'm for. Forget about my intellectual ability or anything else'."

"I can understand why women are complaining."

The point was pressed home, he says, when a female colleague asked the commission to substitute, in their minds, the naked women of porn, with people of minority race groups.

"Would they, she asked, be as

complacent if it were a black man hanging naked on a meat hook, a Jewish person in a cage being whipped, a Muslim man reduced to a piece of meat for sexual gratification?"

"What would we say then, would that be allowed? I don't think so."

But Kahn's respect for the law means that he will enforce a law even if he does not personally accept it.

He suggests that we should do our own research, research pertinent to our society and then formulate clear, well-defined, enforceable law.

He suggests an alternative. "We need to outlaw gender hatred. Our constitution makes race hatred a crime; what if we add gender hatred to the statutes? That, combined with a general obscenity clause, a substantial increase in penalties for offenders, ought to do the trick."

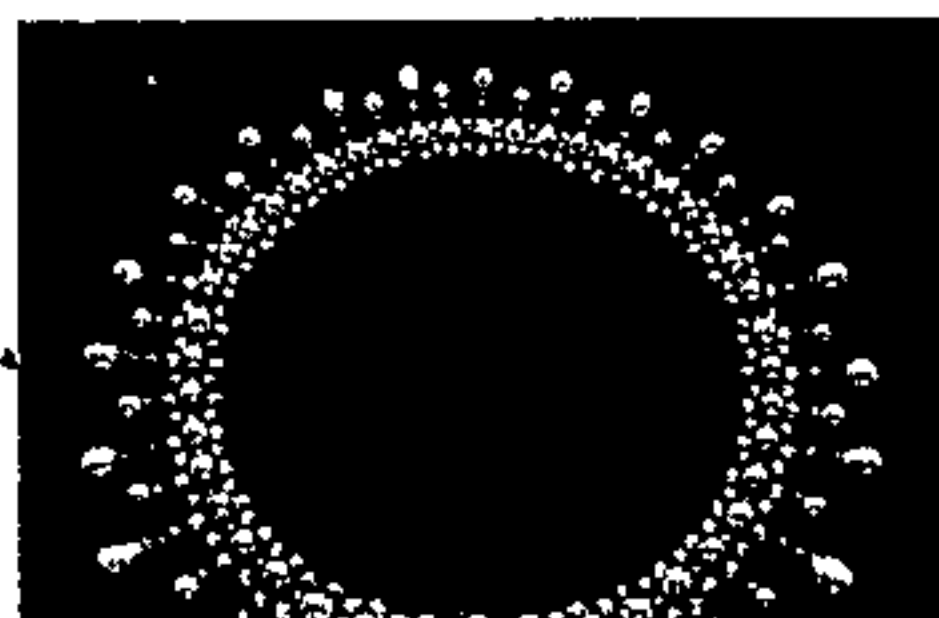
Kahn sighs, his case rested. Then he smiles as he enjoys the thought that maybe if his suggestion was adopted, it would be possible to formulate a law — perhaps not as clear as glass but almost so — at the very least law that could be put to good effect. And that for Kahn is really exciting.

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Prison for juveniles bill backed

~~298~~ (298)
BARRY STREEK
POLITICAL WRITER

CT 5/3/96

THE bill proposed by the ANC's Mr Carl Niehaus to allow for the detention of awaiting-trial juveniles in prison was approved yesterday by the Portfolio Committee on Correctional Services.

This means the measure will come before Parliament today despite the opposition of the Minister of Correctional Services, Dr Sipo Mzimela, and the absence of his colleagues from the Inkatha Freedom Party from yesterday's meeting of the committee.

Niehaus, who is also chairperson of the committee, has stressed that the proposed bill is an interim measure until enough places of safety can be built to house juveniles securely.

The Correctional Services Amendment Bill will give the courts the discretion to order the detention of juveniles between the ages of 14 and 18 in prison under defined conditions if the presiding officer is convinced this is necessary in the interests of justice and that no suitable place of safety is available.

The detained juvenile will have to appear before the court every two weeks for the detention to be reconsidered. Juveniles affected will be those arrested for murder, rape and other serious offences.

The MINISTER FOR SAFETY AND SECURITY:

(a) 2,

	Butterworth	Msoomvu (Satellite Station)
(b)(i)	178	70
(ii)	Captain Inspector Sergeant Constable	Superintendent Captain Inspector Sergeant Constable
(iii)	The information is not readily available. To obtain the required information members will have to be withdrawn from other duties and specially allocated to peruse files and records.	The information is not readily available. To obtain the required information members will have to be withdrawn from other duties and specially allocated to peruse files and records.
(iv)(aa)	7	1
(bb)	3	1
(c)(i)	1 994 crimes reported during the period 1 June 1995 till 31 December 1995	1 046 crimes reported during the period 1 June 1995 till 31 December 1995
(ii)	151	318

QUESTIONS

†Indicates translated version.

(298)

For written reply:

S16E

Primary School Nutrition Programme: fraud/mismanagement

The MINISTER FOR HEALTH:

Yes, R5 938 544 or 0.61% of the total budget allocation of R972 840 million over the two financial years (F.Y.) of operation has been misappropriated.

(a) Eastern Cape, Western Cape, Mpumalanga, Northern Province and KwaZulu-Natal.

(b) (i) and (ii) and (c)

The following table overleaf reflects the situation:

Province	Nature of incident	Amount(s) involved	Person(s) involved	Dates of incident	Progress
Eastern Cape	Actual errors/ Irregularities; *Vat overpaid *Price differences *Six day and double deliveries *Other	R1 484 384	Suppliers	1994/95 F.Y. 1995/96 F.Y.	Ongoing process to recover amounts
	9 cases of cheque fraud	R2 342 623	*Suppliers *Officials	1994/95 F.Y. 1995/96 F.Y.	All cases are under investigation by South African Police Services (SAPS) Commercial branch/Court cases have started in some cases/Officials involved have been suspended
Western Cape	1 case of an alleged fraudulent transaction	R1 895 000	Supplier	1994/95 F.Y. 1995/96 F.Y.	Under SAPS investigation
	1 case where supporting documentation was not provided	R8 316	*School	1994/95 F.Y.	Documentation supplied
Mpumalanga	Two civil servants receiving remuneration from the PSNP	R3 300	Civil servants	1994/95 F.Y.	Arrangements have been made for the re-funding of the money
	Fraud	R400	Member of project committee	1995/96 F.Y.	Pending court case
	Stolen signed cheque	R9 500	Unknown	1994/95 F.Y.	Under SAPS investigation

Stolen cheque/forged signatures	R5 400	Unknown	1994/95 F.Y.	Bank refused whole amount
Fraud	R17 000	School principal	1994/95 F.Y.	Sentenced to two years
Forged invoices	R1 326	School principal	1994/95 F.Y.	Pending court case
Fraudulent payment	R4 200	*School principal *Supplier	1994/95 F.Y.	Under SAPS investigation
Stolen cheques	R80 263	Official	1995/96 F.Y.	Under SAPS investigation
Purchasing of personal goods with project funds	R118	Acting school principal	1995/96 F.Y.	Case closed/Money was paid back
Theft	R800	Relative of school principal	1995/96 F.Y.	Under SAPS investigation
Increased order to cater for personal needs	R1 568	Members of project committee	1995/96 F.Y.	Under SAPS investigation
Forged cheques	R11 269	School principal	1994/95 F.Y.	Under SAPS investigation
Misuse of project funds for personal gain	R32 991	Project committee chairperson	1994/95 F.Y.	Under SAPS investigation
Claims i r.o fictitious school	R37 600	Project committee	1994/95 F.Y.	Under SAPS investigation

A

INTERPELLATION

The sign * indicates a translation. The sign †, used subsequently in the same interpellation, indicates the original language

Housing of farmworkers: progress made

1. Senator A E VAN NIEKERK asked the Minister of Housing.*

Whether any progress has been made in respect of the manner in which the housing of farmworkers is to be dealt with; if not, why not; if so, (a) in what manner will such housing be dealt with and (b) when will the relevant procedures be implemented?

S138E.INT

THE MINISTER OF HOUSING: Mr President, in reply to the first part of the question, substantial research by the widely representative Joint Technical Committee on Rural Housing was carried out to divine a new housing subsidy scheme and institutional framework which will meet the specific needs of rural communities, including farmworkers. This work has been continued in the Standing Committee on Integrated and Co-ordinated Development of the National Housing Board, the standing committee that deals with this issue.

Because of the legacy of inequity between communities, and the need for a co-ordinated and coherent approach, the work has centred on the development of a subsidy instrument which would meet the needs of rural communities, including farmworkers, within the mainstream of housing delivery mechanisms

In reply to the second part of the question, the institutional subsidy which was announced in October 1995 is considered to be the most appropriate instrument to address the needs of farmworkers, who often do not have the option of freehold tenure. The operationalisation of the institutional subsidy is at the discretion of the various provincial housing MECs, and is dependent on the capacity in the relevant provincial departments

According to information received from the provinces, the institutional subsidy is already in operation in seven of the nine provinces.

Senator A E VAN NIEKERK Mr President, at a meeting held on 7 July 1995, representatives of the Departments of Housing, Agriculture and Land Affairs, and the SA Agricultural, Plantation and Allied Workers' Union, the SA Agricultural Union and the National Union of Farmworkers, agreed to an approach in terms of which the R50 million budgeted by the Department of Agriculture for farmworker housing, was to be transferred to the Department of Housing with the view of supplementing the funds of the provincial housing boards which would finance the to-be-selected pilot initiatives for farmworker housing.

The R50 million was to be used to finance projects to test two main options, namely off-farm and on-farm projects. I also understand that a certain Dr H Dolny was finalising criteria for evaluating farmworkers' projects as early as July 1996.

No announcement has been made about these projects. As far as we are concerned, they do not really exist. Not one farmworker was financially assisted in obtaining a house under this new scheme in terms of which this R50 million is applicable. The people who benefited from the previous assistance given by the Department of Agriculture, namely the farmworkers—poor rural people—are at the receiving end of the nondelivery of the hon the Minister of Housing. Is the hon the Minister of Land Affairs who, with the late Minister Slovo, invoked suspicion by asking who really benefited from the previous scheme, to be blamed? Or is it perhaps the hon the Minister of Agriculture?

I pose the question. Was this House misled? We were made to believe that the R50 million was to be kept and reallocated to assist farmworkers to get better housing. However, it now seems that it was used to finance pilot projects. [Interjections.] We need to know what is left of that money. Will this amount be rolled over to next year's Budget? What happened to the DM50 million that was earmarked for farm housing about a year ago?

The three relevant departments are discouraging the culture amongst farmers of improving the living standards of their workers, and through this are depriving these people and their children of better living conditions

Senator N SINGH Mr President, I think I can inform Senator van Niekerk that the R50 million will be rolled over to next year's Budget. How-

Hansard

Bill on fathers' rights approved

CT 7/3/96

(258) (298)

POLITICAL STAFF

JOHANNESBURG: The cabinet passed ground-breaking legislation yesterday to recognise the rights of fathers of children born out of wedlock.

The Powers of Natural Fathers of Children Born out of Wedlock Bill marks a decisive break with decades of legal discrimination against the fathers of illegitimate children. It also scraps the offensive term "illegitimate", replacing it with the term "born out of wedlock".

It will allow fathers who are not legally married to the mothers of their

children to approach the court to grant them custody, guardianship and adoption rights, providing these are consistent with the interests of the child.

The bill also makes it compulsory for mothers to notify the natural father when they intend putting a child up for adoption.

If the law had been on the statute books when Johannesburg father Mr Lawrie Fraser approached the Rand Supreme Court to adopt his illegitimate daughter, it would have provided the court with strict statutory guidelines.

The bill, which will come before Par-

liament later this session, had to make a choice between two competing options outlined by the South African Law Commission: Either the father has to approach the court to enforce his parental rights or he has an inherent right, in which case the mother opposing the action would have to prove that it was not in the child's interest that the father be allowed access or custody.

The competing options are likely to resurface during the parliamentary process but the bill as it stands now puts the onus on the father to approach the courts.



DODGING THE LONG ARM OF THE LAW: A street kid trying to avoid a search in Darling Street this week finds his path blocked by a police officer. The youngster evades the policeman but is collared before he can reach the other side of the street. **PICTURES: DAN SIMON**

'Image of hordes of street kids not reality'

CT 7/3/96 (298)

DAN SIMON

THE bulk of street children seen begging in the city during the day are "strollers" who bunk school to supplement family income.

This is according to the Western Cape Street Children Forum, which said yesterday that the ratio of daytime strollers to actual street children who slept in the city was about "three to one".

Forum chairman Ms Annette Cockburn said no proper research on the numbers of street children living in the city existed.

However, a head count three months ago at a number of popular haunts had shown that there were about 87 street children who had made the city their home.

Cape Town City Council exco member Mr Clive Keegan last week criticised a council report containing recommendations on ways to deal with vagrancy.

Although Keegan said he did not doubt the "good work and sincerity" of the people involved in preparing the recommendations, he nonetheless felt they were "riddled with weaknesses" which made them impossible to implement.

"When the whole city is awash with marauding hordes of feral children, we will assemble again

and say let us do something," Keegan told councillors.

He said Rio de Janeiro had lost its "tourist and commercial status" because the city had failed to deal adequately with the vagrancy issue.

Cockburn said: "Mr Keegan's roaming hordes are not a reality. Many of the children in the city during the day are strollers who come to the city to beg to supplement family income."

"Children report more and more that they leave home because there is no food, but many of the children you see begging in the city during the day do go home to their families at night."

Cockburn said a study conducted in South Africa several years ago indicated that there were about "12 000 street children" in the country.

She pointed out that many of the street children who had left home had been successfully rehabilitated after spending time in shelters and in-take centres.

It was only a small proportion who had become rogue and were "resistant" to rehabilitation and reintegration into society.

A major worry among social workers dealing with street children was the amount of glue and thinners sniffed by the kids.

Legislation on rights for unwed fathers passed by Cabinet

Star 7/3/96

(298)

Bill ends decades of discrimination by enabling unmarried fathers to apply for custody, guardianship and adoption

BY PATRICK BULGER
Political Correspondent

Ground-breaking legislation to recognise the rights of fathers of children born out of wedlock was passed by Cabinet in Cape Town yesterday.

The Powers of Natural Fathers of Children Born out of Wedlock Bill marks a decisive break with decades of legal discrimination against the fathers of illegitimate children. It also scraps the offensive term "illegitimate", replacing it with the term "born out of wedlock".

If passed into law, it will allow fathers who are not legally married to the mothers of their children to approach the court to grant them custody, guardianship and adoption rights, providing these are consistent with the interests of the child.

The bill makes it compulsory for mothers to notify the natural father when they intend putting the child up for adoption.

If the law had been on the statute books when Johannesburg father Lawrie Fraser approached the Rand Supreme Court to adopt the son his former fiancée had put up for adoption, it would have provided the court with strict statutory guidelines.

The bill, which will come before Parliament later this session, had to make a choice between two competing options outlined by the South African Law Commission. Either the father has to approach the court to enforce his parental rights, or he has an inherent right. In the latter case, the mother opposing the action would have to go to court to prove that it is not in the child's interest that the father be allowed access or custody.

The competing options are likely to resurface during the Parliamentary process but the bill, as it stands now, puts the onus on the father to approach the courts. This may, however, still be adjudged to be discriminatory.

Women vow tough action

By Dan Fuphe

(298)

DELEGATES attending an African National Congress Women's League meeting on Child Abuse at the weekend vowed to castrate anyone suspected of sexually molesting children.

The meeting, held at the Duduza Community Hall on Saturday, took on a poignant note when some of the delegates confessed to have been victims of child abuse themselves in their youth.

All the delegates bemoaned the apparent apathy by the local police, the justice and social welfare departments when dealing with such cases.

Addressing the meeting, local ANCWL political education officer and Greater Nigel Mayor Ms Ntombi Mekwe challenged the delegates to be forthright and transparent about their experiences.

One delegate made a passionate plea to the ANCWL chairwoman, Ms Khethiwe Maseko, to echo the local community's call that child abuse culprits be castrated.

The meeting identified a prominent local taxi operator as one of the most notorious child abusers in the East Rand township.

The meeting was told that the man once boasted to a local resident about keeping a young girl as a sex slave.

"He told me he kept the girl with the full approval of her family and claimed to support them financially," the woman said.

CAROL CAMPBELL
EDUCATION WRITER

President's fund helps nourish school feeding in W Cape

THERE was pushing and shoving at the back of the line as the six-year-olds at Lwazi Primary School in Guguletu queued for their peanut butter sandwich and milkshake at break time.

Standing on tiptoe, the bigger boys craned their necks to see what

was being handed out by their teacher, Mrs Tandi Sokatsha, who, with a few sharp words, tried to calm down the excited children. "For many of these little ones this is the only food they will eat today — it's not enough, but it helps them concentrate in class if they have something in their stomachs," she said.

The children at Lwazi are most-

ly from Barcelona squatter camp and the two slices of bread and soya milkshake they are given every morning are paid for by President Nelson Mandela's school feeding scheme.

In the Western Cape 334 066 schoolchildren at 921 schools benefit daily from the primary school nutrition programme launched as a presidential lead project in 1994.

The scheme in the province is mainly run by a well-established non-government organisation, Peninsula School Feeding.

In the more far-flung areas, it is administered by nine other NGOs, including the Child and Family Welfare and the Red Cross. In deep rural areas 25 farm schools are funded individually.

The RDP allocation to school

feeding in the Western Cape was R17,5 million for the 1995/96 financial year.

It costs about 50 cents a day to feed a child a peanut butter and jam sandwich and the soya milk supplement Nutri-A.

Mrs Beryl Pinshaw, the field work co-ordinator for Peninsula School Feeding, said funds from the President's extra allocation had

enabled the organisation to reach far more children at many more schools. The extra money also meant the children received soup as well as a slice of bread and small cup of milk.

"Now they are given soup every other day and jam and peanut butter on their bread. We also have five different flavours of soya milk which offers them a bit of variety."

■ **SEA POINT**

Group helps homeless on their feet again

Vagrants find work, children back with family

ARG 21/2/96 (298) (S)

Staff Reporter

A PROJECT to rehabilitate the homeless in Sea Point and keep them off the streets has got off to a promising start.

Heather Tager, chairperson of the working committee that runs the project, said that since its inception last November it had chalked up many successes.

Representatives of the Law Enforcement Unit, Businesswatch, and local churches as well as a social worker and street community workers (paid for by the community) serve on the committee.

The Beach Action Group, formed last year to clean-up the beachfront, is sponsoring the wages of a street worker and is looking toward sponsoring a second.

Ms Tager said that since the committee started its work several of the homeless had found jobs,

some of the children had been reunited with their families and regular meetings between the homeless and local businesses had been held.

"Those people given employment are still employed and making good progress," said Ms Tager.

"In addition to this the children who went back to their families have not returned to the street and communication between businesses and the homeless has been opened up."

Chairman of the Green and Sea Point Traders Association Chris Joubert said: "The meetings have been fruitful in that we have been able to identify the specific problems of some of the homeless and channel them into the correct institutions."

He said the association supported the programme, but stressed the importance of not

ignoring the criminal element.

"A group of children are known to come into the area with the intent of getting involved in criminal activities," he said.

"There is no short-term solution, but it is clear the solution lies in addressing the situation as a community."

Evelyn Stein, a librarian at Sea Point Library, said: "We had quite a problem with soiling by street children and homeless people around the civic centre."

"As a result of working with street workers we've been able to get the children to help clean up around the building." Mrs Stein said although it was early days, she felt the concept behind the committee had great potential.

The committee is hoping to put in place a permanent structure for the ongoing rehabilitation of the homeless.

Hollywood actor meets his SA 'son'

By WINNIE GRAHAM

Bruce Marchiano met his "son" for the first time last week and was overwhelmed.

The Hollywood actor, who took the part of Jesus in a film version of Matthew's Gospel, had long dreamed of meeting the small African boy he was sponsoring. His chance finally came last week. For years he had posted US\$20 (R77) a month to World Vision to help pay Minalai Hlabakwane's (9) living costs but his life was remote from the boy's. He worked in Los Angeles. Minalai lived in a distant African village.

Last week Bruce braved rain, floods and muddy roads to reach the child who lives in the rural Tzaneen district.

The meeting between adoptive "father" and "son" was deeply moving.

"I can't explain the feeling inside me or the look on the boy's face," Bruce said. "I had no idea of how he lived, or how poor most of the villagers are, until I got there."

Minalai is being raised by his

grandmother. He lives in a thatched hut amid rolling green hills which, when Bruce Marchiano arrived, were fast becoming water-logged.

The World Vision team, which included Taznin Lovell, the organisation's communications officer, had told villagers they would arrive at 11am. Instead, they got there at 2pm. Not only did rain delay them, but they struggled on bad roads where signposting is non-existent.

By the time they reached the village the welcoming committee had dispersed and Bruce had the pleasure of meeting the boy without an audience.

"I couldn't speak when I came face to face with him," he said. "And he was in just as much awe."

The American unpacked the bag of treats he had brought the child, communicating through adults who could speak English.

Then he went off to spend a few hours with the little boy, piggy-backing him around the village, visiting his school, meeting his friends and inspecting the vegetable patch (another World Vision initiative).

When the time came to leave, the

youngster did not want him to go.

"He held tightly to my hand," Bruce said. "I promised I would be back in August or September."

When Bruce returns to the US early in March, he plans to promote World Vision's sponsorship scheme. He learned from villagers that there are 3 000 children in the area who need sponsorship.

"When I got back to Johannesburg, I bought myself a pizza and a coke," he said. "It cost me as much as I send to Minalai each month. It made me realise just how skew our values are."

Bruce first came to South Africa in 1990 at the invitation of film producer Reghardt van den Berg who wanted him to take the part of Jesus in a film.

South Africans wanting to sponsor a child - at just R45 a month - can do so through World Vision. Sponsors pledge a monthly amount and receive a photograph and regular information about him or her in return.

Details are obtainable from (011) 6742043 or write to Box 1101, Flor-da 1710.



TAMZIN LOVELL / WORLD VISION

Pleased to meet you ... Hollywood actor Bruce Marchiano with Minalai Hlabakwane, the South African boy he sponsors through World Vision. The two came face to face for the first time last week.

Thursday February 22 1996

Young vagrants quit Hillbrow for central Jo'burg

Star 22/2/96
BY HOPEWELL RADEBE

City Reporter

(298)

Street children are increasingly targeting central Johannesburg as a sleeping place, avoiding Hillbrow because of police harassment there.

One of the street children's leaders, Dennis Mochachos (15), said they moved their mattresses and blankets to the city centre shortly after Hillbrow police confiscated them last month.

Hillbrow police said last month they had confiscated bedding belonging to street children in a joint operation with the Greater Johannesburg Metropolitan Council aimed at breaking gangster culture on the streets.

But the council denied any involvement in the operation. The street children now sleep in any quiet and dark corner in a block bordered by Bree, Commissioner, Nugget and West streets.

Hillbrow police spokesman Sgt Henry Bendeman denied police were harassing the street kids. He said they were waiting for the National Commissioner's office in Pretoria to draw up a new strategy in dealing with street children.

Juvenile detention Bill (298) faces March deadline (298)

DRAFT legislation providing for juveniles to be detained in police cells and lock-ups should be passed by parliament by the end of March.

If not, the process could be delayed for several months, the Correctional Services Amendment Bill's drafter, Carl Niehaus (ANC), said.

Written submissions on the detention of juveniles to the committee would be accepted until Monday morning when a joint committee will start hearing oral evidence.

The committee was "pressed for time" in getting it through

ARG 23/2/96
parliament, Mr Niehaus said. If it was not debated in the national assembly on February 29, "it will stand over for a number of months".

Mr Niehaus, the national assembly correctional services committee chairman, recused himself for the hearing on this Bill because of his involvement with it.

The private member's Bill emphasises that the detention measures proposed for juveniles are temporary and will expire after one year.

The Senate was expected to debate it early in March. —Sapa.

■ SALT RIVER

R3,1m centre for street kids

Donors help to make new building happen

ARLT 23/2/96

(298)

Staff Reporter

FOUNDATIONS are being dug for the new R3,1m skills training centre and a drop-in facility in Salt River for youth living on the streets of Cape Town.

The project is being financed by donors who have been found by Streets, the community based organisation, founded in June 1992. Its aim is to find long term solutions, with community involvement, to the problems of children and youth living on the streets.

The donors who have made this project come alive have been the Cape Town City Council's committee on vagrancy with R40 000 (on a rand for rand basis), the Levi Strauss Foundation (Belgium) with R150 000, the Royal Netherlands Embassy, R360 000, Children at Risk (Netherlands), R70 000, the Wild Geese Foundation (Netherlands), R100 000, and the Children's Stamp Fund (Netherlands) about R100 000.

A grant of R600 000 from the Western Cape Government's community-based Public Works Programme has been approved and the first release of money will be given while the building is being built. A donation of about R80 000 has also been given from the President's Children's Fund to

buy equipment.

The new buildings, on the corner of Pickwick and Copperfield Roads, should be ready for occupation by the end of October.

There will be skills training facilities for about 150 children at a time. Panel-beating, spray painting, sewing and tailoring, literacy classes, pottery making, leatherwork, art, drama and dance and others skills will be given in one building.

The other building will be a drop-in where children and young people can take showers, eat, get medical care, be counselled, become resettled and be involved in creative workshops.

Five young men and 30 members of the Unemployed Workers Union are to be trained and employed by the contractor Landmark Construction during the course of construction of the buildings.

Director of Streets David Fortune said: "The money from our donors is not given to us in one lump sum. Rather, it is given to us as they approve it, and as and when we can show them what is unfolding with our project."

"The R40 000 from city was put into a bank account with our matching R40 000 which we raised from other donors. The money

the Royal Netherlands Embassy gave us helped us open another account with the Cape of Good Hope Bank who have taken us on as a social responsibility project. The fourteen workers on this project get paid from other donors who fund the running costs of the organisation."

"On a daily basis we are making the children more and more aware about how life on the streets comes to nothing," Mr Fortune said.

"We are having success resettling children with families or extended families. In the past 3 years Streets has successfully resettled over 300 children and youth throughout the country. We are so excited about our new building because the present one in Woodstock is definitely inadequate."

Mr Fortune said he was hoping to get other money from donors who are still considering giving money for the project.

"We need money to complete the centre."

The project was launched on the new site by Deputy Minister of Health and Social Services Geraldine Fraser-Moleketi.

For more information contact David Fortune or Thembile Pepeteka on 47-9191

School feeding to resume in E Cape next month

(298) ARG 23/2/96

BISHO. - The Eastern Cape primary school feeding scheme, which has been rescued from yet another collapse by emergency funding, will be re-implemented during the first week of March.

The Eastern Cape executive committee has approved a transfer of R35 million from the provincial welfare department for the scheme after planned top-up funding from the national government was cancelled at the 11th hour.

The central government grant was expected to be declared by Deputy President Thabo Mbeki in Umtata yesterday with the announcement of a new provincial reconstruction and development programme.

However, the provincial government was apparently informed abruptly that no funds could be siphoned from any of the national or provincial budget votes.

The scheme collapsed last year because of large-scale fraud.

Scheme co-ordinator Noma-wong Kama said they expected to start feeding children by the first week of next month.

Earlier this week she said anticipated budgetary constraints would see the revamped scheme aimed only at children up to Standard 2.

All private and Model C schools would be excluded to ensure only children identified as the most needy benefited. - Sapa.

Mandela fund boosted

(298) Star 24/2/96

By WILLIAM-MERVIN GUMEDE

The Nelson Mandela Children's Fund has received a giant boost with a \$1-million donation from US tycoon Teddy Forstmann.

On Tuesday there were happy smiling faces all round at the For the Love of Children pre-school which received R25 000 of the donation for the building of a playground.

Anna Cheesman, director of the pre-school which is located at the YMCA premises in Braamfontein, Johannesburg, said she was delighted with the donation.

Forstmann is co-founder and senior partner of the private investment firm, Forstman Little & Co, which owns companies such as Gulfstream Aerospace, Dr Pepper, General Instruments, Topps, and Ziff-Davis Publishing.

The Nelson Mandela Children's Fund was officially launched in May last year at President

Mandela's Pretoria residence.

At the launch, Mandela pledged to donate a third of his salary to the fund - around R150 000 every year.

Since the inception of the fund it has received donations from the private sector, individuals, foreign governments and foreign welfare organisations.

According to Jeremy Ractliffe, chief executive trustee of the fund, it has capital of about R18,5-million, with a further R19-million pledged.

There are 31 members in the President's Club - individuals, businesses and foreign governments that have matched Mandela's donation to the fund and whose members are giving R150 000 every five years.

The club includes American actor Denzil Washington, the Norwegian government, Barlows, Coca-Cola, Anant Singh Pierre Cardin and M-Net.

Report on child molesters strikes home

By CAS St LEGER

THE traditional warning to children not to talk to strangers is not enough to protect them from sexual abuse, according to a recent study

Children are much more likely to be raped by their fathers, according to research by the Child Abuse and Ne-

glect Clinic at Wits University.

The study, published in the SA Medical Journal this month, showed that only seven out of every 100 adults who interfered sexually with a child were strangers. The study considered 227 cases of child sexual abuse.

Relatives were responsible in 66 percent of cases, which ranged from

fondling to forced observation of pornography to intercourse.

Biological fathers accounted for 38 percent of the culprits. The others were mothers' boyfriends, stepfathers and common-law parents. Eighteen percent were family friends.

Five children in the study were assaulted by women.

(298) ST 25/2/96

CAPE TOWN — The correctional services department was not equipped or geared to deal with unsentenced children, senior staff officer Brig Hannes Kaufmann said yesterday.

Giving evidence before Parliament's correctional services committee, Kaufmann said it lacked proper facilities

Correctional services unable to care for unsentenced children

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and accommodation.

Prisons were overpopulated by about 20 000 prisoners. Pollsmoor Prison in Cape Town was overpopulated by more than 100%, while awaiting-trial prisoners stood

at an all time high of 27 000. The department had a personnel backlog of 8 106 and only 1 338 of these posts would be filled because of budgetary constraints.

There was a lack of

specially trained personnel to cater for the needs of children.

The department had been allocated funds to care for 95 000 prisoners, but last month's average daily prison population had been 113 810. Unsented children should not be kept in prison, Kaufmann told the committee. — Sapa.

McKenzie slates child offenders Act

CLIVE SAWYER
Political Correspondent

PROPOSED changes to the Correctional Services Act about regulations for keeping children in prison are insufficiently detailed, Western Cape Police Minister Patrick McKenzie has told the national parliament in Cape Town.

In a submission to the national assembly and senate committees on correctional services, Mr McKenzie said the new amendments addressed only a few of the problems caused by last year's decision not to keep awaiting-trial children in prison.

One problem was that it was up to the state to prove the age of a child.

This was difficult because official documentation was often hard to come by because many births were not registered.

Many children deliberately gave false information and the 24 hours provided to police to check this information was too short.

This meant police had to ask district surgeons to determine a child's age.

"Physicians, however, do not readily commit themselves to a definite determination of age," he said.

Academics at the University of Cape Town medical school, in a report to Western Cape police, had confirmed that DNA typing could not be used to determine a child's age.

A University of Stellenbosch report said that the biological system used to determine bone and dental age was also not 100 percent accurate.

"Given the present circumstances of limited availability in time and expertise, access to a 24-hour service is not possible."

Twilight children launch their brick-making operation

Lukanyo Mnyanda

GAUTENG local government and housing MEC Dan Mofokeng launched the Bridging Programme Brick-Making Project to help the Twilight Children Organisation set up a cement blockmaking operation in Soweto yesterday.

The Twilight Children Organisation's Jane Pritchard said: "We are thrilled to be launching this project, which will benefit the community at large

BS 28/2/96

and our youth in particular."

She said the project, sponsored by Blue Circle Cement, would create much-needed employment opportunities for the twilight boys and would also benefit the community as it expanded. Other sponsors included St Columba's Presbyterian Church, DIY Builders and Peter and Rosemary Kirchman.

Blue Circle's training and customer development division had been called in to help set up the operation and help with advice.

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CHRISTINE NESBITT

Twilight kids in training as entrepreneurs

Star 28/2/96 (298)
HOUSING REPORTER

Street children from a shelter in Hillbrow have been put on the building industry ladder by launching a brickmaking project in Soweto to help them to reshape their lives.

This is the first project launched with the aim of encouraging street children to enter the building industry and be entrepreneurs.

Yesterday's official launch was attended by Local Government and Housing MEC Dan Mofokeng.

About eight youngsters from the Twilight Children's shelter were trained in bricklaying and business skills last year by Blue Circle Cement.

The group now produces about 4 000 bricks a day, which are sold to Sowetans.

Twilight Children's Organisation spokesman Jane Prichard said the aim was to create jobs, not only for the twilight boys but also for local community members as the enterprise expands.

The participants are all older than 18 and have missed out on school.

She said the aim was to give the participants skills that would make it possible for them to start their own businesses and live independently once they were re-integrated with their families.

She said the final aim was to produce 8 000 bricks a day and increase the number of participants.

Blue Circle Cement will provide more staff training and will guide them to produce better and improved products, added customer development manager Rashid Jaffer.

"In this way, it is possible to pass on skills that will allow more and more Twilight children to lead productive lives," he said.

Other organisation which contributed towards the project are St Columbas Presbyterian Church and DIY Homebuilders.



Building blocks ... Buhlebezwe Sibi and Mandla Mbonga will have to wait until they are about 18 before benefiting from the brickmaking project initiated for street children.

Bill 'can open way to child pornography'

AR 6/28/96

(298)

TYRONE SEALE, Political Staff

TOP Western Cape prosecutors are furious that "ridiculous" exemptions in the new anti-porn bill will open the way for child pornography in South Africa.

The new Film and Publications Bill allows child porn to be displayed in scientific, literary or educational media.

Western Cape Attorney-General Frank Kahn lashed out at the bill at a parliamentary committee hearing yesterday. The bill proposes new controls on sexually explicit material, but Mr Kahn said it would have the opposite effect and would sustain the child sex industry.

He said the bill was unconstitutional, vague and unenforceable.

Giving evidence to the national assembly portfolio committee on home affairs, Mr Kahn and two advocates from his office, Tessa Heunis and Ronel Berg, launched an unremitting attack on the bill and took turns to say the proposed law was sloppily worded and full of contradictions.



Frank Kahn

The bill, formulated by a task group appointed by the minister of home affairs, places emphasis on the protection of children through age restrictions on the distribution of magazines, films and videos which contain harmful or disturbing material and also by limiting access to licensed premises to adults.

It deals extensively with the classification of various kinds of materials and grants protection to "bona fide" art, literature, drama and scientific works, only providing for age restrictions, where necessary.

The bill is being considered by the portfolio committee which is hearing public evidence and studying written submissions before deciding on amendments that will lead to the writing of another bill that will be debated at parliament within months.

In his evidence, Mr Kahn said the bill, as it stood, made room for the distribution or possession of materials which it effectively wanted to outlaw.

He questioned how the law could, for example, attempt to make a distinction between the distribution and private ownership of certain materials. Any talk of the right to privacy would be countered, he said, with the 17 000 cases of child abuse dealt with by his department and the high incidence of wife battering in the privacy of the home.

One of the unconstitutional provisions in the bill was the definition of children as those under 16 years of age, while the constitution gave this age as 18.

By allowing certain "ridiculous" exemptions for certain images, including child pornography, to be displayed in scientific, literary or educational media, the bill would sustain the child sex industry.

In her submission, Ms Berg said the bill lacked clear definitions of phenomena such as bestiality and that its reference to explicit bestiality would leave the courts, police, distributors and buyers of porn wondering exactly which forms of bestiality were acceptable in terms of the proposed law.

By saying that certain publications or films would be prohibited if certain specified acts or phenomena were predominant in these publications or films, the bill made it possible for such depictions to be imported to this country provided they did not overshadow the material concerned.

Ms Heunis told the committee that while the home affairs task group had studied relevant legislation in established democracies such as Canada and the United States, thought had to be given to writing legislation in South Africa that recognised this country's history of violence against and abuse of women and children, and of racial hatred.

In a written submission, Mr Kahn and his team called for the inclusion of gender and racial hatred clauses in the new legislation and an obscenity clause that would cover harmful and socially abhorrent materials, as opposed to attempts in the current bill to deal with these issues separately.

Mr Kahn also demanded tougher penalties, saying pornography was a multi-billion dollar industry in the United States and had the potential for becoming hugely profitable in South Africa as well.

Coming to the defence of the bill, Colin Douglas, parliamentary affairs manager of the SA Institute of Race Relations, said his organisation did not believe the government should be given the power to tell people what they were allowed to read and view.

Every genuinely harmful act targeted by censorship laws could already be prosecuted under existing statutory and common law crimes that outlawed sex with minors, rape, assault, cruelty to animals and profiting from crime.

The millions of rands that were poured into the state's anti-pornography bureaucracy each year would be better spent fighting real crimes like child abuse and rape.

UN promotes age limit on military recruitment

Linda Ensor

CAPE TOWN — In a bid to limit the widespread use of "killer kids" in war, a UN-appointed committee chaired by Mozambique's Graca Machel is to propose that 18 years be the internationally accepted minimum age for recruitment to military service.

However, in doing so it will come into conflict with the SA government, which is sticking to its 17-year recruitment age

and is resisting attempts to have it increased.

Machel's comments followed a two-day meeting of an eminent persons' group in Bishops-court which is studying the effect of armed conflict on children.

The committee's report, which will recommend ways of reinforcing measures to protect children in situations of armed conflict, will be presented to the General Assembly in October.

The study was moti-

vated by concern for the millions of children suffering in armed conflicts throughout the world.

President Nelson Mandela participated in the discussions and was fully supported in his view that "women and children should not be targeted and that children be not drafted into combat forces as instruments of war".

In the past decade, more than 2-million children have been killed in armed conflicts.

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UN panel wants to take children out of the firing line

Cape Town - The deliberate use or targeting of children in war should be labelled a war crime deserving the severest possible punishment, a UN panel decided yesterday after talks in Cape Town.

Charging at a news conference that 15 million children have been killed or wounded in conflicts over the past decade, chairman Graca Machel said: "Impunity is something we should not accept."

"We are going to call for a legal

framework in which targeting children, turning children into killers or targets of conflict ... should be declared a war crime, a crime against humanity," she said.

Machel, widow of former Mozambican president Samora Machel, heads a panel of experts which will report to the UN General Assembly in September on the effects of conflict on children.

The panel includes Archbishop Desmond Tutu and Nigerian writer Wole Soyinka, both Nobel Prize winners.

President Nelson Mandela urged the panel, when he opened their meeting on Monday, to make an example of people and governments who abused children in conflicts.

Machel welcomed Mandela's call.

She said the emergence of

post-conflict truth commissions to heal the wounds of war should be welcomed, but should not be seen to imply immunity from punishment for war crimes.

Tutu said: "Adults, in a diabolical way, are making children fight the wars they are too scared to fight themselves."

The panel will meet again in Stockholm in May to begin drafting the report to the UN General Assembly - Reuters

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Proposal aims to tackle (298) vagrancy, street children (298)

JOSEPH ARANES, Municipal staff

A PROPOSAL that the Cape Town City Council takes responsibility for the homeless has been approved by the council's housing committee

The document was a summary of recommendations compiled from a recent conference on homelessness and if approved by the full council will see the municipality have a clear policy on the handling and treatment of vagrants and street children.

When tabling the proposal, Isobel Edelstein said vagrancy was a socio-economic problem that could not be wished away but that needed solutions.

"As a council, we must accept it as our responsibility because we were part of creating the problem."

The proposal includes setting up a resource and data centre, running

prevention programmes, doing outreach work and reintegrating vagrants, with their families and communities.

Ms Edelstein said the council needed to appoint street workers who would help set up the data base so the true extent of the problem and the number of people involved could be established.

"In finding solutions, we need to have a scientific basis for our assessment as there are no simplistic solutions to the problem."

Councillor Ian Iversen said he agreed with the proposal but added it would be useful to involve the other emerging municipalities of the metropolitan area in the problem so the question of vagrancy could be tackled within the whole Peninsula.

Tax incentives could aid training

GEOFF ELLIOTT
Business Reporter

THE government should consider tax relief and other incentives to encourage business to implement training programmes for the youth, said Chris Nissen, the African National Congress's minister for economic affairs in the Western Cape.

Mr Nissen said the country "needs more part-time and vacation opportunities in other sectors and industries."

He also called for debate on how to help finance poor youngsters through education. While admitting the economy could not afford the fiscal burdens of free education, Mr Nissen added "we must look very carefully at ways to help..."

The minister was speaking at the official launch of the Informal Business Training

Trust's (IBTT) training programme aimed at the corporate sector. IBTT is a non-government organisation (NGO) which finances the country's emerging entrepreneurs.

Mr Nissen told the lunch yesterday that the unemployment crisis cuts across all age groups but jobless youth was the biggest concern.

"Statistics suggest that unemployment levels amongst out-of-school youth are the highest of all these categories," Mr Nissen said.

He added that more appropriate education and training and expanding part-time career opportunities were other areas to look at.

IBBT trustee Cedric Buffler said that of 400 000 matriculants just five percent were finding their way into the formal sector.

The IBBT, like most NGOs,

had found funding a problem in the new dispensation as donors from the past switched to the new government.

The new training programme is one of the IBBT's drives to be self-sustaining. It will charge corporations R1 175 plus VAT to provide training for unemployed dependents of their employees.

The course has been dubbed the "Township MBA" and according to the IBBT an independent survey indicated that 81 percent of those graduating from a recent programme in a squatter community "are now gainfully occupied."

The attraction of the course for companies would be more than altruistic, added Clive Dutlow, chairman of IBBT.

He said worker productivity improved when not burdened by the financial drain of the family.

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Club appeals for financial aid

(298)
Sowetan 9/2/96

By Muzi Mkhwanazi

IN THREE SHORT years, the Vukuzenzele Community Club - which operates in a small shack in Naledi Extension 2 squatter camp in Soweto has successfully battled many problems.

It caters for 220 pensioners and disabled people. It also includes a day-care centre and a number of self-help schemes for unemployed people.

Vukuzenzele co-ordinator Anna Khumalo says the number of people who come to them for help is increasing: "It's incredible. After only a few years, the number has risen dramatically."

She says this has led to problems in their attempts to serve the public and achieve self-sufficiency because the money it receives from the day-care centre was not enough and some parents do not pay at times.

"A number of self-help schemes are in the pipeline, but due to lack of finance and adequate space, we cannot introduce these projects," she says.

They have even sent some disabled people away and care for them in their own homes because they cannot cope.

"It's a pity, but as we do not have facilities, we cannot help them at our club. What we need is space and donations from the community in order to help our people," she says.

Because of accommodation problems, the organisation was forced to

They care for many pensioners

limit the number of people who attended. "We help them at home but transport is a major problem," said Khumalo.

"Some of these people cannot do anything for themselves, and they are left alone when their children are at work. Their plight is depressing; we cannot fail them," she adds.

Khumalo says her organisation gives food to people, but their help was limited because of their resources. Agnes Ngwenya, a volunteer at the club, says they were even running short of basic supplies like soap, dishes and chairs, which are needed to run the day-care centre effectively.

Dressmaking and baking activities were also delayed because they do not have any material or teachers to help them, Ngwenya says.

Football and karate

In an attempt to remove kids from the streets, they established football and karate teams. "We appeal to people in the community to come forward and help us in this regard," says Ngwenya.

Agnes Mthibidi (71) says: "I live alone; all my children are married. Although I do receive pension money, it does not cover my expenses so I come to Vukuzenzele for food parcels, which we get now and then.

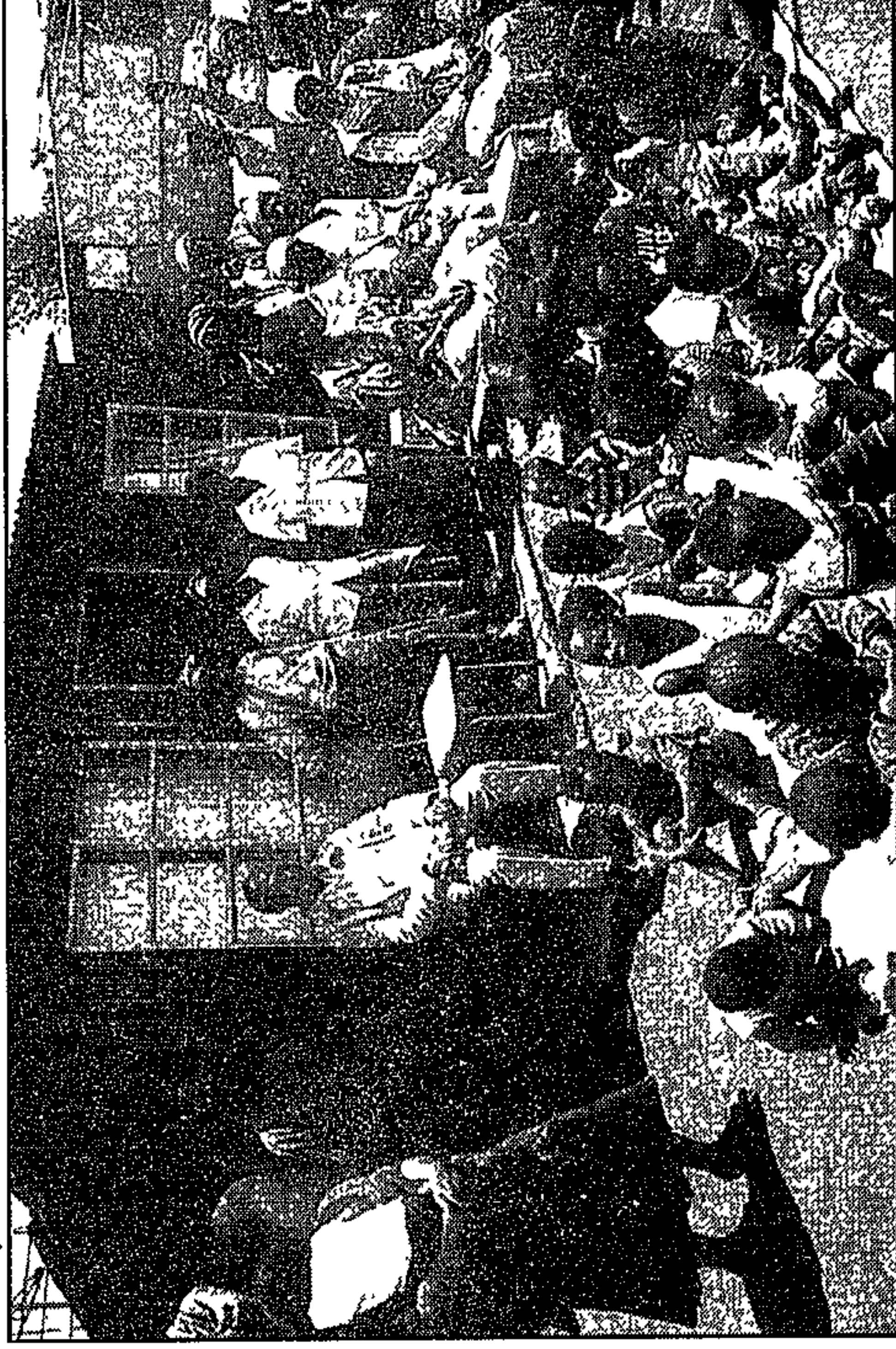
"We have been told of projects that we were going to undertake, but they have not yet started because we do not have a sponsor to help us."

"We flock to this place every day because we need help, and we are hoping that our plans can be realised so that we can supplement our income."

Another club member, Ellen Zikhali (39), says the club helped her to get a disability grant.

"In 1993 I stayed for three months without receiving a cent from pensions but this club helped me. I was ecstatic after I got my money, although it does not cover my expenses."

"I have two kids to support. People with money should come forward and



Fun in the sun ... the club's day-care centre is battling to make ends meet because some parents are unable to pay any fees.

help us to start our projects so we can become self-sufficient."

"We are in dire need of a centre where our people can work. If we can be offered a place, our projects can be realised. There are people who are locked inside their houses who need us. We need help to run this worthy cause," Khumalo said.

There are people who are locked inside their houses who badly need our assistance



Self-help ... the Vukuzenzele Community Club helps pensioners, disabled and unemployed people, and also runs a day-care centre in a Soweto squatter camp. PICS: CLEMENT LEKANYANE

SOWETAN

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Put juveniles away — Phosa

By BHEKIE MATSEBULA

CP 11/2/96
MPUMALANGA premier Mathews Phosa has called for the review of the Correctional Services Amendment Act of 1994 (Act 17, 1994) which forbids the detention of unconvicted children below the age of 18 years.

Phosa — a qualified lawyer — said this week the Act has given hardened criminals a chance to abuse this Act by using juveniles to commit serious crimes such as murder and robbery.

He said when the new Act was passed it did not take long for hardened criminals to realise that juveniles were given lenient sentences even when they had committed serious offences.

Tolerated

"This trend will only be stopped if juveniles are made to realise that their conduct will not be tolerated and that the game is not worth the candle. A taste of their own medicine will certainly drive the message home that juveniles who are convicted will not be wrapped in wadding," Phosa said.

Phosa said society was now "fed up" with the brutal attacks meted out by juveniles who knew that they would in the end be given lenient sentences by the courts in terms of the new legislation.

He said juveniles should be separately detained from grown up criminals.

Phosa said he does not go well with the issue of granting long-term serving prisoners parole. He said parole ridiculed the judicial system in the country.

He added that it frustrated judges and magistrates.

By BONGIWE MHLANGENI

Once they were known as "the young lions", but today these millions of people are called the "lost generation".

These are the youngsters who sacrificed their youth and education to fight for a democratic government, and who now feel their sweat and blood has brought them more misery than victory.

Lack of facilities in townships to empower and reintegrate them into normal society is glaring, while most township youngsters are idling with no hope and see a bleak future ahead.

What has happened to the roaring lions of the 1980s? Have the young lions forgotten how to roar? "I don't think we have forgotten how to roar, but I do know we are forgotten by our Government," says Naomi Mhlangeni, who spent two years at home during the 1980s without education, and who has failed matric twice in the last two years.

"We are being ignored by the same people we made sacrifices for. It is sad that this happens at a time when we think we have to divert our focus from nationwide politics to self-development."

Her feeling is shared by many township youths, who can be seen idle during the day.

With a sullen look, Mhlangeni says it is becoming tougher "to achieve our dreams".

This 22-year-old Sowetan has been to most colleges around Johannesburg, trying to get another chance to rewrite matric but only to be told there is no space for third-time matric writers.

She says the schools and the so-called finishing schools have been of no help in the last two

years, adding that another problem could be that she does not have enough information about existing facilities.

"All I want is to get my certificate and get skills that will make me employable and improve my self-esteem. I am not sure if I will make it out there," she adds.

However, Mhlangeni refuses to be pessimistic about her future. At the same time, she is discouraged by the lack of amenities that could bring significant changes in her life.

In Soweto there are only a few colleges - established by NGOs to try and address the issue of the so-called marginalised or lost youth. These include colleges such as the Ipelegeng Youth Leadership Programme, while in other areas

such colleges are non-existent. Ipelegeng offers life and leadership skills, and has been running for three years. It accepts youths be-

tween the ages of 18 and 30 who have attempted matric.

However, NGOs are battling to survive because they receive no assistance from the Government, while foreign donors are withdrawing funds.

Youth development worker Peter Mbule says hundreds of youths apply for admission, but most have to be turned away as only 60 candidates are accepted.

"Most of the young people who come here have lost all hope and no longer have confidence in themselves," he says, adding that the institution wishes to expand, but is unable to do so with the existing limited funds.

Mbule says while most young people need to complete their formal education, there is also a need for developmental skills which will boost their confidence and

'We are being ignored by the people we have made sacrifices for.'

Where second chances are rare

It is often said you only live once and second chances are rare. Which is why Timothy Phahlane and Rachaka Ramakhula made the most of it when opportunity knocked.

Phahlane, a former convict jailed for seven years for murder, and Ramakhula who walked out of his school, are now shaping their future for the better.

Unlike hundreds of youths who are bitter about their past and now feel useless - even though they are long past their teens and should, as young men, have been "on their way" - these two have found new dreams.

They are among 30 students accepted for a pilot project, Matric and Skills Training Programme, at the Ort College of Technology in Midrand.

The project is open to students who have at least passed standard eight and offers a variety of subjects including economics, maths, science and technology, all a sound basis for a solid career.

But Phahlane and Ramakhula form but a tiny part of township youngsters benefiting from a scheme to assist those who could not complete high school.

Not long ago, the two Sowetans had forgotten how it felt like to be dreamers and to believe in themselves.

They just walked aimlessly about the streets.

Coming out of jail in 1986 Phahlane was disillusioned to find that almost all schools had been closed following ongoing unrest in most parts of the township. "I really wanted to start a new life, but there was no hope," he said.

But, idling was not for this 33-year-old: "I had to find a way of getting out of that difficult situation. I left my job after three years and decided

that education was a better key."

Phahlane is confident that he will be employed after completing his studies at Ort College and hopes to work for a computer

company. "Determination and perseverance usually leads to success," he added.

Ramakhula (26) shares his optimism and would like to pursue his studies later at tertiary level.

He left school in 1992 after writing his matric in an unregistered school. Since then he has tried almost everything that has come his way. But attending college was a chance he would not let slip.

"It was tough getting back behind the desk and having someone always telling you what to do.

"I really feel fortunate I can be guided again and encouraged to do better," he said.

'Behind a desk again beats just walking the streets'

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STAR 15/2/96

In the wake of the struggle against apartheid is a massive group of youths who are either sitting idle in the townships, cities or rural areas, or they're beating on doors in the vain hopes of getting something of an education

DEBBIE YAZBEK



On the right road at last ... Timothy Phahlane and Rachaka Ramakhula are determined not to waste the opportunity for a better life offered by the college. They will study subjects including maths, science, technology and economics. (see story on right)

make them employable.

Among the courses offered at Ipelegeng are computer literacy skills, business skills and English writing. Voluntary work by students for community organisations is compulsory. "Our young

people go on excursions, as some have never been out of their townships before. We have found that to make them competent and efficient, they need to regain their confidence," he says.

Mbule does not believe that

the youths are not interested in developing themselves. "The potential is there, they just need someone who will make them realise it. Many want to live a better life and know that they have to work for it."

Ipelegeng has formed links with Damelin College for some of its participants to be able to attend courses at the college, which is accredited by tertiary institutions. It also tries to find employment for most its participants.

From 'young lions' to a lost generation

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Plan to settle rent disputes

Ingrid Salgado

GAUTENG'S housing department has recommended amendments to the Rent Control Act of 1976 to allow for the establishment of mediation boards to resolve disputes between landlords and tenants.

The province's housing and local government standing committee will hold public hearings on the matter next month.

Gauteng housing and administration director Monty Narsoo told the committee yesterday there was evidence of deteriorating relationships between landlords and tenants in the inner city and in areas characterised by backyard shack accommodation.

Changed housing patterns in metropolitan areas meant "inventive measures" had to be sought to manage problems connected with rented housing.

Rent control was phased out in the 1970s.

Public works wage deal expected soon

Drew Forrest

CAPE TOWN — Cosatu has resolved internal wrangles over wage levels in the public works programme and is to sign a long-delayed deal with government "within weeks".

Public Works Minister Jeff Radebe said yesterday labour, the civil engineering industry, government and representatives of civil society were at the final stages of negotiations on a framework agreement designed to enhance the use of labour in all government construction projects.

Negotiations on the agreement began in 1994, but were stalled by internal union differences over pay. A one-year deal was concluded in 1993 to allow for pilot projects, which Radebe said had been successful.

Cosatu's head of negotiations Khumbula Ndaba said unionists had been divided over whether workers should receive the same pay levels and benefits as in the formal sector, and over the government's proposal of "task-based" payment.

Some had felt that workers should be paid by the hour.

Ndaba said it had been conceded that in the interests of job creation, workers in the public works programme should not expect parity of pay and conditions with their counterparts in the formal sector. The Cosatu executive was also willing to try out the task-based payment system.

Ndaba emphasised, however, that the federation would be pressing for changes to the agreement's provisions on training, which he said were "very weak". Cosatu believed that all employees in public works projects should receive skills training to enhance their prospects of finding work.

He also said the unions would be seeking to sharpen the agreement's provisions on workers' benefits.

Giving details of progress in employment creation, Radebe said a total of 28 158 jobs would be generated by the Independent Development Trust's community employment programme, to which R70m had been allocated from the RDP fund. This would improve the incomes of 100 000 rural people. In addition, R150m had been allotted for 182 projects in the provinces. These were expected to create 18 000 jobs.

POLITICS

One week on: 7 for submissions on Bill

Wyndham Hartley

CAPE TOWN — Due to the urgency of the legislation needed to allow minors charged with serious crimes to be held in prison, the public is being given one week to make submissions on the Bill.

The Bill, introduced as a private members' proposal by ANC MP Carl Niehaus, seeks to make it possible as a short-term emergency measure to incarcerate children awaiting trial. It was introduced to the National Assembly's correctional services committee yesterday.

Niehaus, who chairs the committee, later announced that the public would have until February 20 to make submissions. Between then and February 28, when the Bill was scheduled for debate in the National Assembly, the committee would debate the measure. This could include public hearings.

Niehaus stressed that while large numbers of child offenders were not involved — about 700 were released into places of safety and parental custody last year — the legislative measure was necessary because those who had escaped and returned to crime were a danger to the public.

When the Correctional Services Act was amended last year to outlaw holding children in prison, there were many submissions from organisations. These would be taken into account.

It would be difficult for the committee to allow more time for submissions, he said. Submissions (and if possible 40 copies) can be addressed to the Secretary to Parliament, attention Sirone Ingerfeld, PO Box 15, Cape Town, 8000.

S PIONEER TO SUMMIT JOURNAL

BETTER DEAL FOR WORKERS

Wide changes in job laws planned

CT 14/2/96
(298)

A WORKING week of 40 hours and more protection for part-time workers are among the objectives of a Green Paper released yesterday. **BARRY STREEK** reports.

Sweeping proposals to improve working conditions are expected to be debated by Parliament this year, says Minister of Labour Tito Mboweni.

A Green Paper released yesterday says the goals of the labour reforms should include a 40-hour week, maternal and paternal leave, a minimum paid holiday of three weeks and the scrapping of the ban on Sunday work.

If the proposals are adopted, they will transform working conditions for all South Africans and particularly farm, domestic and part-time workers.

The director-general of labour, Dr N B Pityana, said public comments should be made by April 12. Once these had been studied, an Employment Standards Bill would be drafted for consideration by the partners in the National Economic Development and Labour Advisory Council (Nedlac) and parliamentary committees.

The bill would be submitted to the cabinet on June 30 and debated by Parliament after the winter recess, Pityana said.

The Green Paper says part-time workers should be entitled to the same protections as full-time workers on a proportional basis and that employment standards should be extended to contract workers.

The Wage Board's name should be changed to the Employment Standards Commission and its functions extended.

The legislation should cover all employees except unpaid charity workers, trainees and those in the security forces and intelligence agencies.

The Department of Labour is committed to reducing the working week to 40 hours, but in the interim this would be reduced to 45 hours and from 60 hours to 48 hours for security workers. No employ-

Child labour may become offence

POLITICAL WRITER

AN estimated 200 000 children aged between 10 and 14 are employed as child labour — and this practice should be ended, Minister of Labour Tito Mboweni says.

Although it was not clear how many were in part- or full-time jobs, about half these children were employed in agriculture, Mboweni told a press conference.

In his Green Paper, children under the age of 12 would be prohibited from being employed. Ministerial exemptions could be granted to children aged 12 to 14 if the work was not likely to be harmful to their health or education. Contraventions should be a criminal offence.

ee could work more than 12 hours a day.

Mboweni said the Green Paper also proposed that the ban on Sunday work should be lifted. "It is clear that the restrictions on Sunday work have all but collapsed."

Overtime pay should be 1½ the normal rate and double on Sundays. No one should have to work three successive Sundays and employees would be entitled to be paid for public holidays.

Every employee should be entitled to a rest period of 36 continuous hours, including one complete day, in every week.

Workers should be entitled to four months' maternity leave and women should not work for six weeks after the birth of a child. A woman on night work or work that could be harmful to her or her child would be entitled to suitable alternative employment during pregnancy and a year after the birth of her child.

Youth laws to be passed soon

(255) (298)
CAPE TOWN — Draft legislation providing for juveniles to be detained in police cells and lock-ups should be passed by Parliament by the end of next month.

If not, the process could be delayed for several months, the Correctional Services Amendment Bill's drafter Carl Niehaus (ANC) said yesterday.

Written submissions on the detention of juveniles to the committee would be accepted until Monday morning when a joint committee will start hearing oral evidence.

The committee was "pressed for time" in getting it passed through Parliament, Niehaus said. If it was not debated in the National Assembly on February 29 "it will stand over for a number of months".

The Senate was expected to debate the draft Bill early next month. — Sapa.



Streetchildren ... boys live openly on the streets of Hillbrow, but girls are less visible because they usually rent rooms and sell their bodies.

Rescuing girls from doom ⁽²⁹⁸⁾

Sametari 15/2/96

By Betsy Spratt

IN the movie *Pretty Woman*, Julia Roberts plays the proverbial "prostitute with a heart of gold" who meets her Prince Charming and is saved from a life of degradation. But for thousands of Johannesburg's juvenile prostitutes, life is far from a fairy tale.

"*Pretty Woman* is nonsense. These kids die," says Mrs Adele du Plessis, co-founder of The House, a refuge for juvenile prostitutes.

Situated in Berea, juveniles — black and white — arrive at the house each day for drinks, food and the consultation that could steer them away from the fate that befalls many young prostitutes.

Means of survival

"In the six years we've been in existence, we've buried more than 200 prostitutes," says Du Plessis in the consultation room where she and her husband, Jean, counsel the runaways who have turned to prostitution as a means of survival.

"Child prostitution is child abuse. There's just no two ways about it," Du Plessis says of the surging social ills brought on by the increase in juvenile runaways.

In May, they will open a second house, the Theosis Counselling Centre, in the hope of stemming the tide of runaways. Unlike the present house, which is a drop-in site, the new centre will offer the juveniles long-term, live-in care.

Volunteer counsellors will be trained in The House's newly developed Theosis Training Programme, a diploma in holistic pastoral counselling.

The eight-month training programme will provide volunteers with the skills needed to counsel juveniles who have been sexually active.

Lives of degradation

"We can't even use the term rehabilitate because that would be saying we want to return the child to the state in which we found her. We must 'habilitate'. We can't take these kids back to where they were. We have to start from scratch."

The new centre, like The House, will be for girls only, says Du Plessis: "Walk down the streets of Hillbrow and all you see are boys living on the streets."

"Where are the girls? They are invisible. They usually rent hotel rooms where they sell their bodies to survive."

There are hundreds of juvenile prostitutes working the streets and clubs of Hillbrow, many of whom ran away from home to escape physical, sexual and emotional abuse.

Saving them from lives of degradation requires early detection, a task performed by veteran prostitutes who inform the staff when

they spot a new girl.

"We can reach a child who has just arrived on the streets long before the Child Protection Unit even receives the paperwork that the child is missing," Du Plessis says.

But, according to the CPU's Captain Hutch Hutcheons, it is a shortage of manpower, coupled with the surge in more serious crimes like rape and murder, that impedes the unit's ability to search for runaways.

"What we must do is go after the pimp," he says. "This often requires 24-hour surveillance. We must prove in court that he is earning money from the children."

When the juvenile is arrested, she is turned over to the Department of Welfare and taken to a place of safety, Hutcheons says.

According to Ms Popple Laubscher, a programme manager at the Pretoria Child and Family Care Society, poverty is at the heart of the abuse and neglect that drives children to the streets and prostitution.

Copping out of life

"When parents have to struggle for their own existence, it is hard to find time left over for the child," she says. "Often the child ends up raising herself."

In some cases, parents sell their children to pimps, Laubscher says, recalling a case of one 10-year-old, who had lived with her parents in a makeshift structure in Pretoria.

"She had been picked up by a caring person and brought to a place of safety," Laubscher says. "She had been terribly hurt and damaged."

By fleeing to the streets, the child usually trades one form of abuse for another, entering a world where she is easy prey for drugs, abuse and HIV/Aids.

Early detection could prevent the child from becoming ensnared in an existence where she eventually works not for money, but to support a drug habit.

"You can't prostitute without a drug," says Du Plessis. "There is no way you can sell your body to five men in one day without it."

When the child finally arrives at The House, she is usually traumatised, Du Plessis says. "She has run away without clothing, money — nothing."

Yet, by providing refuge to runaways, The House and similar places are not sanctioned under the Child Care Act.

The goal of The House, however, is to return the child to her family, a task made difficult by the abuse which Du Plessis links to society's high levels of teenage alcoholism, drug abuse and suicide.

"What is happening is they are copping out of life," she says. "Our children can't cope with what is happening."

TYRONE SEALE
Political Staff

THE parliamentary portfolio committee has invited public comment on a bill making it possible for children accused of certain serious offences to be detained in police or prison cells.

The bill prescribes strict conditions under which such children may be held in detention, including their total isolation from adult prisoners or awaiting-trial prisoners. They must have regular visits by magistrates.

The cut-off date for public comment, written and oral, is next Tuesday, February 20.

The Correctional Services Amendment Bill has been introduced as a private member's bill by Carl Niehaus, head of the national assembly portfolio committee on correctional services.

Last year the Minister of Correctional Services, Sipo Mzimela tabled an amendment to Section 29 of the Correctional Services Act of 1959 to the effect that children should not be held in prison or police cells. It was unanimously supported by both houses of parliament.

According to Mr Niehaus, problems have since been experienced with the implementation of the amended Section 29 due to a lack of adequate, secure care facilities.

Correspondence on the bill should be addressed to: The Secretary of Parliament, Attention: Simone Ingerfeld, Box 15, Cape Town, 8000. Ms Ingerfeld's telephone number is (021) 403 3672 and her fax number (021) 461 7969.

**Public comment sought
on detention of children**

☐ Bill proposes police or prison cells for some

(298) ARK 15/2/96

Secure centres may see Bill withdrawn

Wyndham Hartley

CAPE TOWN — A Bill before Parliament to allow children awaiting trial for serious offences to be kept in prison will be withdrawn if secure care centres are up and running in time.

Deputy Welfare Minister Geraldine Fraser-Moleketi said yesterday it was hoped that each province would have one secure care centre operational by April.

She said she had an undertaking from ANC MP Carl Niehaus, who introduced the amendment to the Correctional Services Act, that if the centres were ready in time the Bill would be withdrawn.

Fraser-Moleketi, emphasising that SA was a signatory to the In-

(258) (298)
ternational Convention on Rights of the Child, said it was with great regret that there was a need for the Bill.

Niehaus's Bill follows the escape from places of safety of many of the children charged with serious offences following their transfer from prisons last year.

It is an emergency measure designed to be phased out.

Fraser-Moleketi said there had never been secure care centres, as distinct from places of safety, in SA. Her department was working as hard as possible to get them established.

She said the welfare department was also working with the justice department to ensure that children being brought before the

BD 16/2/96
courts should be processed as fast as possible and not be kept awaiting trial.

She also said police and the justice system should target those who used children as "runners" to commit crimes.

Correctional Services Minister Sipo Mzimela lambasted Niehaus's Bill as a regressive step.

He said that following President Nelson Mandela's undertaking to the nation that all children would be removed from the prisons, his department had spent a great deal of time revising the law.

"After the campaigns against myself and my department at the time, there is no way that I can support legislation that is a backward step," Mzimela said.

Boost for Kids' Haven, but struggle goes on

Star 17/2/96 (298)

By CHRISTINA STUCKY

An article published in the *Saturday Star* last year has given Kids' Haven, a home for street children near Benoni, new hope for the future.

Yet, in spite of the donations that poured in after the publication of the article, the home still struggles for survival.

On December 2, the *Saturday Star* told the story of Moira Simpson and Kids' Haven, the home she founded to give street children a chance for a better life. The response to the article was remarkable, Simpson says.

"So many people phoned me, you wouldn't believe it. People sent me R50, R200, even R2 000," she says.

One company put in a standing order for R1 500 to be paid into the Kids' Haven account every month to help her pay the salaries of her staff members, who at times had to go without their monthly wages.

And the Nelson Mandela Children's Fund donated R50 000, four months before the normal allocation time in April.

But the reality is that even

this R50 000 will last only two months and Simpson is trying to stretch the donations as far as she can.

"I am far more hopeful than the last time I spoke to you," Simpson says, "but it's a struggle. Everything is a struggle."

Every day, three to four more children arrive at the home. On the day the *Saturday Star* visited her this week, four boys arrived from Braamfontein shivering and soaked through to the skin. One boy had a wound on his eye from a street fight.

Simpson instructed one of the senior boys to take them to the showers and give them warm clothes. Half an hour later the boys were barely recognisable. Not only were they clean and dry, but they looked relaxed and at home.

The occupation at Kids' Haven is at a record high: 135, not counting the four new arrivals. Two out of 10 children leave after one or two days; some return, some don't.

"A whole lot of kids arrived one day because they wanted to go to school and they heard that we would send them to school,"

Simpson says.

Forty children who attended her in-house bridging school now attend schools in Benoni. All the children in her bridging school, "one of our greatest success stories", are new.

Some of the illiterate children who attended the bridging school last year are now in standards 1, 3 and even 5. And a private school in Germiston that accepted three of her children last year has now accepted 17 youngsters from Kids' Haven. "They charge us a set fee of R1 000", about a third of what the regular pupils pay," says Simpson.

This month she had to spend R2 000 on basic items the children needed for school. Every month, R4 000 goes towards the taxi that takes the kids to and from the various schools. Managing the budget is a constant balancing act.

"I can't spend all the money on some things and then not have the money to pay the wages and feed the kids," says Simpson.

What she hopes for in the long term is secure government funding. But before that can happen, laws must change, she says. The current Child Care Act does not allow for funding for non-conventional children's homes.

"The welfare system needs to meet the needs of alternative types of care," Simpson says.

Once the laws have changed - she hopes sometime this year - she feels confident Kids' Haven will receive state funding. Until then, she and her home keep walking a financial tightrope.

■ Anyone wishing to make a donation to Kids' Haven can phone Simpson at (011) 421-2510; or send a cheque to: Kids' Haven, Box 15001, Farrarmere 1518. The home's bank account is: Nedbank, Northmead Mall, Kids' Haven, account number 1948008114.



HAPPINESS IS: Moira Simpson with some of the children who have found refuge at Kids' Haven

PHOTOGRAPH TJ LEMON

Child abuse group calling for changes to the justice system

(298) Star 2/10/96

By ANSO THOM

Crime Reporter

South Africa's record of child abuse reads like a sordid horror story.

Sean A was murdered. His parents were charged with their son's murder – and with intent to do grievous bodily harm to three children. They still have a fourth child in their care.

Cornelia B (8) was repeatedly

beaten and sexually molested. Her parents are at present on trial for intent to do grievous bodily harm. They still have three children in their care.

Anne's (10) grandfather sexually molested her since the age of five with the consent of her parents – in return for money.

Certain acts were done in front of the mother and the forced presence of a 13-year-old brother

Bia K's (4) mother and step-grandfather were charged with rape, indecent assault and contravening the Child Care Act.

Refusing to ignore the plight of young victims, a group of people got together last year to form the Child Abuse Action Group.

Calling for greater expediency in the justice system, the CAAG is also demanding harsher sentences for child abusers.

Several cases this year serve to highlight the absurdity of the justice system:

■ A 63-year-old former policeman was fined R4 000 for sexually assaulting a 12-year-old girl.

■ A 51-year-old Katlehong widow who stole a carton of cigarettes was given a sentence of seven years.

■ A man who raped a 9-year-old girl got seven years.

Massive fraud bedevils school feeding schemes

□ But, Western Cape's projects are in the clear thanks to top NGO management

MICHAEL MORRIS
Staff Reporter

MULTI-MILLION rand fraud may have undermined confidence in school-feeding schemes elsewhere in the country, but the Western Cape's virtually trouble-free feeding project is being held up as an enviable example.

The grave difficulties in getting vital nutrition to South Africa's hungry children — a presidential lead-project launched by President Mandela in 1994 — have highlighted huge gaps in the government's database, with some of the new education authorities literally not knowing how many schools they have, where they are or even how many teachers and pupils are in them.

It is precisely these gaps which have enabled unscrupulous individuals to defraud the feeding scheme of millions of rands... R2,8 million in the case of the Eastern Cape alone.

But, much of this loss could have been avoided if regional governments had had the sense to use the expertise of independent non-governmental organisations (NGOs), many of whom have years of experience in the field.

And this, largely, is the reason for the Western Cape's shining success.

The Primary School Nutrition Programme in the Western Cape is driven by NGOs, mainly the Peninsula School Feeding Scheme, an organisation with 37 years' experience and a solid record in efficiency

and sound management.

Writing in the development journal, *Leading Edge*, Rod Amner of the Development News Agency, notes that, in contrast, NGOs working in the Eastern Cape "were thanked for their efforts, but told their services were no longer needed".

He goes on: "It is perhaps more than coincidental then, that the government-sponsored audit of the Western Cape's feeding scheme by Deloitte and Touche showed that just one of the 921 schools involved in the scheme in this province was implicated in fraud. The amount? A relatively meagre R4 000."

Mr Amner suggests that "NGOs and communities have a responsibility to demand a

greater say in how their RDP rands are spent".

His point is borne out by David Sanders, chair of the Western Cape feeding scheme's technical task team, and professor of public health at the University of the Western Cape.

"Frankly," he noted, "the government doesn't have community development expertise and they haven't got a clue of how to convert the scheme into something developmental."

He believes the Primary School Nutrition Programme's R500 million annual budget would go a lot further if it were NGO-driven.

In the Western Cape's case, the Peninsula School Feeding Scheme was in touch with each of the 712 schools it serviced,

and it provided meals for 280 000 children-a-day between Cape Town and Lutzville on the west coast, Plettenberg Bay in the east and Beaufort West in the Karoo.

Each meal consisted of two slices of brown bread spread with 20 g of peanut butter and 15 g of jam, 200 ml of a soyabased milk product and an optional extra of a cup of nutritious soup.

For many of these children there was simply not enough food at home.

But, one of the main lessons learnt from the first full year of Mr Mandela's lead-project was that, without the expertise of NGOs, the central government — or regional governments — alone would fail to live up to the president's laudable intentions.

(298)
ARC 2/1/96

Urgent plea⁽²⁹⁸⁾ as attacks on children grow

Star 4/2/96

Soweto Child Protection Unit faces
'unbearable workload' as 17 officers
attend to community of 3 million

By ABBEY MAKOE
Soweto Bureau

The Soweto Child Protection Unit has submitted an urgent plea to the Safety and Security Ministry requesting more personnel and transport services in the wake of increasing attacks on children in the township.

According to highly placed sources at Soweto's CPU, the workload "has become unbearable", with only 17 officers, mostly mothers, being forced to attend to a community estimated to number 3 million.

The head of the CPU, Capt Alfred Virtue, yesterday confirmed that things "are not running smoothly" in his unit.

"We have also been given the responsibility of servicing Dobsonville and the huge Doornkop squatter camp, which under normal circumstances would fall under Roodepoort," he said.

Other areas now falling under the jurisdiction of Virtue's unit include Lenasia and Eldorado Park. "It's not easy, but we have to do the job," he said.

According to the new plan that has been submitted to the Safety and Security Ministry, it is envisaged that the present CPU would be divided into three independent units.

The first would be known as

the sexual crimes unit. It would deal with all adult rape cases.

The second, influenced by what police described as an increase in domestic violence, would be called the family violence unit.

"It would deal with husbands who abuse their wives and wives who abuse their husbands," Virtue said.

The third would continue to be known as the child protection unit, but its heavy workload would be shared with the two newly formed units to alleviate the pressure on it.

A senior officer at the CPU said: "If the plan is approved, and all signs are that it will be, we would have more trained officers and transport available."

According to the register at the CPU offices in Jabulani, 1 445 cases of child abuse were reported last year.

"And believe you me, the majority of cases in the townships are never reported.

"This figure is definitely just the tip of the iceberg," Virtue added.

CPU administrator Lee-Anne de Jager said that rape was the most common crime dealt with by the unit, followed by assault with intent to do grievous bodily harm, indecent assault and sodomy.

Street-wise praises work by volunteers

(298) star 5/1/96

By HOPEWELL RADEBE
City Reporter

The Street-wise Children's Organisation has reunited 56 children with their families over the past 12 months, its social worker, Simone Gampel, said at a function held at the weekend to honour volunteers who have contributed to the process.

Gampel said what had started as a soup kitchen project for homeless children in Hillbrow, Johannesburg, led to the creation of the organisation which has provided night shelter for the children since 1987.

But it has now developed into an organisation with a new vision as a halfway station for children going from street life back to their families and going to school.

The organisation now has branches in Soweto, Pretoria and Durban, looking after more than 400 homeless children.

"It was through the help of volunteers that Street-wise was able to reunite the children with their families.

"Our appreciation for their work goes much deeper than the certificates we are presenting them with," she said.

Branch co-ordinator, Knox Mlegahle, presented certificates to six volunteers, namely, Michell Montoya, Tilman Rapp, Paul and June Schroder, two British cultural exchange students, and Beth Draper.

FEEDING SCHEME

(298)

Crummy data

FM 5/1/96

The R28m fraud that brought down the Eastern Cape Primary School Nutrition Programme earlier this year has revealed perilous inadequacies in the education system's data base. Government's lack of basic information systems has serious implications for its ability to manage other RDP projects.

These are some of the findings of the Development News Agency's Rod Amner contained in the latest issue of the Independent Development Trust (IDT)'s journal, *Leading Edge*.

According to official statistics there are over 6 000 schools and about 2,8m pupils in the Eastern Cape. This would make it the largest school system in the country although the province has a smaller population than either Gauteng or KwaZulu-Natal.

However, the report says that checks run on the province's feeding scheme revealed that thousands, possibly millions, of rand have been bled from the government payroll for nonexistent teaching posts and schools in the Transkei.

Similar problems have been detected in the Northern Province by an IDT technical team that has developed a new education management information system, which for the first time co-ordinates data on all the schools, teachers and pupils from the four racial and three homeland education departments that existed in the province.

The report says there is an urgent need to institute similar programmes to exorcise ghost schools and teachers that are inflating payrolls across the country.

"The dearth of reliable data has far-reaching implications not only for the feeding scheme but for other RDP projects. The central issue is how to effectively plan, implement and manage ambitious development projects in a society that lacks basic

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CURRENT AFFAIRS

information systems," it says.

The feeding scheme was virtually doomed to failure in the Eastern Cape because the province simply did not have enough money to feed all its alleged 1,9m primary school pupils, regardless of need.

(There was virtually no information on the nutritional status of pupils so the scheme was unable to target the neediest schools.)

And the report quotes the Eastern Cape's DG Thozì Botha as saying: "In its enthusiasm for delivering a vote-catching

national development project at breakneck speed the national government introduced a policy today for implementation tomorrow, doing so without adequate provision for an enabling process to facilitate implementation."

STAR 8/1/96 (248)

Begging bowls alone can't meet

Any charity has to benefit the big business donors as well as the recipient, or meaningful funds will not be forthcoming, as Chris

BY SARAH SUSSENS

In a hungry and needy country, the cries of battered and abused children have traditionally been the least heard. They are the lesser known victims of South Africa's turbulent political life.

For reasons that are as complex as this nation's psyche, child welfare has never been top-of-mind in the hard-edged world of charities where an estimated 15 000 organisations compete for the nation's hearts and pockets.

Last year, corporate South Africa spent about R1,25 billion on social responsibility projects of which R270 000 went to the SA National Council for Child and Family Welfare - a miniscule

0,02% of the total.

The flow of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) funds blows with the political winds.

During the days of apartheid, corporate South Africa and overseas donors poured money into anti-apartheid projects. Education became a top priority as did support for the informal sector. Hawking became a major buffer between the unwelcoming formal employment sector and the restlessness of the unemployed.

Through the years it is possible to chart the flow of CSR funds by reading the nation's political annals: "CSR funds are used in a way that businessmen can see returns. If they invest in education, for example, it is seen as an attempt to help the country and that

is good for business," said Jonathan Harrod, chairman of Business and Marketing Intelligence, a market research company.

"Helping the blind and sick is altruistic and there are no immediate returns," he added.

Cold comfort for the National Council for Child and Family Welfare, an organisation which has to find R160 million every year to help 500 000 children.

"In 1993 we had our worst year ever," said Marketing Director Hennie Oosthuizen, "and this was because of the pre-election panic when people were stocking their fridges with food and anticipating a siege.

"In that year we had to retrench 30% of our staff and cut many services - and the figures are frightening. This year's figures show that on any day Child Welfare is treating 10 000 abused or neglected children and they continue to pour in at the rate of 23 a day.

"Obviously we can only help as many children as our budget allows us. With all the vagaries of fundraising we can never guarantee help to every child in need.

"This year, for example, we are finding that the Reconstruction and Development Project (RDP) is the most compelling for businessmen. We have been told that they are under pressure to give funds to RDP. They say they don't have a choice.

"To give an idea of how CSR funds fluctuate: In 1994 we saw a 50% drop in corporate funding since 1992. This year there has been a further drop of 25%."

"We are probably the best known Child Welfare organisation in South Africa so if we are suffering, it must be ten times worse for the smaller charities."

Oosthuizen said there were other factors that affected Child Welfare's fundraising efforts and these included:

- Government subsidies, which make up about 40% of the budget, are subject to cutbacks in any given year.

- Any scandals relating to fundraising in other charities: "Within days of it appearing in the media we see it in our books.

The money dries up," said Oosthuizen.

- The lack of tax incentives for donations to charity "We are in the process of lobbying for this with the support of Welfare Minister Abe Williams," he added.

Oosthuizen said the fundraising climate has become so competitive that Child Welfare realised it would have to do its own promotions and marketing.

"We had to look for innovative and exciting ideas which would be mutually beneficial. A good example of this is Red Nose Day, which is our biggest single fundraising event. This year we hope to top 1995's R8,7-million.

"This is a good example of

the need

Child Welfare well knows

(298) Star 8/1/96

win-win situation where business and the public gain from their involvement with us. The public get a red nose for their effort and business uses Red Nose Day as a fun promotion for their companies." CNA's involvement with Red Nose Day is cited as a win-win project.

Says Andries Smith, managing director of CNA: "The days of standing with a tin are over. People are tired of giving and getting nothing back. The onus is on business now to come up with ways in which everybody benefits.

"Red Nose Day generates excitement in our stores, the public get something for their money and Child Welfare benefits. The secret is to use opportunities of advantage of everyone."

Red Nose Day, an M-Net corporate Social Responsibility project, is also run strictly on business lines in keeping with the new professionalism of charities. It has been sub-contracted out to a string of specialists from auditors and lawyers to a marketing team.

South Africans are accosted on every street corner and at every turn by poor people – guesstimates put the figure at close to 15 million – and the only way charities are going to survive is by adapting to changing times and coming up with innovative ideas, says Oosthuizen.

"We now spend 30% of our budget on promotions – a sign of the changing times. Like any business we need to spend money to make money."

NGOs envious of Mandela's Children's Fund

President Nelson Mandela's high-profile Children's Fund has netted more than R12-million since its inception last year, with a further R24-million pledged to it, while humbler NGOs are battling for money. **Marion Edmunds reports**

(298) M+G 12-18/1996

NON-GOVERNMENT organisations are frightened that President Nelson Mandela's Mbas touch is proving so successful that it is threatening their own ability to raise funds to care for South Africa's poor and homeless children.

These NGOs, many of which have lost foreign funders in post-apartheid South Africa, are desperate for larger donations from big business to help disadvantaged children, and are eyeing the millions in Mandela's Fund with envy and reservations.

Mandela's Children's Fund has received R12-million, with a further R24-million pledged to it over the next five years. There are now 28 members in the President's Club — individuals, businesses and foreign governments that have matched Mandela's donation to the fund and whose members are giving R150 000 or more over five years. The club includes US actor Denzel Washington, the Norwegian government, Barlows, Coca-Cola, Pierre Cardin and M-Net.

The marketing director of the South African National Council for Child and Family Welfare, Hennie Oosthuizen, said this week: "I believe that the Nelson Mandela Children's Fund has the potential to take donors away from child welfare organisations because it can offer exposure to donors, and all we can offer is accountability. We need some of that money in our organisation and we could use it successfully."

The chief executive trustee of the Fund, Jeremy Ractliffe, responded by saying, "I do not know of any of our donors who have given to the Mandela's Children's Fund through not funding some other NGO in the field we concentrate on. I would welcome discussions with NGOs who feel that they have lost out to the Fund."

It cannot be disputed that Mandela's name sanctifies his Children's Fund, giving it a political and emotional appeal of international standing. (Those who become part of the President's Club receive a certificate signed by Mandela, as well as a photograph of the donor with Mandela.)

Smaller, humbler NGOs — which have worked for decades in South Africa's forgotten communities — are throwing up their hands in despair, saying that they just cannot compete with the Mandela

name. This is ironic, given the fact that these NGOs were the unofficial conduit for foreign funds during apartheid years, in many instances, helped prepare South Africa and the African National Congress for the transition to democracy.

Chairperson of the Save the Children Fund, Mary Hanna, said this week that it was becoming increasingly difficult to raise money and that high-profile funds were attracting donations which had previously gone



Mean streets: Street children such as these are to be the beneficiaries of the Nelson Mandela Children's Fund, but other NGOs caring for children say they are losing donations to Mandela's fund. PHOTO: HENNER FRANKENFELD

to Save the Children.

"The demands are increasing and the funds are not what we have had to severely curtail our nutrition programmes in places like the Northern Province, for example, and as far as we know there is no other organisation working there to take our place."

Johannesburg Child Welfare has retrenched 22 social workers this year to cope with the drop in funding, according to Anne Bown, manager of funding and public relations.

Bown said people were much less generous than they used to be and that they were struggling to find donors, especially needed as the state had cut its subsidy by R1-million, and foreign governments were giving to the Reconstruction and Development Programme.

The funding and development manager of the Child Welfare Society in Cape Town, Jetty Botes, said that the society's 1996 to 1997 budget was short by more than a million rand and that it would have to cut projects unless saved by a windfall.

"Corporations provide 15 to 20 per cent of our funding currently — this is less than it used to be," she said. Ractliffe said this week that information and application forms were freely available and that he had distributed R3 500 brochures about the Fund.

He said the Fund focused on organisations that were on the coal-face of development work and working directly with communities. The Fund's brochure states that it assists organisations working with disadvantaged children, with a particular emphasis on children in detention, education, who have had no formal education, who are handicapped, and homeless children.

Ractliffe said 92 grants had already been made, many to projects involving street children. Altogether R1.5-million had been disbursed and more than R5-million would be paid out in 1996, he said. The Fund intended to allocate not less than 75 per cent of the interest from its capital base and 25 per cent of its annual opening capital to projects every year, he said.

The Mandela Children's Fund has, in conjunction with other NGOs, helped to fund a Youth Development

While the NGOs' official line is one of regret and restraint, their off-the-record comments tend to be resentful and, at times, vicious. "Nobody wants to say anything because it is politically incorrect to criticise the Mandela Fund," said the source.

But Ractliffe is not exempt from criticism. He has been accused of trying to turn the Mandela Fund into a personal empire, and of eluding telephone calls by NGOs attempting to establish information about the Fund.

"Ractliffe is the Fund," said a source. "You can't get past him."

Ractliffe said, "I have no desire to create a personal empire. All the information about the Fund is freely available. People who want to talk to me should keep trying, because I am always here."

Security 'biggest issue for children'

ARG 19/1/96 (298)

JENNY VIAL
Health Reporter

SECURITY and survival — and not health issues like Aids or sexually transmitted diseases — are the most important concerns of schoolchildren, and school health intervention must reflect this.

This is according to Khalipha Bility, of the department of public health at the University of the Western Cape, who was speaking at a conference on health-promoting schools.

Dr Bility said health intervention had to be based on three factors — the school health team, a teacher support team and a parent programme.

These three had to act together in the interests of schoolchildren and find out what the children needed to know. "In the Western Cape,

the most important issue for children aged 10 to 15 years is how to protect themselves against gangs and violence."

Dr Bility emphasised it was important to work on the "no fault principle".

"We need to look forward: it doesn't matter who did what. We spend a lot of time talking about the obvious, and it's a drain on energy.

"Rather, we should be looking at the conditions that exist and seeing how to overcome them. When we do this, it brings people together. Saying it's the inspector's fault, it's the teacher's fault, doesn't help. When we focus energy on overcoming pain and despondency, we start seeing a change."

He said there was a tendency to look outside for so-called expert help rather than focusing

on what was available in the schools. It was also time to look at what teachers were saying in the classroom.

"It's part of the culture of schools in South Africa to put people down. Telling children they are stupid, ignorant and lazy affects self-worth."

The head of the child health unit at UWC and professor of paediatrics at the Red Cross Hospital, Marion Jacobs, told the conference that the health status of South Africa's children was poor.

The quality of information available on children's status was of great concern. "The information bank is fragmented. For example, two thirds of African children have no birth certificates, so using birth registration as a basis for intervention is dicey."

Dangerous juveniles will soon be heading to jail

Star 19/1/96 (298) (2)

By **PATRICK BULGER**
Political Correspondent

Cape Town – Parliament is due to consider a new bill to provide for the temporary jailing of dangerous juvenile criminal offenders, according to Correctional Services portfolio committee chairman Carl Niehaus.

He told a lunchtime meeting of the Institute of Citizenship in Cape Town yesterday that the Correctional Services Amendment Bill would provide for the temporary jailing of dangerous juveniles until adequate places of safety had been provided.

He said young offenders ideally should be rehabilitated with the help of their families and communities.

The bill would distinguish between juveniles accused of serious crimes such as murder and rape and those accused of minor

crimes.

Niehaus said the African National Congress believed, and the law stated, that juveniles should be held in places of safety. Last year Niehaus and Correctional Services minister Dr Sipho Mzimela clashed over the release from prison of juvenile offenders who were freed because there were not enough places of safety run by the Department of Welfare for them to go to.

The new bill is a private member's motion introduced by Niehaus and is due to be considered by the Portfolio Committee on Private Members' Bills before coming before the National Assembly and the Senate if it passes the committee stage.

"The bill I have proposed says that young people accused of serious crimes can, for the time being, be detained in police cells or jails if the person in question is a threat

to the public and where no alternative places of safety exist. It is therefore self-limiting in that, as facilities for the detention of juveniles improve, so will the need to keep them in prisons and cells be phased out," he said.

"The reality is, however, that such places of safety as exist in South Africa are, like so many of the institutions we have inherited, hopelessly inadequate to the task.

"The result has been that children run away and that violent children become a threat to others and to society as a whole."

The Department of Welfare is moving with great speed in trying to upgrade places of safety and provide others, and money has been allocated from the Reconstruction and Development Fund for the purpose but, given the size of the task, we cannot expect to see results overnight," Niehaus said.

Jailing of juveniles 'short-term'

(298) ~~298~~
POLITICAL STAFF
CT 19/1/96

THE ANC's private member's bill to jail juveniles accused of serious crimes such as murder and rape was a short-term measure to protect communities, ANC MP Mr Carl Niehaus said yesterday.

Although the principle was that awaiting-trial juveniles should be held in a place of safety, such facilities that did exist in South Africa were hopelessly inadequate.

Mr Niehaus, who is chairperson of the Portfolio Committee on Correctional Services, told the Institute of Citizenship the result had been that children ran away and violent children had become a threat to others.

He said the Department of Welfare was moving to upgrade places of safety and provide others and RDP funds had been allocated for this, but results could not be expected overnight.

"In the meantime, the problem is that children continue to escape or, indeed, because of lack of space, are released effectively on to the streets where they may commit further crimes."

Mr Niehaus added: "The measure is designed to protect communities against young people who threaten safety and stability, while facilities are being prepared."

Youths will go back⁽²⁹⁸⁾ ST 21/1/96⁽²⁹⁸⁾ to jail

By RAY HARTLEY
Political Correspondent

THE government is to reverse its controversial decision to detain children who have committed serious crimes in places of safety and not in jails.

ANC MP Carl Niehaus said yesterday he was introducing a Private Member's Bill which would allow children to be held in jail if they committed certain crimes. The crimes will be listed by Justice Minister Dullah Omar once the law is passed.

Speaking at the Centre for Human Rights at the University of Pretoria, Mr Niehaus said the measure would expire after a year, with the possibility of Parliament extending it for a further year, "to ensure that it does not become a permanent feature of the justice system".

Parliament amended Section 29 of the Correctional Services Act last year, making it illegal for children to be held in prisons.

But the government has come under fire, with claims that the police had become powerless to act against child suspects, who simply walked out of poorly guarded places of safety where they were held while awaiting trial.

Mr Niehaus said he continued to believe that the decision to amend Section 29 was "morally and legally correct", but added that places of safety were overcrowded and staffed by personnel who did not have adequate training.

Police seize bedding of Hillbrow street children

Star 24/1/96

(298)

Council denies planning the operation, which SAPS says was aimed at breaking gangster culture

By HOPEWELL RADEBE
City Reporter

Hillbrow police have confiscated blankets and mattresses belonging to street children in a joint operation with the Greater Johannesburg Transitional Metropolitan Council (TMC), according to police.

But the council has denied involvement in the operation and says an inquiry is being held into the confiscations.

Hillbrow police spokesman Sgt Henry Bendeman said the idea was an attempt to break up a growing culture of gangsterism or group territorial ruling of Hillbrow streets by street children.

He said blankets and mattresses were taken on January 12 and that the very next day, some street children informed him they were contemplating going back to their homes.

"Police had no intention of harassing the children, but it is a fact

that street children contribute to a greater problem of crime in the city. Many of these children have been shot by police, businessmen and the community while committing crime," Bendeman said.

Bendeman, who has been working with street children for a year, said the community and the council's community policing forum had been involved in planning the January 12 operation before it was conducted.

He said police had been approached by taxi operators, community members and businesses complaining that streets should be made safer, or else they would take the law into their own hands.

Street children's territorial grouping and syndicates were identified as another root cause of crime, contributing to many incidents of theft from cars and housebreakings.

"Streets should be made difficult for street children to live in. They even complain about the

food they are generously given by people who run soup kitchens around the city," he said.

Streetwise social worker Simone Gampel condemned the harsh and cruel manner in which the street children had been treated by police and the council. She accused the parties involved in the removal of blankets and mattresses of theft.

Gampel said police were planning to remove blankets every two weeks and it would be difficult for non-governmental organisations dealing with street children to encourage children to regard police as their friends.

TMC executive committee deputy chairman Kenny Fihla has denied council involvement in the removal of street children's possessions in the streets of Hillbrow.

"The TMC has taken no policy decision regarding this matter. Contact has been made with the SAPS and the issues being investigated as a matter of urgency."

Govt slated over juvenile criminals

JOHANNESBURG: The government had shown lack of care in dealing with juveniles who committed serious crimes, Democratic Party Youth president Mr Sipho Moganedi said yesterday.

Juveniles who committed serious offences such as rape, murder and robbery should be jailed, not kept in places of safety. They should be kept apart from adult prisoners while in jail.

The government's decision to keep them in places of safety was foolish and wrong, he said.

Sapa

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Jail juveniles, urges DP

JOHANNESBURG: The government had shown lack of care in dealing with juveniles who committed serious crimes, DP youth president Mr Sipho Moganedi said yesterday. *CT 24/1/96*

Juveniles who committed serious offences like rape, murder and robbery should be jailed, not kept in places of safety.

The government's decision to keep them in places of safety was foolish and wrong, Moganedi said. These places were ill-equipped to handle violent criminals.

Moganedi said juvenile criminals should be kept apart from adult prisoners while in jail.

Sun Multi-Serve protesters held

WELKOM: Police have arrested a group of Sun Multi-Serve demonstrators outside United Bank here.

Police said some of the protesters were blocking the road and ignored warnings to disperse. Police had no option but to arrest them. *CT 24/1/96*

Other protesters marched on the police station. Sun Multi-Serve investors are demanding that they have access to their accounts which the Reserve Bank has frozen.

New home will help to reintegrate street children

(298) Star 26/1/96

By HOPEWELL RADEBE
City Reporter

Street-Wise, the welfare organisation for homeless children in Johannesburg, has opened a new shelter for its charges while their parents are being searched for.

Social worker Simone Gampel said Gold Fields donated funds that were used to renovate the shelter in Terrace Street, Bertrams.

Gampel said the Street-Wise Children's Organisation, created in 1987, initially sought to provide shelters for street children at night.

However, it has since developed into an organisation with a new vision of acting as a halfway station

for street children who are in the transformation from street life to being reunited with their families and beginning normal and responsible schooling.

Those children whose parents or homes could not be traced quickly enough would be kept at the "Drop-in Centre" in Bertrams and, over a year, would be prepared for unification with their parents.

Gampel said those who refused to go home after suffering abuse had their destinies decided by the courts, with the help and input of social workers.

"Basic or remedial education will be provided to those who are still able to return to formal school, to ensure they achieve at least functional

literacy and numeracy," she said.

Branch co-ordinator Knox Mgashoa added: "We also provide job skills training to assure the older ones of an independent and responsible adulthood".

He said the shelter has been equipped to accommodate at least 30 children and seven places have already been taken.

Child care worker Edward Mphati said they do not lose hope when a child who had been trained and reunited with his family later returns to the street.

"A child may come and go from this home three or four times, but we do not lose faith because we eventually win the struggle and settle them in their own homes," he said.

Proposal to keep young offenders in jail

CLIVE SAWYER
Political Correspondent

PROPOSED legislation allowing people aged 14 to 18 charged with serious offences like murder and rape to be kept in ordinary jails would be unlikely to be kept on the statute books for more than two years.

African National Congress MP Carl Niehaus, the sponsor of the private member's bill which will reverse sweeping legislation passed last year to keep children out of prison, said the law would be reviewed

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a year after it was passed.

Mr Niehaus proposed the bill, which will enter its first legislative stage tomorrow when it is put to the parliamentary committee on private members' bills, in reaction to the public outcry against the wave of juveniles who escaped from places of safety last year.

He said his bill was an interim measure and would be scrapped as soon as adequate places of safety were provided.

The goal was to ensure there was at least one proper place of safety in each province.

Mr Niehaus said he was unhappy it had become necessary to propose the new legislation, but it was necessary to protect society.

Meanwhile, the ANC has called for the establishment of an independent prisons inspectorate to investigate problems in the Department of Correctional Services and its jails.

Mr Niehaus said the department had responded positively to the concept of an independent inspectorate, and plans were in hand to put together a committee to further the proposal.

Call to jail serious juvenile offenders

BY PATRICK BULGER
Political Correspondent

Cape Town - Parliament will be asked to agree to new legislation allowing serious juvenile offenders to be jailed even though Correctional Services Minister Sipo Mzimela opposes the new bill.

The bill allows juveniles accused of serious crimes to be held in prisons instead of in places of safety.

Instead of being sponsored by the minister as is normally the case with bills, the draft legislation is being sponsored by the ANC's Carl Niehaus in his personal capacity as MP. Niehaus is also chairman of Parliament's portfolio committee on correctional services.

Coincidentally, the issue of whether a parliamentary committee can initiate legislation was raised in the Constitutional Assembly's deadlock-breaking committee yesterday. The ANC argued for a limitation of the right of a committee to initiate legislation without consulting the minister.

The Correctional Services Amendment Bill will be consid-

ered by the Committee on Private Members' Bills today and is certain to be passed by the ANC majority in preparation for its passage through the National Assembly and the Senate.

Niehaus told a media briefing at Parliament yesterday that he had the backing of the ANC, Justice Minister Dullah Omar and President Nelson Mandela, who had been briefed by Omar. Mzimela did not agree with it, however.

"The bill has been discussed with Minister Mzimela. The minister feels very strongly about the principle that children should not be in jail. Until now he does not feel he can support this legislation," Niehaus said, adding that the disagreement had not been acrimonious.

Last year, several hundred children who had been accused of crimes were released from jail without there being adequate places of safety for them to go to. Some of these children escaped, triggering a heated argument about whether Parliament had rushed in to secure the constitutional rights of children without regard to the consequences.

Juvenile prison Bill considered

Wyndham Hartley

CAPE TOWN — ANC MP Carl Niehaus's private legislation to allow juveniles charged with serious offences to be kept in prison will go to a special Parliamentary committee today.

This emerged during a media conference given by Niehaus yesterday. He also indicated that there might be a lengthy process of public hearings on the Bill before it becomes law.

Niehaus stressed that he did not want the Bill to become permanent. It was for one year only and applied to children between 14 and 18 years of age charged with serious crimes such as murder, armed robbery, hijacking and rape. During that time he hoped that secure places of safety for offenders could be developed.

The select committee on private members' legislative proposals will consider the Bill today. It is almost assured of approval in the committee, whereupon it will go to the correctional services committee which Niehaus himself chairs. Niehaus also said that the justice system as applied to children should be speeded up.

He stressed that while the Bill said children could be kept in prison, it stressed that they may not be kept in the company of adult criminals.

'Stop targeting children in war'

CT 30/11/96 (248)

BARRY STREEK
POLITICAL WRITER

ATTACKS on women and children during times of conflict were crimes that should be prevented, President Nelson Mandela said yesterday.

"We hope that the international tribunals dealing with the latest conflicts in central Africa and central Europe will ensure that an example is made of those who descend to the lowest levels of barbarity," he said.

Mandela addressed the Eminent Persons Group, appointed by the United Nations to study the impact of armed conflict on children, in Somerset West.

The group is chaired by Mrs Graça Machel, widow of the former president of Mozambique, Samora Machel.

Mandela said it was extremely disheartening to know that two million children had been killed in armed conflict in the past decade. More than four

million children had been disabled, 12 million left homeless and 10 million psychologically traumatised.

"For all these and many more children, it is more than just the weaknesses of economies or only the absence of democracy, that tear their lives apart.

"It is the folly of an adult population that has lost all pretences to reason and which targets the weak and the innocent in the course of armed conflict.

"We say this because, even before the modern rules of war were established, conflict somehow managed to cause as little destruction as possible (for) women and children.

"Today, in many parts of the world where conflict rages, this is not the case. Children and civilians ... are deliberately targeted in scorched-earth policies."

Teenagers barely able to judge between right and wrong were recruited to use weapons.

"Despicable weapons such as land-

mines are planted indiscriminately to maim all and sundry," Mandela said.

"Children are abused in various ways as morality and reason are thrown out of the window in pursuit of selfish adult ends."

This should come to an end. The standards that governed conflict were inadequate and something had to be done urgently to protect children.

"We all would prefer that, in the first instance, there should not be conflict at all. But if, for whatever reason, adults take up arms, there should be a human morality, basic human values, that should govern the conduct of combatants.

"It should be a matter of principle that women and children should not be targeted. It should be a matter of course that children are not drafted into combat forces as instruments of war.

"All these and other crimes must not only be prevented. They should be punishable in the severest manner possible."

Detention of children recalled

Sowetan 31/1/96
Children may have to be held behind bars until there are proper facilities

By Rafiq Rohan
Political Correspondent

A BILL WHICH SEEKS detention in prison of children accused of serious offences was unanimously approved by the Private Members Legislative Proposals Committee in Parliament yesterday.

The government had seriously erred in releasing all children from custody without having the proper infrastructure in place.

Until the facilities are available, the past policy of keeping children behind bars would have to continue, Mr Carl Niehaus, chairperson of the Portfolio Committee on Correctional Services, said in his submission.

Plight of children

President Nelson Mandela is passionate about the plight of children and one of the first things he did when he came into office was to scrap legislation that allowed for the incarceration

of children.

As a result Correctional Services Minister Dr Siphosizwe Mzimela tabled an amendment to Section 29 of the Correctional Services Act last year which spelled out that children could not be incarcerated in police or prison cells.

"We have to acknowledge that in the implementation of a correct ideal, serious mistakes have been made and we must have the courage to try and find ways of correcting these," Niehaus told the committee. However, the bill proposes stringent measures to be taken when children are incarcerated.

These measures are:

- The offence has to be serious as determined by the Minister of Justice. Serious crimes would include murder, rape and armed robbery;
- The presiding officer is convinced that the detention is necessary;
- There is no suitable place of safety available for detention. To ensure that the law is not a permanent one, Niehaus proposed that it would expire after one year.



NEW HOPE: Addressing the impact of war on children — Nigerian writer Wole Soyinka, Graca Machel, Archbishop Desmond Tutu and Ambassador Olara A Otunnu.

Picture ANDREW INGRAM, The Argus

Children must be made safe, not targeted in war — Machel

LINDSAY BARNES
Staff Reporter

PUT an end to the targeting of children in war, now.

This powerful message was delivered by Graca Machel in Cape Town after a two-day meeting hosted by Archbishop Desmond Tutu this week.

Mrs Machel, chairman of Unicef, was appointed by the United Nations secretary-general to conduct a two-year study on the impact of armed conflict on children.

Over the past 10 years, more than two million children have been killed in armed conflicts, more than 12 million left homeless and one million had been psychologically traumatised.

The study's final report and recommendations were deliberated at the two-day meeting by eminent, technical and spe-

cial advisers, including President Nelson Mandela.

Others involved in the deliberations were Nobel Laureate Wole Soyinka from Nigeria, Lisbet Palme, Francis Deng, Olara Otunnu, newly-elected Palestinian leader Hanan Ashrawi, President Julius K Nyerere of Tanzania and Rigoberta Menchu.

The report will be presented to the United Nations General Assembly in October.

Mrs Machel said crimes against women and children should not only be prevented but should be punishable "in the severest manner possible".

"In the late 20th century we see a frequency and depth of brutality in armed conflicts characterised by total destruction — disease, death, famine, rape and vengeance.

"We will recommend measures to improve the relevance

and adequacy of existing standards as well as measures to improve the protection and care of children in situations of armed conflict, and to ensure their physical and psychological recovery and social reintegration," Mrs Machel said.

The moral vacuum in which traditional norms had been eroded had to be redressed.

"We reiterate our desire to build a world where children will not become the victims of violent conflicts and will not be weapons of war, a world where children can live as children and adults can be more human, gentle, caring and compassionate," she said.

Political, social and economic institutions that safeguard against injustice and inequality and that provide mechanisms for grievances needed to be built and reinforced, she said.

Nod for bill that would keep juvenile offenders in jail

~~298~~ (298) Star 31/1/96
BY PATRICK BULGER
Political Correspondent

Cape Town - A parliamentary committee yesterday approved new legislation providing for dangerous juvenile accused to be jailed instead of being sent to places of safety.

The Correctional Services Act Amendment Bill proposed by ANC MP and chairman of the portfolio committee on correctional services, Carl Niehaus, is a reversal of legislation passed by Parliament last year that outlawed the jailing of awaiting trial juveniles.

The bill is being sponsored by Niehaus because Correctional Services Minister Sipo Mzimela does not back it, Niehaus said.

"Minister Mzimela feels very strongly that children

should not be kept in jail - a sentiment that I fully share with him - and has indicated that he therefore does not see his way open to support the proposed interim measure.

"The hard reality is that while the principle that juveniles accused of offences should not be detained in prisons remains the goal of a society based on human rights, considerations of public safety are forcing us to take emergency interim measures."

The proposed law provides for juveniles accused of serious crimes such as murder, rape, armed robbery and car hijacking to be jailed if there is no suitable place of safety available for detention and if the presiding officer is convinced that detention is necessary in the interests of justice.

SOCIAL SECURITY — CHILD CARE

1996

MAY — JULY

Where child street vendors run gauntlet of traffic and task force 'cleaners'?

SAPA-IPS

Lagos - The packets of popcorn he was trying to sell littered the roadway in Lagos as sympathisers took 12-year-old Uche to a nearby hospital for doctors to attend to his fractured limb.

He had been hit by a motor-bike while dodging soldiers attached to the Lagos State Task Force on Environmental Sanitation which aims to cleanse the city's streets, not only of litter but also of street vendors.

Deprived of their prey that hot afternoon, the soldiers turned their attention on a 10-year-old girl selling oranges to motorists caught in a traffic jam on the busy Eko bridge, one of three linking the mainland to Lagos island. She was forced into a truck already half-filled with other young vendors.

The task force regularly raids

street hawkers. Normally, the vendors are released after paying a fine of 100 to 200 naira (between R5 and R10). Their goods are confiscated, but that does not prevent them from returning to the street.

Many of the vendors are children forced to help pad out families' incomes that have dwindled as a result of the harsh effects of economic reforms started in 1986.

Children's rights charter has not been signed yet

According to a survey by the Child Lifeline Association, a non-governmental organisation, about 10 000 children aged between seven and 13 years work on the streets of Lagos alone, even though Nigeria ratified, in March 1991, the Convention on the Rights of the Child which seeks to end child abuse and labour.

In 1993, the government drafted a Children's Decree based on the UN convention and the Organisation of African Unity charter on the rights and welfare of the child, but it is yet to be signed into law.

"The decree which has revolutionary changes in the fight for survival, development and protection of children replaces the 50-year-old laws on children in Nigeria," explains Bukola Ponle, a member of the National Child Rights Implementation Committee. "It will form the basis for child survival because, without a law against child abuse, children will continue to be abused," Ponle told IPS.

"The early signing of the decree will give legal backing to the monitoring duty of the committee." The committee's tasks include reviewing the state of children's rights and designing programmes as well as projects to enhance the status of the Nigerian child and submitting them to the government.

"The committee has a crucial role to play as Nigerian children are going through major crises," says Batiloi Warrita, the UN Children's Fund chief information officer in Nigeria.

Warrita says Unicef is developing Nigeria's programme of action for the next five years. The programme is expected to serve as a foundation for efforts to alleviate the plight of children and women.

Increasing child labour blamed on economic situation

Its draft document, made available to IPS, blames increasing child labour on "the economic situation arising from the effects of SAP, the high rate of urbanisation and the resultant breakdown in the extended family system".

"The labour act protects the child from being employed under exploitative circumstances, but unfortunately, socio-cultural and economic factors have compelled a large proportion to participate in economic activities such as street trading," Ponle said.

One major reason for child labour here is the increasing poverty of parents, many of whom are jobless. In June last, an estimated 18% of the potential workforce of 34.6 million were unemployed.

"The government and its bad economic policies have virtually forced these children on to the streets as hawkers of anything including water in cellophane bags," says Isaac Onoba, a state employee here.

"Civil servants have had their salaries stagnated while prices of goods have gone beyond the reach of most Nigerians," he adds.

"This has forced parents to use their children as sales persons even on the highways instead of sending them to school."

Yemisi Adeola, who escaped arrest on the day that Uche was knocked down, told IPS: "I left school in primary three (grade three) last year because my parents could no longer pay my school fees."

"I have to help my mummy sell sweets and chocolates in the go-slow (traffic jam)."

My mummy used to own a shop but (the building housing it) was demolished.

Shops are scarce in most Nigerian cities and monthly rentals for the few that are available cost between 600 and 1 500 naira (about R32 to R80) depending on their location. Moreover, landlords usually demand three years' rent in advance.

As a result, Yemisi's mother uses her one-roomed apartment as a store while her three children sell confectioneries, plastic plates, cosmetics, soap, toothpaste and other wares on the streets.

"We don't like the situation where our children have to move between vehicles to sell and run the risk of being hit by cars, but we cannot help it as we all have to survive under this harsh economic condition in our country," says Comfort Oshadare.

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Star 1/5/96

Figures mask the horror of abuse

The glaring lack of facilities to deal with the problem of child abuse in the townships has left many children and their families feeling helpless (298)

BY BONGIWE
MLANGENI.

Every day shocking statistics on child abuse cases are reported in the media.

But, the published figures reveal only the tip of the real problem concealed by the number of untold experiences. The figures also do not tell of the number of children who are at risk.

Despite wide media reports and awareness campaigns, very few people know how to handle the crisis and children receive little support from society.

Often they are left to deal with the deep scars of abuse on their own as there are not enough facilities and resources in their areas.

The number of unreported cases will always hide the reality, according to social worker Dorothy Mdhuli, who works mostly with children from Soweto.

She says there has been an increase in both the number of reported cases and child abuse incidents, adding that this could be a result of social changes and is a characteristic of countries in transition.

"We saw a decline in political violence and changes in political power but the same problems remain. Now, people are venting their frustrations and anger on helpless children and women," she says.

However, Mdhuli stressed that this is not a justification for abusing children.

The problem has become more complicated as perpetrators are



found in structures that should protect children. This has been confirmed by recent newspaper reports on children who have been sexually abused by priests or teachers.

Mdhuli says the biggest challenge facing the Government is to provide more resources to educate society and provide facilities that would make it possible to prevent the crisis. Townships are in great need of such facilities, she adds.

According to the Centre for the Study of Violence and Reconciliation, in Soweto there have been 10 037 cases of child rape; 4 044 indecent assault; 244 attempted murder and 1 121 sexual attacks, reported last year.

Zamokuhle Child Centre at Zola Clinic is the only centre in Soweto that offers counselling focused on child abuse but does not have enough resources to do further research on all cases.

Mdhuli says abused children are often failed by their families, society and the law while the perpetrators are protected by the same systems.

"In some cases the victims are sent from one police station to the other until they are no longer confident enough to speak."

Mdhuli says there are instances when teachers find child abuse stories entertaining and turn them into jokes. But some teachers are also going through trauma after years of violence in townships and have been desensitised, Mdhuli adds.

Thandi (not her real name), from Soweto is one child who remains at risk although her case has been reported.

Marilyn Donaldson, a child

therapist at the clinic says Thandi was almost 11 when she was brought into Zamokuhle by her father in August last year.

Thandi had been living with her mother since her parents separated. While visiting her father, he noticed that Thandi was walking in a strange way and contacted a local clinic which later referred them to Zamokuhle.

Thandi related that she and her friend were approached by a man they knew who promised to give them sweets. They refused and ran but Thandi tripped and she was caught. The man took off

area of her attack.

The Jabulani Child Protection Unit assisted the father to open a case but he and his daughter never followed it up and did not return for therapy.

Six months later, on February 5, Thandi was brought back to Zamokuhle, this time by her schoolteachers.

She said she had been sexually abused by her father. Tests proved that she had been penetrated consistently by an adult and had an infection. Thandi returned to her mother who was told to bring her back the following week for further therapy but they never returned.

The centre was unable to do home visits because of a lack of staff and resources.

Thandi still remains at risk. There are hundreds of children in Thandi's position who feel trapped and do not know who to turn to.

Donaldson says sexual abuse statistics do not tell the story of the vicious cycles of helplessness and violence in families, at schools, within peer groups and communities.

"Neither do statistics reveal how fragile and tenuous the available institutional support programmes and interventions are," she adds.

Despite running weekly workshops at 12 schools and having 40 teacher training programmes, there is still a huge number to reach, says Mdhuli.

The safety of children cannot be guaranteed but community members will have to take the responsibility of dealing with these problems. The Government needs to intervene and make it possible for people to be able to help each other heal.

Statistics do not reveal how fragile systems are

her clothes and raped her. She tried to scream but he placed his hand over her mouth.

The matter was immediately reported to a local police station but the perpetrator could not be found for questioning. Counsellors later discovered that the perpetrator had been known to menace and fondle children.

Medical examination revealed damage to Thandi's hymen as well as a discharge and sores in the genital area, confirming that she had been raped.

Counsellors were later told that Thandi cried easily, had nightmares and acted in a sexual manner during the night. She also refused to go back to the same

LACK OF SEX EDUCATION AMONG FACTORS BLAMED

Experts seek solutions to high number of rapes by juveniles

(298) CT 7/5/96

THE WESTERN CAPE Child Protection Unit is investigating cases against at least 70 juvenile rapists — and an expert on rapists has warned that the situation will not improve until there is proper sex education for youngsters. Crime Writer **JACKIE CAMERON** reports.

HE neatly-dressed, shy 14-year-old was not the kind of boy you might associate with a brutal crime.

Certainly not the sort of boy you could imagine suddenly turning on a seven-year-old girl, pushing her to the ground and raping her in bushes alongside a busy neighbourhood

street in broad daylight

This Retreat boy did just that a week ago.

He told police he felt remorse for what he had done, but he could not explain what had prompted his sudden rush of violent rage, nor why he had impulsively chosen raping a little girl as a conduit for his anger.

The boy is one of about 70 aged between 12 and 17 who are being investigated by the Peninsula's Child Protection Unit for allegedly raping girls.

Some have allegedly participated in gang rapes — and most of their victims were not strangers to them.

Said one detective: "The average age of these juveniles is 15. Most of them seem like normal boys who lead normal lives. They come from homes across the economic and cultural spectrum."

As with adult child molesters, there was no easy way of having determined whether these boys had the potential for these horrific acts.

Like adult rapists, many claim that their victim consented to having sexual intercourse.

The detective said: "Many seem to believe that because the girls have accompanied them somewhere, it automatically means they have agreed to other things. This is in spite of the girls telling them, at the start of and during an attack, to stop."

Police follow the same procedures in investigating rape cases involving juvenile suspects as they do with adults.

The courts mete out sentences according to the facts of each case. Juvenile offenders could be sent to prison, a senior public prosecutor said.

Dr Elsa Verwey, one of South Africa's experts on rapists, has this to

say about the alarming number of teenagers who rape: "It may be a form of experimenting. They do not have enough knowledge about sexual matters."

"Parents must give their children sexual guidance and must not wait until they are about 14 or 15 years old. They must give guidance appropriate to a child's age and answer all his questions ... then they will not start experimenting."

"Of course, you do get sexual abuse which sparks off a vicious circle. Eighty-five percent of child molesters were abused as children."

"In the case of boys, it is an older female in the family, like an aunt or a neighbour, who does the abusing. In very few cases it is the mother."

During her research on rapists in prisons in the 1980s, Verwey came across an 18-year-old who was serving a prison sentence for rape.

"He wrote me a letter and said he had realised only when he was in prison that what he had done to that girl was wrong. He said that since the age of seven, his older sisters had used him sexually."

No one had taught him the difference between right and wrong in sexual matters.

"In the media you get the wrong messages. The famous one is in James Bond films. When the girl says no, he says yes — and within minutes they are in bed. She seems to enjoy it."

Verwey said that if juvenile rapists did not receive the correct therapy and were not confronted about the crimes they had committed, they would probably rape again.

Schools should play an important role in sex education, she said.

"This education should be given in conjunction with education on social interaction and interpersonal relationships."

If boys were taught to respect women, it was highly unlikely that they would become rapists, Verwey said.

Dr Gert Pretorius, a psychologist with the education department's sup-

port services, said sex education, appropriate to each age group, was included in the compulsory guidance course.

The syllabus covered interpersonal relationships, decision-taking, problem-solving and planning and was continually being improved.

Sex education programmes were being implemented in conjunction with the school health department, social services and therapeutic services, Pretorius said. However, it was difficult to say what was happening in all schools, especially those in rural areas.

His department did not prescribe books or programmes and left these to the discretion of schools, Pretorius said.

"Some schools find it difficult to address all the relevant issues at once. For example, principals in certain areas may have their hands full with staff shortages and gangsterism."

"They must also make provision for Aids awareness education and violence."

Mr Terry de Jong, an educational psychologist who teaches a guidance method course at the University of Cape Town, said: "It is difficult to assess what kind of sex education is in place."

"Some schools have well-established programmes, while others offer this education on an ad hoc basis."

The school might call in an outsider, for example a nurse, to speak to the children, De Jong said.

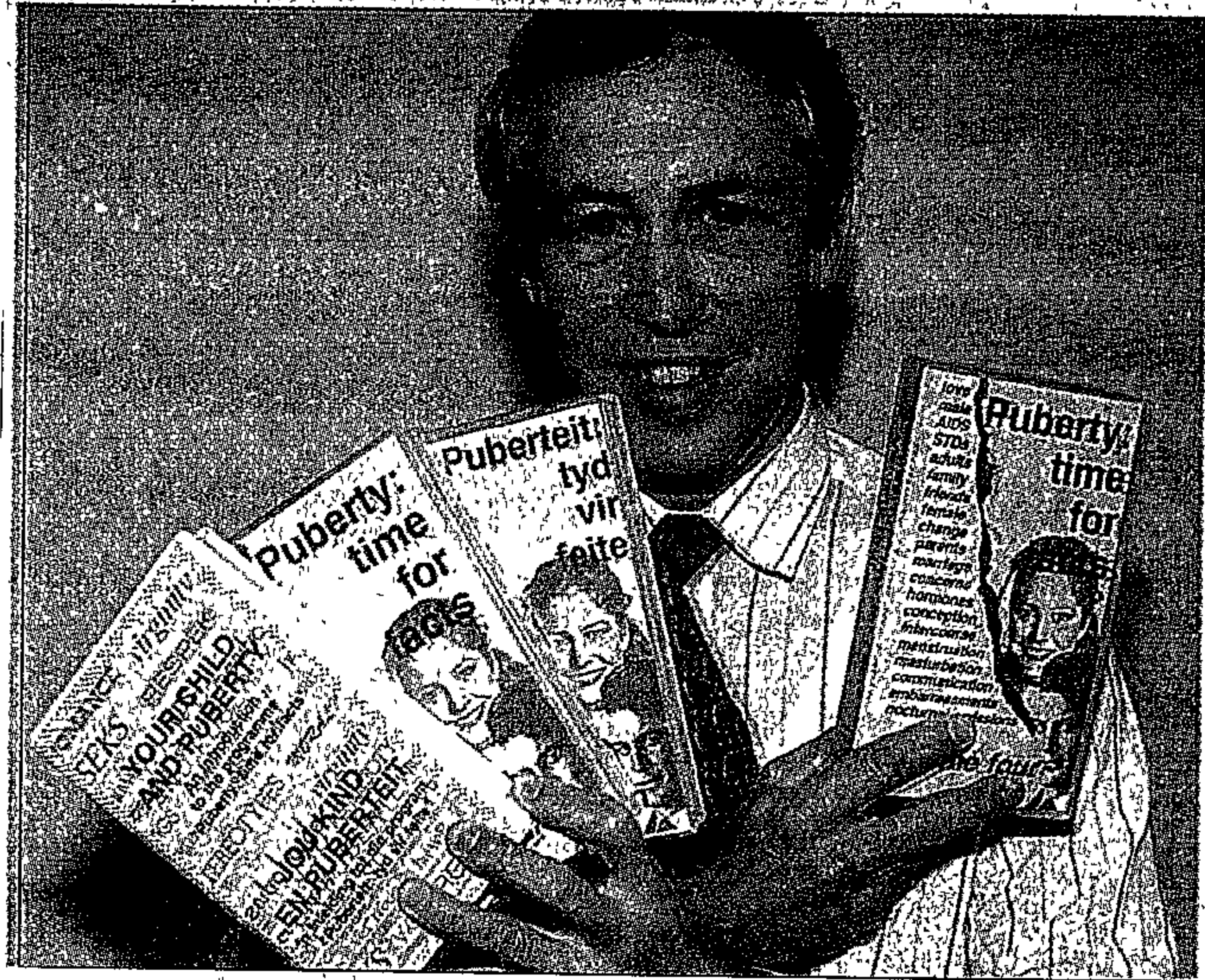
He warned against placing the blame for the rape problem solely on the lack of appropriate education.

"This is a far more complex, deep-seated social problem. The issue also centres around power, so one should look at relationships ... moral and ethical development and broader life skills."

The police visit schools to warn boys of the consequences of rape.

They also encourage girls to come forward and report incidents of abuse.

CT 715196
(298)



SEX EDUCATION: Dr Gert Pretorius, a psychologist with the Department of Education, shows some of the material used in the guidance programme for schoolchildren.

PICTURE: CLIVE SMITH.

Third force behind the schools crisis — Zulu

ad 7/5/96

Farouk Chothia

DURBAN — KwaZulu-Natal education minister Vincent Zulu believed a third force was behind the continued desertion of about 100 schools in the province, in an attempt to discredit the IFP-led provincial government ahead of local government elections, spokesman Nagoor Bissety said yesterday.

The schools, which previously fell under the House of Delegates, have been vacated for the past two weeks after Zulu terminated the contracts of 3 000 cleaners because government could not afford the R23m annual cost.

This led to vandalism. Garbage had been strewn in classes and toilet drains were blocked.

Teachers supported the cleaners, Transport & General Workers' Union (TGWU) members, and taught on an on-off basis. Parents kept children away from school.

Bissety said Zulu decided last week to renew the contracts on a month-to-month basis until a new system came into operation.

Zulu had now agreed that this service should be extended to all 5 300 schools in the province, including black schools which did not have a cleaning service.

Bissety said the cleaners originally affected would be absorbed into the new system.

However, the pupils still had not returned yesterday despite Zulu's new commitment. It appeared a "hidden agenda" was at work. It was now up to parents to ensure classes resumed, Bissety said.

SA Democratic Teachers' Union KwaZulu-Natal secretary Ndaba Gwabaza said it was "bull" that the unions were aiming to discredit the provincial government. The union had met TGWU representatives yesterday who said they wanted Zulu's commitment in writing.

Children focus of broadcasting summit

Mduduzi ka Harvey

THE Children's Broadcasting Forum which includes broadcasters and non-governmental organisations involved in children's issues will host a summit of Southern African Development Community countries charged with the responsibility of drawing up a charter for the Africa conference next year.

The summit, to be held this month in SA, is a follow-up to a conference in Melbourne, Australia, which resulted

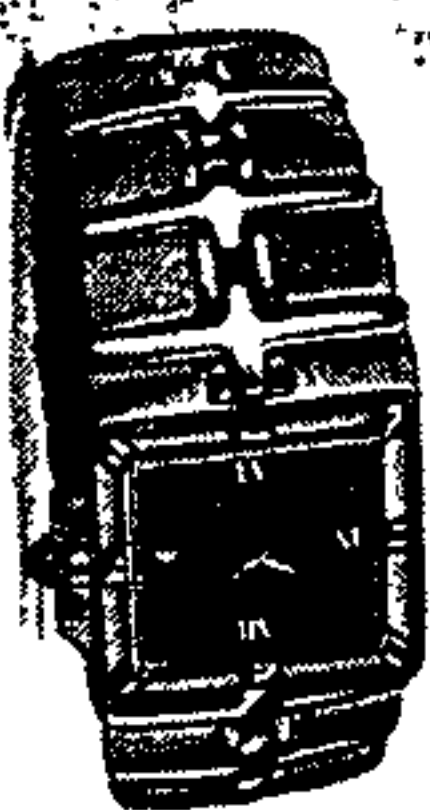
in the production of a Children's Television Charter last year. The charter was endorsed when concerns of Asian and African countries were more adequately addressed.

The concerns lay in the fact that not all children had access to television. Those who did have access to it did not see themselves reflected in its images, language, culture or traditions.

The charter is intended to help broadcasters and bodies dealing with children's issues develop policies.



MCC 104/3



RAYMOND WEIL
GENEVE

Precision movements
by Raymond Weil

Murder 58 (3) whether he will make a statement on the matter? N363E

Negligent firing of firearm 35

Negligent handling of a firearm 32

Negligent loss of a firearm 111

Obstructing sheriff in execution of his official duties (Rule 8(3) of Magistrate's Court Rules) 1

Operating of a brothel 1

Perjury 7

Pointing of a firearm 96

Possession of a dangerous weapon 4

Possession of dagga 9

Possession of stolen property 4

Possession of unlicensed firearms 1

Rape 25

Reckless/negligent driving 644

Resisting arrest 2

Robbery 22

Sexual abuse 5

Sexual intercourse with a person under the age of 16 years 2

Shoplifting 5

Sodomy 1

Stock theft 8

Theft of cash 2

Theft 149

Theft of a firearm 6

Theft of Government funds 3

Theft of a motor vehicle 9

Traffic offences 30

Use of a vehicle without permission 35

Prevention of family violence Act (Act No 33 of 1993) Regulations 3 and 4 1

Taxi industry/home shops/taverns/private bus services/street vendors: tax collected

206 Mr J A RABIE asked the Minister of Finance:

- (1) Whether any tax is collected in respect of (a) the taxi industry, (b) home shops (spaza shops), (c) (i) licensed and (ii) unlicensed taverns (shebeens), (d) private bus services, (e) backyard workshops and manufacturers and/or (f) street vendors; if so, how much tax was collected in respect of each of these categories during the latest specified tax year for which information is available; if not.

- (2) whether he intends introducing any measures to collect such tax; if not, why not; if so, what measures;

The MINISTER FOR WELFARE AND POPULATION DEVELOPMENT:

(1) (a) 34

(b) Northern Cape—Three (3)

Kimberley (3)

Gauteng—Eight (8)

Benoni (2)

Krugersdorp

Boksburg

Edenvale

Soshanguve

Pretoria North

Cullinan

North West Province—One (1)

Garankuwa

KwaZulu-Natal—Seven (7)

Pinetown

New Germany

Durban

Donmerton (2)

Umlazi

Pietermaritzburg

Free State—Two (2)

Bloemfontein (2)

Western Cape—Seven (7)

Wynberg (2)

Faure

Koelenhof

Langa

George

Elsies River

Mpumalanga—One (1)

Private Place of Safety, Evander

Eastern Cape—Five (5)

Port Elizabeth (5)

(c) Northern Cape

Mimosa Place of Safety 80

Galeshewe Place of Safety 110

Lerato Place of Safety 110

Gauteng

House Witwatersrand 65

Norman House 85

Jubileum Place of Safety 75

Tsotoso Place of Safety 120

Tutela Place of Safety 90

Van Rhyn Place of Safety 220

Protem Place of Safety 110

Meritum Place of Safety 180

North West Province
Pabelelo Place of Safety 70

KwaZulu-Natal

Excelsior Place of Safety 100

Zakhe Place of Safety 40

Ocean View Place of Safety 60

Valley View Place of Safety 120

Umlazi Place of Safety 130

Pata Place of Safety 70

Greenfield Place of Safety 72

Free State

Tshireletsong Place of Safety 108

Monument Place of Safety 50

Western Cape

Bonnytown Place of Safety 192

Vredelus Place of Safety 90

Outeniekwa Place of Safety 115

Rosendal Place of Safety 80

Nomzamo Place of Safety 25

Lindelani Place of Safety 115

Tenderden Place of Safety 45

Mpumalanga

Ekhaya Lenjibula 12

Eastern Cape

Siyalinga Place of Safety 89

Protea Place of Safety 45

Erika Place of Safety 90

House Nerina Place of Safety 45

Enkusetweni Place of Safety 90

(d) On 29 February 1996

Northern Cape

Mimosa Place of Safety 80

Galeshewe Place of Safety 93

Lerato Place of Safety 64

Gauteng

House Witwatersrand 30

Norman House 79

Jubileum Place of Safety 61

Tsotoso Place of Safety 114

Tutela Place of Safety 89

Van Rhyn Place of Safety 120

Protem Place of Safety 145

Mentum Place of Safety 217

North Western Province

Pabelelo Place of Safety 49

KwaZulu-Natal

Excelsior Place of Safety 87

Zakhe Place of Safety 31

Ocean View Place of Safety 59

Valley View Place of Safety 88

Umlazi Place of Safety	117
Pata Place of Safety	56
Greenfield Place of Safety	51
Free State	
Tshireletsong Place of Safety	93
Monument Place of Safety	46
Western Cape	
Bonnytown Place of Safety	201
Vredelus Place of Safety	63
Outemekwa Place of Safety	94
Rovendal Place of Safety	100
Nomzamo Place of Safety	4
Lindelani Place of Safety	83
Tenderden Place of Safety	44
Mpumalanga	
Ekhaya Lenjabela	12
Eastern Cape	
Siyalinga Place of Safety	77
Pietera Place of Safety	49
Erika Place of Safety	89
House Nerna Place of Safety	36
Enkuseweni Place of Safety	210

(2) No.

(3) Yes

Northern Province
Pietersburg anticipated completion date ± May 1996

(4) Outing:

Noordgevoegte Soweto anticipated completion date: July 1996

SA Reserve Bank: shareholders

212 Prof B TUROK asked the Minister of Finance

(a) How many shareholders in the South African Reserve Bank are there, (b) who are these shareholders, (c) (i) how and (ii) when did they become shareholders, (d) what powers do these shareholders have, (e) to whom are such shareholders accountable and (f) how are new shareholders created?

N269E

The MINISTER OF FINANCE

The South African Reserve Bank Act, Act No 90 of 1989, and the Regulations framed under section 36 of this Act, deal with matters pertaining to the Bank's shares and shareholders. In the answers to this question, the relevant

sections of the Act or the Regulations are mentioned where applicable.

(a) There were 668 shareholders as at 29 February 1996. The details as at this date are:

Resident	Number of share-holders	Number of shares held	Percentage of total
Above 10 000	5	93 020	4,65
10 000	105	1 050 000	52,50
1 001- 9 999	138	576 469	28,83
1 000	43	43 000	2,15
1- 999	302	84 435	4,22
Total (1)	593	1 846 924	92,35
Non-resident	Number of share-holders	Number of shares held	Percentage of total
10 000	12	120 000	6,00
1 001- 9 999	16	23 360	1,17
1 000	3	3 000	0,15
1 000	44	6 716	0,33
999	75	153 076	7,65
Total (2)	75	153 076	7,65
Total (1)	593	1 846 924	92,35
Total (2)	75	153 076	7,65
Total of (1) + (2)	668	2 000 000	100,00

Share capital of Bank

The share capital of the Bank comprises two million ordinary shares with a nominal (or issue/paid-up) price of R1,00 each (section 21 of the Act). On 18 March 1996 the shares traded at R0,90 on The Johannesburg Stock Exchange.

The Bank may, from time to time, with the consent of its Board, increase its share capital by the issue of shares upon such terms as the Board may approve (section 21 of the Act). However, since the Bank's inception, the Board has not exercised this power, and as such, the Bank's share capital has remained two million shares since its establishment. These shares are traded on The Johannesburg Stock Exchange and the current price of the shares

is determined by transactions on The Johannesburg Stock Exchange.

Restriction of right to hold or acquire shares in the Bank (section 22 of the Act)

No shareholder shall hold more than 10 000 shares in the Bank. Prior to changes to Reserve Bank legislation in 1944, shareholders were permitted to hold more than 10 000 shares.

A shareholder who held more than 10 000 shares in the Bank prior to 1944, may continue to hold those shares, but shall not, as long as he holds more than 10 000 of those shares, acquire any further shares in the Bank. Such a shareholder's votes shall be restricted as if he holds only 10 000 shares.

If at any time the number of shares in the Bank held by a shareholder is reduced to 10 000 or less, the restriction laid down shall apply also to that shareholder.

No shares in the Bank shall be held in the name of or transferred to a nominee.

(b) Within 60 days after the close of its financial year on 31 March each year, the Bank provides the Department of Finance with two copies of a list giving full names and addresses of shareholders and the number of shares held by each, which the Minister of Finance shall within 14 days after the receipt thereof lay upon the Tables in Parliament (section 32 of the Act).

The list of shareholders as at 31 March 1996 will be provided to the Department of Finance on or before 30 May 1996.

(c) The preliminary meeting of the Directors of the South African Reserve Bank on 9 May 1921 considered and approved the draft prospectus for the issue of the Capital Stock of the Bank. The subscription list offering Capital Stock of the Bank in terms of this prospectus was opened on 18 May 1921. The first shareholders of the Bank subscribed for their shares in terms of this prospectus.

No new shares have been issued since 1921 and since 7 April 1922 the shares of the South African Reserve Bank have been listed on The Johannesburg Stock Ex-

change. A transfer of shares occurs when two parties agree to transfer title to the shares. Shares are transferred from the one to the other party in the South African Reserve Bank's register of shareholders upon receipt of a written instrument of transfer by the Bank (regulation 11), subject to the conditions in section 22 of the Act as stated in (a) above. The Reserve Bank's register of shareholders submitted to Parliament, however, does not record the dates on which the current shareholders acquired their shares.

(d) Shareholders are entitled to share certificates (regulation 2) and may inspect the register of shareholders during office hours at the Bank's head office (regulation 4).

Shareholders are entitled to dispose of their shares, provided that the shares can be registered in the name of the new owner in terms of section 22 of the Act, limiting the number of shares any one person or company may hold, and subject to the prescriptions for transfer to the new owner, as set out in regulations 10 to 15. These prescriptions *inter alia* stipulate that the Bank should be provided with a written instrument of transfer accompanied by the share certificate to be transferred to the new owner.

The shareholders may elect 50% (seven) of the directors of the South African Reserve Bank (section 4 of the Act). The other seven, including the Governor and deputy governors, are appointed by the President of the Republic of South Africa after consultation with the Minister of Finance and the Board of the Bank.

A shareholder is, at a meeting of shareholders, entitled to one vote in respect of every 200 shares of which such a shareholder has been registered holder for not less than six months prior to the date of the meeting (section 23 of the Act). In terms of this same section, no shareholder

* shall either directly or indirectly exercise any vote as a shareholder in respect of the number of shares in the Bank held by him in excess of 10 000, and no group of companies with interlocking directorates shall either directly or indirectly exercise any vote as shareholders in respect of the

Tourists: future projections

228 Mr J C N WAUGH asked the Minister of Environmental Affairs and Tourism:

- (1) Whether his Department has made an assessment of the number of tourists expected in each of the following five years; if not, why not, if so, what are the relevant details;
- (2) whether his Department has made an assessment of the accommodation required in order to accommodate these tourists satisfactorily; if not, why not; if so, what were the findings and (b) what steps are envisaged to ensure that there will be adequate facilities available to accommodate these tourists?

N422E

The MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND TOURISM

- (1) Yes. Based on the expected positive growth trends it is estimated that the number of overseas tourists will increase from 1 070 000 in 1995 to 1 230 000 in 1996, 1 488 300 in 1997, 1 771 077 in 1998, 2 107 582 in 1999 and 2 444 795 in 2000. International visitor members from Africa are expected to increase from 350 000 in 1995, to 3 935 208 in 1996, 4 128 729 in 1997, 4 718 314 in 1998, 5 112 962 in 1999 and 5 605 829 in 2000.

- (2) Yes

- (a) Based on the above projections an additional ± 18 262 000 bed nights per annum or 50 033 beds per day will be required by 2000. The estimated demand is expected to be distributed as follows among the various accommodation types, hotels 48%, public game parks 11%, guest houses 9%, private game parks 7%, bed and breakfast 3.5%, farm accommodation 3.5%, other 18%.

- (b) The view is that the market mechanisms should not be unnecessarily disturbed, in order to avoid a future oversupply of accommodation. Any artificial stimulation of supply during a period of sudden high growth levels, as is currently being experienced in South Africa should take cognisance of the potential danger that the de-

mand could stabilise within a fairly short period, which could result in an oversupply. This danger is of particular relevance to the South African situation, when viewed against the backdrop of the various new hotels currently being developed in the country, which will substantially increase the supply of accommodation within the next 18 to 24 months. The Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism thus takes a careful approach towards the issue of incentives to stimulate the supply of accommodation. The Industrial Development Corporation does, however, provide favourable financing schemes which are particularly aimed at the refurbishment of existing facilities as well as the development of new medium-sized concerns such as guest houses.

Financial aid to victims of floods

230. Mr J W MAREE asked the Minister for Welfare and Population Development:

- (1) What amounts were paid out by the Government from the Disaster Relief Fund in each of the past 10 years to support individuals in Ladysmith who suffered losses as a result of floods;
- (2) whether the Government will be prepared to make funds available for individuals who suffered losses as a result of floods this year; if not, why not, if so, what amount?

N424E

The MINISTER FOR WELFARE AND POPULATION DEVELOPMENT

- (1) During 1987 and 1988 the floods caused by Demoina that occurred in KwaZulu-Natal were handled on an *ad hoc* basis and the figures for Ladysmith alone cannot be provided. In 1987 R20 million was paid out to victims of disasters and in 1988, R56 million. In 1994, R9.9 million was paid to 1 947 victims in Ladysmith.

- (2) On 19 March 1996 the President declared Ladysmith to be a disaster area. Application for financial assistance is being processed. To date no amount for remuneration is available.

Tourists: countries of origin/expenditure/complaints

231. Mrs A VAN WYK asked the Minister of Environmental Affairs and Tourism:

- (1) (a) How many tourists from (i) the USA, (ii) Europe, (iii) Japan, (iv) Taiwan and (v) India visited South Africa in (aa) 1995 and (bb) 1996 and (b) what was the average amount spent in South Africa by each category of tourist referred to above in each of these two years;
- (2) whether his Department received any complaints in these two years from tourists or tourist agencies in regard to the standard of accommodation in South Africa; if so, what was the nature of these complaints;
- (3) whether his Department has taken any steps to remedy the situation; if not, why not; if so, what steps?

N425E

The MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND TOURISM:

- (1) (a) Numbers of tourists who visited South Africa

(aa) in 1995 (January to December)	
(i) USA	103 466
(ii) Europe	697 539
(iii) Japan	15 974
(iv) Taiwan	27 242
(v) India	14 478

- (bb) in 1996 (January and February, arrivals at airports)

(i) USA	14 732
(ii) Europe	118 543
(iii) Japan	2 474
(iv) Taiwan	4 345
(v) India	1 388

- (b) The average amount spent in South Africa by each category of tourist referred to above (pre-payments excluded)

— USA—R10 400

— Europe—R8 900 (varied between R7 950 (UK) and R11 350 (Germany))

— Asia—R9 100

- (2) Yes. During 1995 the South African Tourism Board (SATOUR) received 19 letters of complaint pertaining to listed and graded hotels and self-catering establishments. To date seven letters have been received during 1996.

The nature of the complaints varied from plumbing (5), noise (3), heating/cooling (2), beds (4), carpeting (1), linen and towels (2), bedroom furniture (2), service levels (23), cost of services (3), food preparation (5), attitude of staff and management (8), renovations being in progress (1), loss/theft of belongings (3) and a number of general comments.

- (3) Yes. Each letter of complaint is acknowledged and the complainant is given the assurance that the reported incident(s) will be investigated. Depending on the nature and seriousness of the complaint the following actions or combinations thereof are instituted:

- (a) The consultant responsible for the area is instructed to investigate the complaint forthwith and if found to be substantiated to instruct hotelier/operator to take remedial action
- (b) The hotelier/operator is sent a copy of the letter of complaint with the request to let Satour have his/her response as well as information as to what remedial action has been taken. If the hotelier/operator has written to the complainant, Satour requests to be furnished with a copy of the correspondence.

- (c) The complaint will be investigated during the next routine assessment of the property

Eastern Cape: school feeding schemes

232. Mr T D LEE asked the Minister for Health:

- (1) (a) How many schools in the Eastern Cape were registered for the school feeding schemes in 1995 and (b) what is the total

Hansard
9/5/96

amount which was made available in that year to such schools in terms of the school feeding scheme;

- (2) whether all such registered schools do indeed exist and function as schools; if not, (a) how many such schools do not exist, (b) what amount was paid out every month to such schools in 1995 and (c) what control measures are envisaged to eliminate alleged irregularities in this regard;

- (3) whether he will make a statement on the matter?

N426E

The MINISTER FOR HEALTH

- (1) (a) A total of 5 500 primary schools in the Eastern Cape Province were originally targeted for assistance from the Primary School Nutrition Programme (PSNP) in the 1995/96 financial year. After September 1995 the number was reduced to 5 030 in an attempt to stretch the budget until the end of the financial year.

- (b) R113 882 360 was allocated to the PSNP in the Eastern Cape Province for the 1995/96 financial year.

- (2) Yes, to the best knowledge of the Department of Health all such schools do exist and function as such. No money was therefore paid to schools that do not exist.

- (3) No

Minister for Posts, Telecommunications and Broadcasting: foreign visits

234. Dr T GALANT asked the Minister for Posts, Telecommunications and Broadcasting:†

- (a) How many foreign visits did (i) he and (ii) officials of his Department undertake during the period 1 April 1995 up to the latest specified date for which information is available, (b) which countries were visited, (c) what was the (i) purpose and (ii) duration of each visit and (d) what was the total cost in respect of each visit?

N428E

The MINISTER FOR POSTS, TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND BROADCASTING:

- (a) *Number of foreign visits:*

- (i) (I) Minister accompanied by his ministerial staff 3
(II) Minister alone 2
(ii) Officials of the Department of Posts and Telecommunications 26
(b) [(1)-(3): Minister and his staff] 2
[(4)-(5): Minister] 2
[(6)-(31): Officials] 26

Countries visited *Number of persons*

- (1) United Kingdom and Sweden 3
(2) Germany 2
(3) Switzerland 2
(4) Belgium 1
(5) Germany, United Kingdom, France 1
(6) Switzerland 4
(7) Singapore, Australia, Hong Kong 2
(8) Singapore, Australia, Hong Kong 1
(9) Hungary 2
(10) United Kingdom, Germany 2
(11) USA 1
(12) Switzerland 1
(13) Australia 2
(14) Denmark 2
(15) Switzerland 1
(16) Greece 1
(17) Switzerland 1
(18) Switzerland 1
(19) Switzerland, Germany 1
(20) Switzerland 3
(21) Switzerland 1
(22) Switzerland 1
(23) Mozambique 1
(24) Kenya 1
(25) Scotland, United Kingdom 3
(26) France 1
(27) USA 1
(28) Italy 1

645 lateral consultations on basic telecommunications. 650

- (29) United Kingdom 1
(30) Switzerland 1
(31) United Kingdom 1
(c) [(1)-(3): Minister and his staff] 1
[(4)-(5): Minister] 1
[(6)-(31): Officials] 1
(i) *Purpose.*
(1) Invitation to Sweden from Swedish Minister of Posts and Telecommunications.
(2) Leading a SA delegation on invitation of the German Minister of Telecommunications.
(3) Attending Telecom '95 conference.
(4) Attending G7 meeting on telecommunications on invitation of representative to the EU
(5) (I) Participating in a symposium on media freedom on invitation of the Associated Press; Meeting with Krone Electronics.
(II) Attending meetings of the companies Lehman Brothers, Morgan Stanley; Goldman Sachs; Channel 4.
(III) Attending follow-up meeting for Telecom '95.
Attending the following:
(6) Preparatory meeting of the ITU World Radio Conference.
(7) Preparatory meeting of the ITU World Radio Conference.
(8) Working Party Meeting of INMARSAT.
(9) 31st GSM MoU Plenary Meeting.
(10) LAN SEC '95 and Voice '95 conferences.
(11) Working Party Meeting of INMARSAT.
(12) '95 Council Meeting of the ITU.
(13) COA/CAM set of meetings.
(14) INMARSAT Assembly of Parties meeting.
(15) Rural Communications Summit and
- (16) 32nd GSM MoU Plenary Meeting.
(17) ITU Telecom '95 Exhibition.
(18) ITU Telecom '95 Exhibition.
(19) ITU Telecom '95 Exhibition and Jubilee Celebration of 100 years of Radiocommunication
(20) Radiocommunication Assembly and the World Radio Conference.
(21) Radiocommunication Assembly and the World Radio Conference.
(22) Meeting of the Council of Administration of the Universal Postal Union.
(23) ITU workshop on the restructuring of the telecommunications sector.
(24) Regional training seminar on a Basic Automated Spectrum Management System.
(25) Radio Conference of European Committee for Posts and Telecommunications and meeting of ITU Review Committee.
(26) General Assembly of the European Telecommunications Standards Institute.
(27) Working Party Meeting of INMARSAT.
(28) 33rd GSM MoU Plenary Meeting; DECT conference and GSM evaluation on equipment investigation.
(29) International Working Group meeting and Assembly Sessions of INMARSAT.
(30) ITU World Radiocommunication conference.
(31) International Working Group meeting and Assembly Sessions of INMARSAT.
(ii) *Number of days:*
(1) 14
(2) 4
(3) 6
(4) 2

School feeding resumes soon — MEC

Farouk Chothia

7.11

BD 9/5/96 (298)

DURBAN — KwaZulu-Natal health MEC Zweli Mkhize said yesterday that the primary schools nutrition scheme, which collapsed last month due to administrative problems, would be back on track by June.

Mkhize's announcement came after about 40 suppliers staged a sit-in at the health department's Durban offices earlier this week, claiming they were owed R70m. Central government had

get to the province's feeding scheme. Mkhize said there had been little or no feeding in schools since April due to administrative problems between suppliers and school committees responsible for the scheme.

No system was fraud-proof, and any perpetrators of "abuses" who were identified would be dealt with severely. Mkhize said a possible option was to have the national department directly settle unpaid accounts with suppliers.

McBride criticises commission

Kevin O'Grady

BD 9/5/96

ROBERT McBride's wife Paula criticised the media and the truth commission yesterday for focusing on her husband's case rather than the more than 10 000 people who had died in KwaZulu-Natal in the past 10 years.

"Robert did not wake up one morning and decide that it looked like a good day for a bomb. He was a member of Umkhonto we Sizwe ... and at all times acted under its command," she said.

It was not surprising that it was this case that earned itself a place as "the most villainous act in our history" as it was unusual because whites died. MK operatives carried out a similar attack in Witbank in 1988 killing three people and injuring 69. "Who knows the names of the perpetrators or the victims ... not many people because the victims happened to be black".

She said that before April 1994, SA was governed by gross human rights violators, and "many of them who still occupy public office should be seeking

amnesty. "Their removal from public office would certainly assist the government in its rationalisation and cost-cutting exercise. We'd be short one deputy president for a start — which may not be a bad idea," she said.

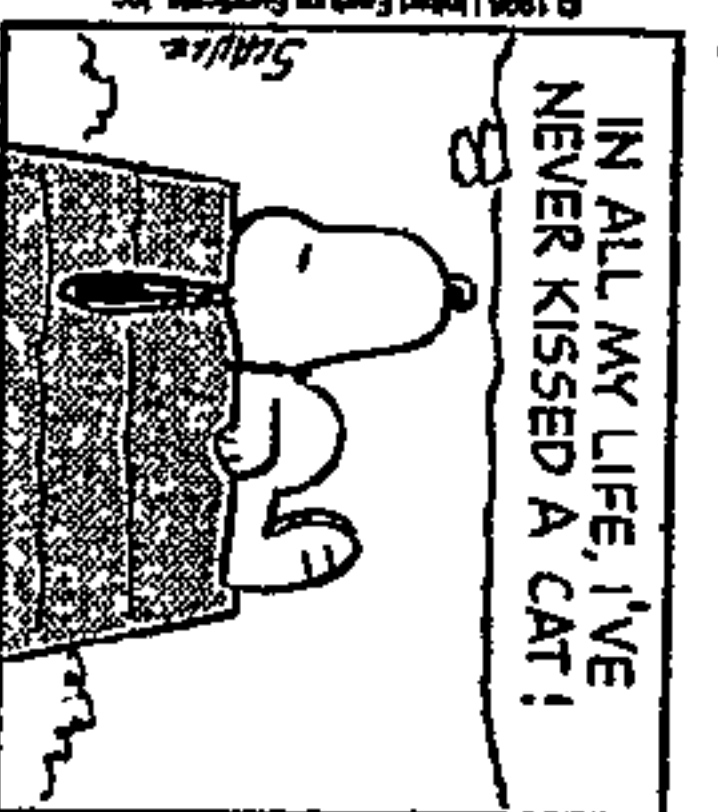
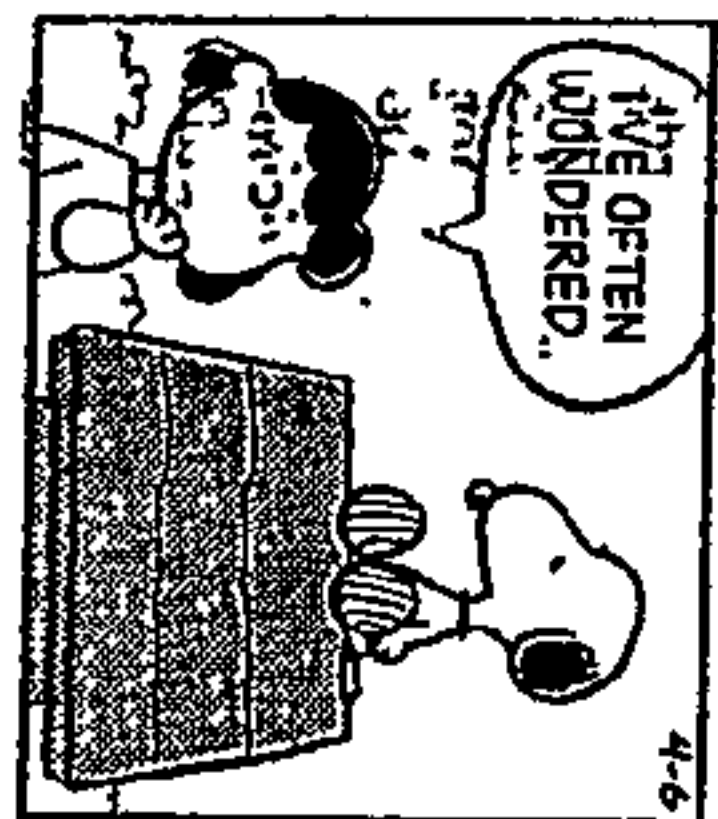
Drew Forrest reports from Durban that commissioners said the demand of truth commission witnesses for the removal of human rights violators from public office was not unreasonable. Commission chairman Desmond Tutu said the matter could be discussed at a full commission meeting next week.

His deputy, Alex Boraine, said suggestions that McBride was being hounded because his victims were white was "absurd". The matter had to be seen in the wider context of a bid to establish a human rights culture.

Yesterday the commission heard testimony from the barmaid at Magoo's Bar on the night of the blast, Helen Kearney, who urged government to reconsider any plans to give McBride a diplomatic post.

PEANUTS

By Charles Schulz



R2,1-m boost for East Rand youth

(298) Sowetan 14/5/96
By Sonti Maseko

THE Government has injected R2,1 million to youth development projects in the East Rand townships of Kathorus to give life to initiatives that seek to end the problems of youths who are out of work and school.

The money, which was allocated from the Kathorus Special Presidential Project of the Reconstruction and Development Programme, will be distributed among the local councils of Greater Alberton, Boksburg and the Germiston Transitional Metropolitan Council, through a programme hailed as "an exciting and innovative way of utilising RDP funds effectively".

To be able to qualify for grants, youth organisations will have to apply to the Youth Support Services Programme (YSSP) from which money will be allocated to organisations that meet a specific criteria.

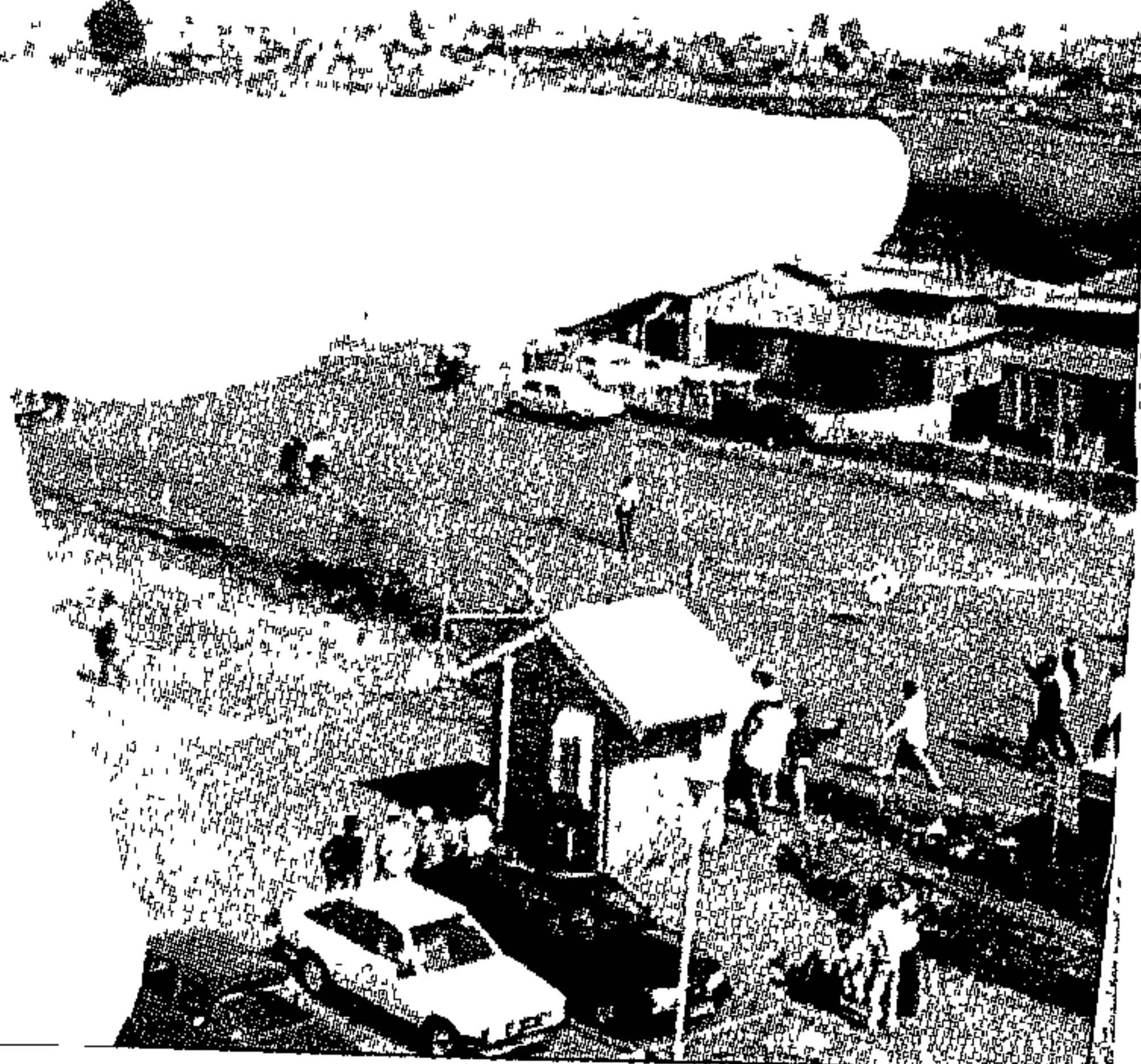
The YSSP will in turn be run by the Joint Education Trust which will receive applications and award money for projects.

The YSSP was launched yesterday at the Germiston Civic Centre at a meeting attended by the mayors of the three TMCs, African National Congress deputy general-secretary Ms Cheryl Carolus, youth leaders and social workers operating in the Kathorus area.

The programme is to focus on four areas of development – sports organisation, arts and cultural organisation, small business support, skills and jobs creation, basic education and social services, and health and life skills.

Requirements for organisations that seek to apply for funding will be proof of a definite service to the youth. They should also show that they have been in existence for at least one year and have proper, accountable management and financial structures.

However, the Joint Education Trust's project manager, Mr Graeme Bloch, urged youth organisations in Kathorus to apply for funding and not put obstacles in their path.



Closure of centre would be a blow to needy youth

(298) Star 14/5/96

200 young people from underprivileged homes who benefit from extra tuition to help gain matric would be out on a limb

By BONGIWE MLANGENI

At first glance it would be easy to label Johannes Mqale from Katorus, East Rand, one of the "violent and troublesome township youths".

During school hours he wears his tie and white shirt but later he jumps into his takkies and a sporty cap like most of his peers and converses in township lingo. But this 22-year-old is one of the township's most gifted and talented pupils, being groomed to become a town planner, engineer or technician.

Mqale refuses to let any negative labelling or his background pull him down. His dedication has earned him a place at the Naledi Science, Technology and Health Centre which offers science, technology and English courses every Saturday to about 200 youths from Katorus.

Mqale represents a future of hope for his parents and is a shining star at Eketsang High School in Katlehong, where he is completing matric. He has five siblings and his

parents are unemployed, but his ambition to achieve is not affected.

"I believe in myself and know that a good future lies before me. I never see my poor family background as an excuse for not working hard and achieving," he says.

Through Naledi centre, Mqale

— — — — —
It will be sad if gifted pupils are left unnoticed
 — — — — —

has gained knowledge about town planning and the construction of houses — the kind of knowledge he believes will one day take him out of the backyard shack he now lives in.

His first wish is to finish his matric and study at Wits Technikon

rather than getting a job immediately to support his family.

"Being part of Naledi centre has helped me realise that I can be an engineer. I come from a rural area where electricity is a great need. I want to go back there one day and be useful and helpful," says Mqale.

Mqale's class teacher, Phundile Mokoena, says: "We are hoping and praying he will bring us a matric exemption. He is one of the best students in maths and science and is very optimistic. His love of education, and his dedication and confidence, are rare qualities these days."

But next year this centre, so valued by its pupils, might be closed because of a lack of funds.

Naledi centre is one of the few institutions where gifted pupils are exposed to proper career guidance, management skills and information on technology.

"I am proud I had the opportunity to go through this centre, but it will be sad if gifted pupils from the East Rand are left unnoticed when this place closes," Mqale adds.

MBA HADEBE

Gifted ... Johannes Mqale is one of the Katorus pupils being groomed to fill the need for skilled technicians and engineers and hopes to return to the rural areas, when he qualifies, to provide help there.



RDP donation to benefit East Rand township youths

Star 14/5/96 (298)

STAFF REPORTER

Youth organisations which are providing skills to empower thousands of unemployed and out-of-school youths from Katorus (Katlhong, Tokoza and Vosloorus) will receive a R2,1-million boost from the RDP fund.

Themba Maluleka, manager of the Katorus special presidential project, said yesterday the programme would provide financial support to helpful youth organisations, most of which are facing a financial crisis since donors withdrew their support after the national election.

The funds will be distributed among youth programmes providing training in sports, arts and culture, small business management, literacy and matric rewrite projects. However, organisations would have to apply for funds before July 31 and would be evaluated by the Joint Education Trust.

The support programme

could provide a new beginning to most youths who have suffered severe trauma over the past years.

Katorus social service functional co-ordinator Marion Stewart said the fund would enable several organisations to have an impact on the lives of young people.

The frustrations experienced by Katorus youth had been exacerbated by the call to disband self-defence and self-protection units.

"Many youths found a purpose in these formations, but the call to disband the units without a co-ordinated alternative has left many feeling betrayed, bitter and isolated" she said. Through the support programme, more facilities will be made available to provide counselling for young people in Katorus.

The Joint Education Trust can be reached for application forms at (011) 403-6401.

► **Blow for needy youths**
Page 7

tion for the Atomic Energy Corporation. This state of affairs is not satisfactory.

The responsibility for water matters is, in terms of the interim Constitution and our new constitution, a national function and it is vested in the Department of Water Affairs and Forestry with me as responsible Minister.

The previous government, as part of its defence against the total onslaught, shrouded many matters in a veil of secrecy, and all nuclear matters were covered behind this veil. This peculiar legal disposition has the effect that although I am responsible for water matters and must stand before Parliament to reply to questions such as this one, I can only respond to what my department and I can glean from the authorities who have the capacity to comment on nuclear pollution of our water resources, unless of course there has been a disaster or near disaster that cannot be hidden. This is totally unsatisfactory and I have already raised this issue in the Cabinet and I hope that this will be resolved soon. The principle of divide to rule no longer has a place in our society and responsibilities regarding line function matters must be vested in the line function department and Minister.

Search of Shell House after shootings

*4. Mr M A MZIZI asked the Minister for Safety and Security:

(1) Whether a search warrant was issued to a certain general, whose name has been furnished to the South African Police Service for the purpose of his reply, to search Shell House after the shootings on 28 March 1994; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so,

(2) whether the warrant was executed; if not, why not; if so, with what result;

(3) (a) how many weapons used in the shootings were handed over to the Police for ballistic tests, (b) of what calibres were these weapons handed over to the Police? N501E

The MINISTER FOR SAFETY AND SECURITY

(1) Yes

(2) No. According to a sworn statement made by the general in question, an order was given by the then Commissioner of the South African Police that politically sensitive places should not be searched without consulting with the relevant leaders.

(3) (a) 146 weapons were handed over to the police. Whether all or some of them were used in the shooting is best left to the court to determine.

(b) Handguns, shotguns and AK47 assault rifles.

(c) The handing over of firearms took place over a period of time commencing approximately three months after the incident.

Mr M A MZIZI: Madam Speaker, arising from the Minister's response, it is really amazing that a search warrant could be applied and not executed timeously. It is also amazing to learn that political bodies could not be searched. The purpose of applying . . .

The SPEAKER. Order! Hon member, you may put a supplementary question. You should not be making a speech. So, rather frame what you want to say as a question.

Mr M A MZIZI. Well, let me put a follow-up on the question. May I ask the Minister: Have the people who were ordered to carry out the shooting been arrested?

The MINISTER FOR SAFETY AND SECURITY: Madam Speaker, I will gladly respond to the last part, which is a new question, when it appears on the Question Paper on the next occasion. With regard to the first comments, I note that the hon member is amazed at the decisions that were taken by the former Commissioner of the SA Police.

Louis Trichardt TLC: elections

*5 Mr A FOURIE asked the Minister for Provincial Affairs and Constitutional Development.

(1) When is it anticipated that finality will be reached in respect of the (a) demarcation of the boundaries of and (b) holding of local government elections for the Greater Louis Trichardt Transitional Local Council;

(2) whether he is in a position to furnish details as to what expenses were incurred

by the various political parties in the three abortive attempts towards holding local government elections for the said TLC; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;

(3) whether the parties concerned have been or are to be recompensed for such expenses incurred, if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;

(4) whether he will make a statement on the matter? N502E

The MINISTER FOR PROVINCIAL AFFAIRS AND CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT:

The information is not readily available in the department. In an attempt to be of assistance to the hon member, the following information was obtained from the Greater Louis Trichardt Local Council:

(1) (a) The boundaries for the area of jurisdiction of the Greater Louis Trichardt Transitional Local Council were already proclaimed on 20 March 1996 in terms of Proclamation No 9 of 1996 in *Provincial Gazette* No 144.

(b) The date for the local government elections in the Greater Louis Trichardt area was proclaimed on 10 February 1996 in *Government Gazette* 16997 in terms of Proclamation 16294 of 1996, which determined the election date as 29 May 1996.

(2) Local government elections were postponed only on one occasion, namely 1 November 1995. No claims have been received from political parties, although some claims have been received from individual candidates. These claims have been referred to the State Attorney for legal advice.

(3) All claims received have been referred to the State Attorney for legal advice. To date no response has been received from that office.

(4) A statement is not regarded as being necessary.

Number of street children

*6. Mr M F CASSIM asked the Minister for Welfare and Population Development:

(1) Whether the number of children living on the streets was (a) contained or (b) reduced in 1995; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details;

(2) whether he will make a statement on the matter? N503E

The MINISTER FOR WELFARE AND POPULATION DEVELOPMENT:

(1) (a) The phenomenon of street children differs in each province. The overall situation is that the number of street children was contained during 1995 for the following reasons:

- outreach work is aggressively promoted in the provinces with great success

- early identification of street children and the referral of high-risk and vulnerable children

- reintegration of the street child with his/her family and community of origin

- a broad range of social services are available to street children

- shelters are seen as an interim measure and operate as assessment centres and safe houses;

(b) owing to poverty, disintegration of family life, unemployment, socioeconomic instability and violence the number of street children was not reduced.

(2) Yes, I would like to make the following statement: Street children use the streets in various ways and live there sporadically or permanently. Therefore these children can be divided into two categories, namely: children on the street who have regular contact with their families and children of the street who have infrequent or no contact with their families. Because of their nomadic lifestyle it is difficult to estimate the number of street children.

Since 1994 the provinces established street children liaison committees in their regions with a view to co-ordinating activities. Social welfare services became more structured as a result.

Although the number of street children in some provinces has been contained, the number of street children will not be reduced if the socioeconomic climate in South Africa does not stabilise. Unemployment, poverty, disintegration of family life and the increase of violence are some of the reasons that force children onto the street.

The Department of Welfare believes that street children would benefit if:

- family life could be strengthened
- individuals could become empowered and independent
- communities were involved; and
- one-stop-services in the communities could be established.

Mr M F CASSIM: Madam Speaker, arising out of the Minister's reply, may I ask him, firstly, whether he has approached the welfare societies, particularly the Child Welfare Society, to solicit their support and, secondly, whether he has requested funding from the RDP to help combat the ever-increasing problem of street children.

The MINISTER FOR WELFARE AND POPULATION DEVELOPMENT: Madam Speaker, not only the Child Welfare Society, but also various NGOs have been contacted to assist. A number of NGOs are, in fact, assisting us with regard to this problem.

Secondly, as far as funding is concerned, not only have we asked the RDP office to help us with this problem, but various NGOs are also helping us financially.

*7. Mr M F CASSIM—Public Works. [Question standing over.]

Model C schools: repossession/compensation
*8. Mr L LOUW asked the Minister of Education:†

- (1) Whether his Department intends taking back current Model C schools from management councils and parents in whose possession such schools are at present; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so,

- (2) whether such management councils and parents will be reimbursed for (a) build-

ings, (b) sites and/or (c) improvements that were made by them to such schools out of their own funds; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

N505E

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION:

- (1) No. A Model C school is a legal persona which will continue to be a legal persona in future and assets of a Model C school should belong to management councils and parents. Model C schools are to become public schools which will be governed by the governing bodies of such public schools, subject to the provisions of the South African Schools Bill, 1996. The governing body of a public school will act on behalf of the school and may acquire the powers to manage the movable properties and funds belonging to the school. It is intended to expropriate the immovable property of a Model C school in terms of the provisions of the South African Schools Bill, 1996. This expropriation will not affect the right of a public school to possess immovable property for school purposes. In fact, one of the powers and functions which a governing body may acquire is to maintain the grounds and buildings on which the school is situated.

- (2) No. Management councils and parents will not be reimbursed for the buildings, sites and/or improvements to the immovable property because the school is the owner of the immovable property affected by the expropriation. The school, however, might be entitled to compensation, and such compensation will be determined according to the provisions of section 28(3) of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1993 (Act No 200 of 1993), if no agreement is reached by the parties regarding the compensation. The factors stipulated by section 28(3) of the Constitution determine that the use to which the property is being put, the history of its acquisition, its market value, the value of the investment in it by those affected and the interests of those affected, be considered.

Ambassador at European Union: successor

- *9. Dr B L GELDENHUYS asked the Minister of Foreign Affairs:†

Whether a successor has been appointed in the place of South Africa's ambassador at the European Union, if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

N506E

The MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS:

The President and both Executive Deputy Presidents have approved the candidature of Dr Elias Links to fill the post of Ambassador to the European Union. Dr Links is at present serving in the Department of Finance as Chief Director (International Development Finance), in which capacity he was a member of the negotiating team which has been involved in discussion with the EU since June 1995. He previously taught Economics as Professor at the University of the Western Cape, and has served as South African Representative at the IMF and World Bank, and Consul-General representing the Department of Finance in Zürich.

As required by the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations the European Union has been approached for its approval for the accreditation of Dr Links. As soon as the European Union has signalled its approval, Dr Links will be able to take up his post.

Dr B L GELDENHUYS: Madam Speaker, arising out of the hon the Minister's reply, let me say that we appreciate the fact that at last an ambassador has been appointed to the European Union, but could the Minister give us an explanation for the delay? If I remember correctly, the previous ambassador resigned about five months ago. In the meantime, South Africa has been engaged in very sensitive negotiations without an ambassador guiding or managing the process.

The MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS: Madam Speaker, we were looking around for the proper person to take up the post. [Interjections.] Eventually we found Dr Links. It was a process which we have now completed.

Shell House affair: statements

- *10. Mr H A SMIT asked the Minister for Safety and Security:†

- (1) Whether all the persons who possibly have information about the Shell House affair have already made statements; if so, (a) how many persons have made such statements and (b) what are their names; if not, (i) how many persons who have informa-

tion have not yet made statements and (ii) what are their names;

- (2) (a) what degree of co-operation has been given by political parties in the investigation of the Shell House affair and (b) what is the latest information on the situation in regard to the Shell House investigation?

N507E

The MINISTER FOR SAFETY AND SECURITY:

- (1) and (2) As I have said in this House before, the docket pertaining to events of 28 March 1994, which include the shootings around Shell House, was handed to the Attorney-General of the Witwatersrand Local Division in September 1995.

Further investigations are being conducted from the Attorney-General's office. I have not asked the Attorney-General any questions relating to statements collected from potential witnesses or to co-operation from political parties. However, should the Attorney-General, in his wisdom, wish to share any information in this regard with me, and should he solicit our assistance, our doors are open.

- *11. Dr E JASSAT—Health. [Question standing over.]

Visit to People's Republic of China

- *12. Dr B L GELDENHUYS asked the Minister of Foreign Affairs:†

Whether a Government delegation recently visited the People's Republic of China; if so, what was the (a) purpose of the visit and (b) composition of the delegation?

N510E

The MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS:

The Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr A B Nzo, led a Presidential delegation to Beijing, People's Republic of China from 24-26 March 1996.

- (a) The purpose of the visit was to continue the high-level dialogue and communication between the two countries. The visit was long overdue and should have taken place during the course of 1995.

The South African delegation conveyed the South African Government's desire to

Society must help fulfil the aspirations of youth

By M/S/96 (298)

YOUTH unemployment is a problem around the world; in SA it is assuming crisis proportions. Work is central to people's identity and to their sense of the future. Preparing for work is crucial to the identity of young people, who need to have a hopeful vision of the future and an idea of how to get from where they are to where they would like to be.

Their desire is to become independent, to do interesting work and to earn a decent wage. The prospect of an attractive and attainable career gives them an incentive to gain competence and to behave in a socially responsible manner.

For them to flourish, the community in which they grow up must be healthy, with the breadth of community resources promoting economic and social development.

Government agencies, employers, unions, educators, parents and young people need to be brought together in an integrated and coherent thrust of education, employment, training, economic development and welfare policies. But, even were this to be done, there remains a fear that in an increasingly competitive global economy we might not be able to do enough.

For many, opportunities have never been broader, with political

changes and technological development bringing with them an immediacy, excitement and new world perspective that was simply not available in the tried and stoic world of yesterday's careers. Now a blurring of boundaries is opening new dimensions, career changes become common, and the world is an oyster.

But these opportunities are not apparent to all. Parents talk of their children seeking university courses that will be globally marketable, professors speak of anxious and demoralised final year students, companies introduce policies of reducing posts, especially for white males, and skilled people emigrate.

Some argue this pain is in fact gain, with those seemingly rejected in fact being freed from limitations inherent in sunset industries. If this is so, our duty is to help young people to recognise this, and to support them in developing attitudes and skills that will enable them to rise on the wave of new challenges.

Robert Reich, Harvard professor, in his book *The Work of Nations: A Blueprint for the Future*, argued for this brave new outlook (although as US labour secretary he is more conservative, urging congress to adopt a somewhat protectionist approach towards foreign workers).

MARK HENNING

Reich's analysis is that three broad categories are emerging in the world of work:

- Routine production services entail the kinds of repetitive tasks that have been performed in the high-volume enterprises of large economies. These are not, however, restricted to older industries. The computer industry, for example, has many repetitive manufacturing tasks. Responsibility, reliability, loyalty and the ability to absorb training, albeit at a relatively low level, are characteristics of persons likely to be rewarded in this field;
- In-person services in many countries now form the largest sector of the economy. The variety of work in this field is increasing, as is the need for specialist and continued training. Those who will be successful in these tasks will enjoy working with people, have good communication skills; be patient and caring; and
- Symbolic analysts will market special skills in analysing and synthesising a growing mix of professional and occupational activities. Their initial training will generally be long and intensive, and they will have to work hard to keep up with

developments in their fields. Where they are successful the rewards will be rich; for others, earnings will be somewhat precarious.

Investment advisers, political commentators, constitutional lawyers and some accountants are typical symbolic analysts.

In SA, an interministerial committee of the education and labour departments has recently published a proposed structure for a national qualifications framework that will transform education and training in the country, leading to opportunities for lifelong learning for all South Africans and helping make the country competitive in the global economy.

The SA qualifications authority will formulate criteria for the registration and accreditation of bodies responsible for establishing education and training standards, monitor and advise such bodies, and ensure standards and qualifications are internationally comparable.

It is hoped the new system will begin to be introduced in January 1998. For children of secondary school age it will mean that the further education phase, standards 8 and 10, will be only one route of many to tertiary study.

Unit standards will be estab-

lished in many fields, and there will be a variety of providers of training in them. Accumulation of competencies through the unit standards will open up opportunities for further education for every individual.

The envisaged system is largely based on one put into practice in New Zealand over the past four years. Other countries, too, have moved strongly in this direction.

The Independent Schools' Council has arranged a series of seminars in Durban, Johannesburg, Cape Town and Port Elizabeth, from May 27 to 30, at which speakers from two US institutions, the Boston-based Jobs for the Future and Chicago's Critical Skills Group, will discuss the theory and practice behind schools establishing school-to-work and youth apprenticeship schemes.

Given the desperate need for young people to be prepared as thoroughly as possible for the new world of work and for the introduction of the integrated education and training system, schools must be shown how to work with unions and business in establishing curricula that do justice to the hopes and aspirations of the ones entrusted to them.

□ Henning is national director of the Independent Schools' Council.

LETTERS

Peninsula child unit may split as abuse rises

Staff Reporter

ARG 23/5/96
(298)

THE Peninsula's Child Protection Unit, at present situated in Goodwood, might be split in two in order to deal more effectively with the increasing child abuse problem in Cape Town.

One of the new offices could be in Bellville and the other in either Mitchell's Plain or Wynberg.

Plans are still under discussion at police headquarters in Cape Town.

Police in the unit say an office in Wynberg would be more practical than one in Mitchell's Plain.

"Wynberg would be more central," said Sergeant Anslin April. "Although most child abuse cases are under investigation in Mitchell's Plain, Wynberg is the more realistic place to be because most of our cases go to the court there. We could handle places like Ocean View and other areas easily from there as well."

The superintendent of the Child Protection Unit, Johan Meyer, said nothing concrete had yet been decided. If the plan went ahead two buildings would have to be found and a conversion done through the tender process.

"An office in Bellville could handle cases from areas like Khayelitsha, Kuils River, Brackenfell and right up to Gordon's Bay and the other office in Mitchell's Plain or Wynberg would service the southern areas including Muizenberg, Hout Bay and Cape Town.

"Our office in Goodwood is very small and services the whole of the Peninsula."

Second in command at the CPU, Captain Irma Haupt, said child abuse was escalating. "We have a lot of work on our hands and only 18 people in our unit for the whole Peninsula."

Youth company launched

(298) / 23/5/96

by Justin Arenstein

THE MAKINGS of an economic revolution were unveiled in Mpumalanga early this week when hundreds of youths gathered to witness the launch of South Africa's first Youth Company.

This venture is also the first job creation project to be underwritten by a bank.

In a hall too small to hold all those who attended, Mpumalanga premier Mathews Phosa stressed that the initiative had nothing to do with charity or handouts, but instead was designed to create self-employment and profit-driven development of the biggest but also the most unstable sector of the nation's population.

"A nation that doesn't invest in its youth isn't serious about its future," he said.

"But by the same token, the youth can't expect to just wake up one morning and find jobs and wealth - they have to work hard, go for training and learn to create their own jobs and not look to be employed by others."

The job creation programme and the new Section 21 company, Mpumalanga Youth Holding Company, which has been designed and is being administered by the Initiative for Economic Empowerment (IEE), will help participating youth identify profitable business ventures, draw up appropriate business plans and establish small manufacturing plants.

The first series of business opportunities would, said IEE chairman Sabatha Mofolo, focus on supplying Government with products it uses in its day-to-day operations.

These would include cleaning materials, stationery, furniture and even manufactured foods for projects such as school schemes.

IEE and a model youth company called African Business United National Development Association (Abunda), has already designed a number of core products such as floor polish, beauty products and even packaged food, which can be produced by small manufacturing plants in townships or rural villages.

"But we're not just looking to supply Government, we're also lobbying very hard for private sector sub-contracts," added Mofolo.

He repeatedly stressed that the job creation programme was not aimed at destroying existing jobs or at "stealing" contracts away from existing companies.

IEE, through the holding company, will coordinate tender applications and the other necessary legal procedures to win contracts for all the new youth ventures and will also run a series of workshops and seminars to identify private sector business opportunities in various target communities throughout the province.

Future Bank will extend start-up loans, which in turn will be underwritten by local development agencies to prevent the Government itself from potentially losing any money to youth ventures

The job creation programme will help the youth to identify profitable business plans

with viable business plans.

Stressing that "after care" was a key element of the scheme, Mofolo told hundreds of aspirant entrepreneurs that regular inspections and detailed technical and managerial advice will be available from three service centres in Nelspruit, Ermelo and Witbank.

The first two months of the IEE's 15 month mandate will be used to identify regional business opportunities. A further three to five months will be set aside to train

youths in the necessary skills for first drawing up their business plans and then launching and running their companies.

Pointing out that small manufacturers and service providers made up at least 70 percent of economically active people in Asia and earned 60 percent of the national Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in the United States of America, Future Bank managing director Neville Watchurst said practical schemes are needed as this would boost the regional economy.

A nation
has no
Mr M

Abused children cared for by an ex-narcotics cop with a big heart and a pink panther

By JACQUI REEVES

(298)

Star 25/5/96

It seems a bit incongruous that a hardened ex-narcotics detective should have a huge pink panther in his office.

But Capt Pi Pretorius says the children love the soft toys and bright posters that line the walls of his Braamfontein office. Pretorius is the commanding officer of the child protection unit (CPU), recently renamed the domestic violence child protection sexual offences unit (DCS).

Pretorius, with his experience in the field of child protection, was assigned to the CPU in April last year.

"As soon as I walked in I had a vision of how I wanted this place to look," Pretorius said.

"It is only now that we have the facilities and the resources to get our plans off the ground."

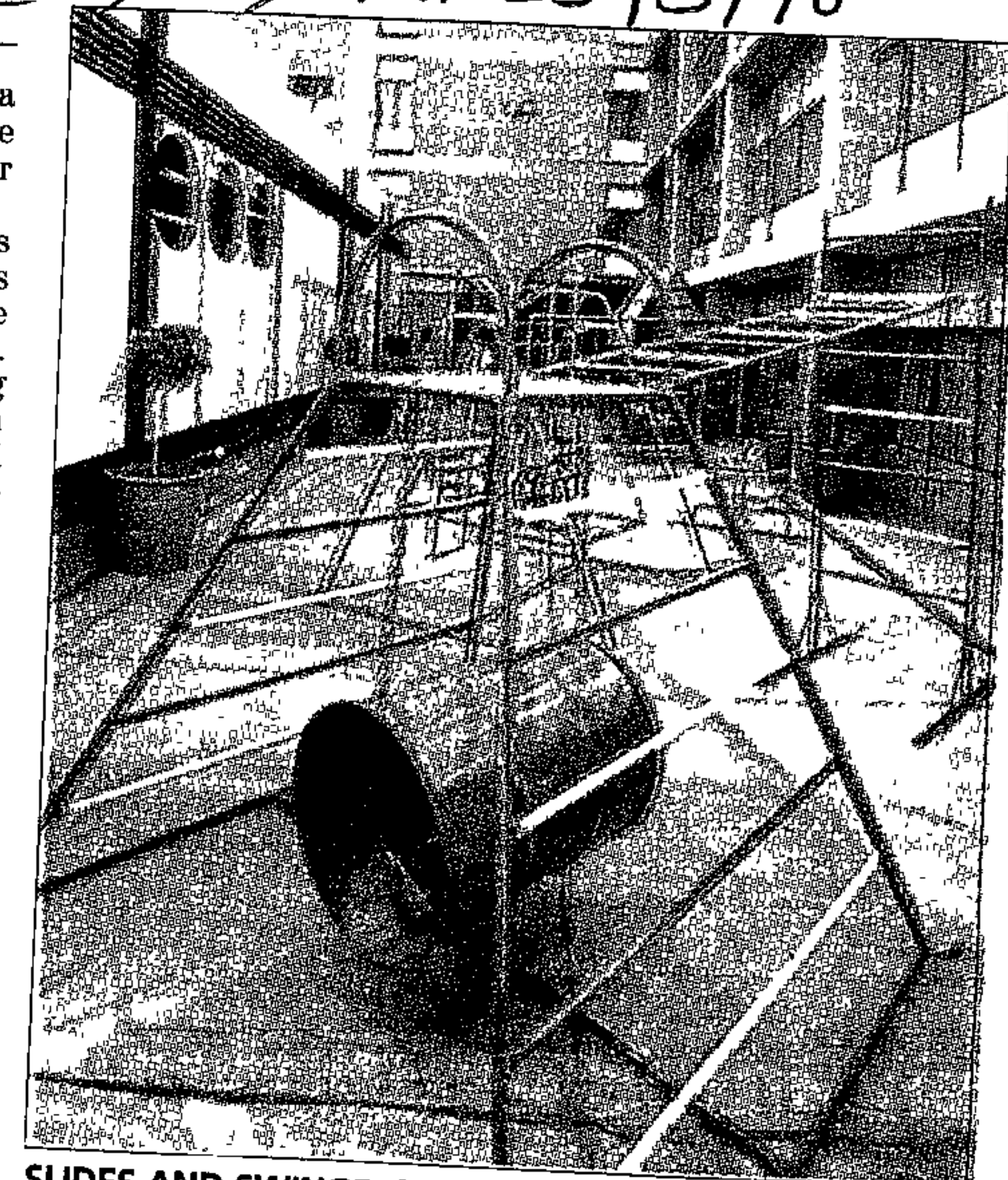
The unit functions as a place of refuge for abused children. Here the investigation process starts, with an often difficult and emotional interview.

"These children come to us traumatised and very frightened. We have to make the little time that they spend with us as stress free as possible," Pretorius said.

With this goal in mind, the team set about collecting funds and donations to upgrade their facilities.

At the time, the CPU was attempting to serve the needs of all 29 stations under its jurisdiction. Pretorius, being unable to spread the organisation's resources that far, set up a forum to seek alternatives.

Research showed the public supporting the idea of a body that could deal with all child



SLIDES AND SWINGS: On completion, this play area will have a sandpit and plenty of outdoor toys PHOTOGRAPH. JOHN HOGG

abuse-related problems, and the DCS was born.

The interim committee of this body is made up of police, religious leaders, teachers and parents who have investigated the main problem areas in policing child abuse. The committee has undertaken to provide one effective and efficient service, hence the birth of the DCS, Pretorius said.

At the moment Pretorius describes the unit as running only "incoming to incoming". "We do not have the manpower

to be proactive against child abuse - all we can do is deal with the reported cases."

The facilities upgrading project should be completed by next month.

One of the new facilities is an outside play area with swings, slides and a sandpit.

"Bringing your child in when you suspect abuse is a very difficult decision.

"But often these mothers have other children that stand around here bored, making even more demands on the already

stressed mother.

"The play area is to keep these kids happy while their mother and sibling are being interviewed."

An old substation alongside the DCS office has been emptied and, once renovated, will provide the "child-friendly" atmosphere Pretorius is looking for.

The area will have a children's playroom with toys and teddy bears, which will be divided from the lounge area with one-way glass.

"When children are being counselled in the playroom, trainee officers will be able to observe the experienced officer without intruding," Pretorius said.

"We will also use it to help children feel confident enough to look at an identity parade of suspects"

The complex has also been equipped with a bar and a gym. Staff will be able to work out some of the stress built up in the job, and the bar area will be used for fundraising evenings

In the day-to-day activities of the job, officers are often exposed to horrific incidents of child abuse, something Pretorius says he has had to learn to deal with.

"Some days you feel on top of the world, and on other days you are so depressed ... but when things go well and you see a happier child, it really helps you realise why you do it."

Donations have been plentiful. A toy manufacturer recently gave 1 000 teddy bears to the unit, with the DCS giving the excess to local orphanages.

"This really has been an effort by the community for the community," Pretorius said.

Government slammed over children

JENNY VALL
Health Reporter

ARG 28/5/96

298

WHILE the Child Welfare Society is considering closing because of lack of funds, children's rights organisation have refused to support this week's launch of the government's new plan to address critical issues facing children.

The government has been strongly criticised for lacking commitment to finance existing services.

The National Children's Rights Committee (NCRC), an umbrella organisation of about 250 non-government and community based organisations, says children are losing out as budget cuts in the Western Cape

cripple social service organisations.

A R19 million budget cut to social services in the Western Cape has caused staff retrenchments, closure of vital services and has resulted in some organisations having to stop operating.

"The message to our children clearly illustrates the government's negligence and unwillingness to provide for the needs of the children in the province.

"Despite having signed the UN Declaration on the Rights of the Child, the government has shown scant regard for the needs of children or the problems facing organisations in the province," says the NCRC.

A meeting yesterday heard that the Child

Welfare Society was considering doing away with seven social workers, supervisors and a manager, as well as other support staff, and had notified provincial authorities that 450 cases would be handed over to them on July 1.

The meeting also heard that Khayelitsha had one social worker for 40,000 people, and that the police Child Protection Unit, with only 18 staff for the whole of the Western Cape, needed Child Welfare to back up its services.

"How can we support a plan that will raise awareness of problems and then have no services in place to support children?" asked Marsha Lawrence of the NCRC.

The nation

(297) in brief (298)

CT 28/5/96

NON-GOVERNMENT child welfare services — many in financial straits — have dug in their heels about implementing the government's Provincial Plan of Action.

Representatives who attended a meeting of the National Children's Rights Committee yesterday said they were already struggling to meet daily demands, had to cut staff because of budget constraints and did not have the resources to put the plan into effect.

The Child Welfare Organisation had not had a subsidy increase in three years and was to cut its staff in Cape Town by 16, its spokesman, Mr Alan Jackson, said.

Welfare workers voiced discontent about disparities between their salaries and those of government social workers and subsidy cuts.

NCRC members plan to march to Parliament on Friday to hand a petition to the Minister of Health, Dr Nkosazana Zuma.

W Cape 'won't take part in child plan'

Health Reporter

ARG 29/5/96

(298)

The Western Cape will not take part in the national launch of a government plan to ease the plight of children in South Africa.

The Social Services Department in the Western Cape, struggling under budget cuts, has decided not to commit itself to the programme which "will raise expectations that cannot be met", according to Marianne Heyns, Western Cape co-ordinator of the National Programme of Action (NPA) for Children.

The government's NPA is a policy framework for addressing critical issues facing children, and will be launched by President Mandela on Friday, the day before the International Day of the Child. Mr Mandela will release a comprehensive study of the situation of children in South Africa.

Meanwhile, the National Children's Rights Committee (NCRC), an umbrella organisation of about 250 NGOs and community-based organisations concerned with children's rights, is to protest against the NPA launch with a march to parliament on Friday.

SA's youth care crisis

(298) Sowetan 29/5/96

IN MAY LAST YEAR, when 2 000 children awaiting trial were released from prison, the long-standing crisis in the child and youth care system was brought under the spotlight.

It revealed starkly that society was hopelessly ill-prepared to care for those released, and all the move did at the time was underscore how inadequate existing facilities were to deal with the crisis.

Making a presentation on its progress to the portfolio committee on welfare, the inter-ministerial committee on young people at risk yesterday said one of the main requirements for dealing with youth offenders – establishing the secure care system – was well under way.

In some provinces places of safety have, or are being, renovated and turned into secure care units. Care in these units is moving away from prosecution-oriented justice models and instead focuses on alternative programmes for young offenders.

Justice system

"These programmes keep them out of the formal justice system while, at the same time, assuring they are held accountable for their behaviour," a discussion document on transforming the child and youth system explains.

"The 'treatment' of the old welfare model, and the 'punishment' of the justice model, are replaced by outcomes which result in the retraining of young people to respect themselves and others and to play a meaningful role in society."

The committee, sanctioned by President Nelson Mandela, was set up after the release of young offenders last year. Its main purpose was to manage the crisis and to transform existing systems.

The committee consists of several non-governmental organisations and the Ministries of Welfare, Justice, Education, Health, Correctional Services and Safety and Security. It is chaired by Welfare Minister Geraldine Fraser-Moleketi.

Basic principles

The basic principles of residential child and youth care the committee has come up with include.

- Access to the programme of care, education and treatment, regardless of how long the child is taken in;
- Contact with family and friends unless a court decides otherwise;
- Personal privacy, free time and own possessions;
- Protection from all forms of exploitation, discrimination and abuse;

The inter-ministerial committee on young people at risk, with the task of examining issues around youth offenders, has reported on its progress, writes Political Correspondent **Rafiq Rohan**...



Geraldine Fraser-Moleketi ... chairing an interministerial committee looking at how to deal with young offenders.

- Being able to participate in sport, cultural and recreational activities;

- Not being refused admission to a centre on the basis of race, religion, sexual orientation or cultural heritage; and

- Locating facilities where young people, families and the community have easy access.

It will be the province's role to monitor the system by "competent professionals", and no person alone should be able to make arbitrary decisions for a child or family.

Prevention of youth crime, the committee says, has to be the priority. "Because it is difficult to identify which children are more at risk, prevention services should be aimed at the widest possible range of young people from the earliest age possible."

The crime prevention strategy should include ensuring that all children are enrolled at schools.

"Young people need to be empowered to practise the principles of restorative justice. If they make mistakes or harm people, they should be part of putting things right. Harsh and degrading punishments must be excluded from the education system," the report says.

Another focus of the document is how youth justice is administered. Drafters of legislation should consider the definition of a juvenile and a youth.

In terms of the Constitution, a child is a person up to the age of 18 while, in terms of the law, children under 14 are presumed to be lacking in criminal capacity.

The committee recommends that South Africa settles for a minimum age of 12 or 14 "below which the child cannot be prosecuted criminally, as is the case in many countries".

It also recommends procedures for the arrest of alleged young offenders, where police are encouraged to promote the wellbeing of the young person being arrested.

"It is necessary that basic training on child rights should be included in the curriculum of all police officers."

Parent or guardian

In addition, as soon as the young person is arrested, the parent or guardian must be contacted where possible immediately afterwards and, where necessary, be brought to the police station or the centre where the young person is taken.

This needs to be done, the committee recommends, because there are many parents who find it difficult getting to the police station due to lack of transport.

It is necessary that the young person is received at a "child-friendly" venue and assessed by probation officers. This should be followed by a referral process which determines how individual cases are handled.

The Children's Court is still not the central axis of youth justice and this needs restructuring, says the committee.

Intensive training

All cases of children under the age of 12 or 14 should be handled in the Children's Court, and magistrates working in these courts must receive intensive and specialised training.

Wherever possible, the young person should be released into the care of the guardian and allowed to return home. Where this is not possible, a decision must be taken on where the most appropriate place to keep the young person should be.

If the person is going to be held in custody, then access to legal representation should be available. If the accused cannot afford a lawyer, it will be the state's responsibility to provide one.

Child prisoners putting strain on SAs correctional facilities

By BONHWE MLANGENI

Star 31/5/96

Last month 52 children between the ages of seven and 15 were jailed for serious crimes, including murder, while 76 were awaiting trial in police custody.

The number of juvenile offenders in this age group in jail for violent and non-violent crimes is increasing, statistics provided by the Department of Correctional Services reveal.

The number of jailed children in the youngest age group began to escalate last August after a slight drop in the first part of the year. Statistics show that more than 35 children between the ages of

seven and 15 are jailed each month. Depending on the severity of their crime, some get sentenced to about 10 years.

Last month, 16 978 unconvicted and sentenced juvenile offenders were behind bars. The highest figure was in Gauteng, which had 2 159 juveniles sentenced and 2 714 awaiting trial.

The lowest number was in the Northern Cape, with 377 juveniles sentenced and 121 awaiting trial.

But according to the department, which considers juveniles to be persons under 21 years old, these figures related to population density.

Correctional Services spokesman Russel Mamabolo said al-

though the overall number of juvenile offenders was dropping slightly, prison facilities were under pressure because there was a huge number of children awaiting trial.

Last year, about 829 awaiting trial juvenile prisoners were released according to a Correctional Services Act which prohibited the detention of children under 18 in jail or police cells. The law stated that children must either be released into the custody of their parents or kept in places of safety.

However, this failed because of a lack of secure places and children escaping from places of safety, leading to the readjustment of the provision.

Mamabolo said the decision to keep them in prisons was now made by the courts.

In a report released recently by the Department of Welfare, the prevention of crime among youth has been made a priority, and various ways of addressing the needs of juveniles in and outside prison have been sought.

These include protecting juvenile offenders from all forms of exploitation, discrimination and abuse; promoting sports and cultural activities; allowing them privacy and providing education.

Self-defeating violence of wasted youth

There are those who will only know life in the dock, never to enjoy their childhood in a free world because of the violent crimes they have committed

(298) Star 31/5/96

By BONCIVE MLANCINI

In jail they are victims of abuse, in the streets they are regarded as a danger, at home they are often unwanted and, at times, labelled by their own parents as the evil children.

These are the thousands of juvenile offenders who go in and out of jail for different crimes, ranging from pickpocketing to murder.

Some are as young as seven years old, but mostly they are teenagers.

Despite their age, there are those who will only know of a life in the dock, never to enjoy their youth in a free world because of the violent crimes they have committed.

Even for most of those who are

lucky enough to be released within a short period, their freedom does not last long. They often struggle to stay out of trouble and be part of normal society. In no time they are drawn into committing other crimes, landing them back behind bars again.

According to legal adviser Amanda Dissel from the Centre for the Study of Violence and Reconciliation, this behaviour is not surprising.

She says juveniles in prisons are forced to live with strangers in a place where decisions are taken for them and where there is a lot of violence and manipulation.

When they come out they move back to a society that rejects

them and their parents give up on them. Once they are outside, they also have to learn new forms of survival, without proper guidance or rehabilitative measures.

The lack of rehabilitation programmes outside prison contributes to an increase in juvenile crimes, she says.

So far the National Institute for Crime Prevention and Rehabilitation of Offenders (Nicro) is the only organisation which has a programme aimed at reshaping the lives of the young offender. However, its programme is not easily accessible to youngsters in smaller towns.

Another problem is that some juveniles come out of jail having learned to master other crimes, says Dissel. This is usually the case with juveniles who shared

jail with adult prisoners despite the policy which states that juveniles should be kept separately.

The Department of Correctional Services did not want to admit this, saying only that all measures are taken to ensure that sentenced and unconvicted juveniles are detained separately.

However, their attempts are thwarted by overcrowding in prisons and places of safety which has led the department to keep children even in inappropriate accommodation for longer hours than required, even though that is against the law.

The Correctional Services Act of 1959 stipulates that unconvicted children aged between 14 and 18 years, accused of more serious

crimes may not be detained in prison for more than 48 hours.

But the lack of sufficient, efficient places of safety has led a review of these hours, says Correctional Services spokesman, adding that the department monitored the detention continuously.

Countrywide there are seven juvenile prisons and about 10 prisons that have a juvenile project aimed at training and providing separate accommodation. These prisons have to deal with about 4 000 children sent to prison and about 5 000 waiting trial behind bars almost every month.

However, Dissel says most of the rehabilitation programmes are not directed at the needs of juveniles.

In some prisons, you will find there are not enough teachers



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Star 3/5/96

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"In some prisons you find
there are not enough teachers and

not enough encouragement to
make juveniles part of the rehabil-
itation programmes. Some juve-
niles can easily decide that they
do not want to attend any pro-
gramme.

In view of this she says there is
a need to review existing rehabil-
itation programmes and also juve-
nile sentencing.

She says restorative justice
should be implemented in cases
of minor crimes being committed
and, only when a juvenile has
committed a serious crime and
failed to rehabilitate, should they
be sent to jail.

There is no use keeping a
child who has committed a minor
crime with hard criminals. That
damages a child.

Restorative justice should be
used to make sure that a juvenile
is not only accountable for the
crime but responsible. For this to
happen, Dissel insists that rehabil-
itation should happen in the com-
munity.

This can also encourage a vic-
tim to have a say on the kind of
punishment the perpetrator
should get. The offenders will
have to pay back to the commu-
nity for their crimes by doing com-
munity service and be heavily
monitored by society, she says.

She believes that society will
have to play a role in these pro-
grammes and not simply reject ju-
veniles without giving them an-
other chance.

Nicro director Zeemph
Domingo shares Dissel's opinion.
She says most juveniles have

the same characteristics. They
come from broken homes or have
learning difficulties at school.
They lack self-esteem and then
turn to negative ways of drawing
attention.

Domingo stresses the need
for societal involvement and a
system which will help juveniles
reintegrate in the outside world.

We have turned these children
into enemies and they see us as
targets. This has to change. When
they come out of jail they should
move back into a society that is
more positive towards them.

She says however that this
will work better if children are
given their rights in jail and are
being helped to have a positive at-
titude in life.



UNCONVICTED CHILDREN / JUVENILES

YEARS	7-13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	TOTAL
JUNE 1995	5	4	12	14	23	1 578	1 497	1 445	4 578
JULY	10	3	12	18	20	1 690	1 538	1 480	4 776
AUGUST	9	8	12	20	29	1 675	1 532	1 487	4 772
SEPTEMBER	10	11	16	21	22	1 426	1 393	1 258	4 157
OCTOBER	4	7	20	24	29	1 397	1 341	1 239	4 061
NOVEMBER	3	12	21	27	38	1 690	1 529	1 454	4 774
DECEMBER	6	10	23	44	58	1 872	1 639	1 568	5 220
JANUARY 1996	4	11	31	52	81	2 107	1 815	1 674	5 775

SENTENCED CHILDREN / JUVENILES

YEARS	7-13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	TOTAL
JUNE 1995		7	32	126	483	1 949	2 802	3 222	8 621
JULY	1	7	40	140	501	2 019	2 850	3 235	8 793
AUGUST	1	11	28	118	448	1 981	2 802	3 336	8 725
SEPTEMBER	2	10	40	150	514	2 045	2 940	3 286	8 987
OCTOBER	1	14	33	154	509	2 092	3 015	3 330	9 148
NOVEMBER	1	16	31	152	523	2 096	3 041	3 345	9 205
DECEMBER	1	11	29	148	493	2 037	2 914	3 225	8 858
JANUARY 1996	1	9	39	155	486	2 094	2 959	3 216	8 959

Visit to Botswana: Minister
4-6 June 1995

On invitation of the Botswana Government, the Minister of Land Affairs visited Gaborone and surrounds for discussions with his counterpart on land reform and other land related matters. The Minister was accompanied by his Administrative Secretary.

The Botswana Government paid for a portion of accommodation expenses, and the South African delegation travelled by road to Gaborone in order to save costs. The total expenditure for the Administrative Secretary was R500.

Visit to the UK
17-21 April 1996

The Minister of Land Affairs was invited by the British Development Division of the Overseas Development Administration of the British Government to deliver the Keynote address, and to participate in an African Wildlife Policy Consultation. The visit also included meetings with Baroness Chalker, Minister for Overseas Development UK. The Minister was accompanied by his Administrative Secretary. The cost of the Secretary's visit was R12 851.

QUESTIONS

†Indicates translated version.

For written reply.

Shortage of classrooms in primary/high schools

204. Mr P G MARAIS asked the Minister of Education:†

(a) What was the estimated shortage in respect of classrooms in (i) primary schools and (ii) high schools in the Republic as at the latest specified date for which information is available, calculated at a pupil/classroom ratio of 1:40 for a primary school class and 1:35 for a high school class and expressed in terms of the number of (aa) pupils currently enrolled at schools in the Republic and (bb) pupils specified in paragraph (aa) plus the estimated number of persons in the Republic between the ages of 6 and 16 who are currently receiving no schooling and (b) what will the projected capital cost be to eliminate such shortage in each case?

N361E

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION:

(a) With the information available it is at present impossible to give an accurate breakdown of the classroom shortages for primary and secondary schools. It is envisaged that more accurate information will be available towards the end of 1996 once the School Register of Needs (SRN) survey has been completed. This survey, conducted by a consortium consisting of the HSRC, The Education Foundation and the Research Institute for Education Planning of the University of the Orange Free State, comprises visits to all the schools in the country and will focus, *inter alia* on the availability and condition of physical facilities at the respective schools.

As a matter of information, in view of the terms in which question (a) is phrased, it must be stressed that negotiations in the Education Labour Relations Council were on pupil: educator ratios and not on pupil/classroom ratios. In general pupil/educator ratios are lower than pupil/classroom ratios.

(b) In view of the reply to (a), it is not possible at present to provide a reliable estimate.

The Department of Education is working extremely hard, in co-operation with the provincial Departments of Education, to create the information system necessary to provide the data on which reliable planning can be done.

Reformatories/Industrial schools in Republic

209. Mrs S A SEATON asked the Minister of Education:

(1) (a) How many (i) reformatories and (ii) industrial schools are there in the Republic, (b) where are they situated, (c) what is the accommodation capacity of each of these reformatories and industrial schools and (d) what was the occupancy level at each of these reformatories and industrial schools as at the latest specified date for which information is available.

(2) whether there are any reformatories and industrial schools that are not being utilised, if so, why;

(3) whether any new reformatories and/or industrial schools are currently being planned and/or built, if not, why not, if so, what is the anticipated completion date in respect of each such new reformatory and/or industrial school?

N366E

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION

(1) (a) (i) There are 7 reformatories in the Republic as on 1 April 1996.

(ii) There are 21 industrial schools in the Republic as on 1 April 1996

(b), (c) and (d) The information is as indicated in attached Table 1.

(2) The building of Mimosdale industrial school in KwaZulu-Natal was completed in December 1995. Staff are presently being appointed. Once these appointments are finalised the school will be opened.

(3) No new reformatories or industrial schools are currently being planned and/or built for the following reasons:

• It is the philosophy of the Department of

Education to keep children in main stream education as far as possible;

- Welfare workers also try to keep children

out of these institutions as long as possible; and

- Provinces are under financial pressure to address the existing backlog in classrooms for public ordinary schools.

Table 1: Statistics on Reformatories and Industrial Schools according to Province as on 1 April 1996

Province	Name	Reformatories			Industrial Schools		
		Location	Accommodation capacity	Occupancy level	Name	Location	Accommodation capacity
KwaZulu-Natal	None	—	—	—	Mimosdale (girls)	Estcourt	100
					Bergsig	Ulrich	104
					Newcastle	Newcastle	360
Free State	None	—	—	—	Jimmy Roos (boys)	Dewetsdorp	172
					Rosenhof (girls)	Bloemfontein	216
Eastern Cape	None	—	—	—	J J Serfontein	Queenstown	216
Mpumalanga	Ethokomalo (boys)	Krums	180	224	Vikela (boys)	Ogies	280
					George Hofmeyer (girls)	Standeron	180
					Vaalrivier (boys)	Standeron	186
					Emmisdal	Heidelberg	186
Gauteng	None	—	—	—	Luckhoff	Heidelberg	165
Western Cape	Constantia (girls)	Tokai	60	37	Atlantis	Atlantis	200
	Constantia (boys)	Tokai	168	111	Bult	George	120
	Faure (girls)	Faure	200	73	Khuthlele	Pearl	180
	Faure (boys)	Faure	310	310	Krumsig	George	160
	Porter	Tokai	450	450	Le Fleur	Cape	160
	Umsingisi	Ravensville	216	124	Ottery	Cape	400
					Pacalisdorp	Pacalisdorp	230
					Peira	Oudshoorn	108
North West	None	—	—	—	Val de Charon	Wellington	200
					Daernad	Wolmaransstad	108
Northern Province	None	—	—	—	None	—	—
Northern Cape	None	—	—	—	None	—	—

Purchase of gold ingots

312. Mr M F CASSIM asked the Minister of Finance:

Whether South African (a) business institutions and/or (b) private individuals will in the near future be able to purchase gold ingots as part of their investment portfolios; if not, why not; if so, (i) from what date and (ii) under what circumstances?

N546E

The MINISTER OF FINANCE:

Gold forms an important part of South Africa's foreign exchange reserves and is also sold abroad to generate much needed foreign currency. On instruction of the Department of Finance, only a limited amount of the gold mined in South Africa may, therefore, be retained in South Africa for local consumption. Such uses would include the supply of gold to the domestic jewellery industry, and the minting of Kruggerands and, to a lesser extent, of commemorative gold coins.

Bearing in mind South Africa's current foreign currency reserve position, therefore, no

changes to the foregoing are anticipated at this stage

Taxpayers/tax assessed

361. Mr K M ANDREW asked the Minister of Finance:

What, in respect of the 1993-94 and 1994-95 tax years, respectively, was the total (a) number of individual taxpayers, (b) number of individual taxpayers in each income category, (c) amount of tax assessed in each income category, expressed as a percentage of total tax assessed, (d) amount of tax assessed and (e) amount of tax assessed in each income category?

N614E

The MINISTER OF FINANCE:

(a) Total number of registered individual taxpayers:

1993-94 tax year: 1 348 155
1994-95 tax year: 1 002 886

(b), (c), (d), (e): see annexure.

1993/94 Tax year

Income category	(b) Number of individual taxpayers in each income tax category	Total		
		(c) Tax assessed in each income category, expressed as a percentage	(d) + (e) Total amount of tax assessed in each income category	
Loss	55 002	0,00%	0	
0 - 5 000	48 003	0,01%	2 909 144	
5 001-10 000	58 022	0,07%	14 546 368	
10 001 - 15 000	71 038	0,18%	36 781 896	
15 001-20 000	71 945	0,41%	85 319 733	
20 001-25 000	70 997	0,69%	145 353 479	
25 001-30 000	68 308	0,99%	208 143 027	
30 001-35 000	62 590	1,29%	271 762 636	
35 001-40 000	56 841	1,57%	330 685 850	
40 001-45 000	53 347	1,91%	400 470 947	
45 001-50 000	56 927	2,56%	537 053 497	

Children march against abuse

298

Sowetan 3/6/96

HUNDREDS of schoolchildren packed the streets of Johannesburg on Saturday to mark the start of child protection week and to protest against a sharp increase in child abuse cases over the past three years.

"From the reports we have had, the incidents have been going up on an average of 29 percent a year since 1993," Supt Anneke Pienaar, commander of the Child Protection Unit in SA, said.

Led by about 800 schoolchildren, some 1 000 adults from the Child Abuse Action Group, the Organisation Against Child Abuse, and other groups took to the streets with anti-child abuse placards.

In Boipatong near Vanderbijlpark, members of the African National Congress also marched against child abuse incidents in the area and an increase in molestation cases.

Pienaar said it was difficult to gauge how South African figures compared

with international statistics since international standards allowed for several categories of child abuse such as rape, molestation and assault.

"In Australia, it is considered rape if a person penetrates a child with any instrument or his private part," Pienaar said.

"In South Africa, rape is only classified as rape if a man penetrates a child with his penis. If other types of penetration take place, it goes into the books as assault," said Pienaar.

March organiser Miranda Friedmann said one of the aims of the march was to highlight inconsistent sentences for child abusers.

Recently, in the Johannesburg Magistrate's Court, a man was given a sentence of 1 000 hours of community service after being convicted of repeatedly molesting his 10-year-old step-daughter, she said. — Sapa.

Magic touch of Mandela Children's Fund

Rehana Rossouw

THE Nelson Mandela Children's Fund has raised R19-million in its first full year of operation and has begun distributing money to projects involving young people.

The fund has already allocated some R2,75-million, in the form of 158 grants, in its focus areas of youth empowerment. The money went to 102 projects targeting the homeless, 33 education projects, 20 projects assisting disabled children, two targeting youth in prison, and one for disaster relief.

The fund allocates 25% of its opening capital each year and 75% of the previous year's annual income to projects; the rest is held in

trust to perpetuate the fund. It also acts as a "catalyst" to bring projects and funders together. One such initiative is the Ekurumeni Youth Centre in Newcastle, where the fund brought the Joint Education Trust and business together in a partnership with R44-million to spend.

The fund's chief executive trustee, Jeremy Ractliffe, ascribes its success to Mandela's "magic touch". After just one-and-a-half years of operating, it has become a significant fundraising initiative.

"Nelson Mandela is a phenomenon in the world. He really is a most amazing person. Who else in the world has donated one-third of his salary for five months to perpetuate

something he cares about? Biblical tithing only asks for one-tenth," Ractliffe gushed.

Mandela's pledge was made on June 16 1994, a follow-up to a commitment he made when he accepted the Nobel Peace Prize by saying the new South Africa would be measured by the happiness and welfare of its children, "the greatest of our treasures".

Ractliffe said people's willingness to donate funds to youth projects could be measured by one the largest fundraising initiatives in the country, Red Nose Day, which raised about R10-million for Child Welfare last year. He said he was also inspired daily by "ordinary people doing extraordinary things", like the people working at the Point in Dur-

Conference spells out need for SA to protect our national asset, the children of this land

(298)

Mar 7/6/96

By PRISCILLA SINGH

If life is a shack, it's way off track, look at all the space that's standing empty, chanted the children at the launch of two important programmes designed to uplift the lives of South Africa's needy children.

A representative for the children, Constance Sikhosana, unleashed shocking statistics about children in our country to local and foreign guests while haunting lyrics describing the lives of the poor were dramatised for local and foreign dignitaries recently, with President Mandela officiating.

She said the under five mortality rate is about 12% nationally and 13,9% in rural households, 37% live in the poorest 20% of households, 63% of African households with children had no electricity, 2,5 million children are undernourished, 20 to 30% of black children are stunted, 14% are underweight and about 11% of all Aids cases are children.

As if this was not enough to put a bleak reality to what the children in our country are going through, Sikhosana said 19% of rural households have no toilet facilities, 85% need to collect water everyday which take up an average of seven hours a day.

South African children need to be loved more, cared for more, nourished more, and educated more and because millions of children suffer from the lack of these essential factors needed for their well-being, the government has recognised children as a priority and placed them high up on its list of concerns.

The extent of suffering among children prompted the government to formulate a National Plan of Action (NPA) and its framework was one of two instru-

ments launched.

The Government has made a series of commitments to improving the well-being of children by ratifying the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Children on June 16 last year, accepting the objectives of the 1990 World Summit for Children with specific goals by the year 2000 in health, welfare, education, water supply and child protection developed.

It also adopted "first call for children" thereby recognising that the needs of children come first.

President Mandela said this should be reflected in all the Government's programmes, services and development strategies.

The NPA is the instrument for carrying out South Africa's commitments to children and it will aim to strengthen and monitor Governmental and NGO commitments to promote the survival, development and protection of them.

The ministers of welfare, justice, education, water affairs and forestry, finance and minister for post and telecommunications were appointed by Minister of Health Nkosazana Zuma to oversee the NPA process and execute the goals.

The second instrument, a situation analysis report on "children, poverty and disparity reduction" outlines part of the broader process of assessment, analysis and action, known as the "Triple A cycle". In this study, an assessment of perceived problems affecting children was undertaken as was an analysis of the underlying causes of the situation.

Based on such an approach to planning and decision making, the study advances recommendations for actions to be taken to alleviate the problems.

The situation analysis was commis-



Reassurance ... initiatives should be reflected in all Government endeavours, said President Mandela

sioned by the Ministry in the Office of the President and developed by the National Institute for Economic Policy in conjunction with the NPA steering committee.

The reports also revealed that poor children live predominantly in households where the adult does not have a job.

The report also stressed that public works programmes are urgently needed in rural areas, both to provide income for poor households as well as to provide access to essential services and amenities.

Black children are still suffering the legacy of the former education system and trying desperately to catch up on lost

schooling. But they are not succeeding in passing basic examinations.

President Mandela said urgent attention is needed in upgrading the skills of their teachers and in the facilities and learning materials available to them.

"Our children are our nation's future and prospects for development are seriously undermined by the kind of large scale deprivation of children that South Africa has experienced

"Children can be our spearhead for attacking poverty, reinforcing human rights, and accelerating economic growth and development

"We have the resources, if we use them wisely, to change the situation. South Africa has the accumulated knowledge, the technologies and the communications capacities to protect the normal growth and development of almost all children at relatively low cost," said Mandela.

The programmes have the full support and backing of Unicef and the Nordic countries. The Reconstruction and Development Programme will also be a major role player in the execution of the goals and implementation of the objectives.

The provinces will also play a valuable role in helping children in the different communities.

As Mandela put it, the needs, the targets and the progress should be not be known only to decision makers, but to ordinary people too.

"Improving the welfare of our children should become as much a part of the new patriotism as success on the sporting field or progress in overcoming the past. Each and every South African has a role to play in becoming part of the revolution for children," he said.

We'll do everything possible to avoid further cuts, says Child Welfare

Health Reporter

(298) ARLE 6/9/96 7/6/96

FOSTER care work and child protection investigations have been badly affected by Child Welfare Society cutbacks in the Western Cape, a move the society says it regrets. Director Alan Jackson said the Cape Town Child Welfare Society had cut back seven social worker posts, one-and-a-half social work supervisor posts, and a number of support workers' posts.

He said the seven social work posts included four foster care and reconstruction work posts, and child protection investigations. This work, for which the state has primary responsibility, is undertaken predominantly by private welfare organisations throughout the country.

Mr Jackson said although the draft White Paper on welfare made provision for full funding of such services, financing had dropped from an average 75 percent to 65 percent during the past three years.

The Child Welfare Society had not been able to increase income sufficiently to make up this loss in spite of average annual fundraising increases in excess of 15 percent. Although cuts would affect services, the society's commitment to changing its structure and the way it works would reduce the impact as far as possible, he said.

"The society is determined to find ways of avoiding future cuts in service with the help of the community as a whole." It would not however countenance cutting back year after year until there were no services left. Mr Jackson said there had been considerable growth of the Child Welfare Society's services in black communities during the past five years, which included 45 additional personnel in predominantly informal settlement areas in Khayelitsha, Philippi and Hout Bay.

He said some of this work was not financed by the state at all. The society undertook 45 percent of its work in coloured communities, 40 percent in black communities and 15 percent in predominantly white communities. It had also significantly increased its developmental and preventive work in line with the draft white paper.

Because of financial difficulties during the past three years, Child Welfare staff got average four percent salary increases in 1994, and seven percent increases in 1995.

"Until recently the state said it could not afford to increase the financing of social workers in private organisations. But state social workers received approximately 8,3 percent increases in 1994, 9,5 percent increases in 1995 and are in line for substantial increases this year," said Mr Jackson.

Go for

Children the victims of budget cuts

ARG 7/6/96

(298)

Appeal to Mandela to intervene

JENNY VIALI
Health Reporter

PRESIDENT Nelson Mandela has been asked to intervene in a conflict over the plight of children in the Western Cape, while organisations working for children's rights say they will not be silenced.

The National Children's Rights Committee's (NCRC) Western Cape branch, which represents 250 organisations working with children's rights, says it is disappointed with the response to a memo it delivered to government last week.

The NCRC says concerns at how the Provincial Plan of Action (PPA) is to be financed have not been addressed. The PPA is part of a national plan of action to address issues critical to children and details areas of action for each provincial department.

Geraldine Fraser-Moleketi, incoming Minister for Welfare, in a memo to the NCRC-Western Cape, has invited it to a meeting on the five-year welfare plan at the end of June, but the organisation says it is tired of the department's delaying tactics.

"While they have meetings, organisations are facing closure. Where is the money from the RDP? Where is the funding for NGOs?" asked a spokeswoman for the NCRC. "We are the people implementing the PPA, but there is no communication as to how we are to keep afloat."

The response from Ms Fraser-Moleketi focuses on salaries, which is only one of the issues and says nothing about funding for implementing the PPA in the Western Cape, or how the

plan will be implemented and how it will affect the existing infrastructure, says the NCRC-Western Cape.

At the heart of NCRC concerns is that many non-governmental or community-based organisations are facing closure or cutbacks because of budget cuts – and children are suffering.

For this reason they have withheld support for the PPA.

"We have not been consulted on financing the implementation of the PPA, even though we have asked for details.

"As the Western Cape branch, we have specific concerns which cannot be addressed by the NCRC nationally, yet the response is sent to them and as the local branch we are ignored," said a spokesman.

"We have only had a response from Ms Fraser-Moleketi. What about the other departments?

"We call on President Mandela to intervene so that we can sort out this conflict and focus our energies on children.

"The government is accountable to the United Nations on children's rights and we won't be silenced," the spokesman said.

Alan Jackson, director of the Child Welfare Society, said that while South Africa heralded to the world its commitment to the programme of action for children, critical welfare services were being cut back.

He said it appeared there was no intention of increasing funding to private welfare organisations.

"Unless this attitude is corrected, the services being provided by private welfare organisations will collapse and the state will sit holding the buck,"

New twist as children become the sex abusers

By PETA KROST

Child abuse has taken a sinister new turn: thousands of South African children are being abused by youngsters little older than themselves.

This and other shocking revelations concerning child abuse were revealed this week in a Human Sciences Research Council and Child Protection Unit study of crimes against children.

HSRC researcher Evan-Schurink partly attributes child-on-child abuse to the

young abusers being brutalised themselves or being regularly exposed to domestic violence.

"Our youth are being brutalised, whether they are the victim or the victimiser," Schurink said.

Marilyn Donaldson, who deals with children at the Centre for the Study of Violence and Reconciliation's Trauma Clinic in Braamfontein, Johannesburg, sees child-on-child abuse daily.

"These newly researched figures don't even give one-

third of the picture - so often nobody ever hears or does anything about abuse cases," she said.

"There are gangs of 10-year-olds who go around taking turns in raping girls of 6 ... for fun.

"I have come across one case when one of the perpetrators was a boy of 6 who raped a little girl. There was a general disbelief that a child of his age could get an erection, but it turned out to be instinctive as he had been sexually molested from the

age of 2 by his father," she said.

In her work, Donaldson said, she has even come across "full-scale orgies" in which all those involved were children.

She said she was seeing more and more "little 6 to 10-year-old children coming into the centre with Aids, which had been sexually transmitted".

She said the offenders were mostly between 15 and 21, unemployed and "drugged up".

Both Donaldson and Schurink claimed that a common cause for child Aids was the popular myth that Aids can be cured if an infected man has sex with a girl child.

"It is the idea of the fresh blood of a virgin being able to clear dirty blood," Donaldson said.

She attributes this new child-on-child abuse phenomenon to children being neglected and bored. "They are acting out what they see or have experienced at home

- their abuse is the results of childish experiments gone totally wrong."

A number of perpetrators Donaldson counselled admitted they had been abused themselves.

"In so many of these homes, these children are exposed to horrific domestic violence and often their own victims are part of their extended family."

And, like those who abused them, these youngsters threaten their victims with further violence if they ever tell.

Schurink agrees that neglect is a major cause and that 43% of abused children come from households in which the mother is the breadwinner.

"So children are left to their own devices by day. Single-parent families also have enormously high stress levels in which the parent has no support."

Schurink said one-third of the abuse incidents take place in the afternoon, when the children are left unattended.

"Family and extended-family structures have been neglected and destroyed by apartheid. There is nobody at home for the children when the parent is working - so they are at the mercy of abusers."

In South Africa, child abuse is increasing by 29% each year. "If something is not done now to stop it, by the year 2000 the Child Protection Unit will have to deal with 1 478 110 child abuse cases," according to the HSRC report.

(298) Star 8/6/96

Child abuse cases head for 1,5 million a year

(298)
By Anso Thom
Crime Reporter

The Child Protection Unit (CPU) will have to deal with nearly 1,5 million child abuse cases annually by the year 2000 if they continue to increase at the current rate of around 29% a year.

The Human Sciences Research Council, the CPU and National Crime Investigation Service have released a joint statement in

which they painted a bleak future if the trend continued.

Data was gathered over a 12-month period, and a study on the "disintegration of the South African child protection system" was undertaken with the assistance of the CPU.

The study consisted of 4 606 cases of crimes against children reported to the CPU, and revealed startling preliminary findings:

■ The majority (62%) were vic-

tims of sexual crimes.

■ Most perpetrators (83,5%) were known to the victims.

■ Most crimes were committed in the child's own home (49,9%)

■ The majority of offenders were male (88,9%);

■ As a rule, counselling services and support were not provided to the victims (44,4%).

Assistant Commissioner Neels Venter welcomed the report

Sparing rod earns black marks

(298) CT 11/6/96



IN THE YEAR since caning was banned, some schools have struggled to enforce discipline, while others say it has improved. **LISA TEMPLETON** reports.

HAS the lifting of corporal punishment raised Cain in the classroom?

It has been a year since caning in schools was found unconstitutional by the Constitutional Court and scrapped under the Education Policy Act.

Although some schools have found effective alternatives, others are grappling to discipline pupils and some parents are calling for the return of the cane.

"We have more problems now than before," said Mr Ragery Steenberg, principal of Heideveld Senior Secondary School, which now punishes offenders with detention and notifies their parents.

Steenberg said some parents had insisted that their children be given corporal punishment. Expulsion was a last resort.

Mr Zoilla Kafana, principal of Langa High School, said many parents were adamant that caning be reinstated and the students' representative council agreed.

"The parents see this from a different perspective. They do not regard caning as corporal punishment but as educating children."

Last year, parents of children at Vuyani Public School, Guguletu, reportedly signed a petition demanding that caning be reinstated.

Cape Town High School banned caning nine years ago, according to teacher Miss Rachelle Ferreira, and now uses a computerised system of negative points.

Depending on the offence, pupils do community services, are brought before their parents and

school leaders for discussion or are suspended from classes.

"We try to take family backgrounds into account — in many cases the parents as well as the pupils need counselling," Ferreira said.

"We have a major problem because some parents believe in physical violence to solve problems."

Certain schools, such as Rondebosch Boys High School, depended little on the cane.

"Discipline is complex," said Rondebosch headmaster Mr Chris Munson.

"Many schools rely on detention and community service as punishment, but one can also change people's behaviour through rewards or removal of privilege or opportunity."

Mr Toby Megaw, spokesman for the Waldorf School in Constantia, said teachers were struggling increasingly to discipline youth bombarded with such stimuli as rave culture and videos.

Teachers at Waldorf referred to "consequences" rather than punishment and tried to match these with the offence.

For example, a pupil who dropped litter would have to pick up rubbish.

The discipline system at the Sun Valley Primary School in Fish Hoek has come under fire from human rights commissioner Ms Rhoda Kadalie and the mother and stepfather of a Std 3 pupil who was asked to leave the school after repeated clashes with the system.

The school's discipline with dignity programme uses a "disappointment book" in which offences are recorded and, depending on the number of occurrences, punished with detention.

"Discipline has improved dramatically and the parents voted overwhelmingly two weeks ago to keep the system," headmaster Mr Gavin Keller said, adding that 230 parents had supported the system and 23 opposed it.

The Std 3 pupil was dysfunctional and had been a disruptive influence, he added.

The headmaster of J G Meiring School, Goodwood, could not comment as parents and staff were discussing alternative measures.

THE MINISTER FOR POSTS, TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND BROADCASTING

The Chairperson of the SABC has informed me as follows:

The Independent Broadcasting Authority has granted the following number of temporary community broadcasting licences in (a) the Republic and (b) each of the provinces:

- (a) 82
- (b) 8 Eastern Cape
4 Mpumalanga
6 Free State
35 Gauteng
8 KwaZulu-Natal
1 Northern Cape
1 Northern Province
5 North Western Province
14 Western Cape

SABC: retirements

493 Mr J DOWRY asked the Minister for Posts, Telecommunications and Broadcasting:

- (a) How many employees left the employ of the SABC during the period 1 May 1995 to 31 December 1995 and (b) what were the reasons for their retirement?

N847E

THE MINISTER FOR POSTS, TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND BROADCASTING:

The Chairperson of the SABC has informed me as follows:

- (a) 466 members of staff.
- (b) Resignation 141 30,3%
Retrenchment 262 56,2%
Dismissal 17 3,6%
Retirement 33 7,1%
Other 13 2,8%

State archive depositories

520 Dr A P JANSSE VAN RENSBURG asked the Minister of Arts, Culture, Science and Technology:

- (a) How many state archive depositories are there at present under the control of his Department, (b) what are the names of each of these depositories and (c) what financial assistance does each such depository receive from his Department?

N883E

THE MINISTER OF ARTS, CULTURE, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY:

- (a) There are eight archives repositories under the control of the Department of Arts, Culture, Science and Technology.
- (b) and (c) The names of the depositories and the financial assistance provided by the Department are as follows:

Depositories	Person Expen	Admin Expen	Supplies	Equipm	Prof Services	Div Expen	Total
Central/Transvaal Archives Depot	R'000 1 162	R'000 13	R'000 29	R'000 27	R'000 9	R'000 16	R'000 1 256
Intermediate Depot Pretoria	516	7	4	0	0	8	535
Intermediate Depot Johannesburg	257	9	4	4	0	4	278
Free State Archives Depot	731	27	9	4	3	10	784
Natal Archives Depot	546	29	15	9	3	8	610
Intermediate Depot Durban	398	21	8	9	2	6	444
Cape Archives Depot	2 179	75	44	36	111	30	2 475
Intermediate Depot Port Elizabeth	375	14	3	5	1	6	404

QUESTIONS

Indicates translated version.

For written reply:

School feeding scheme

145 Mr A J LEON asked the Minister for Health:

- (1) Whether the school feeding scheme established as a Presidential RDP Lead Project has been discontinued at any schools due to a lack of funds; if so, (a) how many schools in each of the provinces have been affected in this regard, (b) from what sources did the money originate for the funding of these schools, (c) what are the reasons for the drying up of these funds and (d) from what sources does the revenue required by the provinces whose programmes are continuing, originate,
- (2) whether she intends taking any steps to (a) introduce these programmes and/or (b) prevent any further discontinuations, if not, why not; if so, what steps?

N286E

THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH

- (1) Yes
- (a)

Province	Number of schools	Number of children
Eastern Cape	5 030	1 700 000
Other provinces	Nil	Nil
Total	5 030	1 700 000

(b) RDP-fund

- (c) Needy schools were not targeted within the limits of affordability. There was blanket feeding instead of targeted feeding as the President has stated. Due to political pressure and lack of appropriate data, blanket feeding was done with the result that the provincial PSNP budget was exhausted before the end of the financial year.

(d) RDP-fund

Hansard

- (2) (a) The Eastern Cape Province stopped the Primary School Nutrition Programme in December 1995 due to the lack of targeting. The Province reintroduced the programme on 6 March 1996 when the additional funds amounting to R35 million was acquired from the Welfare Department. As of April 1996, the funds will be devolved to the provinces for direct administration of the Primary School Nutrition Programme.

- (b) Yes. During the current business planning process specific attention is being given to targeting to ensure that
- * the programme is only implemented in primary schools where the need has been established.

* priority is given to primary schools serving rural and peri-urban areas, including primary schools serving informal settlements.

* the programme is targeted at geographical areas where poverty levels are highest, and

* targeting is done within the limits of budget allocations.

In addition, financial monitoring will continue to ensure that expenditure rates do not exceed budgeted allocations.

Provinces: houses built on accelerated basis

272 Mr M F CASSIM asked the Minister of Housing:

- Whether all provincial governments are succeeding in the building of houses on an accelerated basis, if not, which provinces have not so succeeded; if so, what is the (a) nature and (b) extent of the progress made in this regard in each case?

N473E

THE MINISTER OF HOUSING:

- (a) and (b) As reflected in the table below not all provincial governments are succeeding in the building of houses on an accelerated basis

Jo'burg centre now provides counselling for abuse victims

Star 12/6/96 (298)

By **BOBBY BROWN**

The Child Care Centre in central Johannesburg helps dozens of child abuse victims every day.

A project of Johannesburg Child Welfare, the Child Care Centre near the Vanderbijl Square bus terminus concentrates almost exclusively on young victims of abuse, their families and perpetrators, while also providing community education and allowing practical training to final-year psychology and social work university students.

Last week the centre threw open its doors to give the public and sponsors an insight into its operations.

The venue at 122 Main Street was chosen for its accessibility. There are two satellite centres in Alexandra and Soweto.

Centre manager Karen Weissensee said they combined child protection with treatment and community education, since reported cases of child abuse were on the increase. More than 20 000 cases of child abuse were reported to police in the 12 months up until March this year.

Weissensee said the treatment they provided was available from private practitioners but its high cost made it virtually inaccessible to the general public. Treatment includes long or short-term trauma work, preventative education and training and ongoing education for professionals and lay people.

The open day, scheduled to coincide

with National Child Protection Week last week, attracted nurses and students who learnt the purpose of the centre and satisfied the centre's need to advertise its existence among medical workers.

Weissensee said the centre, which opened in July 1990, had been funded by Liberty Life for five years. The sponsorship had extended beyond the donor's commitment and would be phased out over the next two years, but in the meantime they had secured sponsorship from numerous smaller concerns.

It is manned by five full-time social workers and one community educator, who concentrates on training and development work in communities.

Weissensee said the centre not only welcomed victims at its centre, but would also respond to cases in townships and suburbs where there was found to be suspicion or complaints of abuse.

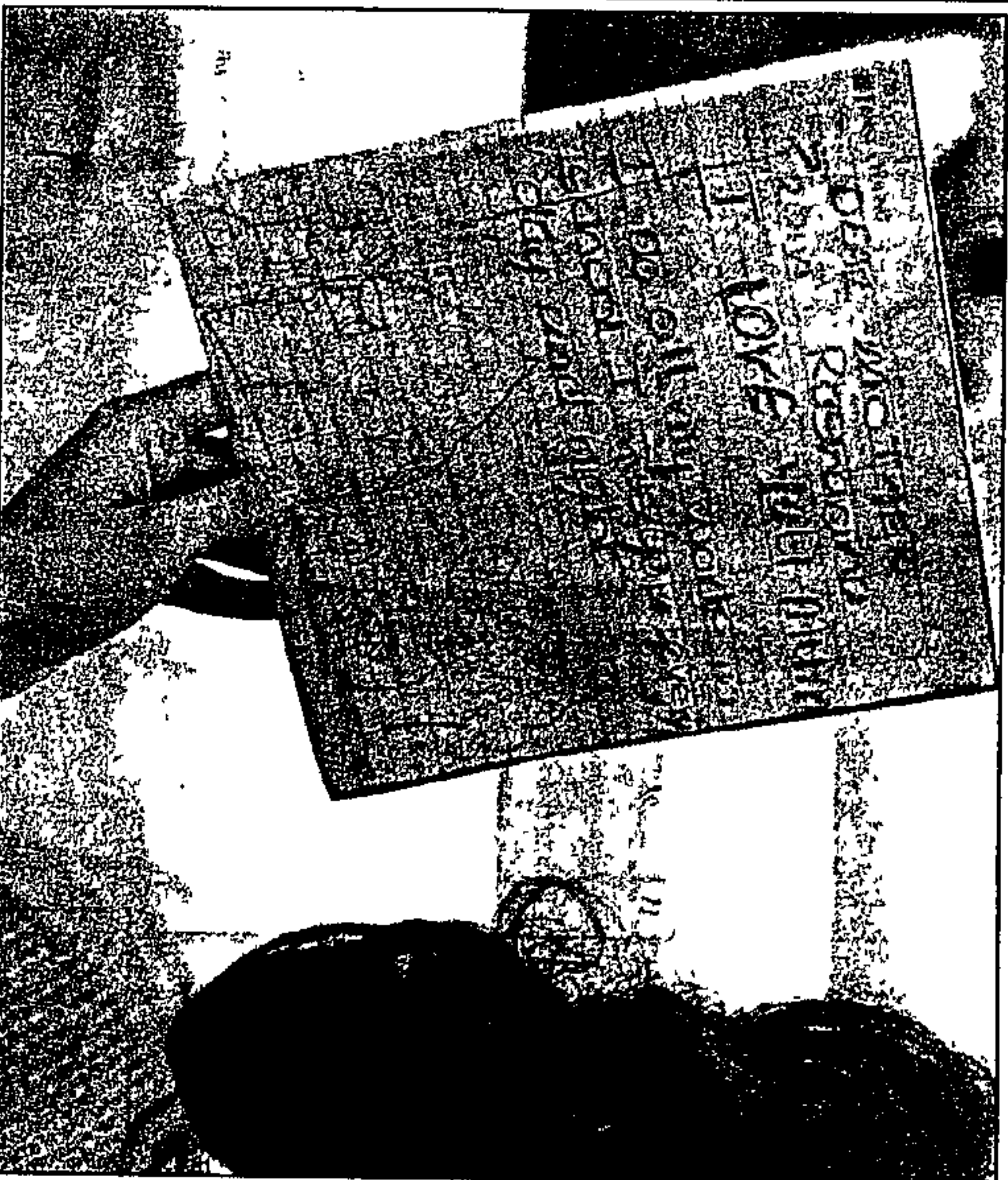
"We plan to be persistent about providing help to suspected victims and perpetrators and will not simply go away because somebody might be offended by our suggestion that a child may be suffering abuse.

"Sometimes we are chased away by a mother who refuses to believe her husband is abusing their child," she said.

She added that the Child Care Centre had the same legal powers as the Johannesburg Child Welfare Society and would be able to take court action to remove a child from a family if it was being abused.

No bars on child-rearing inside prison

TYRONE SEALE
Political Staff



ELTON Abrahams has swapped life in the womb for life behind bars.

He was born two weeks ago in Pollsmoor Prison where his 18-year-old mother, Noreen, has been held for six months, awaiting sentencing for house-breaking and theft.

Elton's also been able to bond with his 23-year-old father, for whom a visit to the women's medium-security section is just a short walk from his own maximum-security cell where he is serving six months for breaking into cars.

Little Elton is one of about 130 babies and young children - on April 30 the official national figure was 133 - in prisons with their mothers. At that stage, there were 11 children, from infants to four-year-olds, in Western Cape prisons.

Also by April 30, 38 of the children in prison had been there for six months and less, 41 had been there up to a year, 40 had been there for one to two years, 13 for two to three years and three for just under four years.

Figures change all the time as mothers are released and their children placed in family or foster care.

Yesterday, the national assembly portfolio committee on correctional services visited the women's section at Pollsmoor to examine new initiatives by the Department of Correctional Services to accommodate and care for imprisoned mothers and their babies.

It was a mission of mixed fortunes for committee chairperson and African National Congress MP Carl Niehaus and his entourage, who were clearly impressed with facilities intended to aid with child-rearing, but who also fielded prisoners' harsh complaints about other aspects of life at Pollsmoor.

Rita Marks, head of Correctional Services' juvenile offender services countrywide, told the committee that the accommodation of babies and children was fundamentally undesirable and problematic.

However, under certain circumstances it was in the child's best interests to be with his or her mother in prison, for an interim period.

Pollsmoor's senior professional nurse, Ingrid Oerson, said that from the age of about 18 months children's awareness of their surroundings developed profoundly and that it was desirable, where possible, to remove children from prisons once they reached this mental threshold.

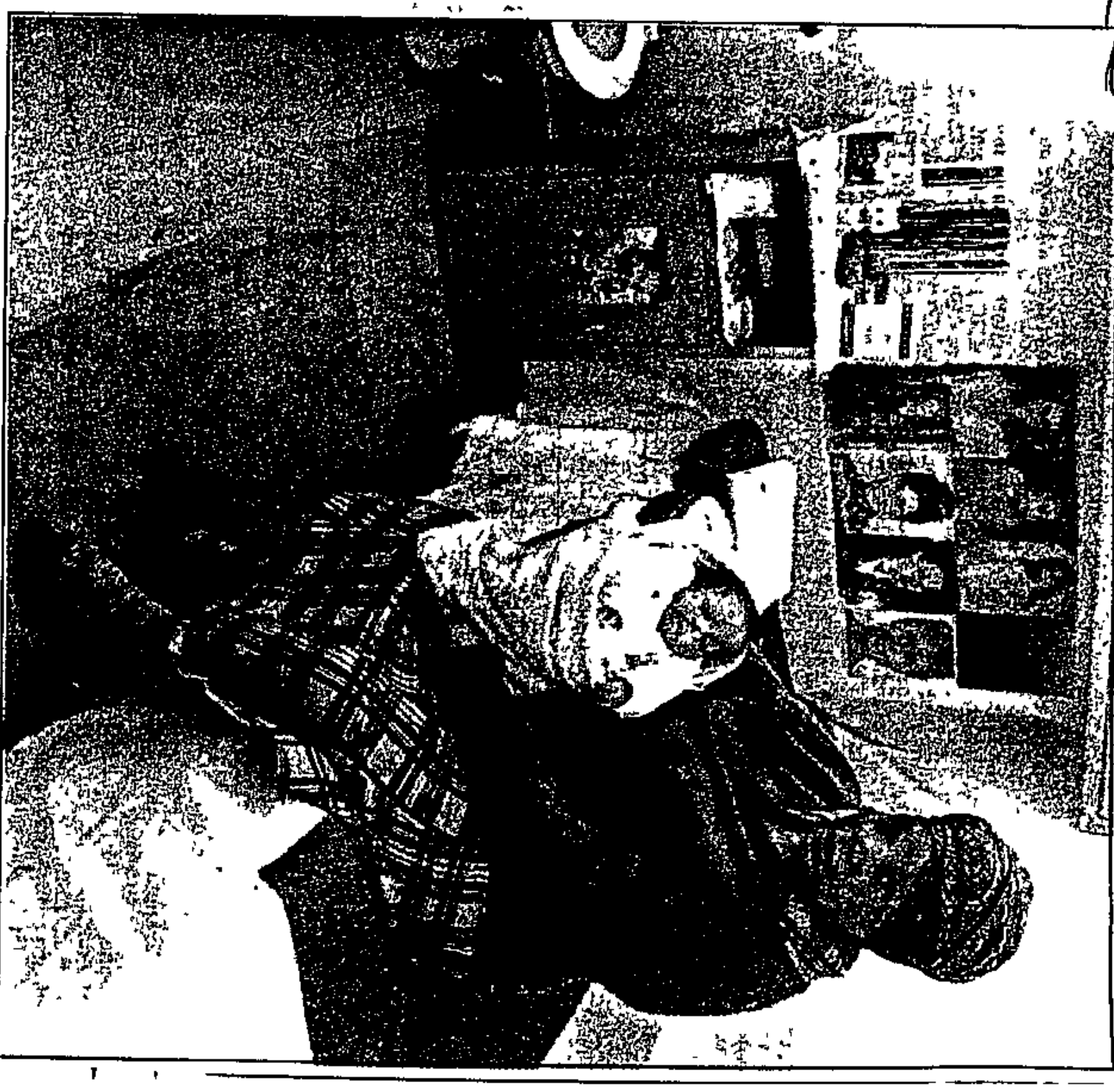
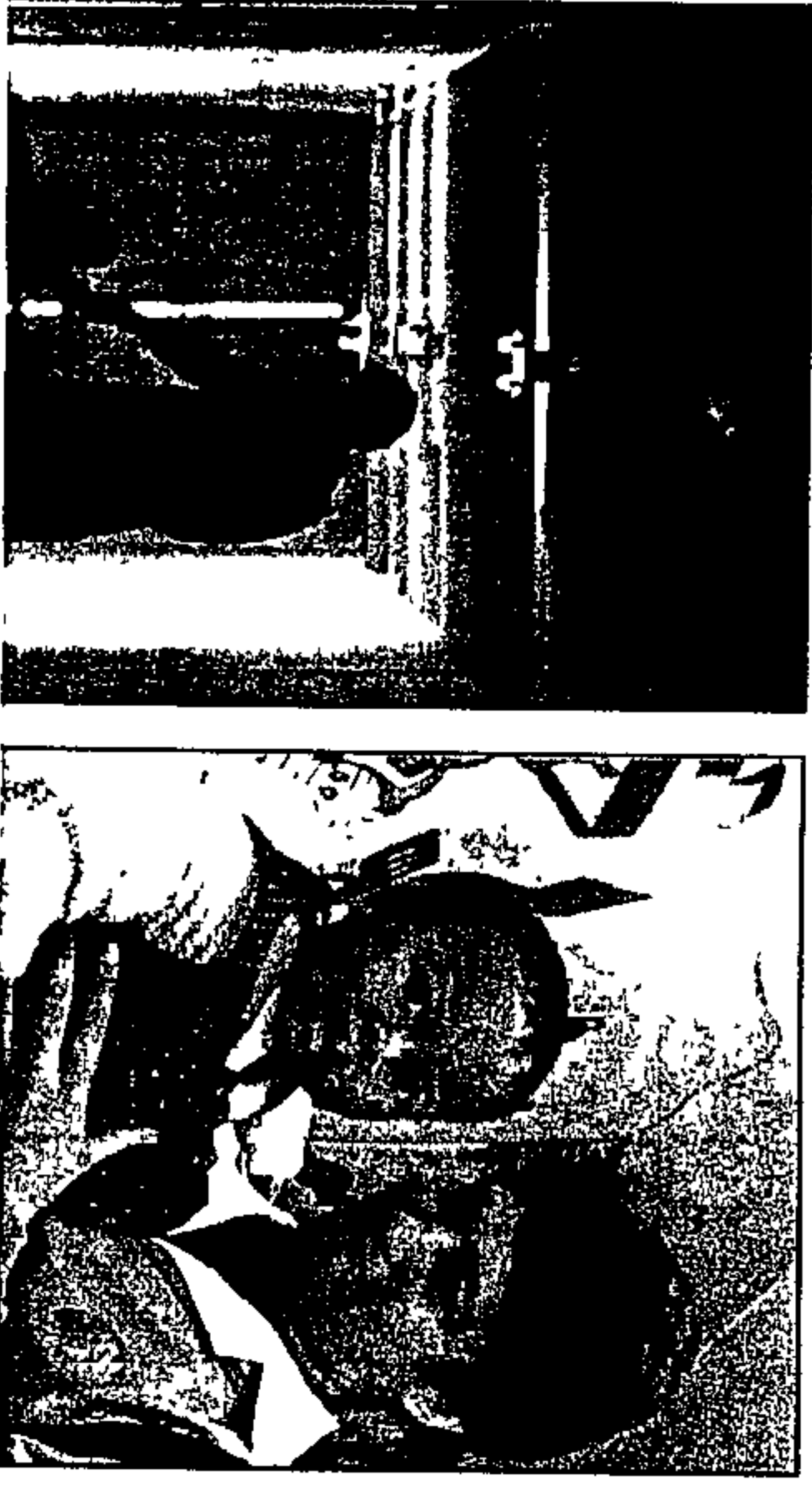
Pollsmoor is one of a few jails where the Department of Correctional Services has established Mother and Child Units consisting of sleeping accommodation for mothers and babies or young children, a crèche in- and outdoor playing areas, a kitchen - where mothers can cook their own food - and visiting rooms.

At this stage the project is confined to Pollsmoor and the Durban, Johannesburg and Kroonstad prisons.

Ideally - and at Pollsmoor this ideal has already been realised - each mother will have access to a toilet and handwash basin, a bed, cot and two cupboards. Kitchens will have a fridge, oven, cupboards, a microwave oven for the warming of bottles, a scullery and a general work space.

The State also picks up the tab for children's medical care, as well as for their physical, speech, emotional and behavioural development.

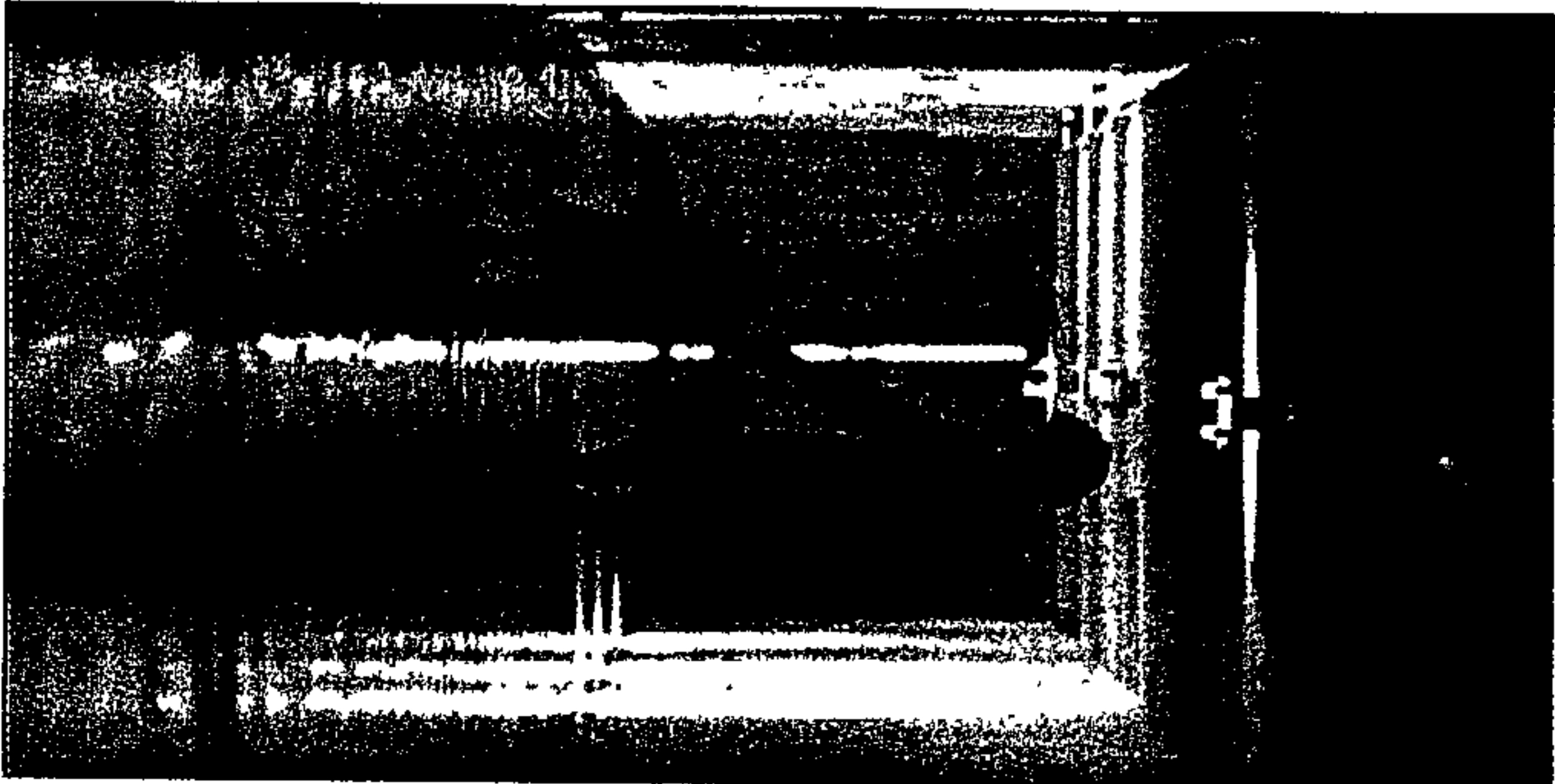
LOVE THROUGH THE BARS: A note from her children is keeping this 42-year-old mother of four going while she serves a 10-year sentence for buying stolen property. She has already served six years and is expecting to be released on parole within weeks.



Pictures: ANDREW INGRAM The Argus

HOME AWAY FROM HOME: Above, Nosipho Qingane and her one-week-old son Siphosethu live in a comfortable, homely setting in their Pollsmoor cell.

old mother of four going while she serves a 10-year sentence for buying stolen property. She has already served six years and is expecting to be released on parole within weeks.



TOYING WITH CAPTIVITY: Above, bright murals and loads of toys are making life behind bars slightly easier for one-year-old Fatima, who has her mother and a Correctional Services childminder, L a v e r n e Swanepoel, caring for her.

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While the department's social work directorate is developing a course in effective parenting, new mothers are expected to care for their babies on a full-time basis for three months, after which they return to prison chores.

Social workers are constantly liaising with families and other possible foster parents to see to it that children are transferred from jails to good homes.

For Noreen Abrahams and her fellow inmates, the consideration she now enjoys is much more than she expected as a young woman who had crossed the law and was about to embrace motherhood.

"We are treated well. We have some problems with the prison authorities, but our children are getting very, very good care." But, it's still no substitute for motherhood outside. "This is no place to have a child. I must get out of here. I'll see how it goes when I go to court next month."



Pictures: ANDREW INGRAM, The Argus.

HOME AWAY FROM HOME:

Above, Nosipho Cingane and her one-week-old son Siphosetu live in a comfortable, homely setting in their Pollsmoor cell.

ay of journey

Reign of sexual terror against children

CT 12/6/96

(298)

ONE of the report's most disturbing findings was the reign of sexual terror against children in South Africa today, with children and teenagers being 2 1/2 times more likely to be victims of rape than adults.

"Worse still, in the dwellings affected there was an average of 1,2 cases of rape of under 18-year-old residents.

"Yet it is known that sexual assaults against children are even less likely to be reported than similar crimes against adults.

"If these claims are valid, then there is nothing less than a reign of sexual terror against children in SA today," the report said.

CUT-OFF AGE FOR AID LOWERED TO 12 YEARS

Teenagers caught in middle as budget cuts hit child welfare

(298) CT 12/6/96

THE CHILD WELFARE SOCIETY is curtailing its services severely to balance its budget in line with cuts in the province's welfare funds. **CHRIS BATEMAN** reports.



A CUT of R27 million in the Western Cape Welfare Services' budget means at least 500 families with "problem" teenagers will be transferred to an understaffed provincial welfare department on July 1.

The teenagers are supported by Child Welfare Society social workers.

This was one of the first effects of the slash in the welfare budget to emerge yesterday.

The budget squeeze is mainly the result of a cut in funding by the central government. It is also due to the province's having to meet a R50-million contractual obligation

to Nisec, the pension payout company under investigation by the Office for Serious Economic Offences.

The pension payout tender was signed with Nisec soon after the April 1994 elections.

Mr Lionel Woldson, general manager of the Child Welfare Society in Cape Town, said yesterday. "We've rationalised to the point where we can deal only with abused and neglected children under the age of 12. We have usually helped children aged up to 18 years."

In addition, the Child Welfare Society would withdraw all tradi-

tional welfare services from Llanudno through Cape Town to Mowbray on July 1.

With other welfare organisations facing similar problems, the province would be "hard-pressed in terms of resources" to continue caring for the families, Woldson said.

"In the final analysis, the state is responsible for statutory services," he said.

The province's welfare chief, Ms Virginia Petersen, said she would have to "digest this before responding — every other welfare organisation finds itself in a similar situation".

The state had given social workers a pay increase of only 8,4% over the past two years — and this "without making the necessary budget allocation adjustment for us to pay them", Petersen said.

The provincial executive was considering a submission from national Welfare Minister-designate Ms Geraldine Fraser-Moleketi

to help address this problem.

"We'll have to look further within our budget to find the funds to offset increases for social service staff," Petersen said.

The province has 536 social workers in private welfare organisations.

Child Welfare's budget rose from R2,9m to R3m this year. Funding for the Afrikaanse Christelike Vroue Vereeniging remained unchanged at R3m, but that for the Diakonale Dienste rose from R1,8m to R2,4m, mainly because of its widespread rural work.

Petersen said the R27m cut in her budget was composed of a R19,3m cut in funding from the central government, R2m that had been reallocated to Western Cape sport and recreation and R5,7m that had been taken to offset the province's projected deficit.

The amount allocated to social security this year was increased from R1,9 billion to R2bn — well below the inflation rate.

Traumatic partings for convict mothers

CT 12/6/96 (298)

BABIES born in prison are taken from their mothers before they reach 15 months, to prevent them from gaining a real perception of the environment. This can be heart-rending for their mothers. **LINDIZ VAN ZILLA** reports

SEVEN MONTH-OLD Igshaan Vlotman is in jail. He was born in the women's section of Pollsmoor Prison in November last year.

His mother, Vanessa Vlotman, is a habitual criminal facing a minimum of seven years in prison.

Igshaan is one of 10 prison babies in the Western Cape, and 133 nationwide, who were born in prison or accompanied their convicted mothers to prison.

The youngest baby in Pollsmoor is two weeks old and the oldest 18 months.

Vlotman, of Maitland, was jailed in August last year on seven charges relating to theft — she will only be eligible for release in 2002, but faces a prison term of seven to 15 years.

However, Vlotman's "custody" of her son is almost at an end. Department of Correctional Services policy is to place "prison babies" into foster care as soon as possible.

Babies are transferred from about nine months, and preferably before they reach 15 months. This was to prevent them gaining a proper perception of their prison environment. Pollsmoor medical head Sister Ingrid Oerson said yesterday.

When six-months pregnant Vlotman was admitted in August 1995, her one-year-old daughter Waseema accompanied her to prison. Waseema was released earlier this year into the care of family members. The same fate is looming over Igshaan.

Much has been done to

improve the conditions for (pregnant) mothers and their babies in South African prisons. The portfolio committee on correctional services, chaired by MP Mr Carl Niehaus, visited Pollsmoor yesterday to inspect the facilities.

Although against having children in prisons, most committee members agreed it was unavoidable. Mr Henry Fazzie said: "We don't like it, but it can't be helped."

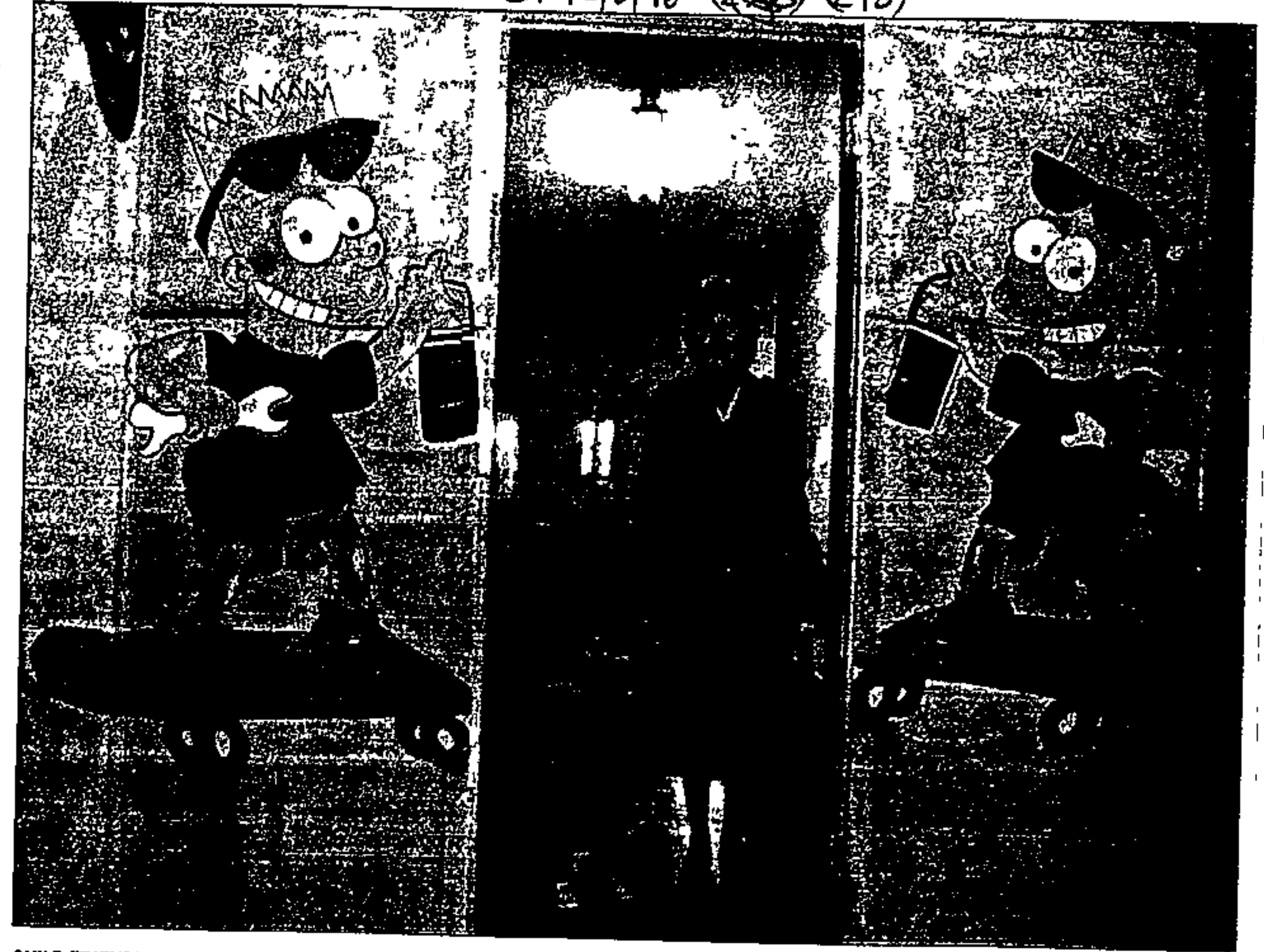
Former Pollsmoor inmate Mr Ahmed Kathrada said facilities had improved considerably. "The department has certainly made an effort to make conditions liveable for the women and their babies."

Pregnant women and women with babies live separately from other prisoners. There is also sleeping accommodation for both mother and child, a day-creche and indoor and outdoor playing areas.

The head of the women's section of the prison, Mrs Fea Oberholster, said: "Prison is a very artificial environment, therefore we try to create a more homely atmosphere which best suits the development of the babies."

Full medical treatment and pre and post-natal and family planning programmes are provided. Nappies, clothing, blankets, cots and cots are also supplied by the prison. However, despite the improved conditions, the trauma of mothers facing separation from their young ones persists.

Vlotman said: "I worry about who will look after Igshaan when he is taken away from me. I am happy with what's here in prison



CHILD-FRIENDLY Head of the women's prison section at Pollsmoor, Mrs Fea Oberholster, and 14-month-old Rika Cloete, who was born in Pollsmoor, at the entrance to the prison crèche.

PICTURE: BENNY GOOL

and I don't want him to leave me."

Mrs Elizabeth Maputsi of Strand, holds aloft her two-month-old baby Thabiso, who is suffering from a rash. He is undergoing treatment and will be seen by a dermatologist next week. Maputsi is happy with the conditions and

facilities for her and her baby in prison. However, she fears separation from Thabiso. "I want to stay with my baby," she said.

Another woman in a single cell came close to tears as she told of her three-month-old daughter's birth in prison and the possibility

of having to place her in foster care. Her other daughter, aged seven, is living with her stepsister and her son, aged four, with her father. The woman is serving eight years for manslaughter.

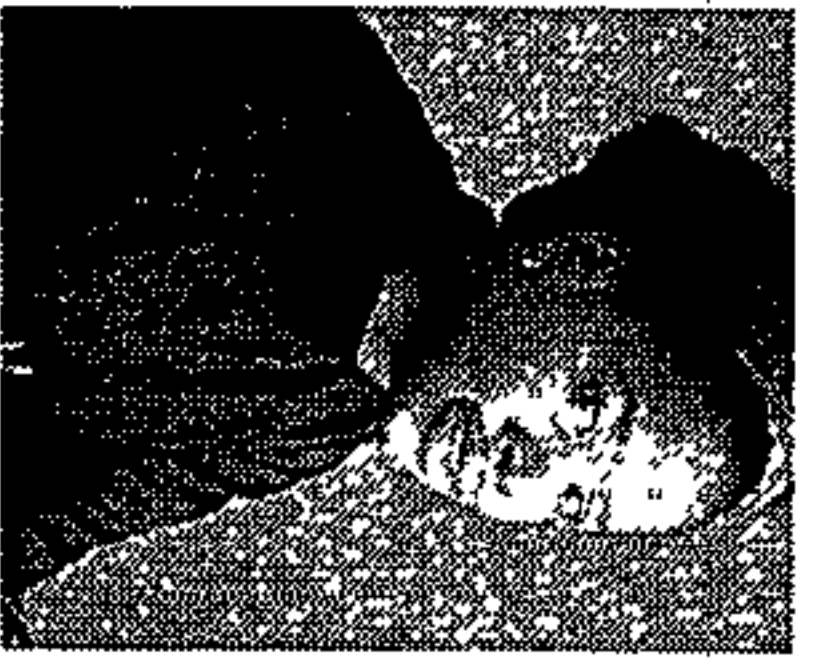
Pollsmoor social worker Mrs Andria van Rensburg acknowledged the difficulties facing prison mothers.

"Sometimes it's a hard job to motivate mothers to let the baby go."

Counselling sessions were provided to help mothers cope with the parting, she said.

Government apathy in the face of youth in crisis

Young people who sacrificed their education expected their issues to have priority, writes



Twenty years ago the black youth of the country – prompted by events in Soweto – became the leaders and heroes in their communities.

By the mid-1980s, with political leaders in exile or in jail, they were the dominant force as the battle against apartheid intensified. They were sacrificing their education and lives to gain democracy.

But what has happened to them today? In the early 1990s the state of South African youth became a concern to politicians, academics and the general public, and developmental strategies were mooted. This was a time when terms such as the “lost generation” featured regularly in newspapers and were debated so often that they became a cliché.

But many strategies seemed to fizzle out before they were translated into reality.

The prime example of this was the National Youth Development Forum (NYDF). It had a short lifespan, being launched in September 1993 after 18 months’ research on youth problems and needs and folding last August because of mismanagement.

It was through this forum that a commitment was made by business and youth organisations to fight against the marginalisation of the youth and to put youth issues on the national agenda.

One of the major programmes of the NYDF was to draw about 50 000 young people into doing voluntary work for which they would receive a stipend. Certificates would be issued for the skills acquired. It failed dismally to reach both its target and

objective. There are still functioning programmes, among them the President’s Award, which assists young people between 14 and 25 in obtaining leadership skills, and the Gauteng Youth College, which offers distance learning for matric pupils.

But these programmes are not adequate, because huge numbers of pupils are now young adults (over 25) but have never reached matric. Today they have no status in their communities and are caught in a web of confusion.

While it is acknowledged that the youth carried the struggle successfully for almost two decades, their reward in the 1990s has so far been disillusionment and frustration. Millions of black youngsters are uneducated and unskilled, and about 42% are without jobs. With the 20th anniversary of June 16 drawing close, we must ask: why has there been Government apathy towards ad-

dressing the crisis facing the youth?

Over the last two years since President Nelson Mandela’s Government moved into power, the youth expected their issues to be among the national priorities.

But today the absence of a youth voice is glaring. According to most youth workers, young people are struggling to find an issue to mobilise around or against. The issue does not necessarily have to be political. But, lament these youth workers, young people have abandoned all leadership roles, even where their own interests are concerned.

On Sunday young people will be bombarded with political statements reassuring them of their “important status in society” and how they are still “the future and a priority”. The Government will endorse its

commitment by announcing the formation of the National Youth Commission, which will identify the needs of the youth and create a youth policy. Although the commission will serve as proof that young people are not forgotten, the question arises why the Government has moved so slowly in setting it up. Cynics have observed that there is a certain political expediency in the timing. But besides what the Government does, there is also a need for renewed commitment from business and society generally to youth development. Attitudes towards the youth will have to change for young people to be able to uplift themselves. However, a challenge lies with the youth themselves. They will have to take charge of their own destiny, but they can only do this if there are role models showing them the way.

Bongi Mlangeni

SOWETAN

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ANNIVERSARY
YOUTH

Sowetan

new Nation

SOWETAN Friday June 14 1996

By Saint P Molakeng

TWENTY years ago black children were fleeing their homes from the police because of their involvement in the countrywide protests of June 16 1976.

Today children are crying out for homes while others make do with inadequate shelter or no shelter at all.

At the unveiling of the National Programme of Action (NPA) for Children in South Africa at Pretoria a fortnight ago, the young ones dramatised the conditions of homelessness for President Nelson Mandela and some of his cabinet ministers

Plight of black kids seems to get worse... and worse

charged with implementing the NPA schemes countrywide.

The children captured the pain of the housing situation. One of the recited poems stated: "Life is a shack, it's way off track. And look at the space that's standing empty."

The children wondered despondently: "Our hopes and our fears, our

grief and our tears, all are in a single room. What chance have we got when the whole life's lot is caged in a single room?"

As a result of hunger and malnutrition, 25 percent of African children's height is below their age and 14 percent are underweight. "We are starved. We are impatient. Life is too

hard," the performing artists said. "The future of our nation lies in lifting education but your tummy comes first."

This is how the children expressed their frustrations: "There is no time for study or play after school. We need to fetch water, and that is the rule." The children

expressed their dilemma. "We need water to wash in, water to drink, water to grow things and some for the sink."

All youngsters appreciate education.

"I am hungry. I am thirsty. I am cold. I have no light to do my homework. I do not understand this language. I do not understand my teacher. How can I learn anything?"

But these children are not without hope and means.

"We are the children of South Africa. Our hopes are high, our spirits are strong. And we demand immediate action — a way to right all the wrongs."

Such utterances, made in the light of the no-holds-barred history of South Africa's youth, could be mistaken for potential anarchy. But today's democracy has accordingly submitted the youth to adult citizens to pave a worthy future for them.

If that bears no fruit riots will not be avoided.

ANNOUNCEMENT MARKS HISTORIC DAY

New commission will address youths' needs

PRESIDENT MANDELA has chosen June 16 to name a youth commission which is to develop a national youth strategy. Political Writer **HENRY LUDSKI** reports.

(298) ET 14/6/96

TWENTY years ago the stark picture of the body of 13-year-old Hector Petersen being carried by a tearful comrade riveted the attention of the world on Soweto.

It was a graphic statement of South Africa in 1976 — and the country would never be the same.

On Sunday, that first picture of that rebellion will be etched on the minds of many middle-aged former activists — and their former rulers — as they recall their bloodying in the war against apartheid.

It is perhaps significant that on the 20th anniversary of this historic day President Nelson Man-

delo will name members of South Africa's Youth Commission at a Youth Day commemorative rally in Pietersburg.

The time of the announcement with Youth Day is seen by youth groups as a symbolic recognition of the role that youth played in achieving democracy in South Africa.

The 19-member commission's work will include developing a national youth strategy and liaising with youth structures.

Ms Febe Potgieter, secretary-general of the ANC Youth League, said yesterday the commission was significant because it was the first

government structure with the main task of co-ordinating government policy on youth.

"Twenty years after 1976 we have the recognition by government that youth is an important sector that has special needs.

"It's a fitting tribute to the role that youth have played in ensuring that we have the democratic South Africa," she said.

Education Minister Mr Sibusiso Bengu made June 16 the focus of his address during his budget vote in the Senate this week, saying that the "dreams" for which young people have fought should not be forgotten.

He said he would join Sunday's march from Morris Isaacson High School in Soweto to the grave of Hector Petersen.

● See Page 6

HSRC compiles directory full of information for youth

BY TAMSEN DE BEER

South African youngsters will for the first time be able to network youth organisations and a broad cross-section of projects and centres through a new directory available in September.

Information contained in the Directory of South African Youth Organisations will range from adventure, sports and environmental clubs to drug advice centres and rural training centres.

The directory is being compiled by the Human Sciences Re-

search Council's Programme for Development Research (Prod-der).

Prodder researcher Jalaun Brand said the directory would be distributed throughout the country with no charge or for as little charge as possible. It would be available at most libraries.

Prodder is best-known for its annual compilation of South African development organisations.

The group has been involved in compiling a database of South African training and capacity

building providers, as well as a directory of South African women's organisations.

The youth directory would be useful both to youngsters and to organisations working with the youth, said Brand.

"Many rural youth centres don't know about each other. If they did it would be much easier to network on Aids education, substance abuse and other issues of mutual interest," she said.

The contact names, phone numbers and addresses of an estimated 2 000 entries in the direc-

tory would be provided, as well as the mission statements, available resources and areas of operation of each centre.

Support groups for teenage pregnancy, drug addiction and disabled youth could all be found in the directory that has an index for easy reference.

Rural training centres focusing on job skills would be listed alongside universities and technikons and workshops. Projects and youth programmes on a variety of subjects would all be included.

(298) Star 19/6/96



Pictures JERMAINE CRAIG, The Argus

REFUGE: Children at Mrs Poswa's hostel beam with delight as they listen to a story told to them by one of the teachers, Rhoda Xazana.

'Mother' to hundreds of battered, homeless children

JERMAINE CRAIG
Staff Reporter

WITH hardly any money and depending entirely on donations, 52-year-old Mrs Amelia Poswa has "mothered" hundreds of battered and abandoned children in a derelict hostel in Mfuleni.

She works from "Sunday to Sunday, Christmas to Christmas with no holidays" and is caring for more than 75 children. In Mfuleni she has a small but committed staff of four, some of whom came to her as abandoned children many years ago and are still with her. Children from as far afield as Paarl and Worcester find their way to her township hostel, which is known as the Sakhumzi Centre Youth Home and which was donated by a building contractor in 1991.

While caring for her own children in Guguletu, many of the children in the areas came to her home to play. When one of these children was found dead in a dustbin, Mrs Poswa felt that she had to do something to prevent any further tragedies happening and took it upon herself to care for children who were being neglected.

She moved to Mfuleni in 1988, where she stayed in a shack for three years, but she continued to look after many of the area's children.

In 1991, a building contractor was so moved by what she was doing for the children that he donated the hostel to her. Over the years, she has been hounded by government departments who constantly tell her not to take on any more children.

Reluctantly, she is trying to comply with a government ruling that permits her to keep only 16 children at her hostel. To do this, she has to place the children in various homes throughout Mfuleni.

The hostel will soon be renovated by Round Table and Mrs Poswa will then be able to accommodate more children.

She feels that the solution to the problem of homelessness and street children lies in getting them off the streets at an early age and having them cared for at the same place, until they are old enough to fend for themselves.

Mrs Poswa's dream is that the government would build a centre for babies, which she could run.



MOTHER: Amelia Poswa stands with some of her "children" at her hostel in Mfuleni.

Hospital wants poison bottles childproofed

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

SOUTH AFRICA should make a law compelling manufacturers of poisons to sell their products with childproof caps, says the Child Accident Prevention Foundation at the Red Cross Children's Hospital.

Spokeswoman Ms Nelmarie du Toit said the foundation supported all calls for legislation on childproofing, "but unfortunately, there aren't enough people lobbying for it yet for the calls to make much impact".

"We are working on large

companies, to make them aware of potentially harmful products. But there are many problem areas. In hospitals tablets are dispensed in small yellow packets, not in childproof bottles.

"Household bleaches have ordinary screw caps and are often kept under kitchen sinks with other harmful detergents."

Du Toit said the law stipulated that agricultural products be locked up, but this had not prevented accidents. "Children still get their hands on these products while they are being used on the farms."

Paraffin manufacturers had recently launched a childproof cap that fitted all bottles used to store the liquid.

Dr Jean du Plessis of the hospital's poison unit said more than 1 000 children were treated there each year for poisoning.

"We wholly support the idea of childproof containers," Du Plessis said. "But the problem is that often elderly people can't open them. Ultimately, it is the responsibility of minders to ensure poisons are out of reach of children at all times."

South African cricketer Fanie

de Villiers has added his voice to the call for childproof caps.

At the weekend his two-year-old son Fanie (nr) took a slug from a bottle of ant poison and had to be rushed to hospital.

His stomach was pumped at the Zuid Afrikaans Hospital in Muckleneuk, Pretoria, and he was kept overnight for observation.

De Villiers said the poison his son swallowed "did not even taste bad. You assume children won't drink poison because of the taste. But afterwards I put my finger into the bottle and its taste wasn't bad at all".

Fivaz denies allegations

Stephen Laufer

ED 20/6/96
NATIONAL police commissioner George Fivaz yesterday denied he had failed to consult Justice Minister Dullah Omar on the police plan announced last week.

Fivaz was responding to a statement by Omar expressing "regret" that he had first come to know of the plan through the media.

Omar said last night his concern was for inter-departmental co-operation in the interest of the success of the plan.

The police plan required joint implementation meetings by the heads of the departments involved. No such meeting had taken place prior to the police plan's announcement.

In a separate development, Fivaz announced the installation of an electronic mail link between the 11 members of the southern African regional police chiefs co-operation organisation.

Sapa reports that Fivaz reassured SAPS members they would receive their improved pay packages from July as announced. Rumours of delays were unfounded.

By Charles Schulz



Millions missing as feeding schemes starve

(298) ED 20/6/96
Drew Forrest and Linda Ensor

AN AMOUNT of R4,1m had definitely disappeared from government feeding schemes in Mpumalanga and another R4,7m might have gone missing, an independent audit has found.

Sapa reports that the primary school feeding scheme in the province has collapsed.

Mpumalanga health MEC KC Mashego said auditors Deloitte & Touche had found "actual errors" of R2,4m in the province's school feeding programme during the 1994/95 and 1995/96 financial years. "Possible errors" amounted to a further R2,4m.

In the national nutrition and social development programme, a household feeding scheme, actual errors were R2,09m and possible errors R2,29m during the same period.

Mashego said his department had "radically revised" the management of feeding programmes, which would be audited and monitored at regional and provincial levels.

The disclosures came against the background of health director-general Olive Shisana's concession in Parliament yesterday that there was inad-

equated provincial control over feeding schemes worth about R1bn.

Shisana told members of the public accounts standing committee the problems highlighted by the auditor-general in his report for 1994/95 had not been sorted out completely.

There had been "quite a lot" of corruption initially in delivering the R400m household scheme and a number of irregularities occurred, mainly in the period of transition before control of the programmes had been devolved to provinces.

Tenders for external forensic audits of the school programmes in Northern Cape, Free State, KwaZulu-Natal, Gauteng and Northern Province had been called for, while Mpumalanga and Northwest were conducting their audits at provincial level.

The department's financial officer, Denise Boschoff, said the biggest problem faced by the provinces with regard to the household scheme was a lack of trained monitoring staff.

The committee also heard that after 18 months no police action had been taken on the 26 cases of misappropriation of funds — 20 of them in Orange Farm, Gauteng — relating to the household programme.

Crime statistics incorrect, says ANC group

ED 20/6/96
Wyndham Hartley

CAPE TOWN — SA crime statistics are not accurate and politicians and "opinion makers" who sensationalise these statistics undermine the work done by the police, the ANC study group on safety and security says.

ANC MP Jenny Schreiner, addressing a news briefing on behalf of the chairman of the party's study group, Linda Mti, said the ANC was as concerned about crime as any other party, but felt that "sensationalism and the whipping up of crime paranoia" was of no use to anyone.

She said the National Assembly's committee on safety and security was

perhaps the best briefed in Parliament and this was in the interests of getting the proper picture of crime rather than relying on inaccurate information.

Schreiner pointed out that crime statistics at present were always based on police statistics, and they were not the same thing.

Police statistics were "reported crime, but crime is broader than that".

The ANC was, she said after a briefing on the national crime prevention strategy, considering a national survey of how crime affected people on the ground. This would involve interviewing people and finding out what their personal relationship with crime during a certain period had been.

Funky garb for juvenile convicts

HENRY LUDSKI
POLITICAL WRITER

YOUTHS in correctional centres will soon sport gear that is as funky and fashionable as that worn by any of their peers on the outside — the blue denim dungarees, T-shirts and trackies are a far cry from the usual drab prison garb.

When the Department of Correctional Services said the wardrobe of "students" at a revolutionary new private-sector funded youth development centre would "differ from standard issue", it was no understatement. It certainly got the

thumbs-up from pupils who were on a tour of Parliament where plans for the new youth centre

it's what we would wear to go partying," said Beaufort West pupil Regan Rabie. His classmates agreed.



**FAMILY
MEMBERS
JAILED FOR
MURDER**
— Page 3

formed part of a general Department of Correctional Services exhibition "The outfits are cool,

training school, a range of training workshops and modern sporting facilities.

Ekuseni is the product of a partnership between the Mandela Children's Fund, the private sector, and educational bodies responsible for education, training and development programmes for the "students" who will be drawn from prisons in the region.

Correctional Services Minister Dr Sipo Mzimela said the centre represented "a good start" in creating prison environments conducive to the transformation and development of young prisoners.

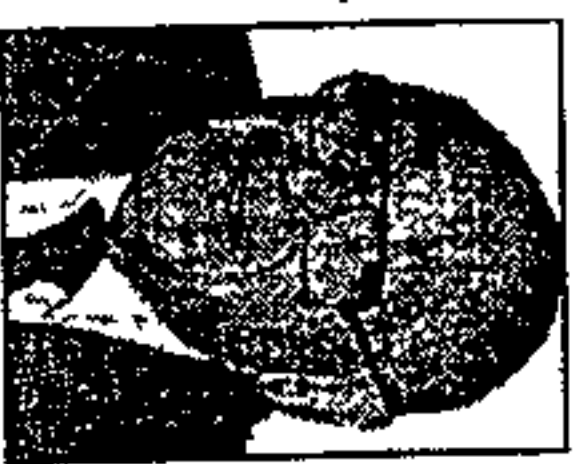
A similar centre is in the pipeline for Gauteng and more are planned for other parts of the country including the Western Cape.

About 8 000 offenders are being held in seven youth correctional centres throughout the country.

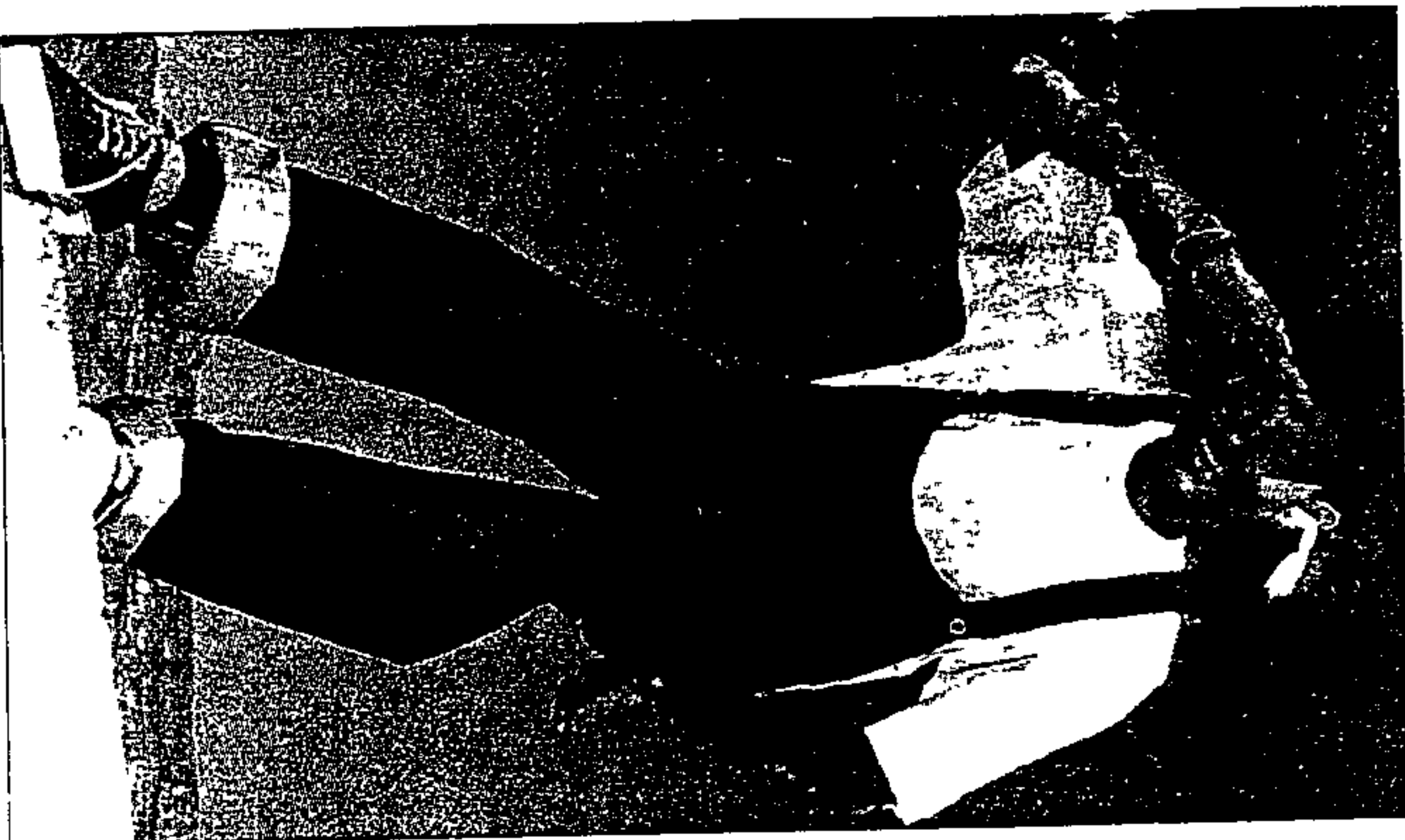
At the launch of the project in October 1995 President Nelson Mandela said it would help "offenders to help themselves to participate fully in soci-



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TRENDY GEAR: Regan Rabie, 17, sports the new uniform the Department of Correctional Services will issue to all juvenile prisoners. **PICTURE: BENNY GOOL.**

Gauteng scheme fed 176 000 pupils (298)

BY KARIN SCHIMKE

Gauteng Reporter

2101 24/6/96
Nearly R12,3-million was spent last year on feeding 176 000 Gauteng schoolchildren through the school feeding scheme, according to Health MEC Amos Masondo.

Responding in the legislature to questions from the National Party, Masondo said 490 schools were registered for the scheme.

Most of the children (127 573) fed last year were from urban areas and 48 342 from rural areas.

He said he was satisfied all the schools registered actually existed and were bona fide schools. Measures were taken to ensure the scheme was not abused.

Schools could not be put on the programme until the information they submitted had been verified by officers from the education department.

"All schools targeted for the feeding scheme submitted an information sheet that was checked by the district co-ordinating committee, which then visited the school and held information sessions," said Masondo.

Kahn asked to intervene in child abuse case ⁽²⁹⁸⁾

ANDREA BOTHA

Staff Reporter

ANG 25/6/96
A CHILD protection organisation has called on Western Cape Attorney-General Frank Kahn to intervene in the court proceedings against convicted child molester Mike Vivieros.

The former principal of an Athlone place of safety was sentenced last week to an effective five years' imprisonment for indecently assaulting four boys

and sodomising another. But he is now out on R200 bail, pending leave to appeal.

In a letter to Mr Kahn, Resources Aimed at the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (Rapcan) expressed outrage at the bail conditions which state prosecutor C Theunissen had proposed.

Her suggestion that Vivieros report only once a week to the police station even caused magistrate S L van der Walt to

remark that he would put her suggestions on record, in case of a public outcry. "We are used to this behaviour from defence attorneys, but when the prosecution starts acting like this, we have to start worrying," said Rapcan spokesperson Bernadette van Vuuren.

Rapcan is a non-governmental organisation affiliated to the University of Cape Town, and has a special legal department to monitor court proceedings.

The 'shameful secret'

Child labour widely used to produce world's soccer balls

ESTELLE RANDALL

Labour Reporter

AS thousands of soccer fans keep their eye on the ball during this weekend's Euro '96 final at Wembley, chances are that children as young as six, toiling in sweatshops, produced the contested leather.

Now, the International Textile, Garment and Leather Workers' Federation (ITGLWF), and the International Confederation of Trade Unions, are demanding that the Federation of International Football Association (Fifa) and the United European Football Association (UEFA) take "urgent measures" to get the child workers out of the workshops and into schools.

The Brussels-based Federation represents 207 trade unions in 103 countries, one of them being the South African Clothing and Textile Workers' Union (Sactwu).

Federation general secretary Neil Kearney said more than 80 percent of the world's soccer balls - about 35 million balls a year - were made in the Pakistan city of Sialkot.

"While the goal of every player in the championships will be to score, the goal of these ragged, barefoot kids is to survive another day without a beating, or worse."

ARG 27/6 (96) (298)

According to the Federation, some of the children are as young as six years old, earn only four pence (about 27c) an hour and work in poorly lit and ventilated workshops. Many would have been bought for as little as £10 (about R70) and were sold and resold like pieces of machinery. They were beaten, sometimes blinded as punishment for wanting to return home and were often rendered speechless by their trauma.

Mr Kearney said Fifa, UEFA and national football associations should adopt a code of conduct for their licensees, making it a contractual obligation that merchandisers, manufacturers or sub-contractors of sports goods associated with soccer should observe basic worker rights, including not using child labour.

"Football authorities get a fee for every ball on which their name appears. In reality they licence and profit from the production of such merchandise."

He said soccer authorities had a responsibility to ensure that production of the balls was carried out legally and under reasonable conditions. This was not the case today.

"And it is a shame on soccer that its central item is the product of an industry

where almost every factory has a punishment room for the kids who make a mistake or who upset their masters, and where they are hung upside down by their knees, starved, caned or lashed," he said.

A spokesman for Sactwu said the union would be approaching South African soccer authorities about what role they could play in the campaign to stop child labour in the production of soccer balls.

Sports Balls marketing manager Peter Whipp, whose company distributes the popular Mitre balls, said most soccer balls used in South Africa were probably imported from factories in the East, such as Pakistan and India.

Mr Whipp said he believed the United Kingdom-based Mitre had factories in India, Pakistan and Indonesia, but that he was not aware of the conditions under which the balls were produced.

A spokesman for distributors of Kappa soccer balls, used by Bafana Bafana, said his company had only recently taken over distribution of the Italian-based company's merchandise, but believed it had factories in India and Pakistan.

A Kappa ball sells for between R39 and R89 in South Africa.

of football

GOAL ORIENTED: Dejected England players leave the pitch after their draw against Switzerland in the opening Group A match at the European Soccer Championships.

Tougher employment legislation considered

(298)

ARG 27/6/96

Labour Reporter

CHILD labour is widespread in South Africa although legislation prohibits it.

The new constitution also gives children younger than 18 the right not to be "subject to exploitative labour practices nor to be required or permitted to perform work which is hazardous or harmful to his or her education, health or well-being".

Current figures are not available, but the 1994 October Household Survey indicates about 200 000 children between the ages of 10 and 14 are involved in child labour.

This figure is higher than previous estimates, and represents four percent of all children aged between 10 and 14. Sectors most affected are agriculture (21 percent), retail and catering (17 percent), manufacturing (12 percent) and social and personal services (seven percent).

In commercial farming areas, 58 percent of child workers work between 10 and 49 hours a week, and 20 percent work more than 50 hours.

Reasons for child labour lie in the economic dependence of many families on the income earned by children, and the weak enforcement of the laws, policymakers have argued. They also say enforcing the law is difficult because child workers and their families are often unwilling to prosecute or testify.

Existing law allows for employers to get exemptions to use child labour, but in practice, exemptions have largely been ignored. Current procedures also make it difficult for inspectors to monitor compliance with exemptions.

To deal with these problems, the Department of Labour's proposed new Employment Standards law recom-

mends children younger than 15 may not work, and those younger than 18 may not do work which is inappropriate for their age or is hazardous or harmful to their health. There is also a proposal that ways be found to oblige employers to pay the same wages to adults and children who do the same work, as this would discourage child labour.

Exemptions to child labour should only be granted to individual employers who want to employ children between the ages of 12 and 14 to do work which is not harmful to their health or education, it has been proposed.

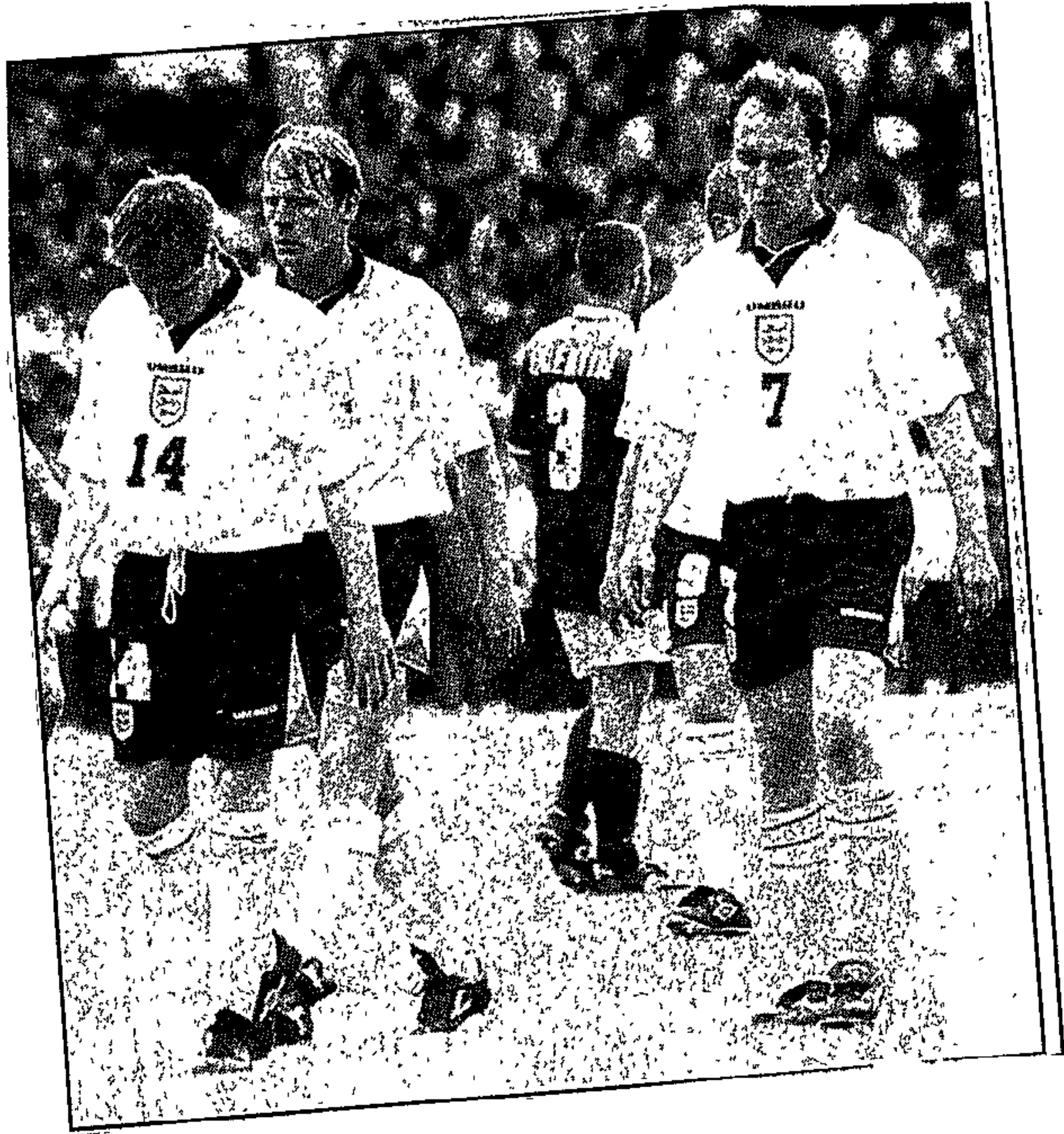
The suggested new law on employment standards also recognises that eliminating child labour requires a strategy which includes compulsory and free basic education, social security and welfare provisions.

It also needs economic development to increase adult earnings and programmes to raise awareness around child labour.

The International Labour Organisation (ILO) requires member countries to adopt national policies to abolish child labour and progressively raise the minimum employment age. The ILO's Minimum Age Convention of 1973 states no child younger than 15 may be employed, but this age is increased if the child has not completed compulsory schooling.

The convention allows for the minimum age for someone doing light work, not likely to be harmful to children's health or education, to be reduced to 12 years in countries with a low level of economic development and educational facilities. But the work should be of limited duration and there should be consultation with employer and employee organisations.

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27/6/96



Child labour 'increasing'

ARG 27/6/96

(298)

BRUSSELS - An international trade union body has appealed to governments, multinational companies and consumers to help fight the growing problem of child labour.

"We're not here to condemn the countries where child labour exists but to help them out of this downward spiral," said Bill Jordan, general secretary of the Brussels-based International Confederation of Free Trade Unions.

He was addressing journalists during a five-day ICFTU congress, which is debating trade union rights worldwide, rising unemployment and poverty and the effects of the globalisation of trade.

Launching a report called *No Time to Play*, about hundreds of millions of child workers worldwide, Mr Jordan said there was evidence that the problem was getting worse.

More and more companies employing underage children through subcontractors.

"It's a question of tracing the point of production to the point of source," Mr Jordan said.

He said the ICFTU and the world soccer governing body, Fifa, were following up a recent case of child labourers in Pakistan found producing footballs which bore the Euro 96 soccer logo.

"We wrote to Fifa and they

acknowledged it was a problem

"We and they are going to take the long and winding route to the source of this most appalling child labour through the subcontractors."

ICFTU was asking its affiliates to help provide evidence, but because child labour created wealth, investigators often faced a "wall of silence" and intimidation.

The trade union confederation says it represents 127 million workers through its 194 affiliates around the world.

Yesterday's report gave details of child labour in 20 countries.

Up to 100 million underage workers, or a quarter of the total, were thought to be in India, where school dropout rates in hand-made carpet-producing areas were about 85 percent.

In the Philippines, children imprisoned in a sardine factory for a year were crippled by cramped conditions.

Their counterparts in Brazil dug by hand in tin and charcoal mines, and were murdered if they tried to escape, ICFTU said.

One quarter of all children in Africa were employed in such jobs as carpet making and mining, and the figure rose to 50 percent in some countries on the continent.

Between 15 and 20 percent of

children in Latin America worked, many as domestic servants for no pay.

"The biggest contribution is for developed countries to pay for those other less developed countries to get out of this hole," said Mr Jordan.

ICFTU said many child labourers were following the route of their parents and education for children was the single most important way to break the cycle.

A "social clause" penalising countries which did nothing to stop the practice should be introduced into international trade agreements, it said.

Meanwhile, multinational companies should be pressured to ensure their production did not involve child labour.

In addition, consumers could help by boycotting articles made by children.

"The real problem is in countries we cannot penetrate because there are no free trade unions," Mr Jordan said.

Child labour was also growing in industrialised nations.

Portuguese children worked for a pittance sewing shoes and in the United States 50 a year were killed in work-related accidents.

In Britain up to 5 000 children aged 12 to 16 were involved in the sex industry, ICFTU said. - Reuter

Unions slam use of child labour

ARG 27/6/96

BRUSSELS. - International trade unions have lambasted developing countries for allowing the use of child labour in their carpet, sports and construction industries.

The International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, with 127 million members, warned that unions would step up the campaign for tougher worldwide rules to ban trade with countries exploiting under-age workers.

The confederation released a report yesterday which estimated 200 million children are being forced to work in Asia, Africa, Latin America and even parts of Europe.

"The number of children working is rising so quickly that it is out of control," the confederation's general secretary Bill Jordan said.

The increase in child workers made it imperative that members of the Geneva-based World Trade Organisation (WTO) adopted a so-called "social clause" linking trade to labour standards, Mr Jordan said.

Calls for a social clause are to be studied by leaders of the "Group of Seven" industrial nations, which will meet for their annual summit in Lyon this week.

The International Labour Organisation, the United Nations agency based in Geneva, has also studied the problem along with the WTO. But views on how to combat the abuses are widely divergent.

The United States and France are pressing hardest for a direct link between trade and labour standards.

But developing nations say the so-called "social clause" will be misused by industrialised states to keep out competing Asian and other goods. - Sapa-DPA.

Trade unions slam use of child labour

(298)

CT 27/6/96

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The ICFTU is campaigning for the respect of certain "core labour standards", including the ban on child workers, forced and prison labour and the freedom of association. In its report on child labour, entitled "No time to play", the union says goods produced by children should be boycotted by consumers. — Sapa-DPA

Away with child labour

(298) Sowetan 28/6/96

AS thousands of soccer fans keep their eye on the ball during this weekend's Euro '96 final at Wembley, chances are that children as young as six, toiling in sweatshops, produce the contested leather.

Now, the International Textile, Garment and Leather Workers Federation (ITGLWF) and the International Confederation of Trade Unions, are demanding that the Federation of International Football Association (Fifa) and the United European Football Association (UEFA) take "urgent measures" to get the child workers out of the workshops and into schools.

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goal of these ragged, barefoot kids is to survive another day without a beating, or worse."

According to the ITGLWF, some of the children are as young as six years old, earn only about 27 cents an hour and work in poorly lit and ventilated workshops.

Rendered speechless

Many have been bought for as little as about R70 and were sold and resold like pieces of machinery. They are beaten, sometimes blinded as punishment for wanting to return home and are often rendered speechless by their trauma.

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"And it is a shame on soccer that its central item is the product of an industry where almost every factory has a

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Child labour in SA widespread

(298) Sowetan 28/6/96

By Estelle Randall
Sowetan Correspondent

CHILD LABOUR is widespread in South Africa although legislation prohibits it.

The Constitution gives children younger than 18 the right not to be "subject to exploitative labour practices not to be required or permitted to perform work which is hazardous or harmful to his or her education, health or well-being".

Current figures are not available but the 1994 October Household Survey indicates that about 200 000 children between the ages of 10 and 14 are involved.

Previous estimates

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Sectors most affected are agriculture (21 percent), retail and catering (17 percent), manufacturing (12 percent) and social and personal services (seven percent).

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Reasons for child labour lie in the economic dependence of many families.

Constitution gives children under 18 right not to be exploited at work

lies on the income earned by children and the weak enforcement of the laws, policymakers have argued.

They also say enforcing the law is difficult because child workers and their families are often unwilling to prosecute or testify.

Existing law allows employers to get exemptions to use child labour, but current procedures also make it difficult for inspectors to monitor compliance with exemptions.

To deal with these problems, the Department of Labour's proposed new employment standards recommend that children younger than 15 may not work.

Those younger than 18 may not do work which is inappropriate for their age or which is hazardous or harmful to their health.

There is also a proposal that employers pay the same wages to adults and children who do the same work, as this would discourage child labour.

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The suggested new law on employment standards also recognises that eliminating child labour requires a strategy that includes compulsory and free basic education, social security and welfare provisions.

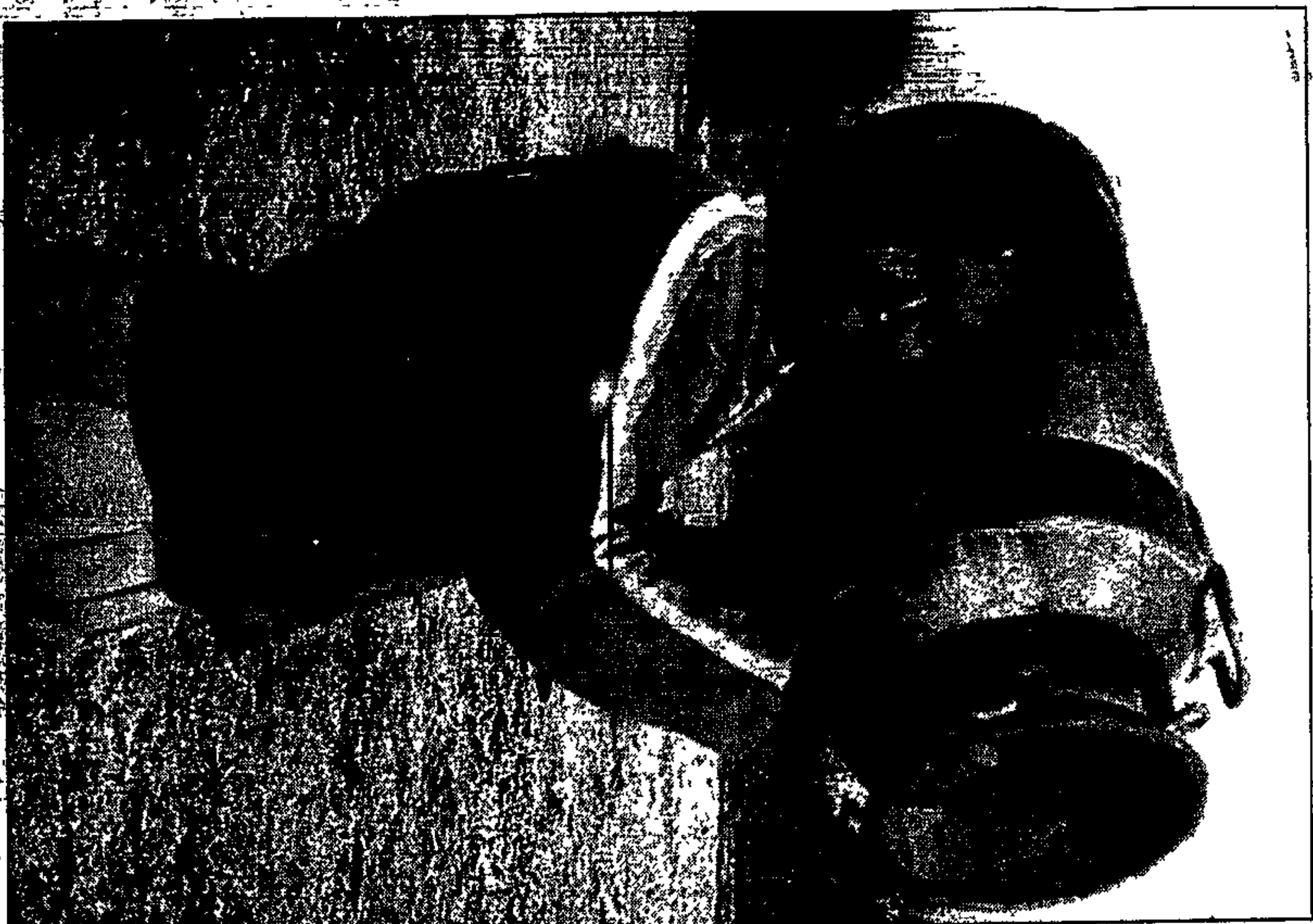
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National policies

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The new Constitution prevents children under the age of 18 from performing work which affects their health or wellbeing.

W Cape youth body 'hijacked by Nats' (298)

HENRY LUDSKI
POLITICAL WRITER

CT 28/6/96

THE National Party has "hijacked" the interim youth structure entrusted with determining the form and scope of a permanent body to represent Western Cape youth, the ANC Youth League said yesterday.

The league claims that Western Cape Education MEC Mrs Martha Olckers "completely ignored" a provision in the enabling legislation aimed at ensuring that it would be representative.

The league's provincial secretary, Mr Themba Sikhutshwa, said the youth structure was undemocratic and unrepresentative of gender and the geographical, political and cultural diversity of the region.

This was denied by Western Cape acting Premier Mr Gerald Morkel, who said the group reflected the youth of the province and was not chosen on the basis of political affiliation only, but also of

"political sensitivity".

The youth body consists of five members — four from the NP and one DP member. Only one is a woman (NP) and there are no Africans.

"We are not prepared to participate in this structure, even though it was our idea in the first place," said Sikhutshwa.

He called for its disbandment, saying a broad consultative process should form the basis of a fresh start.

The league also called for youth affairs to be removed from Olckers' portfolio, saying her handling of the current process was a reflection of her incompetence.

The Western Cape youth consultancy, an interim provisional structure of the National Youth Commission, suffered its first major setback almost at inception when Western Cape youth leader Mr Peter Skei quit, saying it had become a tool of the NP.

Morkel said Sikhutshwa had been "invited" to participate, but had declined.

Sleeping in a hole – that's the way they live

GLYNNIS UNDERHILL
Staff Reporter

FOR a group of young Mitchell's Plain children who sleep in a ditch and admit using thinners, but-tons, petrol and glue, life on the street is a habit they would find hard to kick.

The youngest of the group, Hannes, 12, who has a smile to melt the frostiest of hearts, said he had been on the street for three years. His friend Alfie, 14, joined him two years ago.

Chico the Alsatian protects the children at night. Bertien, a strapping 18-year-old with an easy man-ner, rests his arms protectively on the shoulders of the children.

"At night we sleep with bricks and stones and the dog barks if anybody comes along to disturb us," says Bertien.

Chico has grown with the children and when they are at Ethel's Place learning "life skills" such as art, literacy and music, he suns himself on the front step. "We found him when he was very small," explains Bertien.

Life on the streets is preferable to life at home and the children are reluctant to give their reasons for running away. For more than two months this band of eight booked into the Kidshelter in Lavender Hill.

"They were off the thinners for more than two months. This is a clique who have grown up on the streets and they missed the friendship they had built up. The bond they have is something that still amazes me. When there is a fight, they just don't split up," said welfare worker Michael Doose.

The children said they left the Kidshelter because they would have had to go to school if they had stayed on. "We don't like school," said Hannes, his simple explanation drawing agreement all round.

The children readily admit to substance abuse - thinners, poppers, petrol, glue.

"We try them all," they concurred, right down to the smallest child.

The band of children went back onto the streets after the two-month trial period, but they visit the Cape Town City Mission drop-in shelter Ethel's Place in Mitchell's Plain daily. The centre received

a R6 000 donation from President Mandela's Chil-dren's Fund.

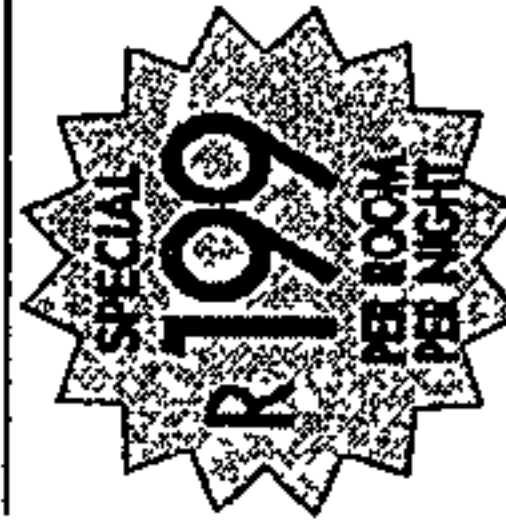
It is in this unassuming brick building that the chil-dren shower, have lice removed from their hair, dress in clean clothes and throw themselves into the three-month life skills programme.

"Uncle Michael", as he is known to the children, was one of the welfare workers who used to visit the children and take them food. When the drop-in shelter opened in April, welfare workers would take the children to Ethel's Place.

When they left Ethel's in the evening they returned to the bush. "When it's cold we dig a big hole, cover it with sticks and sleep in it," says Bertien.

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WILDERNESS	Far Hills Protea Hotel (0441) 71 1295
GEORGE	Foresters Protea Lodge (0441) 74 4488
MOSSEL BAY	Santos Protea Hotel (0444) 7103

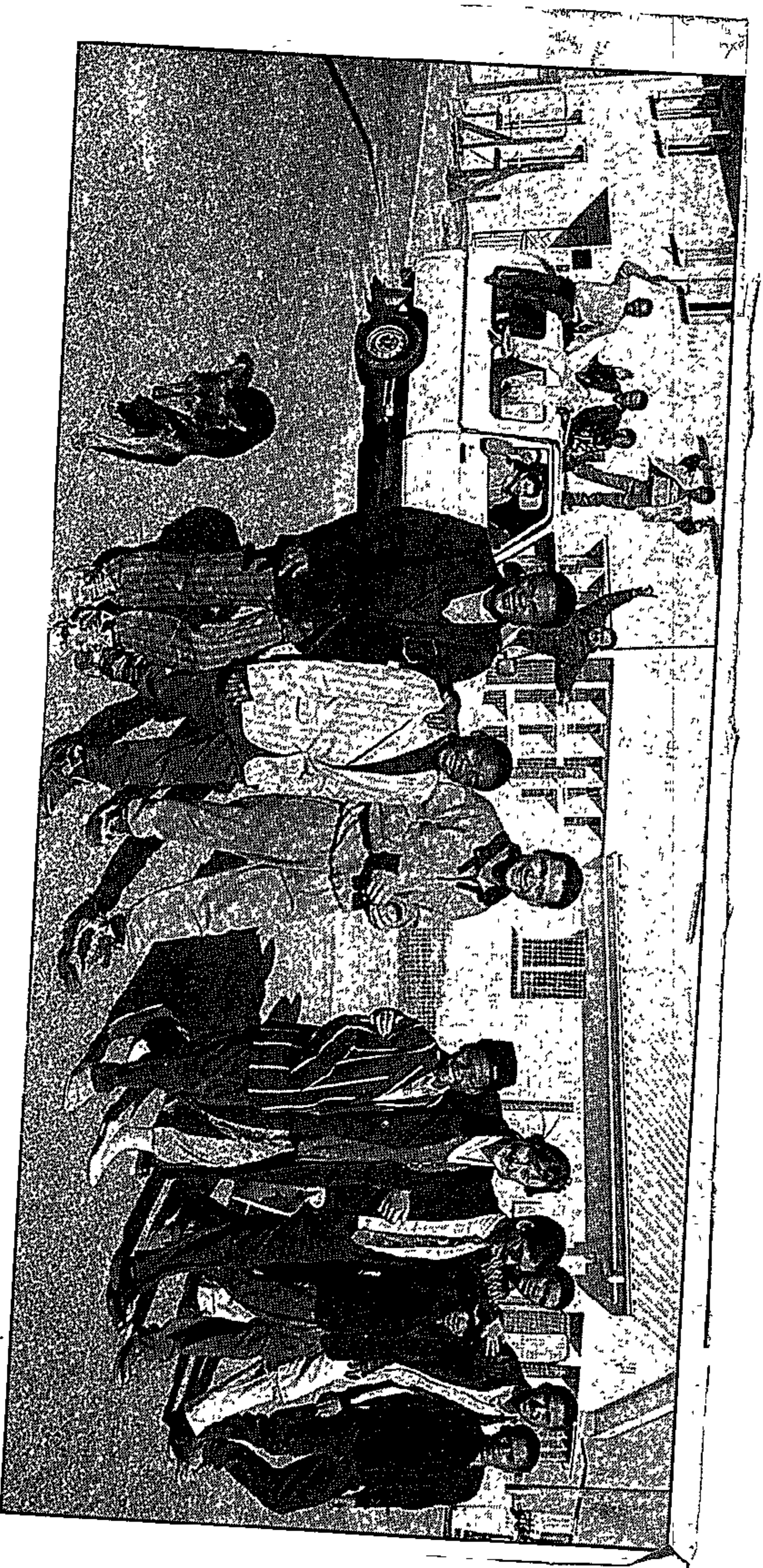


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Dumped or lost, Shlopo's happy!

GLYNIS UNDERHILL
Staff Reporter

SHLOPO Shawana, found wandering around Khaveltsha after being abandoned by his parents, was one of the lucky children to be rescued from the streets.

While attempts are still being made to trace his parents, Shlopo, 5, has embarked on the three-month life skills programme at Ethel's Place, a drop-in centre for street children run by the Cape Town City Mission Homes and Services in Mitchell's Plain.

Attempts to trace Shlopo's parents have been fruitless but the little boy has happily adapted to his new life, which involves building up relationships with street workers, social workers and street children.

"We have hunted everywhere for his parents but we still haven't found them. We presume he was dumped by his parents," said senior street worker Michael Doose.

Shlopo was found by the police and taken to the Cape Town City Mission Homes and Services organisation, where he is now one of the family.

"He might be five, but he appears more like six years old. He is extremely intelligent and he knows things a child of his age don't

RRt 29/6/96 (298)
■ Deserted children have a place to go to pick up the pieces of their sad lives and develop useful life skills.

know," said Michael.

Sitting comfortably on the lap of "Uncle Michael", a trained textile worker who has switched to working with street children, the boy appears to have few cares "This is my pa," he said hugging Michael.

If his biological parents are not found, Shlopo will eventually be fostered by a family, with the help of Child Welfare. But in the meantime he is happily settling into life at the Kidshelter in Lavender Hill, a residential cottages run by the Cape Town City Mission for street children who volunteer to live there.

At Ethel's Place, which is to be officially opened on August 28, Shlopo is the youngest child on the life skills programme. His colourful artwork is his pride and joy and he is delighted to work with the other street children who are learning to read and write.

A former residence for street children, the conversion of Ethel's Place to a drop-in centre is likely to change the lives of street children in Mitchell's Plain.

President Nelson Mandela's Children's

Fund recently donated R6 000 to the centre and it is hoped he will attend the grand opening in August, which will involve the community in the programme.

Donations are willingly accepted by the organisation, which relies on public funding to keep up its services.

After being washed and given clean clothes at Ethel's Place, the children eat breakfast before starting on the life-skills programme.

Volunteer workers have thrown themselves into helping the street children develop new skills.

"We wanted children to be part of a holistic programme and to help them take charge of their lives, which could enable them to reintegrate back into the community," said Roy Hellenber, human resources and programme co-ordinator at Cape Town City Mission.

Between 20 to 30 street children voluntarily arrive at Ethel's Place every day. None is forced to take up shelter at any of the homes run by the Cape Town City Mission, but the motivation becomes apparent after stepping into the building.

With food and a happy, caring atmosphere at Ethel's Place, it would be tempting to even the most wary street child.

Do away with Eurocentric traditions, says new UCT boss

MXOLISIMGXASHE

Staff Reporter

ARG 29/6/96

SOME of the recent upheavals at tertiary institutions had been caused by maladministration and a Eurocentric academic environment, said Daniel Ngcayiyana, one of the two new deputy vice chancellors of the University of Cape Town.

Professor Ngcayiyana, 56, formerly editor of the South African Medical Journal, and John Martin, formerly the dean of engineering at UCT, replaced Mamphela Ramphele and David Woods as deputy vice-chancellors of the university.

This followed Dr Ramphele's appointment as vice-chancellor of UCT and Professor Woods' appointment as vice-chancellor of Rhodes University.

In an interview with SATURDAY ARGUS this week, Professor Ngcayiyana, who is also

Sadtu urges members not to take retrenchment package

WILLIAM-MERVIN GUMEDE

Own Correspondent

ARG 29/6/96

TEACHERS considering taking voluntary retrenchment packages will be barred from working in any government department again, according to the small print that goes with the package.

"We call on people to opt for redeployment instead of going for a retrenchment package," said Thulas Nxesi, SA Democratic Teachers' Union (Sadtu) general secretary.

Mr Nxesi was speaking after the conclusion of talks at the Education Labour Relations Council (ELRC) between the government and the two largest teachers unions - Sadtu and the National Professional Teachers Organisation of South Africa (Naptosa).

"Most teachers are unaware that if they accept a voluntary severance package they will be refused work teaching in public schools and also from taking up any other position in

Staff Reporter **ESANN DE KOCK** writes that teachers will soon know exactly how the redeployment process will take place after the completion and approval of a procedures manual in the ELRC this week.

This comes in spite of earlier objections from certain teacher unions that the education rationalisation plan was unworkable.

Sadtu has hailed the manual, aimed at ensuring the smooth running of the redeployment of teachers, as a victory for itself.

Sadtu has been at the forefront of supporting the redeployment of teachers in order to achieve equity in provinces.

Mr Nxesi called on teachers to follow all the procedures outlined as precisely as possible to ensure the smooth running of the process. "It is important to ensure as little disruption as possible in the process," he said.

Sadtu described the manual as a

Newly formed youth commission hopes to have an impact on the Government's policy

By JOVIAL RANTAO
Political Correspondent

The newly established National Youth Commission is to tackle head-on key government policy processes which will have an impact on youth development, NYC chairman Hlengiwe Bhe-
gu revealed yesterday.

At a press conference in Pretoria, which followed the NYC's first meeting, Bhengu said the commission would make immediate interventions and seek to make submissions on the recently published Labour Market Policy, the Employment Equity Report and the National Commission for Higher Education.

"But our first and immediate priority is to seek information on the status of youth, their ages, education levels,

and the number of unemployed youth in order to develop an integrated youth policy. We aim to do this through Census 96," she said.

Bhengu said the main motivation for the establishment of the commission was the desire by the Government to address enormous problems facing South African youth and to empower them to participate in the



Hlengiwe Bhengu... National Youth Commission chairman.

social and economic development of the country.

"The objectives of the NYC are to co-ordinate and develop a national youth policy, to develop principles and guidelines, and make recommendations on these to the Government on the implementation of an integrated national youth policy and, on an ongoing basis, to monitor the implementation of such policy.

"In pursuance of its objects, as stated in the NYC Act, the commission has decided to begin a process of appointing the secretary and other key administrative staff as soon as possible, to engage in an audit of all youth programmes undertaken by the Government at national and provincial levels as well as non-governmental organisations," Bhengu said.

She said the NYC also intended to convene a national youth summit where a programme of action would be presented.

The NYC would maintain close links with international youth bodies. However, priority would be given to strengthening relations with youth bodies from the South African region and the African continent.

Star 3/7/96 (298)



The Orlando Children's Home provides love and care for children abandoned in Soweto. It also runs a creche for the local community. (298)

Children's home needs financial help

Sowetan 3/7/96

By Jethro Khuzwayo

THE number of children being abandoned in Soweto is placing a great burden on child welfare agencies already struggling to survive on reduced government grants.

In Soweto alone, about 100 babies are abandoned each year, according to statistics released by Mrs Miriam Mazibuko, headmistress of the Orlando Children's Home.

Sipho (5) and Vusi (3) – not their real names – for example, were left at Baragwanath taxi rank by their mother. By the time the Orlando Children's Home removed them, they had been on their own for two days.

Says Mazibuko: "Some of the children are left at railway stations, in telephone booths, open fields and at the Baragwanath taxi rank."

Found alive

"The lucky ones found alive are taken to social welfare organisations, which then send them to the children's court where the magistrate, in consultation with social workers, examines their plight."

An inquiry is then held to determine whether the child should be sent to a children's home or not. Orlando Home is one of the centres which receives such children.

"Some of the problems identified when assessing the children's cases are poor self-esteem, poor school performance, an aggressive tendency and anti-social behaviour, as well as difficulty in tackling ordinary life tasks and social relationships," says Mazibuko.

Established in 1940 by the Johannesburg Child Welfare Society, the home is a non-government institution and relies solely on donations from charitable organisations and the public.

In 1976 financial problems almost forced the home to close. Concerned community members battled to rescue the home because it was the only one of its kind.

Home support

Its mission is to assist children to grow up as responsible and productive members of the community by offering intervention programmes, home support and love. It also aims to seek homes for them, or to reunite lost children with their families.

The home caters for children who are lost, abandoned, orphaned, neglected or abused.

Since 1976 the home's management has changed annually, and it is now run by members of the Soweto community. It currently caters for 76 children, the youngest being a baby aged one month.



Miriam Mazibuko ... helping children grow up to be responsible and productive members of the community. PICS: LEN KUMALO

They also have a creche that cares and provides education for 80 children aged between two and six. Some children at the creche come from the community and pay school fees which help to sustain the home.

In this way, the creche prevents the neglect of children whose parents are at work during the day, and offers the home's toddlers a chance to mix with children from normal families, guarantees them proper stimulation and preparing them for school.

The home is staffed by dedicated people who have taken it upon themselves to help helpless infants. These volunteers give their time free of charge to manage the home for the community.

"We raise funds by making direct appeals to companies and have asked several mining houses to help us," says Mazibuko.

"Among the mining houses who help us is Gold Fields, which has given us a substantial package to run our facilities. But we are still canvassing for support from other companies to make sure the home doesn't fold."

"To take care of one child a month costs us R1 500, so we would really like to appeal to the community, the private sector and the Government to continue supporting us with old clothes, especially at this time."

Mazibuko also appealed to couples wishing to adopt children to come forward. They are also looking for people who would like to act as temporary guardians.

"But finance is a constant headache," Mazibuko says. "We are appealing for assistance with revenue so that the home can grow from strength to strength."

Mazibuko can be contacted at (011) 935-1209/70.

Commission to work on a national youth policy

(298)
Mboneni Mulaudzi

20 3/7/96

THE country's first National Youth Commission was inaugurated in Pretoria yesterday with the announcement of the commissioners by Deputy President Thabo Mbeki.

The commission, established in terms of the National Youth Commission Act of 1996, will be based in Mbeki's office and will be accountable to him. It consists of 19 members — 10 selected by President Nelson Mandela and nine forwarded by the provinces.

The following five, selected by the president, are full-time commissioners: former SA Students Congress secretary Mahlengi Bengu as chairman, Young Women's Network project manager Nomfundo Mbuli as deputy chairperson, IFP national organiser Otto Kunene, former NP Youth leader Reinard Van der Wath and, former ANC Youth League secretary Mpho Lekgoro.

Commission spokesman Thabo Masebe said the commission would address the enormous problems facing young people and would work to empower them to participate in the development of the country. The commission's main objectives are to co-ordinate and develop a national youth policy and make recommendations to government.

It will conduct an audit of all government youth programmes at both national and provincial levels, as well as those of non-governmental organisations. Immediate tasks include organising a national youth summit and gathering data on needs in respects of age categories, employment status, educational levels and other relevant information.

Masebe emphasised that the commission's success would depend on what it delivered. It would target youths between the ages of 14 and 35.

Child crime rate alarms

JUVENILE crime rates in Gauteng were alarmingly high, police statistics released to the public revealed yesterday.

Police spokesman Capt Jan Combrinck said 32 murders by children under the age of 12 were committed in the first six months of the year. (298) (S)

The weapons the children used were either handguns, commercial weapons like shotguns, or were unknown to police.

During the same period, children aged between 12 and 17 years committed a total of 29 murders using firearms.

Twelve attempted murders were committed by children over 12 years old by June this year, Combrinck said.

Attacks on policemen were lower this year than last year and one police officer had been murdered, compared to six last year, Combrinck said. Statistics showed policemen were attacked mostly while on duty during the early hours of Saturday mornings between 4am and 8am in the Soweto area. — Sapa.

BD 5/7/96

Erwin warns of trade imbalance backlash

Nicola Jenvey

DURBAN — SA faced international condemnation if current trade imbalances between itself and its neighbours were allowed to continue unchecked, Trade and Industry Minister Alec Erwin said yesterday.

He told the joint Textile and Clothing Federations annual congress that the World Trade Organisation (WTO) demanded SA heed the cries for economic assistance from its Southern African Development Community (SADC) neighbours.

Ignoring the calls meant SA would lose the sympathy and support gained in the international trading arena.

He said the government trade policies were not a reaction to WTO requirements, but rather were fundamental to ensuring SA developed into a medium-sized internationally-competitive trading nation.

The dramatic changes in world production techniques rather than the WTO regula-

tions has resulted in the globalisation process.

"WTO has only formalised the structures to create non-discriminatory rules for fair trade," Erwin said.

However, Frame Textile Corporation chairman Mervyn King said the government could not adequately police illegal imports and dumping within SA, yet Erwin expected these measures to be controlled within the SADC region.

Textile Federation president Mike Hankinson said the SADC agreement required both a phasing-in period to reduce the imbalances and an effective customs control for the whole region.

Erwin said reducing protective tariffs remained a priority for the long-term benefit of SA.

Despite his assurances that these would not happen without extensive consultation with all the affected industries, King said textile and clothing needed more certainty for the future before it continued with capital expenditure.

Nearly 15 000 Gauteng children arrested in 1995

298

Nedcor report makes the point that
family breakups often lead to crime

BY ANSO THOM
Crime Reporter

Police statistics on juvenile crimes have revealed that 14 849 children were arrested in Gauteng last year on criminal charges varying from bag-snatching to murder and rape.

In Gauteng alone, 566 juveniles aged between 7 and 17 were arrested on rape charges, 134 on murder charges, 662 on charges of assault with intent to cause grievous bodily harm and 506 on robbery charges where a firearm was used.

A total of 311 juveniles under the age of 7 were arrested in connection with petty crimes and 56 in connection with serious crimes.

In the next age category, 7 to 13 years, 976 juveniles were arrested in connection with petty crimes and 38 arrested for serious crimes.

The age category 14 to 17 showed 12 640 arrests on petty crime charges and 828 arrests on serious crime charges.

The Nedcor Report on Crime, Violence and Investment says there was general agreement that the immediate cause of young people entering a life of crime for the first time is the breakup of the traditional family structure.

This resulted in poor parental

guidance and a loss of the values and norms that provided a basis for resisting the attractions of crime.

However, the breakup of the family is not a spontaneous occurrence, but is caused by factors such as rural to urban migration, families with both parents working (or, conversely, unemployed); poverty; inadequate housing; and many other social and economic realities of a developing country, the report says.

"In general, apartheid intensified all the processes that cause family breakdown and therefore created the conditions for entry into crime," it states.

The report quotes an unemployed father who said: "My son puts food on the table and we do not ask where it comes from".

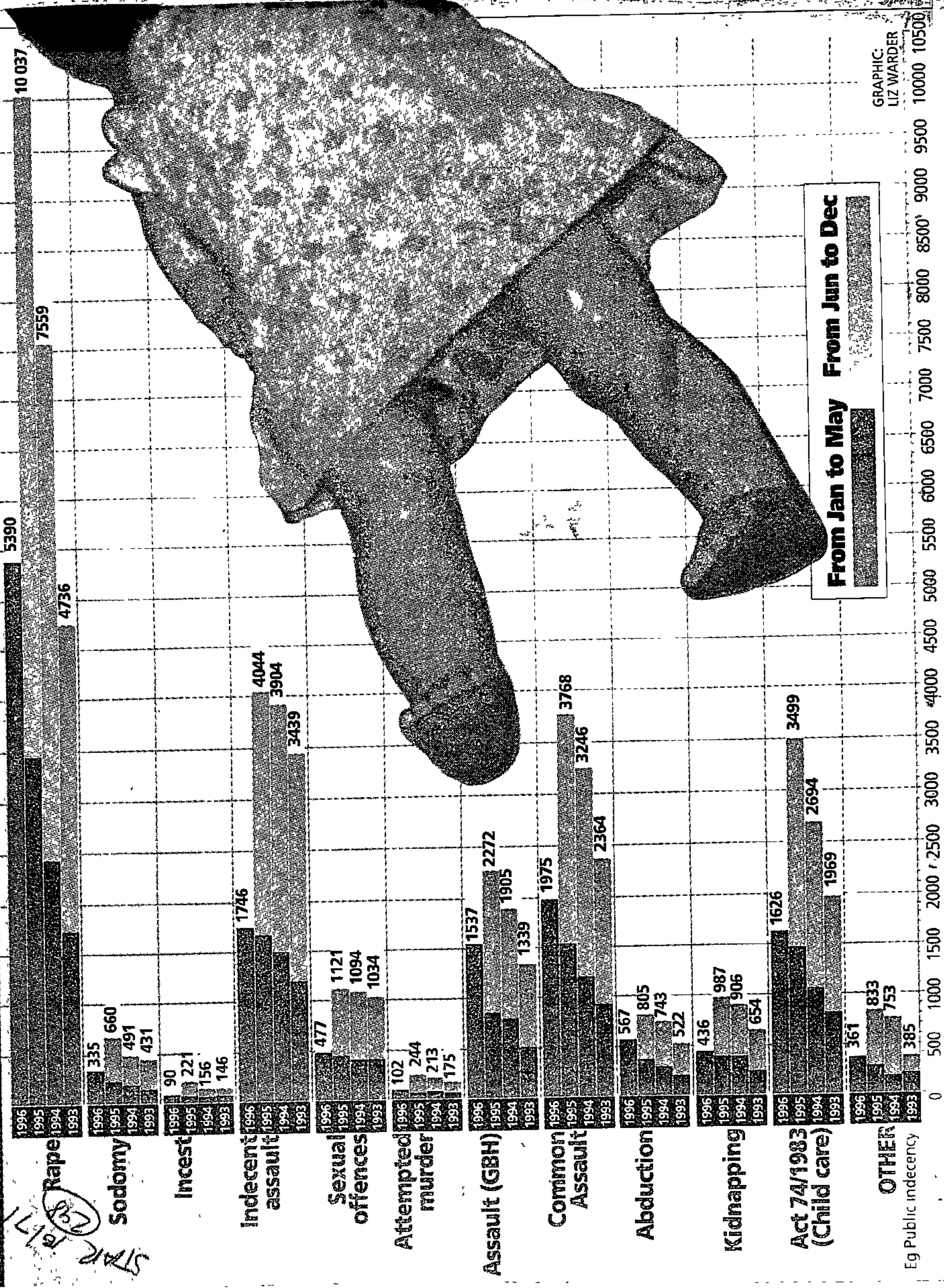
Worldwide, young people are more likely to be drawn into crime than older people.

The report recommends that a curriculum introduced at primary school level should focus on:

- Developing key life skills that contribute to a reduction of victimisation, conflict and violence
- Developing knowledge and understanding of the criminal justice system and the role of citizens and community structures in preventing crime.

STON 8/7/96

INCIDENCE OF CHILD ABUSE FROM JAN '93 TO MAY '96



Pity the children, other adults rape as parents and and batter them

Star 10/7/96 (298)

Penis torn, ears severed, skulls fractured: all part of the horrors dealt with by the Child Protection Unit

BY ANSO THOM
Crime Reporter

When Sean was three months old, his father picked him up, shook him violently, then threw him on to the bed with such force that he bounced. Next his father punched him in the stomach and hit him on the head so hard that he suffered multiple skull fractures and bruising of the brain. He died on the spot

William (8) was admitted to hospital with at least 25 injuries, including at least two to the State pathologist later said she had never seen before - a penis torn at its base, as well as both ears torn where they joined the scalp.

Bongani (7) was accused of stealing a chocolate from his school's tuck shop. His mother punished him by hanging him by the neck with an electrical cord. She burnt his feet and buttocks, causing festering wounds, and

beat him, leaving severe bruises. These three are among the 14 642 cases of crimes committed against children in the first five months of this year.

If crimes against children continue to increase at the present rate of 29% per year, the South African Police Service Child Protection Unit (CPU) would have to deal with more than one million child abuse cases by the year 2000.

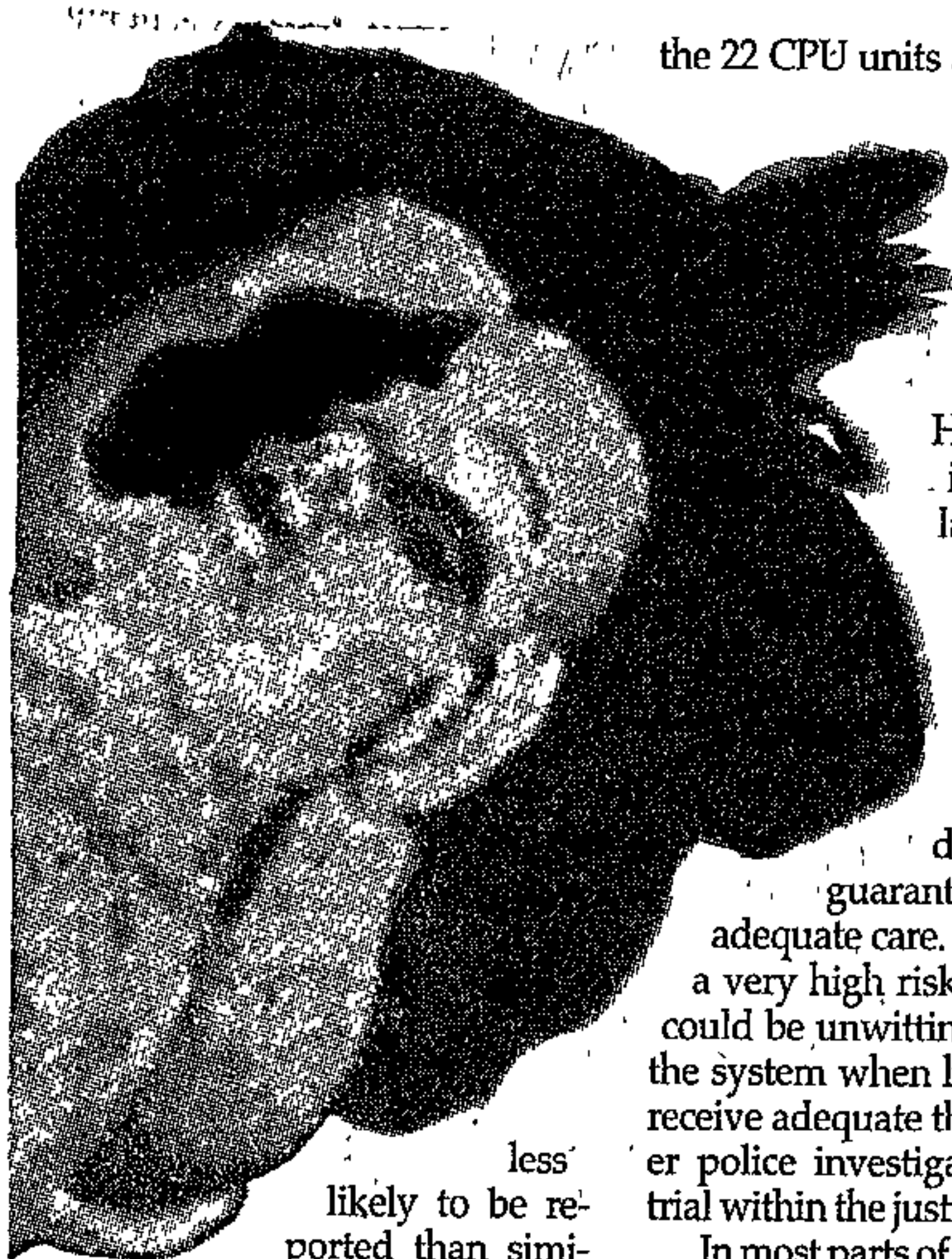
This was the finding of a joint report by the Human Sciences Re-

search Council (HSRC), the CPU and Cape Town psychiatrist Dr Tuviah Zabow, on the disintegration of the SA child protection system and crimes against children.

The HSRC report adds that if not adequately helped, abused and neglected children grow up to be maladjusted adults with mental problems, including substance abuse that require expensive services from the state and private welfare organisations. These adults are also more likely to bat-

ter or abuse their own children. The recently released Nedcor Project on crime, violence and investment echoed these findings. Calculations based on the report's results suggested that girls were two-and-a-half times more likely to be victims of rape than adult women. Worse still, there was an average of 12 cases of rape of young girls in every 10 households surveyed.

Yet it is known that sexual assaults against children were even



the 22 CPU units and specialised individuals stationed in 55 towns country-wide.

Still, the HSRC report identified the lack of co-ordinated and comprehensive strategies as a reason why abused children are not

guaranteed to receive adequate care. In fact, there is a very high risk that the child could be unwittingly abused by the system when he/she doesn't receive adequate therapy, a proper police investigation or a fair trial within the justice system.

In most parts of the country, all components of the child protection system are battling a lack of money and unqualified staff.

Child Protection workers are daily walking into a "brick wall" - finding no vacancies for abused children in places of safety, no alternative care and a lack of specialised services.

The CPU lacks money to investigate

cases, prosecutors are overloaded and the court system is overstretched. Even if the perpetrator is brought to justice, there are no funds to implement appropriate programmes to prevent further child abuse.

Because of the failure in the system, often nothing can be done. In fact, some perpetrators walk free while the abused child is "punished" by being removed from his or her home.

This desperate situation gives rise to a high burnout and turnover rate among social workers, compounded by low salaries.

Since its inception 10 years ago, the CPU has dealt with about 140 000 cases of crimes against children. Last year alone, it dealt with 28 484 cases, showing the upward trend.

The future challenge for the CPU and other organisations is to ensure that children like Sean, William and Bongani don't suffer in vain, that other children receive the adequate treatment and help they deserve.

less likely to be reported than similar crimes against adults "If these claims are valid, then there is nothing less than a reign of sexual terror against children in South Africa today," the Nedcor report stated.

According to a SAPS report on the incidence of serious crime last year, the number of reported cases of crime against children had increased by 65% between 1993 and 1995.

Rape and child abuse in particular are personal, intimate and traumatic affairs.

Victims (or witnesses) of these crimes encounter serious difficulties in reporting such crimes, especially when it occurs within family and/or friendship circles.

The SAPS report lists several reasons for the increase in the number of child abuse cases reported. These include the creation of specialised units to deal with these crimes, the growing emphasis placed on children's rights, high media interest and public awareness of human rights.

Superintendent Anneke Pienaar, national commander of the CPU, said it was a fact that in the past only a very small percentage of crimes against children were reported.

"Under-reporting is one of the reasons the true extent of child abuse and neglect are unknown," she said. Child abuse has always been there, but there is an increased awareness through the media.

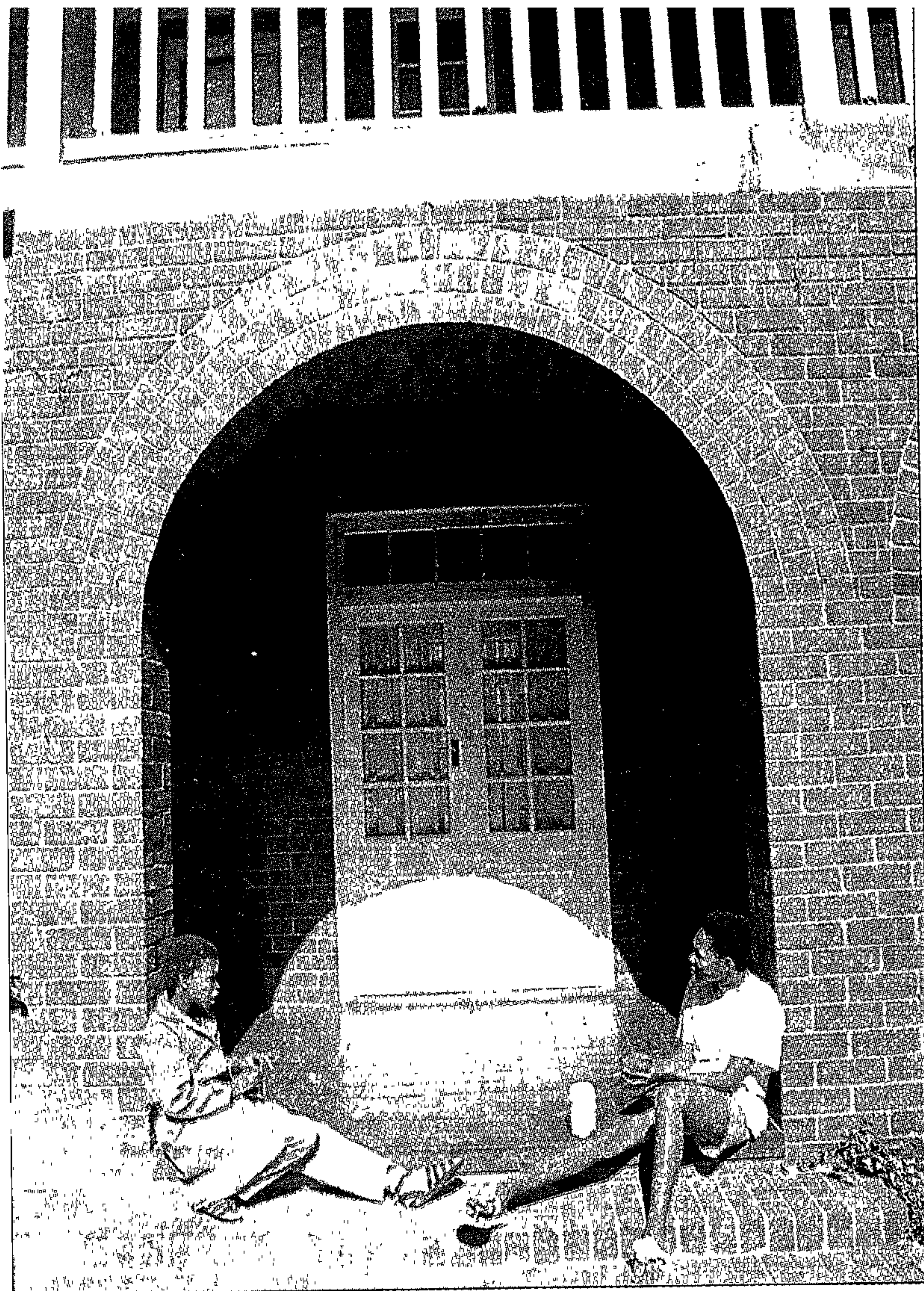
The policing of crimes against children is the responsibility of

Grave lack of money for places of safety, staff

STAR

10/7/96

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Where to from here? ... Pinkie Ngobese and Martha Moses contemplate their future in view of the imminent closure of St Joseph's Children's Home in Triomf, Johannesburg.

Children's home threatened with closure

By **LEBOGANG SIZANE**

A children's home in Triomf, Johannesburg, is threatened with closure because donors say they can no longer finance it.

They have instead shifted the focus of their funding to the RDP and the Mandela Children's Fund.

St Joseph's Children's Home secretary for the management board Marion Leatherbarrow said the home's closure would signal an end to the last landmark of former Sophiatown

"If we close down, as it seems we might have to, Sophiatown will lose its one last memorial to the act of forced removal of a vibrant community," she said.

The home opened in 1914 as a refuge to the orphaned, abandoned and abused children of Sophiatown.

Over the years it has played an important role in the community, and today there are 50 children living in the home.

Martha Moses (13), who is a Std 5 pupil at Christian de Wet Primary

School, says her parents abandoned her when she was only four and she does not know their whereabouts.

"I feel bad about the closure because I have nowhere to go," she said. "I am really disturbed and disappointed"

Martha has found a new family in the home and is coping well despite the fact that she does not know her biological parents

Leatherbarrow said that over the years, Martha had tried without success to trace her parents.

(298) Stan 16/7/96

Parting of welfare bodies 'amicable'

Star 17/7/96

(298)

The parting of the ways by the Johannesburg Child Welfare Society (JCWS) from the SA National Council for Child and Family Welfare last month was amicable and had been on the cards long before Red Nose Day was launched.

That is according to national council director Helen Starke, who

was commenting on the decision by the JCWS to break its affiliation from the umbrella body from June 1. She said growing concern about distribution of funds by her council was only one of the reasons.

It has been no secret that the JCWS has been dissatisfied with its slice of donations. — Staff Reporter and Own Correspondent.

Child-sex industry booms in South Africa

(298) M+G 19-25/7/96

Shocking details of child prostitution have emerged in Cape Town on the eve of an international focus on this ghastly trade, reports
Rehana Rossouw

SOUTH AFRICA is well on its way to developing a child-sex tourism trade which could rival Thailand or the Philippines, child-care workers warn.

For as little as food for their family's pots, children as young as eight can be bought in the Cape — and very little is being done to stop the burgeoning trade in children.

Research has shown that in Cape Town the industry is increasingly organised with children either abducted and forced into prostitution, or exploited by their parents to earn income for their families.

In Durban and Johannesburg reports are emerging of children being held as virtual prisoners in brothels and forced to service clients procured by their "pimps".

"South Africa has already created the fertile ground for the international body market and it is going to take an enormous effort to stop this from developing into a crisis as experienced in the Philippines, South America and the Far East," said Bernadette van Vuuren of the children's rights organisation Resources Aimed at the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (Rapcan).

Van Vuuren was speaking at a workshop last week organised by the children's magazine *Moto Songololo* to highlight the commercial sexual exploitation of children. It was attended by 18 organisations which for the first time began sharing the information they have on child prostitution in South Africa.

Their initiative was sparked by an invitation to the South African government and non-governmental organisations to attend a world congress on commercial sexual exploitation of children in Sweden next month.

"Our research into the trade in children indicates that our country is a sitting duck for the infiltration of organisations which prey on vulnerable children in countries affected by poverty and low levels of protection for their most vulnerable," said Van Vuuren.

In Cape Town, criminals have already begun exploiting the lucrative child-prostitute market. Van Vuuren said it was common knowledge on the Cape Flats that gangs controlled prostitution rings which abducted girls from their homes and sold them in Sea Point and the city centre.

"These gangs are no longer the street-roaming gangsters of the past but have become organised and sophisticated in line with international



On the streets and vulnerable: More and more of South Africa's streetchildren are being drawn into the sex trade

PHOTOGRAPH: RODGER BOSCH

standards. The harsh reality is that communities are powerless to intervene in any way to stop this exploitation of their children," she said.

Children are often introduced to hard drugs like cocaine to ensure their co-operation with their gangster pimps who also supply them with drugs, or are beaten into submission.

"Rent Boys" have been operating for years in downtown Cape Town and street children — boys and girls — have often turned to prostitution as a way of earning money.

Escort agencies, massage parlours and night clubs close to Cape Town's Waterfront and harbour area have also allegedly been hiring young girls to "entertain" foreign seamen. Some set girls up in flats and pay them an allowance so they can be available exclusively when the seamen dock in South African ports.

"Taxi Queens" is the term used in Mitchell's Plain to describe the sexual exploitation of young schoolgirls by taxi owners. The children are allegedly paid to sit up front and entertain drivers while they work and are then sexually exploited at the end of the day.

In recent research into child prostitution conducted at schools in the

Western Cape, the issue of what is commonly referred to as "survival sex" was highlighted. Children from those schools studied were being prostituted by either their families or as a result of being abandoned with no source of income.

In rural areas children are sent to shebeens, migrant-labour hostels and to farm workers who pay either in cash or with food. "Research indicates that this is a common reality in poverty-stricken communities in this country. A case was reported to us of an eight-year-old boy prostituted by his family as their only source of income," said Van Vuuren.

A social worker in the rural town of Napier recently conducted an awareness programme on sexual abuse at a school. By the end of the day 16 children had reported to her that they had been abused and by the end of the week she had 66 names.

David Fortune, project manager of Streets, an organisation working with street children, agreed that many girls living on the streets turn to prostitution as a way of making money quickly.

The organisation runs a drop-in centre where street children are offered

services including counselling and it is in these sessions where Streets measures the scale of child prostitution.

"Typically, these girls have been abused at home and tend to have less self-worth because of their experiences. They believe they're enjoying some form of elusive freedom, that they are in control of their own lives without parental authority. But when they fall pregnant on the streets that myth is shattered," said Fortune.

He said most street children lived in groups and often the girls were sexually abused within the group and forced into prostitution as a way of earning money for their cohorts.

His information was underscored by Renee Rossouw of Ons Plek, a shelter for street girls. But she said a survey conducted by the project had indicated that the percentage of street boys and girls involved in "survival sex" was equal.

Another Cape organisation which has been forced to confront the ugly reality of child prostitution is the Sex Workers' Education and Advocacy Taskforce (Sweat). Although the organisation was established to promote the health and safety of adult sex workers, they discovered children involved in the industry as well.

"We have found that prostitutes are vehemently opposed to forced sex

work and child prostitution. They have told us that they are very worried about the increasing numbers of children involved in the industry and that some of their clients are requesting young children," said Sweat's psychologist and researcher, Ilse Pauw.

"In the sex industry there are strong moral codes about what is right and wrong. The sex workers we deal with are outraged when they see under-aged children on the streets."

Inspector Ernie Riedeman of the Child Protection Unit said the unit did not have the capacity to do the kind of observation on the streets required to break child prostitute rackets.

"At present we have 900 cases with only 18 detectives in our unit. We have had some breakthroughs, like exposing the Internet site which advertised child prostitutes to tourists in Germany," Riedeman said.

The organisations agreed to continue sharing information, to lobby the government to take strong measures against child prostitution and to launch a campaign to highlight the problem publicly.

The South African government will attend next month's international conference and has already submitted its amendments to a draft declaration and agenda for action.

Guild Cottage offers refuge and comfort to sexually abused children

By PRISCILLA SINGH

The number of children being sexually abused is on the increase and many of the traumatised victims don't know who to turn to or where to seek refuge from their tormentors.

The Guild Cottage in Parktown West, Johannesburg, was founded by the Guild of Loyal Women in 1907 to offer protection and comfort to abused children.

In its 89-year history, Guild Cottage has been a home for more than 5 000 children.

In the late 1970s, its existence was threatened by financial difficulties, but it managed to hang on

by a thread until the Presbyterian Church of Southern Africa bought the premises and began running it.

Director Zelda Kruger said that during this time the problem of sexual abuse was receiving a lot of public and professional attention.

"With the dramatic increase in the number of sexually abused children, a dire need for specific services for the victims and their families transpired.

"Guild Cottage responded to this need and designed the first specialised programme for the residential treatment of sexually abused children in the Gauteng

area," said Kruger.

Guild Cottage was also the first home in Gauteng to cater for children from all race groups and is presently a registered home for 18 children of schoolgoing age.

The residential treatment service involves active work with the children and their families, the aim being to return the child to his or her family within 12 to 24 months.

"Treatment of the sexually abused child is an ongoing process of management, care, assessment, treatment and monitoring. Behaviour management ensures the child does not carry his abuse over to other children and

care is given to make the youngster feel safe.

"An outreach programme is also conducted with community groups to share information about how to deal with the problem of child sexual abuse through training seminars, survivors' groups and publications," said Kruger.

Through the Guild Cottage publications, many people working with sexually abused children are reached and six books have been published.

A book titled *Mary-Jo's Story* is a professional aid aimed at helping sexually abused girls talk about their experiences.

The publication discusses

some of the sexual acts common in child sexual abuse, such as fondling, mutual masturbation, oral sex and sexual intercourse. Most sexually abused children are able to identify with the character in the book.

It has been translated into Afrikaans as *Die Storie van Annette* and into Zulu as *Ingenekwane ka Thandile*.

Jonathan's Story was written to help sexually abused boys of middle childhood age talk about their experiences. Like *Mary-Jo's Story*, it discusses some of the sexual acts common in the abuse of boys in simple language.

It also deals with the feelings

experienced by a sexually abused boy.

Kruger says the Guild Cottage is well-placed within the service network in Gauteng and provides relevant, appropriate and cost-effective treatment.

About 65% of its funds is raised from the business and lay community, while 35% is state subsidised.

"These services will continue to be provided in consultation with the communities served, and it is envisaged that within the next two years the community outreach programme will be expanded substantially," concluded

Kruger.

(298) KTM 22/7/96

Courts tend to set up an adversarial relationship between parents which 'never find the solution that is best for the child'

By TROYE LUND

Temba Mahlangu looked after the son born to him and his girlfriend until the child was four years old. The boy's alcoholic mother never wanted any contact with her child. Mahlangu and the boy lived with his parents, who had moved from a farm in KwaZulu Natal to Johannesburg. When the mother of the child married another man, she started demanding her son back.

The new husband hired a lawyer, who convinced a court that he and his bride should have custody and that Mahlangu should have no contact with the boy. Mahlangu tried to visit the couple at their home, but the meeting ended in him hitting the new husband.

Mahlangu was sentenced to 18 months in prison for assault and trespassing. Human rights advocate Brian Spilg got involved and Mahlangu's sentence was reduced to nine months. A lack of money prevented Mahlangu from appealing to a higher court to review the ruling denying him access to his son and he has not seen his child for two years.

Spilg says: "Court battles are exorbitant and may never be able to reconcile rural, traditional values with Western modern law. They also set up an adversarial relationship between parents which never find the solution that is best for the child."

Miranda Freidman of the Child Abuse Action Group argues that a fundamental legal position, which does not exist in South Africa at present and which defines the exact rights of parents, must be established.

"Laws defining each party's rights are crucial. People must know where they stand legally."

"But ideal agreements will not be reached in the cold confines of a court. Mediatory civil bodies, which include the extended family, psychologists and welfare experts, should use new legal foundations as a base from which to negotiate a solution with all parties," said

Freidman.

Addressing municipal workers at a Lawyers for Human Rights' workshop on paternal rights, Mahlangu stressed how, in his rural village, there were never fights over who should be allowed to see or have access to children born out of wedlock.

The whole community understands that both sets of grandparents sit down with the parents and decide what is best for the child. The girl's parents usually take the child if the parents are not going to get married. If the grandparents agree the natural father has proved responsible, he will have access to the child and will contribute financially to the child until it can support itself.

Mahlangu told the group how "everyone is forced to take responsibility or face rejection" by the community. If a dispute does arise, the *induna* (headman) makes a decision, which has to be accepted without question.

Spilg argues that this reinforces what crucial roles civil or religious mediatory community bodies could play in "restoring the shattered family systems" that have resulted in urban situations from past laws.

He is adamant that mediatory bodies should be introduced into city life as part of and alongside new legal solutions on adoption and parental access.

"White urban communities still have family and civil structures to rely on and have better access to the legal system. Men like Mahlangu have been forced away from their community structures. The law must recognise the problems this is causing and find solutions to them."

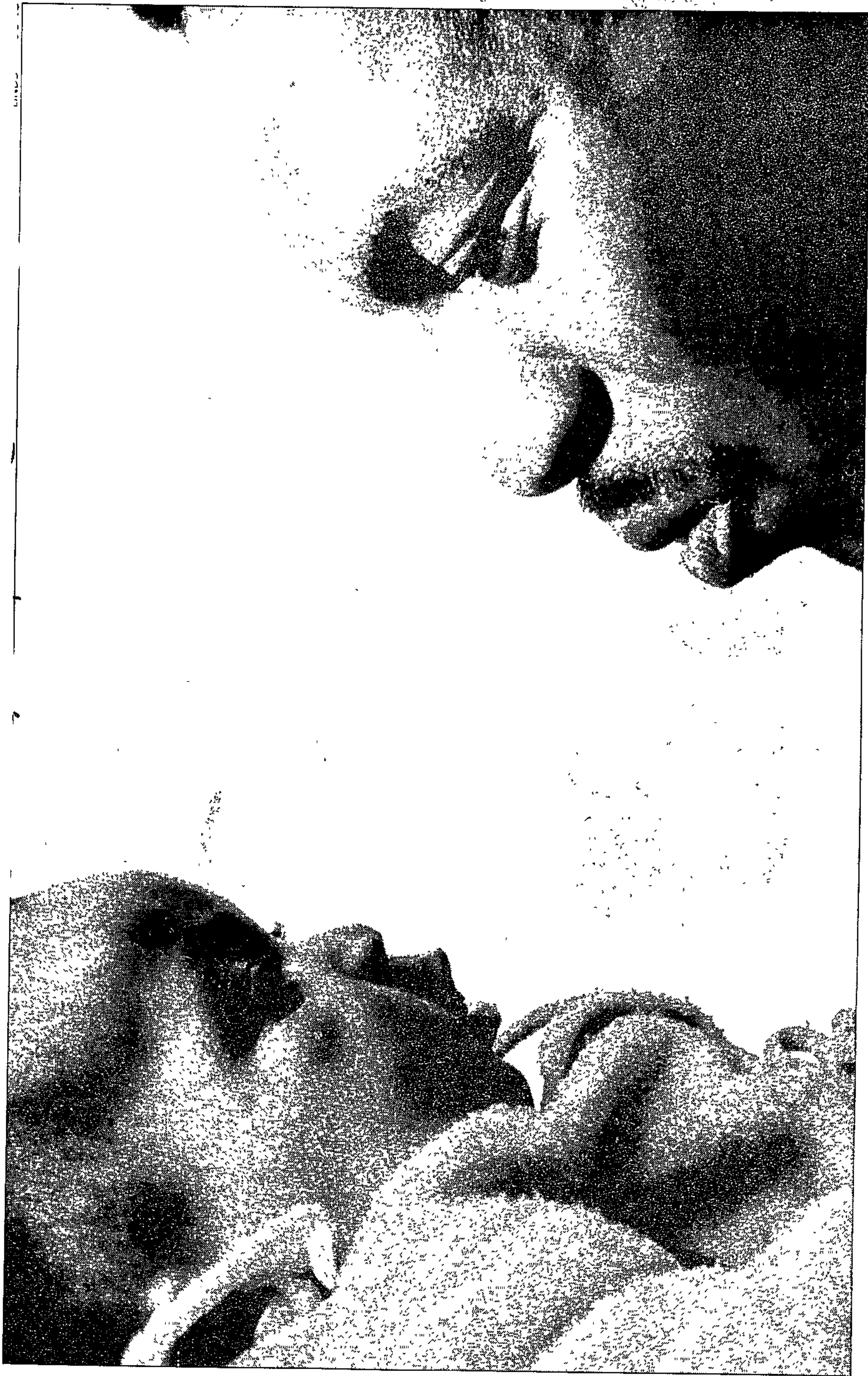
"One cannot expect people like Mahlangu simply to adjust from a community where there is an unquestioned, unwritten moral position to a place where people function as individuals with no fixed norms or morality to constrain them," said Spilg.

Present system needs to be less inhuman

Adopting new thinking on fathers' rights

LINDSAY YOUNG

Star 22/7/96 (298)



STAR 22/7/96
(298)

Developing a relationship ... bonding is important but it is far more complicated than meets the eye. A father's relationship with a child, born out of wedlock, will now be considered in depth by the court when considering disputed access to the child and adoptions. But complications arise when a legal system has to cater for other cultures and traditions.

Municipal workers expressed reluctance to use the court system. They say the procedures are a foreign concept. The men stress that the court does not understand their "way of thinking" and does not even recognise customary marriages as legal.

Friedman added: "The present court system needs to become less inhuman and take time to look at the full story and culture. Lawmakers must understand the dynamics on the

ground and then formulate laws and a system that caters for at least 90% of South Africa's cases."

Human rights groups are preparing new laws regarding father's rights over children born out of wedlock should take several factors into account, especially taking notice of people with rudimentary educations, rural upbringings or traditional values.

This conviction is based on 1996 statistics, which show that 80% of the country's population cannot afford to pay for legal procedures and have been account by a Westernised court system. A recent Appellate Court decision set a tone for lawmakers to follow down on how much say the father has over the child. It pertained to the adoption dispute of Lawrie Fraser, who has been fighting to have the adoption of his illegitimate son set aside.

The Appeal Court has set down three guidelines on which a new bill, The Powers of Natural Fathers of Children Born out of Wedlock Bill, was based:

- What degree of commitment the father has shown throughout the child's life
- What attachment the father has developed with his child
- And the court will have to satisfy itself that the motives the father has for contesting the case are in the best interests of the child

"No longer will the father be treated as the perpetrator and the mother as the victim. Aside from the father being allowed more rights, for the first time judicial officers will have to focus on what is best for the child," said Spilg.

But he shares concerns that rural people who have moved into the city will not benefit from modified legal positions unless the court can deal with cultures that do not adhere completely to Western, Eurocentric ways of living and thinking.

STAR 22/7/96

(298)

PERMISSION REFUSED TO HOUSE STREET CHILDREN

Pastor, Welfare Dept cross swords

EFFORTS BY a lay preacher to house street children in an unused rehabilitation centre are being blocked by the Welfare Department.

CHRIS BATEMAN reports.

AN UNDECIDED provincial Welfare Department is refusing a Kraaifontein lay preacher permission to house 26 street children in a section of a rehabilitation centre which has stood unused for 4½ years.

The De Novo Rehabilitation Centre was officially abandoned over four years ago for new premises. It can house 350 people with beds, toilets, bathrooms, kitchens and hot and cold running water plus electricity.

Pastor Louis-Piere Avenant, of the Lofdal Christian Centre in Kraaifontein, said he was "at his wits end" after running into a wall of bureaucracy which has seen him go as high as President Nelson Mandela to get permission to use



SHELTER NEEDED: Pastor Louis-Piere Avenant with some of the streetchildren.

PICTURE: ALAN TAYLOR

the facilities.

"These kids sleep unwashed on the streets at night and we have this facility abandoned and on

their doorstep — it makes no sense," Avenant said yesterday.

The pastor, who threatened last week to occupy the premises unless

he was given a "sensible reason" why he could not use one block, was served with a notice by social delivery director Ms Sharon Follen-

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 time yesterday after guards refused him entry.

In the notice, Follentine says the premises have not been hired or granted to "any person or instance for any use or purpose", adding that a committee was recently appointed by Health and Social Services MEC Mr Ebrahim Rasool, to probe its future use.

Welfare director Ms Virginia Petersen said the committee would report to Rasool by September and that any moves prior to this would be "unwise and premature".

"We've been overwhelmed with requests for funding for facilities of this nature, but probes have found these efforts to be of a dubious nature based on self-interest as opposed to a concerted effort to deal with this highly emotive and complex issue," Petersen said.

She said her approach was to focus on providing shelter but in the context of alleviating family break-up, dysfunction and poverty.

Encouraging "an industry of setting up these facilities" would be counter-productive, she said.

Children's home threatened with closure for lack of cash

(298) Star 31/7/96
BY PRISCILLA SINGH

The St Joseph's Home for Children in Triomf, Johannesburg, is one of the many homes providing a valuable community service, but as is the norm with such organisations, financial difficulties are part and parcel of the operation.

The home is threatened with closure, and the staff and children at St Joseph's are appealing to the public to loosen their purse strings and dig into their pockets to help keep the organisation alive.

St Joseph's caters for the physical, psychological, emotional, educational and religious needs of children entrusted to the organisation by court orders.

Director Malcolm Montgomery said despite implementing cost containment and cost generating programmes, St Joseph's has still been unsuccessful in preventing a critical financial situation.

"This threatens the service being rendered, as well as the ongoing existence of the home, which was founded in 1919.

"While the children are in our care, we strive to stabilise them with a view to ultimately reuniting them with their own families where possible, or introducing them to host families.

"Children often come to us in a disturbed frame of mind as a result of being removed from their parental homes for a variety of reasons including poverty, overcrowded living conditions, abandonment, neglect and abuse," said Montgomery.

St Joseph's receives children from Westbury, Riverlea, Noordgesig, Klipspruit West, Eldorado Park, Soweto, Boksburg, Edenpark, Three Rivers, Eesterus in Pretoria, and even Colesberg, Kroonstad and Nelspruit.

Montgomery said about 18 months ago, he and his staff spent time evaluating the nature of care and service offered to children at the home.

They discovered a mediocre quality of care had become the norm due to the inappropriate ratio of children to child care and social work staff.

"This situation was revised and has been most interesting and rewarding, but sadly, rather demanding on the child care and social work staff, on organisational planning to ensure sufficient time for training and review sessions, and also time off for the staff.

"But, most of all, demanding on our cash flow.

"In order to implement a child-centred approach to child care, a healthier ratio was an initial priority and was achieved by reducing the number of children in care from 88 to 50.

"The downside to this approach that our income in the form of per capita State subsidy is significantly reduced, while some of our expenses remain much the same," said Montgomery.

Delays in receiving subsidy amounts from the Gauteng administration also compounded the financial problems as well as a number of donors who have reduced or terminated their support.

St Joseph's has since been reviewing its mission and objectives, and is re-directing its energies to attract "new money".

St Joseph's is appealing to the public for any donations no matter how big or small. Contact Montgomery on (011) 673-5126/7 (w) or 474-6449 (h) or 673-8592 (fax), or contact Marion Leatherbarrow on (011) 792-2159 in the afternoon or evening.