Cape Times 14/11/75

Squatter-sent back

(293)

WOMEN squatters at the Crossroads squatter camp near Nyanga, who were found guilty in court of being in a prescribed area without permission, are being sent back to the Transkei by train twice a week.

The Bantu Affairs Administration Board said yesterday that 10 women prosecuted recently for being illegally in the proclaimed area in Cape Town were sent back to the Transkei yesterday in accordance with court orders.

More than 300 such court orders for removal had been issued this year. The women and their dependants were given rations and sent back at Government expense. Any furniture they had at the squatters camp was stored and forwarded later.

Squatter wives 'jump' train

(293)

Cape Times 15/11/75

Staff Reporter

MANY WOMEN SQUATTERS from the Crossroads camp who were sent back to the Transkei left the train at Paarl and returned to Crossroads to find out what had happened to their husbands and to children left behind, the Rev David Russel said yesterday.

The removals are the result of recent court orders. Ten women were arrested on Tuesday and issued with train tickets to the Transkei. They boarded the trains under supervision from Bantu Affairs Administration Board officials, who had also supplied them with rations.

Mr Russell said that three of the women who disembarked at Paarl told him they had done so because one or more of their children had been left behind.

One woman's child had gone to hospital with an aunt the day her mother was arrested. The mother's pleas to be allowed to wait for her child's return before she was put on the train were ignored, Mr Russell said.

Mrs R N Robb, who runs the Athlone Advice Office, said yesterday that the office had been chaotic for the past few days, with husbands and children wanting to know what had become to their wives and mothers.

A woman who got off the train at Paarl on Tuesday told her that all the arrested women had been forced to sign a document by BAAB officials agreeing that their possessions should be removed to the Transkei.

HOMES DEMOLISHED

Another woman had been forced to leave her invalid husband and child when she was put on the train. Many husbands had returned from work on Tuesday and Thursday to find their wives gone and their wood and iron homes reduced to a heap of rubble, Mrs Robb said.

More than 300 court orders have been issued this year requiring women living with their husbands in squatter areas to go back to the homelands. Their husbands have had to go back to the bachelor quarters in Langa.

Cape Times 15/11/75 (293)

Break-up of squatter families condemned

Staff Reporter

THE CHAIRMAN of the Cape Western region of the Institute of Race Relations yesterday sharply ciriticized the Bantu Affairs Administration Board for breaking up families at the Crossroads squatter camp by sending women and children back to the homelands and destroying their homes.

The chairman, Mr Michael Savage, who is also a senior lecturer in sociology at the University of Cape Town, said yesterday that the action taken against squatters by the BAAB was "shameful" and the fact that wives and mothers were being separated from their husbands by force "could not by any stretch of the imagination be justified".

"The inhabitants of Crossroads are being subjected to a new and cruel form of action by BAAB officials. In the past few days they have bulldozed several houses and taken the women and children from these houses and put them on trains to the rural areas."

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WERKGENOT SHANTIES BURNT

Cruel evictions

12/11/79

Letters

From S SHIKWAMBANA
(NY. 21—26, Guguletu):

ON SUNDAY, November 3, I and a few members of my congregation visited some families who had just been cruelly moved from their previous home at a place called Werkgenot, near Bellville.

Needless to say these men and women are members of a suffering race in our sunny South Africa. They are my people. They are Black of course, which is the reason they cannot stay at Werkgenot, which is why they were given 30 days to stay at their present site. No one told them what is going to happen to them after 30 days.

This is a pitiful story, but let me tell it exactly the way I was told by the people themselves on the Sunday. I found some of the men putting up the four poles which form the foundation of a Black man's ever-moving palace of miseries called a house. I introduced myself and my brethren. They began without any prompting to tell us what happened. Wednesday and Thursday (October 30 and 31) were days these suffering people will never forget for a long time, when officials from either the "Bantu Affairs" or Divisional Council arrived and demanded reference books (passes) from all the men and began to get as many as possible in the two riot squad lorries. Even those men who had their passes in their houses were bundled into the vans.

When most of the men were taken away and the rest of the men fled to the bushes for safety, the women were told to start taking their household goods out because the houses were to be burnt to the ground. Really, let every South African reflect, conjecture, think of this. If we claim to be a Christian country, holding the Christian teaching of love and responsibility, what can a woman do by herself, more specially if she is worried about the fate of her husband who is in the hands of the police who have shown so much cruelty to the Blacks in the past, people who do not know the very meaning of love for a Black person?

But let me go on with the story. The officials or the police had some inflammable liquid like benzine or methylated spirits. They ordered the women to hurry up and not to waste time because they wanted to burn down the dwellings. By that time some of the pondoks were aflame. The women were actually told to leave their wardrobes because they were too heavy but take what they could carry out. This order was cracked at another man's wife while the husband was being locked up. At the same time benzine was being sprinkled on what was left behind and the small humble home of a man and wife was set alight.

One woman took her bed and mattress to safety, but a bulldozer, which was sent later to finish off what was left by the fire, crushed the woman's measly possessions which were saved from the fire. When she cried out the driver jumped from his tractor and threatened the poor woman with a *warm klap* if she did not shut-up.

This is happening in a changing South Africa. To conclude, there is a small baby with fire-burns on her head. Fortunately this child is receiving treatment. These people were dumped in the open field without food and shelter. They need help in building material, money, food, clothes, and some odd jobs. But above all justice. What we see now is gross injustice.

[Officials have denied knowledge of or responsibility for the fires, which police are investigating. — Editor, Cape Times.]

C.T. 5/1/75

Shacks demolished

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FOUR families were without shelter last night after Divisional Council officials pulled down their shacks near Princess Vlei. They have nowhere to go.

The occupants of two of the shacks were at work when the officials arrived. Their neighbours, Mrs Sophie Mgazi, said that they had all been told to pull down their homes last week.

Surrounded by her four small children she said that she had left the Transkei to join her husband in Cape Town and had been living in the shack for about two weeks.

"We have nowhere else to go and so we will just stay in the bush."

A council official said that the families would be moved to Guguletu where they could rebuild their shacks. Council trucks would carry the families' housing material to Vrygrond.

Asked how the families would move their zinc and asbestos from the Vrygrond area to Guguletu, he replied: "That is their problem. They are not supposed to be here anyway."

Mrs Mgazi said that her husband had been to the "office at Guguletu," and had been told that there was no place for them

Asked what she planned to do, she shrugged her shoulders.

Mrs Miriam Linga, who has two children, said that she and her husband had nowhere to go and the family would "just have to sleep under a bush."

The secretary of the Divisional Council, Mr W R Vivier, said yesterday that he could not comment as he did not know the details.

HANSARD 2 Q. column 80

11 February 1975

293

Representations by Cape Peninsula Bantu Affairs Administration Board regarding squatters

*23. Dr. F. VAN Z. SLABBERT asked the Minister of Bantu Administration and Development:

Whether the Cape Peninsula Bantu Affairs Administration Board has made representations to any bodies in regard to squatters in the Peninsula; if so, (a) to which bodies, (b) what was the nature of the representations and (c) when were they made.

†The DEPUTY MINISTER OF BANTU ADMINISTRATION AND EDUCATION:

(a), (b) and (c) No, but as a result of representations from various sectors and after discussions by the relevant authorities, the Peninsula Bantu Affairs Administration Board issued a press statement on 26 August, 1974, calling upon employers to refrain from employing Bantu persons illegally present in their area of jurisdiction. A warning was also directed at property owners who allowed illegal squatting on their property, that they were running a risk of being prosecuted.

✓ Senate Hansard 1 column 102-3
18 February 1975.

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DEMOLISHING OF SQUATTERS' HOMES AT WERKGENOT

SENATOR WINCHESTER asked the *Minister of Bantu Administration and Development:*

(1) On whose authority were the homes of squatters demolished at Werkgenot last year;

(2) (a) how many families were affected by the demolition and

(b) where were they offered alternative housing?

THE MINISTER OF NATIONAL EDUCATION, for the *Minister of Bantu Administration and Development*, replied:

(1) As a result of written complaints regarding squatting at Werkgenot, inspectors of the Peninsula Bantu Affairs Administration Board conducted an inspection in terms of duties and powers legally vested in them and detained and prosecuted Bantu illegally present in the area, including Bantu men who were legally employed but whose wives were in the area illegally and were illegally squatting at Werkgenot.

Officials of the Bantu Affairs Administration Board requested officials of the Municipality of Bellville, to act in terms of the powers vested in them by Municipal by-laws and to demolish unauthorized structures.

(2) (a) and (b)

The number of families could not be established but, the number of shacks was estimated at 100 and later 180 families were taken up in Nyanga Urban Bantu Residential Area where site- and service facilities were offered to them.

*SENATOR WINCHESTER: Arising out of the reply to the question could the hon. the Minister tell me by whom the complaints were made?

*THE MINISTER OF NATIONAL EDUCATION: I suggest the hon. Senator tables his question.

Plakkers kry huise in Lansdowne

D.B. 26/2/75

Deur Ons Stadsverslaggewer

DIE Kaapse afdelingsraad gaan huisvesting en basiese geriewe aan bruin plakkers verskaf. Die huisvestingskomitee se aanbevelinge in dié verband is gister deur die raad aangeneem.

Die skema sal opgerig word op 'n terrein bekend as Lourdes-plaas, suid van Lansdowneweg. Dit behoort aan 'n groot boumaatskappy.

Die skema sal net vir bruinmense wees, en diensgeld sal gehef word van die mense in die skema om rente- en delgingskoste van basiese dienste te dek.

Die huisvestingskomitee beveel aan dat die skema begin word deur in die eerste plek die gebied Philippi skoon te maak. Sodra 'n gebied skoongemaak is van onwettige plakkers, moet alle struktuur wat daarna opgerig word, onmiddellik gesloop word.

VERVOLG

Grondeienaars wat onwettige plakkery op hul grond toelaat, sal vervolg word omdat die raad in staat sal wees om alternatiewe huisvesting aan te bied.

In die komitee se verslag word gemeld dat die raad se ingenieur, mnr. M. K. Botha, gesê het 'n toegangspad sal na die gebied gebou word. 'n Waterpyp sal aangelê en put- of emmerlatrines, na gelang van die aard van die terrein opgerig word.

Die raad het op sy vorige vergadering, op 28 januarie, in beginsel tot die oprigting van tydelike plakkerkampe onder strenge beheer besluit.

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Child dies in police raid

C.T. 1.3.75

A POLICE raid on a squatters' camp between Noordhoek and Kommetjie ended in tragedy on Wednesday afternoon when a seven-month-old baby boy was burnt alive in his sick-bed.

A senior police officer said yesterday that the infant's death was being investigated by the CID.

The area used by the squatters, both Coloured and African, is a desolate waste of sand and dense bush. The squatters were incensed by the incident when the Cape Times questioned them yesterday.

Eye-witnesses said that the police raided the area on Tuesday. They broke into some of the shacks and dragged out mattresses and furniture.

There was another raid on Wednesday afternoon when the baby's mother, Mrs Grace Gompa, was working in Noordhoek. The child, Michael, was ill and was left in charge of an African friend who ran into the bush when the police arrived, leaving the baby alone in the shack.

During the raid smoke was seen coming from Mrs Gompa's shack which then burst into flames. No one knows how the fire started. Among the charred remains in the shack yesterday were a double bed on which Michael was sleeping and some cooking utensils.

When Mrs Gompa returned home late yesterday afternoon she was told of the tragedy. The charred body of the child was removed by the police later in the evening.

HANSARD 6

14 March 1975

Q. column 472

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Eviction of squatters near Kommetjie

*12. Dr. F. VAN Z. SLABBERT asked the Minister of Police:

(1) Whether police were asked to assist in the eviction of squatters near Kommetjie in February 1974; if so, by which body;

(2) whether any shacks were burnt down; if so, (a) how many and (b) for what reason;

(3) whether any person was killed as a result of the eviction; if so, what person;

(4) whether any investigation has been made into the death of this person; if so, with what result.

†The MINISTER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS (for the Minister of Police):

The occurrence to which the hon. member is referring is probably the incident which took place in February 1975, and in respect whereof the required information is as follows:

(1) No.

(2) Yes.

(a) Two.

(b) The cause of the fire is still being investigated.

(3) Yes, an eight-months old Bantu child, Michael Gomba.

(4) Yes. Investigations have not yet been concluded.

Hansard 7 Q columns 551 – 552.
21 March 1975

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Squatters in Cape Town area

*11. Mr. C. W. EGLIN asked the Minister of Community Development:

(1) Whether there has been any increase or decrease since September 1974 in the number of Coloured families living as squatters in the areas of jurisdiction of the Cape Town City Council and the Cape Divisional Council; if so, what increase or decrease;

(2) whether any squatter camps have been cleared since September 1974; if so, (a) how many, (b) in which areas were they situated, (c) how many (i) families and (ii) persons were involved in each clearance and (d) what alternative accommodation was provided in each case;

(3) whether any steps have been taken by the two authorities concerned to provide site-and-service schemes for squatters; if so, what steps.

The MINISTER OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:

In view of the fact that data in respect of the Cape Peninsula area, which also includes a portion of the area of the Divisional Council of Stellenbosch, is available the data is furnished in respect of the first-mentioned area.

(1) There was a decrease as 1 103 squatter families were rehoused and subsequent to 15 November 1974 all measures have been taken by the three local authorities and my Department to prevent further illegal squatting taking place.

(2) Yes.

(a) 4 completely cleared and others, e.g. the large camp near Kraaifontein, by two thirds. Clearance work has also been undertaken in some of the other concentrations as well.

(b) Newfields—183 shacks; Consort Road; Retreat—146 shacks; Lavender Hill—173 shacks; Botlary Road—114 shacks and other scattered areas.

(c) (i) and (ii) A total number of 1 103 families which represent approximately 6 000 to 7 000 souls and which emanate from all the said places.

(d) Dwellings in Scottsdene, Elsies River, Macassar, Nooitgedacht and in certain other housing schemes including temporary housing to which I shall refer in paragraph 3.

(3) Site-and-service schemes have not been provided but the City Council of Cape Town has appropriated an amount of R233 000 for the provision of sanitation, water, roads and street lights at "Vrygrond" and the Divisional Council is making use of temporary housing at Elsies River to house shackdwellers and squatters until such time as they can be settled in schemes, as they are completed, which are at present under construction. There are ±3 000 dwelling units under construction in Elsies River alone.

HANSARD 9 Q. column 673
11 April 1975.

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Possessions of illegal squatters

*12. Dr. F. VAN Z. SLABBERT asked the Minister of Bantu Administration and Development:

(1) Whether instructions have been given to officials of his Department about the method of dealing with building materials and other possessions of illegal squatters when they are evicted; if so, (a) what was the purport of the instructions and (b) when were the instructions given; if not,

(2) whether consideration will be given to issuing such instructions.

†The DEPUTY MINISTER OF BANTU DEVELOPMENT:

(1) No. (a) and (b) fall away.

(2) No.

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Typhoid threat to 100 000 Cape squatters

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Sunday Express 13/4/75

By BARRY STREEK

CAPE TOWN. — Threats of a typhoid outbreak loomed over the Cape Peninsula yesterday as growing numbers of people swelled the ranks of the more than 100 000 squatters living on the windswept Cape Flats.

In Parliament this week, the Deputy Minister of Bantu Administration Mr "Punt" Janson said hundreds of families had moved into the area near the D. F. Malan airport and had created conditions which, according to health authorities, constituted a health hazard for the entire Western Cape.

Unless steps were taken immediately, the influx of Black squatters could lead to an outbreak of typhoid.

In the camps, water was carried in buckets and there were no sanitary arrangements.

Squatters who were illegally in the Western Cape would not be allowed to remain, Mr Janson said in reply to a question from the leader of the Progressive Parthy, Mr Colin Eglin. But if a person was lawfully employed, he should get housing and services.

Threats of an outbreak of disease are being accompanied by an increasing incidence of crime. They are also highlighting the poverty and squalor in the squatter camps and leading to renewed calls for a crash housing programme.

Latest official information indicates there are more than 108 000 Coloured people and an unknown number of Africans living in the makeshift camps. There is a shortage of 61 000 houses for Coloureds alone.

Part of the high crime rate in the Western Cape is attributable to the squatter camps where violence is endemic. Over one recent weekend, for example, there were nine violent deaths and 273 assault victims.

The situation of the thousands in the camps has been deteriorating for some time.

Last month squatters at Hout Bay were left homeless after their homes had been bulldozed — but the SPCA looked after the 17 dogs removed from the shacks.

"It is a very sick society that can find homes for illegal dogs and leave people without shelter on the mountainside," a divisional councillor, Mr John Bridgman, said.

Now, the threat of disease, particularly typhoid, may herald urgent action.

It won't be a moment too soon.

HANSARD 11

25

Q. 809-810
April 1975

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Bantu squatter camp near D. F. Malan Airport

*12. Dr. F. VAN Z. SLABBERT asked the Minister of Bantu Administration and Development:

(1) How many shacks have been erected in the Bantu squatter camp beyond Nyanga East near the D.F. Malan Airport;

(2) how many (a) families and (b) persons are living in the camp;

(3) whether any shacks in the camp are to be demolished; if so, (a) how many and (b) when;

(4) whether eviction notices have been served on any occupiers; if so, (a) how many, (b) when were they served and (c) on what date have the occupiers to vacate their shacks;

(5) whether alternative accommodation has been offered to the occupiers of shacks to be demolished; if so, where; if not, why not.

†The MINISTER OF BATNU ADMINISTRATION AND DEVELOPMENT:

(1) 1 025.

(2) (a) 1 042.

(b) 3 850.

(3) Yes.

(a) All structures erected illegally.

(b) As soon as periods of notice have elapsed and arrangements have been made for the removal of Bantu illegally present to their places of residence in their respective homelands.

(4) Yes.

(a) 1 025.

(b) From 11 April 1975 daily until 23 April 1975.

(c) The notices served on 11 April elapse on 26 April 1975 and subsequent notices daily until 7 May 1975.

(5) No, because illegally present squatter families do not qualify for family housing within the prescribed area.

ARGUS 15/4/75

Typhoid clinic for squatters

15.4.75

DIVISIONAL COUNCIL health officials will begin typhoid immunisation on Thursday among nearly 2 000 squatters living in an illegal township near D. F. Malan Airport.

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'They are drinking water from a mains supply, which means the risks of a typhoid outbreak are not as great as they could be,' says the council's Medical Officer of Health, Dr Frank Mitchell.

But the area does have the potential requirements for an outbreak of the disease, he says.

'We have arranged to put our mobile clinic into the area on Thursday.

'Our health education staff has been operating in the area and a sanitary health programme has been on the go for some time,' the MOH said.

'We are also encouraging the people living in the area to bury their night soil and refuse.'

According to one report, the Regional Director of State Health Services, Dr N. le Roux, says that no cases of typhoid have been reported.

The conditions in the squatters' camp could easily lead to a typhoid outbreak or encourage other diseases, such as gastro-enteritis, he is reported to have said.

FACILITIES

In addition, employees of the Department of Bantu Administration are studying the situation to see what facilities should be provided.

The squatter families have been told by the Bantu Administration Board that they are there illegally and must therefore move within two weeks.

Housing the squatters

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By Maggie Rodger,
Secretary of the Civil Rights League

THERE is considerable public concern about the plight of the unfortunate people near the D. F. Malan Airport who are being harassed for illegal squatting. Some of the able-bodied men have rights to be in the Western Cape, some have none. All of them are working and are needed at their place of work, whether they are employed legally or illegally.

For lack of any place to live they have in their desperation erected pondoks in this area and have taken women to live with them, in some cases married to them, but in others not. Small children have been born and live there under shocking conditions of poverty and filth for there is no sanitation, rubbish removal or water laid on.

This problem is but another chapter in the long tale of the failure of authorities, local, regional and central, to understand and come to terms with the problem of industrialisation. Workers are wanted in the urban areas where the factories are placed, but nobody wants to accept the heavy and costly responsibility of providing housing and social services for them. They come in their thousands, crowd out the houses in the city, then begin to erect pondoks immediately outside the city boundaries and cause social and health problems.

Soon the local authority responsible decides to incorporate the area in order to root out the health hazard and people are then bulldozed out of shanties, endorsed back to homelands where there is only starvation awaiting them until they once again in sheer desperation go back to the town to earn some bread. There they repeat the performance and create another shanty town on the borders of the city.

Forty years ago it was Windermere until a public outcry caused this area to be incorporated in the City of Cape Town. The slum has become Factreton, but the people moved elsewhere. Thirty years ago it was Retreat between 6th and 8th Avenues, Cooks Bush and Blouvlei. Twenty years ago it was the Elsie's River area. Ten years ago it was the Valley of Plenty. Today it is Vryground where the Marina da Gama plays the Naboth's Vineyard story over again, and the area at the airport.

Each new pondok area uncovered by social workers and people with a conscience seems to be treated as if it were a completely new problem, never before met in South Africa. Newspapers react strongly to reflect public concern and the area is 'cleaned up' by sweeping the problem, not under the carpet, but further into the Cape Flats among the Port Jacksons where it cannot be seen. Nobody seems to remember that it has all happened before or that the basic problem has yet again been sidestepped.

It behoves us to remember that all this has happened before all over the industrialised world. The pondokkie problem started in England in the early 1800s when thousands of cottagers found they could no longer make a living in competition with the power of steam in the factories. Charles Dickens wrote movingly and dramatically about it all and there are constant references to the Hungry Forties.

The process repeated itself with monotonous regularity in France, Germany, Belgium, the Netherlands and in Italy. It moved across the Atlantic to the industrialised eastern seaboard of the United States where Americans are still trying to clear the problem.

The Civil Rights League believes that every man has the right to work and to seek work where he can find it, that every employer has the right to hire the employee of his choice by mutual agreement with the worker, and that every worker has the right to live in decency with his family around him.

The State is an instrument erected by society to order its interpersonal relationships and if the State, at the instigation of the society which created it, begins a process of industrialisation it must then face all the consequences of such a process.

It must realise that industrialisation concentrates large numbers of people at the growth points, that such people need housing, education, health and social services, and that it is the duty and the responsibility of the State to make the necessary provision. It must create a climate where it is possible for men, whatever their colour or race, to participate meaningfully in the process of developing their country and where it is possible for industry, commerce and finance to engage in the process of development without being hamstrung at every turn by pass laws, influx control, housing shortages and the social chaos which creates the terrible crime figures recently quoted for Cape Town.

Finally it must see to it that the public which it governs is made to face the consequences of its wish to develop, and to accept them.

REPRIEVE FOR SQUATTERS AS THEY AWAIT BULLDOZERS

Weekend Argus Reporter

ABOUT 4 000 squatters near D. F. Malan Airport waited today for bulldozers to move in and destroy their homes — but they were given a reprieve.

I was told by a senior official in the Department of Bantu Administration this week that no orders had been issued for the razing of this shanty town and nothing would be done until it could be done 'properly.'

The Minister of Bantu Administration and Development, Mr M. C. Botha, said in Parliament this week that 1 025 shanties in the area would be demolished as soon as periods of notice had elapsed.

Between April 11 and April 23 more than 1 000 notices were served on the squatters — the first of these notices expired today and the others will expire daily until May 7.

WATER LINES

Even though eviction notices were being served last week, workmen from the Department of Bantu Administration laid on water lines and constructed latrines for use by the squatters.

Meanwhile a party of 60 concerned people is to visit the site by bus on Monday. This visit is an attempt by the Progressive Party to educate people about the squatter situation.

Mr Neil Ross, information officer for the Progressive Party, said: 'We do not intend to interfere in any way. We will simply be there in an observer capacity. Many people have



THEY EVEN HAVE SHOPS operating at the squatter camp nea Malan Airport. Here, a young woman tries to entice potential with sweets, tobacco, canned foods and soap.

camp. At the same time it will not be a zoo outing.'

Today squatters said there was nothing they could do. They had nowhere to move and for that reason they would certainly not move out.

'We will simply have to wait for the bulldozers,' one said.

They seemed pleased that water had been laid on.

CAPE TIMES
28/4/75

a typical [illegible]

"I'm fully qualified," he said proudly, meaning that as an African from the Transkei he was qualified to live in the Peninsula.

He said he arrived at the camp some weeks ago after being bulldozed out of his last makeshift home near Kraaifontein. He pointed to his Coloured wife and their three children and the shanty he had built on a mound of sand. It was not much bigger than his car, which was parked beside the shanty.

GOOD JOB

"I've got a good job, I've got a car, I've got plenty of money but I've got nowhere to live. If they force us to move from here we'll just go and live somewhere else. We can build our houses as fast as they can knock them down. We have a good community spirit; everyone helps."

He said everyone living in the area had been given notice to move. It was a piece of white paper from the Bantu Affairs Administration Board and it began "Dear Sir/Madam."

It said that they had illegally entered the area without the permission of the owner, that they had erected an unauthorized structure which did not conform to the provisions of the Public Health Act and that their continued presence was likely to create a serious health problem.

"You are therefore warned to remove this structure, yourself, all dependants and all persons who reside with you on the above referred property within 14 days of the date of issue of this notice."

Mr Wilson Mbabo and others who had gathered round all roared with laughter.

At least the morale is high at the D F Malan squatters' camp.

uatters' camp

very short time. The people are not vagrants or drop-outs. Most of them have jobs and wives and children to support. Most of them have money. Many of them run cars and listen to transistor radios.

The shacks they live in have been knocked together with corrugated iron sheeting, wood, cardboard, plastic materials, flattened paraffin tins, anything they can get hold of.

A sort of main street has been carved out of the dense bush and on either side of it are rows of shanties built in a number of haphazard styles. Some people have even marked off little plots for themselves.

Yesterday men gathered in groups smoking and chatting, women drew wa-

Continued on page 3

(293)

Haunting faces at

Cape Times 28/4/75

Cape Times Reporter

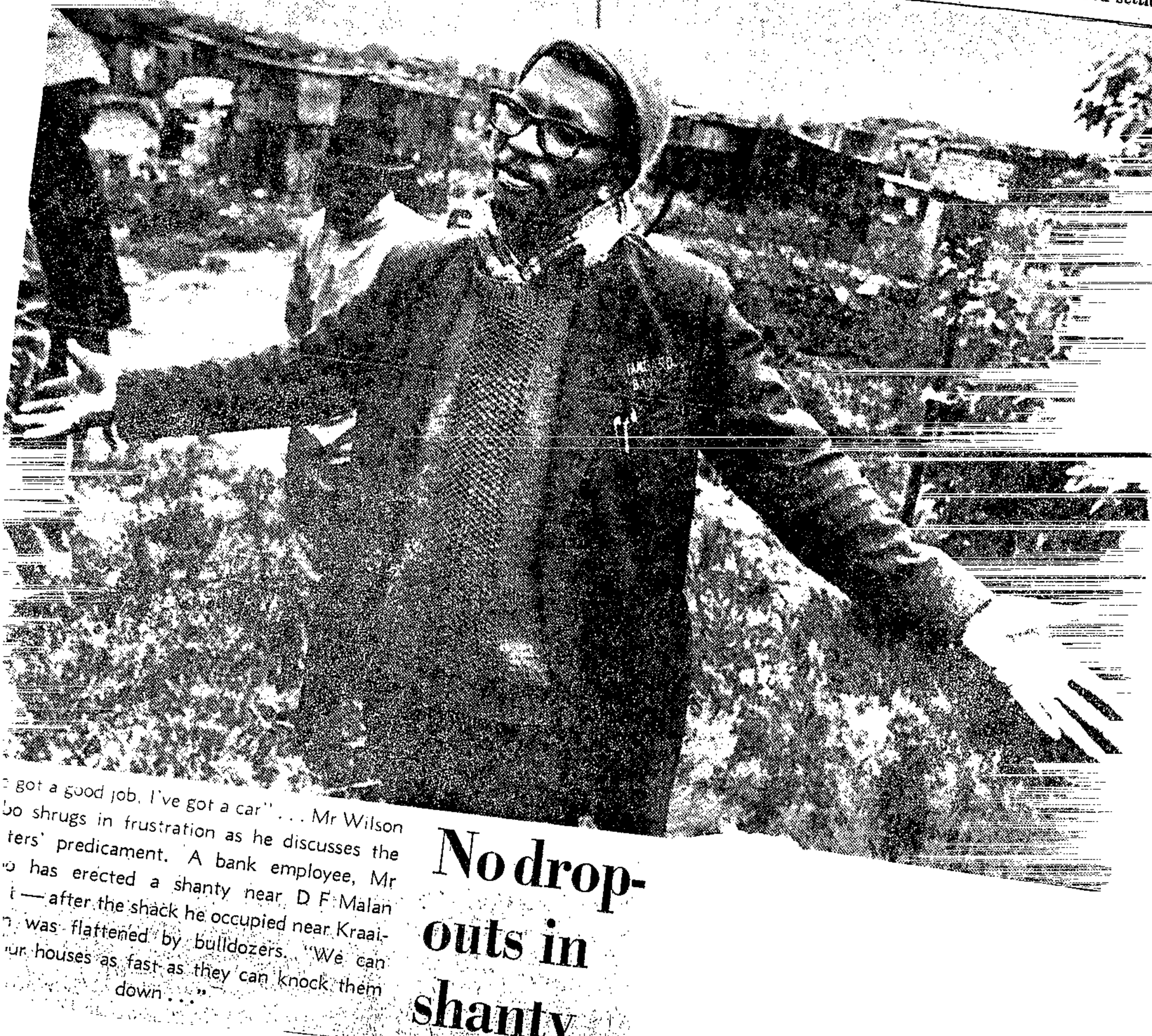
THERE is something about a squatters' camp that hits you right between the eyes, no matter what the law says. It is the quiet determination of decent, hard-working people to live with some form of shelter over their heads.

And the haunting faces of a wife and her children in the background turns their resolve into an absolute right.

The 4 000-odd squatters who have erected all kinds of shanties near D F Malan Airport in the last couple of months are there because they were forced to move from somewhere else.

Forced removal hasn't helped them or the authorities. Although they have been given a temporary reprieve, another forced removal hangs over their heads and if that happens they'll go and squat where else.

The irony about camp is that it has on the appearance of established settlement



got a good job, I've got a car" . . . Mr Wilson bo shrugs in frustration as he discusses the ters' predicament. A bank employee, Mr o has erected a shanty near D F Malan t — after the shack he occupied near Kraai- was flattened by bulldozers. "We can ur houses as fast as they can knock them down . . ."

No drop-outs in shanty village

Continued from page 1

ter from one of the three taps provided and there were children everywhere. Everyone seemed friendly and cheerful. They were grateful to be left there for a little longer.

Mr Wilson Mbabo, who has worked for the Standard Bank (Plein Street Branch) for 20 ye

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TERUG NA TUISLANDE

Plakkers kry ultimatum

Die Burger 2/5/75

23 2/5/75

ALTESAME 142 swartmans en -vroue is gisteroggend vroeg deur amptenare van die Bantoesake-administrasieraad en die polisie in hegtenis geneem by die Crossroads-plakkerskamp, naby die lughawe D. F. Malan.

Die mans is oorwegend daarvan beskuldig dat hulle hul gesinne onwettig in dié gebied gehuisves het. Party gebied gehuisves en die vrou dat hulle die gebied onwettig binnegekom het. Party van die aangehoudenes het gistermiddag voor die Bantoesake-kommissaris in Langa verskyn, en ander in die landdroshof in Athlone.

Die swartmense is aangekla ingevolge die Stadsgebiedewet.

Nege-en-dertig mans is aangekla ingevolge Art. II, wat die inbring van ongemagtigde persone in blanke stedelike gebiede verbied of ingevolge Art. 10 (4) a, wat bepaal dat niemand blanke gebiede mag binnekom sonder die nodige magtiging nie.

Nog 29 mans is aangekla weens die betreding van private eiendom. In die geval van Crossroads behoort die grond aan die administrasieraad.

Altesame 65 vroue is weens ongemagtigde binnekoms van blanke gebiede aangekla.

ONTSLAAN

In Athlone is vyf mans skuldig bevind op aanklag van die betreding van private eiendom. Hulle is gevonnis tot R20 of twintig dae. Twee vroue wat op dieselfde aanklag verskyn het, is skuldig bevind, en gewaarsku en ontslaan.

Altesame 34 mans is skuldig bevind ingevolge Art. 2. Hulle is gevonnis tot R30 of dertig dae, opgeskort vir twaalf maande en op voorwaarde dat hulle voor of op 22 Mei hul gesinne na die tuislande terugstuur.

Volgens mnr. A. McLachlan, sekretaris van die Bantoesake-administrasieraad, het die klopjag gisteroggend om halfvyf begin, en is daar geen weerstand gebied nie. Hy het gesê daar sal na verwagting in die toekoms soort-

gekom het nie. 'n volledige verslag oor sy toestand en behandeling word aan die welsynsorganisasie in sy woongebied verskaf en indien nodig gaan behandeling voort.

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Plan to rid Constantia of squatters

Argus 15.5.1975

A LIVELY meeting of the Land Owners' Association, attended by nearly 400 Constantia residents, voted overwhelmingly last night for the establishment of a special committee to report to Parliament on illegal African squatters and labour in the area — a problem which they believe was directly related to Constantia's increasing crime rate.

The residents, who more than filled the small Church of Christ Hall in which the meeting was held, rejected street lighting as a solution to the problem underlined by the unsolved killing earlier this month of Mr J. Ince.

Street lighting would be costly and unsuitable for the area, they said.

Mr Ince's death is the latest in a series of 10 assaults on people in the area this year.

The meeting strongly supported:

- Strengthening the police reserve units in the area.
- Helping the regular police force by reporting undesirable or suspicious individuals in the area.
- The establishment of a stand-by force of about 10 Constantia residents who would help in an emergency.
- The elimination of illegal African squatters in Constantia.
- The establishment of a Xhosa police force to help to solve the problem.

WAYS TO HELP

Mr David Baxter, MP for Constantia, told residents the problem was primarily the responsibility of the police and there were several ways in which the force could be helped.

'The illegal employment of Africans — those who do not hold passes and the illegal accommodation of these Africans — which I know is taking place on a fairly wide scale, is attracting more illegal Africans, vagrants and undesirable types to the area.

'I know it will cause hardships, but there are legal ways of employing labour — the contract system, for example,' Mr Baxter said.

'The next step is to stop housing people illegally on private properties — which is also being done on a large scale.

'You may be harbouring criminals who are responsible for our problems. evidence if necessary,' Mr Baxter said.

He appealed to those eligible to join the police reserve unit in the area. This would help the regular police force, which is short-staffed.

'I know that street lighting is not a practicality but we can illuminate our own properties. I would also suggest the ownership of fierce watchdogs.'

Also present at the meeting — and the target of considerable heckling from residents — was Divisional Council member, Mr John Bridgeman.

He declined to address the meeting on the crime problem, but said the problem of squatters was related to the shortage of houses.

The council would deal only with Coloured squatters and not Africans, who were handled by the Bantu Affairs Board, he said.

A senior police officer from the area, Captain E Trautmann, gave residents a lucid explanation of the duties of police reservists.

He warned an obviously excited meeting: 'Don't let us become trigger happy.'

HANSARD 16 Q 1069-70

30 MAY 1975

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Squatter shacks burnt down at Kommetjie

*10. Mrs. H. SUZMAN asked the Minister of Police:

(1) Whether the police have completed their investigations into the (a) cause of the fire in which two squatter shacks were burnt down at Kommetjie in February 1975 and (b) death of a Bantu child in the fire; if so, what were their findings;

(2) whether any steps have been taken as a result of the findings; if so, what steps.

The MINISTER OF POLICE:

(1) (a) and (b) Yes. The docket was referred to the Attorney-General who decided that an inquest was to be held. The inquest was held on 29 May 1975, and the magistrate's finding was that from the evidence no liability could be determined. The finding will be referred to the Attorney-General.

(2) Falls away.

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New approach to squatters by Govt

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.—The Government had developed a totally new approach to the squatter problem in the Western Cape, the Minister of Community Development, Mr A. H. du Plessis, said in the Assembly yesterday.

Replying to the debate of his Department's Vote in committee on the Appropriation Bill, the Minister said the squatters were being given a new deal by the Department.

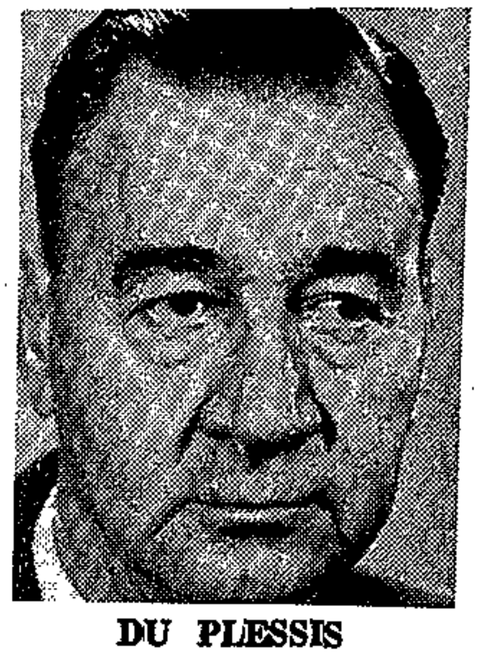
From August to March this year more than 1 100 squatter families had been housed as the new policy got under way.

A quarter of these houses had been built with funds from his Department on which it was paying interest. The remainder had been built by local authorities.

The Minister agreed that there was a backlog in Coloured housing but said this was slowly being eradicated. In fact, a reasonable man would accept that the Department was doing more for the Coloured people than it was for the Whites.

The planned spending for the coming year was R30,5-million on Whites, R 36,75-million on Coloureds, R12-million on Asiatics and about R5,5-million on Africans.

When one considered that White houses were appreciably more expensive than Coloured houses it could be seen what was being done for the Coloureds.



DU PLESSIS
. . . squatters

It had been calculated that 5 000 housing units a year had to be built to keep up with the population increase among the Coloured people. As nearly 8 000 houses were being completed a year the backlog was therefore being eliminated.

The Minister said, however, that the State did not have the primary responsibility to provide roofs over peoples' heads. State responsibility only came third on the list.

The Minister said that the overall housing position in South Africa could be described as under control. It was weaker with regard to the Indian population and he would describe the position regarding the Coloureds as most undesirable as there was a considerable backlog. — Sapa.

Cape Times 3/6/75

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Munnik: Control can solve shanty problem

DR L A P A MUNNIK, the new Administrator of the Cape who assumed office yesterday, said at a press conference that the uncontrolled movement of scores of Coloured families from the country areas to the Peninsula was as much a part of the squatter problem as the lack of accommodation.

Dr Munnik said that housing was only one side of the problem and its solution. The other side was lack of control over the movement of Coloured people in the Cape. Many were arriving in the Peninsula without accommodation or work.

It was a continuous process. As one lot of squatters were housed, others moved in to take their place. People living in the country areas should be advised to stay there before drifting to the cities.

"I feel that the Coloured leaders have a big responsibility to advise their people to make quite sure that they have accommodation before moving."

This applied not only to Coloured people but to Whites as well. There was also a White housing shortage.

Dr Munnik said that with the retirement of Mr Vosloo, Capab was at the moment without a chairman. As Mr Vosloo's successor he did not automatically become chairman. This was an appointment that had to be made by the Minister.

"Capab is controlled by a board of directors. It is a company and is registered as such. It has a chairman who in the past has been the Administrator. But technically there is no chairman at the moment.

"I do not feel inclined to sit on that body as chairman when decisions are taken which will be referred back to me in a higher capacity. As chairman of Capab I might agree to something that my executive committee will turn down.

"But if it is in the real interests of the province I will have to discuss the matter with the Minister of National Education."

Dr Munnik said the province was setting an example to private business firms in Cape Town by providing canteen and restroom facilities for Black staff, both in provincial buildings and in the Roads Department premises in Alfred Street.

Blacks working in the city should not have to eat their lunches sitting on steps and pavements and he hoped that private firms would provide restroom amenities before the Government forced them to do so.

He was keen on environmental matters and he would do everything he could to make sure that there was a proper balance between conservation and development.

As Administrator he had no intention of getting too deeply involved in the hurly-burly of politics. "I do not want to get mixed up in political fighting and I take it for granted that the political groups in the Provincial Council will not involve me into anything like that. I certainly will not look for fights. I see my job as an administrator. The policy side of it has already been laid down by the Government."

Cape Times 4/6/75

Influx: Leon plea for better deal

(293)

MR SONNY LEON, chairman of the Coloured Representative Council, said yesterday that the only way to stop the flow of Coloured people to cities such as Cape Town was to give them a better deal in the country.

Mr Leon was reacting to remarks made by Dr L A P A Munnik, the new Administrator of the Cape, at a press conference on Monday.

Dr Munnik had said the uncontrolled movement of Coloured families to the cities was one of the causes of the squatter problem. Coloured leaders had a role to play in persuading their people not to flock to the cities.

Mr Leon said: "How are we expected to do this when there are better jobs and employment conditions in the cities?"

White people had left



Mr Sonny Leon

their farms in charge of Blacks so that they could move to the towns.

"Surely Dr Munnik does not expect our people to go on existing in conditions that are close to slavery on some farms."

There should be legislation compelling farmers to pay decent wages, but the recent emphasis on cash wages had resulted in some farmers paying their workers more but cutting down on rations.

"This problem exists throughout the country, though some farmers have done a lot to improve the wages and accommodation of their workers. Their farms are still thriving and it shows what can be done."

Better treatment of workers, Mr Leon said, led to improved productivity.

"The only way to keep people in the country is to make sure they have a better deal in the country than they have in the city."

Dr Munnik said yesterday that he did not feel it was necessary to elaborate on his remarks, but he certainly did not have a form of influx control in mind when he spoke of control of the flow to the cities. He looked at the problem in the same way as the movement of White people from the country areas.

Squatters protest as removal begins

(293) ARGUS 5/6/75

A CROWD of African women sang and clapped their hands in protest today as officials from the Bantu Affairs Administration Board launched an operation to move illegal squatters from the Crossroads shanty township near D. F. Malan Airport to the Transkei.

Later, several hundred Africans — mainly women and children — watched in silence as officials pulled down at least four shanty huts and loaded furniture on a large truck.

While one house was being demolished today a group of policemen arrived.

Almost immediately, an African woman began to shout and she was soon joined by about 15 other clapping and singing women.

The Athlone District Commandant, Colonel J. H. Vorster, said officials of the board asked for police protection after an African minister had addressed the squatter and they started singing

200 000 squatters?

Cape Times 9/6/75 - 093

By TONY ROBINSON

THE NUMBER of people living under squatter conditions in the Greater Cape Town area could be as high as 200 000.

This figure has to be an estimate as no comprehensive official figures are available for the area.

The last major study of the problem was undertaken in 1972 by Professor S P Cilliers, head of the Department of Sociology at the University of Stellenbosch. In his report on the housing crisis, published in November 1972, he said there were 173 000 squatters. And this week Professor Cilliers said the position had worsened since his study was made.

Other sociologists and town planning experts put the present figure at about 200 000, one estimate going as high as 225 000. Nobody really knows.

The most recent official figure released came from the Minister of Planning and the Environment in response to a question in Parliament. The Minister said there were 21 700 squatter families representing about 108 500 people, but this is clearly a very conservative figure.

It applies only to Coloured squatters in the Cape Town municipal area and the Divisional Council areas of Cape Town and Stellenbosch. It does not include squatters from other municipal areas like Parow and Bellville.

The figure is based on a squatter family size of five. Sociologists put the figure somewhere between six and seven.

Figures released last week by the Cape Town City Council indicate that the council accepts six as the size of the average family. On this basis three would be 130 000 and not 108 500 people in the 21 700 families mentioned by the Minister, but the figure could be even higher.

Prof Cilliers points out that there are different definitions of squatters. His survey included back yard squatters and people living in squatting conditions but the official figures were based on a tighter definition and described mainly people living in shacks in squatter camps or in the bush.

The number of African squatters is unknown. The recent City Council survey estimated that there were 1 000 African squatter families in the municipal area alone.

STARTLING

When all these factors are taken into account it becomes clear that the number of squatters and people living in squatting conditions in the whole of the Greater Cape Town area is considerably larger than is officially admitted. The startling estimate of 200 000 could be near the truth.

It represents a huge problem for the Cape, one that has existed since the turn of the century when a commission was appointed to report on the shanty problem.

In 1932 the problem was serious enough to cause the visiting Irish playwright Bernard Shaw to remark: "What you must do is to abolish your slums, for which, let me tell you, Cape Town deserves to be destroyed by fire from heaven."

The problem continued to grow during the years of post-war urbanization and in more recent years it has been worsened by Group Areas removals.

'Home' at Crossroads is a tin shanty

ARGUS 5/6/75 (293)

Bitter? 'No, mister, I just want to be with Thandanani and my wife. She is so sick'

'MAIN ROAD,' Crossroads on a weekday morning is a deserted place. It is also muddy, filthy and it stinks. But for 1 000 Black families it is home.

Families like 29-year-old Doris Fani, her husband, Frank, and their two-year-old son, Thandanani

For them 'home' — as it is for the rest of the inhabitants of one of Cape Town's biggest squatter camps — is a tin shanty.

Here, with no tapped water, electricity, heating or sufficient food, they await winter's coldest months.

By Owen Barnard

Pictures: Simon McBride



THE FANI FAMILY is one of the 70 000 to 100 000 squatters estimated to be living in shanties around the Peninsula. Pictured (from left) are Mr Frank Fani (42), his two-year-old son Thandanani and his wife Doris (29).

And here, hidden behind the Port Jackson trees where the roads from D. F. Malan Airport and Nyanga cross, they await the destruction of their family home.

This is the Fani family's story.

The day for Doris Fani, who came to Cape Town from Natal in 1966 after a tribal wedding to Frank, begins at 6 am.

Stiff with cold, the walls and roof of their self-built shanty are of corrugated iron, she gets up to make her husband tea on a paraffin stove.

It is dark and very quiet.

Frank Fani leaves for work at 6.30. He is a 42-year-old Zulu who has been working in Cape Town since 1954. And since then he has been living in a shanty. He is a 'legal' resident and earns R20 a week as a labourer.

With her husband off to work — he catches the bus from Nyanga terminus to Epping — Doris sits and waits for dawn. She doesn't say much — it is too cold.

At dawn she and Thandanani plod 400m down the muddy, filth-strewn 'Main Road' to a tap for some water.

One by one, in thin jerseys, ill-fitting coats and blankets, other women leave their shanties to queue up for a drum of water.

This is used during the day for washing, cooking food and drinking.

TOO WEAK

ABG
5/6/75
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The ... is cold. Doris, six months' pregnant, can't chop wood. The sun at 8.30 am is too weak to thaw the cold.

The rest of the day is spent aimlessly cleaning the shanty, washing clothes and waiting. Small children play in the bush and pools of water.

Doris is very quiet. She says she doesn't feel well.

Frank Fani gets home at 7 o'clock each evening. He does the shopping now. Dinner, the night we were there, consisted of boiled potatoes and pumpkin. Meat is for Sundays only.

Then we talk. In the background a cheap radio blares out a Bantu programme.

Mr Fani says: 'Life is hard here, mister.'

He explains that since he got married they have been living in such a mess.

HID DORIS

'First I hid Doris among the "Brown people" at Elsie's River. They want to send her to the homelands.

'Then we moved to Steenberg — it cost me R25 for a van. In April we moved from Steenberg to here — that cost R18.'

His wife, he says, is very ill. With the birth of their previous two children — both now with his mother in KwaZulu — there were complications.

Why do they squat?

'My wife is illegal,' he says. 'The police have already arrested us. On June 9 they will break down this house. We can't get a council house. They don't want to know us. They say my wife must leave Cape Town — so we hide in the bushes.'

How does he feel about life — bitter?

'No, mister. I just want to be with Thandanani and my wife. She is so sick. The hospitals are good here.'

Doris smiles and says it is getting colder. The paraffin in the lamp is getting low too.

Bedtime. The three of them share a makeshift bed. The strips of linoleum on the floor are ice cold. Water runs down the side of the walls papered with cigarette advertisements.

The smell from the veld toilets is nauseating. Crossroads sleeps fitfully. Tomorrow is another day.

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Fish Hoek objects to squatters

C.T. 19/11/76

Cape Times Reporter

THE Fish Hoek Town Council has asked the local police to take action against a large number of squatters and vagrants who have moved into the Silvermine area.

According to the Town Clerk, Mr E H Fry, a large number of squatters recently moved into the area.

"We have also asked the police to find out why the squatters are moving to the Fish Hoek area," Mr Fry said yesterday.

A spokesman for the Fish Hoek police confirmed that the matter was under investigation.

ARGUS 11/6/75 27

Z98

MPs questions answered

Squatters ordered to homeland

The Argus Political Correspondent

FORTY-ONE men and 293 women living in the Crossroads squatter camp near Bellville have been convicted of being in the area illegally, the Deputy Minister of Bantu Affairs, Mr W. A. Cruywagen, told the Assembly yesterday.

Answering questions put to him by Dr F. van Z. Slabbert (Prog, Rondebosch), Mr Cruywagen said that they had been ordered to return to the homelands. No financial assistance had been given to the men but rail warrants, cartage facilities and food rations were given to 14 women.

The Minister of Community Development, Mr A. H. du Plessis, told Mr C. W. Eglin (Prog, Sea Point) that 2 556 Coloured and 162 Indian families still had to be moved from the District Six area, declared a White group area.

BLACK JOBS: The Minister of Bantu Administration and Development (Mr M. C. Botha) said in a written answer to Dr Slabbert that more than 400 000 foreign Africans were employed in South Africa.

Mr Botha gave the following figures of registered foreign and local African workers:

Mining and quarrying: 416 745 foreign Africans and 222 225 South African Black workers; manufacturing, 11 923 (674 926 SA Black workers); agriculture 24 500 (445 760); construction 19 150 (341 855); wholesale trade and retail, 3 385 (294 390); Government services, 10 358 (413 246); domestic servants 9 208 (567 716); miscellaneous, 5 526 (312 266).

FUEL SAVING: Mr Heunis told Mr I. Aronson (U.P., Walmer) that he was awaiting representations from the motor industry on ways to make fuel saving a consideration in car design.

At a motor trade conference of the Afrikaanse Handelsinstituut recently Mr Heunis said he emphasised the need to conserve fuel and the necessity of the approach of both the motorist and the manufacturer to car design.

'I mentioned that with the adjustments of car design I meant mainly the engine, transmission and driving shaft.'

The Minister said the major part of the spent fuel elements would be suitable for re-processing, while the small quantities of solid wastes which would contain minimal quantities or radio-active material would be stored safely in special bunkers at localities far away in the extensive power station site.

'An extremely high measure of security will be maintained and the area will be monitored regularly to ensure that no pollution of the environment takes place,' the Minister added.

Mr Heunis said that 2 931ha and 30 erven had been bought at Duynefontein at a cost of R771 000.

No enriched uranium oxide would be used as fuel. The capacity for the first two phases was 900 to 1 000 megawatt each.

The estimated contract value of the station in 1975 monetary values was R600-million.

The first phase would come into operation about September 1982 and the second phase in September 1983.

NUCLEAR POWER: The Minister of Economic Affairs, Mr J. C. Heunis, told Mr Eglin that the need to re-process spent fuel elements at the Duynefontein nuclear power station on the West coast would arise only in 1983.

HANSARD 18

Q. 1117-18

10 June 1975.

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Crossroads squatter camp

*4. Dr. F. VAN Z. SLABBERT asked the Minister of Bantu Administration and Development:

(1) How many (a) males and (b) females in the Crossroads squatter camp near Bellville have been (a) charged with and (b) convicted of being in the area illegally;

(2) how many of the convicted (a) males and (b) females (i) have been ordered to return to their homelands and (ii) were given financial assistance to do so.

†The DEPUTY MINISTER OF BANTU AFFAIRS:

(1) (a) (i) 41.

(ii) 41.

(b) (i) 307.

(ii) 293.

(2) (a) (i) 41.

(ii) Thus far—Nil.

(b) (i) 293.

(ii) Thus far assistance in the form of rail warrants, cartage of personal belongings and food rations has been rendered to 14 of the females in (b)(i).

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RP plea for Black homes

12/6/75

The Argus Political Correspondent

THE Reform Party today called on the authorities to build family dwellings for Africans in the Peninsula as a matter of urgency.

Mr H. Schwarz, party leader, said the party's parliamentarians had from time to time consulted leading figures in the urban Black community of the Western Cape.

Particular attention had been given to housing and educational needs, local Government structure and the feeling of security of the Black people.

This week the party's representatives had met senior officials of the Bantu Administration Board.

LAND

No family dwellings for Africans had been built for some time and no plans had been submitted to obtain loans, Mr Schwarz said.

Land had been set aside for accommodation for single persons, to be built by employers. There were plans to build more than 5 000 single units.

This could meet urgent labour problems but had already been shown that single accommodation created social problems. The real need was for family accommodation.

A major reason for the Black squatter situation was the desire of African men to have their wives and children with them.

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Cape Times 26/6/75

Police watch shanty demo

INTENSE police interest was displayed in a group of students of the University of the Western Cape who, organized by the South African Students' Organization, put up placards on behalf of squatters in Klipfontein Road, Athlone, yesterday.

Posters — reading "People are people, not pigs", "Squatters need support", "Squatters on our own land", "People are living here" and "Cape Town City Council lives — so let live" — were exhibited throughout the day on a site on which Saso students had built a shanty for two families.

Shortly before lunch-time yesterday a Mr Muller, who said he was a City Council ranger, paid a brief visit to the placard-surrounded site in Surrey Estate, Athlone, near the Nico Malan Training College for nurses.

Soon afterwards uniformed police arrived in a van. They removed the posters, which had been attached to GPO poles. The students, about 10, promptly made new posters.

FUNDS

A student spokesman, Mr Alan Liebenberg, told the Cape Times yesterday that the City Council had ordered the shanty to be demolished by yesterday. The shanty had been built with funds collected from students on the UWC campus last week.

After lunch two cars with uniformed police — one vehicle containing an officer who said he was the District Commandant of Police for Athlone — arrived on the scene. A sergeant in the other car took pictures of students, one of whom was nailing a placard to a tree. The students paid little attention to the police.

Just before 4pm another car pulled up with two men, one of whom took photographs of placards. Asked by the president of the UWC Student Representative Council, Mr Richard Stevens, to identify himself, the photographer said he was taking pictures "for the police".

The students had expected the City Council demolition squad to arrive by 2pm to evict the squatters from the shanty erected by the students. When, by late afternoon, this had not happened, the students decided that they would keep an all-night vigil at the shanty.

If the squatters were evicted, the students said, they intended finding an alternative site and again put up the shanty.

Housing officials could not be contacted yesterday, but student spokesman Alan Liebenberg said that a City Council spokesman had told them in a telephone interview that the housing authorities knew nothing of the student-built shanty.

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Shanty demo: Six fined

Cape Times 30/6/75

SIX PEOPLE paid R5 admission of guilt fines in Athlone on Saturday for holding an illegal meeting.

A police spokesman said a demonstration was held on an open piece of land in Klipfontein Road, Athlone, near where two families of squatters were living.

One of the shacks in which the families were living had been demolished and people, believed to be members of the SA Students' Association, arrived on Saturday afternoon with placards protesting against this.

Police arrested six men on charges of holding a meeting without the permission of the City Council.

They were taken to the Athlone police station where they paid the fines and were released.

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2 squatters get interdict

Cape Times 30/6/75

By MARIKA BENDER

TWO SQUATTERS and their families at Crossroads, Nyanga East, were granted an urgent interdict by Mr Justice van Winsen yesterday, restraining the Bantu Affairs Administration Board from demolishing their pondoks today.

The two men who made the application, Mr Mxoxozi Headman Mteteli, who lives at the camp with his wife and six children, and Mr Velisi Kolisi, who lives there with his three children.

In an affidavit before the court, Mr Mteteli said that he and his family lived at a squatter camp, Brown's Camp near Nyanga East, in February this year.

"We were told by people, whom I believe to be officials, that we must move. They told my wife that we must move to Crossroads which was apparently set aside for Bantu.

"I am qualified to remain in the prescribed area of the Cape Peninsula. The place, Crossroads where I am presently living is also within the prescribed area."

Mr Mteteli said that he moved with his family to Crossroads in February, and built a pondok from wood and iron.

"Although uniformed inspectors of the Bantu Affairs Administration Board used to patrol the area often, they did not interfere with my building, and until recently, never ordered me to remove it," he said.

Mr Mteteli said that in April 1975 he received a notice from the Board to demolish his pondok within 14 days.

"I did not comply with the notice. I and my family have nowhere else to go. We were ordered to leave our last place of residence and move to Crossroads," he said.

In a supporting affidavit, Mrs Vivienne Mamvelasi Mteteli told the court that after their shack had been erected, the authorities had provided facilities such as toilets.

Evicted

"Certain health precautions were taken in that families resident in the area were vaccinated.

"On June 25, 1975, I was notified verbally by an inspector employed by the board that if we did not leave the area and demolish our shack, inspectors would demolish it on Monday, June 30, and we would be forcibly evicted," she said.

Mr Velisi Kolisi, the second applicant, said that he moved to Crossroads from Elsie's River where he had been residing and which was declared a Coloured area, with his three children, in April this year.

"I set up a wood and iron structure and it was numbered 32 by workmen under the supervision of inspectors who visited the site."

Mr Kolisi told the court that he received a written notice from one of the Board inspectors on April 15 this year telling him to demolish and leave within 14 days, failing which legal action would be taken.

Demolished

"In spite of this notice, I continued to reside at Crossroads, and although board employees started demolishing structures in the area from about May 1975, my structure was left intact.

"On June 17, I was verbally informed by one of the inspectors that my structure would be demolished on June 30 should I fail to demolish the structure myself.

"I submit that should the board demolish our

would not have anywhere to go, in that there is an acute housing shortage in the locations in Cape Town," he said.

Mr A Machlan, director of the Bantu Affairs Administration Board, refused to answer the telephone yesterday afternoon, relaying a message that he was "off duty".

Brigadier J H van der Westhuizen, chairman of the Board, was unavailable for comment late yesterday.

The return date of the application is August 5.

Fuller, Moore and Son represented the squatters.

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ARGUS 3/7/75

Committee will hold meeting on shanty dwellers

THE Cape Flats Committee for Interim Accommodation, an organisation launched to put the squatter problem under the spotlight, will examine the plight of shanty dwellers at a public meeting in the Elsie's River Civic Centre on July 8.

Mr Rommel Roberts, one of the founders of the association, said it had conducted an intense survey of shanty dwellers' problems since its establishment in May.

'We have embarked on a fact-finding mission to uncover problems faced by shanty dwellers in an attempt to alleviate the squatter problem,' he said.

'We think everything that has to be said about the problem has been said. All academic arguments and counter arguments have been exhausted and all possible philosophies expounded on the matter.

FAR-OFF

'We believe we can make a meaningful contribution in finding a solution to the problem. But we accept that the squatter problem will be with us for a long time because there is no instant solution to the housing shortage backlog.

'What we will try to do is work out a plan to bring interim relief to these human beings while they are waiting for the far-off day when they will be properly housed.'

Mr Roberts launched the association with two other organisers, Mr Tommy Pearson and Mr Peter Johnson. It is headed by a steering committee which includes Mr Roberts, Mr Pearson, Mr Johnson, Professor S. P. Cilliers Mr D. Fitnum, Mr W. Thomas and the Rev D. Adendorff.

Court is told of go-slow on squatters

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Cape Times

AN Athlone magistrate, hearing the trial ter, said yesterday that when the Bantu Board first realized there were squatter wanted to clear the camp immediately.



Mrs Amelia Ndomase — on the result of her trial depends the fate of 16 other Crossroads squatters.

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'Farming pondoks' is big business

ARGUS 11/7/75

The Argus Municipal Reporter

'PONDOK farming' in the Peninsula could be something like a R50 000-a-month business. And for most of the private landlords who collect rents from squatter families, it's probably tax-free.

Proving this income from human misery, even in a court of law, is almost impossible, the Cape Town City Council has been told.

Landlords could deny that they collect rents from the shanty families. They probably don't keep records of rents brought in. And the squatters would probably back the landowners' denials for fear of being kicked off the land.

This, says the Town Clerk, Mr H. G. Heugh, is why legislation — even if adopted — could not force landlords to provide basic facilities, like toilets and water, before they collect rent from squatters.

TOO MANY

In a report to the city council's executive committee this week Mr Heugh said the Slums Act and Municpal Tent and Building by-laws laid down that adequate water and sanitary facilities had to be provided for a dwelling.

But there are too many squatters and pondoks in the Peninsula to enforce this legislation, and rigid enforcement would probably leave many people homeless or force them to move to other areas.

Mr Heugh's report follows a call by Mr Tom Walters in the council six weeks ago for the executive committee to investigate means of preventing private landowners collecting rents from pondok owners unless water and lavatories were provided.

FROM STATE

But this sort of legislation was out of the hands of both the City Council and the Provincial authorities, said Mr Heugh. It would have to come from the Government but with the existence of the Slums Act new legislation was unlikely.

The answer to the problem — a social problem and not confined to the Cape — is to speed up permanent housing programmes. And this Cape Town City Council is doing 'within the limits of all practical and financial limitations.'

The City Council had faced up to the situation by providing water and sanitation at Vrygrond. But 250 other pondoks exist on other council ground.

CONSERVATIVE

About 5 500 have been built on private land in the municipal area. It's probably a conservative estimate. Rents which have come to light are between R5 and R10 a month.

Mr Heugh told the executive committee: 'It is well nigh impossible to prove, in a court of law, that landowners do in fact charge rents for pondok sites.'

The suggested legislation could also lead to landlords kicking squatters off their land to avoid the expense of water and sanitation. squatters who will move

ARGUS
11/7/75

(293)

Squatter charge against woman

A woman told an Athlone magistrate, Mr P. Sieberhagen, today that although the Divisional Council had said she could live in the Crossroads' squatters camp where water, latrines and refuse facilities were provided by them, a notice was served on her in April by the Department of Bantu Administration, giving her 14 days to move.

The woman, Mrs Amelia Ndomase (39), formerly of Nyanga East, pleaded not guilty to a charge of being on land or in a building outside a location, Bantu village or Bantu hostel, without the permission of the owner or lawful occupier of the land or building.

Mrs Ndomase said she had come to the Cape in 1954. She obtained permission to be here at the beginning of 1955 and her pass was in order.

She said she first stayed in Kensington, then moved to Jakkalsvlei, then to Nyanga and finally to Guguletu.

She could not get a living place there, but got a room from other people. She said she left the location in 1973.

Finally she decided to go to Brown's Camp, after she had had trouble with the people with whom she was staying.

She said she tried to get a house through the council, but they said she should put her name on the waiting list.

In February this year she left Brown's Camp because the Divisional Council said she could not live with Coloured people.

'We asked them where we could go because we had no living place. They told us there was some ground behind Nyanga and we went there. They told us water, latrines and garbage drums would be provided.'

IN A ROW

Mrs Ndomase said they were told to build their houses in a row and there were to be spaces between the houses because of fire. She said she was the first person at Crossroads.

In April she received 14 days' notice from the Department of Bantu Administration to leave the area.

At a previous hearing, the magistrate, Mr Sieberhagen, said that when the Bantu Affairs Administration Board first realised there were squatters at Crossroads, they wanted to clear the camp immediately, but after a meeting, which he attended, they decided that the courts would be too full and private enterprise would be disrupted if they did so.

They decided to clear the camp gradually.

Mr D. C. D. Dallas of Fuller, Moore and Son, who appeared for Mrs Ndomase, said that because of the 'evidence' the magistrate had given and because of his apparent and 'prime knowledge,' he might at a later stage in the trial apply for his recusal.

The hearing was postponed until July 15.

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Squatter 'had Div Council permission'

Cape Times 12/7/73

By MIGNONNE CROZIER

MRS AMELIA NDOMASE, who claims to be Crossroads's first squatter, told an Athlone magistrate yesterday that she settled there on the instruction of Divisional Council officials who would not get her a house because, "according to White man's law, I was not legally married".

But in April this year, she told the court, she was given 14 days notice to leave Crossroads by officials from the Bantu Affairs Administration Board.

Mrs Ndomase, 39, formerly of Pondok 135, Crossroads, Nyanga East, was giving evidence before Mr P Sieberhagen.

She pleaded not guilty at a previous hearing to a charge of being on land or in a building outside a location, Bantu village, or Bantu hostel, without the permission of the owner of lawful occupier of the land or building.

Telling the court of her search for a home since she entered the prescribed area of the Cape Peninsula in 1954, she said she moved from Kensington to Jaggersvlei to Nyanga and finally to Guguletu. There she found a room where she and Kleinboy Moqutwana, the man she married in 1965 according to African law, and their children, could board.

Waiting list

In 1973, however, they had to vacate the room to make way for another family and began to look for their own house.

"I could not find one," she told the court. "They told me they were not building more houses and just put me on a waiting list and said I had better go to Brown's camp.

"So we went to Brown's camp and stayed there till February this year. Then inspectors from the Divisional Council said we could not stay with Coloured people and when we asked them where we must go, they said there was some ground outside their Nyanga offices.

"Before we went, the inspectors said we mustn't be afraid when we go there because they would build lavatories, taps for water and drums for rubbish bins and would provide numbers for our houses. And after we got there they did this.

"So it was in February this year I moved to Crossroads. I was the first person there. Afterwards other Bantu came in.

Summons

"I first saw the Bantu Administration inspectors about the middle of March. They stood in front of a certain house and said to the person he must not live there and then they left.

"In April they gave us notice but we did not know what to do because they did not say where we must go. Then on July 3 I got this summons."

Mrs Ndomase told the court her reference book permitted her to stay in the Peninsula as long as she was working for Irvin and Johnson.

She said she was employed by the company as a dry cleaner till December when she left temporarily because she was expecting a child. She was due to return there next month.

Under cross-examination, Mrs Ndomase said she came to the Cape from Port Elizabeth in 1954 to join her boy friend, Phineas.

In 1962, however, she "divorced" him and three years later married Mr Kleinboy Moqutwana, according to African custom.

"Accroding to White man's law we were not legally married. So we could not get a lodger's permit and they could not give us a house."

The prosecutor put to her that there are 10 089 houses in Langa, Guguletu and Nyanga for married couples. Mrs Ndomase said she could not argue with this.

"But I don't know why we didn't get a house when there were empty houses. Except if you go to the office to look for one, then they never give you what you want."

The case continues on Tuesday.

Mr P Sieberhagen was on the bench. Mr C J W Pietersen prosecuted. Mr D C D Dallas, of Fuller, Moore and Son, appeared for Mrs Ndomase.

ARGUS 15/7/75

Woman squatter fined

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Sentencing an African woman in a 'squatting' case, an Athlone magistrate said today that he had a problem because the woman was living in the Peninsula legally, but if he ordered her to move from the squatters' camp, she would have nowhere to go.

He fined the woman R10 (or 20 days).

Mrs Amelia Ndomase (39) was found guilty of wrongfully and unlawfully entering Nyanga Extension 3, 'which land or building is inside the urban area of the Cape and is in the district of Wynberg but outside a location, Bantu village or Bantu hostel.'

She did so not within the course of her duties and remained on the land without the knowledge or permission of the owner.

The magistrate, Mr P. Sieberhagen, said he was satisfied the State had proved its case, but he had a problem as far as sentence was concerned because Mrs Ndomase and her family were legally in the Cape.

Usually squatters were illegal entrants and sentence was easier because the people would be ordered to move. He said he would fine Mrs Ndomase.

Mr D. C. D. Ballas of Fuller, Moore and Son, who appeared for Mrs Ndomase, said in mitigation that Mrs Ndomase had three young children and had experienced difficulties in obtaining accommodation because of the acute housing shortage.

'She has not wilfully breached a statutory provision, but done so because of the circumstances she found herself in.

'She had to have a roof over her head. She was unable to find anything to live in other than the house her husband had erected for her.'

'The problem is that there is no accommodation for the accused and others like her.'

Mrs Ndomase was fined R10 (or 20 days).

Mr C. J. W. Pietersen appeared for the State.

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Squatters plead guilty

ARGUS 15/7/75

FOUR men were charged in the Wynberg Magistrate's Court yesterday with illegal occupation of Kadotsloot, Plot No 1211, Hout Bay. The same charge was withdrawn against 17 other squatters.

Henry Adams (28) and Dal Miller (57) pleaded guilty and were fined R60 or 15 days, suspended for 12 months.

Miller said he had been living there for eight or nine years. He had put his name down for a council house, but at present could find nowhere else to live.

Attie Koopman (34) and William Skongwani (48) also pleaded guilty, but said they were no longer living at Kadotsloot. They were cautioned and discharged.

(1) 293
(2) 27

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Cape Times 15/7/75

Charge withdrawn

A CHARGE of trespassing against the Rev David Hamilton Russell, of Cape Town, has been withdrawn, the chief prosecutor of the Wynberg Magistrate's Court, Mr M S Knox, confirmed yesterday.

The charge arose from an incident earlier this year when Mr Russell visited the Crossroads squatters camp near D F Malan Airport without a permit. He was charged with illegally entering land belonging to the Bantu Affairs Administration Board.

When asked whether the withdrawal of the charge was connected with the claim that Mr Russell had witnessed the tearing down of shanties at the camp following a Supreme Court special interdict prohibiting this, Mr Knox said: "Yes, I suppose you could put it like that."

Mr Russell, who refused to pay an admission of guilt fine, had intended to call the Archbishop of Cape Town, the Most Rev Bill Burnett, as a witness.

In 1973 Mr Russell was acquitted of a trespassing charge in Kimberley after he allegedly entered the Galeshewe African township without a permit.

Mr Russell has been involved in several vigils for detainees and protests against the Government's policy of moving people to resettlement camps in the homelands.

Cape Times 16/7/75

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Guilty squatter is problem for court

CROSSROADS' first squatter, Mrs Amelia Ndomase, was yesterday fined R10 (or 20 days) after the magistrate admitted that sentencing her was a "problem". Unlike other squatters he had dealt with, she was in the Cape legally and had nowhere else to go.

Mrs Ndomase, 39, formerly of Crossroads, Nyanga East, was found guilty in Athlone Magistrate's court of being on land or in a building outside a location, Bantu village or hotel, without the knowledge of the lawful occupier or owner of the land or building and without being there in the course of her duties.

Mr P Sieberhagen said that in the past, in cases with squatters appearing on similar charges, sentence "was easy".

The squatters in those cases were illegally in the Cape and their sentences could be suspended on condition they left the area they had been found squatting on.



Mrs Amelia Ndomase

Or in the case of women squatters, attracted to the Cape by their menfolk who were living there legally, they could be sent away and the men committed to bachelor quarters.

"But if I were to suspend this sentence I personally feel it would create a situation that would lead to problems for the Bantu Administration.

"And it also creates an impossible situation for the accused in that she was legally in the Cape and would have nowhere else to go."

Pleading mitigation, Mr D C D Dallas, her defending laywer, said the court was "obviously not dealing with someone who had wilfully breached statutory provisions. She had to have a roof over her head and w[illegible] unable to find anything other than that erected by her husband at Crossroads".

Mr Dallas had earlier said: "Mrs Ndomase had been trying to get accommodation for a long time. This is a very considerable problem for the accused and persons like her."

Mr P Sieberhagen was on the bench. Mr C J W Pietersen prosecuted. Mr D C D Dallas, of Fuller, Moore and Son, appeared for Mrs Ndomase.

Squatters appear in court

ARGUS 17/7/75

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A GROUP of 19 African squatters from the Cross Roads Camp near D. F. Malan Airport appeared before Mr A. P. Kotze in the Athlone Magistrate's Court today.

They were charged with being in a prescribed area, in an area other than a location, without the permission of the owner, in terms of the Bantu Urban Areas Act.

The hearing was transferred to the Wynberg Magistrate's Court and the accused were told to appear there on August 5.

The accused, represented by Mr M. S. Nacerodien of Fuller, Moore and Son, are: Regina Dlaza, Maggie Dyan, Grace Nqaphi, Velisi Kolisi, Evelyn Kula, Elizabeth Sonjali, Notobile Nzwane, Nonzwandile Tono, Joyce Vusani, Nonindo Mbombo, Philda Nhose, Cecilia Nzende, Lilian Peter, Norman Peter, Joyce Qolombile, Maria Silwana, Nomathemba Zenzile, Memoria Bekityana and Lulu Pikoko.

Mr G. S. Claassen appeared for the State.

Council official on bribes charge

Cape Times 18/7/75 (293)

MORE than 30 squatters packed the Parow Regional Court yesterday at the start of the trial of a Divisional Council official charged with bribery.

The squatters were called to give evidence for the state at the trial of Johan Dempers du Toit, 44, who appeared before Mr A van Zyl Cilliers.

The State alleges that between 1973 and 1974, Mr Du Toit, Divisional Council inspector, illegally and in a corrupt manner accepted an unspecified amount of money from several Bantu inhabitants from unauthorized pondoks at squatters' camps at Vredenhof Farm, Modderdam Farm and Werkgenot.

He did this, the state alleges, in return for using his official capacity to arrange that they be allowed to remain unhindered in their pondoks or to arrange that, in spite of the fact, that they had no permission or permit to be in the area under the jurisdiction of the Divisional Council or the Municipality, they would not be prosecuted or ordered to leave the area.

There are two alternative charges against Mr Du Toit — one of fraud and one of theft.

No evidence was led yesterday as Mr Du Toit asked the court for a postponement as his legal representative was ill.

Mr F Silbert prosecuted.

The case continues today.

Squatter bribery charge: court hears evidence

(293)

19/7/75

Weekend Argus Reporter

SQUATTERS allegedly bribed a former employee of the Cape Divisional Council so they could stay on in their shanties, according to evidence in the Parow Regional Court yesterday.

Mr Johan Dempers du Toit (44), no address given, pleaded not guilty to the charge of bribery. He also pleaded not guilty to alternative charges of fraud and theft.

'PAID MONEY'

Mr Sizakela Walter Gqegqe told the court he had been visited by Mr du Toit and had paid him money, 'because I wanted him to allow me to stay at Modderdam.'

He said he had also collected money from other squatters at Modderdam and paid Mr du Toit.

Mr Nelson Jilaji said he had given Mr Gqegqe R1 a week at Werkgenot which was given to Mr du Toit 'so we would not be arrested.'

'COLLECTED'

Another squatter, Mr Nelson Pikini, said he had also collected money to give Mr du Toit, who told him that if he did nothing he would 'chase us away.'

Also giving evidence, three Divisional Council inspectors said that when the camps were demolished the squatters had complained because they had paid 'rent.'

The State closed its case and the magistrate warned Mr du Toit to appear again on September 25, when the defence witnesses would be called.

Mr A. van Zyl Cilliers was on the Bench. Mr F. Silbert appeared for the State and Mr Dan du Toit (of Du Toit and Frank appeared for Mr du Toit.

IN a report in The Argus yesterday headed 'Squatters: Bribery charge,' Mr du Toit was incorrectly described as a Cape Divisional Council inspector. Mr du Toit resigned in April as a council employee.

'Official charged with bribery'

Squatters 'told to give money'

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Cape Times 19/7/75



Mr Johan du Toit (right) leaving the Parow Regional Court yesterday with his counsel, Mr Dan du Toit.

FORMER inhabitants of two now-demolished Cape squatter camps told a Parow regional magistrate yesterday how they "befriended" a Divisional Council official by paying his car licence, his "Christmas box" and whatever he wanted, in a vain attempt to keep their shanties from being demolished.

Giving evidence at the trial of a former Divisional Council inspector, Johan Dempers du Toit, 44, who is charged with bribery and alternative charges of fraud and theft, Mr Nelson Pikini told the court that in 1974 he built himself a zinc hut at Modderdam Farm.

Not long after, he was approached by five Divisional Council inspectors, including Mr Du Toit.

"They asked me what I wanted there and I told them I was living there. But I had no authority to be there so they arrested me in the morning.

"After I was sentenced, Mr Du Toit came back to me alone. He told me I must give him money if I did not want to be evicted and I gave him R5.

"After three weeks he wanted something again. I told him I had nothing and he said there were many people on that ground. If they did nothing he would chase them away.

Mercantile law

THE LATEST edition of South African Mercantile and Company Law — the guide first published in 1972 by David Shrand sets out the fundamentals of our Tax system which every tax payer should know.

It is a handy book and the sensible loose leaf mode allows updating and a replacement page service is available at R1,50 a year. The publishers are Legal & Financial Publishing Co.

Audit manual expanded

THE THIRD edition of "The Principles and Practice of Auditing" is bound to be as popular as the earlier editions and now contains Sectional Titles as well as changes brought about by the new Companies Act.

Substantial amendments have been made to other sections. A new chapter on the auditors' report has been added and the section on stock extended. The book is designed for the use of students studying for their CTA but clearly it will have a much wider readership. Both authors are at the University of Cape Town

Gold chart bearish

M J J A

Turnover is expected to follow the same pattern as in Johannesburg where there was an initial 6 to 8-week burst followed by a dramatic tailing off. The surge should begin again

Sunday Times (Extra) 27/1/75

Birth of 'Service'

The 'Poverty People' get a chance

By HOWARD LAWRENCE

THE PLIGHT of thousands of Cape squatters has resulted in the birth of a new welfare organisation called, simply, "Service".

The secretary of Service, Mr R A Davis, of Elsies River, said this week that he and the other people who formed the organization have found a "sad lack of basic human comprehension and appreciation of the type of problem these people have to face daily".

"Loss by fire, flood and death or hospitalization," he added, "considerably aggravate their situation and it is usually the old people and the children who suffer most."

Basic amenities

"Poverty people," as he calls them, "have no immediate resources of their own, sometimes even lacking advice on matters affecting them. We are greatly concerned about these poverty conditions of our people," Mr Davis said.

Some of the aims of Service is to visit the aged and the sick, counselling on family planning, home economics and improving living standards and getting the authorities to provide basic and much-needed amenities and facilities such as sanitation and water.

Mr Davis says that his organisation has already given assistance to several cases "and we have achieved remarkable results in our follow-up work".

The organization, which exists purely on public contributions, operates on a 24-hour basis and any of the officials can be contacted at their homes.

Mr Davis' telephone numbers are 98-1305 and 33-2319. The chairman, Mr J C Samuels can be contacted at 67-1848 and the treasurer, Mr W Johanneson at 42, Second Avenue, Ravensmead, Parow.

At Lotus River, Mr N Booysen of 1 Agate Court, Lotus River, is available to render assistance to squatters.

The squatter problem has become one of the biggest problems in the Coloured community in the Cape with an estimated 100 000 people living in shacks and pondokkies across the length and breadth of the Peninsula alone.

The main cause of the large number of people who are living in these conditions is lack of housing.

Members of Service feel that there is a desperate need for an organisation such as theirs whose members can become personally involved in easing the burdens which squatters have to face. And there are many.

Some of the problems are the lack of suitable material for building shacks which are reasonably safe and insulated against winter weather.

Most squatter camps do not have toilets and many do not even have a single water tap and have to buy water from nearby landowners, paying, in some cases, as much as 20 cents for a four gallon drum of water.

There is also a delinquency problem while illegitimacy is regarded as one of the curses of the camps.

House shortage

Many of the people who are living in squatter camps can afford to pay the rents in municipal housing schemes, but are forced to live in shacks due to the shortage of homes which has been made worse by the need for rehousing people moved from their homes under the Group Areas Act.

Social workers believe that while the plight of the squatters can be eased by welfare work, it will not change their over-all condition much unless they get decent homes.

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Squatters' service charges reduced

1/8/75

The Argus Municipal Reporter

CAPE TOWN'S City Council has decided to lower the monthly service charges paid to the municipality by squatters at Vrygrond, near Muizenberg.

If the Provincial Administration endorses the council move, a charge of R6,50 will be levied on each shack in the area.

In April this year the council imposed an R8-a-month charge. It was based on the estimated costs of providing services to the squatters.

The council is spending more than R180 000 on roads, street lighting, water supply and latrines at the Vrygrond area. In addition, annual costs of maintenance and water and electricity consumption are estimated at more than R110 000.

In a report to the council, the Executive Committee said this week that the Vrygrond squatter camp was a temporary project.

'The estimated life of the area as a squatter settlement is five years and the services have been designed on this basis.'

Munnik calls for Coloured birth control

ARGUS 5/8/75

THE Coloured population of the Cape would have to co-operate with the Provincial Administration by practising family planning if they hoped to have facilities equal to those given to Whites, the Administrator, Dr L. A. P. A. Munnik, said today.

Speaking in the Budget debate in the Provincial Council, he said the myth that the Government encouraged family planning to deplete Black populations was 'the biggest nonsense ever.'

The Government was concerned with the welfare of the Coloured people, but it could not afford to cater for the population explosion, he said.

He called on Coloured leaders to encourage birth control among their own people. Only in this way could the shanty-towns of the Cape be eliminated.

Referring to an Opposition call for the elimination of influx control, Dr Munnik said the Coloured migration to the Peninsula showed what could happen without this sort of control.

Influx control was not an ideology but an economic necessity. People poured into the Peninsula area to live in shanties without jobs or income, and this had to be curbed.

Referring to a call for equal wages for Black and White teachers and medical staff, he said this was not a new idea and the principle had been accepted by the Administration.

SALARIES

However it could not be put into effect overnight. 'If you say we must put everyone on equal salaries tomorrow, South Africa could just not afford it.

'Attack us if you think we are not doing it fast enough, but realise that we cannot do it overnight. The Whites, the Coloured and the Africans know this,' he said.

Coloured nurses in South Africa received higher wages than White nurses in Britain and African nurses received higher wages than nurses anywhere else in Africa.

The effect of equal wages on inflation should also be considered, Dr Munnik said.

A top-level Cabinet committee had been appointed to look into the financial problems of small municipalities following discussions he had had with the Government.

However, all South African municipalities would have to be prepared to 'tighten their belts' in view of the expenditure on major projects. In the Cape economic struggles should be seen in relation to schemes like the R600-million Saldanha Bay project and the R400-million Verwoerd Dam.

(1) 124 (293)

(2) 293

City's explosive housing crisis

Cape Times Wedge

Political Survey

By GERALD SHAW

AS WINTER gales ripped through the Peninsula this week, a community which some say now numbers 200 000 souls shivered out of sight in the bushes.

The squatter community is scattered around the Peninsula in shanty towns and hamlets, but it is a community, nevertheless, bound together by a common experience of misery.

It requires a considerable effort of imagination, if you are warm and comfortable, to place yourself in the position of those who are not. And so there has been little public reaction to newspaper reports of homeless thousands, pictures of bulldozers at work and so on. For most newspaper readers the shantytowns are as remote and unknown as Outer Mongolia.

Little concern

And as there is little public concern there is in turn little serious attention being given to the problem by the politicians who, in the nature of their calling are finely attuned to stirrings of public opinion.

We are talking of the White political sector of course, which is the only sector with any real political power. Parliament is where the power is. And the squatters themselves are not represented in Parliament.

Because this is so, the Cape housing crisis will have to explode in a visible and spectacular way if anything seems before anything really effective is done about it.

It is arguable whether the problem can be solved within the framework of the current socio-political dispensation in South Africa.

The Chamber of Commerce and those of its members who are taking part in the employer housing scheme have shown that they at least appreciate what is at stake.

But the Chamber of Commerce scheme, while setting a fine example, cannot of itself make much difference. The scale of the problem and the number and costs involved are simply too great.

The Chamber of Commerce scheme, incidentally, owes much to the missionary zeal of Professor S P Cilliers, who has been warning of impending crisis for the past decade, addressing seminars of business men and anyone else who would listen.

Professor Cilliers, an Old Testament prophet, has been a prophet with a difference, armed with facts, figures and population statistics which demonstrate that the housing scarcity at the Cape is building up to a crisis which will leave nobody in the Peninsula unscathed.

Professor Cilliers is a sociologist and he is aware that the effects of overcrowding, slum conditions, poor housing and no housing at all can be very accurately predicted.

Indeed, the frightening wave of violent crime spilling over into affluent Peninsula suburbs has already demonstrated that he knows what he is talking about.

In 1969, Professor Cilliers pointed out that population projections at that time suggested that the White population of the Peninsula in the year 2 000 would be 831 000 and the Coloured populations would be 1 412 000. In 1970 he was urging that private enterprise be allowed to take part in building programmes even if this cut across existing racial restrictions.

In 1971, Professor Cilliers estimated that 43 000 Coloured families were in need of housing in Greater Cape Town. He pointed out that the incidence of crime among Coloured people was already five times as high as it was among Whites.

In 1972, Professor Cilliers said that at least 55 000 dwellings were urgently needed to accommodate about 315 000 Coloured people in the Greater Cape Town area. At that stage it was estimated that 27 000 families were living in squatter conditions — at least 173 000 people. Another 141 000 were in need of housing.

Some of the recommendations made by Professor Cilliers at that time have been implemented or partly implemented.

A start has been made with private participation in housing schemes. But there is a maze of bureaucratic red tape to be cut through, and so far it can hardly be said that real headway is being made.

All this applies to the housing of Coloured people which, in the Cape, is the major problem. There are also the African squatters at places like Crossroads, whose plight is made even more complicated by the maze of legislation which applies specifically to Africans in urban areas.

But it is the lack of housing for Coloured people that is creating a runaway crisis which will have to be tackled decisively and quickly if it is not going to get right out of control. It is not only a question of squatter camps. There are thousands of Coloured people battling to maintain decent family standards in conditions of overcrowding that are simply intolerable.

A young Coloured couple have no chance of getting a home of their own for seven years or so, as things now stand, and most of the time must double up with in-laws.

Even if they have saved up enough to buy or build a home of their own, the scarcity of land zoned for Coloured residential occupation — through the tyranny of the Group Areas Act — makes it unlikely that they will be able to find a plot or if they do, it will probably cost as much per square metre as land in Bishopscourt.

It is an intolerable situation. Much of the blame must be placed squarely on the shoulders of the Group Areas Act. But the key factor is political. If you do not have a parliamentary vote, you can be pushed around at will and you invariably are.

In many ways, the present situation in the Cape Peninsula is rather like Johannesburg after World War II when the shantytowns on the outskirts of the city became a menacing social problem.

Eventually, it was a man of unusual vision who took the lead in solving the problem — Sir Ernest Oppenheimer persuaded the mining industry to make a massive loan available to the Johannesburg municipality to build houses.

Something of this sort will have to happen in Cape Town if anything of significance is to be achieved.

The whole housing issue is immensely complicated and is riddled with bureaucratic and ideological hang-ups.

It will take someone who can command the muscle, influence and resources of an Ernest Oppenheimer to make any impression on the Peninsula's housing crisis.

Let us hope that such a man comes forward soon — before an outbreak of plague or bloody violence, or both, has to jolt the Peninsula into action.

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Churches to collect for squatters

18/8/75

The Argus
Religion Correspondent

CHURCHES in the Western Cape have been asked to take a special Compassion Week collection on Sunday August 24 to help the estimated 150 000 'squatters' in the area. Food, clothing and furniture will also be collected during Compassion Week.

The Rev Louis Bank, secretary of Western Province Council of Churches, has said in a leaflet to all member churches that Compassion Week will be observed in the last week of August, with the focus on the plight of 'squatters.'

Compassion Week church collections will be given to the Cape Flats Committee for Interim Accommodation (CFCIA) which has been formed to help the 150 000 squatters living in more than 23 000 temporary homes in the Peninsula area.

The steering committee of the CFCIA comprises Mr J. B. Pearson, Mr R. Roberts, Mr W. H. Thomas, Mr P. Johnson, Mr D. Fitman, Professor S. P. Cilliers and the Rev Des Adendorff, who will administer the funds.

Collections and individual gifts may be sent to Mr Bank, Secretary, Western Province Council of Churches, P.O. Box 1932, Cape Town 8000.

Mr Bank also appealed to churches to collect food, clothing, household utensils and furniture for squatters during Compassion Week. These should be delivered to St Francis Xavier Seminary, Birdwood Road, Athlone (telephone 69-8978), which is next to the Kromboom Road bridge over the railway line.

In a list of 'squatter' areas, Mr Bank said there were an estimated 12 679 'squatter structures' in Cape Divisional Council areas, 7 454 in Cape Town municipality, 2 400 in Parow and 573 in Bellville South, Kraaifontein and Macassar.

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End squatter harassment, MPs plead

Cape Times 19/8/75

PROGRESSIVE-REFORM PARTY MPs who visited Crossroads yesterday appealed to local authorities to stop the harassment of squatters as this could lead to a breakdown in race relations and disruptive incidents.

Dr Alex Boraine, Progressive Reform MP for Pinelands, and Dr F van Zyl Slabbert, MP for Rondebosch, interviewed residents in the Crossroads shanty town while Bantu Affairs officials were raiding the settlement.

Dr Slabbert said afterwards that trying to force the shanty dwellers out was an exercise in futility.

The Government and the various bodies handling the squatter problem had to accept the permanency of these people and provide basic facilities, he said.

Unless something was done to stop the harassment, it could lead to hostility.

CONDITION

Dr Boraine said they had gone to Crossroads to examine conditions there.

It was hoped that a co-ordinating body could be formed to keep the squatters plight in the public eye.

It was far better to leave the squatters alone until proper housing could be provided for them.

Most of the people at Crossroads were legally employed, but had nowhere to go, he said.

Dr Boraine said that one of the most tragic aspects of Crossroads was that Blacks were losing their respect for the Whites.

RESTRAIN

The older residents were having to restrain the younger people from taking action against the officials. One elderly resident had told Dr Boraine that this was becoming increasingly difficult.

After he had collected enough information on the situation at Crossroads, it was hoped to approach senior officials of the Bantu Affairs Administration Board with an appeal to stop the forced removals until decent housing could be provided.

Police raid camp at Philippi

POLICE and officials of the Bantu Affairs Administration Board yesterday carried out another raid on the Crossroads squatter camp in Philippi.

The raid began about 10am and was still in progress just before 1pm.

Almost 100 people lined the road leading to the area as uniformed and plain-clothed Bantu Affairs officials, all wearing guns, carried out systematic raids on the shanties.

All said they were too afraid to enter their homes for fear of being arrested and charged. One man who stood watching the officials in action said he had seen at least 50 people being herded into vans in the hour that he had been there.

While a Cape Times reporter was interviewing residents, officials ordered him off the site and threatened him with legal action if he remained.

Mr A MacLachlan, chief director of the Bantu Affairs Administration Board in the Peninsula, confirmed that the raids were taking place.

He could not say how many people had been arrested or charged.

But the Bantu Affairs Administration Board would use any legal means to get the squatters out of Crossroads, said Mr MacLachlan.

Cape Times 20/8/75

R10 fines for 22 squatters

THE 22 squatters arrested at the Crossroads squatter camp in Philippi yesterday were each fined R10 (or 20 days) when they appeared in the Athlone Magistrate's Court yesterday on charges of trespassing and being in the area illegally.

According to Mr A MacLachlan, Chief Director of the Bantu Affairs Administration Board, six were charged with being in the area illegally and 16 with trespassing.

Another raid had been carried out yesterday following Monday's raid, and according to Mr MacLachlan "we arrested a lot again yesterday".

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Massive housing plan wanted

20/8/75

Cape Times Political Correspondent

THE PROGRESSIVE Reform Party MP for Pinelands, Dr Alex Boraine, said last night that continued peace in South Africa would depend on starting a massive crash housing programme for the country's homeless thousands.

This week Dr Boraine and the PRP MP for Rondebosch, Dr F van Zyl Slabbert, visited the Crossroads squatter camp near D F Malan Airport.

GREAT SIMPLICITY

Last night he told a report-back meeting in Pinelands of his impressions: Shacks with the barest facilities; four taps and six pit lavatories for a community of about 7 000 people; drums for rubbish, extremly poor drainage and pools of water "all over the place".

Three things had disturbed him, Dr Boraine said:

- The squatters great simplicity—they simply said, "Leave us with our children, even if you can't provide us with decent housing, leave us where we are and let us get on with the job of living."
- That as a result of the actions of certain officials, the squatters' own children had begun to lose respect for their parents when they saw the way they were being handled.

LOST RESPECT

- That because of this treatment the squatters had lost respect for the White man and there was now a growing hostility towards Whites.

Dr Boraine called for a crash housing programme for the homeless and a co-ordinated programme to provide at least basic facilities for those who were forced to become squatters.

"If we want peace in South Africa, then we must embark upon a massive crash programme to build houses for the hundreds and thousands of people who are without homes," he said.

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Congress to hear plea on squatters

21/8/75

The Argus Correspondent

THE Government is to be asked to implement stricter measures to check both the influx of 'unlawful' Africans to the Western Cape and the squatting around cities.

The request is contained in a resolution from the Piketberg branch of the National Party which will be submitted to the party's Cape congress in East London on September 2 and 3.

The congress will be preceded by a meeting of the party's provincial executive on September 1.

On the morning of Septembe r2 the provincial leader of the party, Mr P. W. Botha, will open the congress and on the evening of September 3 the Prime Minister, Mr B. J. Vorster, will deliver the closing address.

WAGE GAP

A resolution submitted by the Paarl Nationalist branch asks the Government to guard against the narrowing of the wage gap between Whites and non-Whites and the consequent increase in the income of the non-Whites as factors contributing to inflation.'

The Wodehouse branch asks the Minister of Bantu Administration and Development, Mr M. C. Botha, to inform the electorate realistically and clearly policy.
on the party's Bantu

Other resolutions ask for Easter Monday to be abolished as a holiday and for Aprli 6 to be reinstated as a holiday.

The Durbanville Nationalist branch wants the Government to grant relief in respect of income tax levied on the earnings of married women.

The congress will have a special debate on South Africa's strategic position at which Mr Botha and Dr H. Muller, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, will be the chief speakers.

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Cape Times 22/8/75

Harassing squatters

WHAT is the continued harassment of squatters at the Crossroads camp meant to achieve? The Bantu Affairs Administration Board has carried out a series of raids on Crossroads, resulting during a two-day period this week in 34 people being fined for trespassing or being in the area illegally. Two MPs, Dr Alex Boraine and Dr F van Zyl Slabbert, who visited Crossroads on Monday, have appealed for an end to official action against these people, citing the danger to race relations. The futility of this harassment and disruption of families is apparent from the size of the Peninsula's squatter population, which some estimates put as high as 200 000. They do not live in shanties for choice, but because the bread-winners need jobs. Equally their employers and the whole community need their labour. Squatting has become a social and human problem of such vast proportions that can never be solved by random prosecutions of people who, for want of anywhere else to go, are virtually certain after conviction to find new sites on which to squat. Their presence should be accepted and conditions made as tolerable as possible for them until they can be properly housed.

More squatters sentenced

Cape Times 21/8/75

A FURTHER 12 residents of the Crossroads squatter camp appeared in the Athlone Magistrate's Court yesterday on charges of trespassing and being in the area illegally.

This brings to 34 the number of Crossroads residents who have appeared on charges of trespassing and being in the area illegally in the past two days.

All the accused pleaded not guilty. Three of the women said they had permission to be in the area but could find no accommodation. They had been obliged to build shanties at Crossroads.

Another woman said she had brought her child to Cape Town for medical treatment. Because the treatment was long-term, she had decided to live with her sister at Crossroads to be near her child, who was in hospital.

All the accused admitted being arrested on the Philippi Road bordering Crossroads while trying to hide from Bantu Affairs Administration Board officials carrying out raids on the squatter camps.

All were found guilty and sentenced to R10 (or 20 days).

BLACK VIEWPOINT

Cape Times 21/8/75

The culture of poverty

By NEVILLE FRANSMAN

THE Western Province Council of Churches has asked its members to take a special collection on Sunday to help more than 100 000 squatters in and around Greater Cape Town. This effort is part of Compassion Week, to be observed during the last week of this month. It is good to know there are people who believe that "compassion" can be something real. But perspectives must not be lost.

The community to be aided by the churches — is hoped also to collect food, clothing and furniture — can rightly be referred to as the poverty people. And this is poverty in the widest sense of the word: Spiritual, mental, educational, social, material, recreational, political poverty.

Briefly put, they are people whose very way of life, whose whole culture, is poverty. And because of this, people who generally also labour under poverty, of ambition — people who are so involved in meeting urgent and immediate needs from day to day that reaching for wider horizons is something quite alien to them.

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

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

Daily routine

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Total upliftment

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

Finally, those who will give during Sunday's collections and Compassion Week should also not lose their sense of balance and of values. Donating R10, or a blanket, or 20 loaves of bread, must not be allowed to salve the conscience — or make us lose sight of our real responsibility: fighting the culture of poverty.

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60 more squatters arrested

Cape Times 26/8/75

ABOUT 60 African squatters were arrested in the Bellville area yesterday in a raid carried out by the Bantu Affairs Administration Board on about 30 shacks.

The raid was carried out on the farms Stellenryk and Stellenberg, in the Eversdale area of Bellville.

According to Mr P S Pietersen, Director of Labour and Community Services for the BAAB, the squatters were arrested on charges of being in the area illegally and trespassing.

Although no official figures were available, Mr Pietersen said that about 60 squatters had been arrested and about 25 to 30 shacks raided.

Last week 32 squatters in the Crossroads area were arrested. The latest arrests bring the total arrested in the past week to 92.

Those arrested yesterday for trespassing would appear in the Bellville Magistrate's Court today and others charged with being in the area illegally would appear in the Langa Court, said Mr Pietersen.

The raids had been carried out because the squatters had erected illegal dwellings on private property, he said.

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THE SQUATTER SCANDAL (2)

18/9/75 CAPE TIMES.

Why thousands live in hovels

This is the second of two articles on squatting in the Greater Cape Town area. The numbered cross-references are to the surveys listed at the end of the article yesterday.

THE REASON for the large-scale squatting in the area of Greater Cape Town is not to be found in original sin, sheer cussedness or a perverse preference for living in pondoks.

This fairly obvious conclusion is shared by all the investigators whose findings were reviewed in the article on this page yesterday. Equally obviously the main characteristic of the phenomenon is a function of our racially stratified society. If the squatters had taken the precaution of being born with a different skin pigmentation they would not be numbered among the hundreds of thousdands of people (Coloured and African) whose way of daily life is to live in a sandy windswept waste in hovels, harassed by officials burdened with a task they cannot accomplish.

Some causes

Not in any particular order of significance, these are some of the causes:

There is no "official" housing for many for many reasons and when people are not provided with "official" housing they provide their own. Hence squatting.

The massive housing backlog. Housing development has not kept pace even with the rate of urbanization and natural population growth. Under the Group Areas Act large numbers of people have been forced out of areas to make way for Whites, increasing the demand for housing and adding to the housing backlog.

Professor S P Cilliers (2) has discerned some half-dozen classes of squatters:

Recent immigrants from the country where work is hard and wages low; and urban jobs are attractive. People with sub-minimum incomes find squatting cheaper. The rate of natural increase and the growth of families, forcing the family to extend to the squatting camps.

People take refuge from crime, anti-social behaviour and lack of privacy in housing estates. People of mixed association of African and Coloured cannot live together in Nyanga or Langa because of lack of a house or sometimes because they are not formally married; and they cannot live in a Coloured township because of the Group Areas Act. So they squat (4).

The universal process of urbanization brings Africans to Cape Town, where government and private employers cannot recruit sufficient Coloured workers. Cape Town recently extended by 50 percent the "bachelor" accommodation for African migrants, a far cry from the official policy expounded in 1966 that Cape Town must *reduce* its dependence on African labour by 5 percent per annum (1).

These Africans are wanted in the towns, are essential to the towns but they are wanted as labour units, not as whole people. Wives and children must stay behind in the homelands, to be visited once a year. So large numbers of African men, legally entitled to be in Cape Town, prefer to live as squatters with their wife and children. They choose the precarious existence of the squatter camp in preference to the unnatural life of a "bachelor" in a hostel (4).

Many others come illegally, that is, without a prior contract. They work in Cape Town but there is nowhere for them to live. So they too must squat.

No housing

Then there are the African families who are here legally but cannot get family housing. In 1966 a policy decision was taken to freeze the building of African family housing in Cape Town. But you cannot freeze people as easily as you can buildings. And so they squat.

Wives (and their children) enter illegally because they want to be with the husband and live with him, not just for a furtive visit. Some come because they are childless and come to get pregnant.

Some come because they are poor and the husband's wages do not cover both bachelor life in Cape Town and home-life in the Transkei. Some come to look for work to help the husband; opportunities are few for women in the homelands. Where can these families exist except Crossroads? (1)

The officials' diagnosis is bleak, even if logical in terms of the soulless enactments under which they operate. Coloured people are told that they "should not" squat but are not told what they should do. They are harassed and prosecuted and retreat further and further into the bush.

Separate development means that Africans are citizens of a homeland and logically have no rights in the White areas. About 120 000 Africans come on to the labour market each year and between 60 000 and 70 000 cannot be employed in the homelands. They must look for work in the "White" areas.

Life for an African squatter is governed by the overriding fact that he is not real to the authorities. He is there without permission. So life for thousands of "instant" criminals is a constant run from the police and the Bantu Board inspectors. Most of these fugitives are basically decent, hard-working people, trying grimly to make life worthwhile (2).

Self-deception

The Bantu Board's response to illegal squatters is stunningly simple, an exercise in self-deception. When the Chief Inspector was asked what the Board was doing for squatters in the winter he replied: "We do nothing for illegal squatters who should be in the Transkei. As far as we are concerned we don't have any legal Bantu squatting, so we'll do nothing" (4).

The position of the Coloured people is grim, with few rays of hope for the distant future. For the African people it is immeasurably worse. The local Bantu administration does not grasp that it has a major crisis on its hands. Its policy towards contract workers is simple; they must be in bachelors' hostels and their families must be in the homelands. Hence the threats, prosecutions and demolitions; and repatriations.

This, says Budlender (4), is basically what the Crossroads débâcle is all about, an attempt to separate families and move around like pawns people whose only desire is to be left in peace.

The writers of these inquiries into squatting all try to suggest solutions:

Stop trying to wish people away, to pretend that they are not there. Recognize the presence of the "illegal" Africans who play their part in building the wealth of Cape Town.

Recognize that men like to live with their family. Phase out, on the lines suggested by Dr Francis Wilson, the evil and ugly system of migrant labour. Abandon the 1966 decision to freeze the building of African family housing in Cape Town.

Stop further Group Areas Act removals. Hand back those areas, like District Six, that have not been re-occupied.

Provide proper site-and-service schemes; lay on water; provide sanitation, access roads, rubbish collection. Above all provide security of tenure . . . and the most ramshackle pondok can become a home, the dreariest squatters' camp something like an ordered and settled community.

And above everything, recognize that this is not a problem created by the squatters. It is a problem created by society at large, which has not cared enough to put things right. It is not the people who are the problem. It is the social structures and policies which force them to live in the wretched conditions of Crossroads, Werkgenot and the rest.

V N

See leading article

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The Cape Times

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 1975

The squatter scandal

THE review on this page yesterday and today of four surveys of the squatter phenomenon of Greater Cape Town will have served its purpose if it reminds people of the existence of a social and human problem of scandalous dimensions. From time to time the public is given a glimpse of what is going on. Crossroads and the callous attempts by authority to disperse some 7 000 human beings roused indignation and led to a salutary court case. Similar activities at Werkgenot, when it was alleged that Bantu Department officials burnt down shacks, resulted in a criminal prosecution for malicious damage to property. The prosecution failed but there were some strong words from the bench. It was not impressed by the official evidence; and there were "many contradictions" in the official testimony. It is regrettable that higher authority rejected the demand for a judicial inquiry to determine all the facts and to define official attitudes and priorities.

But these occasional moments of public concern are not enough. Crossroads and Werkgenot are the highlights. The dark and dismal background is one of many thousands of human beings, men, women and children, Coloured people and Africans, living their lives in windswept slums, with no security of tenure, harassed by officialdom, in permanent fear of violent demolition of their wretched shacks and the break-up of their miserable families. There are poverty-stricken communities all round the world but the squatter phenomenon is of particular significance in South Africa. As all the investigators agree, it is first and foremost a product of our racially stratified society. The victims are the Coloured people and the Africans, the people without political power to demand redress of their grievances, relegated by statute and tradition to a rank of social and economic inferiority.

Nowhere is this made clearer than in the attitude of the officials charged with enforcing the ideologies of racist discrimination. In the unreal, make-believe world of the Bantu Affairs Department the problem presented by the "illegal Bantu" (some 50 000 or 60 000 of them) just doesn't exist. They aren't there. In theory they are away back in the homelands. Those who get in legally as migrant labourers — that "evil and ugly" system — are theoretically bachelors. The destiny of wives and children is to be repatriated to the unemployment and grinding poverty of the homelands. The Group Areas Act, that ideological extravagance, pushes Coloured people out of their homes for the benefit of White people. The demand for housing is thus increased, the housing backlog is further added to.

The authors of the surveys have realistic suggestions for improving an intolerable situation. It should be on Cape Town's conscience to push as hard as possible for quick and effective action to deal with the social disease identified by Crossroads, that place of "mangled family life and insecurity" as it was described by the Anglican Archbishop.

Dealing with the squatting problem is not just a matter of charity, of doing good, of Christian virtue. In a very real sense it must be tackled in the most direct and material interests of the privileged White community. On a less spectacular level, individual men and women can show their concern by helping the Family Life Fund. This fund aids families at Crossroads and elsewhere to get legal representation and at least to get a hearing in the courts. Your cheque should be made payable to the "Family Life Fund" and sent to the treasurer. Dr Francis Wilson, 52 Rouwkoop Road, Rondebosch, 7700.

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Typhoid at Sir Lowry's Pass Village

ARGUS 23/9/75

TYPHOID has struck in the little Sir Lowry's Pass Village, but the residents of the squatter camp where four people have the disease and another three are under observation seem unconcerned as they live and play alongside the Gordon River.

The little river looks fresh, cool and cheerful as it winds through the squalor and litter of the camp; but it is believed to be the origin of the potentially fatal disease.

The Medical Officer of Health of the Stellenbosch Divisional Council, Dr A. E. Tibbit, has visited all the residents in the camp to warn them of the danger of drinking river-water.

All the residents say they have stopped the practice, but the children still play in the water and it is still used for washing clothes.

BUCKETS

Within half an hour dozens of children dipped buckets and pans into a river pool and stumbled off to their shanty homes.

Many of the shacks are built right on the banks of the river and it is a much shorter walk to it than to the few taps scattered through the camp.

In one little wood-and-iron shed three generations of two families live in squalor and two children have been taken from there to the City Hospital for Infectious Diseases after contracting typhoid.

Miss J. MacDonald, mother of four-year-old Cawley who has the disease, said her child had been ill for more than two weeks before typhoid was diagnosed. Soon after, a 15-year-old girl from the same house was taken to hospital for treatment.

Not far away at the Divisional Council clinic nurses have been working long hours to inoculate more than 2 000 people against typhoid. By noon today they had treated 140 latecomers.

Dr Tibbit visits the camp daily to examine people with any sort of illness and every effort is being made to prevent the spread of the disease.

Dr Tibbit said the inoculations would not provide protection for the first week and this was the danger period.

Two weeks after the first inoculation each patient would have to be given a 'booster' to ensure protection against the disease — which could be fatal if not diagnosed in the early stages.

The first symptoms of the disease were feverishness and stomach upsets ('runny tummies'), Dr Tibbit said.

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Typhoid may spread to Cape Town

Cape Times 24/9/75

IF carriers of typhoid in the Sir Lowry's Pass squatter camp are not found and treated the disease could spread to Cape Town, a spokesman for the Stellenbosch Divisional Council's health department warned yesterday.

He said that there was a very real danger of the disease spreading to the industrial areas of the City because carriers of the disease could be working in the Cape Town industrial complex.

So far 12 confirmed and eight suspected cases of typhoid are being treated in the City Hospital for Infectious Diseases in Green Point.

Tests are being carried out on the cases, mostly young children from seven to 15 years. Many more people could be spreading typhoid in other areas near Sir Lowry's Pass.

VICTIM

The first victim was a 15-year-old girl who was treated by various doctors for two months before it was discovered, at Groote Schuur Hospital, that she had typhoid.

She was transferred to the City Hospital.

It is believed that the cause of the outbreak in the squatter camp was the use of contaminated water from a stream which was used by the squatters to dispose of refuse and nightsoil.

After four cases were confirmed the Divisional Council of Stellenbosch immediately mounted a massive inoculation operation.

INOCULATED

More than 2 000 men, women and children have so far been inoculated against the disease, but it is feared that the real carriers may not be among them.

A mass immunization campaign has also been started among school children and teachers of the school in Sir Lowry's Pass.

It is also feared that typhoid carriers are working in food factories in the surrounding areas and as domestic servants.

Dr T J Malherbe, medical superintendent at the City Hospital, said yesterday that the typhoid cases were being kept under close observation.

He was waiting for news from Stellenbosch on the extent of the outbreak, and emphasized that the disease could spread if the carriers were not found soon.

If this were not done the outbreak could assume epidemic proportions. So far the situation seemed to be under control.

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Six squatters arrested in Blikkiesdorp

CAPE TIMES 18/9/75

SIX African women living in Blikkiesdorp, a squatter area in the Strand, were yesterday arrested by officials of the Bantu Affairs Administration Board on charges of being in the area illegally.

Four of the women were later released after being charged and summoned to appear in the Strand magistrate's court on September 19, or pay R30 admission of guilt fines.

Two of the women were detained in the Strand police cells overnight.

The public prosecutor at the Strand magistrate's court confirmed that two women had appeared in court on charges of being in a prescribed area for more than 72 hours yesterday.

They were found guilty and sentenced to a fine of R30 (or 30 days).

Tuesday's arrests follow an earlier assurance by the assistant regional manager of the BAAB in Stellenbosch that no action would be taken against the African squatters.

In a report in the Cape Times on Tuesday, a spokesman for the BAAB said it had no intention of taking action against the squatters and that it was an internal affair of the Strand Municipality.

One of the arrested women is believed to have been a visitor from the Lynedoch area in Stellenbosch whose house in Die Bos, another squatter area, was recently demolished.

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THE SQUATTER SCANDAL (1)

CAPE TIMES 17/9/75

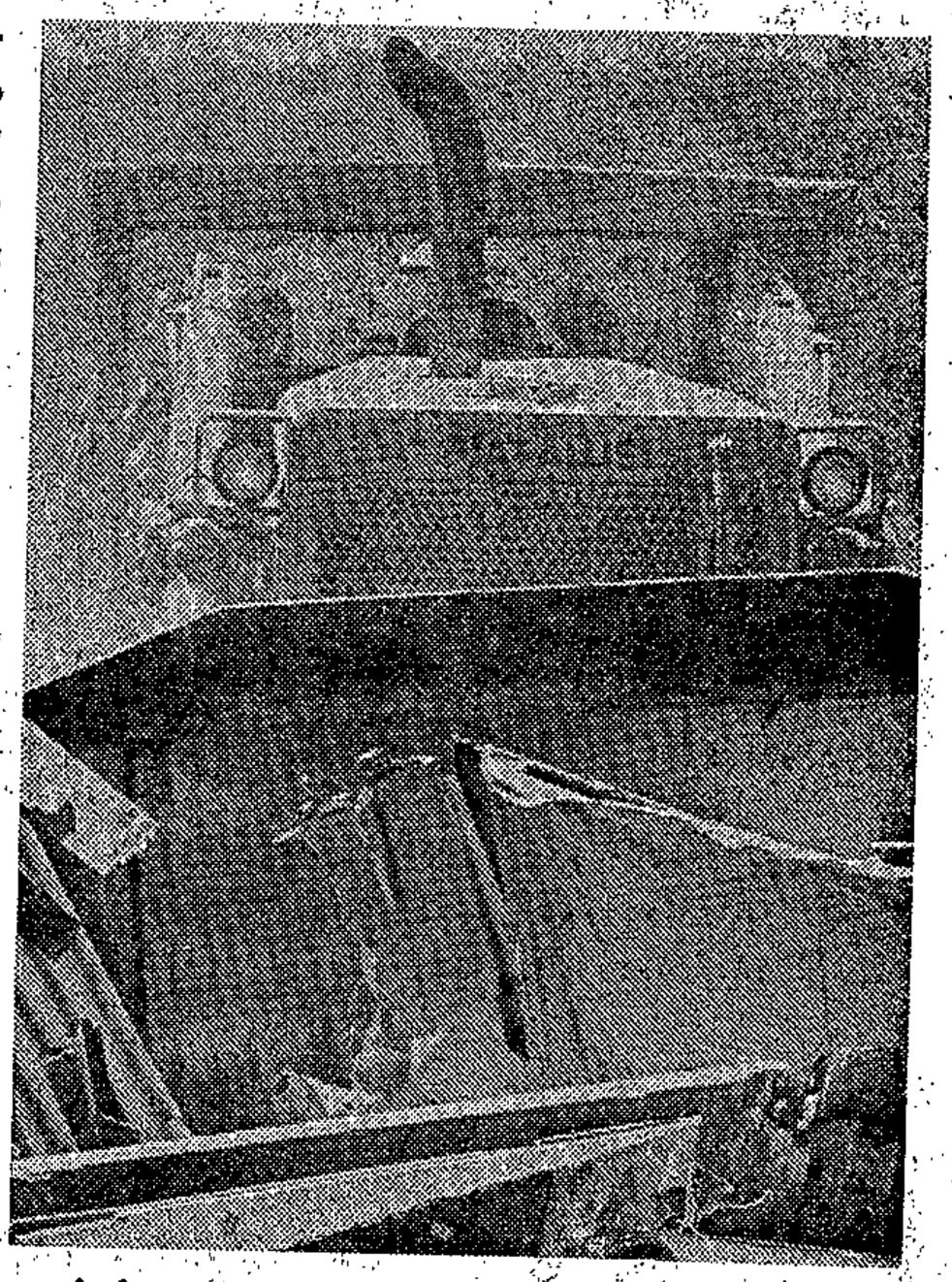
Diagnosis of a social disease

This is the first of two articles on squatting in the Greater Cape Town area, based on the findings in four recent investigations.

ATTEMPTS by officialdom earlier this year to break up the squatters' camp of Crossroads momentarily brought to public attention the misery and frustration of what is conveniently pigeonholed as "the squatter problem".

Public anxiety is reflected in the four documents listed below. With concern, humanity and authority the writers have brought together much information on the nature of the squatting phenomenon, its extent, causes and effects; and its complexity in terms of a racially stratified society.

Crossroads, otherwise Nyanga Extension 3, off the Klipfontein Road, is only the symptom of a social disease. The camp came into being in February this year when Africans began moving in. By the end of April there were 1 000 families, some 7 000 human souls, living in the shacks called pondoks and struggling against the odds to lead some sort of tolerable human existence.



A few minutes previously it was home . . . Bulldozer crushes shack.

How many?

The total number of squatters in the Greater Cape Town area is difficult to determine beyond asserting that it is huge. Estimates of Coloured squatters range from 100 000 to 180 000 and the number of African squatters defies accurate estimation.

Geoff Budlender (4) says there are about 115 000 Africans legally in Cape Town and that officials estimate that this is, at best, about two-thirds of the Africans actually living here. This means that at least 60 000 Africans are squatting, as no accommodation is provided for "illegal Bantu"; and because significant numbers of squatting area at Vrygrond has existed for more than 30 years; areas such as Cook's Bush, Windermere, Blouvlei, Elsie's River and the Valley of Plenty have housed major communities over the years. There are also Werkgenot, Mitchell's Plain, Lourdes Farm, Philippi, Potsdam and Louisana. Sometimes camps are "cleared". The inhabitants just move on and other camps are established. The names change. That is all.

The Rev David Russell (1) has selected Crossroads as his clinical specimen and has examined the sample in some depth. Much of what he finds and all of his comments are of general application. There are statistical and social differences and significant differences between Coloured squatters and African squatters but the general lines everywhere and for all the victims

wife and children.

In June the first houses were demolished by bulldozer. That month the Supreme Court granted an urgent interdict restraining the Bantu Board from destroying any more pondoks. On the return date the Board did not put in an appearance and the violent demolitions came to a halt. The squatters were then charged with trespass.

Allegations of official callousness appear again in "A Werkgenot Diary" (2), a record of the events at the squatter community near Bellville. A 4am raid, setting of huts on fire, use of a bulldozer, the raid "planned like a military exercise" . . . A prosecution on a charge of malicious damage to property failed because of inadequate evidence. But the magistrate found it necessary to say that he was not impressed by the evidence

legal" Africans also squat. he total number in terms of uman beings is large.

Squatting has been with for a long time. The similar.

Ten years ago the Ndomases—Amelia and Kleinboy—were married by African custom and for eight years lived in a room in Guguletu with their children. Then the room was wanted and they went off in search of a place to live. They couldn't find one. The Bantu Affairs Department told them to go to Brown's Camp. They went and the Divisional Council instructed them to move on. They were not allowed to live with Coloured people.

They couldn't find a house because they were not married by White law and she and her family were told by Divisional officials that they could go to some ground near Nyanga. So in February the Ndomases came to a place of bare scrub, sand and wind; knocked up a shanty, called it home, and Crossroads was born. Within months the pondoks numbered more than 1 000 and the Bantu Affairs Department moved in to clear out the inhabitants.

Nowhere

Mrs Ndomase was charged with being on land "outside a Bantu village, a location or a hostel" without the knowledge of the lawful owner. She was guilty but presented a problem. In other squatting cases the men are dispatched to "bachelor" quarters in a hostel and the women given suspended sentences on condition they go off to the Transkei. But Mrs Ndomase was legally in Cape Town; and her problem was that she had nowhere, literally nowhere, where she could live. Her case is still being wrestled with.

Most of the people at Crossroads come from other squatting areas. Mrs R D has spent ten years being hounded from camp to camp: to Elsie's River, house demolished and move to Steenberg; house demolished, move to Brown's Camp and again uprooted; and then to Crossroads. Each move involved things like R30 for a lorry to move her possessions and R15 to hire someone to erect a pondok in the new place . . .

Moving 7 000 people is a major administrative task. Bitterness and resentment appear in first-hand — but in the nature of things unconfirmed — reports of assaults by inspectors, water buckets being turned over, harassing of men who had cars and lorries, people being sworn at . . . In May police and officials arrested 142 people and charged them with such things as being elsewhere than in a Bantu location, being around for more than 72 hours without permission, harbouring

ficials and he referred to "many contradictions" in the official testimony.

The evidence contained phrases like "the function of the raid was only to arrest illegal Bantu"; instructions were "not to attack the Bantu and to leave pregnant women or women with babies"; "We (the Bantu Administration) remove the Bantu and they (the municipality) remove their premises". A widespread call for a judicial inquiry has had no response.

Picture of life

A research team from the South African Institute of Race Relations (3) surveyed the four communities of Elsie's River, Philippi, Potsdam and Louisana. From behind the arid statistics a picture emerges of life as it is lived by so many thousands of Cape Town citizens:

A lack of elementary services, a high degree of insecurity of tenure, the occupants poverty-stricken and on the lowest rungs of the employment ladder, more than half earning less than the barest minimum necessary to get by.

Water is a perpetual problem. Pit latrines are the only form of sanitation. Paraffin lamps and candles are used for lighting.

The average household is six. The education level for heads of households is between standards II and IV, with 37 percent achieving standard I or under. Seventy percent of household heads earn R20 a week or less, fewer than nine percent earn more than R30 a week.

Their modest estimate of the income necessary to get by was between R20 and R29 a week and more than half earned less than their own estimated minimum.

V.N.

(1) CROSSROADS Squatters Camp, a Report on the Disruption of African Family Life. By the Rev David Russell (Board of Social Responsibility of the Diocese of Cape Town).

(2) SQUATTERS. August 1975 number of the South African Outlook.

(3) SQUATTERS. A report on some of the socio-economic characteristics of four squatter settlements in Greater Cape Town. By M Hubbard, J Humphrey and V Domingo (SA Institute of Race Relations, Cape Western Region).

(4) SQUATTERS. Address to the Institute of Citizenship by Geoff Budlender, regional chairman of the SA Institute of Race Relations.

CAPE TIMES
17/9/75

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'Don't cares' blamed for City's squatters

CAPE TIMES 17/9/75

A REPORT issued yesterday by the South African Institute of Race Relations says that the 200 000 squatters who live in the greater Cape Town area are not a problem but the result of a problem—the social structures and policies which force them to live under such miserable conditions.

The report, commissioned by the Institute's Cape Western Region, is the result of a study of socio-economic conditions in four squatter settlements at Elsie's River, Philippi, Potsdam and Louisiana (Bellville).

It found that only eight percent of the heads of squatter households were unemployed, and another seven percent were pensioners. The average educational level was between Standards 2 and 4 and most earned R20 a week or less.

On this income each wage earner supported four or more people.

About half of the squatters paid rent. All suffered from lack of security in that they were victims of wandering gangs. None had sufficient space, drainage, water or sewerage facilities.

Drinking water varied in cost from 20c for each 45-gallon drum from pirate suppliers to 2c for 20 litres from a council tap.

Pit latrines were the only form of sanitation, paraffin lamps and candles were used for lighting —with a high risk of fire—and wood, often bought from wood-sellers, was used as fuel. Refuse was simply dumped, though some people dug it in or burnt it.

The report says that over half of these were earning less than the estimated income required simply to "get by" even though they were in full-time work "there appeared to be no likely improvement in the lot of the younger generation in terms of better education, housing or employment".

Described as "most striking" was the finding that some communities had the ability to recover from forced moves (their homes were bulldozed on local authority orders) and quickly to recreate a community atmosphere.

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SOCIETY

It's bulldozers vs people

THE number of Coloured and African squatters who live in the greater Cape Town area is estimated officially at 108 500.

Unofficially they are estimated to number 200 000 — a staggering 20 to 25 per cent of the Coloured population in the area.

The present official policy, or lack of policy, is to send in bulldozers from time to time. The squatters then move on elsewhere and, in due course, another camp arises almost overnight. In time this is also flattened.

That admirable journal, South African Outlook, edited by Dr Francis Wilson, has produced an issue which could serve as a mini-handbook for those interested in the problem.

"Most squatters live under horrifying conditions," says an Outlook editorial. "Heat, dust, haze and flies in summer; gales, mud and raw cold wind in winter, together with the searing violence born of despair, frustration, degradation and disease — all become the norm in these communities so frequently defined by little more than corroded iron sheeting, planks, cardboard and sacking.

"They contain numbers of criminals, alcoholics and delinquents, as well as those who have simply opted out of White-directed society in acts of bitter rejection. But, of course, the majority are people who consistently manage to live with a strength and adaptability incomprehensible to the outsider."

Various people who have concerned themselves with the squatter problem believe that as the authorities cannot catch up with the backlog of housing, they should recognise squatters' camps, provide facilities, guarantee security of tenure and encourage self-help.

This applies to squatters who are living legally in Cape Town. The illegal squatters — those not entitled to live in Cape Town — are another problem.

An article in Outlook by Theo van Cleeve accuses the Cape Town City Council and the Divisional Council of "doing nothing — nothing constructive, that is — except to harass and make the squatters' miserable existence more intolerable.

"Residents (at Vrygrond, near Muizenberg), most of whom have been forced to move as much as three or four times in one year, have banded together, and a "We will not move again" campaign has started. Rangers in the areas, in an attempt to break the movement, started a campaign of harassment."

Van Cleeve blames the City Council for "adopting more direct methods of persuasion — like cutting the water supply to that particular area and removing the toilets."

Stanley Uys

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10 000 'living in kennels'

Rand Daily Mail 9/9/75

Own Correspondent

CAPE TOWN. — The fire on Sunday at Elsie's River in the Cape Flats, in which a middle-aged Coloured man was burnt to death, only served to highlight the fact that more than 10 000 people lived in houses little better than dog-kennels, a social worker on the Cape Flats said yesterday.

An estimated 10 000 people are living in shanties at Elsie's River.

Mr Tommy Pearson, chairman of the Cape Flats committee for interim accommodation, said the figure was probably much higher as only those living on divisional council property were accounted for.

Thousands more lived on private property, he said. In most cases, families of between seven and 10 people lived in shacks roughly four metres long and three metres wide.

Many were living in old cars because of the lack of housing. From his window he could see a family of five living in an abandoned car, Mr Pearson said.

Shanties burning out and death by fire was not uncommon at Elsie's River because people used candles and paraffin stoves to cook and heat the place.

RENTS

Fires were easily started because the materials used in building shanties were inflammable. Most of the people used cardboard to line their shanties.

Another frightening aspect of the shanty problem was the lack of protection people had against unscrupulous landlords.

Rents for the most miserable shacks varied from R5 to R35 a month.

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No homes for Blikkiesdorp squatters

Cape Times
28/8/75

ABOUT 30 African families living in Blikkiesdorp, a squatter camp in the middle of the Rusthof Coloured area in the Strand, have been given notice to move — but have nowhere to go.

The African families have been living in the squatter camp for many years and have been paying the Strand Muncipality rental of R1,50.

According to the Town Clerk, Mr W A Pienaar, the money collected by the municipality from the squatters is for services such as water and night-soil removal.

The families have formed a committee and legal advice has been sought. A letter has been sent to the municipality asking for the removals to be stopped till alternative accommodation is provided.

The squatters, who are being assisted by the South Cape Youth Action, a group of voluntary welfare workers in The Strand, are also prepared to go to court to stop their removal.

They say that the Strand Municipality gave them permission to erect their houses in March last year. Other African families who applied after July were refused permission to build.

Africans have to break down their houses at the end of this month.

Mr Pienaar, the Town Clerk in whose name the notices to break down the houses was sent, said yesterday the area was a Coloured group area and Africans were not allowed to live there.

Wage gap fear

22/8/75

Cape Times Political Correspondent

WHILE the Government has pledged itself to narrowing the wage gap between Black and White, the Cape congress of the National Party will next month debate a motion opposing the narrowing of the gap if it is inflationary.

A draft resolution submitted by the Paarl branch of the party requests the Government to guard against the narrowing of the wage gap between Whites and non-Whites, and the consequent increase in the income of the non-Whites as factors contributing to inflation."

This is one of the few controversial motions to be raised at the party's diamond jubilee provincial congress in East London on September 2 and 3.

Another potentially controversial motion, submitted by the Piketberg branch, calls for stricter control measures to check the influx of "unlawful Bantu" into the Western Cape and to combat the "concomitant" squatting around our cities and towns".

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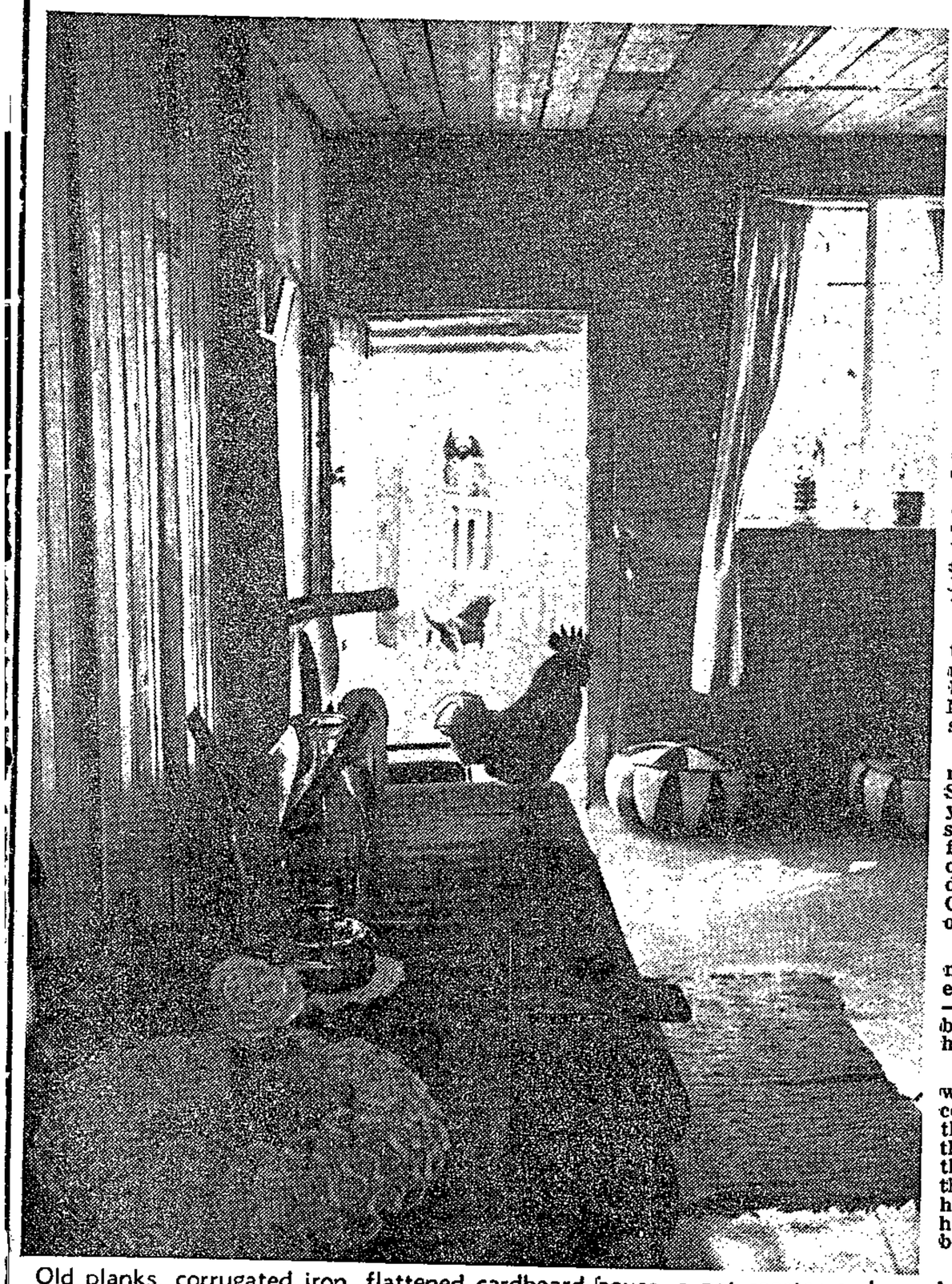
(293) Cape Times W/E Magazine 27/9/75

A man's home is...threatened



Old planks, corrugated iron, flattened cardboard boxes, a pet rooster and a dog. This is home, why demolish it?

INSIDE it is a home. Outside the "pondok" children are gambolling aimlessly in the dusty, metallic heat, among the wind-crushed bushes, derelict cars and glinting broken glass.

"I can't even let my daughters out — I'm scared for them here," says grey-haired Jane de Villiers. "A man was stabbed to death over the weekend near here, and there are rough types, people we don't know."

She and her family of 16, close-knit, home-proud Moslems, were shunted to Lourdes Farm four months ago from a Lansdowne farm where they had dwelt for a year. This two-roomed zinc construction is the third home they've erected for themselves in 16 months.

"If they move us out of this, I'm just going to give up and go and live in the bushes," her daughter, Mrs Rahima Oosthuizen, says.

Mrs Oosthuizen lives next door to her parents. Since her marriage five years ago she has tried to stay with them, shifting from one place to another, ousted by group area definitions, Divisional Council rulings or sheer officiousness.

"They've been calling my husband to their office every day, to frighten him — just because we've been having meetings here.

'We've explained that we're not against the council — it's just that the people must know their rights, and what they want changed. But the inspectors told my husband this is a 'glass house' and it can be broken down . . ."

Ebrahim Oosthuizen is a builder. When their shanty home in Lansdowne was demolished he erected a new one at Lourdes Farm, as instructed. But within days of completing it, they were told to move further into the bush. The house would be bulldozed.

Their new home has cement floors and ceilings. They have wall-papered the zinc walls, built in arched doorways, and brightened the furniture with artificial flowers, carpets and pictures.

"Now they tell my mother we might have to move to a transit camp. The places there are built well, but you just get two rooms, built like barracks in long lines, side-by-side with strangers.

"And the council says they want our house, we mustn't pull it down."

That house has cost them over R1 000 already,

By ELAINE DURBACH, who visited Cape Town's "squatter" areas this week and found that many of these people are proud home-makers . . . but with little hope for the future.

over and above the cost of the materials they brought with them from their last site.

Mrs Oosthuizen is pregnant with her third child. Recently she returned to the house after an absence of a few hours to find it deep in water, her furniture afloat, her carpets submerged.

"The rain water all flowed in from the one side, so my husband and I worked right through the night lifting the floor of the room on that side. Now it is all right — for a while."

There is no electricity. The Oosthuizens spent R400 on a paraffin fridge, essential for them to keep their halaal food fresh between expeditions to the distant shops. They use a gas stove and oil lamps.

There is no sanitation, or night soil service. Water has to be fetched from a tap.

There is little feeling of conserted determination— here or at the other shanty camps, in spite of the foment of anger. Groups like the Cape Flats Committee for Interim Accommodation are trying to teach these people what they can achieve by co-operation. but when neighbours are strangers it takes a major disaster to unite opinions on anything.

"The people here — even though they meet at our house to discuss things — are jealous of us," Rahima Oosthuizen and her mother say. "They call our children snobs, and yesterday one of the little girls was beaten up. We can't be friends with such people.

Because of that social isolation, and their fear of rough elements, neither of these two families will move without the other.

That means that if the council finds houses for them, they would want them side by side. There is little chance of that.

Mrs De Villiers has been on the City Council waiting list for a house for 10 years.

"I'm going again to ask them on Wednesday . . . Maybe this time they'll have houses for us — then we could settle down at last.'

Measures to curb spread of typhoid

Cape Times 27/9/15

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SAFETY precautions are being taken by the Cape Town City Council to prevent the spread of typhoid from carriers from the Sir Lowry's Pass squatter camp to the City, according to the Medical Officer of Health of the City Council, Dr R M Langerman.

Fear that the disease could spread arose because many of the squatters work in Cape Town.

"We have drawn up a list of all the commuters who work in the city and checked on all of them," Dr Langerman said. "Those who worked with the handling of food were taken off their job; typhoid can be passed on only by eating and drinking contaminated foodstuffs.

"The carriers we are admitting to the City Hospital." He said so far there were 11 confirmed cases and nine unconfirmed cases of typhoid carriers at the City Hospital for Infectious Diseases, Green Point.

It is believed that the cause of the outbreak in the squatter camp was the use of contaminated water from a stream which was used by the squatters to dis pose of refuse and night soil.

A mass immunization campaign, in which more than 2 000 men women and children have already been inoculated, has been started in Sir Lowry's Pass.

Daily Dispatch 1/10/75

Farmers slam labour laws

EAST LONDON — A 30-year-old problem, the shortage of farm labour, was again thrashed out at the East London District Farmers Union meeting here yesterday.

The argument of the farmers was that registration of their black labour, although compelled by law, only causes labourers to leave their employment, after which it is easy for them to apply for re-registration.

Therefore a law which cannot be enforced, should be done away with, they said.

The chairman of the Bantu Administration Board for the Eastern Cape, Mr G. J. Coetzer, who addressed the Queenstown said a system had been in operation since 1952 whereby farm labourers were registered and fingerprinted, thus minimising the lack of control.

However, he said, due to lack of co-operation on the part of the farmers not registering their labourers and not keeping contact with officials, complete records could not be kept of all farm labourers, making this system ineffective.

One hundred per cent registration of all farm labour would induce effective control but it was the farmers themselves who needed to co-operate, he said.

The manager of the Bantu Administration Board of the Eastern Cape in East London, Mr P. F. Sutton, said this system was being assisted by their department in Hill Street by only registering residents of Mdantsane for employment in East London and not labourers through any other sources.

The Bantu Affairs Commissioner, Mr Van Niekerk said the problem of squatters was not being neglected.

A police raid had been made recently and about 40 squatters had been picked up. The farmer whose land had been raided, had been prosecuted and given a suspended sentence.

More raids were anticipated, as this is a problem of increasing proportions, he said.

Mr Van Niekerk said the difficulty was that no sites were available for resettlement of the squatters. But, he said, it was the duty of the farmer to evict squatters from his land.

A delegation to the meeting said sometimes the head of a family left the farm and the farmer was then made responsible for his family.

A problem arose when, attempting to evict the family, relations intervened and threatened to leave as well, which resulted in the farmer having to support the squatter's family entirely. —DDR

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Typhoid 'list' may top 80

ARGUS 2/10/75

FIFTY-FIVE people from the Sir Lowry's Pass Village area who are believed to have typhoid have been admitted to the City Hospital for Infectious Diseases. A further 29 cases have been confirmed.

A hospital spokesman said more unconfirmed cases were arriving every day.

A spokesman for the Stellenbosch Divisional Council's health department said that although it was believed the outbreak of the disease was caused by the use of contaminated drinking water, they had not yet identified the source. The tap water in the village had been tested and found to be pure.

All villagers have now been inoculated against the disease at least once. The second round of inoculations began yesterday.

A spokesman for the State Health Department confirmed that immunisation against the disease had also been carried out in the local authority areas surrounding Sir Lowry's Pass Village, such as The Strand, Gordon's Bay and Somerset West. Food handlers have been given special attention.

Typhoid: 90 in hospital

(293)

Cape Times 3/10/75

NINETY people from the Sir Lowny's Pass and Gordon's Bay areas had been admitted to the City Hospital for Infectious Diseases by late yesterday.

Thirty-two of the people admitted were confirmed typhoid sufferers while the rest were suspected cases.

According to a hospital spokesman, many cases of the disease were being admitted daily since the outbreak two weeks ago.

Cases had also been admitted from Gordon's Bay because the same river ran through the area from Sir Lowry's Pass.

A spokesman for the Stellenbosch Divisional Council said yesterday that the river water had been tested and found to be pure.

So far the carriers of the disease had not been isolated. Further inoculations against typhoid were being carried out daily.

Strand move to prevent typhoid at De Bos

ARGUS 3/10/75

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AS a direct result of the typhoid epidemic in nearby Sir Lowry's Pass Village, the Strand Municipality has decided to supply fresh water and sanitation to the 800 people squatting on land within the municipal area known as Die Bos, according to the Chief Health Officer, Mr A. S. Viviers.

Typhoid can be contracted by drinking contaminated water or by the lack of sanitary sewage disposal. Ninty people from the area around Sir Lowry's Pass Village have been admitted to the City Hospital for Infectious Diseases. The disease has been confirmed in 32 cases.

The Municipality has now supplied corrugated iron sheets for the construction of outside lavatories and has institued a bucket-emptying service. They have also sent two water tankers, each with a capacity of more than 6-million litres, to the area.

Mr Viviers said this was a temporary precautionary measure. Most of the inhabitants of Die Bos have been inoculated against typhoid, and none has so far contracted the disease.

JURISDICTION

Until the beginning of this year, Die Bos came under the jurisdiction of the Divisional Council but now falls within the Strand municipal area. The Town Council had been trying since January to get the development company which owns the land to provide water and sanitation for the squatters, he said. It also wanted the squatters to be evicted from the land.

The development company has now undertaken to lay a pipeline into the area to provide the squatters with fresh water, and also to build a road to give municipal sewage lorries access to the area.

Mr Viviers said construction of this road would begin as soon as the mud caused by yesterday's rain has hardened.

Disease can be a killer

TYPHOID, of which there are now 32 confirmed and 58 unconfirmed cases in the City Hospital for Infectious Diseases, can kill.

The present outbreak is so far confined to the Sir Lowry's Pass Village area, and is believed to have been caused by the use of a contaminated water source.

According to a medical source, the early symptoms of the disease are insidious. The patient feels as if he has flu, with headaches, body aches, possible abdominal pain and a slight temperature.

If left untreated, the patient will develop a high temperature in the second week and may have diarrhoea, increased abdominal discomfort and possibly small isolated spots on the skin.

The third week is the most dangerous as this is when complications such as perforation of the bowel, excessive rise in temperature and haemorrhages can set in. When death does occur, it is usually because of one of these complications.

However, it is not necessarily a fatal disease, even when left untreated.

After the third week, the patient will gradually improve, but it will be another three weeks before he is back to normal.

A local doctor said most people consulted their doctors at the end of the first week of the disease when they realised their 'flu' was not getting better. The disease is notifiable.

Typhoid alarm in Cape village

SUN. TIMES 5/10/75

Epidemic, says worried MOH

By BERNARD JONGBLOED

THE TYPHOID epidemic which has broken out on the banks of the Gordon's River worsened yesterday when it was reported that 15 more suspected cases had been admitted to the Cape Town City Hospital for Infectious Diseases.

Dr S. Malherbe, medical superintendent of the hospital, said that 12 more suspected cases were admitted late on Friday afternoon and three during the night.

The casualty toll at the hospital had now risen to 105 — 34 of them confirmed typhoid cases. All the patients were being kept in a special isolation ward.

All the Strand's municipal employees have been inoculated. The municipality has advised shop owners, supermarkets, cafes and butchers who employ workers from the affected areas to send their workers home for the time being.

"Our own municipal cars have been taking health staff out to both Black and White areas every day for the last three weeks — our clinic is like a beehive," said the municipality's Chief Health Officer, Mr A. S. Viviers.

The Stellenbosch Divisional Council health authorities say they are "very worried" about the outbreak of typhoid on the banks of the Gordon's River, which flows through the mountain village of Sir Lowry's Pass and Temperance Town, near Gordon's Bay.

The polluted Gordon's River flows into the sea at Gordon's Bay, one of South Africa's most popular holiday resorts, although Sir Lowry's Pass village is a long distance away, below the Hottentot Holland mountain range.

The banks of the river at Sir Lowry's Pass, where the first case of typhoid occurred, is lined with rows of squatter shanties, authorised by the Stellenbosch municipality, which controls the area.

This week Dr A. E. Tibbit, Medical Officer of Health for Stellenbosch, said that nearly 3 000 villagers had been inoculated, that more than 90 people from Sir Lowry's Pass and Temperance Town had been transferred to the Cape Town City Hospital for Infectious Diseases, and that 32 had been confirmed as typhoid cases, and that the rest were suspect cases.

"As far as I am concerned, this is definitely an epidemic. We're worried, very worried, but we are doing the best we can."

Dr Tibbit said the State Health Department had sent 15 nurses to help in the emergency. She has recruited 10 more of her own staff in Stellenbosch, and mobile clinics are stationed at Sir Lowry's Pass and Temperance Town. Three doctors are also on standby duty.

When I visited Sir Lowry's Pass village yesterday the swiftly-flowing stream was a dirty, orange-brown colour. Garbage, rotting vegetation and metal objects littered the water's edge. Here and there buckets and other utensils had been left standing, as if residents were afraid to draw water from the river.

"I have told the inhabitants that if they do not leave the river water alone I will take them to court, but they will not listen," said Dr Tibbit.

Uncontaminated tap water is supplied from a borehole in a nearby vlei. From there the water is pumped to a storage dam in the village for purification. The water is then pumped to five isolated taps in the squatter village far from the banks of the river.

A mother of four, Mrs Sandra Brinkhuis, told me she was born in the village, along the banks of the river, 27 years ago.

The water from the taps which "came from that dirty dam" was unfit for drinking or any other use, she said.

A fish hawker who did not want to be identified, said the tap water "foamed up like ginger beer," and a "fishy-oily" sediment was left at the bottom of the container.

Dr Tibbit said the river water had been tested and had been found to be "not highly contaminated". She agreed that the tap water left a sediment, but said it had been proved to be bacteriologically pure.

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Typhoid – 105 in City Hospital

Cape Times 6/10/75

A TOTAL of 105 people have been admitted to hospital and 39 cases of typhoid have been confirmed as an epidemic rages in the Sir Lowry's Pass and Gordon's Bay areas.

All patients have been admitted to the City Hospital for Infectious Diseases at Green Point.

The confirmed cases came from one area, a section of the Sir Lowry's Pass village known as the Mission Grounds.

The Medical Officer of Health for the Stellenbosch Divisional Council, Dr A E Tibbit, said yesterday that the outbreak had reached a peak and precautionary measures should soon show their effect.

"Most of those admitted are under observation. Everyone living in the area has been inoculated and visitors warned to stay away until these measures take effect," Dr Tibbit said.

A stream near the Mission Grounds has been pinpointed as a possible carrier. Divisional Council officials have stained the water bright green to discourage anyone who hasn't heard of the epidemic from drinking it.

A decision was taken last week by the Strand municipality to lay on water and sanitary facilities for the 800 residents of a squatter camp at Die Bos, as present conditions constitute a health hazard.

Village may be put in quarantine

ARGUS 6/10/75 (293)

THE typhoid epidemic at the Sir Lowry's Pass Village was alarming and the whole village may possibly be placed in quarantine, Mr S. A. S. van Zyl, secretary of the Stellenbosch Divisional Council, said today.

Dr A. E. Tibbit, medical officer of health for the council, spent most of her time during the weekend at the village and this morning she went straight there to supervise the inoculation programme.

The inoculations started two weeks ago, but the injections could not provide protection for the first seven to 10 days.

This means that people injected at the start of the campaign would have been vulnerable to late last week.

At the weekend Dr Tibbit gathered as many of the villagers as possible to find those who had not been inoculated. At the same time she is supervising the 'booster' injections which supplement the first inoculations.

Dr T. J. Malherbe, Medical Superintendent of the City Hospital for Infectious Diseases, said today the hospital now had 111 people admitted from the Sir Lowry's Pass area.

Only 39 of these cases had been confirmed and he expected about half the people admitted to be found clear of typhoid. Those who had the disease received a three-week treatment which should kill the disease.

Everyone was tested before release from the hospital, but it was possible that some of the patients would remain carriers of the disease.

ALARMING

Mr van Zyl said these figures would be alarming even if only a quarter of the suspected cases were confirmed.

Because of the high incidence in a low density area the quarantining of the whole area had to be considered.

However, this step would only be taken on the advice of Dr Tibbit and her report was not yet available, he said.

Piped water had been provided near to all the squatter shacks to discourage the use of water from the Gordon's River and a nightsoil disposal service had been introduced. The river is believed to be the source of the disease.

Cape Times 7/10/75

Typhoid: (293) Quarantine imposed

A SELECTIVE quarantine has been placed on residents of the Mission Fields at Sir Lowry's Pass where 116 persons have been taken to hospital with suspected typhoid and 41 cases have been confirmed.

The quarantine applies to workers employed in food-handling processes such as dairy firms and restaurants.

Every food handler with a confirmed or suspected case of typhoid in his immediate family has been asked to stay away from work until the epidemic has ended.

Yesterday, Dr A E Tibbit, Medical Officer of Health for the Stellenbosch Divisional Council, spent the day at the village programme which is in its supervising an inoculation third week.

The injections require almost 10 days before giving immunity and booster injections are being given.

Crossroads squatters fined R10 (or 30 days)

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Cape Times 26/9/75

THIRTY-FOUR Africans from the Crossroads squatter camp in Philippi were yesterday found guilty of being in a prescribed area without permission.

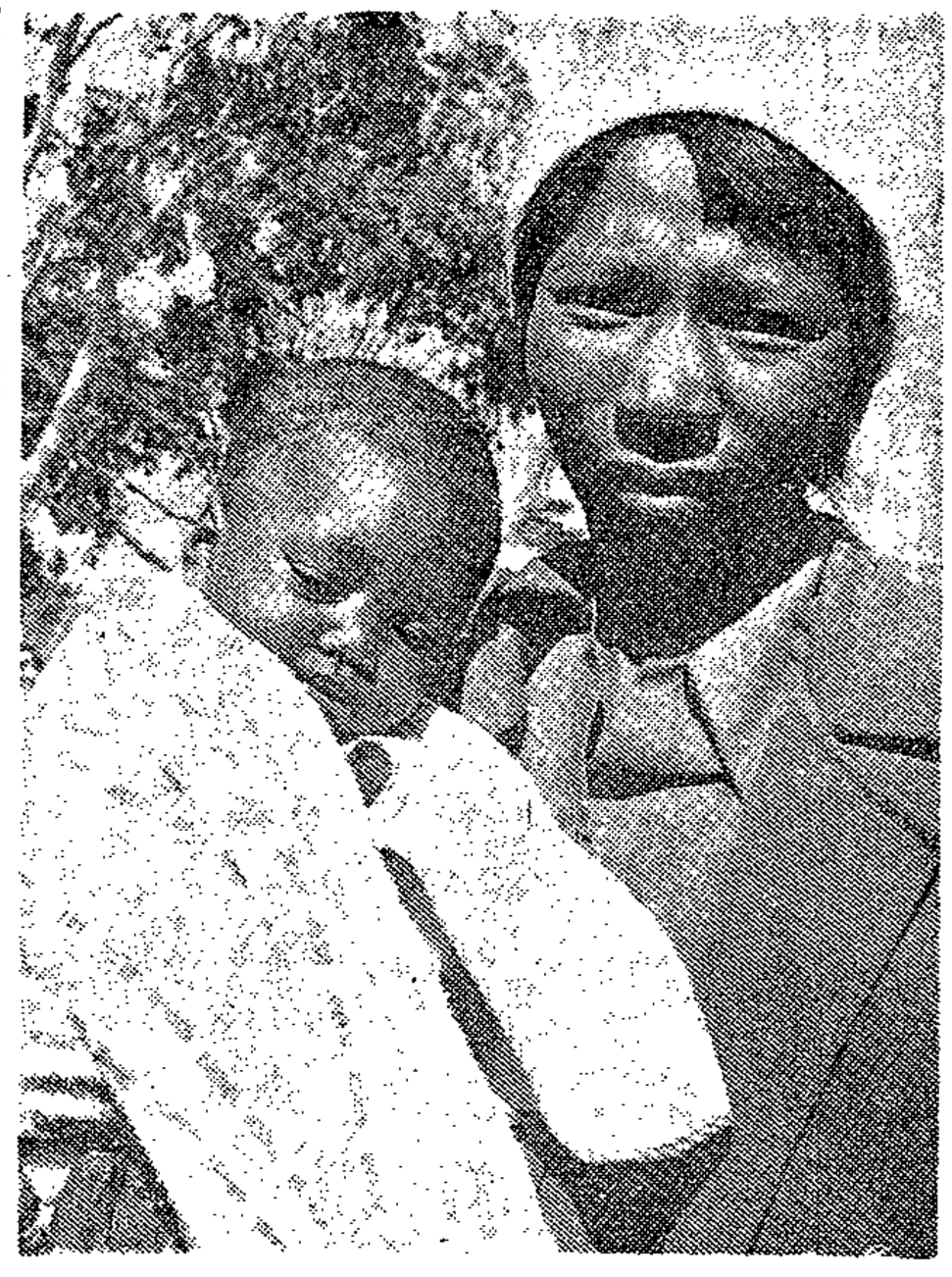
The squatters, who appeared in the Langa Magistrate's Court were found guilty and sentenced to R10 (or 30 days) each.

(293) Cape Times 9/10/75

Court warns on criticism of Govt

A WYNBERG magistrate yesterday warned a witness that he would not listen to criticism of Government policy while hearing evidence.

The warning came during the hearing of a State application for eviction and demolition against a a 30-year-old African mother of four who was found guilty on September 29 of being in a prescribed area without permission.



Mrs Lilian Peter and her youngest child outside the Wynberg Magistrate's Court yesterday. The State is seeking an eviction order against her and permission to demolish her shanty at Crossroads.

The magistrate, Mr D W Geldenhuys, told Dr Francis Wilson, head of the research division, Department of Economics, University of Cape Town, that if his evidence was intended as a criticism of Government policy it had little bearing on the merits of the case.

"I must make it clear that I am not here to listen to criticism of Government policy," Mr Geldenhuys said.

Mr Robin Marais, appearing for the defendant, told the magistrate that "the very people asking for the eviction order are partly to blame for the situation as it exists".

SITUATION

Mr Geldenhuys upheld an objection by the public prosecutor on the grounds that "a long-drawn-out criticism of Government policy is obviously envisaged".

Mr Marais said that the evidence was not critical but explanatory.

Dr Wilson told the court that official policy on influx control had led to a dilemma in which economic growth required more labour while at the same time an attempt was being made to reduce the number of African workers.

This in turn had led to a slowdown in the provision of housing and, on official figures, about 800 to 1 000 African families with a legal right to residence had no accommodation.

The husband of the defendant, Mrs Lilian Peter, had worked in Cape Town for 15 years and Mrs Peter had been born in Cape Town.

Dr Wilson added that as a "rule of thumb" it could be estimated that for every legal African worker in the Western Cape there was another without papers. This meant that illegal residents could number up to 100 000, all without accommodation.



Dr Wilson

The number of houses being provided was not sufficient to keep up with the natural increase of population, much less the growth of the labour pool from outside sources. The wood-and-iron shacks built by the squatters were cosy homes, often wall papered with coffee labels in an attempt to make a home where people could live decently, Dr Wilson said.

The opportunity for employment in the homelands was poor, he added.

Asked if he disagred with Government policy, Dr Wilson told Mr A Steyn, the prosecutor, that "it needs a great deal of rethinking, particularly that aspect which says that the migrant in town may not live with his wife".

Dr Frances Ames, senior lecturer in neurology at the University of Cape Town, principal specialist in neurology at Groote Schuur Hospital and a psychiatrist, said that she had interviewed Mrs Peter and found the family stable. Removal would have a "bad effect" on all of them.

Answering a question by Mr Marais, Dr Ames said that it was a generally accepted principle in all western cultures that the family unit was a stabilizing factor in society. If this unit were broken it had repercussions which gave rise to "unfortunate consequences".

ALCOHOL

If his family were evicted from the Cape Mr Peter would either struggle to come to terms with his loss by establishing some other relationship — in which case he would be responsible not only for that person but also his absent family — or as others had filled the gap by "stupefying themselves with alcohol".

The incidence of alcoholism among such people in the Western Cape was high, she added.

A request by the State for remand was granted till October 29.

Mr A Steyn prosecuted. Mr R Marais, SC, and Mr C Steytler, instructed by Mr M Richman of Mallinick, Ress and Richman appeared for Mrs Peter.

Typhoid epidemic under control

Cape Times 9/10/75 293

THE TYPHOID epidemic in the Sir Lowry's Pass-Gordon's Bay area is being contained. The rate of admissions to the City Hospital for Infections Diseases in Green Point yesterday slowed to a trickle, according to a spokesman

There was no longer any danger of the disease spreading, said the spokesman. The rate of admissions had dwindled from about 15 a day to one.

There were now 48 confirmed cases of typhoid in the City Hospital while another 75 suspected cases were being treated.

It was expected that the second batch of suspected typhoid cases would be discharged from the hospital before the end of this week.

Last week three people were discharged when it was discovered that they did not carry the disease.

At least 40 percent of the suspected cases will be discharged by the end of this week, the spokesman said

Because of the selective quarantine placed on the Mission Fields area of Sir Lowry's Pass, and the laying off of food-handlers suspected of having the disease, the epidemic was abating.

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Warning on inferior housing schemes

(1) 124 (2) 293 CAPE TIMES 9/10/75

THE SECRETARY for Community Development has warned local authorities against building inferior houses for Coloured people and Indians to solve squatter problems.

According to a report to the Cape Town City Council's housing committee yesterday, the secretary said that no purpose would be served by creating instant solutions to the squatter problem in the form of site and service schemes or "shell" houses which provided outer walls and roof only.

The report also said:

● Cape Town was the national focal point of National Housing Fund expenditure;

● Pleas were made for the introduction of programmes aimed at drawing the attention of families to the advantage of home ownership so as to foster demand;

● Considerable acceleration of Coloured and African urban migration was foreseen;

● Employers relied too much on local authorities for the housing of their employees leading to financial losses in housing by the State.

Papers had been delivered at the conference by housing managers, sociologists, engineers, town planners, statisticians, economists and industrialists.

TAPS AND TOILETS WILL BEAT THE 'DIRTY DISEASE'

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THE polluted river that caused the outbreak of typhoid at Sir Lowry's Village.

By Keith Kiewiet

TAPS and toilets alone would provide a lasting cure for the dreaded 'dirt disease' typhoid. This was the message Mr Joe Fourie, Methodist minister in charge of the Mission Fields at Sir Lowry's Village, had for the authorities this week.

Inoculations and scare stories only helped on a short-term basis and there would always be typhoid outbreaks until people stopped using streams and pools for both toilets and drinking water, he said.

'It does not really help to teach people, or scare people, into washing their hands if there are not proper facilities for these functions,' Mr Fourie said.

His opinion is shared by Mr S. J. Wessels, headmaster to 609 children at Sir Lowry's Village Government School. Mr Wessels said the authorities had instructed him to make his students more aware of the dangers of drinking dirty water.

'But if there is no clean water where they live then these lessons don't really help much,' he said.

This week I visited the stricken area and it was clear to me that the dirty river running through the squatter section of Sir Lowry's Village had been used not only as a toilet and drinking place but also as a rubbish removal service.

The other sections of the village, though not ideal, had taps dotted round and I saw several clean-smelling ablution blocks. The original carrier of the typhoid apparently came from the squatter section.

The village is picturesque and has a peaceful mountain atmosphere but until the authorities, or the people themselves, clean up the stream and use taps and toilets, it is likely that the disease will flare up again — as it will in many other places where there is no proper sanitation.

Costs

Mr Fourie said: 'I wonder what costs the State more — the construction of a proper ablution block and one or two taps or the massive administration of drugs to suspected typhoid cases.

'I should imagine the ablution blocks and taps would cost less.'

Typhoid — usually regarded as the disease that comes with earthquakes and other disasters — is common in South Africa.

Nearly every winter the rains produce a typhoid scare as cesspools overflow and children play in the mess.

There were about 300 cases of suspected typhoid at Mamre last year with 76 confirmed.

This year's outbreak at Sir Lowry's Village has resulted in 48 confirmed cases.

In both cases the epidemic was stemmed by the efforts of doctors and other medical workers but, as one of the teachers at the village's school said: 'It is time for doctors to move out and engineers to move in.'

Typhoid fever can be a killer but doctors, using modern drugs, can cope with the disease. The disease is spread by the direct contamination of food or water supplies and a carrier can be chronic and harbour the micro-organisms for years or even a life-time.

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A RESIDENT of Sir Lowry's Village get against typhoid.

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How the health control problem was sorted out

LIKE MAMRE, the little mission village near Malmesbury where typhoid fever also broke out last year, Sir Lowry's Pass almost had a similar problem, as to what official department should supervise its health facilities.

Mamre was a mission station founded by German missionaries. By Government legislation, it was later placed under the control of the Department of Coloured Affairs who still runs it. It has a village management board with very little powers of supervising its own affairs.

In the meantime, the Cape Divisional Council supplied the area with health services, but only on the basis of combating and controlling infectious diseases. The powers, delegated by the State Health Department, were only on a yearly basis, much to the Divisional Council's chagrin.

In May, last year, Die Oog, a fountain used by missionaries and inhabitants for centuries, became contaminated and typhoid fever became a feared word in the whole of the Western Cape.

Futile

The Divisional Council decided soon afterwards that it could not continue its health services, unless it was given full powers and responsibilities of all sections of the Public Health Act. At the end of last year it finally withdrew its services, because representations to the Secretary for Health, Department of State Health Services and Department of Coloured Affairs proved futile.

The problem appeared to be whether Mamre, a "rural area" in terms of Government policy, was a local authority which could control its own affairs.

In August, this year, the Divisional Council finally heard from State Health Services that it had been given authority to supervise health services for Mamre for three years, starting from January 1, this year, which meant the village was, officially, without such services for eight months this year.

At Sir Lowry's Pass, history records say, there were Dutch, German, French and English settled there. It finally became 99 percent Coloured, or people of "mixed descent". In 1972 there were nearly 2 000 Coloured people living there. Businesses, houses and property belonged to the Coloured people themselves—except for two Whites—and, in fact, there was a lot of talk and discussions that the village would become South Africa's first Black municipality.

Sir Lowry's Pass should have been the perfect example for "separate development", but for some cruel reason the Government declared the near-100 percent Coloured village a White-proclaimed area.

In those days it was "the talk of the town" that Mr Gerald Mitchell, a Coloured business man in the village, would become South Africa's first Black mayor. Plans for the Black municipality had already been on the "drawing boards". But no dice.

In 1970 a special committee of White sympathizers was formed to save the village for Coloured occupation. The Hottentots Holland Chamber of Commerce, the municipalities of the Strand, Somerset West and Gordon's Bay and local ratepayers' associations were busy with top-level negotiations to re-proclaim the village Coloured.

Mr J C Heunis, now Minister of Economic Affairs, replied to the committee that if the three municipalities could work out a scheme whereby Sir Lowry's Pass could become a fully-fledged town on its own, with sewerage, water, electricity and other amenities, he felt the committee would have a very good case to put before the then Minister of Planning and Community Development.

Advocate A H Broeksma, who, with Professor S P Cilliers of Stellenbosch University, was one of the prime movers behind the re-proclamation scheme, said this week he could not remember what became of the negotiations.

'Society'

Coloured people of the area also put in their own fight and formed a "Vigilance Society" and are still busy with representations to Government departments.

In April, this year, the Government re-proclaimed a portion of Sir Lowry's Pass—Mission Grounds where the typhoid is raging at present — as Coloured. The business centre and residential area proper were given to Whites.

Stellenbosch Divisional Council Medical Officer of Health, Dr A E Tibbit, said this week she did not know who was responsible for Sir Lowry's Pass Coloured area's health hervices.

"The place is so crazily mixed up here that I don't even know where the boundaries are. In any case, this is an epidemic and I have my hands full."

Mr S A S van Zyl, Secretary of the Stellenbosch Divisional Council, said this week there were no difficulties any more as to who was responsible for the White and Coloured proclaimed areas of Sir Lowry's Pass. His council still controlled the whole village and supplied all the health services.

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SNOEK FRUST FISHERM

By
JOHN BROWN

BECAUSE of the near gale force south-easter which ripped over the Western Province for the greater part of the week there was little activity in the harbours of Cape Town, Hout Bay and Kalk Bay.

I was told that at Kalk Bay boats ventured into the sea on only two days. These returned with small bench fish and a few yellowtail which have now established themselves from Bellow's Rock right into False Bay, around Cape Point and Sea Island.

Snoek, which may not legally be caught until December 1, continue to plague professional fisher-

thing which is cast into the water and generally give these fishermen, who are out for big stuff, a frustrating time. So catches of yellowtail are few and far between and fishermen who try to catch them usually give up in disgust, draw anchor and go to a reef where hottentot and other bank fish abound.

This weekend does not seem to hold much opportunity for professionals. At the moment of writing a fairly stiff south-easter is blowing and this is a sign it will increase in volume. It is, therefore, on the cards that professional fishing will be resumed only in the middle of the week.

not confined to the Peninsula alone. At Arniston and Struis Bay boats were harbour bound for the greater part of the week. And at Hawston, Hermanus, and Gansbaai skippers sailed for the fishing grounds only on Friday and returned with no fish.

The fishing village of Hawston, where I spent the whole of Friday in the company of Joey Raaf and Jeremy Tarry, another colleague, is fortunate that boat owners there do not depend on fish for their livelihood but on perlemoen.

When the weather permits, small glass fibre boats, with a crew capacity of not more than eight, propelled by outboard

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VILLAGE IN GRIP OF A TYPHOID EPIDEMIC

LITTLE DID the ox-wagon teamsters of 200 years ago and more visualise that their outspan, between the "two streams of sweet water", just below the Hottentots Holland Mountains and along the route to the interior over what is today known as Sir Lowry's Pass, would today be the scene of an alarming typhoid epidemic.

Battle being won at Sir Lowry's Pass

Sir Lowry's Pass Village, which grew up around the outspan, was placed in quarantine this week. One of the two "sweet water" streams which residents had been using for drinking and other domestic uses is



Nursing Sister R Lötter, of Stellenbosch, inoculates little Laetitia against typhoid fever as Laetitia's mother, Mrs Sylvia Philander, watches.

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REPORT: Bernard Jongbloed
PICTURES: Willie de Klerk

doctors assisting her, and has taken 10 of her own Stellenbosch nursing staff to the village to assist with the massive inoculation campaign. The State Health Department has also supplied 15 nurses.

Hospital

More than 3 000 of the villagers have been inoculated during the last three weeks, about 120 people from the village and Temperance Town, near Gordon's Bay, and through which the polluted stream also flows, have been transferred to Cape Town's City Hospital for Infectious Diseases.

By Wednesday this week there were 47 confirmed typhoid cases at the hospital and a further 71 suspected cases.

When I visited the village this week, the whole area was a hive of activity. Divisional Council cars and other vehicles were dashing up and down the dirt roads which criss-cross the Mission Grounds, the Coloured proclaimed area, and through which the Gordon's River flows.

Mobile clinics were stationed both in the village, and further on towards the sea, at Temperance Town.

At the village clinic itself nurses, doctors and patients — young and old — were bustling about like creatures of a lively ant heap.

Infants were squalling like mad and mothers, especially, were proudly walking away holding up their sleeves to show off their injection needle mark to their neighbours.

Resort

The Gordon's River, one of those "sweet water" streams, flows into the sea at Gordon's Bay, one of South Africa's most popular Whites-only holiday resorts and modern caravan parks. Sir Lowry's Pass Village is a long way off, but the people of Temperance Town, near Gordon's Bay, have also been affected by the epidemic.

The outbreak began on the banks of the river in the Mission Grounds. The banks are lined with rows of squalid shanties, some flows. The water is then pumped to a storage dam in the village for purification. From there, it is pumped to five communal, isolated taps in the Mission Grounds, but far from the river bank squatters.

On Tuesday last week, however, Divisional Council workers worked until late at night to put in more water taps "to bring the water nearer the people".

A council spokesman scotched claims by residents that sewerage and night soil pails were left in the streets for days before they were collected.

"We're worried, very worried, but we are doing the best we can. I can't say we will stamp out the disease of nothing," Dr Tibbit told me.

But this week Mr S A S van Zyl, Secretary of the Stellenbosch Divisional Council, was more optimistic.

Progress

"I think we are getting this disease under control, even if the progress is slow. It is, or was, an epidemic, a crisis. It had us worried. I am confident, however, we will get this thing under control," he said.

Dr Tibbit gave me a brief description of how the typhoid epidemic started. A 16-year-old girl who lived on the banks of the river had been suffering from a stomach complaint for more than three months. She had played, did her family's washing and mixed with her friends along the river banks for all that time. Strangely enough, most of the typhoid cases were female.

The girl had been taken to doctors and hospital, but had been "mis-diagnosed" until about three weeks ago.

"She had been the first carrier among the river squatters and must have passed on the disease to other people."

Disappeared

Dr Tibbit added: "I have also heard a story that a visitor from another area visited friends who also lived on the river banks near the girl's home. The man was taken away to hospital with stomach trouble, but has since disappeared."

Mrs Sandra Brinkhuis, A well-known fish hawker, who did not want to be identified because he feared his licence would be confiscated, said the tap water "foamed up like ginger beer" and afterwards a "fish-oily" sediment was left at the bottom of a container.

"Sometimes it takes three hours before the tap water cleared properly and that is why people who did not have rain water tanks drink the river water," he said.

Later, Dr Tibbit said she agreed the tap water left behind a sediment, but "it has been proved to be bacteriologically pure".

"As far as I am concerned there are many sick people here. We're carrying out daily inspections up and down the just wash that would be half the battle won."

The river water had been tested and had been found to be "not highly contaminated".

The selective quarantine placed on residents of the Mission Fields applied to workers employed in food handling processes such as supermarkets, dairy firms and restaurants. Every food handler with a confirmed or suspected case of typhoid in his immediate family has been asked to stay away from work until the epidemic is over.

Supermarket

Mr S Friedman, personnel manager of a large Somerset West and The Strand supermarket chain, said more than 40 workers who lived in Sir Lowry's Pass Village and Temperance Town had been put off work for the time being.

"In a supermarket your workers have to do a lot of handling foodstuffs like meat and fish. We are also scared that customers who are potential carriers could contaminate the foodstuffs. This is only a precautionary measure," said Mr Friedman.

A spokesman for a large food and fruit canning factory in Somerset West said none of his workers had been put off, although it would be considered if the disease reached bigger proportions.

At a large Strand meat processing factory, none of the workers has been put off from work. All have been inoculated during the past three weeks.

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The former "sweet water" of the Gordon's River has become taboo because of the typhoid epidemic. Here the villagers queue up at a fresh water tap.

thought to be the cause of the epidemic.

Typhoid, that dreaded disease commonly called "maagkoors", broke out in the village about four weeks ago. It was only highlighted two weeks ago and reached such alarming proportions that Dr A E Tibbit, Medical Officer for Health of the Stellenbosch Divisional Council, under whose jurisdiction the village falls, had to go out there and spend the whole of last weekend organizing the inoculation programme.

Dr Tibbit was emphatic last week that the outbreak of typhoid was "an epidemic as far as I am concerned". She has three

Typhoid epidemic 'is under control'

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Sun Times (Extra) 12/10/58

By BERNARD JONGBLOED

THE TYPHOID epidemic which broke out along the banks of the Gordon's River in Sir Lowry's Pass has slackened. Spokesmen for both the Stellenbosch Divisional Council and the Cape Town City Hospital for Infectious Diseases confirmed that the epidemic was "completely under control".

Four people from Sir Lowry's Pass Village were discharged from hospital on Thursday and many were due for discharge by the end of the week. On Friday there were still 123 suspected typhoid cases in the hospital, while the number of confirmed cases rose by one to 49.

Dr A E Tibbit, Medical Officer for Health of the Stellenbosch Divisional Council, is still at Sir Lowry's Pass supervising the inoculation programme. During the past three weeks she has scarcely visited her office. She has been home only to sleep.

All the people along the banks of the river have been inoculated and the inoculation programme "is completed apart from untreated stragglers from the isolated areas"

"I have used loudspeakers to educate the river squatters that they should not use the water for drinking or washing, or for anything else," Dr Tibbit said. "They are learning fast, and are doing as I have instructed."

Because the river water has been stained green, the people are now only using piped water from a borehole. Although the six new water taps, hastily installed by the divisional council, are far from the squatter camp, the squatters have realized they face a major crisis and so they trudge the distance without complaint for water.

● SEE PAGE 7

Law may tear their world apart

WHAT HAPPENS to a tightly-knit African family—who have been living together for 15 years—when they are broken up and the mother and four children are sent to the Transkei, where the mother lived for only a few years and where she has no relatives?

This question was raised in an unusual case in the Wynberg Magistrate's Court, Cape Town, this week, when Mrs Elaine Peter, 30, appeared before Mr D. W. Geldenhuys.

Mrs Peter has been convicted of being an illegal migrant. Her sentence is being considered and an order is being sought for her eviction from and the demolition of her shanty home at the Crossroads squatter camp.

At the opening of the hearing, a number of expert witnesses were assembled by the defence team, headed by Mr Robin Marais, SC, to give evidence on Mrs Peter's behalf.

Among them were Dr Frances Ames, senior lecturer in neurology at Groote Schuur Hospital; a psychiatrist, Dr Francis Wilson, head of the research division of the department of economics at the University of Cape Town; the Rev David Russell, an Anglican priest; Mr Johann Maree, a UCT economics lecturer, and Dr Martin West, a UCT anthropologist.

The magistrate heard evidence from Dr Ames and Dr Wilson and then adjourned the hearing to October 27, after the prosecutor, Mr. A. Steyn, surprised by the amount of defence evidence led, asked for an adjournment.

Mr Geldenhuys said he would not allow political argument. In the hearing the following exchange took place:

Dr Wilson: "The Prime Minister has said that unemployment is more dangerous than terrorism."

Dr Steyn: "Ojection . . . "

Mr Geldenhuys: "I must make it clear that I am not here to listen to criticism of the Government's policies."

Mr Marais: "This court is being asked to evict a woman and her family and to demolish her home. The very people asking for the eviction order are partly to blame for the situation as it exists."

Pitiful plight of the Peter family

SUN. TIMES 12/10/75

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By GEOFF DEKENAH

WHEN THE hearing started, Mrs Elaine Peter took her place in the dock. Small and slim, she was neatly dressed in blue. Her hair had been straightened and it glistened underneath a light scarf. She listened attentively to the proceedings.

Born in Cape Town, Mrs Peters lived there until her mother died when she was very young. Then she was sent to her maternal grandmother in Tarkastad.

When her grandmother died, she returned to her father in Cape Town. There she met and married her present husband, who is legally entitled to live in the Cape Town area.

The defence team sat at a table: Mr Robin Marais, SC, with him Mr Chris Steytler (instructed by Mallinick, Ress and Richman). Seated behind them, waiting, were the defence witnesses.

Through the witnesses, all experts in their field, defence counsel proposed to put before the court evidence of conditions in the Transkei — particularly the "push" factor which has ted that the evidence was explanatory, not critical.

By lunch-time, the court had adjourned, after hearing evidence only by Dr Ames and Dr Wilson.

Dr Ames gave testimony on the effect separation would have on the Peter family.

Dr Wilson, author of books on migrant labour, gave testimony on conditions in the homelands and on the shortage of housing in Cape Town.

Growth

Opportunities for employment within the homelands were poor, said Dr Wilson. In urban areas, women supplemented their husbands' earnings by doing char work, but in the homelands there were few, if any, jobs of that nature for women to earn addit-

ulation by five per cent a year.

In fact, what had happened was that the need for labour caused by the growth rate had caused the number of contract workers to treble between 1968 and 1974 — from 10 000 to 30 000. These were the official figures.

Jobs

Accommodation had not kept pace with this development, with the result that there was not sufficient housing for the 117 000 African people legally living in the Western Cape. The "official unofficial, or unofficial official figures," were double that.

"It is a rule of thumb that for every legal worker living here there is one here illegally," said Dr Wilson.

"The problem in the Western Cape is not one of jobs," said Dr Wilson. "It is of housing."

Dr Wilson said he

er to their place of work before going through with an eviction.

"However, if I had a farm, which is more apt in this case, I would do as many other farmers in the Cape do with land they are not using — allow families to squat there."

Mr Steyn: "The Minister has ordered that they be cleared, because they are in an air corridor."

Dr Wilson: "If they cannot stay in an air corridor, then they should be given the option of staying, if it is a health hazard, or be given alternative accommodation."

Mr Steyn: "What is your purpose in coming here today?"

Dr Wilson: "I have come to see that justice is done."

Dr Frances Ames said that if Mrs Peter was returned to the Transkei, it would affect Mr Peter, the two older sons and her badly. The family was society's foundation and it was generally acknowledged that to break it up affected not only the family involved, but the society around it.

Symptoms

She had found that Mr and Mrs Peter, who had been married since 1963, had a stable marriage and that they and their children were devoted to one another. If the unit was broken up, Mr Peter would either find other company — which would then place a strain on the family finances — or, like lonely men all over the world, would turn to drink.

Mrs Peter would be placed in a strange environment, without a man to fend for her,

caused many Africans to seek work in the cities — and of conditions in the urban areas, particularly the shortage of housing.

The court was not prepared for the array of witnesses. During the hearing, the prosecutor complained about the nature of the evidence that was being led.

The magistrate, Mr Geldenhuys, remarked that "a long drawn-out criticism of Government obviously is envisaged" but allowed the defence to continue to lead evidence after Mr Marais, SC, had submit-

ional income.

"Six out of every seven men earning money in the homelands work outside the homelands," said Dr Wilson. "Growth rate in the homelands is just not enough for the population growth."

Describing conditions in the Western Cape, brought about by the Government's decision in 1966 to reverse the flow of migrant labour back to the homelands, Dr Wilson said it had been officially decided to build no more houses. The plan was to reduce the African pop-

had met Mrs Peter and had seen her home at Crossroads. He had been very impressed by the way in which it had been kept. As far as he knew, the family had nowhere to go, short of "taking their little home and moving it elsewhere."

Under cross-examination by Mr Steyn, Dr Wilson said that he had found a family squatting "in the small garden of my house in Rouwkop Road, Rondebosch. I hope I can first find them a home or accommodation clos-



The men who spoke up for Elaine, from left: the Rev David Russell, Mr Johann Maree, Dr Martin West and Dr Francis Wilson.



Mrs Elaine Peter, who faces removal to the Transkei.

and with four children, two of them boys.

"She is already showing psychosomatic symptoms of aches, pains and headaches as a result of the tension."

There were also "the huge problems of movement and being a married woman with children — but without a man — in the Transkei."

Dr Ames said she had found the inside of the Peter home extraordinarily neat. "The children were well nourished and the baby impeccably dressed — they were all very clean."

Mrs Peter would worry about her husband — "any woman whose husband doesn't sleep at home would be uneasy."

It was more difficult to feed one's family in the Transkei and infant mortality was high.

Also, there were fewer educational opportunities.

In his evidence, Dr Wilson said that although agriculture was still one of South Africa's biggest employers, mechanisation had forced many people off the land.

"What happens in South Africa is that families go to resettlement camps in the Transkei and Ciskei, and then the men leave for the urban areas to find work, leaving their families behind."

Mrs Peter had arrived at court with her seven-month-old daughter on her back. But during the proceedings, she left her infant outside.

Every now and then, a protesting wail would penetrate the solemn court air, an insistent reminder of the next generation and their demands on this one.

Cape Times 14/10/75 (293)

One typhoid case enters hospital

ONLY one suspected case of typhoid was admitted to the City Hospital for Infectious Diseases at the weekend. Doctors and officials from the Stellenbosch Divisional Council said yesterday that the epidemic was "definitely under control".

There were 126 cases in the hospital, of which 53 cases were confirmed carriers of typhoid. A hospital spokesman said yesterday that nine people from the Sir Lowry's Pass Village had been discharged.

Many more cases would be discharged during the course of the week, he said.

A Stellenbosch official said there was no guarantee that the disease would not emerge again as it could lie dormant before manifesting itself.

But the situation seemed to be "well in control".

Typhoid:

Cape Times
16/10/75

Fifty (293) discharged

MORE THAN 50 people have been discharged from the City Hospital for Infectious Diseases in Green Point after tests showed they did not suffer from typhoid, the disease which has been ravaging residents in the tiny village of Sir Lowry's Pass.

Since the outbreak of the epidemic more than a month ago 128 cases of suspected typhoid have been admitted to hospital. Of these 58 cases were later confirmed.

A hospital spokesman said yesterday that the epidemic was definitely abating. Most of the 70 cases now in hospital would be discharged within the next few weeks.

18/10/75 (293)

Cape squatter

GIVE THEM

THE City Engineer, Mr J. G. Brand, estimates that all squatter families in the Cape Town municipal area will be housed in permanent dwellings by 1980.

The rehabilitation of the squatters, he says, will depend largely on the progress at Mitchell's Plain and its success in drawing residents from existing sub-economic areas and other, older and cheaper economic letting schemes — thus creating vacancies in those areas for today's squatters.

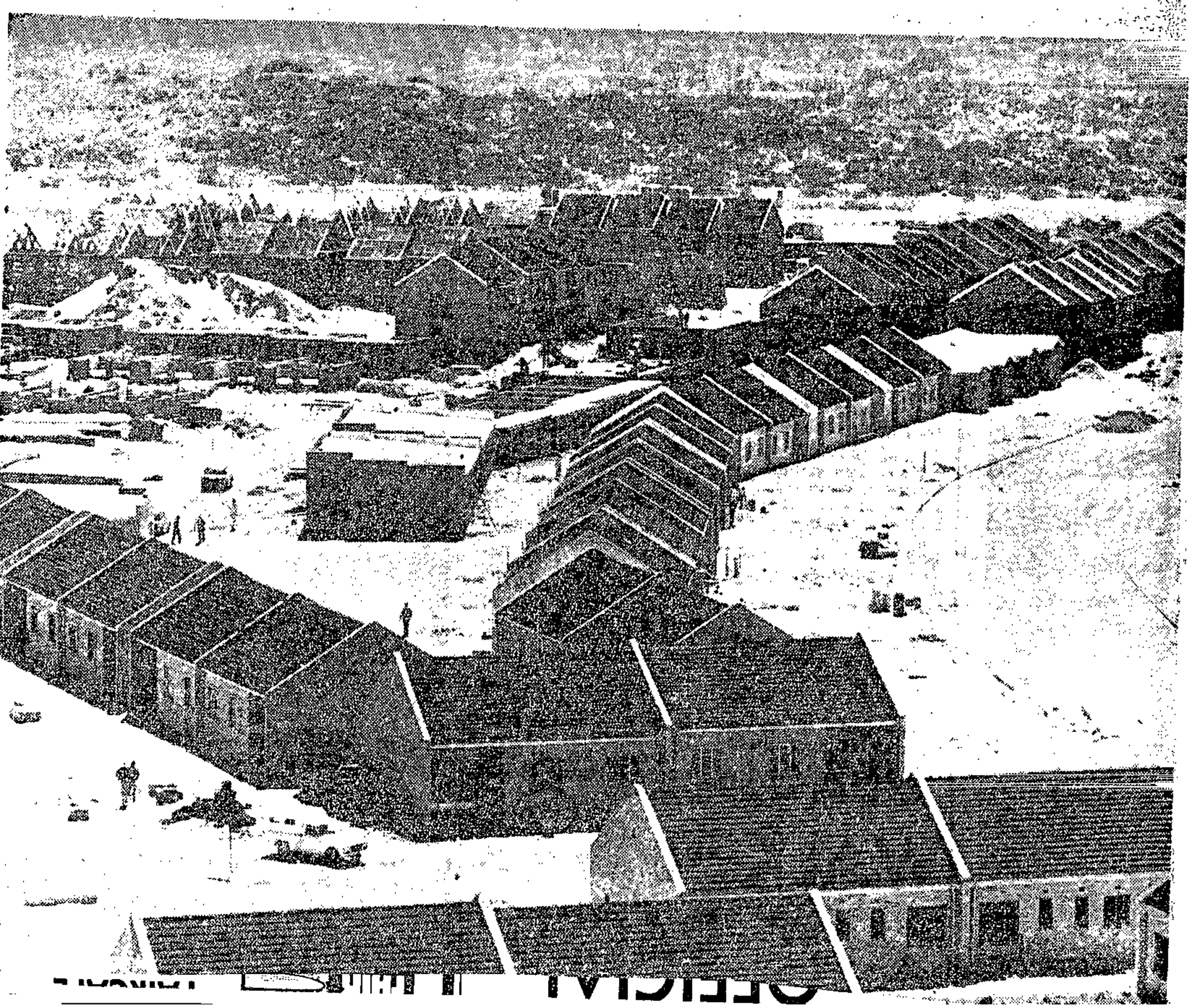
It is the view of many that a prerequisite for the success of Mitchell's Plain is a rail link with Cape Town. The South African Railways have still not given any specific date for the completion of the link, but they have indicated to the council that a service should be in operation towards the end of 1977.

In the meantime, the first 300 houses in Mitchell's Plain will be ready for occupation before the end of the year and from 1976 onwards it is anticipated that houses will be built at the rate of 6 000 a year.

In municipal council chambers and offices throughout the Peninsula there is a trust — if not a glowing confidence — that Mitchell's Plain and the other new satellite town, Atlantis, squatter problem.

The extent to which are relying on the Cape Divisional Council of the comments:

MR D. N. SMIT, 'We are aware of the dunes here and cannot is nothing we can do as been declared a White of the structures are



neral acceptance of the
t that the people who
e forced to live in
latter camps are per-
nent residents and an
egral part of the eco-
mic infrastructure of
s Western Cape.
For a start, these
ople must be given se-
rity of tenure. 'No one
nts to live in a hovel,'
ys Mr Budlender. 'We
want homes, but when
ere is a constant threat
almost instant demoli-
n and removal, it is too
pensive, too time consu-
ng and too discouraging
attempt improvement.'

NEXT STEP

The next step after en-
ring the people have se-
rity of tenure, is to
tend the site and ser-
ce schemes to provide at
ast the most basic re-
irements for living un-
suitable, permanent ac-
mmodation can be pro-
ded.
In the entire Peninsula
present, there are only
wo site and service
hemes — the one at
rygrond run by the City
ouncil and the other in
e Philippi area run by
e Divisional Council —
ough the City Council
aims that all of its other

between the demand for
housing and its supply.
After 1985 the shortfall in
housing will accelerate
significantly.

CORE HOUSING

He suggests that South
Africa should draw on the
experience gained elsewhere in tackling a similar problem, notably in Latin America, Zambia and Malawi.
One relatively inexpensive method is 'core' housing, in which the authorities provide the basic 'core' house and various facilities and allow the inhabitants to build on as they require.
Professor Ivor Prinsloo, director of the school of architecture at the University of Capel Town, said he felt that in looking to Mitchell's Plain as the ultimate solution to Cape Town's squatter problem, the authorities were under-estimating the number of people who were moving into the Peninsula.
'With the application of the Group Areas Act in rural communities, people are being uprooted and are moving to where the jobs are and that frequently means Cape Town,' said Professor Prinsloo.

Transforming Mitchell's Plain

ONG BEFORE you reach
itchell's Plain, you can
ear the roar of ma-
hinery, see the pall of
ust that hangs most days
ver the area.
On site the scene is one
f continuous activity
rom dawn to dusk as
nen and machines work
t top pressure to trans-
orm a wasteland of sand
nd scrub bush into a
ew, model town.
Even in the short time
onstruction has been un-
erway, progress has been
ignificant.
A modern double car-
iageway leads into the
own and already there
re clusters of completed
nd near-completed mai-
onettes and group houses
n various parts of the
ayout.
The designs are modern
nd attractive and seem
o support the council's claim that in the planning of Mithcell's Plain there has been considerable consultation with prospective residents in regard to the design, layout and amenities to be provided.
A large sports arena — where the grass is already lush and green — backs up the promise that the development of amenities and housing is being undertaken simultaneously.
However, with the first 300 houses scheduled to be ready for occupation within two months, the provision of adequate public transport appears to be a menacing problem.
According to the latest indications, it may at least two years before a rail service will connect remote Mitchell's Plain with the Peninsula's main industrial and commercial centres.

MAP shows the location of some of the main squatter settlements in the greater Cape Town area. The numbers indicate squatter camps in the municipal area and the letters of the alphabet denote those in areas that fall under the control of other local authorities.

Other local authorities

Area	Families
A. Milnerton	394
B. Elsie's River	9 038
C. Ravensmead	2 400
D. Elsie's Riv Ext	628
E. Bellville South	100
F. Philippi	1 044
G. Simonstown	20
H. Kommetjie	88
I. Hout Bay	9
J. Macassar	173

Cape Town City Council

Area	Families
1. Kensington	980
2. Surrey/ Welcome Est	750
3. Athlone/ Sunnyside	1 360
4. Lansdowne	210
5. Sherwood	130
6. Parkwood	450
7. Retreat	1 020
8. Vrygrond/ Japtha's Farm	1 900

Note: These are the official estimates of the authorities concerned. The city council estimates that each family comprises six people on average.

18/10/75
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ARGUS, OCTOBER 18 1975

deadline is 1980

are the final answer to the

the smaller local authorities
Town City Council and the
Cape can be gauged by these

ut y town clerk, Fish Hoek:
ter settlement in the sand
about it. However, there
he whole of Fish Hoek has
ea and, in any case, many
ed on privately owned land.

We're hoping that the Divisional Council or the Cape Town City Council will eventually accommodate these people.

MR C. CHEVALIER, town clerk of Simonstown: 'We have a few hundred squatters on Red Hill — generally speaking "won't works" and vagrants — but we can do nothing about rehabilitating them as Simonstown is a White area. This is a problem that has to be solved by the Department of Community Development or the Divisional Council.'

MR H. H. HAHN, town clerk of Bellville: 'We have only small pockets of squatters in our area, but there is nothing we can do to assist them. All the land available for Coloured housing in Bellville has been built upon. This is a Peninsula-wide problem and we feel Mitchell's Plain and Atlantis can provide the solution.'

MR W. A. PIENAAR, town clerk The Strand: 'We are planning a scheme of about 800 living units for squatters in our area and have applied for the necessary re-zoning to a Coloured area, which we should get. We have also asked the Divisional Council to allocate housing to us at Macassar.'

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A HOME...

¼-million squatters in Cape Town

1 million 1/10/75

CAN Mitchell's Plain provide the answer to Cape squatter problem — as the Cape Town City Council and many neighbouring municipalities believe — or is this R300-million scheme inadequate in view of the Peninsula's exploding population? Officials, planners and statisticians who have made extensive studies of the question hold conflicting points of view.

THERE are at least a quarter of a million people squatting in the greater Cape Town area today, according to Mr Geoff Budlender, Cape Western regional chairman of the South African Institute of Race Relations.

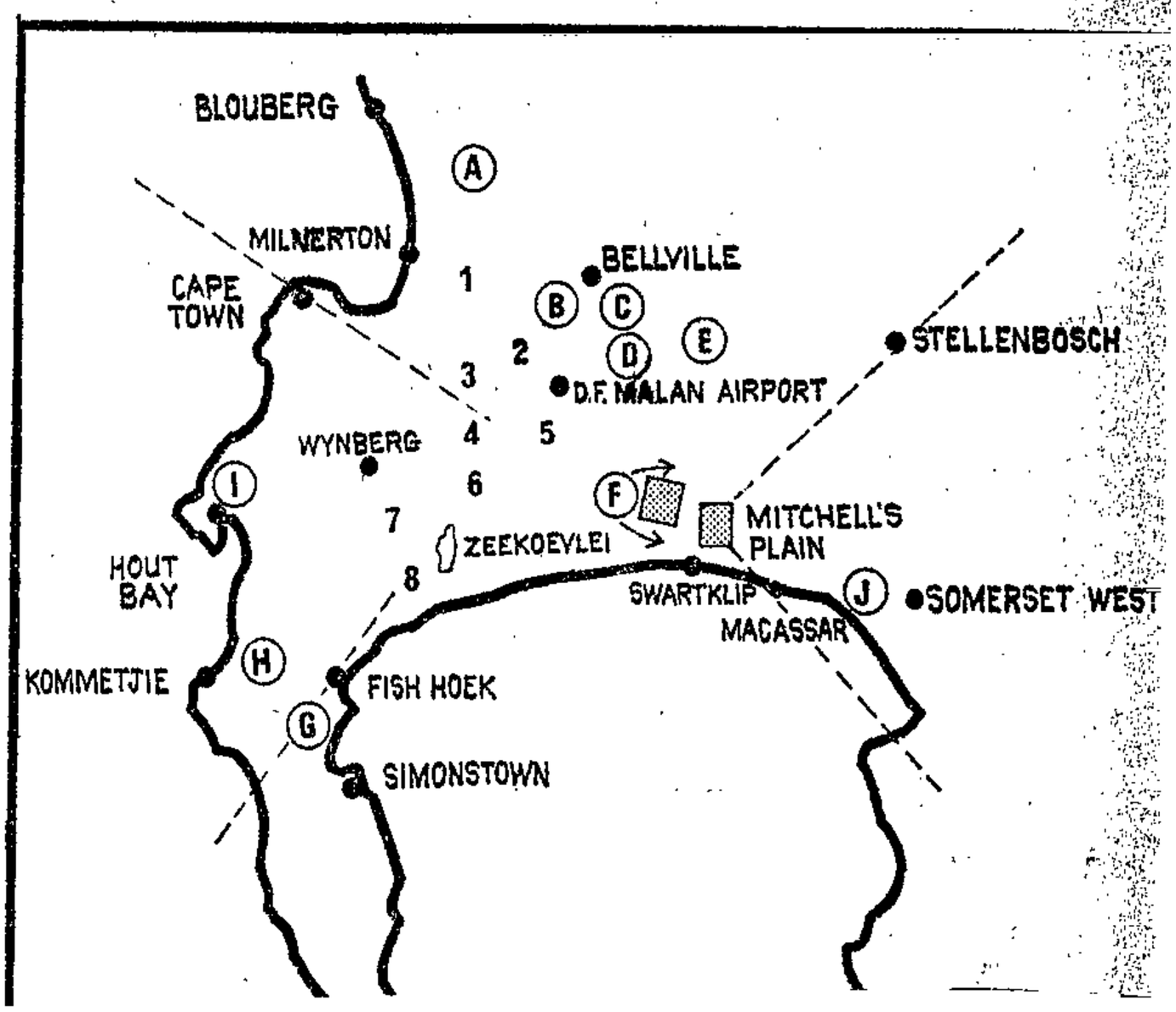
He bases this figure on the estimate of Professor S. P. Cilliers, professor of sociology at Stellenbosch University, that more than 173 000 Coloured people were living as squatters in greater Cape Town in 1972 — the number being 'certainly higher today' — and the calculation that there are more than 60 000 African squatters.

The problem is of such magnitude, says Mr Budlender, that conventional housing programmes can-housing programmes cannot provide any real answer in the short and middle term.

What is needed first of all, he says, is a change in settlements are in built-up areas where roads, street lighting and water hydrants are generally available.

Mr Budlender says all sites should at least have running water laid on, communal latrines, access roads, security lighting and refuse collection services.

The population of the Peninsula is increasing at such a rate, according to Mr Budlender, that the combined schemes of the Cape Town City Council and the Divisional Council will only narrow the gap





NEW HOUSES and maisonettes in one of several areas of Mitchell's Plain where development is mushrooming.

18/10/75

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MOST workmen wear goggles to protect their eyes from the incessan sand storms, but conditions on site are improving as sand stabilisatio measures take effect.

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The Argus

OCTOBER 20 1975

Some action needed

THE immensity of the squatter problem in the Peninsula was outlined once again in a report in Weekend Argus on Saturday. Mr Geoff Budlender, Cape Western regional chairman of the South African Institute of Race Relations, estimates that there are at least a quarter of a million people squatting in the greater Cape Town area today. The problem is of such magnitude, he says, that conventional housing cannot provide any real answer in the short and middle term. The population of the Peninsula is increasing at such a rate that the combined schemes of the Cape Town City Council and the Divisional Council will only narrow the gap between the demand for housing and its supply. After 1985 the shortfall in housing will accelerate significantly.

Mr Budlender makes the point that the squatter problem is not one created by the squatters themselves but by a society which does not care enough. What is needed first of all is a change in basic attitudes—the general acceptance of the fact that the people who are forced to live in squatter camps are permanent residents and an integral part of the economic structure of the Western Cape. They are here to stay, and they are not going to be wished away.

The call for site and service camps, and the provision of housing by way of new, quicker and less costly methods that Mr Budlender makes, was also issued by the Association of Chambers of Commerce at its recent meeting in Worcester. It said that if the problem of squatter camps were to be solved, it was necessary for the Government to face up to the realities of the situation and to recognise that the provision of housing along conventional lines could not keep pace with present demand. Unless the Government accepted the situation and approved of development by local authorities of properly controlled squatter areas where basic services could be provided to those who lease small sites on reasonable conditions of tenure, the squatter situation would continue to deteriorate. This would result in an increase in crime, aggravation of the health hazard that already existed at uncontrolled squatter camps and the entrenchment of undesirable practice of squatter farming.

Government action is overdue.

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Council puts R350m into homes plan

Cape Times 24/10/75 (1)124 (3)293 (2)85

By BOB MOLLOY

THE Cape Town City Council has begun a R350m crash programme aimed at solving the City's housing scarcity, rehousing all squatters and making full provision for natural population increase within seven years.

This was announced by the Mayor, Mr John Tyers, at a press conference held in the Mayor's Parlour yesterday to release details of the scheme.

The R350m., in Government housing loans, will go to create Mitchell's Plain — a new South African city larger than Bloemfontein or East London, representing the most ambitious housing scheme attempted anywhere in the world.

From this year houses will be built at the rate of one every 20 minutes, giving a total at the end of seven years equal to the number of houses built in the City since World War II.

Since 1952, the City Council has built more than 36 000 houses and accommodated 53 percent of the Coloured population.

Provision of houses for the White group has been mainly by private enterprise and utility companies for which the Council has sponsored loans within the municipal area. Council schemes for Whites have also been carried out at Sanddrift, Albowville, Ottery, Kingfisher and Diep River.

The present crash programme will concentrate on the Coloured group and will encourage home ownership. It is expected that present occupiers of council housing will be among the first to buy at Mitchell's Plain — leaving their dwellings for use by persons from lower economic groups.

Mitchell's Plain will provide 40 000 dwelling units to house some 250 000 people, with the first 300 of these available for inspection before the end of this year. Business and commercial centres will be incorporated and Coloured entrepeneurs will be encouraged.

Private firms of architects have been commissioned to design houses of pleasing character. The first 1 000 of these will be on sale at the beginning of 1976 on terms of easy payment.

Mr Tyers gave an assurance that the scheme would be a non-profit one and repayments would serve merely to recover loans.

Applicants

At present there is a waiting list of 20 000 for Coloured housing, with a further group of 6 800 families squatting in numbered shacks.

As houses become available they will be allocated equally to squatters and waiting-list applicants, with a quarter going to accommodate persons moved in terms of the Group Areas legislation.

This means that of every 200 houses 75 will go to squatters, 75 to the waiting list and 50 to Government requirements.

Hand-in-hand with the new development goes a new City Council hard line on squatting. From now on no further squatter pondoks will be allowed, either on private land within the municipal area or on municipal open space.

The Council has a team of 13 rangers to control the influx. Their main work so far has been to identify squatter families, number their pondoks for future rehousing, and ensure that settlements have basic services.

From now on, new

The Cape Times

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 24, 1975

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(1) 293
(2) ~~85~~
(3) ~~124~~

Housing and humanity

THE City Council's massive housing programme, details of which appear in our news columns today, is striking evidence of the City Hall's determination to solve the squatter problem and bring much-needed relief to the many thousands whose accommodation leaves much to be desired. The target date is 1982 and the project envisages the spending of some R350 million in government housing loans on Mitchell's Plain. It will see the creation of a city for 200 000 people. The Mayor of Cape Town, Mr Tyers, whose enthusiasm for the task in hand is commendable, estimates that in seven years the Council will double the number of houses it has built since the last war. Some idea of the magnitude of the programme may be gleaned from the City Engineer's claim that the building rate envisaged is in a world-record class. While the City Council is to be congratulated on the breadth of vision which is being brought to bear on a grave social problem, there may well be misgivings about the new hard-line decision on squatter camps. About 6 600 shacks have been numbered and new creations will be demolished and their occupants asked to move back to their points of origin. In terms of statistics it may be desirable to draw the line somewhere, but humanitarian considerations demand that a shack, wretched though it may be, remain untouched until alternative accommodation can be provided. A drawing-board approach if pressed too far can easily lose sight of the basic fact that the fortunes of individuals are involved. In translating a magnificent plan into reality it would be unfortunate if the City Council gained a reputation for hounding luckless families from pillar to post. We suggest that a blind eye should on occasions, be turned.

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Cape Times 25/10/75

Reservations on shack ban

THE Cape Town City Council's crash plan to rehouse the City's estimated 200 000 squatters within the next five years has been welcomed by authorities on the problem — but the council's decision not to allow the erection of squatters' shacks has been criticized.

On Thursday the council announced that R350m. is to be spent over the next five years in an attempt to rehouse the homeless in greater Cape Town.

Mr Geoff Budlender, former chairman of the Cape Western region of the South African Institute of Race Relations, said yesterday that if the council stopped squatters from erecting shacks "it would be another Crossroads situation all over again".

Mr Budlender said that the council would never be able to stop urbanization by banning shacks.

"The City Council's belated decision to embark on a crash housing programme is to be welcomed but I doubt whether it will provide enough housing for all the homeless in the time stated," Mr Budlender said.

His major criticism of the project was that squatters would be prevented from building, a move which would only aggravate the already critical housing situation in the Western Cape.

The amount of money allocated and the time factor involved would not solve the problem, Mr Budlender said.

Mr Johan Maree, a lecturer in the Department of Economics at the University of Cape Town echoed Mr Budlender's criticism.

He was pleased that the council had "at last" decided to come to grips with the Cape's massive housing problem, but believed that preventing the erection of shacks would aggravate the problem.

"The hard line taken by the City Council is to be deplored," Mr Maree said. The council could not stop the influx of people from the rural areas.

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Squatter mother evicted, fined

Cape Times 28/10/75

A WYNBERG magistrate yesterday ordered the eviction of a 30-year-old African mother of four from her shanty home at the Crossroads squatter camp and gave permission for the Bantu Administration authorities to demolish the premises.

The woman, Mrs Lilian Peter, was also fined R20 (or 20 days) for trespassing and being in the area illegally.

But the magistrate, Mr D W Gildenhuys, suspended the eviction and demolition orders, pending the outcome of a defence appeal.

Evidence was that Mrs Peter had been living with Mr Norman Peter since 1968.

"I gave her money to find a place for us, and she bought the shanty at Crossroads for R30," Mr Peter said in evidence.

He said Mrs Peter had two children by him. They were not married as he had a legal wife in Butterworth, Transkei.

Mr Peter said he came to Cape Town in 1955.

His wife and their five children had remained in the Transkei because Mr Peter was staying in single quarters in Cape Town.

Addressing the court, Mr Robin Marais, for Mrs Peter, said that sending Mrs Peter and her children back to the Transkei would create rather than reduce problems.

Mr A G Steyn prosecuted and Mr R Marais, SC, and Mr C D Steytler, instructed by Mallinick, Ress and Richman, appeared for Mrs Peter.

Squatters seen as 'danger' at Marina site

ARGUS 29/10/75 293

A 'DANGEROUS squatter situation' seemed to be developing at the site of the proposed Island Glades Marina in the Noordhoek Valley, Mr T. Henshilwood, chairman of the housing committee, reported at the monthly meeting of the Cape Divisional Council yesterday.

Squatter families appeared to be settling in the area, either on the Marina Glades property or the Divisional Council property.

COLOURED

All activity on the development of the marina had apparently ceased and a report on the project was being awaited from the Divisional Council Engineer.

Colonel N. H. Hare, chairman of the Divisional Council, said the squatter problem had been reported to the Bantu Administration Board and African squatters had been removed from the area at the weekend.

There were, however, still Coloured squatters at the marina.

A report tabled by the Works Committee of the Divisional Council said Colonel Hare had received complaints from ratepayers about the possibility of a mosquito infestation at the marina site and damage to the ecology.

Colonel Hare asked for details of the transactions between the developers of the marina and the Divisional Council, as well as an urgent report on how far the matter had progressed.

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Squatter plan abandoned

Cape Times 1/11/75

By JOHN SCOTT

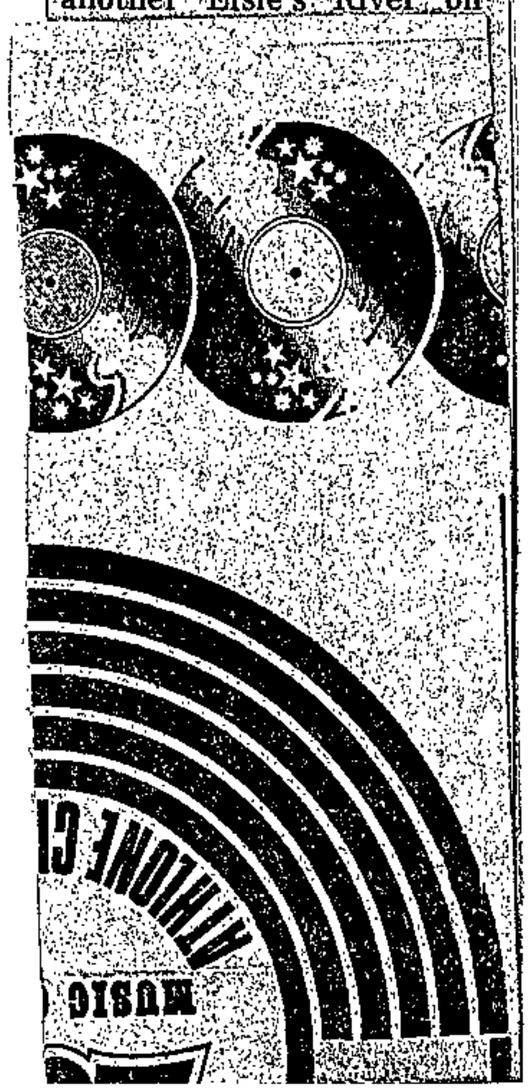
THE DIVISIONAL COUNCIL of the Cape, with an estimated total of 100 000 squatters in its area, has abandoned the concept of "site and service" schemes.

This was announced during a bus tour of the squatter areas yesterday. Some of the squatter areas have, in fact, been provided with elementary services pending the provision of proper housing.

But there is to be no camp with water and sewerage facilities where homeless, displaced families who cannot afford even the cheapest proper housing may in future set up legal wood-and-iron structures.

The secretary of the Divisional Council, Mr W R Vivier, told the busload of visitors: "The site and service scheme was tried and found to be completely chaotic. Self-help didn't work. People working in the division of housing are hesitant to give it a second go."

The regional representative of the Department of Community Development, Mr D P Coetzee, also on the tour, said: "Elsie's River is an example of what started as a site and service scheme. You saw it. I don't think my department would like to have another Elsie's River on



Squatters: CDC move attacked

Cape Times 3/11/75 Staff Reporter (293)

THE DECISION of the Divisional Council to abandon its site-and-service schemes for 100 000 squatters has been condemned by Professor F van Zyl Slabbert, Progressive-Reform MP for Rondebosch, and the Rector of the University of the Western Cape, Professor R E van der Ross.

Both men said that until the Divisional Council could house the thousands of squatters, site and service schemes were necessary.

The council's decision to abandon the schemes was announced last week to authorities on the squatter problem while they were on a bus tour of the squatter areas.

Professor Slabbert said the site and service schemes could not be seen as a permanent remedy to the squatter problem, but they were an attempt to cope with the state of emergency in the housing crisis.

The Divisional Council should indicate what other measures would be taken to house the people who would have to squat somewhere, he said.

Rudimentary facilities such as sewerage and water were of primary importance and must be provided to the thousands of squatters under the control of the Divisional Council, Professor Slabbert said.

It was difficult to see how one local authority could abandon its site and service scheme because it was "chaotic" while another (the City Council) was considering implementing one, he said.

Professor Van der Ross said that although the site-and-service schemes were not ideal, it was better than leaving the squatters with nothing.

It was imperative that these schemes be implemented with the help of people knowledgeable in social service.

If the Divisional Council were to discontinue the service, it had a duty to say what other ways would be found to meet the problem.

Most squatters were not living as they did through choice but through necessity, Professor Van der Ross said.

Squatter camps to remain

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Cape Times 4/11/75

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THE CAPE Divisional Council's temporary camps for squatters will continue even though the concept of site and service has been abandoned on the advice of the Department of Community Development.

This was announced yesterday by Mr W R Vivier, secretary of the council.

Mr Vivier said there was a world of difference between a site and service scheme and a temporary squatters's camp. In site and service people were provided with a plot of ground and services and expected to build their own homes. There was an element of self-help in the schemes and the Department of Community Development felt the results of previous site and service schemes were unsatisfactory.

SQUATTERS CAMPS

Temporary squatters' camps, however, were areas where people were permitted to erect homes till such time as better housing was available.

The camps were provided with basic services in the form of standpipes to supply clean drinking water, refuse removals, and sanitation of the bucket type. In addition, the camps were visited by the council's mobile clinics to provide health services.

Mr Vivier also confirmed that no further squatters' shacks would be allowed on Divisional Council property. "We have made a thorough survey of the division and numbered all the existing shacks. These will be allowed to remain but we cannot allow any new shacks."

RURAL AREAS

He explained that people from areas under the control of other local authorities tended to move into the wooded rural areas of the division as the chances of their shacks being detected in the bush were small."

"If we open our arms to squatters we will have an insoluble problem on our hands so we have to try to contain the situation," he said.

Mr Vivier said that though the position had been "frozen" and the council intended to demolish new shacks, it would not be inflexible.

African squatters in areas other than Cross-roads would be treated in exactly the same



The Cape Times

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 1975

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The squatter camps

THE secretary of the Cape Divisional Council, Mr Vivier, makes the point in a report published elsewhere in the Cape Times today that though his council has abandoned the concept of site and service schemes for squatters, existing temporary camps of squatters under the council's control will be permitted until alternative housing is provided. This was, in fact, reported by a Cape Times representative after undertaking a tour of the squatter areas on Friday. The tour showed how the council, with commendable awareness of communal structures, is transferring large groups of families from squatter housing to permanent accommodation when it becomes available without scattering those groups. In many cases the transfer, especially in the redeveloped Elsies River, involves a move of no more than a hundred metres. Rehoused children continue attending the same schools. The families remain part of the same community. While they wait for proper housing, existing squatters have been provided with communal water points, rudimentary sewerage and refuse services, and are visited by health officials.

But by refusing to countenance any further camps the Divisional Council appears to have, like the Cape Town City Council, the absurd idea that it can hold back the process of urbanization. In terms of a policy decision, all new shacks found to have been erected after August 1 will be demolished. Unfortunately the population explosion, both by natural increase and by movement to urban centres of employment, obeys no fixed dates. It cannot be halted, Canute-like, with an imperious wave of the hand. It has to be accommodated, if not legally and under proper controls, then illegally and without supervision. Bulldozing is simply not the answer, unless the people, too, are bulldozed into oblivion. We are sure this last alternative is not the Divisional Council's intention. The answer is to create more legal camps where squatters can erect their shacks under controlled and more or less hygienic conditions. Mr Vivier says they will lead to chaos. Why should they be any more chaotic than those already in existence?

We can understand the alarm of both the Divisional Council and the City Council at finding the unhoused in their respective areas growing by the day. Both have a programme of housing whose ultimate success depends on their projected figures having a certain stability. But much of the building is of such a standard that many squatters couldn't afford it, even if it were available for them. They must of necessity start at the lowest economic level, the level of corrugated iron and wooden supports. The advantage of a site and service scheme is that it enables them to advance from this level in stages, upgrading the quality of their self-constructed housing while assuring them security of tenure. No householder can be expected to make improvements if he knows he is likely to be bulldozed flat next morning. In time he would become economically qualified for a house or flat in a township, but meanwhile his need to roof himself and his family would have been met. This need should be sympathized with and provided for by the responsible authorities — not inhumanely obstructed.

9/11/77

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Mr Maree's evidence was led in mitigation of sentence for Mrs Peter. He said that, in a survey he had conducted in 1968, the average income in the Bizana district was R20,73 for a seven-member household, and in the Kentani district it was R22,94. The minimum subsistence level, at the time he made his calculations, was R53 for a family of seven, Mr Maree said.

Miss Jill Wescott had conducted a more recent survey in the Tsomo district and had found the average income of a family of five was R26,47.

No recent minimum subsistence levels had been ascertained for the Transkei, but in KwaZulu, where conditions were similar, the level had been fixed at R103.

Unemployment in the Transkei in 1968 was very high: 28,1 percent in the Bizana district, and 15,8 percent in the Kentani district.

The Tomlinson Report had recommended that a minimum of 10,5 acres should be allocated to each family. "But 59 percent have less than the 10,5 acres a family," said Mr Maree.

Jobs

Nearly as high a percentage owned less than five acres. Between 1960 and 1970, an estimated 40 700 job opportunities would have to be created to cater for natural expansion.

In 1973, announcing his government's five year plan, Chief Kaiser Matanzima had said 15 700 job opportunities for men would be created over that period. Nevertheless, by 1978, a 75 500 shortfall of jobs was expected.

An average of 55 percent of Transkei workers sought work outside the Transkei and border areas, said Mr Maree. This was due to lower salaries in those regions, which were half those for the same jobs in the Western Cape.

The situation was the same in the Ciskei.

The defence team, headed by Mr Robin Marais, SC, with him Mr Chris Steytler (instructed by Mallinick, Ress and

had left for the Western Cape in 1955 and lived in bachelor quarters in Langa.

Pondok

He had been married by Christian rites in the Transkei in 1964, and had five children by his wife



Dr Francis Wilson



Mr Johan Maree

in the Transkei. He had met Elaine Peter in 1968 and had two children by her. They had lived together ever since.

this woman permission to use your name?—No.

Do you approve? — No.

Why not?—Because we did not talk it over first. I would not have minded if it had not been for this case.

Under cross-examination by Mr Marais, Mr Peter said there had been no place for his wife to live in the Western Cape. He regarded Elaine Peter as his wife by African customs and he looked after her children as a father looked after his children. He sent R20-R40 to his wife in the Transkei every two months.

Mr Geldenhuys: "Do you really think it is proper to have a wife with five children who you visit once in a blue moon and then have another one living here?"

Mr Peter: "I must have her to look after my house."

Mr Geldenhuys: "You don't seem very interested in your house. Only for holidays."

Mr Peter: "I must work here for two years before I can go back."

Mr Geldenhuys: "So you regard her (legal wife) as the overseer to your house and for the rest you are not interested. Do you prefer living with the accused?"

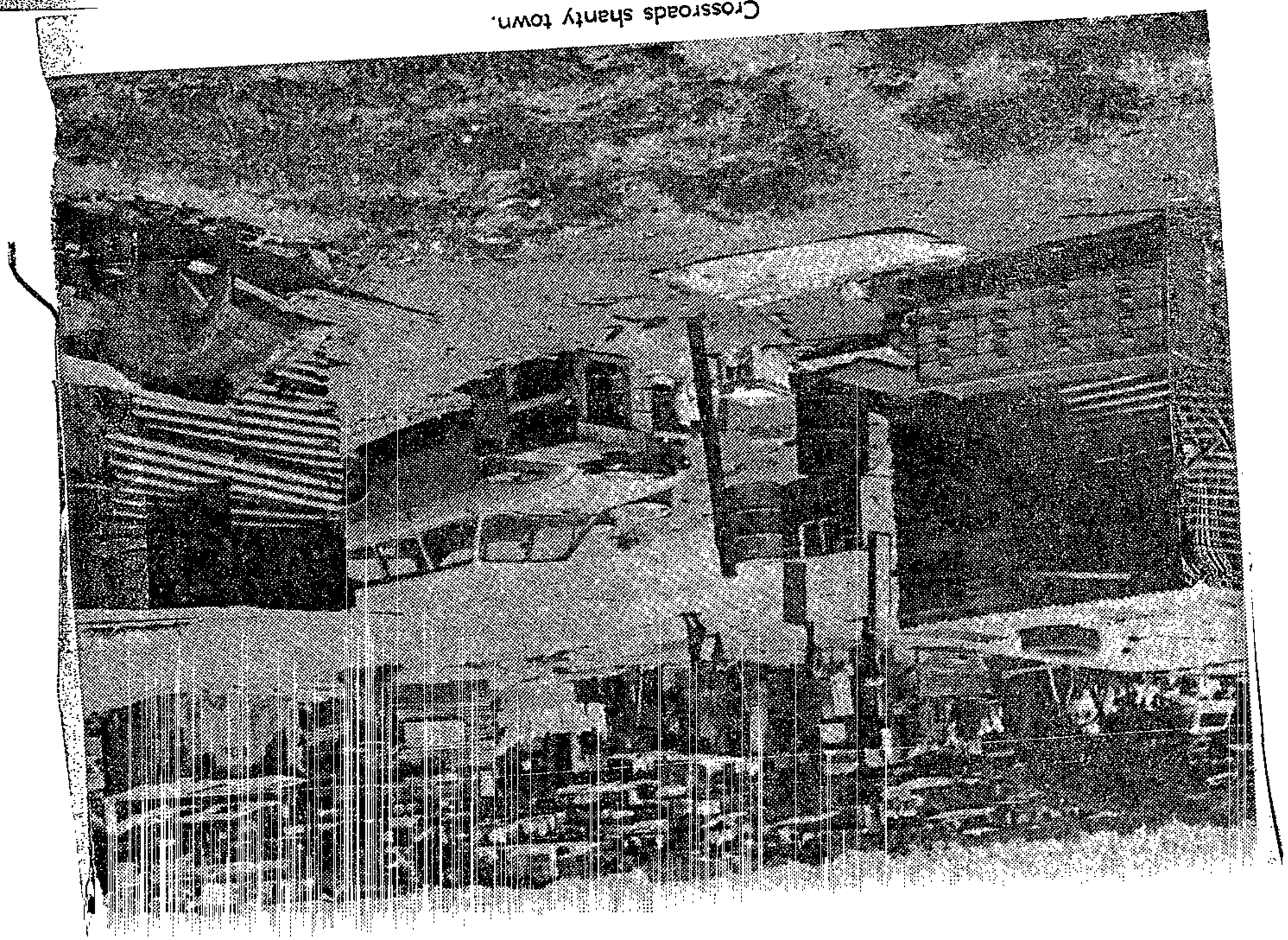
"How long do you expect this situation to last?"

Mr Peter: "I will continue with it for the rest of my life. My wife in Butterworth knows about this woman and she knows my wife."

Mr Steyn, summing up for the State, said the evidence was that Elaine Peter was not working, but was looking after her children. She had been found guilty of squatting, and he asked for eviction and demolition orders.

Mr Marais said that it was easy to become censorious about Mr Peter's way of life. It was interesting that when Dr Frances Ames, under the impression that Mr Peter and Elaine Peter were married, was asked what would happen if Mrs Peter were sent away, she had said the probability

Test case calls experts on Transkei conditions



Crossroads shanty town.

9/11/75

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Mrs Elaine Peter.

Cape Town because he needed work, and Cape Town needed workers. Nobody was doing anybody a favour.

"He did not take her in a fly-by-night encounter. He accepted his responsibility to her and looked after his children. This is not a case for rebuke," said Mr Marais.

This is a situation where the rights of a private citizen are being invaded. We are dealing with a situation for which the public at large has a responsbility, through their organs of government.

"In this case, the land is owned by a department of State, whose function it is to provide housing for people of that colour. The land is adjacent to an existing location. It is next door to the very offices of

phesies of that department have not come to pass. What is our concern is that there is a lag between housing and the demand."

Evidence had been led that the department would send Mrs Peter and her children back to the Transkei — "this is sweeping under the carpet".

As regards health hazards, it was not as if the people staying at Crossroads did not want to pay. They were willing to pay for their houses. The authorities should ensure that proper facilities were made available. They should regularize the settlement.

"If Crossroads is in an air corridor as argued by the State then the offices of the department are also in an air corridor, as are many other buildings in

but it is a task which must be faced by the authorities. They must not charge just everybody and anybody."

Mr Marais contended that as Elaine Peter had not caused the shack to be built, but had merely bought it, the court had no power to order its demolition.

In reply, Mr Steyn said that because Elaine Peter had paid money for the shanty she had caused it to be built.

In his judgment, Mr Geldenhuys said he had warned the defence that he did not intend to allow his court to become a platform for criticism of government policy.

"As their evidence proceeded, it became clear to me that this is what it was. This court is not the place for it.

Comment

9/11/77 (293)

Richman), did not call any more expert witnesses.

At the start of the session court hearing last week, Mr Marais said he wished to correct impressions given by previous witnesses. Mrs Peter was not legally married to Mr Peter. She was living with him. The couple had met in 1969 and since then two children had been born. The two older children were Mrs Peter's.

Mr Peter said he still born in Cape Town in 1945, left a few y ars later with her mother, and had lived in Tarkastad. She had returned in 1968 to Cape Town.

Mr A G Steyn, for the State, called Mr Norman Peter, who said he had a wife and five children in Butterworth, and that he

"How long do you expect this situation to continue?"

"For the rest of my life"

"Do you think the authorities should have to put up with this situation?"

"If it is my right, the authorities will have to put up with it"

Mr Peter said he still had official accommodation in the bachelors' quarters in Langa and paid rent there.

He had given Elaine Peter R30 to buy the "pondok" at Crossroads.

Mr Steyn: Did you give

was that he would form a liaison.

"Little did she know her prediction was already a fact," said Mr Marais.

The situation came about when a man was forced to live away from his family. He came to

the board.

"Their presence is not offensive to any private individuals. The shortage in housing is due to decisions taken by the department which is seeking their eviction. It is not our concern that the pro-

the vicinity of D F Malan Airport, yet there is no quest on of people being expropriated or evicted anywhere else," said Mr Marais.

If these people were social parasites, there would be no obligation to them,

Comm

"It is not in the powers of the l court to comment on ters of such magnitu The lower court is t the place for it.

"The presen of the Crossroads settlnt can by no means beerated or justified. I c t concern myself w other circumtances matter how much the efence thinks otherwise

"The reputed sband has other accomlation in bachelors arters. The father has rnate accommodatin the accused in the Trai and if she goes shell not necessarily uff hardship. There i nodence that the offical Peter is suffering lards

"In the abence a denial by the ccu I accept that th hmust have been encte her behalf."

9/11/75 (295)

DRIVEN TO CITY BY POVERTY

By GEOFF DEKENAH

THE AVERAGE income of a Transkei family of seven was 60 percent below the minimum subsistence level in 1968, and recent figures indicate that this gap has widened to more than 70 percent, said Mr Johan Maree, a UCT economics lecturer, when he gave evidence before Mr D W Geldenhuys in the Peter case last week.

At the previous hearing, Dr Wilson, who is head of the research division of the Department of Economics at UCT, said that policy decisions by the Department of Bantu Administration had caused a severe housing shortage for African families in the Western Cape.

He said 117 000 African workers lived officially in the Western Cape, but "it is a rule of thumb that for every legal worker living here, there is one here illegally."

Social effect 'disastrous'

Dr Ames told the court that to split the Peter family—whom she described as a "tightly-knit, warm family unit" — would have disastrous effects on the family unit and on society.

The defence also called Mr Johan Maree, lecturer in the department of economics at UCT, to testify on conditions in the Transkei and on income and employment opportunites there.

Finally the State called Mr Norman Peter and Mr Gilbert Tshaka, father of Mrs Elaine Peter.

Mr Peter told the court he already had a wife in the Transkei whom he had married in 1964 by Christian rites. He had two children by Mrs Peter, and had looked after them, and Mrs Peter's two other children, as if they were his own.

Tribal rites

He had five children by his wife in the Transkei. He intended marrying Mrs Peter by tribal rites. She had taken his name without his permission.

Asked by the magistrate, Mr Geldenhuys, whether he was still living with Elaine, Mr Peter replied that he was.

Mr Geldenhuys: "How long do you expect this situation to continue?"

Mr Peter: "For the rest of my life."

Mr Geldenhuys: "Do you think the authorities should have to put up with this situation?"

Mr Peter: "If it is my right, the authorities will have to put up with it."

Mr Geldenhuys: "Is that you attitude?"

Mr Peter: "Yes, it is."

By GEOFF DEKENAH

THE first stage of an important test case ended in Cape Town last week. It concerned Mrs Elaine Peter, a 30-year-old African woman, who was found guilty of living illegally in the Crossroads shanty town and sentenced to a R20 fine, or 20 days' imprisonment.

Notice of appeal was given, and the magistrate, Mr D W Geldenhuys, suspended an order to evict Mrs Peter and her four children and demolish her shanty, pending the appeal.

Unique

The uniqueness of the case was the action of the defence in calling expert witnesses to testify to economic conditions in the Transkei which cause Africans to move to the cities.

Dr Frances Ames, senior lecturer in neurology at Groote Schuur Hospital, gave evidence on the disruption of family life, and Dr Francis Wilson, senior lecturer in economics at Cape Town University and the author of books on migrant labour, gave evidence on the migratory labour system (see SUNDAY TIMES, October 12).

Cape Times 14/11/75

Squatters (293) sent back

WOMEN squatters at the Crossroads squatter camp near Nyanga, who were found guilty in court of being in a prescribed area without permission, are being sent back to the Transkei by train twice a week.

The Bantu Affairs Administration Board said yesterday that 10 women prosecuted recently for being illegally in the proclaimed area in Cape Town were sent back to the Transkei yesterday in accordance with court orders.

More than 300 such court orders for removal had been issued this year. The women and their dependants were given rations and sent back at Government expense. Any furniture they had at the squatters camp was stored and forwarded later.

Squatter wives 'jump' train

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Cape Times
15/11/75

Staff Reporter

MANY WOMEN SQUATTERS from the Crossroads camp who were sent back to the Transkei left the train at Paarl and returned to Crossroads to find out what had happened to their husbands and to children left behind, the Rev David Russel said yesterday.

The removals are the result of recent court orders. Ten women were arrested on Tuesday and issued with train tickets to the Transkei. They boarded the trains under supervision from Bantu Affairs Administration Board officials, who had also supplied them with rations.

Mr Russell said that three of the women who disembarked at Paarl told him they had done so because one or more of their children had been left behind.

One woman's child had gone to hospital with an aunt the day her mother was arrested. The mother's pleas to be allowed to wait for her child's return before she was put on the train were ignored, Mr Russell said.

Mrs R N Robb, who runs the Athlone Advice Office, said yesterday that the office had been chaotic for the past few days, with husbands and children wanting to know what had become to their wives and mothers.

A woman who got off the train at Paarl on Tuesday told her that all the arrested women had been forced to sign a document by BAAB officials agreeing that their possessions should be removed to the Transkei.

HOMES DEMOLISHED

Another woman had been forced to leave her invalid husband and child when she was put on the train. Many husbands had returned from work on Tuesday and Thursday to find their wives gone and their wood and iron homes reduced to a heap of rubble, Mrs Robb said.

More than 300 court orders have been issued this year requiring women living with their husbands in squatter areas to go back to the homelands. Their husbands have had to go back to the bachelor quarters in Langa.

Cape Times 18/11/78 293

Break-up of squatter families condemned

Staff Reporter

THE CHAIRMAN of the Cape Western region of the Institute of Race Relations yesterday sharply ciriticized the Bantu Affairs Administration Board for breaking up families at the Crossroads squatter camp by sending women and children back to the homelands and destroying their homes.

The chairman, Mr Michael Savage, who is also a senior lecturer in sociology at the University of Cape Town, said yesterday that the action taken against squatters by the BAAB was "shameful" and the fact that wives and mothers were being separated from their husbands by force "could not by any stretch of the imagination be justified".

"The inhabitants of Crossroads are being subjected to a new and cruel form of action by BAAB officials. In the past few days they have bulldozed several houses and taken the women and children from these houses and put them on trains to the rural areas."

Cape Times 19/11/75 293

Kupugani sells to squatters

Staff Reporter

NUTRITIONAL food at prices that could compete with most supermarkets is now available to Peninsula squatter camps — through the efforts of Kupugani, a nation-wide organization that seeks to combat malnutrition.

Through gifts from various business concerns, Kupugani has set up a mobile depot — a huge truck, stocked with cheap and nutritious groceries.

For the past month, the truck has made four trips a week into the squatter camps — Vrygrond (near Muizenberg) and Lourdes Farm — to sell its wares. From next week, it will be visiting the areas five days a week.

The regional manager of Kupugani, Mrs M Hagen, said yesterday the depot aimed to serve groceries to people in areas without shops or adequate transport.

"The response has been very good so far," she said.

"We are hoping to extend into other areas and to send a food demonstrator round with the truck later to encourage people to buy and eat high protein, fortified foods — such as soup powders, biscuits and textured vegetable protein."

Their prices, she said, could not beat the supermarkets — but, with 500 g packs of kidney beans and split pea chips at 22 cents, 750 ml of cooking oil at 63 cents and sugar at 16½ cents a kilogram, they could compete with most supermarkets.

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Squatter talks:

Limited success

Staff Reporter

ABOUT 50 representatives of local authorities, social workers, church leaders, architects and squatters met for the first time this week for talks on the problem of providing houses to squatters.

The meeting was organized by the Cape Flats Committee for Interim Accommodation and was held in the Maryland Centre, Hanover Park, on Monday.

It was closed to the press. In a prepared statement, released yesterday a summary of the meeting was given.

One of the speakers, Professor W H Thomas, director of the Institute for Social Development at the University of the Western Cape, gave statistics which showed that, in spite of the housing being provided at present by the authorities, not enough was being done.

He referred specifically to illegal sub-tenants, multiple family occupation and in-migration, stressing that if any one facet of overcrowding was controlled, another would get out of control.

If the control was completely effective, an explosive situation would result.

In discussions after the talks, it was suggested that social workers formulate their proposals of action carefully and then talk to the authority concerned before trying to implement the action.

In many cases, implementation might well be impossible under existing law, but, by consultation, a way could easily be found around legal difficulties.

"Not very much was achieved, but what we wanted only was to be able to get the various bodies together for consultation," Mr Rommel Roberts, one of the organizers, said yesterday.

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Divisional rates rise 22 percent

ARGUS 21/11/75 (293)

AN increase of 22 percent in Cape Divisional Council rates in municipal and rural areas was announced at the special budget meeting of the council today.

In local areas such as Atlantis, Hout Bay, Ocean View and Zeekoevlei, the rates increases varied from 4 percent (Hout Bay Harbour) to 50 percent (Epping Garden Village).

Presenting the divisional council budget, Mr H. J. Kriel, chairman of the finance committee, said a large number of urgent capital works had been shelved following the appeal by the Central Government to cut back on capital expenditure.

MAIN ROADS

Included in the capital works deferred to 1977 are several main roads such as the Hout Bay harbour ring road, Lansdowne Road and Constantia Road.

Other work deferred because of the cut-back includes the Fish Hoek-Kommetjie regional sewerage works and the Elsie's Kraal River canalisation.

INCOME

Mr Kriel referred to the urgency of the squatter problem in the division and said that squatter control would cost ratepayers an estimated R100 000 during 1976. This figure, he said, was likely to increase in 1977.

The increased rates, which are expected to yield an income of almost R13-million, account for about half the revenue of the Cape Divisional Council.

As many Constantia homes had not yet been connected to the sewerage scheme, he proposed a rebate of 15 percent to those people. This was, however, subject to the Administrator's approval.

The water tariff is to remain unchanged for 1976.

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2.124

ARGUS
25/11/75

Progress in slum project

THE Divisional Council of the Cape has built more than 2 600 living units at Elsie's River during the first five years of a project aimed at eliminating some of the worst slums in the country, according to a recently published progress report.

The report gives a complete history of the progress of the urban renewal scheme at Elsie's River, which was assigned to the divisional council in 1970.

The council was faced with the problem of rehousing some 90 000 people — a population equal to that of Kimberley — with a minimum of disruption of their social lives.

After detailed surveys, census-taking and planning, the work of rehousing the squatters is well under way and whole communities are being moved out of their squalid shanties and into serviced homes.

COMMUNITY SPIRIT

Wherever possible, groups of families have been kept together to keep a community spirit alive and eliminate disruptions.

Another measure aimed at reducing social disruption is to provide families with houses in the same area in which they have lived, wherever possible.

Squatters are moved from their shanties into transit camps while the shacks are dismantled and replaced with proper housing units. The occupants are then moved back into a familiar area.

In addition to housing the divisional council is providing schools, creches, a fire station, churches, clinics, homes for the aged and other necessary community facilities.

The illustrated report shows that good progress is being made with the elimination of the squatter problem at Elsie's River.

It ends with a warning that the provision of housing is not enough to ensure a stable, healthy community.

In order to eliminate alcoholism, drug addiction, vandalism and 'skollie' gangs a programme for social rehabilitation is urgently required if the Elsie's River project is to be a success.

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PS 23.9.1975

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Reply on treatment of squatters

Cape Times 25/11/75

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COMPLAINTS about the way squatters at Crossroads were treated would be investigated by the Bantu Administration Board provided they were based on facts and that it was borne in mind that action was being taken within the provisions of the law, Brigadier J H van der Westhuizen, chairman of the board, states in a letter published in the Burger yesterday.

He was reacting to a letter from Mr Michael Savage, chairman of the South African Institute of Race Relations, Cape Western Region.

Men at work

Mr Savage said yesterday that he appreciated the reply given to his letter by the brigadier. He would visit Crossroads soon and would draft a reply.

In his letter Mr Savage said it had been brought to his notice that officials of the Bantu Administration Board were destroying homes when menfolk were at work and women and children were sent to the Platteland by train. The men on their return found their homes destroyed and had no idea what had happened to their women and children.

He quoted an instance where a five-year-old child was left in the bush while the mother and other children were sent to the Transkei, although the woman had pleaded with the officials to let her search for the missing child.

Mr Savage also stated that, according to inhabitants of the Crossroads camp, pressure was exerted by officials to get them to sign documents, the contents of which they had no notion of but which requested the officials to transfer their belongings to the railway station nearest to where they stayed on the Platteland.

There illegally

In his reply Brigadier Van der Westhuizen said that he felt that the information of Mr Savage was faulty but he would investigate if Mr Savage supplied details. At least 90 percent of the approximately 6 000 people in the estimated 1 000 shanties at Crossroads were there illegally. They came to the area knowing that they were doing so illegally under the provisions of Act 25 of 1945.

He states that the Bantu Administration Board is authorized to owns the ground where carry out the provisions of the Act. The board also the shacks are illegally built. All the inhabitants are informed in the necessary languages and is writing that they have erected the shanties illegally and without authority and must remove them. The board's officials brought a number of people before court and they were given suspended sentences on condition that they left the area. In spite of the suspended sentences the people did not leave the area and the officials make use of the summonses to remove the people.

The people are sent back at the State's cost. The inhabitants knew they were going to be removed. Summonses were issued. If the Bantu Administration received information that any of its officials acted illegally or inhumanely, the complaints were thoroughly investigated.

The brigadier said that any discussions, requests or complaints had to fall within existing legislation and to be based on facts. Problem cases were daily brought to the notice of senior officials of the board and where possible reasonable requests were considered sympathetically.

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Why not build at Crossroads?

Cape Times 27/11/75

Letters

From Miss M RODGER, Secretary, Civil Rights League (527 CTC Building, Cape Town):

THE Civil Rights League wholeheartedly supports the letter from the chairman of the Institute of Race Relations, Mr Michael Savage, published in the Burger on November 24 and commented on by you the following day.

The crux of the matter, of course, is, in your own words, that "an inhumane system cannot be humanely administered". There is no humane way of destroying a family home or of breaking up a family. One can well believe that Brigadier J H van der Westhuizen and his officials do their work reluctantly and find it hard to justify their actions. They have no alternative but to do their duty under the law (though the timing of the demolitions and removals might be more mercifully arranged). The Brigadier is at pains to explain that they carry out the provisions of the Act in detail. Discussions, requests or complaints, he says, must "fall within existing legislation and be based on facts". But if the present procedure is regarded as "humane", what would constitute inhumanity?

The squatters, says the Brigadier, have come to the area "knowing that they were doing so illegally under the provisions of Act 25 of 1945". They stay there after being given suspended sentences knowing that they are going to be removed. In both cases they act out of desperation. The men come out of desperate need to earn enough money to support their families. The women come because the separation from their husbands (except for three weeks a year) is unendurable, or because they cannot feed their children at home. They stay after being sentenced because otherwise they face the break-up of their families. Under such circumstances, can anyone blame them?

The Minister of Bantu Administration and Development recently stated in public (Cape Times, October 29) that the provision of such amenities as theatres, cinemas and sports fields for urban Africans "could no longer be delayed". The provision of housing, and the amendment of the influx control regulations as they affect permanent urban workmen, is an even more urgent necessity.

Brigadier Van der Westhuizen has said that the Bantu Administration Board owns the ground at Crossroads on which the squatters build their shacks. If Cape Town City Council can build at Mitchell's Plain, what prevents the Bantu Administration Board from building at Crossroads?

The League would urge that pressure be brought to bear on the Minister by the City Council, the churches, and other concerned bodies to take urgent action in this regard, and that meanwhile the implementation of the Act be suspended.

Pilot scheme for squatters suggested

ARGUS 4/12/75 (293)

A SITE-AND-SERVICE scheme should be started to help to solve the problem of Coloured squatters, says Mr Len Kendal, one of the Cape Town City councillors who attended the biennial housing conference in Port Elizabeth in September.

In a report on the conference, presented to the City Council's Housing Committee, Mr Kendal says although the Cabinet is not in favour of site-and-service schemes, a pilot scheme should be started as a means of housing some of the vagrants and squatters for whom accommodation has still not been provided.

Another recommendation made by Mr Kendal is that a transit centre for training prospective householders should be established.

BASIC COURSES

The training centre should consist of about 20 to 30 low-cost houses where squatters could stay for a three-month period before being moved into permanent housing.

During this training period social workers from the universities would be asked to help teach squatters the basic hygiene and economy necessary in running a home.

The centres would also help in deciding where to re-house the squatters.

Those who did not respond to training could be grouped together to ensure that further help could be given to them.

GARDENING

Instruction in gardening and ground maintenance could also be given.

Mr Kendal also recommends that an experimental building unit be formed to investigate new designs and building methods and to build trial units for evaluation.

PS 23.9.1975

Cape Times 12/12/75

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Squatters' lot 'unimproved'

DR A L BORAINE MP for Pinelands said yesterday, after visiting the Crossroads squatter camp for a second time in recent months, that he had listened to many of the residents and it was quite clear that the situation had not improved.

Dr Boraine said: "Most of the women I talked with were particularly concerned about the behaviour of some of the Bantu Affairs Administration Board inspectors. I am quite sure there are exceptions, and I am only too aware of the difficulty of their work, but as a group, the inspectors are regarded as rude and rough.

NO RESPECT

"According to those with whom I spoke, they show little or no concern for pregnant women and women with infants, and often swear and show a degrading lack of respect."

He said that Brigadier J H van der Westhuizen, in a recent letter to the press referred to the "need to implement law," when in fact at Crossroads, "the board is systematically disrupting family life and ignoring the provisions of the law which make it possible to legalize the position of a significant portion of the families."

Dr Boraine said that the Bantu (Urban Areas) Consolidation Act No 25 of 1945 (as amended) makes provision for men who have "earned" the right to live in Cape Town to have their families with them.

12. Should there be more or fewer tests? Essays and tutorial exercises?

13. General comment

Have you found staff and tutors. Comment

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...of money.

Cape Times 13/12/75

Complaints: Chairman to investigate

Staff Reporter

BRIGADIER J H van der Westhuizen, chairman of the Bantu Affairs Administration Board (BAAB), said yesterday that he would himself attend to any complaints about the misbehaviour of BAAB officials.

He was reacting to an accusation by Dr Alex Boraine, chairman of the Progressive Reform Party's Cape Western region, that officials at the Crossroads squatter camp were, as a group, "rude and rough".

"The board would be willing, and regards it as its duty, to investigate any particular complaint of misbehaviour by its officials.

"Should there be any, I would attend to it."

Defending the "need to implement law", he said the board was willing to allow people legally in the area to remain there.

Milnerton squatters to leave

Cape Times 15/11/76

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AT LEAST four squatter families in the Montagu Gardens, Milnerton area, have received eviction notices. At least three shacks have been demolished by the Milnerton Municipality during the past week on the instructions of the owners who want to develop the land.

The Town Clerk of Milnerton, Mr J S de Villiers, confirmed yesterday that the municipality had been asked by the owners, S A Cargo Depots, in which Aero Marine has a shareholding, to clear the squatters from the land.

But Mr De Villiers said that the municipality had now "stopped the operation because of the fuss that has been created".

The squatters were served last week with eviction notices that expire today. However, they were given an extension after social workers from the Cape Flats Committee for Interim Accommodation intervened on their behalf.

A tour by the Cape Times through the sandy, windswept bushland on the outskirts of Milnerton revealed several families living in appalling conditions.

In one shanty, Mrs Bettie Petersen was cooking a goat's head for a meal. She, her common-law husband and their four children, aged six to 16, live in a lean-to shack measuring 9m by 6m. Only the sleeping area, about three metres square, is covered by plastic. The rest of their "home" stands open to the elements.

Mr De Villiers said that the owners of the land had every legal right to evict squatters.

Crossroads to where?

DAVID RUSSELL

The information contained in this report is based on well over 100 interviews. All the reported incidents and personal histories are based on first-hand accounts from the people concerned.

It needs to be emphasised that Crossroads is not the only African squatter camp in Cape Town. There are thousands of homeless Africans in other parts. It is, however, by far the largest, and it was though most helpful to write about this one place in some depth, rather than attempt a superficial survey of all camps.

AFRICAN families began to move to Crossroads in February this year. Crossroads is the area (otherwise known as Nyanga Extension 3) bounded by the Klipfontein Road, Lansdowne Road, and Mahobe Drive. Although the land is still owned by the Divisional Council, it is now under the charge of the Bantu Affairs Administration Board (BAAB).

By mid-April there were over 1 000 families living in tin shacks. If one assumes an average of seven per household, then there are about 7 000 people presently living at Crossroads.

Most of the people came from other "squatter areas" like Brown's Camp in Phillipi, Elsies River, and other areas around D F Malan Airport.

MRS R D, pushed from camp to camp, has spent the last ten years hounded from place to place: first Elsies River, house demolished, moved to Steenberg (R30 to hire a lorry for two trips to move her possessions), house again demolished, zinc taken, another R30 to move her remaining possessions, this time to Brown's Camp, again uprooted — moves to Crossroads, another R30 plus R15 to hire someone to erect the pondok in the new place. Her story is not untypical.

Apart from the few who were born in Cape Town, most of the people came from poor rural areas of the Transkei and Ciskei, from places like Lady Frere, Cala, Engcobo, Cofimvaba and Indwe.

All accounts point overwhelmingly to the fact that Divisional Council inspectors specifically told them to go to Crossroads, explaining that it was the place for African squatters. In several instances the Divisional Council inspectors hastened the move by demolishing their shacks at "Brown's Camp".

MRS NDAMASE was the first to settle with her family at Crossroads. She said in her evidence (The State vs Ndamase) that on arrival at the camp a Divisional Council inspector had been most helpful in explaining how they were to build in straight rows, and not close together (to decrease the dangers of shack fires). The inspector informed her that certain services would soon be provided.

Ten affidavits were handed to the Deputy Minister, Mr Janson, in which residents testified on oath that they were told to move to Crossroads. In most cases they said they would be able to identify the official who told them. They never went there wilfully without permission.

Soon after the people arrived officials (apparently from the Divisional Council) started to instal water taps, and make arrangements for sewage and rubbish removal. There are now about four taps for 1 000 families, and about six places where a number of rudimentary pit lavatories have been erected. Drums are provided at various points for rubbish.

Conditions are grim when it rains. Drainage is poor, and the houses erected in haste after previous removals are often far from leak-proof.

It appears that most of the men are working. Most of them are either in Cape Town on contract or have "earned" the right to be in Cape Town (10 (1) (b) Act 25 of 1945). Some of the men are working illegally. It seems that most of the women are here as housewives. They would like to work. Some do work as chars.

MR M B happens to be one of those who have come to work in Cape Town without the necessary papers. He is from Ilinge Resettlement Township near Queenstown. There are no further job vacancies there, and even then wages for many are too low for survival (R10 per month). He tried to get a contract but could not — he felt trapped — economic necessity forced him to come "illegally" to Cape Town where he works.

This is no community of "won't-works" and

"unemployables". They are not asking for handouts. They are making a positive contribution to Cape Town's economic life. They would gladly pay rent or rates to help cover the costs of basic services. They are a peace-loving, law-abiding community, who are nevertheless being treated like common criminals.

The administrative task of removing 7 000 people is considerable, and from the reported incidents it appears ominously to many that attempts were made to harass the people into removing themselves. The following are some of the first-hand accounts of what has allegedly taken place:

MR M W says he was beaten up by inspectors after returning late one night, having taken his daughter-in-law to hospital.

In mid-April, before taps were installed, there were reports that inspectors emptied the buckets of the women after they had returned some distance from getting water.

There were reports of harassment of the men who have cars and lorries as they came in and out of the only available entrance to the camp.

Also in April — on more than one occasion — officials went through the camp with a loudspeaker, warning people of real trouble if they didn't go. Some heard it said that helicopters and soldiers would come.

More recently (July 2), when MRS R H was being roughly handled by an inspector, her child fell and cut its head on a piece of zinc. The child was taken for treatment to the clinic. Fortunately, it was not seriously hurt.

Another man, sickly with TB, was beaten up and taken to Guguletu Police Station with a bloody face. He was kept in a cold cell for the night, but the magistrate discharged him as innocent the next day.

There have been frequent reports of inspectors swearing at people in a most offensive and provocative way.

How could they move? Who could afford the cost of yet another uprooting? How could a wife return to rural poverty? Who could afford the trainfares for their families even if they had wanted to move? Why could they not be left like normal people the world over to live with their husbands?

So the people stayed put — not out of a wilful desire to break any law, or out of any subversive intentions to ignore authority. In spite of a real fear of the authorities and a deep anxiety they stayed put because to move would have caused more suffering and disintegration of their family life. They stayed put because to move would have sucked them even deeper below the breadline. They stayed put because they wanted to be responsible adults and look after the best interests of their families in the way required by Christian law and human custom.

In the early hours of May 1, about 50 police and officials entered the camp and arrested 142 people. They were charged in terms of particular sections of the Bantu (Urban Areas) Consolidation Act.

SECTION 9 (9) (a) prohibits Africans from residing in an Urban Area except in a "Bantu Location". Crossroads has not been proclaimed as such.

SECTION 10 (4) makes it an offence for all but a limited category of Africans to remain in the urban area for more than 72 hours without permission. The majority were charged in terms of this section.

SECTION 11. Several men were prosecuted in terms of this section for illegally harbouring their wives and children.

Most of the people were found guilty and sentenced to R20 or 40 days, suspended for a year. Others were cautioned and discharged and ordered to leave the area within a few weeks.

From this time on this pattern of early morning arrests became part of the life of the Crossroads people. In spite of this, with few exceptions, the people didn't go.

As the plight of the Crossroads families became more widely known, a number of concerned people in Cape Town contributed towards the costs of legal representation, to ensure that the situation of each individual was given a full hearing in the courts.

In several cases the lawyer, by pleading in mitigation, was able to show the deeply human and personal reasons, as well as the pathetic economic factors which caused people to come to Cape Town.

Charges were withdrawn against some expectant mothers, against girls who could show the court that they were under 16, and against several who were undergoing medical treatment.

The process of defending individuals in court had the effect of slowing up the speed of getting rid of the Crossroads families. Furthermore, a magistrate at Athlone specially requested the BAAB officials to slow up the arrests, because the courts could not handle the numbers. The result was that BAAB officials started demolishing the people's shacks.

On June 5 the first of the numbered houses were broken down. BAAB officials said they intended repatriating the people to the "homelands". People wanted to know what was to be done with their possessions and zinc sheets.

June 10. Mr Cruywagen, Deputy Minister of Bantu Administration, gave firm assurances to Mrs H Suzman that when people were repatriated, all their possessions, including their zinc sheets, would go with them. This would be paid for by the State, according to the estimates on p. 51 of the Budget.

There is no known instance of a person's zinc sheets being sent with him or her. They were either left stacked on the site, or taken to Langa or Nyanga for storage. As for the people's furniture and other possessions, there is evidence that this was not sent to the homelands in every case.

Squatter wins court appeal

Cape Times 18/12/75

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Staff Reporter

A CAPE TOWN Supreme Court judge this week upheld an appeal against the conviction and sentence of a Crossroads squatter, Mrs Amelia Ndomase.

Mrs Ndomase, 39, was fined R10 (or 20 days) in the Athlone Magistrate's Court on July 15 after she had been found guilty of remaining upon land outside a Bantu location without the knowledge or permission of the Bantu Affairs Administration Board.

Evidence was that Mrs Ndomase refused to vacate her land at the Crossroads squatter camp, Nyanga East, after she had been given notice to do so by the Bantu Affairs Administration Board.



Mrs. Amelia Ndomase

However, unlike many other squatters, she was in the Cape legally and had nowhere else to go.

In his judgment, Mr Justice Vos said that Mrs Ndomase had been told by an inspector of the Divisional Council to live at Crossroads, and that services in the form of water, toilets and refuse removal would be provided.

"These services were provided and the houses which were erected were numbered. This raises a probability that she thought she had a legal right to remain on."

Mr Justice Vos said he could not agree with the submission by the State that Mrs Ndomase knew of the fate of other squatters who had been prosecuted, convicted and punished for illegal squatting.

DIFFERENT

"She may well have thought that their cases were different from hers because the Divisional Council had told her to live there. As for the warning notice which was erected after her arrival, she might have thought that this referred to other squatters who may not have been told by the Divisional Council to live there."

Mrs Ndomase's conviction and sentence were set aside.

Mr Justice van Heerden concurred.

Comment

...sts? Essays and

PS 23.9.1975

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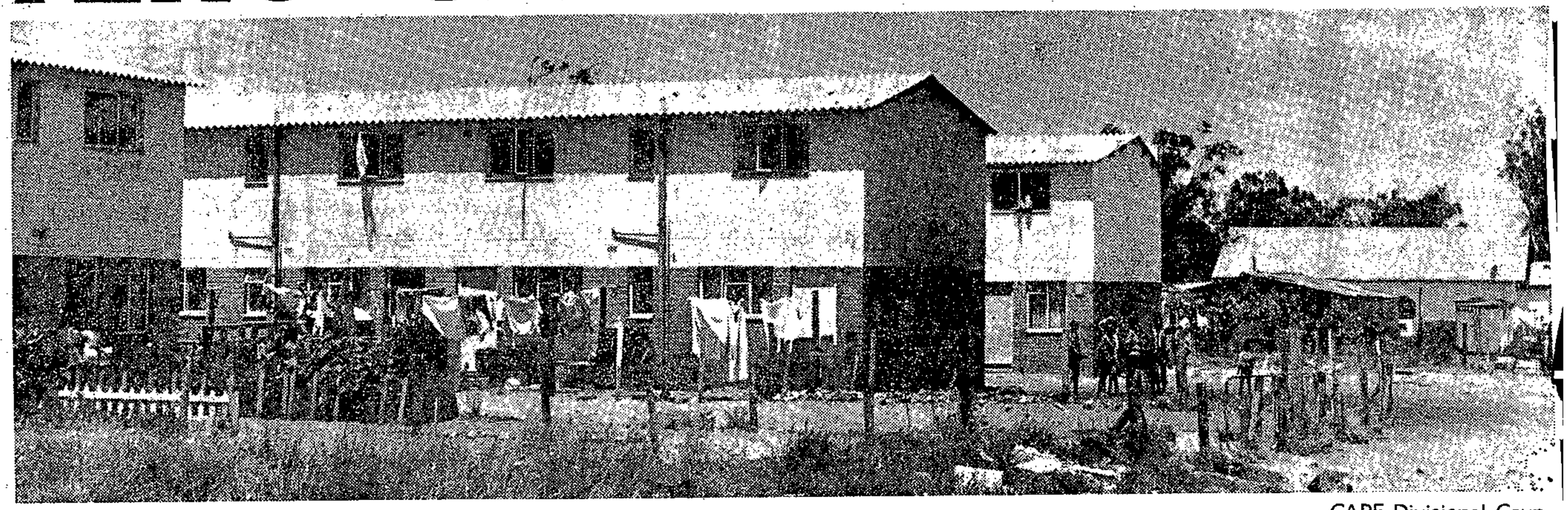
SQUATTERS CANNOT AFFORD TO PAY RENT



Setback to rehousing scheme

By Rashid Seria

THE Cape Divisional Council's R40-million scheme to rehouse Elsie's River's 80 000 shanty dwellers has received a set-back. Many squatters are moving back into their pondoks because they cannot afford to pay the rentals for their new homes.

Some have been evicted by the Divisional Council for non-payment of rents, but others have moved out quietly under cover of darkness on their own will.

Several Elsie's River residents have woken up in the morning to find their neighbours have done a 'moonlight flit' — leaving behind an empty flat and no clue as to their whereabouts.

Only after inquiries have they discovered that their neighbours had moved back into their shanties or trekked to the pondok towns of Vrygrond and Snakepark.

It is difficult to find any of the 'fly-by-night families now living in shanties.

Council tenants I spoke to either refused to say where these people were staying or said they did not know.

According to the tenants the 'moonlight flitters' are living in shanty structures considered 'illegal' by the authorities and they move their pondoks around to escape the bulldozers. The last thing they would want would be to appear in the newspapers and focus attention on their whereabouts.

MOVED OUT

The Divisional Council, is aware of the 'moonlight flitters'. Council officials this week confirmed there had been cases of residents 'flying by night' but said it was minimal.

Mr Tommy Pearson a social worker in Elsie's River and chairman of the Cape Flats Committee for Interim Accommodation, said he knew of at least three families who had moved out on their own, besides the many others who had been evicted.

One woman, who did not want to be identified, said she hardly had time to get acquainted with her new neighbours because they left so soon. She believed they were now staying in Vrygrond.

Mrs Christina Andrews who stays in a small shanty with her family of 10 not far from the council flat they were moved out of for non-payment of rent, did not mind being quoted.

She said her husband earned R40 a week, but paid a rental of R55 a month. Before they moved into the council flat, they stayed in a shanty in 10th Avenue, where they paid a rent of R4,33 a month. Now they were paying a similarly small rental.

In July they were evicted from the council flat because her husband, who had lost his job, could not afford to pay the rent.

But even before her husband lost his job they had difficulty paying the high rent. At times there was no food in the house for the children and she had to approach relatives for food for them to eat, said Mrs Andrews.

In Elsie's River there are many more serious cases than that of Mrs Andrews.

RELIEF NEEDED

There are an estimated 200 families living in shanties in the area with a monthly income of R30. They will soon be moved into council flats where they will be required to pay rents of R23,84 a month.

These people will never be able to make ends meet and the 'moonlight flits' are expected to treble.

In its five-year review of the Elsie's River redevelopment scheme, the Divisional Council says: 'Some form of relief is essential and unless some concessions are made by the Department of Community Development, the council will experience difficulty in finding tenants who can afford such high rents and will experience much dissatisfation among those who are housed.'

Mr Tommy Pearson said: 'The present rent scale of 25 percent of the breadwinner's salary is ridiculous because it does not take into account the size of the family and the other social aspects. It should be scrapped.'

CAPE Divisional Council flats in Elsie's River's Louw's Bush. Several families have moved out of these flats — some by the council for non-payment of rents and others on their own will because they could not afford to pay the high rents.



MRS CHRISTINA ANDREWS, outside the shanty she moved into after being evicted from the council flat, talking to Mr Tommy Pearson, a social worker and chairman of the Cape Flats Committee for Interim Accommodation.

20/11/75

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SWART PLAKKERS:

Groter begrip is nodig

Die Burger 31/12/75

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H. W. VAN DER MERWE, Direkteur, Sentrum vir Intergroepstudie, Rondebosch, skryf:

Ek wil graag voorstel dat die debat oor die swart plakkers (Die Burger, 24 Nov. en 22 Des.) heelwat meer kan bereik as duidelik onderskei word tussen die wets- of beleidsaspekte en die praktiese toepassing van hierdie wette.

Mnr. F. H. Botha wys tereg daarop dat dit ongerymd en onvanpas van mnr. Savage is om brig. Van der Westhuizen as voorsitter van die Bantoesake-Administrasieraad uit te lok tot 'n debat oor landswette en staatsbeleid. Ek voel egter dat mnr. Botha of brig. Van der Westhuizen ook nie bevredigend geantwoord het op die klagte van mnr. Savage aangaande gebrek aan menslikheid in die toepassing van die wet nie. Die voorbeelde van hardhandigheid deur mnr. Savage genoem en die voorbeelde van goedhartige optrede deur die brigadier genoem, bewys maar net dat daar hardhandige én goedhartige amptenare is.

SIMPATIE

Wat lede van 'n besorgde publiek vra, is dat daar minder hardhandigheid en meer simpatie moet wees teenoor mense wat, in baie gevalle deur geen toedoen van hul eie nie, die prooi van 'n bose stelsel geword het. Mnr. Savage vra tereg dat hierdie mense nie as moedswillige wetsverbrekers behandel moet word nie. Duisende van hulle is hier omdat hulle wil werk en eet. Hulle het geen heenkome in die tuislande nie.

Ek kry egter die indruk dat talle amptenare hierdie mense behandel asof hulle nie wil luister nie. Al het mnr. Savage nie heeltemal gelyk nie, is daar talle ander bewyse van hardhandige optrede deur amptenare. Daar is verskeie redes waarom klagtes nie ingedien word nie. Vir eers omdat ongemanierdheid en onbeskoftheid nie juis 'n kriminele oortreding is nie. Ten tweede omdat so baie mense om fyner tegniese punte nie kwalifiseer vir „wettige" verblyf nie en dit dus nie kan waag om prominent onder die aandag van die owerhede te kom nie. Omdat die mense so weerloos is, word onreg soveel makliker teenoor hulle gepleeg.

VERNUWING

Wat betref die bepaling van politieke beleid, kan ek maar net verwys na erkenning van Nasionale leiers in die laaste maande om te bevestig dat ons beleid veel te wense oorlaat. Selfs van ons meer konserwatiewe leiers beywer hulle vir vernuwing.

Terwyl ek graag my samewerking aan brig. Van der Westhuizen en mnr. Botha wil verleen om goeie verhoudinge te bevorder, sien ek dit ook as my taak as gewone burger van die land (ek ook as lid van die bestuurskomitee van die Suid-Afrikaanse Instituut vir Rasseverhoudinge) om my te beywer vir die hersiening of opheffing van wette wat in my oë onregverdig en verkeerd is.

As Afrikaners is ons te geneig om talle ongeregtighede te verbloem. Ek dink nou aan die groot belangstelling wat daar destyds was toe professore Müller en Van der Merwe van die Kweekskool op Stellenbosch die geval van 'n trekarbeider in briewe aan Die Burger aanhangig gemaak het. Hierdie geval het die Afrikaners se gewete wakker geskud. Maar wat het toe daarvan geword?

Ek sou graag wil sien dat ons weer 'n oplewing van dié debat kry, maar ook dat dit konstruktief moet wees. Na my mening bereik mnr. Savage baie min deur brig. Van der Westhuizen te vra om die landsbeleid te verwerp en wette te verbreek. Die stryd teen beleid moet in die politieke arena gevoer word.

Ek sou egter wil voorstel dat ons met die raad probeer saamwerk om 'n beter onderlinge gesindheid tussen die betrokke partye te bevorder. In hierdie verband wil ek voorstel dat ons 'n byeenkoms reël van amptenare van die Bantoesake-Administrasieraad, plaaslike besture en leiers van die gemeenskap sodat ons praktiese aspekte van die toepassing van die wette kan bespreek. Om mee te begin kan ons 'n paar van die verslae van die Athlone-Adviesburo bespreek.

Ek glo dat baie goeie gevolge uit so 'n bespreking kan vloei. Dit kan help om wantroue uit die weg te ruim, om groter realisme by die kritici te bevorder en om amptenare miskien meer bewus te maak van party probleme van die gesinne.

Indien nodig, kan so 'n samespreking onder beskerming van 'n onpartydige liggaam soos die Sentrum vir Intergroepstudie geskied. Ek sou ook graag wil sien dat die pers teenwoordig moet wees.

A family taken apart

Cape Times 25/12/75

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The Rev DAVID RUSSELL (right) on a human tragedy at Crossroads

MRS JANE THABATHA was not yet feeling back to normal strength following a Caesarian section operation, when the Bantu Affairs Administration Board inspectors descended upon her shack at the Crossroads squatter camp one morning in October, while her husband was at work.

They had come to "repatriate" her, to remove her from her husband, John, to whom she was married by tribal rites.

Mr Thabatha has been working legally in Cape Town for 30 years. Like most married men, he very much wants his wife and children with him, and fails to understand why they are prevented from remaining. In fact, the law does make provision for men who have "earned" the right to reside in Cape Town to have their families with them. Unfortunately for him, the authorities do not want them to stay permanently, so permission is almost always refused.

The first time I saw Mr Thabatha about his story, he was almost incoherent with frustration. It was only when I met him the following day that he was able to relate it clearly. I personally believe in the basic truth of his account, which I have checked as far as I have been able. I have decided to change the name, in the interests of his family, though he is willing that this story be published.

Mr Thabatha had been under pressure for months to send his wife and children away. It was not out of any desire to defy authority that he tried to delay this taking apart of his family. He was trying to be a responsible parent and husband. The inspectors became angry when his wife stayed on. He says that on one occasion they swore at her in a degrading way in his presence.

"I had always thought", he told me, "that Whites show great respect for their women, and that they would show the same for ours, but they treat our Black women in a very bad way."

And so, on that morning in October, when he was at work, they came to take his wife, Jane, together with her two-month-old baby and an older child. She was made to take her possessions out of the house, which the authorities planned to demolish. Because she was not feeling well that day, the inspectors were eventually persuaded to leave the belongings behind for her husband to see to. This did not, however, prevent them from forcibly removing her and putting her on the train with two of her children.

It is true that in July, Jane had said she would be prepared to leave after the birth of the child when it was old enough. She had agreed to this at the time, not because she wanted to leave her husband, but because the regulations left her no choice — they forced her to leave him.

On the journey, feeling increasingly unwell, and having no food for her infant, she got off the train at Worcester, and returned to her husband at Crossroads.

The following month the inspectors came to take Jane for the second time — this time doing a more thorough job. When Mr Thabatha came back to his home at Crossroads after work, he found that his wife, his children and his belongings had been removed in his absence, and that his house had been demolished. A huge yellow mechanical vehicle had pushed over his house, leaving it a crumpled heap. I actually saw this being done.

Some days later he had a letter from his wife, saying that she had had a terrible journey, and that no belongings had arrived. Mr Thabatha went to the BAAB offices in Nyanga to inquire about his possessions, removed without his permission. He was treated in an unsym-



pathetic way by an official, who even talked of having him arrested and put in prison over Christmas. He was then referred to a house in Guguletu for his belongings.

I personally took Mr Thabatha to this house, and we found nothing. His two new beds, wireless, savings-bank books, blankets, sheets, pots, paraffin-heater and stove, and other things, were all missing.

Maybe his wife has been "persuaded" to sig

Donkey demo by squatters

(293) Staff Reporter Cape Times 25/12/75

IN a symbolic plea for a home, an evicted squatter yesterday led a donkey carrying his wife and two of his three young children to the steps of the Cape Town City Hall, watched by hundreds of Christmas Eve shoppers thronging Darling Street.

The squatter, Mr Moegamat Dunn, and his wife Gouda are medically unfit and receive assistance from the State. Mr Dunn is an epileptic. He has a daughter, Nazeema, 6; a son, Anwar, 2; and Nadia, a baby of four months.

Mr Dunn's troubles began three years ago when he was living with his parents in Factreton Estate. He was told by the City Council's Housing Department that as a married man he could not live with his parents. When he could not find an alternative place to stay, he was told that his parents would be evicted from the house if he persisted in staying there.

TO BE DEMOLISHED

"Ever since then I have been living in squatter camps or wherever there was some kind of a roof over our heads," he said.

Mr Dunn is receiving a disability pension from the State and his wife gets a grant.

According to Mr Dunn, a social worker at Groote Schuur Hospital has approached both the Department of Community Development and the City Council, but to no avail. He now lives in District Six in a house earmarked for demolition.

"The conditions there are very bad, we are threatened by gangs and I am afraid for my young family," Mr Dunn added.

He said that he did not want to cause a sensation by his demonstration, but thought that at this "time of goodwill" his and similar people's troubles could be remembered.

After making his point quietly, Mr Dunn took his family back to their temporary dwelling in District Six, not knowing what the new year will usher in for them.

"All the same, I want to wish everyone in Cape Town, even the Mayor and the Councillors, all the best for the festive season," he said sadly.

A spokesman for the City Council Housing Department could not be reached for comment yesterday.

(1) ~~201~~

(2) 293

10/1/76 DP

Petition over camp

EAST LONDON — The feared growth of a squatter camp, the mess left by unauthorised weekend campers and the non-removal of rubbish during the holiday period came under strong attack in a petition submitted to the Kaffrarian Divisional Council at its meeting here yesterday.

Residents of Haga-Haga Extension I said they were "concerned about the establishment of a location within 300 m of our homes."

The site, a divisional council camp for eight workmen, "could snowball into shebeens and lodging houses for migrant and illegal labour entering this area."

The housing was to have been for single men only but, the petitioners said, "no fewer than four women with children are living on the site already."

The petition also complained about "trippers and weekend campers who pollute the sea bush immediately in front of properties on the foreshore with homemade lavatories, leaving stools and soiled toilet paper on a Monday after their visits."

The residents asked for the appointment of a beach ranger and fishery inspector who could enforce the ban on camping and ensure the hygiene of the area.

The council's roads engineer, Mr A. Hall, said he had inspected the township yesterday and found it clean. He had found no serious pollution of the bush and no women or children were living in the labourers' camp. The council's representative at Komga, a Mr Gowar, had reported to him that refuse removals were done right through the holiday period.

"This is not true," interjected Councillor A. G. King, who lives at Haga-Haga.

The place was clean now, he said, but during the holidays it had been filthy. Refuse bins had been so full during December that he and other residents had had to cart the rubbish away.

Mr Hall also reported that the camp was to have been moved out of sight of the residents' homes, but there had not been time during December. This would now be done during January.

The council agreed to question Mr Gowar at the next meeting of the health committee. — DDR.

(1) 293
(2) 174



South African Outlook

Crossroads . . . shantytown without hope

F.M. 30/1/76

CAPE SQUATTERS

Growing frustration

Within the greater Cape Town area live some 200 000 Africans, at least half without residential rights under the pass laws. Harassed by government officials intent that they should belong in a Bantustan, and by restrictive employment practices, they have helped swell the enormous squatting problem of the Western Cape, which now involves at least 250 000 people in communities reminiscent of the slums of Mozambique and Angola.

Two decisions, dating to 1955 and 1956, have determined the fate of Western Cape Africans. Firstly, the Eiselen plan to make a "Coloured labour preference area" in the Western Cape bars Africans from jobs requiring even the most minimal skills. They are reserved for Coloureds. Secondly, there has been a ban on family housing for Africans for a decade.

Any employer wishing to engage an African in a skilled post must satisfy the Labour Department that no Coloured is available, and that the prospective employee has residential rights. As it is, the building industry is the largest employer of African labour in Cape Town, mostly on 12-month contracts.

All of which could slot in well enough with separate development ideology if Africans were in fact mere labour units, lacking the elementary education on which industrial, commercial or professional training can be grafted.

This has not proved the case. Increasing numbers of Western Cape Africans are advancing to JC and beyond only to find themselves (if they cannot get teaching or Bantu Administration posts) labourers or domestic servants, and liking it rather less than their parents.

The average wage of an unskilled labourer in Cape Town is R23/week, and a survey of Langa workers by the SA Institute of Race Relations has shown that, while there is no unemployment, the search for better jobs is ceaseless. A number of primary school teachers, for example, are working outside the profession. The Athlone Advice Office, maintained by the SAIRR and the Black Sash, notes in its latest annual report that "the acquisition of skills or of academic qualifications has negative value for Africans in the area".

These skills are generally acquired outside the Western Cape, since facilities for training are effectively (and deliberately) non-existent. One African matriculant to whom the *FM* spoke had landed a job as a translator (knowledge of Xhosa does open some skilled jobs), but her commercial qualifications were worthless.

The Advice Office also reports that some "employers tend to take advantage of the situation and pay their African employees the wage of labourers while getting skilled work from them".

Ray Altman, secretary of the (Coloured) National Union of Commercial and Allied Workers, reflects the view of Coloured union leaders that "where an African is able to come into skilled employment, he should be allowed to do so; there should be equal pay for equal work, and promotion on merit".

To say the least, this seems some way off. With independence looming for the Transkei, government is certain to accelerate rather than abate its efforts to exclude Africans from the Western Cape. The result will be an *impasse*, with dangerous possibilities of unrest. Within the past year many squatting Africans have been relocated in the Crossroads shanty-town near D F Malan Airport.

While government evidently regards Crossroads — population approaching 10 000 — as a transit camp, it has already shown signs of evolving into a true community. For one thing, the majority of these Africans have chosen to live in Crossroads with their families rather than in single-sex hostels in Langa or Nyanga.

It is hard to see how Transkeian independence will make any difference to their lives.

Sada schools crisis

INDABA DD. 30/1/76.

The removal of some families from Ilinge near Lady Frere to Sada has created an education crisis at Sada.

The families are housed in nine schools and when the schools re-opened the pupils had no classrooms.

They spent the first day squatting around their schools together with their teachers. The children were later told to return to their homes and that they would be told when the classrooms are empty.

In the meantime carpenters are busy putting up wooden shacks to house the families now occupying the classrooms.

Teachers report to their various schools in the normal way but have no children to teach and soon return to their homes.

A spokesman for the Ciskei Department of Education has assured parents that the schools would soon be ready for occupation by children.

The Ciskei National Party speaker on matters of education in the Ciskei Legislative Assembly, Mr P. G. Stamper, visited Sada to see for himself. He has not made any comment.

1 293

2 705

3 Education - Primary

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Hansard no 2 col 44 2/2/76

Squatter camps at Crossroads

73. Dr. F. VAN Z. SLABBERT asked the Minister of Bantu Administration and Development:

(1) How many women living in the squatter camps at Crossroads near Bellville were convicted during 1975 of being in a prescribed area illegally;

(2) how many of them were removed to their homelands;

(3) (a) how many of the women removed were accompanied by children and (b) how many children were involved;

(4) how many men in the camp were required to move into bachelor quarters in the Peninsula townships;

(5) whether any men were required to move to their homelands; if so, how many.

The MINISTER OF BANTU ADMINISTRATION AND DEVELOPMENT:

(1) 793.

(2) 79.

(3) (a) 68.

(b) 97.

(4) 20.

(5) Yes, 5 men.

Cape Times 10/2/76

Convicted squatter appeals

293

Supreme Court Reporter

A CROSSROADS squatter, Mrs Lilian Peter, yesterday appealed in the Supreme Court, Cape Town, against her conviction for being illegally in a prescribed area.

Mrs Peter, 30, was convicted in the Wynberg Magistrate's Court in October last year. She was fined R20 (or 20 days).

The magistrate also ordered that she be evicted and that her shanty home at the squatter camp be demolished but he suspended the order pending the outcome of her appeal.

Mr Justice Van Winsen and Mr Justice Baker reserved judgment.

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Squatting: Woman wins appeal

ARGUS 19/2/76

AN APPEAL by Mrs Lilian Peter, a Crossroads squatter, against her conviction in the Magistrate's Court, Wynberg, for being illegally in a prescribed area, was upheld by Mr Justice van Winsen in the Supreme Court, Cape Town, yesterday.

After Mrs Peter's conviction in October last year she was fined R20 (or 20 days) and the court ordered that she be evicted from the area and that the shanty in which she was living be torn down.

In his judgment Mr Justice van Winsen said the magistrate had concluded Mrs Peter lived in a shanty at Crossroads and that the Bantu Affairs Administration Board was the lawful occupier of the ground on which the shanty stood.

Mr Justice van Winsen said he accepted evidence that the ground on which Mrs Peter's shanty stood was owned by the Cape Divisional Council.

Mr Justice van Winsen said it had been necessary for the State to establish that neither the owner nor occupier of the land had given Mrs Peter permission to remain on the land.

There was no evidence that it had been used as a place of abode for Black people or in connection with the exercise by it of its functions in regard to the Bantu Administration before the constitution of the board.

There was therefore no basis for a finding that the board was the owner of Crossroads.

The conviction, sentence, eviction and demolition orders were set aside.

Cape Times 19/2/76

293

Squatter wins eviction appeal

AN APPEAL by a Crossroads squatter, Mrs Lilian Peter, against her conviction for being illegally in a prescribed area was upheld in a judgment handed down by Mr Justice Van Winsen in the Supreme Court yesterday.

Mrs Peter, 30, was convicted in the Wynberg Magistrate's Court in October last year. She was sentenced to a fine of R20 (or 20 days). The magistrate also ordered that she be evicted and that her shanty home at the squatter camp be demolished.

In his judgment, Judge Van Winsen accepted evidence that the Crossroads area was owned by the Cape Divisional Council and the Cape Portland Cement Company, in separate portions.

Mr Robin Marais, SC, counsel for the appellant, had attacked the magistrate's findings on the grounds that the State had failed to prove that the Bantu Affairs Administration Board was the lawful owner or occupier of the ground, or that its occupation was lawful.

The State had also failed to prove that the appellant had built her home or had caused it to be built on her behalf, or that she had lived there without the permission of the lawful owner of the land, he claimed.

Judge Van Winsen pointed out that the land had been "invaded by squatters" in April, 1975. It was only after the squatters had arrived that the board stepped in and began to exercise control in two ways: By serving notice to quit and supplying basic facilities such as water, latrines and refuse removal.

The squatters had settled on Cape Divisional Council land as the private land was demarcated by flags, he said.

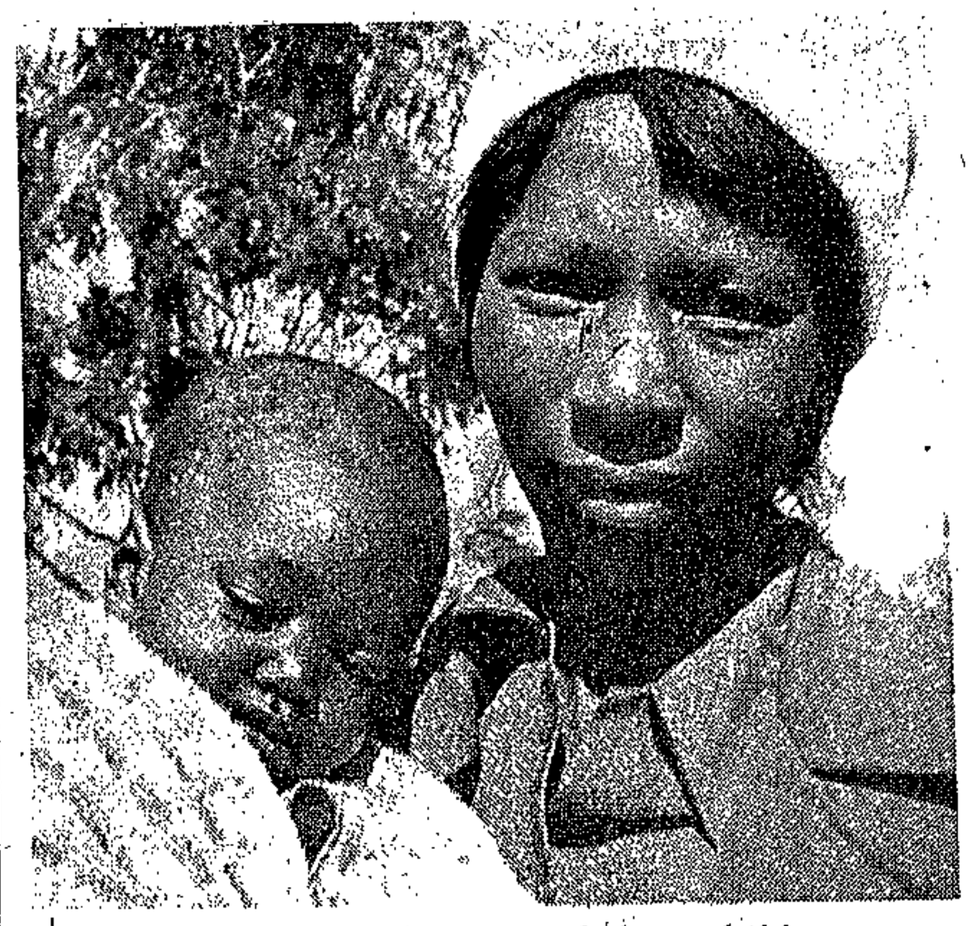
ONLY SOURCE

There was evidence that some of the squatters had been in occupation before the board took over and that, far from the board exhibiting effective control by reducing the number, the total of squatters had increased to six or seven thousand.

The only source from which the board could have derived its authority was from the owner of the land — the Cape Divisional Council or from some statutory provision. There was no evidence that the Council had given authority and the judge knew of no statutory provision.

"Accordingly the conclusion is unavoidable that the State has failed to prove that the appellant's remaining on the land was without the permission contemplated by Section 1 (a) of Act 52 of 1951). The appeal succeeds and the conviction, sentence, eviction and demolition orders are set aside," said Judge Van Winsen.

Mr Justice Baker concurred.



Mrs Lilian Peter and her child.

Black Sash happy over decision

A SPOKESMAN for the Black Sash said yesterday that the organization was "delighted" that Mrs Peter's appeal had been upheld.

"This shows that such charges should always be tested in the courts and underlines the importance of legal defence being made available to the most defenceless people," the spokesman said.

She said the people at Crossroads were there on instructions from Divisional Council inspectors as was made clear in another recent successful appeal, that of Mrs Ndamase.

"Neither of these judgments alter the extreme gravity and insecurity of the position of the people squatting at Crossrods," she said.

"The lesson of Crossroads is that family housing for all workers is of the utmost urgency. The law itself is in urgent need of revision. Working men in cities must be allowed to lead normal lives with their families."

The fairest Cape?

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F.M. 20/2/76

For some, it may be. For others, life in the Peninsula has become a nightmare of insecurity

How many MPs, as they flew into Cape Town for the Parliamentary session, took note of the squatter village called Crossroads just outside D F Malan airport? Those who haven't seen it should make an early trip out there — and talk to the villagers. They will find out how the migratory labour and influx control systems work in practice.

Crossroads is about a year old. With an estimated population of 7 000-10 000 it is one of a number of squatter camps in and around Cape Town. According to the former Deputy Minister of Bantu Administration, Punt Janson, the total number of Africans "illegally" in Cape Town in terms of the Bantu (Urban Areas) Consolidation Act is 90 000.

Cape Town also has a "legal" African population of 120 000, according to official figures supplied to the *FM* last week. In addition to the African squatters, there are estimated to be about 200 000 Coloured people squatting in and around the city because there are no houses for them.

Several factors have contributed to the growth of the large number of African squatters:

● In 1966, government froze the building of African family housing in Cape Town. So there is a serious shortage of housing, even for those African families legally entitled to be in Cape Town as families.

● Then there are the people who have been displaced (eg by mechanisation) from White farms and have drifted to the Peninsula. Their presence is illegal, because Africans from White farms are not allowed to move to urban areas. Understandably they reckon they have a better chance of finding jobs in Cape Town than in already overcrowded Bantustans where the pace of job-creation is

so slow. Many have no ties with Bantustans and are not wanted there either.

o The Western Cape is a Coloured labour preference area. But despite official intentions (announced in 1966) to reduce Cape Town's dependence on African labour, the city's demand for it has been increasing. The migratory labour system, however, decrees that only male workers may enter the city, where they must live in compounds, leaving their families behind in the Bantustans.

But many who are legally entitled to be in Cape Town as contract workers do not want to live in compounds without their families. So they bring their wives and children — illegally — to Cape Town and erect shanties out of old packing cases and bits of corrugated iron wherever they can find a patch of vacant land.

Most of the people at Crossroads appear to fall into this category.

Officialdom's response has been ambivalent. In some cases water outlets, pit latrines, and rudimentary health services have been provided. But, overwhelmingly, the policy has been to drive the people out by fair means or foul.

Shanty-homes have been torn down by officials and the people ordered to move. In the most notorious incident of all, shanties in a camp at Werkgenot were set on fire in the small hours of the morning as their owners fled in terror. In a subsequent court case, a magistrate clearly implied that Bantu Administration officials had set the homes alight.

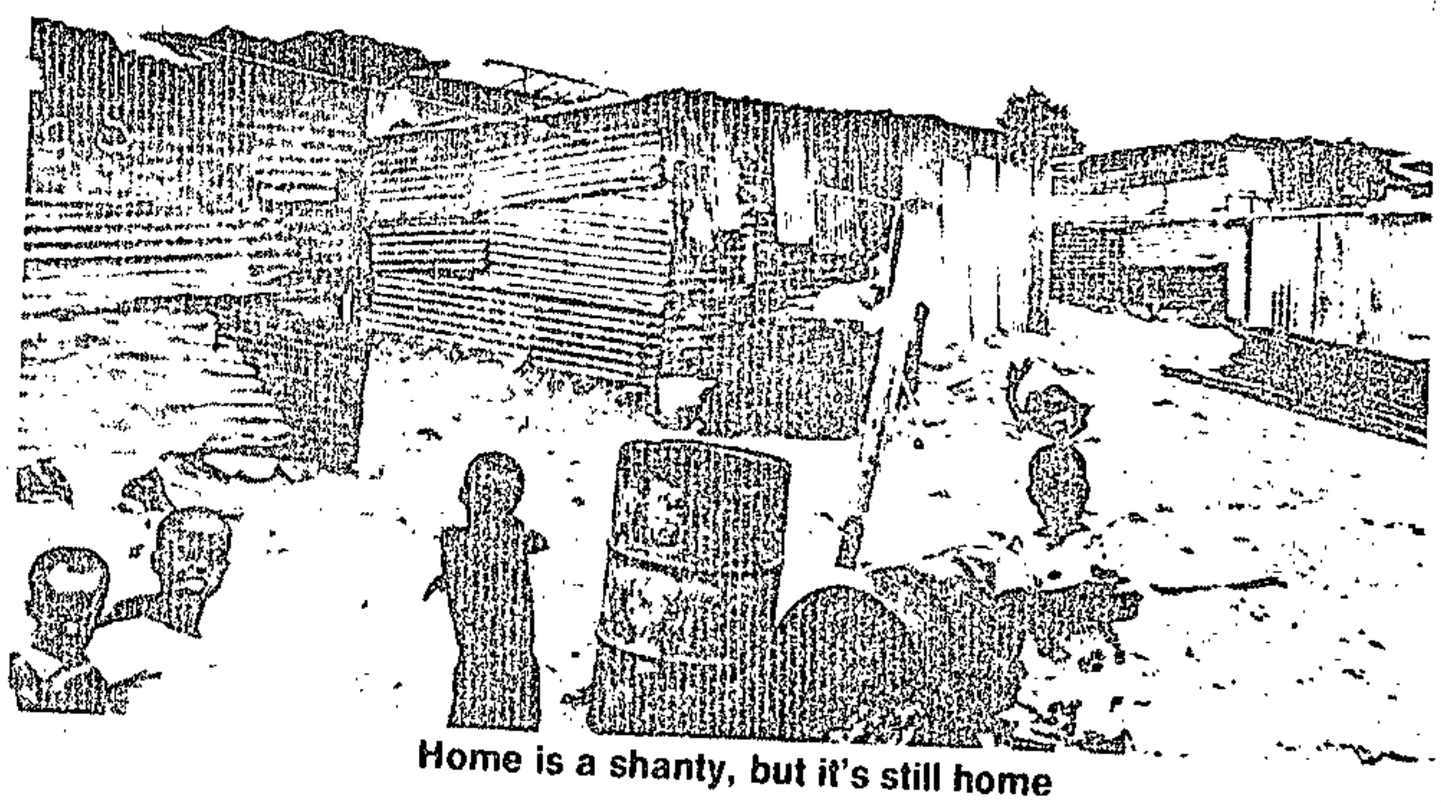
As fast as the shanties have been demolished, they have been re-built. Demolitions were halted in the middle of last year, however, when the Supreme Court granted two residents of Crossroads an interdict restraining the Cape Peninsula Bantu Affairs Administration Board from breaking down their houses.

Bantu Administration has other questionable stratagems. Homes have been raided while the men are at work during the day, and their families put on trains to the Transkei and Ciskei. In some cases they have left the trains at the first station outside Cape Town and returned. In other instances, as soon as the word has got round that White officials have arrived in a camp, people have fled into the bushes to avoid being served with removal orders.

Other forms of pressure have been used. Men have even been prosecuted under Section 11 of the Urban Areas Act for what amounts to illegally "harbouring" their own families.

Earlier this month Bantu Administration Minister M C Botha told Parliament that 793 women had been convicted of being in Crossroads illegally, and 79 women accompanied by 97 children removed to the Bantustans.

Bantu Administration attempts to



Home is a shanty, but it's still home

draw a distinction between "legal" and "illegal" Africans. Brigadier van der Westhuizen, chairman of the Cape Peninsula Bantu Affairs Administration Board, told the *FM* last week that families legally living in the area would be provided with housing, but that the removals of "illegal" people would "definitely go on".

He denied that the Board is breaking up families: "The family broke itself up when the man came here and agreed to live in single quarters." If the people at Crossroads were allowed to remain, says the Brigadier, "others will come in and there will be more squatter camps".

The Board, of course, does not decide policy, it merely carries it out. Government still obviously regards the families of migrant workers as "superfluous appendages".

Technically, their presence in places like Crossroads may be illegal. But they are not the real offenders. The real offender is the law itself. Could anything be more odious or more callous than a law which can turn a man into a criminal because he brings his own family to live with him?

The people at Crossroads have shown that this policy is unacceptable and unworkable. Women living there, to whom the *FM* spoke last week, seemed quietly determined to stay with their husbands.

Of course, government can use the Board and the police to break this determination if it wishes. The people living at Crossroads have no vote and they are hardly in a position to challenge the might of the state.

But it would be a hollow victory for powerpolitik, for it would demonstrate for all the world to see that cardinal aspects of its policy — migratory labour and influx control — are having to rely more and more on force.

In a report prepared for the Board of Social Responsibility of the Diocese of Cape Town, the Rev David Russell points out that the vast majority of the 1 000 to 1 200 men in Crossroads are working. "This is no community of won't works and unemployables. They are not asking for hand-outs. They are making a positive contribution to Cape Town's economic life. They would gladly pay rent or rates to help cover the cost of basic services. They are a peace-loving, law-abiding community, who are nevertheless being treated like common criminals."

Crossroads is aptly named. For government policy on migratory labour is itself at the crossroads. Broadly speaking, there is a choice of two paths. One is to press ahead relentlessly, uprooting families, packing them off to Bantustans, and inviting opprobrium in the process. The other is to recognise that Africans working in urban areas are entitled to a decent family existence like anyone else.

Granted, many of the wives and children at places like Crossroads may be "illegal". But it is a simple enough matter to amend the relevant laws and regulations. The legal/illegal distinction may be valid and clear in law; in practice it is untidy and absurd.

Crossroads presents an overwhelming case for such a policy adjustment. The men have jobs; most of the children appear to be getting some sort of schooling; homes have been erected; families are determined to stay intact; there even seem to be rudimentary health services.

The State would not have to provide large sums of money to build houses. All it would have to do is guarantee the all-important security of tenure and provide relatively inexpensive site and service facilities. As Geoff Budlender of the SA Institute of Race Relations points out: "It is the experience all round the world that where site and service schemes ... are implemented and people have security of tenure, the communities will upgrade their homes, invest their resources in the structure, and build real homes and real communities."

What government decides to do about Crossroads — and the other Cape Town squatter camps — will be a signpost to SA's future.

ARGUS 23/2/76

Squatter appeal upheld by court

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THE APPEAL of a Crossroads squatter, Mrs Tuni Sera (28), against her conviction and sentences for trespassing and resisting arrest, succeeded in the Supreme Court, Cape Town, today.

A Wynberg magistrate fined Mrs Sera R30 (or 30 days' imprisonment) on each of the two counts when she appeared before him on September 30 last year.

Giving judgment today, Mr Justice Diemont, with Mr Acting Justice Nell concurring, said: 'The State concedes the case was very poorly conducted and was fatefully defective in a number of ways.'

In terms of the relevant Act the State had to prove Mrs Sera was at Crossroads without the permission of both the owner of the land and the lawful occupier.

TRIAL RECORD

There was nothing in the trial record to show who the owner of the pondok was or that he had not given Mrs Sera permission to be there, the judge said.

Of the charge of resisting arrest by assaulting an officer of the Bantu Affairs Administration Board, Mr Justice Diemont said it was not clear the inspector, Mr P. du Toit, was entitled to arrest Mrs Sera.

M. J. Swanepoel appeared for the State and Mr C. Steytler, instructed by Mallinick, Ress, Richman and Company, appeared for Mrs Sera.

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Appeal by squatter upheld

Cape Times 24/2/76

THE CONVICTION and sentence against a 28-year-old squatter woman who was fined R60 last year for trespassing at Nyanga and for resisting arrest by assaulting a Bantu Affairs inspector with a chair and a bottle, was set aside on appeal in the Supreme Court, Cape Town, yesterday.

In the Supreme Court, Cape Town, Mr Justice Diemont found yesterday that the State had made "a number of fatal omissions" in the case. It had failed to prove, he said, that Mrs Sera was a Bantu or that she was occupying the premises without the permission of the owner or lawful occupier of the land or building where she was found trespassing.

He accepted evidence by Mrs Sera that the inspector told her to untie a dog which had bitten her the day before and when she refused to do so, pushed her toward the dog. She told the court then that she picked up a bar chair and bottle to prevent herself from being bitten.

Mr Justice Nel concurred. Mr C Steytler, instructed by Mallinick, Ress, Richman and Co, appeared for Mrs Sera. Mr J Swanepoel appeared for the State.

TYPE OF FARM EMPLOYEE - CASUAL

RACE - ASIAN

YEAR - 1972/73

AVERAGE MONTHLY CASH WAGE FOR ALL ECONOMIC REGIONS = R 18.39

DEVIATIONS FROM AVERAGE MONTHLY CASH WAGE BY ECONOMIC REGION

EC REGION	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
DEVIATION	.00	-17.83	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
EC REGION	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
DEVIATION	-15.78	.00	.00	-9.72	-14.46	.00	.00	.00	4.61	.00	.00	16.34
EC REGION	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	
DEVIATION	-10.[illegible]											
EC REGION	3											
DEVIATION	.											
EC REGION	4											
DEVIATION	.											

TYPE OF FARM EMP

AVERAGE MONTHLY

DEVIATIONS FROM

EC REGION	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
DEVIATION	.00	-1.73	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
EC REGION	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
DEVIATION	-1.15	.00	.00	.00	-1.80	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	5.19
EC REGION	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36
DEVIATION	-1.46	.00	-1.65	.00	-.03	2.63	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
EC REGION	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48
DEVIATION	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
EC REGION	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60
DEVIATION	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00

Vrye Grond at Muizenberg

•17. Mr. J. W. E. WILEY asked the Minister of Community Development:

(1) (a) What is the estimated number of persons at present living on what is known as the Vrye Grond at Muizenberg, (b) what is the extent of this area which is (i) privately and (ii) municipally owned;

(2) what is the name of the private owner who owns the most land in this area;

(3) whether any water, electricity or sewerage facilities are available in this area; if so, (a) what facilities, (b) what charges are made for such facilities and (c) by whom are the charges made;

(4) whether it is intended to increase the population of this area by moving in persons from elsewhere; if so, (a) persons from where, (b) how many and (c) when;

(5) whether any steps are contemplated to re-house the Vrye Grond population; if so, (a) what steps and (b) when.

†The MINISTER OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:

(1) (a) ± 7130 persons.

(b) (i) 0,4 ha.

(ii) 137,60 ha.

(2) Anglo American Corporation owns all the private land.

(3) Yes.

(a) The City Council of Cape Town provides the following services:

Water.
Refuse Removal.
Night-soil—bucket-system.
Street Lights.
Gravel Roads.
2 Soccer Fields.
Shop.
Chemist.

(b) R6-50 per month per shack which represents only the cost of the services.

(c) The City Council of Cape Town.

(4) No. (a), (b) and (c) fall away.

(5) Yes.

(a) As soon as dwellings in Mitchell's Plain and elsewhere become available.

(b) Subject to the rate at which alternative accommodation becomes available which will commence in 1976.

(305) 2/3/76 Hansard 6 col 434

CAPE TIMES 4/3/76

Squatters: Council meets in secret

AT a special meeting yesterday the Divisional Council of the Cape took a decision that may have considerable bearing on the squatter problem in the area.

The decision was taken in committee after 70 minutes of discussion behind closed doors and no details were released to the press.

In a statement after the meeting, Mr J H Heyns MPC, said the meeting was called as a result of a discussion with the Minister of Bantu Administration and Development, Mr M C Botha.

Mr Heyns said a decision was taken and this decision would be discussed with the Minister within the next fortnight. They hoped to make a public statement after this discussion.

Yesterday's meeting began at 11am. Mr H J Kriel, chairman of the council's Finance Committee, said the meeting had been called to discuss a confidential document and he was in a difficult position as the council was in open session.

He moved that the council go into committee and that the minutes be recorded in the separate minute book.

Mr Heyns said the reason was that the matter concerned would be the subject of other discussions to be held with "other authorities".

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2-13

TYPE OF FARM EMPLOYEE - CASUAL | RACE - COLOURED | YEAR - 1972/73

AVERAGE MONTHLY KIND WAGE FOR ALL ECONOMIC REGIONS = R 1.98

DEVIATIONS FROM AVERAGE MONTHLY KIND WAGE BY ECONOMIC REGION

EC REGION	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
DEVIATION	-1.54	-1.49	-1.43	-1.38	-1.49	-1.45	-1.63	-1.65	-1.67	-1.59	-1.26	-1.35
EC REGION	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
DEVIATION	-1.24	-.97	-1.57	-1.53	-1.77	-1.48	.11	7.40	-1.15	.00	3.29	.00
EC REGION	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36
DEVIATION	1.63	.00	-.31	.00	.00	.00	.00	10.64	.00	.00	.00	13.02
EC REGION	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48
DEVIATION	1.77	.00	1.63	.22	-1.96	-1.54	1.69	.00	.00	.00	-.12	-1.01
EC REGION						54				58	59	60
DEVIATION						-.89				.14	-1.36	2.36

TYPE OF FARM EMPLOYEE - CASUAL | RACE - WHITE | YEAR - 1972/73

AVERAGE MONTHLY KIND WAGE FOR ALL ECONOMIC REGIONS = R 56.

DEVIATIONS FROM AVERAGE MONTHLY KIND WAGE BY ECONOMIC REGION

EC REGION	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
DEVIATION						7.23				8.24	-4.22	-34.70
EC REGION	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
DEVIATION						2.21				2.59	-22.83	.00
EC REGION	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36
DEVIATION	-13.55	1.64	1.28	77.70	.00	11.70	.00	218.22	.00	-13.16	-28.47	-36.99
EC REGION	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48
DEVIATION	-5.25	193.17	-41.30	-20.80	-42.83	1.32	54.02	43.09	11.85	66.72	2.54	-.91
EC REGION	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60
DEVIATION	-10.20	-42.41	.00	-13.53	-29.99	57.49	1.33	-22.33	-20.91	-25.52	-28.93	.00

Housing for squatters in Cape Town/Stellenbosch

*5. Mr. R. J. LORIMER asked the Minister of Community Development:

(1) What progress was made during 1975 with the provision of housing for squatters living in the areas of jurisdiction of (a) the City Council of Cape Town and (b) the Divisional Councils of the Cape and Stellenbosch:

(2) how many Coloured (a) families and (b) persons were living as squatters in these areas at the end of 1975.

†The MINISTER OF JUSTICE (for the Minister of Community Development):

(1) The following number of (i) squatter families and (ii) persons were provided with residential accommodation as from 1 August 1974:

(a) (i) 802.

(ii) 4 010.

(b) (i) 1 873.

(ii) 9 365.

(2) (a) 21 600.

(b) ± 108 300.

For the information of the hon. member I may mention that in Elsies River alone since 1970 4 569 Coloured families (22 845 souls) from squatter shacks were placed in proper housing.

(1)

*5. Mr. R. J. LORIMER asked the Minister of Community Development:

(X) Housing for squatters in Cape Town/Stellenbosch

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Hansard 6 s/s 76 col 1470

(60)

TYPE OF FARM EMPLOYEE - REGULAR — RACE - COLOURED — YEAR - 1972/73

AVERAGE MONTHLY KIND WAGE FOR ALL ECONOMIC REGIONS = R 6·44

DEVIATIONS FROM AVERAGE MONTHLY KIND WAGE BY ECONOMIC REGION

EC REGION	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
DEVIATION	.41	2,08	-.74	12,86	-2,17	-.41	-2,29	-3,76	-3,79	-2,88	4,25	1,54
EC REGION	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
DEVIATION	3,62	5,59	2,46	-1,15	-2,36	-2,61	-1,93	-,71	2,31	4,15	8,21	-2,15
EC REGION	25	26	27	28	[illegible]				[illegible]		[illegible]	36
DEVIATION	-2,75	-3,75	-2,02	12,38	-1				[illegible]		[illegible]	-5,98
EC REGION	37	38	39	40	[illegible]				[illegible]		[illegible]	48
DEVIATION	-1,62	-3,94	,42	-2,17	-2				[illegible]		[illegible]	3,59
EC REGION	49	50	51	52	[illegible]				[illegible]		[illegible]	60
DEVIATION	-1,22	2,11	3,67	,58	-				[illegible]		[illegible]	-4,35

TYPE OF FARM EMPLOYEE - REGULAR

AVERAGE MONTHLY TOTAL WAGE FOR ALL ECONOMIC R[illegible]

DEVIATIONS FROM AVERAGE MONTHLY TOTAL WAGE BY ECONOMIC REGION

EC REGION	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
DEVIATION	-222,81	42,02	-94,30	-46,98	-4,62	-4,34	-64,83	-74,10	-24,24	-7,54	-77,60	-60,76
EC REGION	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
DEVIATION	-38,69	-15,18	-51,68	17,58	-25,38	-70,95	-41,92	-2,80	-64,18	-69,81	-71,54	122,86
EC REGION	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36
DEVIATION	38,17	-3,30	-19,15	23,54	111,32	109,70	71,97	-30,84	122,44	53,22	-13,29	47,38
EC REGION	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48
DEVIATION	3,69	85,04	32,08	-66,62	37,39	6,42	108,11	10,97	61,43	1,76	39,35	3,98
EC REGION	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60
DEVIATION	34,14	-24,96	56,98	108,55	-4,77	-42,83	11,94	-21,61	21,22	6,22	-86,64	58,77

Vrye Grond at Muizenberg: Crime rate

*18. Mr. J. W. E. WILEY asked the Minister of Police:

Whether there is any difference between the crime rate in the residential areas surrounding the area known as the Vrye Grond at Muizenberg and that in the rest of Muizenberg.

The MINISTER OF POLICE:

Yes.

Mr. J. W. E. WILEY: Mr. Speaker, arising out of the hon. the Minister's reply, may I ask him what he is going to do about it? [Interjections.]

Mr. W. H. D. DEACON: Mr. Speaker, further arising out of the hon. the Minister's reply, are we to understand that the crime rate in the residential areas surrounding the area known as the Vrye Grond at Muizenberg is higher than that in the rest of Muizenberg or are we to understand that it is lower?

The MINISTER: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member must table his question. [Interjections.]

Mr. W. T. WEBBER: Mr. Speaker, further arising from the hon. the Minister's reply, may I ask him whether the House can assume that he is not going to do anything about this?

Mr. SPEAKER: Order! That is not a supplementary question.

(1) Squatters - Cape

(2) Housing - Cape

(3) 85

(4) 320

200 000 ARE WITHOUT HOMES IN CAPE TOWN

Sun. Times (Extra) 4/4/76

HERE ARE some interesting points about what has become known as Cape Town's squatter problem:

● There are an estimated 200 000 Coloured and African squatters in greater Cape Town. Officially the number of squatter families is 21 600.

● At Vrygrond the Cape Town City Council provides water, refuse removal, a night-soil bucket system, street lights, gravel roads, two soccer fields, a shop and a chemist.

● Each shack is charged R6,50 a month and, while the services provided for the 8 000 people there are inadequate, it is regarded as steps in the right direction.

● There are 38 000 Coloured families waiting for houses in Cape Town.

● The former Deputy Minister of Bantu Administration, Mr Punt Jansen, says the total number of Africans "illegally" in Cape Town is 90 000.

At the end of 1974 only 802 African families were on the waiting list, because only that comparatively small number had their "papers" in order.

● In Parliament last year it was announced that certain urban Africans would be allowed to build houses, and own them on a 30-year lease basis.

● The Prime Minister said three years ago: "Employers, whoever they may be, should not only see in their workers a unit producing for them so many hours of service a day. They should also see them as human beings with souls."

STAR 8/4/76



Pressmen charged

DR F. van Zyl Slabbert MP (centre) and the Rev D. Russell (right) with people at the squatters' camp in Nyanga, where four Pressmen were today apprehended and charged by the Bantu Affairs Administration Board for being in the area without permits.

Dr van Zyl Slabbert was not charged.

The newsmen charged were the Chief Photographer of The Argus, Mr Jim McLagan, Argus reporter Mr Christopher Prophet, driver Mr Norman Daniels, Cape Times photographer Mr John van der Linden and reporter Miss Jean Fairbairn.

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Visit: Slabbert may be charged

CAPE TIMES 9/4/76

Staff Reporter

DR FREDERIK VAN ZLY SLABBERT, MP, may be charged by the Bantu Affairs Administration Board with being in the Nyanga East township area without a permit.

Dr Van Zyl Slabbert yesterday made a fact-finding tour of an area known as "KTC" squatter camp with a group of four pressmen and the Rev David Russell, of Woodstock.

Five minutes after they arrived at the camp, the group was approached by an official of the board who asked them to accompany him to the Nyanga Bantu Affairs Administration headquarters immediately.

At the headquarters the pressmen and a driver were charged with entering the Nyanga township without a permit and issued with on-the-spot summonses.

Dr Van Zyl Slabbert, who left the camp with Mr Russell, was not charged.

Those who were charged were Cape Times photographer, Mr John van der Linden and reporter Miss Jean Fairbairn, and chief photographer of The Argus Mr Jim McLagan and reporter Mr Chris Prophet and Argus driver Mr Norman Daniels.

A Bantu Affairs Administration Board spokesman said Dr Van Zyl Slabbert might be charged. "We have not made a decision yet, but will definitely be in touch with him."

The aim of Dr Van Zyl Slabbert's visit was to investigate conditions at the "KTC" emergency squatter camp, established with the board's permission by the people of the Werkgenot squatter camp, near Bellville, whose shanties were burnt down after a dawn raid by Bantu Affairs Administration inspectors in March last year.

Mr Alexander MacLachlan, chief director of the Bantu Affairs Administration Board in the Peninsula area, yesterday confirmed that the camp was being cleared.

"Most of the people living in the camp are there illegally. They have neither passes nor contracts," he said.

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MP's CALL TO SATISFY THE URBAN BLACKS

IF moving away from race discrimination is to have any meaning, it must start and be demonstrated at the simple human level where Black families in urban areas want shelter and employment, Dr F. van Zyl Slabbert, MP for Rondebosch, said today.

Dr Slabbert, who is deputy-spokesman of the Progressive Reform Party of South Africa on Bantu administration matters, was commenting in an interview on his visit yesterday to the squatters camp at Nyanga East, to which Africans from Werkgenot have been moved. He met about 150 residents.

A major complaint was that when the Peninsula Bantu Administration Board cleared out Werkgenot, some of their property was destroyed.

'I see the dilemma as far as compensation is concerned,' Dr Slabbert added. 'It is very difficult to determine the nature of the damage. But these are simple folk, and it is a real issue to them, and I feel the least the Government can do is make a gesture.'

Another major problem was that most of the wives were illegally in the area in terms of the Bantu Urban Areas Consolidation Act. 'They want to be with their husbands and children, and cannot understand why they should be considered 'illegally' there, Dr Slabbert added.

He had requested an interview with Dr A. P. Treurnicht, Deputy Minister of Bantu Administration and Development, to discuss the issues.

'The one thing that impressed me was the complete lack of communication between the inhabitants and the Government,' Dr Slabbert said.

'I have spoken to Brigadier J. H. van der Westhuizen (chairman of the Bantu Administration Board) and tried to understand the problem from the department's point of view.

TENSE SITUATION

'Unless there is immediate planning, we are going to face extremely tense situations in future.

'I believe that urban discontent in the last analysis will not be the result of agitators, but the frustration beyond endurance of simple, peace-loving people who find obstacle after obstacle in their way when they try to find shelter for their families and look for employment in order to care for them.

'If moving away from race discrimination is to mean anything concrete at all, this is the area where it will have to start and be demonstrated clearly for all to see,' Dr Slabbert said.

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CHARGE IS LAID AGAINST PRP MP

ARGUS 9/4/76

DR FREDRIK VAN ZYL SLABBERT, MP for Rondebosch, was charged today with being in Nyanga township area without a permit issued by the Bantu Affairs Administration Board.

Dr Slabbert, who is the South African Progressive Reform Party's deputy spokesman on Bantu administration matters, toured a squatters' camp at Nyanga yesterday in the company of the Rev David Russell, to meet local inhabitants and hear their complaints.

Four newspapermen of The Argus and the Cape Times and a driver were stopped by an official of the Bantu Affairs Administration Board and taken to the board's offices, where they were charged with being in the area without a permit.

THE DECISION

Dr Slabbert, who told the official he was a Member of Parliament, did not accompany the Press group. Subsequently Mr P. S. Pietersen, the board's director of labour and community services, said it had been decided to lay a charge against Dr Slabbert.

Dr Slabbert confirmed today that two officials of the Bantu Administration Board had served a summons, requiring him to pay a R10 admission of guilt or to appear in the Wynberg Magistrate's Court on April 26.

'I have not yet made up my mind whether to go to court or to pay the admission of guilt fine,' Dr Slabbert said.

Because the board's officials have no status within the parliamentary precincts, Dr Slabbert met them in Parliament Street so that they could properly serve the summons.

Dr Slabbert visited a camp known as KTC in Nyanga East, established after shanties at Werkgenot were burnt down in a dawn raid by departmental officials last year. He heard complaints from residents that their property had been destroyed and no compensation had been paid.

Dr Slabbert said he had asked for an interview with the Deputy Minister of Bantu Administration, Dr A. P. Treurnicht, to discuss this and other complaints by the KTC residents from Werkgenot.

SUNDAY TIMES EXTRA, April 18, 1976

New tactics used to evict squatters

By NORMAN WEST (295)

THE LATEST report of the Athlone Advice Office in Mowbray, which deals exclusively with the social problems of Africans in the City, unmasks the tactics used by the Bantu Affairs Administration Board (BAAB) to get African families to quit their homes or shanties.

The report, signed by the organizer, Mrs B D Versfeld, and the director, Mr R N Robb, alleges that African women convicted of being in an area illegally, like at Crossroads, the African squatter camp near Philippi, are commonly given the Section 14 "removal" orders by the courts which give BAAB the authority to send the people away.

Complain

It says that a number of such women (African) have complained to the Athlone Advice Office, which is run under the auspices of the Black Sash and the South African Institute of Race Relations.

Women made to sign

help by the squatter community in establishing their own school had been thwarted by the interference of BAAB.

It says that the residents tried to start a small primary school in the open, for children unable to attend estab-

couples distressed by enforced separation and there is almost nothing that can be done for these people.

For African women, there is no possibility of entering the Western Cape from anywhere else except briefly (and seldom) as visitors.

Not only may they not come and join their husbands who work in the Western Cape, but they cannot find lawful employment for themselves, this in spite of the fact that their work is wanted and they need desperately to earn for the support and education of their families.

"Temporary contracts for such women would be an alleviation of unbearable hardship and we urge this step towards a healthier society now," it says.



(1) 293
(2) 1-24
(3) Migrant labour Cape

'A scar on our society'

MR TOM WALTERS, a member of the City Council Housing Committee, yesterday attacked the "squatting bill" now before Parliament and said it would effectively eliminate the future movement of Coloured labour.

Section 3C of the bill contains a clause which will make it compulsory for an employer to obtain a certificate from a local authority, like the Cape Town City Council or the Divisional Council or any town council, stating that proper housing is available for a prospective employee or that the employer will provide proper housing.

Mr Walters said that, because of the acute housing shortage in Cape Town, for instance, it will be "impossible" to issue such a certificate, in view of the long waiting list for "proper housing".

"The Government is in fact, creating machinery for the control of Coloured labour.

"Even at the most optimistic calculation, the crash building programme proposed by our city engineer in conjunction with the Department of Community Development and to be funded by the National Housing Commission would not eliminate the squatter problem for at least eight years.

"Therefore, the city council simply would not be able to issue a certificate stating that proper housing was available for a prospective employee.



Mr Tom Walters

544. Times 4/4/75

"It means that the Government will effectively eliminate any possibility of labour turnover, not only in respect of Africans, but also in respect of Coloured labourers from other areas," he said.

"This means that, unless for instance, housing is provided for construction workers on site, then their movement to the city will be eliminated.

"Furthermore, problems that stick out like a sore thumb as far as a result of this rushed legislation is concerned are the questions of what is actually meant by proper housing and does 'proper housing' include accommodation for the wives and children of the workers, or are we now extending the legal concept of migrant labour to the Coloured population?" Mr Walters asked.

"The solution does not lie in more bills to control the movement of citizens but in a massive programme of cheap housing situated near the demand for labour, plus site and service camps.

"I have suggested the construction of emergency camps several times to the secretary of community development," Mr Walters said.

He said the emergency camps he envisages should be similar to those built all over Europe after the last war and should be administered by social welfare officials who were trained in the handling of the people.

"I believe that this particular clause in the bill is going to create a new low in bushdwellers who will not be seen but remain as a scar on the conscience of our prosperous society," Mr Walters added.

Councillor criticises Bantu board move

22/4/76

DD

EAST LONDON — Following complaints from Gonubie residents about the number of black vagrants on the town's streets an inspector from the Eastern Cape Bantu Affairs Administration Board will be stationed in Gonubie from the start of next month.

Complaints received by the Gonubie Municipality were forwarded to the board for consideration as the municipality was powerless to do anything about the situation.

Blacks on the Gonubie streets need proof that they have accommodation in the town, but many employed in the town live in the bush nearby or come from Mdantsane.

The appointment of an inspector met with sharp criticism from Cllr P. Oosthuizen.

"Must these people live in Mdantsane and travel to Gonubie by bus twice a day.

"This is bureaucracy carried to its very limit," he said. — DDR.

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2 370

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Exco told of squatter bill

CAPE TIMES 23/4/76

Staff Reporter

IT WOULD be "almost impossible" to enforce one of the major aspects of the bill on squatters now before Parliament, the Town Clerk of Cape Town, Mr H G Heugh, said in a special report to the City Councils Executive Committee.

The report says that for the Council or any other prospective employer to ascertain whether a Coloured employee is "brought into the area is an impossible exercise in the Cape Peninsula.

"The enforcement of the proposed legislation will, in the circumstances, be almost impossible.'

Mr Heugh said the new law would prohibit the erection of any unauthorized structure by the owner or occupier of land and the offence was aimed specifically against such owner.

"Thus the present anomalous position of 'pondok farming will become illegal and if our rangers discover new structures, then the owner or occupier of the land will become liable to prosecution.'

The legislation, however, did not appear to be retrospective and would not cover cases of structures already in existence, Mr Heugh said.

The report was considered by the committee at its meeting yesterday.

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Archbishop condemns Squatter Bill

CAPE TIMES 26/4/76

Staff Reporter

THE Archbishop of Cape Town, the Most Rev Bill Burnett, in an interview yesterday said there was an urgent need for Black and White politicians to meet in the context of the Faith which most of them profess, and to find a future in common.

He said if people accepted the claims which men who lived together must make upon one another, they might yet have a future rooted in "the peace which God gives".

He also said continued refusal to respond to the "quite basic" human aspirations of Black citizens "can only lead to conflict".

Asked about his views on the Prevention of Illegal Squatters Bill, Archbishop Burnett said it was a "classic and disturbing example of our attempts to deal with social and political problems in the wrong way".

"I know very well that shack dwellers may become a health hazard and that sometimes anti-social persons may be found among squatters.

"On the other hand squatting is the result of a housing shortage, and, as at Crossroads, is a laudable attempt by husbands and wives to live together.

"I have pleaded for these people with those who exercise power these last six months. I know some of them.

"But this bill will allow squatters' shacks to be demolished and removed without a court order. This in itself could lead to a misuse of power or the use of it in such a way as to cause serious conflict.

"I say the bill is disturbing, not because it states some new principle or constitutional issue, but precisely on account of the presuppositions which underly it.

"It demonstrates so clearly where we stand as a nation.

"The social system which has been established as a way of security by White power for White people is repeatedly protected by taking more power.

"Cape Town's African squatter problem showed the desperate attempt by the Black people whose family life was broken by the migrant labour system to enjoy some kind of family life, even in a pondok.

"This is all part of the price that is paid by Black people for White security and privilege.

"What the bill says is that we must be able to prevent more easily even that alleviation of a system which the majority of Black people do not find acceptable anyway.

"This is disturbing because we act like this while we fail to take seriously the rightful claim for a fair distribution of land and its consolidation even in terms of the policy of partition represented by the Bantustans," he said.

Those who had a town house, and perhaps a beach house as well, would now knock down the pondoks of those who had neither.

"The bill is a focus for a larger issue," Archbishop Burnett said.

"When this continues to be the way White power responds to the struggles of Black people for a more adequate and freer lifestyle, there are two things I am moved to say.

"The first is a word to the Christian Church. Both the White and Black people involved are usually Christian (80 per cent of our population is Christian), of whom it is said in the Acts of the Apostles 'all who believed were together and had all things in common' (Acts 2, 44).

"Christians ought to know that God had given them resources through his Holy Spirit to live like that. Our society should reflect it.

"We ought not to be surprised if our gross failure in love to our fellow Christians places us under the judgment of God. The right and expected place for judgment to begin is 'at the household of God'.

"The second word is to the same Christian people as citizens. Continued refusal to respond to the quite basic human aspirations of Black citizens can only lead to conflict.

"There is an urgent necessity for Black and White political leaders to meet in the context of the Faith which most of them profess, and to strive together to find a future in common.

"If there is a willingness to accept the rightful claims which men who live together must make upon one another we may yet have a future rooted in the peace which God gives."

Church plan to aid squatters

AN INTER-CHURCH move to tackle the needs of squatters and their problems has been initiated in the Peninsula by various clergymen who will visit the Vrygrond squatters' camp tomorrow morning.

Participating with the local clergy are members of the Africa Enterprise team, an inter-racial, inter-denominational evangelistic organization.

The Rev Abel Henricks, the Methodist church president, the Rev A J Maye, pastor of the Gleemoor Baptist Church, the Pentacostal, Presbyterian, African Methodist Episcopal, Ned Geref, the Salvation Army and the Catholic churches are supporting the venture.

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CAPE TIMES 27/4/76

Slabbert in court on permit charge

Staff Reporter

THE Progressive Reform Party MP for Rondebosch, Dr F van Zyl Slabbert, appeared before a Wynberg magistrate yesterday charged with being in Nyanga township without a permit.

Dr Slabbert was charged with entering or remaining in Nyanga Bantu Township on April 8 this year without the permission of the officer appointed for the management of the township.

No evidence was led. Mr M J Richman, who appeared for Dr Slabbert, applied for a postponement of the trial on the ment of the trial on the had time to consider the charge against Dr Slabbert.

Dr Slabbert intended to defend the case, Mr Richman said, as he regarded the matter as "one of principle".

The application was granted and the case was postponed to June 14.

Mr A S McCarthy was on the bench. Miss J M le Roux prosecuted. Mr M J Richman, of Mallinick, Ress, Richman and Co, appeared for Dr Slabbert.

● A Cape Times reporter and photographer who were in the area at the time of Dr Van Zyl Slabbert's visit to the Nyanga squatters have paid R10 admission of guilt fines.

CAPE TIMES 28/4/76

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Probe at Vrygrond

Staff Reporter

AN ON-THE-SPOT investigation into the plight of squatters at Vrygrond was made yesterday by an interdenominational group of ministers and laymen.

According to a statement released afterwards, the survey was conducted to assess "the needs and problems confronting this society in transition".

It was obvious that the Vrygrond community was under negative pressure for various reasons, including the predominance of prostitution and immorality and the temporary nature of the shacks which could not be water-proofed.

"The impermanence and uncertainty of the residents contribute to a psychology of insecurity and despair," the statement said.

Residents often faced disease and terrorized by gangs, being unable to summon medical or police assistance as there was no means of communication.

A high incidence of drinking and drug-taking contributed to poverty and the destruction of human dignity and family life.

The survey formed part of the preparation for a large-scale interdenominational evangelistic mission being planned to seek answers to social and spiritual problems among the people in the Cape Flats area.

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Call to relieve squatters' plight

OWEN CARDINAL McCANN, the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Cape Town, yesterday called for urgent steps to ease the plight of Cape Flats squatters.

In a statement, he said:

"I am perturbed about the likely effects of the Prevention of Illegal Squatting Amendment Bill now before Parliament, particularly as regards the Cape Peninsula.

"I recognize that squatting is undesirable, and may well constitute a public hazard, especially in the field of health. However, the people who are squatting in the Cape Peninsula have no other choice. There are simply no houses available for them.

"I am aware that the central Government and the local authorities are endeavouring to meet the housing shortage, and they should be commended for this. These plans will, however, take time to implement. Meanwhile these people have to live. Where are they to do this except in pondoks?

"The bill does make provision for the setting up of emergency camps. This is the immediate crux of the matter. I consider that the situation is urgent and that immediate steps must be taken to declare existing squatter camps as emergency camps and to provide the essential services in these. In addition such further camps as may be necessary should be set up. This line of action should be treated as a number one priority.

"The point I wish to make is that these people should be treated as people, having each his or her own personal dignity as a human person.

"In the case of the African squatters, I submit that they too must be treated as people. There are two fundamental reasons why they are here. Firstly because they wish to live as families — husband and wife and children together. This is a moral right and the migratory labour system must give way before this right. Secondly the African men, who are here "illegally" (and indeed any other persons) have a moral right to seek work, where they can, and provision must be made for them to do this in a human manner.

"The community as a whole must bear the burden of this work-seeking. It may be argued that influx control is necessary to prevent an overwhelming inflow of people to the cities from the rural areas. I submit that the provision of emergency camps is necessary to meet this moral right of the individual person.

"If in the present system an individual has to sell his labour in order to gain a living, the community is morally bound to enable him to do so. He is not merely selling his labour, he is offering his whole person to be gainfully employed in accordance with his human dignity and the rights that flow therefrom.

"The Government no doubt wishes to handle this problem as humanely as possible, but I emphasize that the only way is to keep always in mind that the people concerned are human persons with moral rights fundamental to their dignity and that the community represented by the authorities has the obligation of acting in such a way that these rights are recognized and upheld."

An End To Violence?

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"We are hiding in the bush with our wives because we cannot live with them elsewhere."

"I heard women and children screaming as they stood in the rain outside their shanties."

ON WEDNESDAY night at about 11 p.m. Bantu Affairs officials, assisted by the police, raided a squatter community near the University of the Western Cape. Angry residents retaliated with stones and knobkerries. Police opened fire and it is believed that at least two residents were injured. Thirty-one people were arrested and are due to appear in court on a number of charges, including being in the area illegally. Newspapers quoted police spokesmen who gave conflicting reasons for the raid.

WHETHER THE RAID was to evict the squatters, check passes, or to 'prevent crime', a number of disturbing questions are raised:

(1) THE MANNER in which the raid was carried out: Why so late at night? Is a rainy night the best time to force families, including small children, out of their beds? Was a display of force - up to 15 police vans and armed policemen - necessary against a handful of men and women?

(2) THE SIGNIFICANCE of the raid: There are at least 120 000 squatters, "Coloured" and African, living in the Cape Peninsula. The raid demonstrates the attitude of the authorities towards these people - intimidation and coercion. The recent Prevention of Illegal Squatting Act highlights official unwillingness to face the reality of the situation. 120 000 people will not disappear. Most squatters are working in the homes and industries of the Cape Peninsula, guaranteeing our high standard of living.

(3) IS THIS AN isolated incident? Many African squatters are entitled to live in the bachelor quarters of the townships - but to live with their wives and families they are force to move into the bush. As long as legislation prevents families from living together, raids of this nature will continue.

THE SQUATTER LAWS are a small part of a whole system of influx control, migrant labour and Group Areas removals. While people's lives continue to be regulated and restricted, there is no hope for a peaceful South Africa.

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10 000 at Crossroads, says Botha

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ARGUS 30/4/76

The Argus Political Correspondent

THE Minister of Bantu Administration and Development, Mr M. C. Botha, said today it was estimated that there were about 10 000 Africans illegally squatting at the Crossroads camp near D. F. Malan Airport.

In a written answer to questions put to him by Mr N. J. J. Olivier (U.P., Edenvale), Mr Botha said that since January 1, 197 Africans, three men, 80 women and 114 children had been removed from the area.

For health reasons seven women with children had been provided with temporary accommodation in the Pinelands area.

No accommodation had been provided in the homelands in view of the fact that the Africans concerned had entered the Peninsula area illegally and were required to return to their homes in the homelands.

Since January 1974, 431 men and 939 women had been prosecuted and there were 1 251 prosecutions.

AREAS

Mr Botha said that, except for about 50 African women and their 120 children who were legally within the prescribed area but were squatting illegally at Crossroads, no particulars were available of other Africans there who qualified, in terms of the Bantu (Urban Areas) Consolidation Act, to be in the prescribed area.

The squatting in this area developed illegally and, as far as his department was concerned, there was no legal obligation to provide services for the squatters. The continuation of the present position could not be condoned and the squatters would be required to vacate the area.

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HANSARD NO. 13

APRIL 1976??

Squatter camp at Crossroads 921

660 Mr. N. J. J. OLIVIER asked the Minister of Bantu Administration and Development: †

(1) How many (a) family units and (b) single men and women, respectively, (c) persons and (d) structures were there in the squatter camp at Crossroads (i) as at 1 January 1975 and (ii) according to the latest estimate;

(2) how many (a) family units, (b) single men and women, respectively, and (c) persons have been (i) removed from the camp and (ii) provided with alternative accommodation in (aa) the Cape Peninsula and (bb) the homelands since 1 January 1975;

(3) (a) how many (i) men and (ii) women have been prosecuted since 1 January 1975 for being in Crossroads illegally, (b) how many have been convicted and (c) what was the sentence in each case;

(4) how many (a) men, (b) women and (c) children (i) who are in the squatter camp, (ii) who were provided with alternative accommodation in (aa) the Cape Peninsula and (bb) the homelands and (iii) against whom legal action was taken after 1 January 1975 were released in terms of section 10 of the Bantu (Urban Areas) Consolidation Act, 1945;

(5) (a) what agency has to (i) supply water and (ii) provide sanitary facilities in the squatter camp, (b) how many (i) water supply points and (ii) sanitary facilities have been provided in the squatter camp and (c) what are the future plans in regard to the camp.

The MINISTER OF BANTU ADMINISTRATION AND DEVELOPMENT:

(1) Statistics in the form as asked, are not available. It is estimated that there are approximately 10 000 Bantu persons illegally squatting at Crossroads.

(2) Statistics in the form as asked, are not available. A total of 197 Bantu persons comprising 3 men, 80 women and 114 children have been removed from the area since 1 January 1975. For health reasons 7 women with children have been provided with temporary accommodation in the Peninsula area. No accommodation has been provided in the homelands in view of the fact that the Bantu concerned entered the Peninsula area illegally and were required to return to their homes in the homelands.

(3) (a) (i) 431.

(ii) 939.

(b) 1 251.

(c) The cost involved in extracting this information is not considered warranted.

(4) Save for approximately 50 Bantu women who are legally within the prescribed area but are illegally squatting at Crossroads together with their averred 120 children, no particulars are available of other Bantu there who qualify in terms of Section 10(1)(a) or (b) of the Bantu (Urban Areas) Consolidation Act, 25 of 1945, to be in the prescribed area.

(5) The squatting in this area developed illegally and as far as my Department is concerned, there is no legal obligation to provide services for the squatters. The continuation of the present position cannot be condoned and the squatters will be required to vacate the area.

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interview

Council making a photo record of squatters

Sun. Times (Extra) 16/5/76

By NORMAN WEST

THE Cape Town City Council has embarked on a novel scheme to prevent illegal squatting by systematically photographing shanty tenants at Vrygrond.

When telephoned for an explanation, Mr Stanley Evans, the deputy town clerk, told me he knew nothing about the picture taking exercise I mentioned.

The official in charge of the rangers who patrol the squatter camps, Mr D Aspeling, could not comment, and neither could the assistant director of housing, Mr J Swanson.

In the meantime, after receiving a report of the picture taking of squatters, Sunday Times photographer Willie de Klerk and I decided to track down the City Council employee entrusted with the picture taking duty.

Mr A Gericke, in charge of the housing office near Vrygrond, said he was not allowed to speak to the press but that the pictures were needed for "control" purposes.

He refused to elaborate.

We decided to follow the four-wheel drive truck of the City Council ranger Mr F van der Merwe, and Willie de Klerk turned his lens on the official squatter photographer of the City Council.

Mr Van der Merwe, who affectionately addresses all his female subjects as "auntie", made the exercise as pleasant as possible for the mothers who remained at home with the children while the fathers were earning a living in the city.

Mrs Ella Jacobs and her two-year-old daughter, Angelena, were alone at home when the city council photographer called.

It does not matter that the rest of the household were away, Mrs Jacobs was handed a huge blackboard with numbers written on it in chalk to hold in front of her and little Angelene, while the cameraman clicked away merrily and recorded the event in his record book.

The same procedure was followed with "aunty" Miriam Monyake, who is secretary of the Vrygrond Executive Committee.

Mr Van der Merwe was in a hurry. He still had to snap the rest of the 1 500 families and shacks at Vrygrond.

Said Mr Tommy Pearson, secretary of the Cape Flats Committee for Interim Accommodation (CFCIA):

"I and 40 ministers of religion saw the photographer dressed in City Council uniform taking pictures of squatters on April 27 while on a visit to Vrygrond.

"The ranger who took the pictures told me the city council needed the photographs for "record and control" purposes.

"It seems, however, that they want the pictures to prevent other homeless people from being taken in as boarders or to take occupation of the shacks should one family move out.

"Whatever the reasons may be, it is humiliating to have your privacy intruded on by being forced to pose with a board with numbers on like concentration camp prisoners," Mr Pearson said.



City Council ranger, F van der Merwe, photographs Mrs Miriam Monyake, Secretary of the Vrygrond Executive Committee.

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Squatters issue joint statement

Sunday Times (Extra) 16/5/76

THE recently-formed executive committees of the Vrygrond, Lourdes Farm and Snake Park squatter camps issued their first joint press statement this week in which they condemn the Prevention of Illegal Squatting Bill now before Parliament.

By NORMAN WEST

They say they suspect that the Bill is a subtle attempt to issue them with passes "like the unfortunate Bantu" and that they feel like an "ignored, unwanted and shunted-about part of the community".

The statement was signed on behalf of the 1 500 squatter families of Vrygrond by the chairman of the executive committee, Mr J Olyn, the vice-chairman, Mrs J van der Westhuizen and the secretary, Mrs Miriam Monyake.

The chairman, Mr A Cloete, vice-chairman, Mrs G Pretorius and secretary, Mrs M Dickenson, signed the statement on behalf of the squatter families of Lourdes Farm.

Mr C J Beukes, chairman of the Snake Park squatter community, his vice-chairman, Mr A de Wet and secretary, Mrs J Gallop, also signed the statement.

This is the first time that the squatter communities themselves have come out in the open in opposition to the Bill which lawyers interpreted, could be a way of imposing influx control on the movement of Coloured labour.

The statement, issued after the executive committees had met recently to discuss the implications of the Bill, reads in part:

"We wish to state that our decision to settle 'illegally' on land which does not belong to us, was not motivated by a desire to disobey the law.

"Many among us would available due to slow production, our right to live as human beings has motivated us to provide for ourselves.

"The fact that we have done so in contravention of the law is due entirely to the law not having made provision, in practice, for us to settle legally while housing is being prepared.

"We wish to bring it to be happy to accept Council housing if it were available.

"As such housing is not the attention of the authorities that there are many people among us who will, for a long time to come, remain unhousable because their meagre incomes will be insufficient to pay the required rentals for a Council house.

"We feel that the section of the Bill dealing with the responsibility of the employer infringes upon our freedom of movement. It is with difficulty that we attempt to put the thought from our minds that this is a subtle attempt to provide us with passes as is the case with the unfortunate Bantu.

"We wish to add that people flock to cities because of work opportunities and better pay.

"A certain number among us have come from outlying areas in a last desperate attempt to survive and certainly do not enjoy the city's crime rate, poor facilities and squalid conditions.

"In conclusion we wish to say that we (who have no vote) are hurt that legislation concerning and affecting us," should be put through the legislature "without us ever having been consulted.

"We feel an ignored, unwanted and shunted about part of the community."

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Council bid to evict squatters

CAPE TIMES 19/5/76

Staff Reporter

THE DIVISIONAL COUNCIL of the Cape is to seek a court order for the eviction of squatters at Crossroads and the demolition of all dwellings on the grounds of health hazard.

The application is to be made at the Wynberg Magistrate's Court on Friday and notice to this effect has been posted at Crossroads.

Mr Azriel Miller, acting secretary of the Divisional Council, said in his application that approximately 10 000 people lived in 2 300 self-built tin shacks at Crossroads. Certain rudimentary toilet and water facilities were available but these were "wholly inadequate".

The Minister of Bantu Administration and Development, Mr M C Botha, had indicated during interviews that he was "loath to permit further facilities on humanitarian grounds" if these were interpreted by the courts as evidence of a right to occupation by the squatters, said Mr Miller.

The Minister also said that it seemed as if such acts were being construed in this way by the courts.

"In any event applicant submits that small-scale ad hoc alleviations of the position will not suffice to avert the major threat to health which exists and will increase as the winter approaches and further persons arrive in increasing numbers," Mr Miller said in the application.

Supporting the application are affidavits from Dr P Boekstein, the acting Medical Officer of Health of the Divisional Council, and Dr N J le Roux, Cape regional director of the Department of Health.

Dr Boekstein said that the entire population of Crossroads was served by six water points and "a few pit latrines". About 38 latrines had been provided but many had become inoperative "as a result of over-use and vandalism".

● Full statement—Page 13

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Divisional Council move on squatters

ARGUS 19/5/76

THE Divisional Council of the Cape is to apply for a magistrate's order to remove the Cross Roads squatters' camp, according to a statement issued yesterday.

THE Divisional Council of the Cape is to apply for a magistrate's order to remove the Cross Roads squatters' camp, according to a statement issued yesterday.

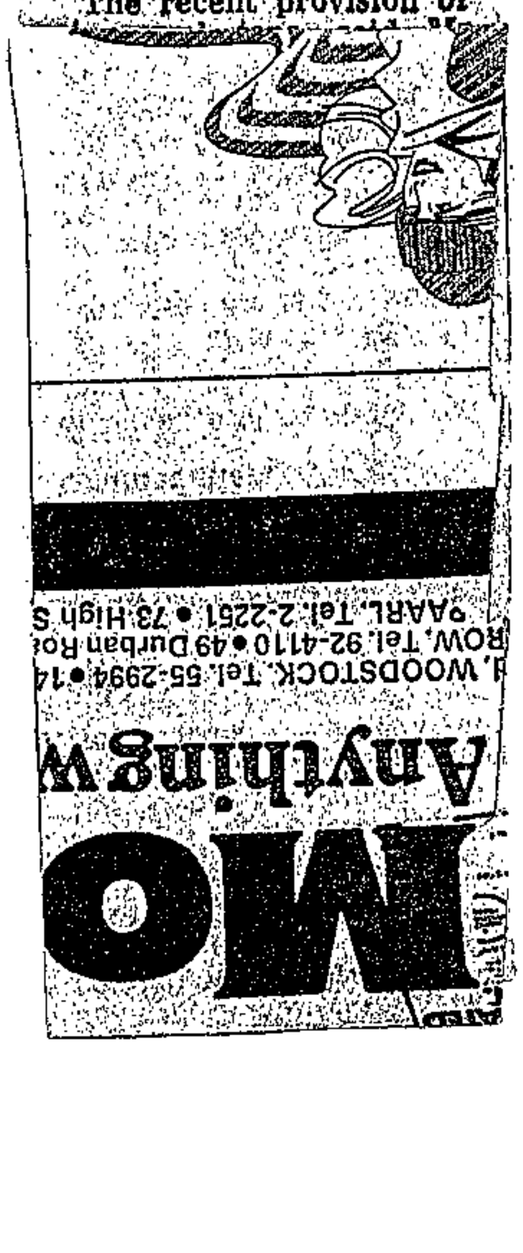
The statement by the chairman of the council, Councillor J. H. Heyns, said the council is now 'deeply concerned' about the threat to the health of the people of Cape Town.

He said the possibility of an outbreak of disease had become greater with the approach of winter.

The population of Cross Roads had grown in the past year, he said.

STEPS

The recent provision of



IMO
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Cape Times 19/5/76

New action on Crossroads

THE chairman of the Divisional Council of the Cape, Councillor J H Heyns, MPC, yesterday released a statement about the Black squatters at Crossroads (Nyanga Extension No 3).

The full statement follows:

That area of land known as Crossroads situated in the area of jurisdiction of the Divisional Council of the Cape and at present registered in the name of the Divisional Council of the Cape but which is in the process of being transferred to the Bantu Affairs Administration Board, Peninsula Area, has since Easter weekend of 1975 become densely populated with Bantu squatters who have erected the structures in which they stay without the permission of the Divisional Council of the Cape in contravention of the provisions of its Building Regulations.

The Council is deeply concerned about the grave threat to the health not only of the inhabitants of Crossroads themselves but potentially to the inhabitants of the metropolitan area of Cape Town. The Council has,on the advice of experienced medical officers, recently augmented the water supply provided by way of communal taps. This measure, however, in no way removes the very real danger of an outbreak of an epidemic disease at Crossroads due to the lack of the most elementary health services. The danger of an outbreak of disease has now assumed more threatening proportions because of the advent of winter and the serious drainage problems that increase the danger of such an outbreak of disease.

In order, therefore, to take effective preventive measures Council at a special meeting held on Thursday May 6, 1976, considered this problem and resolved to take the following steps in view of the urgency of the situation that exists at Crossroads.

● That because of the potential danger to health Council's attorneys be instructed to apply immediately to the Magistrate in whose district Crossroads falls for an order of removal in terms of Section 5 of the Prevention of Illegal Squatting Act, 1951 (Act No 52 of 1951, as amended).

● That in accordance with a previous decision taken, a notice would be served on all the occupiers at Crossroads informing them that no official of Council had authority to permit any person to squat at Crossroads, that the structures that are being occupied have been erected in contravention of the bye-laws and that legal action would be taken to remove these structures.

● In co-operation with the Bantu Affairs Administration Board, Peninsula Area, and the Chief Bantu Affairs Commissioner, Council would take action to prevent the further erection of structures at Crossroads.

● That in the case of Bantu families, i.e. the head of the household, his wife and children who are legally residing in the Cape and in respect of whom the Bantu Affairs Administration Board can provide alternative accommodation, notices will be served for the demolition of the structures and removal by the Bantu Board of these families to suitable alternative accommodation. The Bantu Board is to furnish Council with a list of the names and addresses of persons falling within this category.

CAPE TIMES
21/05/76
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"There are signs of planning in the street layout and in the defence of the court cases, and I think there is more here than meets the eye," he said.

The relevant factor was that there was influx control applicable to Bantu and that Bantu who did not have housing certificates could not be employed.

The allegations that the Bill would introduce influx control for Coloured persons, was, however, unfounded.

"We do not have influx control for people and we are not seeking to introduce such control."

Coloured people were welcome to visit the City areas to look for work. But when doing so, they must not squat, they must stay with friends or relatives.

"We will act against squatters and we will also act against unscrupulous employers who bring people into the cities and then advise them to squat because they do not want to pay them enough to live in decent houses."

The Government had shown its determination to cope with the demand for non-White housing and could be trusted on its past record.

The existing legislation in terms of which action had been taken in the past, was now no longer adequate because squatters were streaming in as fast as new houses were being built.

It was necessary to stem the tide so that the number of new houses could catch up with the demand.

The Government's honest intention was clear from its undertaking to act only against squatters to cater for the population increase and the remaining 5 000 for people displaced by group areas removals.

The Bill was read a third time after a division, and the House rose. — Sapa

CAPE TIMES 21/5/76

Squatter problem 'aggravated' by Govt

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY. — The Government had aggravated the squatting problem in the Western Cape by removing Coloured people under the Group Areas Act and preventing private companies erecting houses for them, Mr Lionel Murray (UP Green Point) said yesterday.

Opening the third reading debate on the Prevention of Illegal Squatting Amendment Bill he said the United Party would oppose the third reading because it considered the existing squatters act as sufficiently effective.

The Government had for eight years stopped two private non-profit organizations in the Cape area from providing housing. Only recently had it reversed this rule.

The other main causes of squatting were removals under the Group Areas Act. Last year 3 642 families in the Peninsula had been removed. Even if half of these had been removed from slums it still meant that 1 800 houses had been taken away, which might have been used to relieve the Coloured squatting problem.

The bill also meant that the right of access to the courts was removed.

Mr Fanie Potgieter (NP, Port Elizabeth North) said the squatters who were so vigorously defended by Opposition party members were for the greater part vagrants, skollies, drunkards, dagga smokers, petty criminals and some of them were even murderers.

Many of these people had found that it was no longer easy to steal from farmers and had drifted to the cities in search of an easy life of crime.

The Government wanted to wipe out such unhealthy situations and instead of bickering, the Opposition members should do all in their power to help the authorities.

Dr Van Zyl Slabbert (PRP Rondebosch) said it was remarkable that no minister or deputy minister from the Department of Bantu Administration and Development had spoken during the debate.

This department, and not the Department of Community Development, would be the first to apply the law once it was passed.

Dr Slabbert said he had had a note from a Deputy Minister saying circumstances prevented him from taking part in yesterday's debate but the fact that nobody else in the department had spoken remained surprising.

The other notable omission he saw was the lack of any answer to the Bantu squatter problem or where the squatters should go to.

Mr E Louw (NP Durbanville) said that when one considered that 80 percent of the squatters qualified for a home under the housing scheme, only then one realized how important it was to do away with the present disorderly situation.

Mr Nic Olivier (UP Edenvale) said the Government should realize that the squatters did not have the same high regard for the law as the people who made it.

If a man's wife and children arrived for a visit, it would be unreasonable to expect him to tell them to go away because their presence did not accord with the law of the country.

The answer to squatting could not be found in harsher laws but in timely and humane action.

The bill was read a third time after a division and the House rose. — Sapa

'Planning' in shantytown

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.—The Minister of Community Development, Mr Marais Steyn, said here yesterday that he suspected that there was intelligent planning behind the rapid and almost orderly growth of the Crossroads squatter camp near Cape Town.

Replying to the third reading debate on the Prevention of Illegal Squatting Amendment Bill, Mr Steyn said it was strange

He persuaded the Trade Unions Council of South Africa (Tucsa) to con-

The head of the Security Police at Pietersburg, Colonel H C Muller, con-

who arrived after mid-November, 1975.

The Government planned to build 20 000 houses

The Cape Times, Friday, May 21, 1976

Planned camps not for squatters

THE Cape Flats Committee for Interim Accommodation, which met the Minister of Community Development, Mr Marais Steyn, last week, learnt to its disappointment that the emergency camps referred to in the Prevention of Illegal Squatting Amendment Bill were not intended for squatters, but for those rendered homeless by such disasters as war or floods.

The meeting was presided over by Dr S W van der Merwe, Minister of Planning, and was attended by Mr Marais Steyn and the Secretary of Community Development, Mr L Fouche, and the chairman of the Executive of the Coloured Persons Representative Council, Mrs A Jansen.

Representatives of the Cape Flats Committee for Interim Accommodation were its chairman, Mr Tommy Pearson, and its co-ordinator, Mr Rommel Roberts. Professor W Thomas, Director of the Institute of Social Development of the University of the Western Cape, who also attended the meeting, submitted a memorandum on the bill to Mr Steyn.

The committee in a statement issued this week, said that it had presented the Minister with "concrete proposals" on low cost housing as interim accommodation for squatters including giving them the opportunity to use their initiative to build houses on leasehold land with State aid. The Minister, however, rejected this proposal because he felt that at the rate housing was now being made available such an interim measure would be a waste of State money. He was optimistic, however, that at this rate the housing backlog would be overcome in about seven years.

The committee stated that they were told by the Minister in reply to a question about the position of those who were homeless now that he had given a directive to local authorities to do everything in their power to prevent people living on the streets. He invited the committee to provide his department with details of cases of homeless people who could not get help from local authorities.

Mr Pearson said that the committee's meeting with Mr Steyn had been disappointing.

Mr Steyn was not available yesterday for comment.

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Council considers emergency camp

CAPE TIMES 22/5/76

THE Divisional Council of the Cape was prepared to establish an emergency camp for the 10 000 people of the Crossroads squatters' camp provided the Minister of Community Development, Mr Marais Steyn, gave it the authority, Mr A D Dalling said in the Wynberg Court yesterday.

He was speaking in support of an application by the Divisional Council for an order to give the Bantu Affairs Administration Board the authority to evict the squatters at Crossroads, demolish all dwellings on health hazard grounds and to transfer the people to a place directed by the magistrate.

The Acting Chief Magistrate, Mr D W Gildenhuys, said before he postponed the hearing till June 2, that it was a matter that should be dealt with by the Chief Magistrate who was away on leave.

He said that another reason why the hearing should be postponed was that he had been directly concerned in a case in which he had ordered the eviction of a squatter, Mrs Lilian Peter, whose appeal against the eviction was subsequently upheld by the Supreme Court.

Mr Dalling, who appeared for the Divisional Council, said he did not agree that only the Chief Magistrate could hear the application. The health hazard aspect of the squatters' camp made the application a matter of urgency.

In an affidavit before court, Mr N J Ndayi, a Crossroad squatter submitted that there was no reason why the camp should not be declared an emergency camp. This would enable the Divisional Council to make regulations with proper approval for the administration, maintenance, sanitation and health of the camp.

Mr M J Richman, who appeared for Mr Ndayi and 260 other people of the Crossroads camp, said that the state of affairs at Crossroads was serious.

305

Hansard 18
1/6/76

Crossroads near Nyanga

1102

(*1) Mr. J. W. E. WILEY asked the Minister of Bantu Administration and Development:

(1) Whether the Cape Peninsula Bantu Affairs Administration Board has acquired the property known as Crossroads, near Nyanga; if not, why not; if so, when;

(2) (a) whether the Board has obtained transfer of the property and (b) for what purpose will the property be utilized:

(3) whether he has acquainted himself with conditions at Crossroads;

(4) whether he will make a statement on the matter.

*The DEPUTY MINISTER OF BANTU AFFAIRS:

(1) No. The Bantu Affairs Administration Board has not as yet come to an agreement with the owner in regard to the acquisition of the property concerned.

(2) (a) No.

(b) Falls away.

(3) Yes.

(4) No.

Venue

Has the venue for your presentation been decided?
If so:

(a) Will you be playing at home or away, and is the meeting room familiar to you?

(b) Is it suitable as a meeting place for your audience and as a background for your subject?

(c) Is it the right size for the audience expected?

(d) Will everyone be able to see? Is there a dais or platform? Is there enough room for the proper positioning of one or more projection screens?

(e) Will everyone be able to hear? Will you need to use a microphone? Is there a public address system already installed? Will there be any distracting noises and can these be silenced during your presentation?

(f) Can the room be darkened easily? Are there sufficient power supplies for any projected visuals or recorded sound?

Visuals

(a) What equipment will you have at your disposal? Will there be an experienced projectionist available?

(b) Are there any suitable visuals or other aids (e.g. films, videotapes, sound tapes, slides, etc.) already available?

(c) What facilities are there for obtaining or making others you may need?

Budget

Has a budget already been prepared? If so, how much money has been allowed for:

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Questions

Squatters: Govt seeks land

Political Correspondent

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY. — The Cape Peninsula Bantu Affairs Administration Board is negotiating for the purchase of the land on which the Crossroads squatter camp is situated, but agreement has not yet been reached with the owner.

This emerged yesterday in a reply given by the Deputy Minister of Bantu Administration, Mr Willem Cruywagen, to a question by Mr John Wiley (UP Simonstown).

Asked whether the board had acquired the property, Mr Cruywagen replied: "No. The Bantu Affairs Administration Board has not as yet come to an agreement with the owner . . ." He declined to say for what purpose the property would be used or to make a statement on the matter.

They came to the city to be

MAVIS COETZEE and her husband, a semi-skilled painter, live with their five children in a wood and iron four-sides only shack erected by the Cape Divisional Council.

The people named her area Geduld Park and the name stuck. Their post is delivered to their shack numbers at Geduld Park. So the post office officially recognizes the name.

"We named it Geduld Park (Patience Park) because we knew we would have to have a lot of patience before we will ever, if ever, get a house.

"We pay the council R6,50 for this shack. We lived in a pondok before at Brown se Gronde.



Mrs Mavis Coetzee

"The council moved us here. They promised us a house. God knows when," Mavis said.

KATRINA DE BRUYN and her husband Andrew came to Cape Town "because my husband and I were being paid starvation wages by the boss and the missus in Kuils River."

"We couldn't survive on his R8 a week as a gardener and my R3 a week as a domestic servant. We have three children aged five, four and three.

"My one child is deaf and dumb. My husband now works as a labourer for a construction company in Bishop Lavis. He earns R26,82 now.

"At least now we can eat regularly and I can look after my deaf and dumb son. If the council demolish this shack we



Mrs Katrina de Bruyn

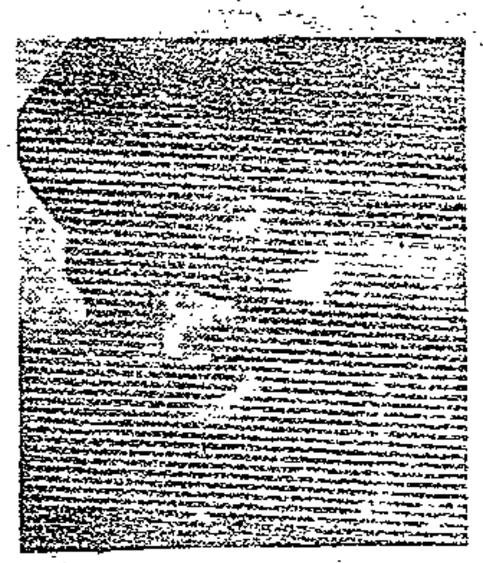
live in, we will move deeper into the bush. But go back to starvation, never," Mrs de Bruyn said.

NOMBEKO MBOLI ran away when she saw our car and later shyly apologized explaining that "I got such a fright, I thought you came to take me to jail again . . ."

Her behaviour was both typical of the hounded squatter society and understandable of a people who fear the sound of every car that stops nearby.

"The officials broke down our shack and took away our possessions. My husband works here for many years. He could not find work in King Williams Town. I look after the children.

"If they find me here



Mrs Nombeko Mboli

and kick me out, I will build deeper in the bush. We are trapped. There is nowhere else to go," she said.

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Migrant Labour S.A. - Cape
Migrant Labour & Family Life
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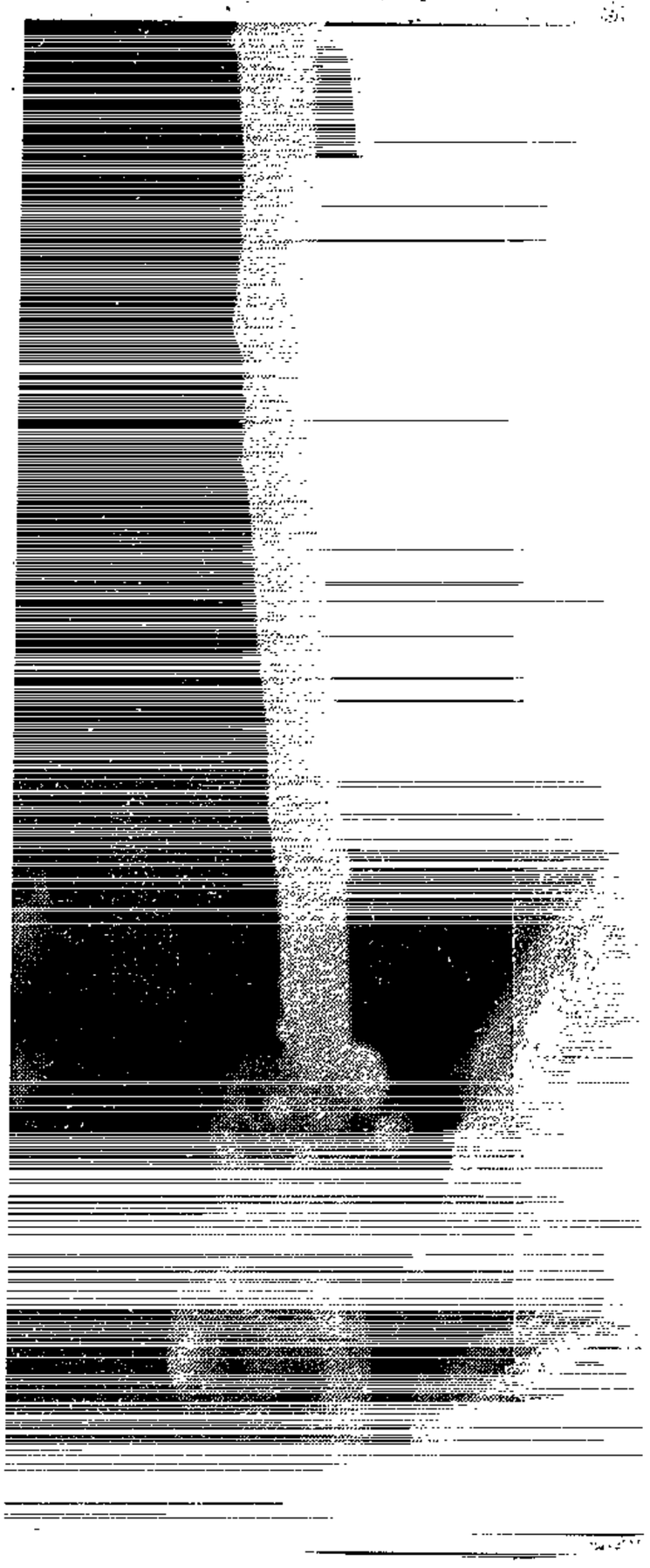
200 plakkers klip na polisie

BURGER
3/6/76



POLISIE van Kaapstad en omgewing is gisteraand kort voor middernag inderhaas na Bellville-Suid ontbied nadat inspekteurs van die Bantoesake-Administrasieraad na bewering deur sowat tweehonderd swartmense aangerand was. Die inspekteurs is aangeval terwyl hulle in 'n plakkersgebied roetine-ondersoek gedoen het.

Danksy kalm optrede van die polisie is die skare vinnig onder beheer gebring, hoewel enkeles nog voertuie met klippe gegooi het.

Nadat die polisie reeds vertrek en verskeie oproermakers in hegtenis geneem het, is verskeie mense nog aangerand wat later by die toneel by 'n brug in Modderdamweg verby gery het.

Later het 'n kleiner skare as die eerste weer aan een kant van die pad saamgedrom en verbygaande motors met klippe gegooi. Sommige het met kieries in dreigende houdings voor motors rondgedans.

Die polisie het vanoggend vroeg 'n padversperring aan weerskante van die oproeriges opgestel en alle motorryers uit die gebied gehou. 'n Tweede groep polisiemanne is later terug om hulle onder beheer te kry.

'n Inspekteur, mnr. R. Viljoen, is beseer deurdat hy met 'n kierie op die mond geslaan is. Mnr. S. J. Fransen, ook 'n inspekteur, is met 'n baksteen teen die hak gegooi.

'n Bruin student van die Universiteit van Wes-Kaapland het by die toneel verbygery nadat die polisie ontrek is en is na bewering deur 'n klomp swartmense aangerand. Hy is per ambulans na die Tygerberg-Hospitaal in Parow gebring.

Konst. J. J. Botha van Epping moes noodgedwonge 'n skoot in die rigting van die oproeriges skiet nadat hulle op hom afgestorm het. Party inspekteurs moes dit ook doen. Die polisie het aan Die Burger gesê dit is onbekend of swartmense beseer is.

'n Fotograaf van Die Burger is op die toneel met 'n baksteen teen die been gegooi nadat hy op 'n vragmotor verby die oproeriges gery het om foto's te neem.

Omdraai

Volgens die polisie is die toestand kalm benader en is die oproeriges binne enkele oomblikke in bedwang gebring.

Die bestuurder van 'n sleepwa wat vanoggend vroeg nog op die toneel was, het gesê party swartmense het volgehou om verbygaande motors met klippe te gooi.

Motorryers wat die pad verby die plakkerkamp wou gebruik, moes vanoggend omdraai weens die sporadiese klipgooiery. Verskeie swartmense is in hegtenis geneem in verband met beweerde oortredinge van paswette.

Die polisiekantore in Bellville en Epping was vanoggend vol mense wat aanklagte ingedien het.

BURGER
3/6/96
(243)

gooi

GEWELD IN BELLVILLE



'N OPSTANDIGE plakker kom dreigend nader met 'n stok in die hande, terwyl die res van die groep op die agtergrond kyk wat gebeur. Die Burger se fotograaf is met 'n groot klip teen die been gegooi terwyl hy op 'n vragmotor deur die skarekgery het om foto's

(293)

Cape Times 3/6/76

Squatter camp case postponed

Staff Reporter

THE APPLICATION by the Divisional Council of the Cape for a court order leading to the eviction of 10 000 squatters from Crossroads was postponed again yesterday in the Wynberg Magistrate's Court, pending further negotiations about the establishment of an emergency camp.

The Divisional Council was applying for a court order before the Chief Magistrate, Mr J G Lindsay, giving the Bantu Affairs Administration Board the authority to evict the squatters, demolish all dwellings and to transfer the people to a place directed by the magistrate.

The Council, supported by medical officers of health in papers before the court, stated that Crossroads had become a serious health hazard.

The application for the court order was opposed by the Bantu Affairs Administration Board.

In papers before the court, the Board said the Prevention of Illegal Squatters Act, under which the Council was asking for a court order, gave the magistrate no authority to grant the application against the Board.

The application, leading to the eviction, was also opposed by residents of Crossroads.

In an affidavit before the court, Mr Ntoyi Johnson Ndayi, one of the early residents, said there was no reason why Crossroads itself could not be declared an emergency camp.

This would enable the Council to provide health and sanitation facilities and to administer the area.

After speaking about the community spirit which existed among the 10 000 people living in the 2 300 dwellings at Crossroads, Mr Ndayi said the health hazard could be removed at relatively little cost and less than it would cost to remove the community to another place.

The Chief Magistrate postponed the case till June 11 after the Council asked for more time to negotiate the establishment of an emergency camp as a possible solution to the problem.

Mr A D Dalling, on behalf of the Council, said it was a situation which did not lend itself to "an overnight solution".

Mr Dalling said he hoped the negotiations would be successfully completed by June 11.

Mr M J Richman, representing Mr Ndayi and other residents of Crossroads, said if the matter was postponed the negotiations must be "pursued vigorously".

Advocate G D Griessel, appearing on behalf of the Board, agreed to the postponement, because the negotiations between the parties and various State departments would take time, he said.

The Chief Magistrate, Mr J G Lindsay, presided. Mr A D Dalling of Fuller, Moore and Son appeared for the Divisional Council of the Cape. Advocate G D Griessel, instructed by Silberhaus, appeared for the Bantu Affairs Administration Board. Mr M J Richman of Mallinick, Rees, Richman and Co. appeared for Mr Ndayi and other residents of Crossroads.

Cape Times THURSDAY, JUNE 3, 1976

Angry squatters turn on

By TED OLSEN

OFFICIALS of the Bantu Affairs Administration Board — backed up by heavy police reinforcements—who moved into a squatter area off Modderdam Road, Bellville South, last night were attacked and at one stage surrounded by violent squatters armed with sticks and stones.

A police spokesman said the confrontation between officials and squatters erupted into Modderdam Road about midnight.

Shots were fired and police believe squatters may have been injured, but early today police and Bantu Administration officials had withdrawn from the area and were unable to estimate squatter casualties.

At least three passers-by were injured when they happened over the Modderdam Road bridge and into the squatters.

Mr David Crawage, a University of the Western Cape student, who rode his 10-speed racing cycle into the fighting was clubbed in the face and on the head. He was taken to Tygerberg Hospital with cuts and suspected skull fractures.

One policeman and two Bantu Administration officials were injured by the squatters.

The police spokesman said the move to evict the squatters under the relevant Act was planned beforehand with police working in collaboration with Bantu Affairs officials.

When officials moved into the squatter camp — housing a few hundred African and Coloured people in an unnamed bush area about a kilometre from the UWC — and attempted to evict the families about 11.30pm, a violent confrontation

A SEA POINT resident a semi-detached house applied to the Cape To City Council's Plann Committee for permiss to have a separate ae system — on the grou that he and his neighb "are not on very g terms."

Yesterday, the com tee recommended a wa of the municipal re tions relating to ant systems for the recep of television and so broadcast transmission

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31 held as police raid squatters

ARGUS 3/6/76

The Argus Crime Reporter

THIRTY-ONE people were detained for questioning during what the police described as a crime prevention raid on a squatters' camp near the University of the Western Cape last night.

The 17 men and 14 women detained will be questioned in connection with a variety of crimes reported from the surrounding Coloured townships.

Athlone's District Commandant, Colonel J. H. Vorster, said last night's raid was sparked off by these reported crimes as well as complaints from Coloured residents, especially in the prestige township Belhar, that they were molested by the squatters.

Last night 10 policemen from Epping Police Station were sent to the camp, which is situated behind the campus of the University of the Western Cape.

PASS OFFENCES

Colonel Vorster said the police asked the Bantu Administration Board to provide them with two inspectors to help sort out alleged pass offences. The Bantu Administration Board sent eight inspectors.

Colonel Vorster said the raid was aimed at a smaller camp in the Bel-Air area and not the bigger camp, called Snake Park, in the Bellville area.

The policemen were sent about 10.30 pm because if they went earlier they would not have found the people at home, Colonel Vorster said.

STONED

The colonel said the policemen had nearly completed the raid when some of the Snake Park squatters arrived.

This was about 11.20 pm. Police say stones were then thrown at them. Policemen were also threatened with sticks and knobkerries, it is alleged. Reinforcements were called and by 11.50 pm the situation was in hand.

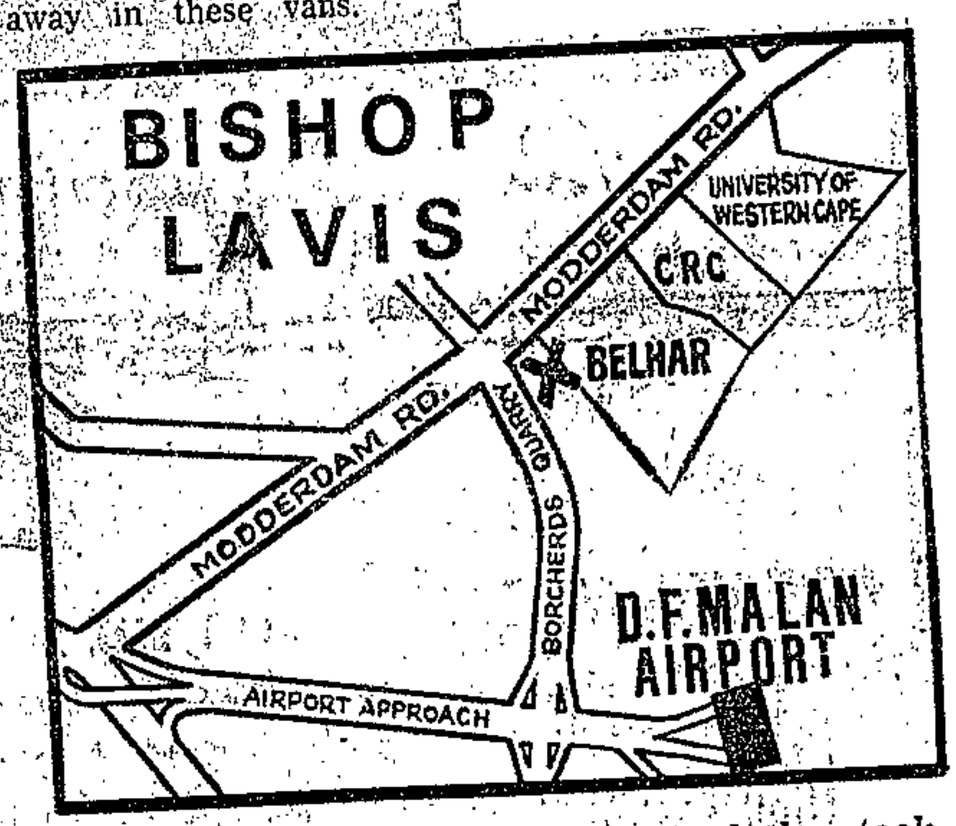
Colonel Vorster said some of the detained people would appear in court tomorrow on a variety of charges, including being in the area illegally.

while men and women discussed the raid.

A group of worried mothers said they did not know where their husbands had been taken. They said they had been left behind because they had children.

Squatters estimated that at least five shots were fired, but they said no one was injured in the shooting. They said some had been injured in physical clashes and an ambulance was seen at the camp.

They estimated that at one stage up to 15 police vans were at the scene. Those detained were taken away in these vans.



THE 'X' marks the spot where the clashes took place.

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Squatter raid not for eviction—official

Cape Times 4/6/76

Staff Reporter

BANTU ADMINISTRATION officials went to the squatters' camp off Modderdam Road on Wednesday night to "investigate the presence of Bantu people illegally in the Cape" and not to "evict" squatters, the chief director of the Bantu Affairs Administration Board, Mr A MacLachlan, said yesterday.

Mr MacLachlan said his Board did not "clean up" squatters' camps when they were situated on land that did not belong to the Board. Only the owner of the land or a local authority had the power to remove such people, he said.

The seven Bantu Administration officials sent to the camp off Modderdam Road, Bellville South, on Wednesday night, he said, went to "investigate the presence of Bantu people illegally in the area" and at the request of the police.

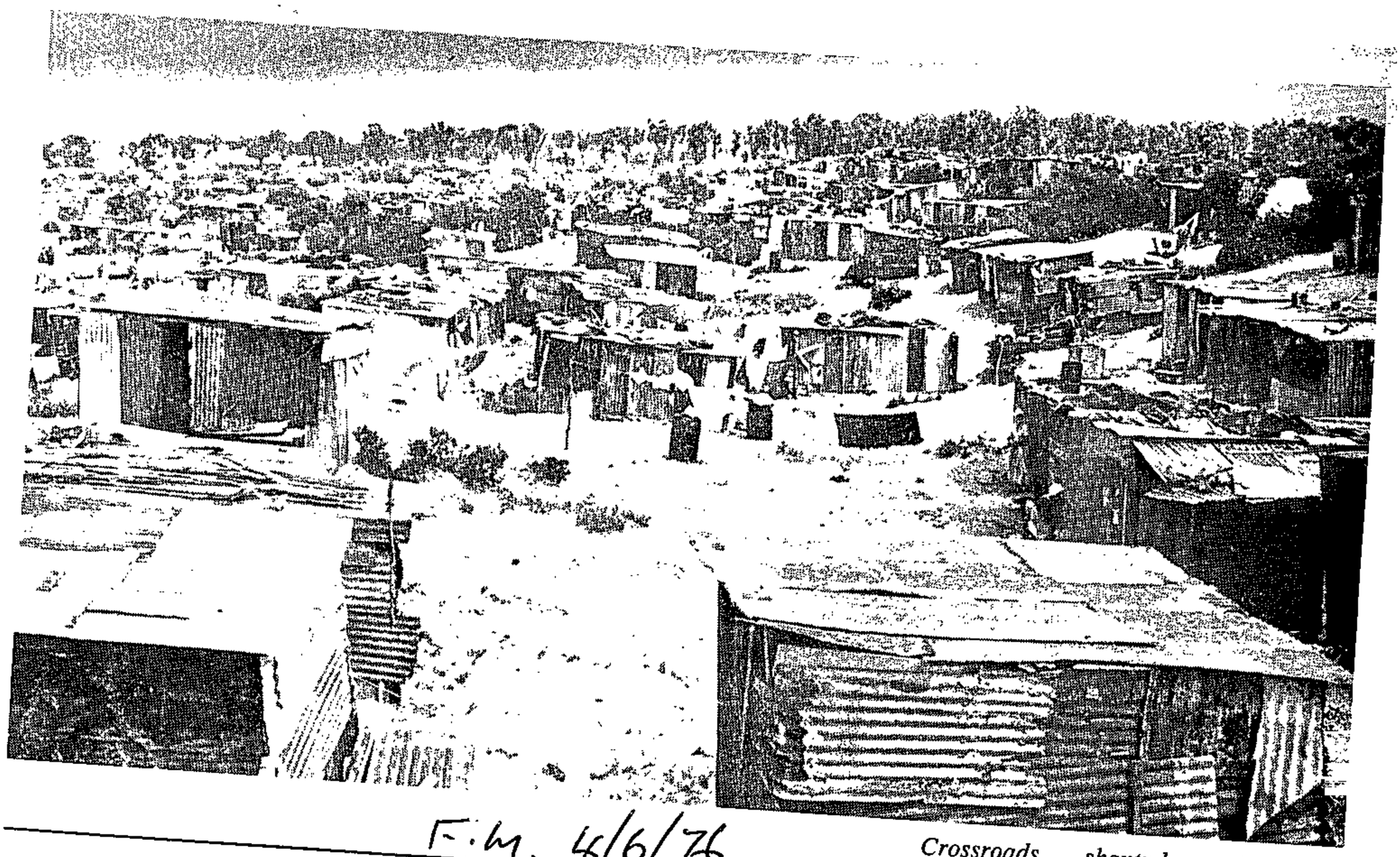
They went at night, he said, because that was the only time when such people could be found at home.

He said he did not know how the confrontation between the residents of the camp and the officials started. He was still waiting for a report from the official involved.

Two of his inspectors were still in hospital yesterday as a result of the incident, he said. Mr S J Fransen was injured by a blow from a stone or brick on the heel, and Mr R Viljoen by a blow from a kierie on the mouth.

Mr MacLachlan said he did not know how long the camp had existed but stressed that his board had received "plenty of complaints from Coloured and European people in the vicinity" and also from health authorities about it.

The area had no water or toilet facilities, he said, and the people's presence constituted a health hazard.



Crossroads . . . shanty homes for 10 000

F.M. 4/6/76

The spectre of typhoid

(293)

CURRENT AFFAIRS

The plight of the 10 000 Africans squatting at Crossroads, outside Cape Town (*FM* February 20), was graphically described in documents filed in the Wynberg Magistrate's Court this week. An affidavit by the acting Medical Officer of Health of the Cape Divisional Council (CDC) warns that there could be a "serious outbreak of intestinal diseases, such as typhoid fever".

The CDC was bringing an application for the removal of the squatters, but the hearing was postponed until June 11 pending the outcome of negotiations for the acquisition of the land by the Cape Peninsula Bantu Affairs Administration Board. If the Board acquires the land, the great majority of the people in Crossroads, who do not have pass law qualifications to be there, will be shipped off to the Bantustans.

Counsel for the Crossroads squatters are seeking the establishment of an emergency camp with proper facilities. So far only the most rudimentary lavatory and water facilities have been installed.

According to an affidavit filed on behalf of the CDC, the Minister of Bantu Administration has indicated that he was loath to permit the CDC — which is responsible for public health — to install further facilities on humanitarian grounds if acts such as these are construed by the courts as evidence of a right of occupation. Botha indicated that it appeared to him that such acts were being so construed.

The affidavit also said that the CDC has a "public duty to do what it can to prevent the situation escalating into a major crisis. It has no desire to invoke criminal law against these people and prosecute them, nor does it wish them to suffer unnecessary hardship. However, it cannot sit idly by as the winter approaches and await an epidemic with ensuing loss of life.

"The few pit latrines have been overtaxed and are overflowing. Moreover, by reason of their inadequacy the people do not necessarily make use of them with the result that human excrement is to be found throughout the area, even in close proximity to living quarters, and there are no facilities for these to be cleared. Fly-breeding is rife and with the onset of winter it is inevitable that pools of water will form which will become heavily contaminated.

"Because of the shortage of water points, it can be anticipated that people will use this water and this will lead to a serious outbreak of intestinal diseases, such as typhoid fever. To date two cases of typhoid have been notified in the area, but these have been contained. However, typhoid has been reported in the Transkei and with a free interchange of population between Crossroads and this territory, should a case or a carrier be introduced, there is serious danger of extensive spread of the disease."

CDC's application is accompanied by a copy of a personal letter written to the Secretary of Health, Dr J de Beer, by CDC's MOH, Dr P K Mitchell, in which "absolutely shocking" conditions are described.

Mitchell told De Beer he was at his wits' end, and that the situation in his opinion was out of control.

"The situation is well known to the Department of Bantu Administration, the Bantu Board and to this Council, but none of these authorities appears to be prepared to lift a finger to stop further influx, let alone to clean up the existing mess.

"I turn to you in desperation in the hope that the intervention of yourself or the Minister of Health with the Minister of Bantu Administration may at least prevent further deterioration of the situation."

De Beer told the *FM* that he had ordered an investigation into health conditions at Crossroads by one of his regional directors and that the findings, together with the appeal of Dr Mitchell, had been forwarded to Bantu Affairs.

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Court told of talks on camp for squatters

HIGH-LEVEL negotiations for a solution to the Crossroads squatter problem were under way and could lead to the establishment of an emergency camp there, Wynberg Magistrate's Court was told today.

At an administrative inquiry into a Divisional Council application for the eviction of the Crossroads squatters, the chief magistrate of Wynberg, Mr J. G. Lindsay, was told that the Divisional Council and the Peninsula Bantu Affairs Administration Board had already met to discuss the problem.

Mr A. D. Dalling, for the council, asked for a further postponement of the inquiry to June 11 and said the negotiations should have been satisfactorily concluded by then.

A MEETING

He went on: 'The negotiations have, in effect, commenced. There have been communications between the council and the Bantu Affairs Administration Board and there has already been a meeting at high Government level.

'A possible solution may be the establishment of an emergency camp. This is one of the proposals that have already been put forward.'

The problem at Crossroads was a serious one and it could not be solved overnight, he said.

Mr M. J. Richman, who is appearing for some of the Crossroads squatters, said he would not oppose the application for a postponement but felt the next hearing should be held before June 11.

THE SOLUTION

The solution to the problem lay in the establishment of an emergency camp, he said, and there was no reason why this should not have been done already. He felt the negotiations should be concluded in less than nine days.

Mr G. D. Griessel, who is appearing for the Bantu Affairs Administration Board, did not oppose the application for a postponement.

Replying to Mr Richman's objection, Mr Dalling said the council was not obliged to negotate with anyone but had agreed to do so at the request of the squatters. Negotiations of this type took time to get underway and could not be concluded overnight.

The magistrate granted a postponement to June 11.

EARLIER HEARING

At an earlier hearing the Divisional Council said in papers before the court it wanted an order giving the board power to evict about 10 000 squatters in 2 300 shacks from Crossroads.

The council also asked that the board should be ordered to clear the residents from the area.

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3.

JUNE 1976 ?7/11/11

HANSARD NO. 20

Emergency camps for Coloureds 1228

(985) Dr. F. VAN Z. SLABBERT asked the Minister of Community Development:

(a) How many emergency camps for Coloured persons are there in the Cape Province, (b) in what magisterial districts are they situated, (c) how many Coloured persons in each such district are living in such camps and (d) what were the reasons for the establishment of the camps.

The MINISTER OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:

(a) 17.

(b) Cradock—16.
De Aar—1.

(c) Cradock—5 191.
De Aar—420.

(d) The camps in question were almost exclusively established along the Orange River to be able to deal with the influx [illegible]

1229 TUESDAY, 1 d

which prevailed in very extensive areas. Even in this instance community settlements with proper housing and facilities are preferably established as quickly as possible, as evidenced by developed settlements at a number of places.

Cost of executive time in preparation and presentation?

Cost of purchase, hire, or manufacture of materials and equipment?

Hire of accommodation and any special assistance?

Travelling expenses?

Comm
rest
you

umstances. If you feel too
organizers so that you can achieve

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your talk:

HORIZONTAL PLAN

aper. Think about your subject.
words associated with it.

2) Working on a 5 minute talk, ring the three words you think are the most important on your list.

3) What do these words say to you? What specifically do you want your audience to think and do at the end of your talk? Now, write the aim of your talk in one short sentence.

4) Write your aim at the top of a clean sheet of paper.

The Body

5) Leave about six lines for the introduction. Write your three main points down leaving a few lines in between each.

6) Go through your list of ideas again. Underline those points that support your three main points.

7) Write two sub points under each main point.

8) At this stage you should refer to books, interview specialists, check figures and statistics, find quotations, apt examples or demonstrations.
Your talk should be an expression of your own ideas on the subject, backed by outside opinion.

Cape Times 4/6/76

Outcry after raid on Bellville squatters

THE confrontation between police, Bantu Administration officials and squatters at a Bellville squatter's camp on Wednesday night was criticized yesterday by two politicians and a Black Sash regional chairman.

Dr F van Zyl Slabbert, Progressive Reform Party MP for Rondebosch, said yesterday, in commenting on the incident: "The measures which the Government has created to cope with the squatting problem, especially the punitive measures, are hopelessly inadequate.

"In Parliament I warned that, for example, the Prevention of Illegal Squatting Act would lead to conflict and endanger race relations in South Africa.

"What I cannot understand about the latest incident is why officials choose to act in the middle of winter on a wet and rainy night. Surely this is a problem which even from the Government's own point of view should be approached with great care and circumspection."

Mr Herbert Hirsch, PRP MPC for Sea Point, said the result of the "raid" forced him to "call on the Government at the highest level, to place an immediate and total moratorium on all action against squatters until it has had an opportunity to review its policy."

The behaviour of the officials of the Bantu Affairs Administration Board, he said, was "not only reprehensible but displayed a callousness and inhumanity which defies description".

Mrs Mary Burton, chairman of the Cape Western region of the Black Sash, described the incident as a "sad example of insecurity breeding violence".

"Fear easily becomes anger," she said, "especially in the dark, and an ugly atmosphere is dangerously infectious. People who live in the camp have been accused of various offences and residents of nearby areas are entitled to police protection from crime."

It might help to "improve the image of the police as protectors of the community," she said, "if they were not to use firearms and if a general warning about complaints received could be made before such raids were resorted to."

Church man condemns raids

Staff Reporter

MIDNIGHT raids on families in the Modderdam Road squatter area were "diabolical", the Rev Louis Banks, secretary for the Western Province Council of Churches, said in an interview yesterday.

Mr Banks said that he saw the raids by police and officials of the Bantu Affairs Administration Board in the early hours of yesterday morning as "a direct outgrowth" of the Prevention of Illegal Squatting Amendment Act recently passed by Parliament. The raids were especially distressing because they were carried out on a rainy, cold night.

Mr Banks said that a resolution passed in May by the Western Province Council of Churches and addressed to the Minister of Community Development, Mr Marais Steyn, had again become pertinent.

The resolution says that the only effective solution to the problem of housing squatters in healthy and safe conditions lies in the provision of adequate housing.

The resolution was followed by a request from the Council of Churches to the Minister that he consult with the churches and other interested parties before the bill became law.

"This was not done. The problem of housing and people's security is disturbing the churches very deeply and the actions of officials can only be described as diabolical," Mr Banks said.

Squatters appear in court

TWENTY-FIVE squatters arrested by police and Bantu Administration officials during a raid on a squatter camp near Bellville South early yesterday appeared in the Langa Pass Laws Court charged with Pass Law violations.

This was confirmed by a spokesman for the Bantu Affairs Administration Board who said a further six squatters were due to appear in the Bellville Magistrate's Court today. Of those who appeared yesterday, some paid admission of guilt fines, he said.

The arrests were made before midnight on Wednesday and, by midnight, fellow squatters had taken up arms against police and officials. A battle ensued in which shots were fired by police.

Captain D G Kriel, Epping police station commander, said yesterday that police had not gone to the area with intention of evicting squatters. They did, however, assist the officials of the Bantu Administration in checking for pass law infringements.

"Their primary task was to check up on the Belhar township as the area has been plagued late at night by thieves and vandals," he said.

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THE Divisional Council of the Cape and the Peninsula Bantu Affairs Administration Board have launched a combined campaign to prevent the growth of the Crossroads squatter camp near the D.F. Malan Airport. The demolition of empty shacks began yesterday.

In spite of intermittent showers a large gang of Divisional Council workers used four-wheel-drive vehicles and chains to pull down wood-and-iron shacks this morning while hundreds of squatters stood by watching.

Later two front-end loaders and five trucks arrived to carry on the work. As the shacks were ripped from their foundations by the vehicles council workers moved in to pull them apart and pack the materials on waiting trucks.

A large group of BAAB officials stood by.

Mr W. R. Vivier, secretary of the Divisional Council, said today only empty shacks were being removed. The exact number was not known, but 'quite a lot' of shacks had been built recently.

'Our policy from now on will be to pull down all new shacks. We want to contain the camp and stop it spreading. This is in no way connected to our application for the demolition of the camp,' he said.

Mr A. MacLachlan, chief director of the BAAB, said his men were merely keeping an eye on the work and were not doing the demolition themselves.

'The object is to try to freeze the camp as it is now,' he said.

Ha



HEAVY machinery was called in to help with the demolition of empty shanties at Crossroads yesterday.

Council rips up squatter shacks

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W/L ARGUS
8 5/6/76

Raid on squatters deplored

WEDNESDAY'S late night raid on squatters living alongside Modderdam Road has been condemned by Belhar's Coloured ratepayers — the people police claimed the raid was planned to benefit.

Mr A. Poole, secretary of the Belhar Ratepayers' Association, said committee members at a meeting after the raid agreed the squatters created no problem for residents in the suburb and said they knew of no complaints against the squatters.

They were discussing a police and Bantu Affairs Administration Board raid between 10.30 pm and midnight during Wednesday's rain. Thirty-one squatters were arrested in the raid.

A police spokesman said on Thursday that the raid had been made as a result of complaints from Belhar residents of vandalism, robbery and physical attacks by the squatters.

AS AN EXCUSE

'The meeting felt Belhar residents were being used as an excuse for the raid,' Mr Poole said. 'In fact we condemn the raid and particularly the circumstances under which it was carried out.

'What was the urgency of the matter that made the police carry out the raid at that time on a cold, wet night?'

Mr Poole said the squatters had proved to be peaceful and co-operative and were working people who maintained dignity nd discipline within their amp.

Private complaints may ave been made to the olice, he said, but there as no general feeling gainst the squatters in e Belhar suburb.

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Squatter raid:
Cape Times 5/6/76
Students protest

Staff Reporter

STUDENTS of the University of Cape Town handed out thousands of pamphlets in the city and suburbs yesterday after a lunchtime rally at the university to protest against police violence against squatters.

The pamphlet, published by the Students for Social Democracy, a recently formed association at UCT, said the raids this week on the squatter community near Modderdam Road in Bellville demonstrated the "coercive and intimidatory attitude" of the authorities.

The recent Prevention of Illegal Squatting Amendment Act highlighted the official unwillingness to face the reality of more than 120 000 squatters in the Cape Peninsula, the pamphlet said.

"Most of these squatters are working in the homes and industries of the Peninsula, guaranteeing our high standard of living. While people's lives continue to be regulated and restricted there is no hope for a peaceful South Africa," the pamphlet said.

Mr Rommel Roberts, coordinator of the Cape Flats Committee for Interim Accommodation, told students at the rally that squatters were "a people not recognized by individuals, communities or the authorities."

Shanty school razed

MEN AND WOMEN wept as they watched a small shanty school being demolished in the Crossroads squatter camp on Friday after a woman had pleaded with Cape Divisional Council and Peninsula Bantu Affairs Administration Board officials to spare it.

Squatters cry as demolition gang moves in

Since then it has been reported that a woman with three children has been turned out of a shanty and had to stand by and watch it demolished by Divisional Council workers.

Yesterday another squatter at Crossroads, Mr Jackson Sikadi, was called at work by his son to be told that Divisional Council workers planned to tear down his shanty home.

It is not yet known whether his shanty was destroyed.

An Argus photographer and reporter who went to the scene yesterday were told to leave or face prosecution for trespassing on Divisional Council property.

EMPTY SHACKS

More than 100 shacks have been demolished at Crossroads since Thursday as part of a joint Divisional Council and BAAB project to halt the growth of the camp.

Most were empty dwellings erected recently.

Mr Azriel Miller, assistant secretary of the Divisional Council, said his men had been ordered to demolish only unoccupied shanties. It was the BAAB's task to point out the unoccupied shacks.

We told the people there they would not be touched and we were only concerned with stopping the growth of the camp. We don't want to put anyone to any discomfort at all. We are attempting, if anything, to improve the lot of the people there,' Mr Miller said.

The demolition of the little school would be investigated, he said.

Mr A. MacLachlan, chief director of the BAAB, said he was not concerned about the demolition of the school.

'As far as I am concerned it is an illegal building. Who gave these poeple the right to build a school there? The school was illegal.

'The people are there illegally. If they are legally in a place then they can have a school.'

Mr MacLachlan said the people of Crossroads could not be allowed to establish facilities at the camp. As far as he was concerned any building used as a facility and not a home should be demolished.

He said he was not interested in the value of the school or its function in the community. He said he felt all illegal structures should be demolished and he said every shanty in the camp could be regarded as an illegal structure

INHUMAN ACT

The Rev David Russell, who works in the Crossroads community, condemned the destruction of the school as an inhuman act.

'These are people, families, and it's winter and it's raining. I want to ask the people who do this to go carefully and to be humane if it is possible to do this humanely,' he said.

'The men of Crossroads were extremely angered by this cynical and callous action. The women had to calm the men. There is a limit to what these people can take.'

The Rev Des Adendorf, director of the Church Urban Planning Commission which was instrumental in establishing the school, said it was an educational club for Crossroads children.

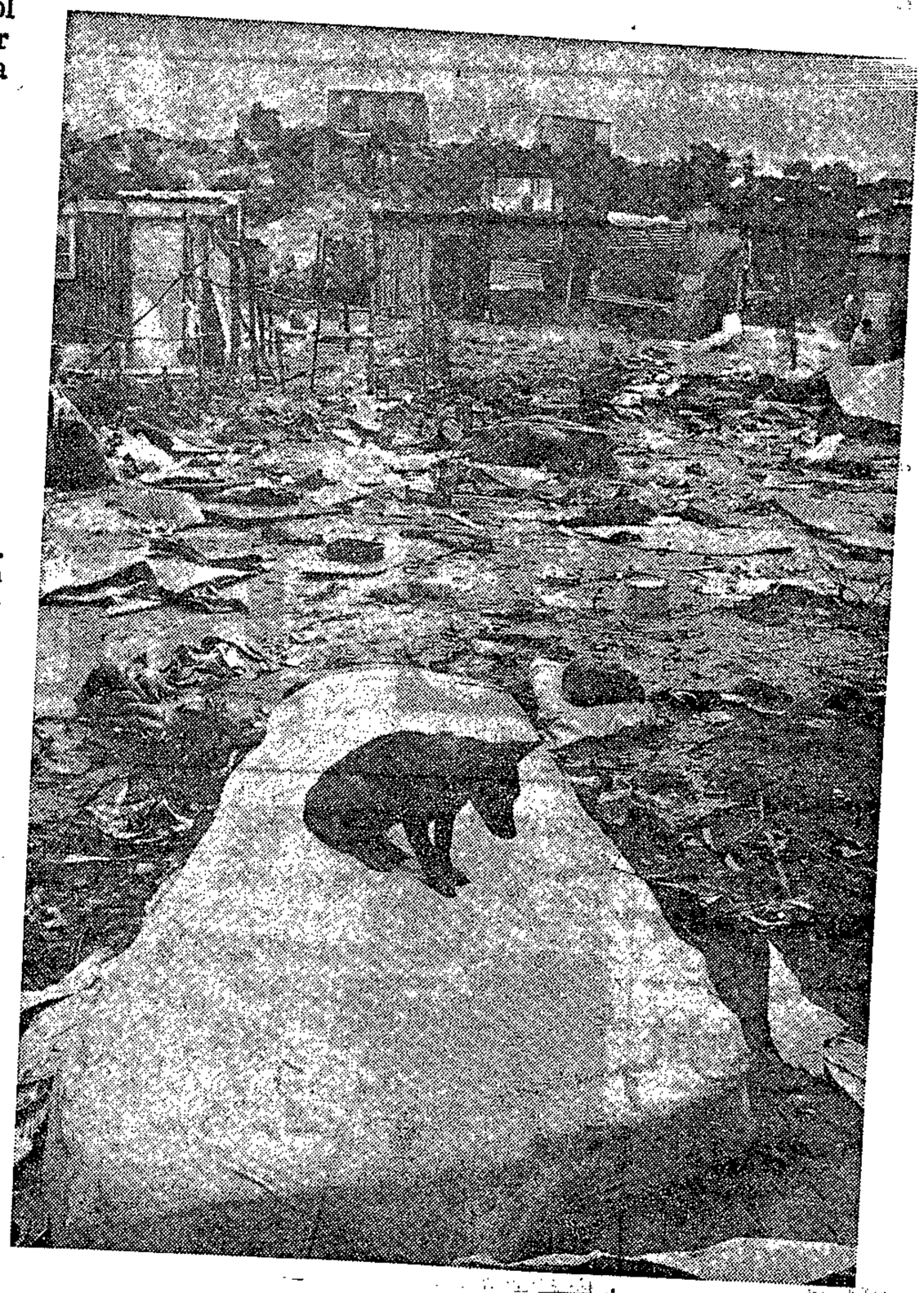
To build and operate a normal school there would be illegal, he said.

'It is a nasty scene. We will have a repetition of the Belhar violence last week if this sort of thing goes on.'

The school was built to allow for at least minimal education of about 250 children. It was built by the residents themselves and was furnished with crude chairs and wall charts.

When the Divisional Council workers began preparations for its demolition a neighbour appealed to them to spare it, but was ignored.

She was later given permission to rescue the chairs, though not the wall charts.



THE Crossroads squatter camp where a small school, empty shacks and at least one occupied shack have been demolished by Divisional Council and Bantu Affairs Administration Board workers.

8/6/76

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Squatters' 'school' wrecked

Cape Times 7/6/76

Staff Reporter

DIVISIONAL COUNCIL workers have demolished a structure at the Crossroads squatter camp which was serving as an educational centre for about 240 illiterate children and as a place of worship.

The centre was knocked down on Fricay by Divisional Council demolishers, who were under instruction not to demolish any building occupied by people.

Asked to comment on this yesterday, the council secretary, Mr W R Viviers, said: 'If it was empty it would have been pulled down. If there were people in it it would not have been pulled down."

However, Crossroads residents said they had told the demolishers, headed by a Mr Coetzee, that the structure was being used as an educational centre for their children.

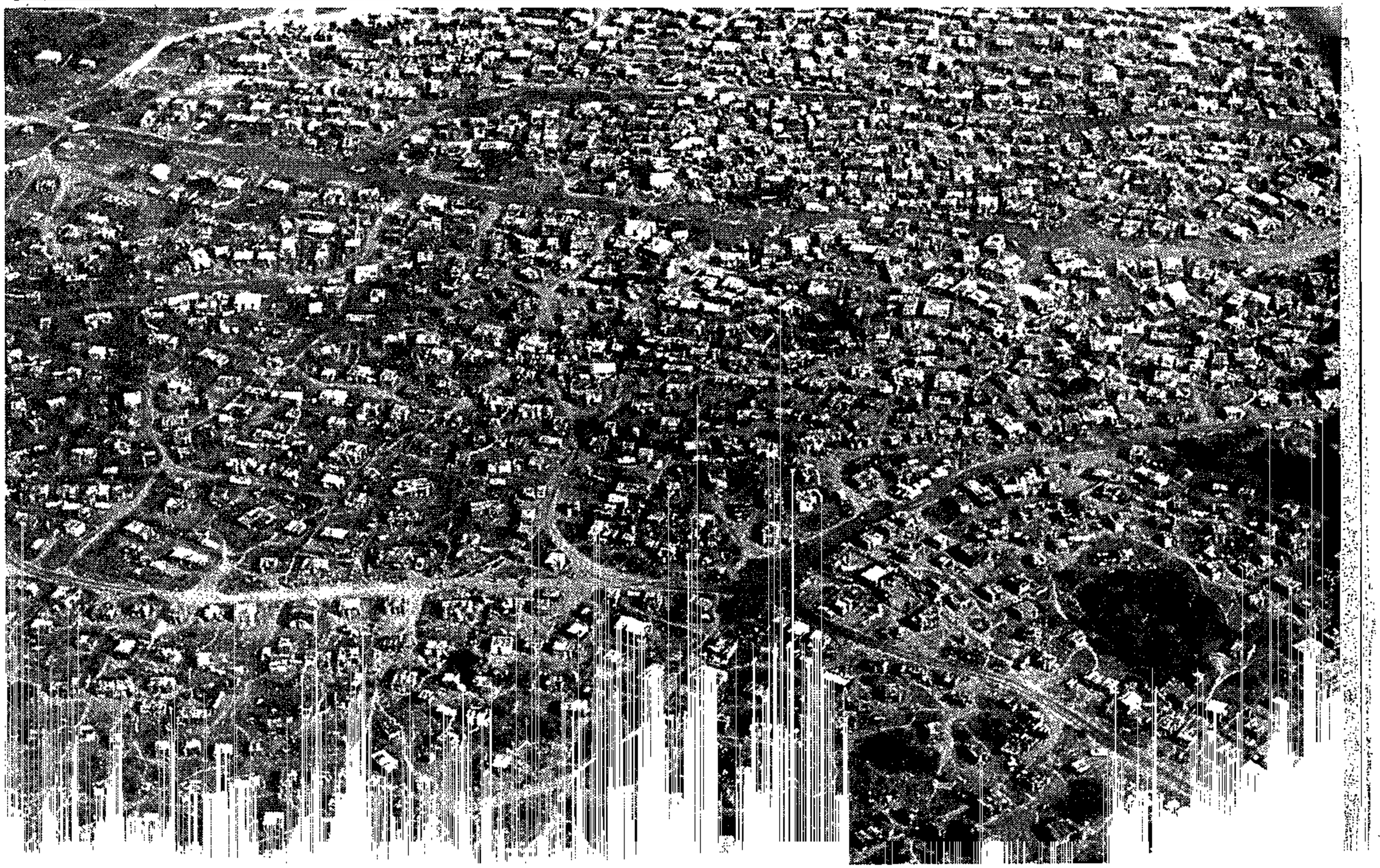
Mrs Jane Yanta, one of the community leaders, said she had explained to the workers that it was a "school" and stated that there were still children inside cleaning the floor in preparation for the following week's lesson.

Father Dick O'Riordan, a Roman Catholic priest, said the structure had been built by the community.

He confirmed that the structure had been used by the Roman Catholic Church for saying Mass.

CAPE TIMES 9/6/76

This is Crossroads... home of 10 000



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CAPE TIMES 9/6/73 (243)

This is Crossroads, the squatter town where 10 000 people wait for the outcome of a legal battle between the Bantu Affairs Administration Board and the Divisional Council. The Divisional Council's application to a Wynberg magistrate to order the demolition of the more than 2 300 dwellings has been postponed till June 11 for negotiations with the Bantu Affairs Administration Board over the future of the squatter community. Meanwhile a school and at least one dwelling have already been flattened since the court application in what is believed to be a joint effort by the two bodies to discourage the growth of the squatter town.

Town Clerk sees problems with bill

ENFORCEMENT of the legislation envisaged by the Prevention of Illegal Squatting Amendment Bill will be almost impossible, according to Cape Town's Town Clerk, Mr H G Heugh.

Mr Heugh was referring to the section of the bill which stipulates that an employer obtain a certificate from his local authority showing availability of proper housing before engaging an employee from an outside area.

In a report placed before the council's Executive Committee yesterday, Mr Heugh said that the proposed legislation was wide enough to cover both Coloured and African persons.

The council had no jurisdiction, he said, over Africans who were dealt with by the Bantu Affairs Administration Board.

For the council or any prospective employer to ascertain whether a Coloured employee had been "brought into the area", he said, was an "impossible exercise in the Cape Peninsula.

"The enforcement of the proposed legislation will, in the circumstances, be almost impossible."

Commenting on that aspect of the bill which would prohibit the erection of any unauthorized structure by the owner or occupier of land, Mr Heugh said that it would lead to the "present anomalous position of pondok farming" becoming illegal.

Protest on squatter removals

Staff Reporter

MINISTERS of the Fraternal of Guguletu and Nyanga, yesterday issued a statement protesting against the proposed removal of people from the Crossroads squatter camp.

The statement, distributed to the press by the secretary of the fraternal, the Rev Canon P Matolengwe, expresses "deep distress" at the proposed removals from the area.

"Such action by White people against Blacks is provocative and will only deepen the bitterness of the Black community and will undermine attempts to build peace and mutual respect among the people of this land," the statement says.

The statement calls for the area to be declared an emergency camp and for the community to live with their families and near to their places of employment.

F.M. 11/6/76

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CROSSROADS

Enter the bulldozers

In the Senate this week they were pushing through the Prevention of Illegal Squatting Amendment Bill; at the Crossroads squatter camp (*FM* last week), demolition gangs of the Cape Divisional Council (CDC) razed 139 "vacant" pondoks and a makeshift church/school; and in the H F Verwoerd Building officials of CDC and Deputy Minister of Bantu Affairs Willem Cruywagen were hammering out an agreement which will probably be made an order of court this week, spelling the end of community life at Crossroads.

The Squatters Bill gives more power to the Minister's bulldozer, while the Crossroads people are steeling themselves for a new edge in the application of urban African policy.

It is a fair bet to assume that in view of the size of the camp (10 000 people living in 2 300 pondoks) the authorities will declare it an emergency camp under Section 6 of the Squatters Act.

This will mean the provision of essential services, but strictly on a temporary basis, until officials get down to separating the "legals" from the "illegals", before removing the latter to their "lawful" areas in the Bantustans. A survey conducted by the Athlone Advice Office indicates that 40% of the men are Section 10 (1) (b) "legals" under the pass laws, 40% are contract workers, and the remaining 20% "illegals". The overwhelming majority of women (and their children) are "illegals". The entire population is squatting unlawfully in terms of the law.

According to the Rev David Russell, the plight of Crossroaders is the direct result of cynical application of urban African policy in the Cape Peninsula. He points out that since 1966 when government embarked on an urban "de-Africanisation" policy aimed at reducing their number by 5% annually, very few additional family dwelling units have been built in the three African townships of Guguletu, Langa and Nyanga.

For the past two years not a single additional house has been built, which means that thousands of Section 10 "legals" have been forced to create their own homes.

Russell rejects Bantu Administration's explanation that the Cape Peninsula is being tightly controlled because it is a preferential Coloured labour area. Eighty per cent of the men at Crossroads have permission to work in the area.

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Cape Times 12/6/76

Crossroads 'health peril'

(293)

THE health situation at Crossroads — where, for the 10 000 squatter residents, there are six water points and 38 pit latrines — is one of "considerable peril", Wynberg's Chief Magistrate, Mr J G Lindsay, was told yesterday.

The warning came from City attorney Mr A D Dalling in the course of the third hearing of the Cape Divisional Council's application for an order that will authorize the Bantu Affairs Administration Board to remove all squatters at Crossroads, transfer these people to another area and demolish their dwellings.

The administrative inquiry continued yesterday after an announcement that negotiations about the establishment of an emergency camp had ended without the matter being resolved.

Arguing on behalf of the Divisional Council, whose application has been opposed by a resident of Crossroads as well as the Bantu Affairs Administration Board, Mr Dalling told the magistrate that health conditions at Crossroads were critical and that the situation was one of considerable peril.

In an affidavit placed before the court at a previous hearing, Mr Azriel Miller, acting secretary of the Divisional Council, estimated that there were about 10 000 people living at Crossroads in conditions and circumstances that could seriously endanger the health or safety of the public of the Cape Peninsula.

In a supporting affidavit, Dr Philip Boekstein, the council's acting medical officer of health, said that the only facilities available to these people were six water points and

Continued on page 2

An End To Violence?

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"We are hiding in the bush with our wives because we cannot live with them elsewhere."

"I heard women and children screaming as they stood in the rain outside their shanties."

ON WEDNESDAY night at about 11 p.m. Bantu Affairs officials, assisted by the police, raided a squatter community near the University of the Western Cape. Angry residents retaliated with stones and knobkerries. Police opened fire and it is believed that at least two residents were injured. Thirty-one people were arrested and are due to appear in court on a number of charges, including being in the area illegally. Newspapers quoted police spokesmen who gave conflicting reasons for the raid.

WHETHER THE RAID was to evict the squatters, check passes, or to 'prevent crime', a number of disturbing questions are raised:

(1) THE MANNER in which the raid was carried out: Why so late at night? Is a rainy night the best time to force families, including small children, out of their beds? Was a display of force - up to 15 police vans and armed policemen - necessary against a handful of men and women?

(2) THE SIGNIFICANCE of the raid: There are at least 120 000 squatters, "Coloured" and African, living in the Cape Peninsula. The raid demonstrates the attitude of the authorities towards these people - intimidation and coercion. The recent Prevention of Illegal Squatting Act highlights official unwillingness to face the reality of the situation. 120 000 people will not disappear. Most squatters are working in the homes and industries of the Cape Peninsula, guaranteeing our high standard of living.

(3) IS THIS AN isolated incident? Many African squatters are entitled to live in the bachelor quarters of the townships - but to live with their wives and families they are force to move into the bush. As long as legislation prevents families from living together, raids of this nature will continue.

THE SQUATTER LAWS are a small part of a whole system of influx control, migrant labour and Group Areas removals. While people's lives continue to be regulated and restricted, there is no hope for a peaceful South Africa.

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CAPE TIMES

School goes up again

11/6/76

Staff Reporter

MEN, women and children of the Crossroads squatter community sang and chanted yesterday as the Divisional Council rebuilt the two-roomed temporary school which was torn down on Friday.

Watched by children clutching pencils and paper, workmen from the Council hammered pieces of tin together, put in doors and windows and waterproofed the roof.

The school has 250 pupils and is the only one at Crossroads, which has an estimated population of 10 000.

Mrs Mary Dlahu, a community worker from the Churches Urban Planning Commission, which was instrumental in starting the school, said yesterday that everyone was "very pleased and happy" that the school was being rebuilt.

A spokesman for the Divisional Council said at the site yesterday that the Council had not authorized the demolition of the school.

"Only Council officials working here at Crossroads can authorize demolitions. Our investigation showed that no one from the Council authorized the demolition. Apparently someone else outside the council did."

The Rev Des Adendorff, director of the Churches Urban Planning Commission, said the school would be painted white and called "Our School".

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THE ARGUS, FRIDAY JUNE 11 1976

No solution yet for Crossroads squatters

NEGOTIATIONS for a solution to the problem of illegal squatters at Crossroads had come to an end without the matter being resolved, a Wynberg magistrate, Mr J. G. Lindsay, was told today.

He is hearing an application from the Cape Divisional Council for an order giving authority to and instructing the Bantu Affairs Administration Board to remove squatters from Crossroads, to transfer them to a place decided on by a magistrate and to ensure the demolition of their shacks, said to be a health hazard.

On June 2, Mr Lindsay was told the Divisional Council and the Bantu Affairs Administration Board were discussing the problem to find a solution and there was a possibility an emergency camp would be established.

He postponed the matter until today.

NOT CONSULTED

Mr A. D. Dalling, for the council, today said no agreement had been reached.

Mr G. D. Griessel, for the Bantu Affairs Administration Board, presented the board's opposition to the council's application.

He said the board had not been consulted about the council's intention to make the application. The board did not want the powers and had not asked for them. The magistrate had no power to make the order the divisional council sought.

'Those who apply must want the powers they ask for or the body being asked to act must consent,' he said. 'the BAAB maintains it does not own the land at Crossroads but that it is still owned by the Divisional Council.'

Mr Griessel said the board was not responsible for dealing with the squatters and it should not be saddled with a power it did not want. He asked why the board should have to bear the cost of dealing with the squatters.

The application is also opposed by the squatters.

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Crossroads health fears

CAPE TIMES 12/6/76 (293)

Continued from page 1

a "few pit latrines, 38 having been provided, but many of these inoperative as a result of over-use and vandalism".

The pit latrines, he said, had been overtaxed and were overflowing. Because of their inadequacy, people did not necessarily make use of them with the result that excrement could be found throughout the area. Fly-breeding was rife.

With the onset of winter it is inevitable that pools of water will form which will become heavily contaminated. Because of the shortage of water points, it can be anticipated that the people will use this contaminated water and this in turn will lead to a serious outbreak of intestinal diseases, such as typhoid fever," Dr Boekstein's affidavit read.

It was virtually inevitable, his affidavit concluded, that major epidemics would arise if the people living at Crossroads were not removed from the area.

Mr G D Griessel, who appeared on behalf of the board, claimed yesterday that the magistrate had no power to make the order requested by the Divisional Council.

The board had not been consulted by the council, he said, and did not consent to or want the powers which the council asked to be conferred on it.

Mr Dalling emphasized that the "most appropriate body to do the "job" was the Bantu Affairs Administration Board.

The board's "degree of keenness to do the job," Mr Dalling said, was "totally irrelevant to the application. This board has been prosecuting people, removing them from place to place for ages."

While the Divisional Council, he said, was prepared to relieve the board of the responsibility of demolition, it was not prepared to demolish inhabited structures, "more so when the occupant has nowhere else to go".

And it could not be said that it was the council's duty to house Bantu people, he said, as the council's powers had been removed and placed in the hands of the board.

The inquiry was postponed till Monday.

Mr J G Lindsay, Chief Magistrate, presided. Mr A D Dalling, of Fuller, Moore and Son, appeared for the Divisional Council of the Cape. Mr G D Griessel, instructed by Silberbauers, appeared for the Bantu Affairs Administration Board. Mr M J Richman, of Mallinisk, Ress, Richman and Co, appeared for Crossroads resident, Mr N J Ndayi.

Squatters' group slams 'cr

Sun. Times (Extra) 13/6/76

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By NORMAN WEST

THE recently formed Lourdes Farm squatter community executive committee this week described the reference to them as "criminals" by Mr S P Potgieter (NP, Port Elizabeth North) as "provocative".

In an attack on Mr Lionel Murray (UP Green Point), during a debate in the Assembly on the Prevention of Illegal Squatting Amendment Bill, Mr Potgieter took Mr Murray to task for references he had made to wartime concentration camps in Nazi Germany.

Essential

He said further that the Bill was essential because it was designed to prevent illegal squatting. It was aimed at removing misery, not creating it.

Mr Potgieter then remarked that many squatters were "loafers, criminals, murderers, agitators and drunkards . . ."

At the invitation of representatives of the squatter executive committee of Lourdes Farm, Snake Park and Vrygrond, I attended a meeting of their committee representatives at Lourdes farm on Wednesday night.

The squatter committees meet regularly and at Wednesday night's meeting it became clear with what intelligence and keeness they followed the debates on this bill.

Exception

Mr G Pretorius, vice chairman of the Lourdes Farm Squatter Executive Committee said that although they, as squatters, have no direct say in the way their fate was being decided by the legislators they took "the strongest exception" to being branded as "loafers, criminals, murderers and agitators".

"Like so many professional politicians, Mr Potgieter has seen fit to make these irresponsible utterances.

Discredit

"He has seen fit to discredit us indiscriminately as "criminals" while he was inside the safe confines of Parliament, where he enjoys parliamentary privilege.

"On what statistics does he base his accusations? Because we are so vulnerable, we, the squatters are perhaps, comparatively speaking, more law-abiding than other groups.

"Perhaps Mr Potgieter bases his assumptions on observations out of the air while flying over squatter camps and so says these things while on flights of fancy.

Harmony

"Let the gentleman come down to earth and meet and discuss with us our situation. We are sure he'll leave here a better man once he has established that we are also mothers and fathers of children, as human and as flesh and blood as he and his family are, and not monsters lurking behind zinc shanties," Mrs Pretorius said.

The first established three executive committees are working in harmony and often liaise with one another. An attempt to establish rival committees seems to have petered out.

The squatter committees have resisted the establishment of the other committees "because we can't afford fragmentation. Unity is important since our aims — basically to help ourselves — are the same in all squatter camps," a committee member told me.

Wide

Meanwhile, according to Cape Town's town clerk, Mr H G Heugh, enforcement of the legislation envisaged by the Prevention of Illegal Squatting Amendment Bill, will be almost impossible.

In a report placed before the Council's executive committee this week, he said that the proposed legislation was wide enough to cover both African and Coloured persons.

For the council or any prospective employer to ascertain whether a Coloured employee had been "brought" into the area, he said, was "an impossible exercise in the Peninsula".

"The enforcement of the proposed legislation will, in the circumstances, be almost impossible," he said.

13/6/76
EX Sun Times

(293)

iminals' slur



resentatives of the squatter camps executive committee at this week's
ting, from left to right: Mrs Hester Wagner, Mrs Judith Schowl,
Zuleyga Holmes, Mrs Minnie Dickenson, Mrs Ray Rossouw and Mrs
Certie Pretorius.

CAPE TIMES 15/6/76 (293)

Politics would decide permit, says official

Staff Reporter

AN official of the Bantu Affairs Administration Board yesterday told a Wynberg magistrate that whether he granted a permit to a Member of Parliament to enter a Bantu location, "would depend on the political viewpoint", of the applicant.

Mr Nicolaas Goosen, assistant director of community services at Langa, was giving evidence in the trial of Dr Frederick van Zyl Slabbert, MP for Rondebosch, who pleaded not guilty to a charge of entering the Nyanga Bantu Township area without a permit.

Mr Goosen, who was responsible for issuing permits, told the court that Dr Slabbert had not applied for one.

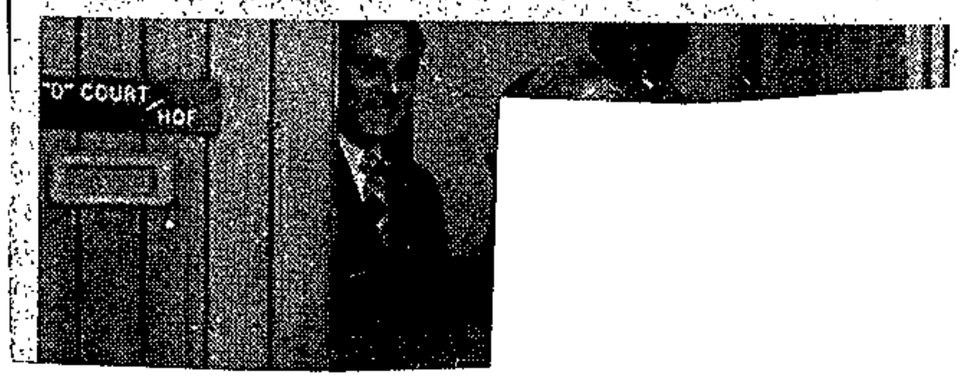
Asked by Mr R M Marais, who appeared for the defence, whether he would grant permits to MPs who wished to enter the township, Mr Goosen said: "That would depend on his political viewpoint.

"We would have to have discussions with the applicant before we let him in."

Mr Marais then asked: "Do you give members of Parliament of some parties permits and not those of other parties?"

Mr Goosen replied: "I have not yet refused a permit to a member of Parliament." He would have granted Dr Slabbert a permit, but he might have stipulated that an official of the Bantu Affairs Administration Board ac-

Continued on page 2



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Slabbert in court

Continued from page 1

company him on his visit, he said.

Mr Arthur Loxton, a Bantu Affairs Administration Board inspector, told the court that, on April 8, he apprehended Dr Slabbert, the Reverend David Russel, of Woodstock, two newspaper reporters and two photographers in an area known as the KTC squatter camp in Nyanga East.

None of the group had permits, and all but Mr Russel were instructed to go to the board's Nyanga headquarters where charges would be laid.

When Dr Slabbert said he had an urgent appointment in Parliament, he was allowed to go. He was summonsed two days later.

Giving evidence, Dr Slabbert said he handled matters affecting community development for his party's caucus.

"I was asked to go to the 'KTC' camp by Mr

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ARGUS 15/6/76

Squatters: Court told eviction no solution

THE establishment of an emergency camp at Crossroads squatters' camp — not the removal of the people there — was the best solution to the problem of the squatter settlement, Wynberg chief magistrate, Mr J. G. Lindsay, was told yesterday.

Mr Lindsay was hearing an administrative inquiry into an application by the Cape Divisional Council for an order requiring the Bantu Affairs Administration Board to remove the squatters from Crossroads and to demolish their shacks.

The board previously objected to this on the grounds that a magistrate did not have the power to make such an order unless the Board consented, which it did not.

Mr Lindsay yesterday ruled the Divisional Council was entitled to make the application but did

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MP IN COURT OVER BANTU AREA VISIT

NM 15/6/76.

CAPE TOWN — The Progressive Reform Party MP for Rondebosch, Dr. F. van Zyl Slabbert, appeared in the Wynberg Magistrate's Court yesterday charged with having been in a proclaimed African area without a permit.

A Bantu Affairs Administration Board inspector, Mr. Arthur Loxton, told the Court that on April 8 he found Dr. van Zyl Slabbert in a squatter camp between Nyanga East and Guguletu, where empty shanties were being demolished.

Dr. van Zyl Slabbert was accompanied by an Anglican priest, the Rev. David Russell, and four newspaper reporters.

With the exception of Mr. Russell, none had a permit.

Dr. van Zyl Slabbert had, however, been allowed to leave when he had said he had an urgent appointment at Parliament.

Mr. N. J. A. Goosen, the Board's assistant director of community services, when asked if he would have given Dr. van Zyl Slabbert a permit, said that would have depended on the man's political point of view.

"I would have given him a permit but I would probably have said he should be accompanied by an official of the Board."

Mr. Goosen said he had not yet refused a permit to an MP.

Dr. van Zyl Slabbert said in evidence he had been assigned by his party's caucus to handle matters effecting community development.

At the time of his visit, the Prevention of Illegal Squatting Amendment Bill was before Parliament, and he had been invited to visit the squatter area by the Rev. David Russell.

"I believe an MP has to do his duty, and part of his duty is to investigate the implications of a Bill."

He had never been told he required a permit to visit the area.

The hearing was adjourned to July 12.—(Sapa.)

ARGUS 24/6/76 293

Community

hall for squatters?

The Argus Municipal Reporter

SQUATTERS at Vrygrond, near Muizenberg, will probably have a community centre soon, in spite of opposition from Whites nearby and at Marina da Gama.

The City Council's executive committee has backed a plan by the housing committee to lease a site at Vrygrond to Cafda for a temporary community hall. Cafda will have to demolish the building at the end of the five-year lease.

There was some opposition to the idea when it was advertised for objections.

Some White residents in areas near by said it would lead to 'the debasement of the whole area' and would help to make temporary squatter camps permanent settlements.

PETITION

Forty-three residents of the luxury Marina da Gama development signed a petition which said the community centre plan would encourage an acknowledged squatter problem and would lead to a significant depreciation of properties at the marina.

The marina petitioners said community centres for Coloured people should be in declared Coloured areas. They also felt it would mean 'increased security risks' to marina residents, especially women.

Other objectors said they were concerned at the council 'flinging away land to Coloured people' and 'all the Coloured people in the Cape Province converging in Cape Town.'

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Court refuses eviction from Crossroads

ARGUS 25/6/76 (293)

AN APPLICATION by the Cape Divisional Council for the removal of more than 10 000 Africans from the Crossroads squatter camp was refused today by the Chief Magistrate of Wynberg, Mr J. G. Lindsay.

Mr Lindsay's decision followed consultations with the council's representative.

Giving his decision on an administrative inquiry into the council's application, he said he had no power to prescribe an alternative to the eviction of the squatters, but the establishment of an emergency camp may be of assistance as far as the health hazard is concerned.

Mr Lindsay said the Prevention of Illegal Squatting Act under which the application was made did not in his opinion contemplate the removal of so many people at once.

It was clear, he said, that some of the squatters were legally in the Peninsula area while others were not.

Proper identification of those who should be removed would be impossible, in view of the number of residents.

The fact that no alternative accommmodation was available was another consideration, he said. The Divisional Council could not be expected to provide proper housing for so many.

THANKS

'In view of the large number of people involved, and the lack of alternative accommodation, this application is dismissed,' he said.

Mr A. D. Dalling, who appeared for the council, thanked the magistrate for the consideration given to

(Continued on Page 3, col 1)

Crossroads application

(Continued from Page 1)

the matter and said the council would make a public statement about its intentions as soon as possible.

Mr M. J. Richman, who appeared for a squatter, Mr N. J. Ndayi, and others, also expressed appreciation for the magistrate's consideration and said the only logical step the council could now take was to declare Crossroads an emergency camp.

The council's original application, filed in May, called for an order interdicting and giving authority to the Peninsula Bantu Affairs Administration Board (BAAB) to remove squatters, to rehouse them elsewhere and to demolish the 2 500 shanties in the area.

The application was opposed by the BAAB, but Mr Lindsay later ruled that the council could not specifically cite the board in its application and the board's opposition was withdrawn.

The application was also opposed by Mr Ndayi, who said the declaration of an emergency camp at Crossroads was the best course open to the council.

In an affidavit, Mr Ndayi said if the squatters were removed from Crossroads they would simply establish a new camp elsewhere.

The council applied for the application on the grounds that Crossroads was a serious hazard to the health of its residents and the people of Cape Town in general.

Mr Dalling, of Fuller, Moore and Son, appeared for the council, and Mr Richman of Mallinick, Ress, Richman and Co, appeared for Mr Ndayi.

ARGUS 29/6/76

Centre for squatters

The Argus Municipal Reporter

THE CITY Council has agreed to provide land for a community centre at the Vrygrond squatter settlement, overriding opposition from a number of White residents in the area.

The council will ask the Administrator, Dr L. A. P. A. Munnik, to allow Cafda to lease the site in spite of the objections.

Dr Munnik will also be told that the council feels Cafda's steps to provide a community hall, 'albeit for a limited period' are to be commended.

The housing committee, which initially recommended the five-year-lease in spite of the opposition, said it felt 'the facility provided by Cafda is essential for the wellbeing of the Vrygrond community . . . and should be permitted to proceed without delay.'

'APPALLED'

Referring today to objections from a number of White residents in the area and at the Marina da Gama, Mrs Joan Kante said: 'I am absolutely ap palled, particularly at thi time in South Africa, tha there are people who hol these views.'

Objectors said the were concerned that th squatter community wou become permanent, tha the council was 'flingin away land to th Coloureds,' and that a s curity risk would b created for home owne at the Marina.

One person said th plan was 'reprehensible and would 'lead to th debasement of the whol area.'

OPPOSITION

Only one councillor, Mr Joe Rabinowitz, opposed the council's move and backed the objections.

He said: 'I am quite sure that in 10 or 15 years' time this land will still be held by the squatters.'

In terms of the lease, Cafda will have to 'demolish' after five years the hall it plans to build.

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Anglicans urged to pray for squatters

The Argus Religious Affairs Correspondent

SPECIAL prayers for squatters and migrant labourers and their families will be said in Anglican churches throughout the Cape Town diocese later this month.

The call for prayer is contained in the June edition of Good Hope, the monthly newsletter of the Archbishop, the Most Rev Bill Burnett. Each month this sets out a list of parishes and church bodies for which prayers are asked.

INSECURE

The June newsletter asks Anglicans to pray on June 23 for the parish of Nyanga, 'for God's blessing on all the people of this parish and Crossroads, where people are very insecure.'

Crossroads squatters' camp falls within the Anglican parish of Nyanga.

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Reprieve for Crossroads as council acts

ARGUS 29/6/76

CROSSROADS — home of more than 10 000 squatters — was today declared an emergency camp in terms of the Prevention of Illegal Squatting Act and the Cape Divisional Council is to take urgent steps to provide basic facilities at the camp.

During discussion on the matter in open council today several members of the council condemned the lack of co-operation shown by the Peninsula Bantu Affairs Administration Board.

This body had allowed the situation to develop and had then thrown the problem into the lap of the Divisional Council, they said.

Today's move follows the refusal of an application for a magistrate's order compelling the BAAB to clear the camp and provide alternative housing for all its residents.

The details of the establishment of the emergency camp would be announced later, Mr J. H. Heyns, chairman of the council said.

These would be worked out in consultation with the Government and would be promulgated by the Minister of Bantu Administration, Mr M. C. Botha.

EVICTION THREAT

However, the effect, would be to allow the council to provide facilities which would remove the health hazard constituted by the camp, he said.

This would cost the council about R300 000 a year. Some of this could be recovered through levies on residents and an application for a grant would be made to the Government.

The establishment of the camp is a reprieve for the camp's residents who recently faced a threat of eviction.

However, the BAAB has undertaken to clear the area, Mr Heyns said.

Reviewing the history of Crossroads Mr Heyns said the control of all matters affecting Africans had been handed over to the BAAB in April last year.

However, in February this year, at a meeting with the Minister of Bantu Administration and his deputy, Dr A. P. Treurnicht, the chairman of the BAAB Brigadier J. H. van der Westhuizen, said the situation at Crossroads was out of control.

'This is where our problem started,' Mr Heyns said.

It was as a result of this meeting that application for the eviction of the

(Continued on Page 2, col 6)

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CAPE TIMES 30/6/76

Council declares emergency camp

MR J H HEYNS, the chairman, said yesterday that the Divisional Council of the Cape had become involved in the situation at the Crossroads squatter camp because the Bantu Affairs Administration Board had admitted that it could no longer control the situation there.

He was speaking at the monthly meeting of the council.

The council decided unanimously to declare the area an emergency camp and to provide basic services to the people there at an estimated cost of R300 000 a year.

Crossroads, where 10 000 Africans live in conditions that are regarded as a health hazard to the Peninsula has already been the subject of a court case in which the Divisional Council sought an order compelling the board to clear the camp. The board opposed the action.

Several councillors levelled some tough criticism at the Bantu Affairs Administration Board although they carefully avoided naming the board.

APPALLED

Mr H A C Bairnsfather-Cloete said he had been "appalled by the lack of co-operation with another body".

Bantu Affairs was not a Divisional Council problem but he had been "appalled at the attitude of some" in the dealings the council had had. "We could have done a lot better in this matter if we had received co-operation."

Mr Bairnsfather-Cloete was a member of the special council sub-committee which handled the matter.

Another member of the sub-committee, Mr H J Kriel, said that when the situation was taken out of the council's hands there had been no problem. The present situation had arisen as a result of negligence over which the council had no control.

When the situation at Crossroads had become a problem that could not be coped with it had been thrown back into the lap of the council.

BLANK WALL

Mr John Bridgman, another member of the sub-committee, said the council had come up against a blank wall in dealing with "a problem of great shame to the mother city".

In deciding to establish an emergency camp and provide basic services, the council had taken the step "that should have been taken by another body long ago".

He said that earlier this year the council had asked the Government if it could supply minimal services but this request had been refused.

Mr Heyns said the cost of providing basic services would be about R300 000 a year. The council could not afford this but if an emergency camp were established the council would be in a position to charge fees for the services it provided.

In addition, the Minister of Health would be approached for financial assistance. The Department of Health supported the council's application to the court to have the area cleared.

The camp is to be established in terms of the 1951 Prevention of Illegal Squatting Act. The new Act, recently approved by Parliament, has not yet come into force.

The council will draw up regulations for the running of the camp.

Mr Heyns said that in April last year the control of all matters affecting Africans had been handed over to the Bantu Affairs Administration Board and the Divisional Council ceased to have any control over Crossroads.

DELICATE

In February this year he had been called to a meeting in the office of the Minister of Bantu Administration, Mr M C Botha. The Deputy Minister, Mr A P Treurnicht, had also been present as well as representatives of the Department of Community Development, the Department of Justice and the police.

At this meeting the chairman of the Bantu Affairs Administration board was no longer in control of the situation at Crossroads.

That was when the Divisional Council's problem started.

Councillors congratulated Mr Heyns on his handling of "the most difficult and delicate problem" the council had faced.

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Crossroads solution delayed by board

ARGUS 1/7/76

THE Peninsula Bantu Affairs Administration Board (BAAB) took over control of all matters affecting Africans — including squatting — in April last year, but refused to accept ownership of the Crossroads squatter camp until the squatter problem had been solved by the Divisional Council.

Squatters are to be removed – board director

CROSSROADS squatters not entitled to live in the Peninsula area are to be sent back to their homelands and alternative accommodation — possibly in another squatters area — is to be found for the legal residents says Mr A. MacLachlan, chief director of the Bantu Affairs Administration Board.

Although the Cape Divisional Council has declared Crossroads an emergency camp the responsibility for the removal of the squatters is the board's.

Mr MacLachlan said he could not confirm the term of two years given by the council for the removal of the squatters.

'We are going to remove the illegal squatters, but I would rather not comment on how or when we will do this. We

This has emerged from the records of confidential meetings of the Divisional Council's sub-committee on Crossroads which were made public when the council declared Crossroads an emergency camp.

For the first time the problem of 10 000 squatters at Crossroads was discussed in open council and it became clear that the BAAB was behind the delay in finding a solution.

Councillors expressed considerable bitterness about the BAAB's lack of co-operation throughout the attempts to settle the mater.

ADMINISTRATION

In a statement to the council the chairman, Mr J. H. Heyns, said the BAAB had agreed to take over the administration of African affairs previously handled by the Divisional Council and had become the effective, if not the legal owners, of Crossroads at a meeting held in April last year.

This position remained until February this year when a meeting was called in the office of the Minister of Bantu Administration, Mr M. C. Botha. The meeting was attended by representative of the police, the Department of Justice, the council, the BAAB and the Deputy Minister of Bantu Administration, Dr A. P. Treurnicht.

of Crossroads as soon as possible on the understanding that the Divisional Council would remain responsible for any legal claims at Crossroads. It was also agreed that the BAAB would accept responsibility for the rapid removal of illegal residents and the council would be responsible for the demolition of empty shacks.

EMERGENCY

The meeting agreed that an emergency camp would be declared as soon as possible and basic facilities would be provided.

It was agreed that on acceptance of this plan by the BAAB the application before a Wynberg magistrate for an order leading to the eviction of squatters would be withdrawn.

But after a number of meetings between the BAAB and the council the board did not signify its acceptance of the plan and the council went ahead with its court application which was later refused.

While the council insisted that the board should complete the transfer of ownership of Crossroads into its own name before the court action would be withdrawn, the board was also required to agree to

Moves to beat squatters' health hazard

THE first steps towards the alleviation of the health hazard at the Crossroads emergency squatter camp are now being taken and Divisional Council officials have been instructed to treat the provision of basic services as a matter of extreme urgency.

Mr J. H. Heyns, chairman of the council, has said additional staff are being hired and that new equipment may be acquired.

The services provided will be piped water, refuse removal and a night soil sanitation service. Health inspection will be maintained at a high level and mobile clinics will visit the camp as often as possible.

Mr Heynes together with the council's legal advisers, has been appointed to handle the drafting of regulations for the camp which will have to be approved by the Government.

However, the provision of services would not be delayed by this administrative side of the project.

No community facilities would be allowed, he said.

The only new structures permitted would be those absolutely necessary for the provision of health services — probably only toilets.

No special arrangements would be made for transport or police patrols in the area.

Crossroads had been declared an emergency camp for two reasons, Mr Heyns said: Firstly for the sake of public health and secondly to allow the council to levy charges for the services provided.

The charges would merely cover the services, he said.

The removal of illegal squatters would be the function of the Bantu Affairs Administration Board (BAAB), he said.

'Practically, I think Crossroads will be a very long-term settlement,' he said.

The BAAB had given two years as the period needed to clear the area.

Shacks vacated either by rehoused or repatriated Africans would be demolished immediately and no new structures would be allowed, Mr Heyns said.

ARGUS

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court case after court case and interdict after interdict. Now I don't want to go into the details of their removal,' he said.

It was up to the legal residents to come forward and apply for housing, he said. Asked whether housing was available, he said: 'We will find accommodation for them.'

Mr MacLachlan said squatters who came forward might be directed to another area where they could erect their shacks, but the onus would be on them to make application.

He said he could not comment on the criticism of his board by Divisional Councillors this week.

At this meeting the BAAB chairman, Brigadier J. H. van der Westhuizen, announced that the Crossroads problem was out of hand.

The council and the BAAB agreed on a joint programme to limit the growth of the camp and it was decided that urgent steps would be taken to provide basic health facilities at the camp.

One councillor, Mr H. J. Kriel, said during the debate yesterday: 'There was no problem at Crossroads when the job was handed over to the board. Crossroads was allowed to develop and when it became too big to handle it was thrown back into the council's lap.'

DEPUTATION

On June 1 this year a deputation from the council met the Deputy Minister of Bantu Affairs, Mr W. A. Cruywagen. At this meeting a tentative plan of action was drawn up.

It was agreed that the BAAB would take transfer heatlh risk of the camp.

TRANSFER

According to the minutes of one confidential Crossroads sub-committee meeting Mr Heyns said then that the BAAB had refused to take transfer of the land until the squatters had been removed.

Following the breakdown of these negotiations, and the refusal of the council's application for an order forcing the BAAB to accept transfer and clear the area, Crossroads has been declared an emergency camp in terms of Section Six of the Prevention of Illegal Squatting Act of 1951.

This will allow the council to provide facilities and levy reasonable charges while containing the growth of the camp and keeping it as an area for homeless people.

The regulations covering the emergency camp will have to be approved and promulgated by the Government.

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ARGUS 1/7/74

Squatter camp: decision criticised

THE Bantu Affairs Administration Board did not favour the declaration of an emergency camp at Crossroads because it was felt that the provision of facilities could give the squatters there the right of permanent residence.

In an interview, Brigadier J. H. van der Westhuizen chairman of the BAAB, said this opinion was based on a court ruling that the provision of taps and toilets constituted approval of occupation of a site.

He was reacting to criticism by a divisional councillor earlier this week in which the BAAB was attacked for not declaring Crossroads an emergency camp 'long ago'.

Now that the Divisional Council had declared an emergency camp it was up to the council to consider the implications of its action.

Brigadier van der Westhuizen was reluctant to comment on the accusations made by councillors that the BAAB had shown an 'appalling lack of co-operation' in dealing with the Crossroads problem.

Ma

27.

Majestic Crown certainly looks the part. He was going so well that Roberts had difficulty in pulling him up at the end of his work.

In fact he was 10 lengths clear of Prince Desire when they came into sight over the hill.

BRIGHT COAT

He is bright and hard in his coat and the only reservation Mr Rickaby has is about his weight — topweight of 56 now that Gatecrasher is out.

Majestic Crown is a very good horse but he has to give weight.

Of course he has earned his 56 kg. Topweights have won the 'Ju... Sea Cottage

But he

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Crossroads camp views explained

BRIGADIER J H van der Westhuizen, chairman of the Bantu Affairs Administration Board in the Cape Peninsula, has explained in a statement to the Cape Times the attitude of his board to the Crossroads squatters' camp.

The statement follows the decision by the Divisional Council of the Cape to establish an emergency camp with basic services on the site.

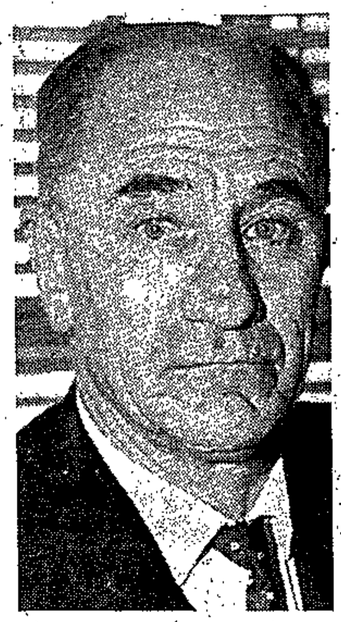
Brigadier Van der Westhuizen did not react to comments by divisional councillors which reflected unfavourably on the board.

The full statement reads: "Shortly before the Easter weekend, 1975, several squatter families moved on to the property at Crossroads. During the Easter weekend a large influx took place, which continued after that weekend and very soon several hundred huts had been erected.

PROVIDE FACILITIES

"A meeting took place and the Bantu Affairs Administration Board undertook to remove the people and in the meantime to provide water, toilets and a refuse removal service, which was done.

"The removal of squatters proceeded with success because the huts were also removed. An interdict was, however, granted in the Supreme Court against the board to the effect that the board could not demolish the huts without due process of law.



Brigadier Van der Westhuizen

"Thereafter, to comply with the interdict, the board charged squatters under the Illegal Squatting Act to obtain orders to demolish the huts. Against the conviction under this Act they appealed and the appeal was upheld, inter alia, on the grounds that the judge accepted evidence that an official instructed these people to go and live at Crossroads.

NO SUCCESS

"After this decision, the Bantu Affairs Administration Board was no longer legally in a position to demolish the squatters' huts. People who were removed thereafter immediately returned to their huts which were left standing. The board had no further success in its efforts to remove the squatters and clear the area.

"The board then requested the Divisional Council to demolish the huts, which the council had the legal right to do, but the council did not accede to this.

"Encouraged by the success of these people, others came after them and very soon the situation developed to what it is today.

NUMBERS DECREASED

"Before the Supreme Court decision against it, the board was successful in stopping the influx of squatters at Crossroads and in decreasing their numbers. The officials of the board arrested altogether 1 566 persons, and they demolished 176 huts and sent away 78 families in a short while.

"At that time

to blow

ing.

"Since about May this year, there has been an agreement with the Divisional Council under which the council demolishes every hut which becomes vacant. With this operation in progress there is every possibility that the ground will be cleared in a reasonable time," the statement said.

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A TEST FOR M C BOTHA

The future direction of government's post-Soweto urban African policy will be severely tested as a result of this week's decision by the Cape Divisional Council to declare an emergency camp (in terms of Section 6 of the Prevention of Illegal Squatting Act) at Crossroads, the home of more than 10 000 African squatters near Cape Town.

The decision brings to an end a protracted administrative wrangle between the Council and the Cape Peninsula Bantu Affairs Administration Board (Baab) over whose responsibility it is to either remove the squatters or provide basic amenities and services to avert "a health hazard of epidemic proportions".

The matter subsequently became the subject of an administrative inquiry in the Wynberg Magistrates Court when the Divisional Council sought an order empowering Baab to clear the camp. The chief magistrate of Wynberg, Mr J G Lindsay, said this week that the application was inappropriate and the order was refused.

He held that, in view of the complexity of the matter, and in view of the appalling health conditions in the camp, the establishment of an emergency camp was called for.

This the Divisional Council has now decided to do and according to its chairman, Mr J H Heyns, the provision of basic services and amenities will cost the Council about R300 000/year. Part of this cost will be defrayed by levies on the residents of Crossroads and it is hoped to obtain the balance by way of a grant from the authorities.

In terms of the Act, the Divisional Council will now draw up a set of regulations for the conduct of everyday affairs in the camp and these will have to be approved by the State President. Once the situation at Crossroads has been regularised, however, Baab has undertaken to clear the area, Heyns told a meeting of the council this week.

It is when Baab gets down to the nitty gritty of investigating the status of Crossroads residents that government's post-Soweto urban African attributes will be put to the test. Unless the situation is handled with utmost care, tact and compassion, there could be trouble. Most residents have been forced to break the law in one form or another because there are insufficient family dwelling units for Africans in the Cape Peninsula.

According to Van Zyl Slabbert, MP for Rondebosch, not a single additional family housing unit has been built at Nyanga, Langa and Guguletu in the past two years.

It is estimated that 40% of the men at Crossroads have permanent urban residential rights, that another 40% are contract workers who should be living in "bachelor" quarters in the townships, and that 20% are in Cape Town illegally. Most of the women and children at Crossroads are thought to be "illegals".

The Baab investigation will show, however, that the Crossroads camp does not consist of layabouts and that all household heads have jobs or they would not be there. Similarly, Cape Town business, industry and commerce needs them or they would not be there.

The people of Crossroads have shown over a period of two years that they are responsible and law-abiding, with a civic pride that even their squalid physical condition cannot conceal. What Minister M C Botha should do now is to declare Crossroads a *de jure* extension of Nyanga and legitimise its residents where possible.

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Squatters now 'out of control' — Bellville Mayor

Cape Times 3/7/76

THE NUMBER of squatters in the Bellville area is increasing and the situation is now out of control, the Mayor of Bellville, Mr Danie Uys, said yesterday.

An estimated 8 000 squatters are living on State-owned land in the area.

Mr Uys said that the Bantu Affairs Administration Board was aware of the situation, but so far nothing had been done.

He estimated that about 2 000 squatters are living in the grounds of the Coloured Persons' Representative Council, about 3 000 on the campus of the University of the Western Cape and possibly another 3 000 of land owned by the Department of Community Development at Werkgenot.

The Bellville Municipality could not take action against the squatters as they did not own the land where the shacks had been built.

Mr Uys said that he felt hurt that Bellville no longer had a representative on the Bantu Affairs Administration Board.

The situation in the Bellville area was now comparable to that at Crossroads and he believed that the "overflow" from Crossroads was moving to the Bellville area.

He did not favour the establishment of an emergency camp as the Divisional Council had done at Crossroads, as Bellville did not have the land for such a camp and could not run one.

In addition, he was against an emergency camp when there was no prospect of the municipality providing future housing for the people.

Brigadier J H van der Westhuizen, chairman of the Bantu Affairs Administration Board, said that inspectors of the board regularly acted against squatters but when one camp was cleared another one seemed to start up somewhere else.

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BELLVILLE SQUATTERS
Flashpoint?

Bellville Town Council may soon seek a court order compelling landowners to remove more than 8 000 Africans who are squatting in the municipal area. The owners in question are the Department of Agricultural Credit and Land Tenure; the Department of Coloured Relations; and the Department of Community Development.

The camps in question are at Modderdam Road (2 000 people) and Werkgenot station (6 000), near the University of the Western Cape and the legislative buildings of the Coloured Persons Representative Council, not far from Crossroads, now declared an emergency camp by the Cape Divisional Council (*FM* July 2).

As a matter of policy, the municipality of Bellville refuses to make provision for African townships on its land. According to Mayor Danie Uys, it is firmly committed to "parallel development" for Coloured people and is pressing ahead with a "double town" policy. In terms of this Bellville Coloureds will soon have their own autonomous local authority. There is no room for Blacks.

If anything, Africans squatting at Werkgenot and Modderdam are living under even more appalling conditions than their neighbours at Crossroads. The 2 000 people share a single toilet.

Nor are there sanitary facilities at the nearby training college for Coloureds. The only reported source of health care is a witch doctor. Shacks are constructed

PEOPLE AND PLACES

According to Baab statistics the "legal" African population in the Cape Peninsula is:

Married men	36 922
Single men	15 153
Women	18 317
Children	33 449
Total	**103 841**

Baab's latest estimates of the squatter situation gives the following number of pondoks:

Simonstown	9
Kommetjie/Noordhoek	13
Hout Bay	44
Philippi	50
D F Malan Airport	4
Kuilsriver	38
Milnerton	350
Modderdam	400
Werkgenot	1 200
Crossroads	2 300
Kraaifontein	5
Total	**4 413**

The population of the camps is put at about 20 000.

F.M. 9/7/76

largely with corrugated iron, while additional material and household effects are obtained from a nearby rubbish dump.

The camps apparently accommodate the overflow of Crossroads and consist largely of contract workers who have absconded from Boland farms to seek better-paying work in the city. Most men in the camps appear to have jobs.

According to the Baab, there are now more than 20 000 squatters in 13 camps in the Cape Peninsula, most of whom have settled since the beginning of the year. Baab has no figures indicating what their status is, but can only guess that most people are in the area illegally.

According to Mr A McLachlan, director of Baab, the position has been aggravated by "ruthless employers" who engage illegal Blacks at a low wage without regard to family, accommodation or food. "All they are interested in is labour," he says.

Employers are apparently undaunted by the penalties attaching to the employment of "illegal" Blacks (R50 or three months for the first offence, R200 for the second if committed within two years of the first).

In March, 224 employers were convicted of such offences. Compared with farm wages, pickings in the city are rich: freelance gardeners in posh suburbs like Claremont, Newlands, Bishopscourt, etc can pick up R80 to R100/month, depending on the disposition of the "madam".

Just how Baab plans to deal with the problem no one will say. And if events on June 2 at Modderdam camp are anything to go by, the Africans are not likely to submit peacefully to eviction moves. On that night Baab officials, backed by police, moved in on the camp near midnight to check on documents and "look for criminals".

They clashed with squatters armed with pick handles and knobkieries and shots were fired. Later the squatters stoned passing cars and police had to seal off roads passing the camp.

1) 305
2) 325 - Grand
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MP guilty, cautioned over permit

ARGUS 12/7/76

AFTER his conviction today on a charge of illegal entry into an African township, Dr Frederik van Zyl Slabbert, Progressive Reform Party MP for Rondebosch, told a Wynberg magistrate his prosecution by the Peninsula Bantu Affairs Administration Board (BAAB) had been a 'vindictive act.'

At the resumed hearing today Dr Slabbert was found guilty of entering the KTC squatter camp between Nyanga East and Guguletu on April 8 without a permit. He was cautioned and discharged.

In a lengthy judgment the magistrate, Mr G. A. Dell, said the case was unique and there were no firm decided cases which could be used for guidance.

He reviewed the prosecution evidence that Dr Slabbert was found in a squatter camp accompanied by the Reverend David Russell and four newspaper reporters. None of the party had permits.

Evidence by BAAB officials was that Dr Slabbert had not applied for a permit at any stage but would probably have been given one if he had applied.

HIS DUTIES

Mr R. M. Marais SC, who appeared for Dr Slabbert, had told the court he believed Dr Slabbert did not need a permit since he was acting in the performance of his duties as a Member of Parliament elected under the South African Constitution Act.

The magistrate said neither the Act under which Dr Slabbert was charged nor the Constitution Act exempted Mem-

(Continued on Page 3, col 10)

Slabbert guilty

(Continued from Page 1)

bers of Parliament from the permit requirements. If this had been intended it would have been stated in one of these Acts, he said.

In evidence in mitigation of sentence, Dr Slabbert said he had at no stage intended to commit a crime.

'I did not in any way regard myself as being above law in so far as it applies to others. I honestly believed I was acting in the performance of my duties,' he said.

He could come to no other conclusion than that the prosecution was a 'vindictive act' by the BAAB.

He said it appeared that he was being used as an example to others, and he felt the BAAB officials could use their time more productively in other ways.

Mr Marais was instructed by Mallinich, Ress, Richman and Company.

CAPE TIMES 13/7/76.

Slabbert sees 'vindictiveness'

Staff Reporter

Dr Frederick van Zyl Slabbert, MP for Rondebosch, yesterday told the Wynberg Magistrate who convicted him of entering a Bantu area without a permit, that the Bantu Affairs Administration Board had acted vindictively in prosecuting him.

Slabbert, who pleaded not guilty to entering the Nyanga East area without a permit on April 8 this year, was giving evidence in mitigation. He was cautioned and discharged.

He said that the Bantu Affairs Administration Board was trying to "make an example" of him.

"The fact that I was prosecuted was an act of vindictiveness on the part of the Board.

"I feel they could use their time more fully making links between themselves and the squatters."

He did not regard himself as "above the law", but honestly believed when he visited the camp that he was performing his duties as shadow minister of Community Development for the Progressive-Reform Party.

He had been asked by squatters to visit the area, and was investigating matters related to the Prevention of Illegal Squatting Bill, then before Parliament, he said.

Summing up, the magistrate, Mr G A Dell, said that the fact that Slabbert had contravened the law by entering the area without a permit was not in dispute.

The law stated that a person performing his function under any law had free access to Bantu areas.

The court had to decide, therefore, whether Slabbert was acting in the performance of his functions under a law.

The case for the defence was that Slabbert was performing his function under the South African Constitution Act.

But neither the Act under which Slabbert was charged, nor the South African Constitution Act exempted MPs from having to apply for permits, he said.

If the Act was meant to exempt MPs, a clause would have been included in the bill when it was being debated in Parliament.

Permit issue not 'political'

Staff Reporter

THE POLITICS of a person applying for a permit to enter a Bantu area were never taken into consideration, Mr Alexander MacLachlan, chief director of the Bantu Administration Affairs Board in the Peninsula area, said yesterday.

He was reacting to a statement made by an official of the Board, Mr N J A Goosen, a witness in the trial of Dr F van Zyl Slabbert, MP for Rondebosch, who was charged with illegally entering the Nyanga East area without a permit.

Mr Goosen, assistant director of community services at Langa, told the Wynberg Magistrates' Court during the trial that he was responsible for issuing permits.

Mr Goosen said that whether he granted a permit "would depend on the political viewpoint" of the applicant.

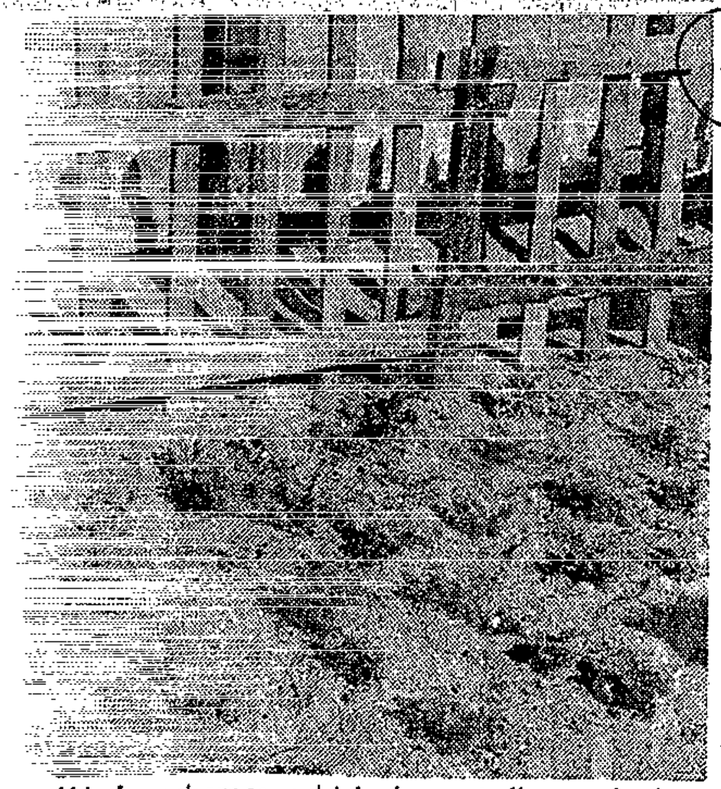
Mr MacLachlan, however, said that neither the colour nor the politics of the applicant was taken into consideration.

"The only thing we want to know is the person's reason for needing a permit.

"If he wants to hold a political meeting, or take photographs or make a film that can be used as anti-South African propaganda, we would refuse a permit.

"Dr Slabbert had only to apply and give his reasons, and a permit would have been issued, as he is an MP."

Mr MacLachlan confirmed that the "KTC" squatter camp, which Dr Slabbert was visiting when apprehended by Bantu Affairs Administration Board officials in April, had been "cleared".



self-help schemes which have influenced the house-proud.

Squatters learning to help themselves

By Rashid Seria

HELPING the squatters help themselves out of their predicament of squalor and degradation. That's the aim behind the small but ambitious self-help schemes started at Lourdes Farm shanty town in Philippi.



Lourdes Farm, situated off Lansdowne Road near the industrial area in Philippi, houses more than 4 000 people in about 800 shanties, all numbered by the Cape Divisional Council.

The self-help schemes, initiated by outsiders, have now been taken over by women from the squatter community.

The one group the Lourdes Farm committee has organised into classes where students are invited to give literacy lessons and teach the men elementary skills in carpentry to enable them to repair their shacks.

A second group called the Harvest Club has started out with soup kitchens for the children.

OWN VEGETABLES

Some of the women have already started planting their own vegetables for the soup and the club plans to distribute seeds to the squatters to start their own small backyard farms.

Said Mrs Anna Keez: 'The soup is mainly for the children. We sell it at one cent a helping. It's a chance for the kids to get for the burial, or a mother needs money to take her child to doctor, we're here to help.

'But the people must get involved. They must learn to help themselves.'

The Harvest Club is now preparing to hold a big rummage sale in the area.

CLOTHING

'People have donated material to us and the women are busy sewing dresses, underwear and other clothing items which we'll sell very cheaply to the people.

'We are learning important lessons about organising from these small fund raising efforts. It's a small start for bigger things to come.'

A big boost to the women's enthusiasm has been the Cape Divisional Council's green light to build at community centre for the area.

CONTROVERSY

In contrast to the controversy about the community centre at Vrygrond, the Divisional Council has quietly started work on a centre at

17/7/76 (243)

THE Lourdes Farm soup kitchen. The joy at receiving a mugful is written all over young Henry's face. At the pot is Mrs Margaret Rooiland.



MRS Anna Keez: 'The community centre will be like a dream come true.' She is standing on the rise cleared by the Divisional Council for the centre.

Most of them are not at school and their parents are not always at home during the day.'

After little more than a month the Harvest Club has raised more than R40 which has been safely tucked away to the club's credit in the bank.

Said Mrs Molly Coghlan: 'We are not out to make money from the people. But we are using these fund raising efforts to get our ideas across to the people and to get them involved in our schemes.

APATHY

'Our problem at the moment is to break the apathy among the people. Most of them are not interested in helping themselves. They feel the situation is hopeless. We are telling them something can be done.

'The money we've made is for the people. If there's death in a family and assistance is needed we can put most of our plans into operation,' said Mrs Coghlan.

'We've already put out requests for two doctors to come to the area to treat the sick. If the centre is there, they can operate a small surgery.'

Said Mrs Keez: 'We can also start a nursery school for the children whose mothers are at work.'

MOBILE CLINIC

Said Mrs Margaret Rooiland: 'The clinic can also be accommodated in the centre. On many occasions mothers have to queue in the rain outside the council's mobile clinic.'

Said Mrs Coghlan: 'We've had some photographs taken of our soup kitchen and cake sales. We intend publishing these along with our other plans in a newsletter which would solve our problem of getting our ideas across to the people.'



MRS Molly Coghlan in her garden, a result of the squatters to be

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Squatter home destroyed

Cape Times 16/7/76

Staff Reporter

OFFICIALS of the Bantu Affairs Administration Board yesterday removed a family from the Crossroads squatters' camp and Divisional Council officials destroyed their home.

Mr A MacLachlan, chief director of the Bantu Affairs Administration Board, confirmed that officials of his board yesterday arrested two Crossroads families and arranged for their deportation to the Transkei.

One family was that of Mrs Elizabeth Luthango, of Shack No. 94, Crossroads. The other family he could not name.

Mr A Miller, assistant secretary of the Divisional Council of the Cape, confirmed that officials of his council demolished Mrs Luthango's shack "after it had been assured by the Bantu Affairs Administration Board that the persons who occupied it had been removed by the board".

However, a Nyanga priest, the Rev David Russell, who visited Crossroads yesterday, described the move as "shocking, appalling and throughly un-Christian".

He said that Mr Luthango had no idea yesterday that his home was being demolished.

A friend had to rush to Mr Luthango's place of work to inform him that his wife had been arrested, his children removed and his home destroyed.

And while Mrs Luthango had been found guilty of being illegally in the Cape a year ago and given a suspended sentence, Mr Luthango had permanent rights of residence in the Cape under the Bantu Urban Areas Act, Mr Russell said.

Furthermore, Mr Russell said, yesterday's actions, followed closely on talks between representatives of the squatter community at Crossroads and officials of the Bantu Affairs Administration Board.

The squatter representatives, he said, understood that the talks would continue after they had referred back to the residents of Crossroads.

But yesterday's removal of the two families, he said, was done in the "same old aggressive way as before".

Board defends squatter removals

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Cape Times 17/7/76

Staff Reporter

ALLEGATIONS that the removal of certain squatter families from Crossroads on Thursday was "shocking" and "appalling" were yesterday countered by Brigadier J H van der Westhuizen, chairman of the Bantu Affairs Administration Board in the Cape Peninsula.

In a statement Brigadier van der Westhuizen confirmed that three African families were removed from Crossroads on Thursday and deported to their homeland.

But these people, Brigadier van der Westhuizen said, had been convicted in court in May and July this year, given suspended sentences and ordered by the Bantu Affairs Commissioner to return to their homeland.

"They did not abide by the conditions of the suspended sentences," the statement read. "They were also aware of the orders for their removal but they did not return to their homeland.

A danger

"It must be considered that these people came to the Cape Peninsula against the provisions of the law, settled in shanties that created a danger to their own health and the health of the environment and ignored the conditions of their suspended sentences and orders against them.

"Taking all these circumstances into account it is obvious that they cannot be allowed to remain in this area if law and order is to be preserved.

"If such persons are not returned to their homeland, others will be encouraged to ignore the law and influx control could not be applied with consequent health dangers, unemployment and all that accompanies such a situation.

Consultations

"On its own initiative, the Bantu Affairs Administration Board held consultations with representatives of the inhabitants of Crossroads to explain the seriousness of the situation and the legal position to them so that they, on their own initiative, could consider returning to their legal homelands.

"They undertook to consider this and to return to the Board. More than a week passed by and they did not return nor was anything heard of them.

"The consultations at no time suspended the application of the law.

"According to a press report, the Rev D Russell was not one of the representatives and took no part in the consultations with the Board," the statement said.

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Squatters now have a 'voice'

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SUN TIMES (EXTRA)
18/7/76

THE SQUATTERS of Lourdes Farm now have a voice — in te form of their own newspaper named "Lourdes Farm Gesels".

The little four-page newspaper, slightly bigger than fullscap size, is full of newsy little titbits of interest to the Lourdes Farm squatters.

It also sports a picture on the front-page of some of the members of the squatter committee responsible for writing and compiling the news.

On the committee responsible for the gathering of the news and the driving force of this squatter community, are Mrs G Pretorius, Mrs R Roussouw, Mrs M Dickensen, Mrs Z Holmes, Mrs S le Roux, Mrs H Wagner, Mrs J Schouw and three male members, Mr R Schippers, Mr J Ryck and Mr A Beukes.

The newspaper is distributed by committee members and sells for 5 cents — only to defray expenses, according to committee members — and its first issue is crammed with information of self-help plans the Lourdes Farm squatter community has.

It's primary aim seems to be the dissemination of information on the needs of the people, the services available and how the community can uplift itself.

The community aims to establish its own vigilante (peace makers) group. It plans a creche which they want to erect themselves and use also as recreation hall.

The committee has established a kupugani depot where nourishing food can be bought at low prices at house No. 43/1.

The newspaper also informs its readers of a mobile shop parked permanently at house No. 43/1 which is run for the benefit of the squatters without profit.

At two points, mugs of soup are sold for one cent.

It also reports that when the house of Joseph and Catherine Petersen burnt down, the committee came their rescue.

In future editions, it will also publish social news about marriages, deaths, engagements and birthdays and will also carry cheap advertisements about things for sale.

"Editorial offices" are the houses No. 43/1 where Mrs G Pretorius lives and house 539A where Mrs Z Holmes lives.

All items are written by the Lourdes Farm committee and the newspaper is printed by the Students' Representative Council Press of the University of Cape Town.

By NORMAN WEST

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Destructive 'solution' to problem of Crossroads

Cape Times 30/7/76 (293)

From Mrs BARBARA VERSFELD, Secretary, Athlone Advice Office (5 Princess Street, Mowbray):

WE HAVE read a good deal about the squatter camp known as Crossroads in the Cape Times in recent weeks. Events there have been described in your columns in various statements made by members of the two official bodies which take action within the camp, namely the Bantu Affairs Administration Board, Cape Peninsula Area, and the Cape Divisional Council.

We read that these two bodies are reconciled, matters have been ironed out, it seems, and the Divisional Council accepts responsibility for "structures" only, removing unoccupied shacks, while the BAAB sees to it that a supply of structures become unoccupied for demolition.

The whole operation is justified in the eyes of the first set of authorities by the "illegality" of many residents, while the second set aims to remove the health hazard. There could be other ways. "Illegality" means that most (but not all) of the womenfolk, and a few of the men, have not achieved rubber-stamp authorization of their presence in this "prescribed" and moreover hallowed as "Coloured preferential" area. A man may have been 20 years with one employer—some have just such records—but his place is in township "bachelor quarters" and his wife is supposed to belong in whatever rural background their origins can be traced to, however lonely and unsatisfactory and unlike their expectations both may find their lives.

How do the people of Crossroads themselves feel and express themselves about the current wave of arrests, removals and demolitions? Brigadier J H van der Westhuizen, chairman of the BAAB, assures readers of the Cape Times (July 17) that they have been "consulted" through their own representatives. But on his own admission, consultation has meant "explaining the legal position to them". This will give people about to be arrested time to quit of their own accord, if they are very quick. "The consultations at no time suspended the application of the law", the chairman added. So we observe.

It seems appropriate to point out that the feelings and aspirations of the residents of Crossroads are known to members of various church, welfare and public-spirited organizations in the Peninsula, and that these represent a cross-section of the whole community, not by any means just White "do-gooders". The problems of squatters are so much with us that it is positively fashionable to have some inside knowledge. Many church and other workers have succeeded in making personal contact with "squatters", one way or another (perfectly legally), and have discovered for themselves that these people are just like the rest of us, human and not marked off in any special way. Except for their insecurity.

The Reverend David Russel is not an isolated observer at all. Many people will agree that the families threatened with imminent separation do not feel they have been consulted, they have simply been warned.

This destructive "solution" to the problem of Crossroads is not what the people were hoping for. A check on further growth is to be expected, but attention in depth to the experienced needs of households already established there could be a genuine and fruitful effort in terms of "detente". Cape Town cannot in fact sleep more easily with a health-hazard cleared up at such human expense.

11/8/76

HOUSE-TRAINED

By NIC VAN OUDTSHOORN STIMES

3 000 people who have never had a real home learn how

A SCHEME to "house-train" more than 3 000 squatters from the bush before resettling them in municipal houses has been started in Port Elizabeth.

The scheme — the first of its kind in South Africa — was evolved by the city's municipal housing director, Mr Derek Cleary, and his staff.

It aims to teach the squatters, many of whom have spent their lives in leaking shanties in the veld, how a modern house works.

Even elementary matters such as operating and looking after a flush toilet and coping with glass windows have to be explained.



A typical scene in a squatter camp

Appetising

The community advisory service — an offshoot of the housing department — uses two houses set aside in the new Chatty Coloured township for the project.

Lectures are held at the houses twice a week to teach several hundred women at a time how to prepare nutritious meals at the lowest cost, how to pack appetising lunch-baskets for their husbands and children, and how to make linen, curtains, clothes and toys from materials which are usually thrown away.

Housing officials hope that the scheme will help to prevent the new suburb from degenerating into crime and violence as has happened to so many new townships in the past.

Problem

Mr Cleary told me this week that house-training slum dwellers for resettlement was the overriding concern of the community advisory service.

"The absolute inability of these families to adapt themselves to conventional housing and society is a major social problem", he said.

"I believe there is a vital need for this programme, which mentally equips squatter parents and their children to adapt and accept the norms and disciplines of modern society.

"We have found that the resettlement of a slum family into a conventional home engenders major problems unless guidance is provided.

"For instance, we have to say to them: 'If you do this and that drain blocks, it will cost you money.' Or, 'If you assault your wife and break a door or window, that is going to cost you money', and 'when you use a toilet you must do this'."

Mr Cleary said basic living habits had to be explained, illustrated and taught: They would not be assimilated or learnt by chance.

"We hope the community advisory service will ameliorate some of the basic problems which have manifested themselves in our country simply because local authorities have not thought about them properly and have generally accepted the easy policy of uprooting a slum community from one area and dumping it down in another," he said.

"What has happened in the past as a result of this policy is that incompatible people have become neighbours in the new townships — clerks, teachers, school-cleaners, prostitutes and shebeen-keepers have all been mixed up."

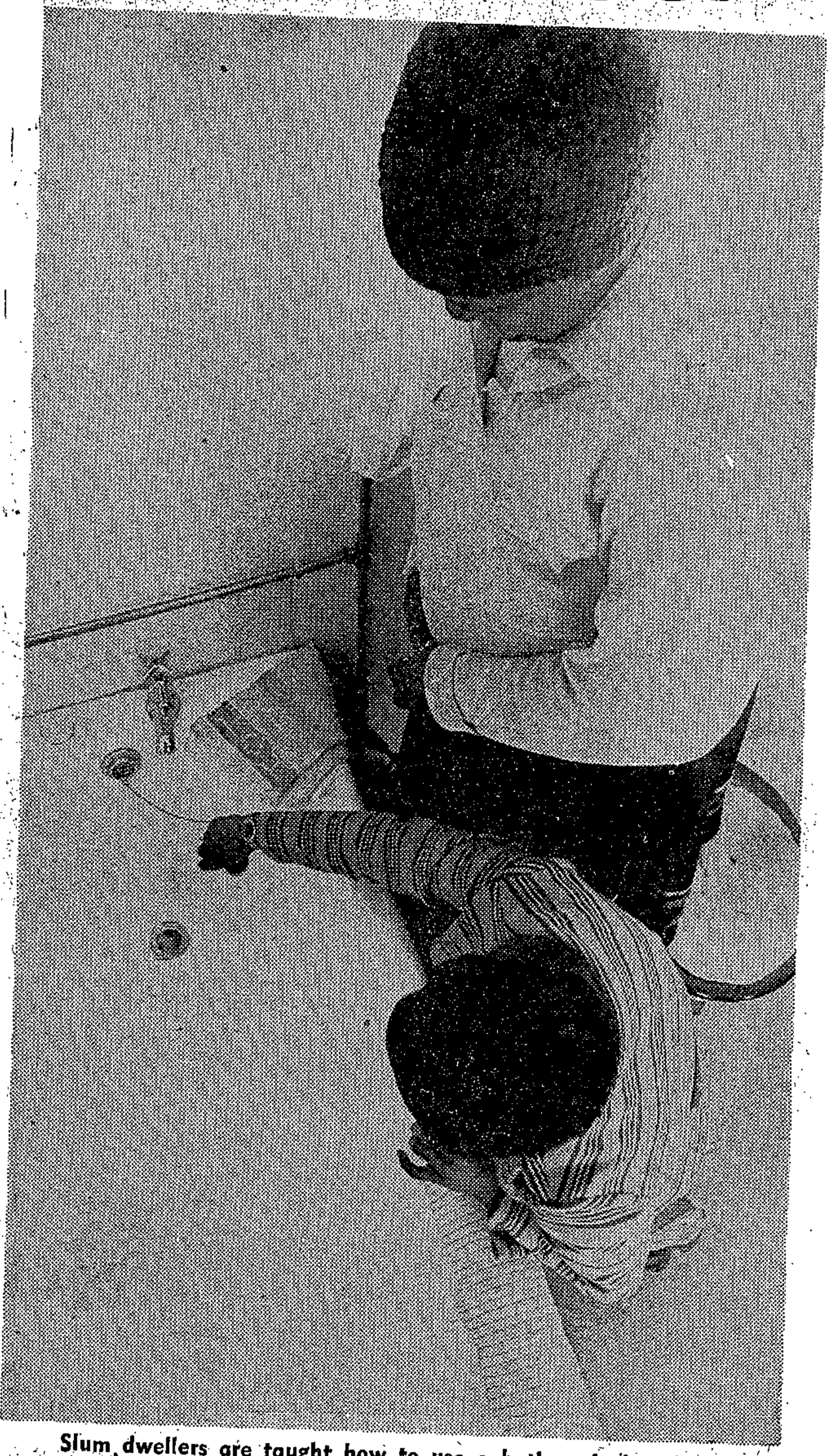
Former slum-dwellers who have already been through the house-training course and are now living in Chatty told me that they were very happy with their new way of life and their new homes.

"Before, we all lived at Fairview under tin sheets under the trees — now I have a house with five taps and glass windows," one woman told me.

The housing department is working on plans for a larger community advisory centre where a whole hall will be used for house-training.

It will include rows of mock-up toilets, bathrooms and other rooms and will cost about R50 000. Most of the money has been donated by a business concern.

GETTING



Slum dwellers are taught how to use a bath and clean it.

1/8/76

STIME

305

177
2 701
3 305

KEEPS BLACKS OUT SAYS HAAK

7/8/76 nm

Mercury Correspondent

CAPE TOWN — Mr. Jan Haak, former Minister of Economic affairs, said at Stellenbosch yesterday that the Black man must never be allowed to become a factor in the Western Cape.

Not only must the influx of Black labour in White - Coloured areas of the Cape be checked it must be drastically reduced, he added.

"We must ensure that Black labour is eliminated from the work pattern in our projected economic expansion in this area."

Opening a one-day congress on the development of the Western Cape, at the University of Stellenbosch, Mr. Haak said labour relations and the pattern of political and social development in the Western Cape differed radically from that of the rest of the Republic, where White - Black reltions were preponderant.

"White - Coloured relations are also in a state of political evolution. We must take cognisance of ths situation and must ensure that the Black man does not become a factor here."

Mr. Haak said there were already an estimated 70 000 Blacks who were in the Western Cape illegally, apart from the 20 000 squatters, and he added that every effort should be made to stop "the further blackening of this region."

Referring to the mineworkers' demand for a five-day week, he said that in present circumstances, with greater demands being made on South Africans politically, economically and military, everyone should be prepared to work longer, rather than shorter hours.

"We must realise that we simply cannot afford to consider a universal five-day working week.

"We should rather be thinking in terms of a return to the traditional six-day week.

"Through longer hours and harder work, every worker can contribute to the fight against rising costs."

(305)

15/8/76 SUN T. EXTRA.

Squatters give a banquet

DESPITE bureaucratic cold water thrown on their attempts to improve their own conditions, the spirits of the squatters committee of Lourdes' farm cannot be dampened.

~~15/8/76~~

By NORMAN WEST

And in an effort to show their appreciation to those who have identified with their will to survive their predicament, and who include University of Cape Town students, community workers and other persons, the Lourdes' Farm Committee on Sunday threw a surprise party.

It turned out to be a banquet fit for a king — all in the humble wood and iron home of committee chairman, Mrs Gertie Pretorius.

Committee members acted as hostesses, tastefully dressed in the latest fashion evening gowns, under the "command" of the vice-president Ray Rossouw, herself a picture of elegance in her long flowing evening gown.

Ray's ebulience and bubbling enthusiasm and continuous good-natured babbling, added much to the happy spirit of the evening during which tasty dishes were served.

But perhaps the most touching moment of the evening came (did I hear a few sniffs?) when dear Aunt Minnie Dickenson, the Lourdes' Farm Committee secretary, with her irrepressible fighting spirit, announced that "Lourdes Farm also has its own song. . . " and promptly switched on a portable tape recorder.

Almost, but not quite, to the tune of "On Top of Old Smokey" came the voices of a Lourdes' farm impromptu choir singing a Lourdes' Farm committee collective composition of a song paying tribute to community workers Allan Aderem, Rommel Roberts, Chris Bloch, Celeste Santos (there was even a reference to Celeste's trusty old buggy nicknamed "Herbie") and others, who had contributed to the effort and encouraged the squatter community to fight through self-help for an improvement in their social conditions.

The message the song conveyed, according to the chorus, was a simple one:

"Who can beat us if we all stand together and work together."

Indeed.



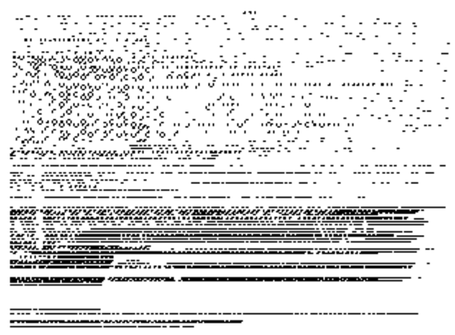
AT Sunday evening's banquet organized by the Lourdes Farm Squatter Committee are (standing) Mrs G Pretorius, chairman, and Mrs Ray Rossouw, vice-president. In the middle is Allan Aderem, a volunteer community worker and students of the University of Cape Town.

22/08/76 (305)

Kensington community dread ap

THE DAY OF

They scare cats and bite babies in their cradles





By RAYMOND HILL

AN ARMY of rats is making life unbearable for a group of people living in Kensington, Cape Town, and although efforts were made to solve the problem two years ago, the rats seem to be winning the battle.

The disease-carrying rodents have no mercy on the people and a baby was attacked and bitten by them.

The people who are affected by the rat menace live in shanties erected by themselves in Sixth Avenue.

Their problem was investigated two years ago.

Soon afterwards, officials of the Cape Town City Council's Health Department unsuccessfully tried to get rid of the rats.

"The problem is worse now. The rats have taken over completely and we are at their mercy," Mrs Susan Hendricks told me this week.

Her child one-year-old Susan, had to receive medical treatment after being attacked and bitten by rats.

"Life has simply become unbearable for us, but we are too poor to afford another house", she said.

Other residents said the rats are particularly menacing at night.

The people complained about hordes of rats who climb on to their beds and go into the cupboards in search of food.

They said they have tried to get rid of the rats by setting traps and keeping cats.

But according to the people, the rats are not afraid of the cats.

Breed

"In fact, the cats run away when they see huge rats. They breed so fast and invade our ho[illegible]

the council 37 cents a week to live there.

Miss Stella Barker, who has a three-month-old baby, Adam, said there was only one toilet for the use of all the shanty dwellers.

She said the rats even follow the residents to the toilet.

Poison

"It is too dangerous to leave poison and traps to catch the rats. There are so many children around here and we are afraid that they may be harmed", she said.

The people are in a serious predicament. They have to tolerate the rat menace and live in overcrowded conditions.

Some of the families have applied for homes from the City Council.

Others do not know what to do because they are unable to afford the high rents charged for a decent house.

But they said half their problems would dissappear if somebody would exterminate the rats.

22/8/76

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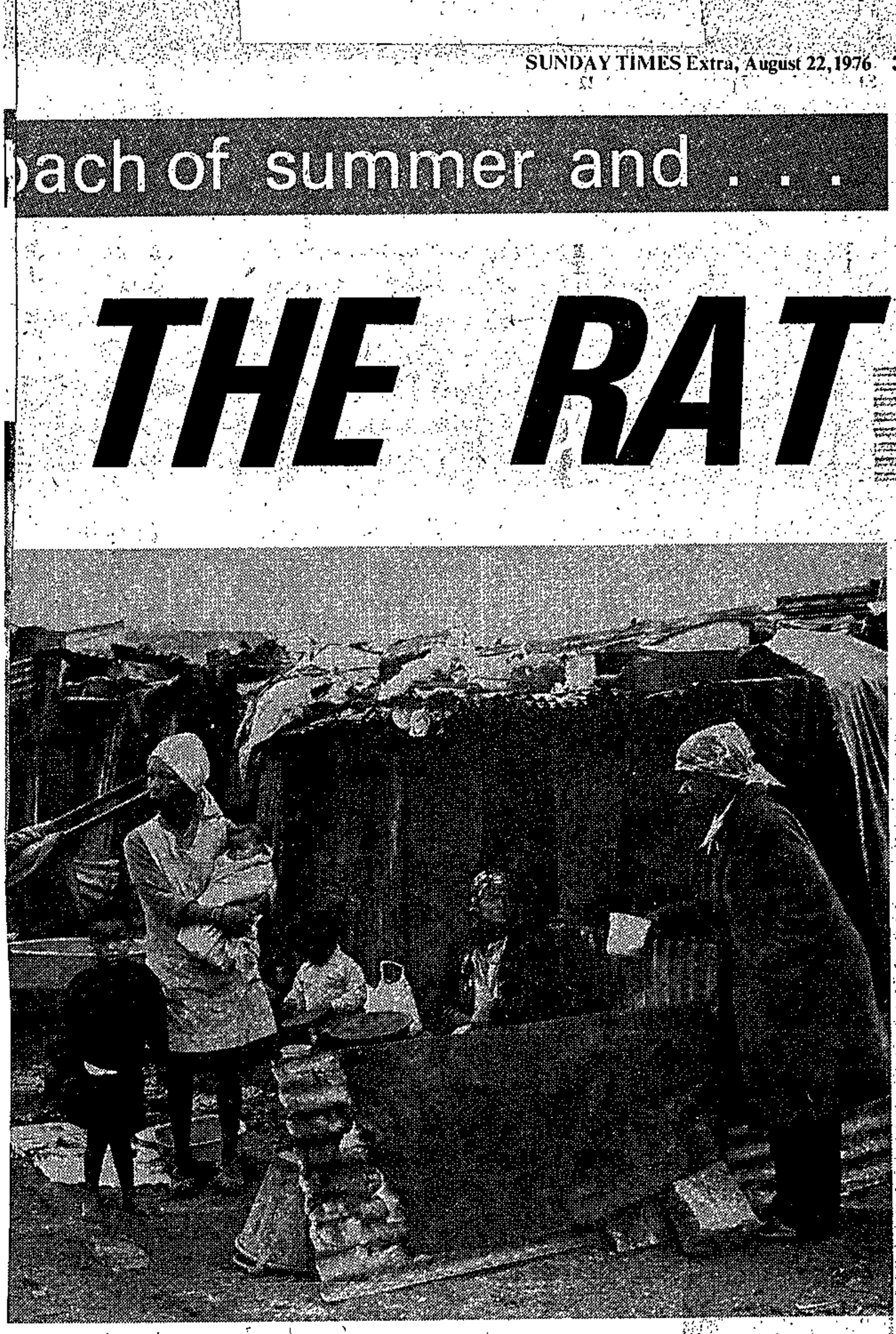
...oach of summer and . . .

THE RAT



This is the scene of the rat menace

22/8/76

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Susan Hendricks, the baby who was bitten by rats, rests quietly in her mothe arms.

what we do, elderly Mrs Josephine Hendricks said.

Mrs Hendricks has been living there for five years and she is desperate for another place.

She said the rats were worse during Summer.

"I am not even looking forward to Summer because that is when the rats take over completely. They often come into the shacks during the day and force everybody to stay outside. Please find me another place", she said.

The people there told me that the ground is the property of the council and families were allowed to build shanties on it.

They said they have to pay

305

Squatter creche veto by Council

22/8/76 SUN T. EXTRA.

By NORMAN WEST

THOUGH there is little hope of the Lourdes Farm Squatter Community being resettled within the next few years, they will not be able to erect a creche which they feel they need immediately and desperately.

That is, of course, unless the authorities are prepared to waive the stringent standards and specifications laid down for a standard creche in terms of the Children's Act of 1960.

The cold fact that faces the squatter community of Lourdes Farm is that nursery schools and creches have to be registered by the Administration of Coloured Affairs.

The registration of nursery schools is effected in terms of the Coloured Persons Education Act and, as the Divisional Council told the Lourdes Farm Squatter Committee in a recent letter:

"While appreciating that the project may well only be an undertaking of a temporary nature, the Administration of Coloured Affairs has, in the past, in the experience of the Council, been unrelenting in accepting standards less than those detailed in its handbook on nursery schools and creches."

Lourdes Farm Committee members, however, have not lost heart and plan to press ahead by applying for relaxation of the exacting standards normally required for a creche.

"After all, our need is now — and we don't want a palace of a place. We will do everything in our power to see that the best possible standards are maintained in the erection — which we can arrange for ourselves — and the maintenance of the building and supervision of the children," Mrs Rossouw, the vice-president said.

Among the normal requirements would be one toilet and wash basin per 10 up to 40 children and one per 15 children thereafter; kitchen space for 120 children, pantry space of 10 sq m, a double unit stainless steel sink with hot and cold water in the kitchen, laundry and ironing space and external secure play space.

Temporary

This week the Committee, accompanied by Miss Celeste Santos, secretary of the Cape Flats Committee for Interim Accommodation and a community worker among the Lourdes Farm squatters, approached the Administration of Coloured Affairs and explained to them that the squatters appreciate the normal standards required for the erection of a creche but that they seemed perhaps over generous for accommodation that is likely to be temporary.

According to Mrs Ray shall not despair," Mrs Rossouw said.

Another blow to the aspirations of the squatters to improve their living conditions, came in the form of an emphatic "no" to their application to enlarge their shacks or to add to them or alter them.

Under no circumstances, replied acting Divisional Council secretary, Mr C H Mocke, this week.

"It would set a dangerous precedent if the council were to permit certain individuals to extend their unauthorized structures.

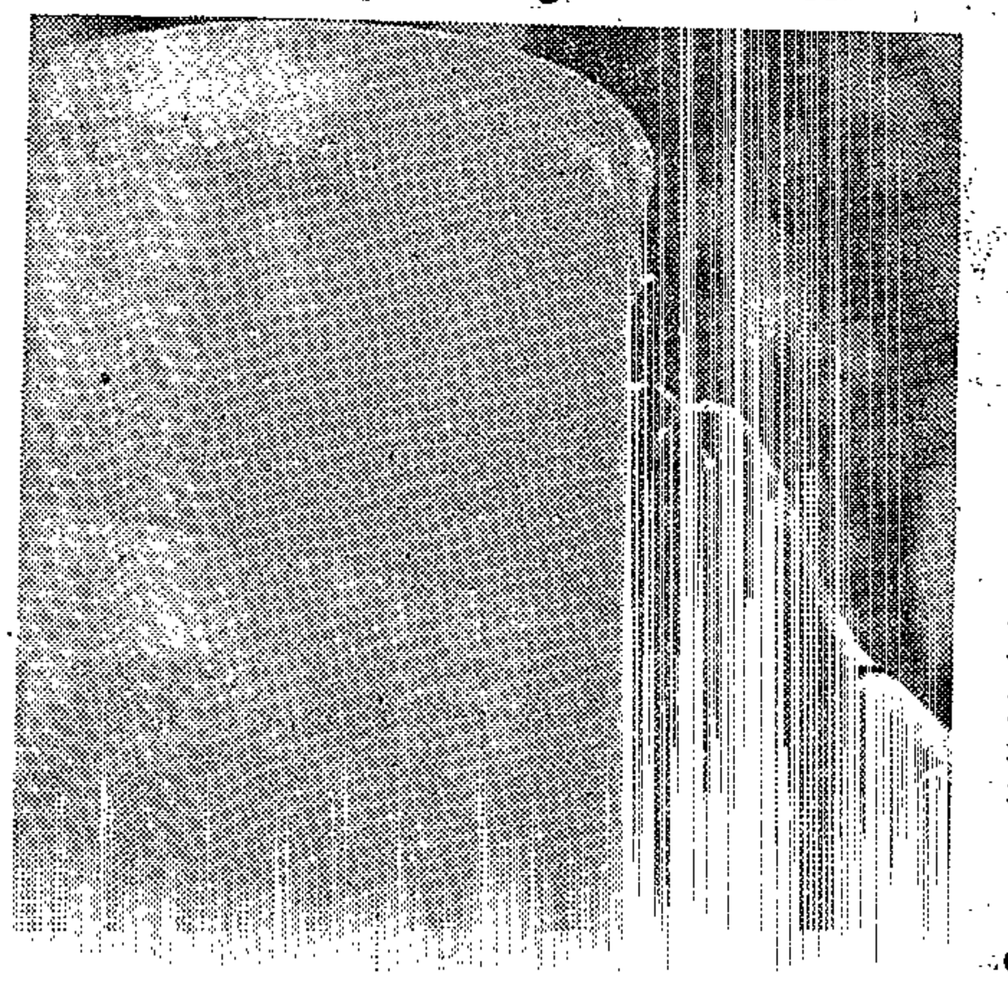
"The council cannot be a party to flouting its own building regulations or the Prevention of Illegal Squatting Act," Mr Mocke said.



LEVY WORRIES SQUATTERS

By Lester Venter

PEOPLE at Crossroads squatters' camp on the Cape Flats are anxious about a R10 levy they will have to pay for emergency services — though they are grateful to the Cape Divisional Council for providing the services.



Several Crossroads dwellers who do not have jobs said they would not have the R10 to pay the Divisional Council every month.

Others see the levy as a rent — and feel it is too high for their shack dwellings, and too high compared to rents paid in other Cape Flats townships.

The Secretary of the Divisional Council, Mr W. R. Vivier, said this week the levy would be imposed from the end of this month.

Too much

'We built these houses ourselv[illegible]

'It's too high'

for these things. But I haven't got the money and so I can't say whether it is worth it.'

Worried

Mr John Mngxongo, a 38-year-old father of four who lost his job as a driver four months ago, said he had heard of the R10 levy and was worried about it.

'I haven't got R10 a month,' he said.

All Crossroads dwellers interviewed this week said they lad not been officially notified of the R10 payment, and had heard only casual talk of it.

The Rev David Russell, who does Anglican Ch[illegible]

perimeter of the camp, which means that an average of more than 800 people draw their water from each tap.

Twelve more taps are to be installed.

Mobile clinic

A mobile medical clinic of the Divisional Council visits Crossroads twice a week.

Mr Vivier said further facilities, such as showers and laundry sites, would be 'played by ear.'

The shanties have been numbered to keep a record of the people living there and to prevent any more shacks being erected.

Mr Vivier warned that any new structures would

A standard, four-roomed brick house in Guguletu costs R11,61 a month, according to the Athlone Advice Office.

These houses have running water, water-borne sewerage and facilities for electricity, provided at the resident's expense.

Mr Heyns said soon after the declaration of the emergency Crossroads camp that the charges would merely cover the services.

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MISS JANE NILA carrying water from a new Crossroads tap. 'I don't know where I will get R10.'

materials ourselves. Ten rands is too much,' said Mrs Jane Nila, a 42-year-old Crossroads woman, who claims illness has prevented her from being employed.

She said she got about R2 a month from her brother and she did not know where she would find R10 a month.

Mrs Julia Nxokwana, who has been out of work for a month, said: 'We struggled so much for water before. We are very happy with the new taps.'

Mrs Victoria Mathisa, who is looking for domestic work, said: 'If I had money I would gladly pay

roads, said leaders of the community there were expecting to be consulted on the levy.

10 000 people

Crossroads was declared an emergency camp at the end of June and at the end of July the Divisional Council announced services it was to provide for the estimated 10 000 people living there.

These services now include 1 640 buckets for the removal of nightsoil twice a week and 1 000 rubbish bins that are cleared once a week.

Twelve taps have been installed along the

Little hostility

Mr Russell said the Crossroads community was eager to co-operate with the Divisional Council.

'They are not people who are anti-authority. They are just people who want to live normally with their families.'

He said the people there were so pleased to see the Divisional Council act that when the unrest swept the Cape, there was little hostility at Crossroads towards the authorities.

Standard house

'The people are willing and wanting to pay a rent,' Mr Russell said. 'They realise they must contribute to their living.'

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9/10/76

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Russell is found not guilty

ARGUS 14/10/76

IT was held in the Wynberg Magistrate's Court today that a minister of religion was entitled to be in an urban Bantu area without a permit, and the Rev David Russell, an Anglican priest, was found not guilty on all charges against him.

The magistrate, Mr G. Hoffmann, was giving judgment at the end of the trial of Mr Russell, 37, of St James Street, Woodstock, who had pleaded not guilty to four charges of being in Nyanga African township without a permit and on one charge of convening or addressing a public meeting in Nyanga on April 3 without written permission.

THE ACT

Counsel for the State, Mr S. Shrock, had asked the court to convict Mr Russell under Section 9 (9) of the Bantu Urban Areas Act No 25 of 1945 which granted no exemption to people other than Africans to be in an urban area without a permit.

He submitted that this was the charge laid against Mr Russell. The regulations promulgated in 1968 by the Minister of Bantu Administration in terms of the Act, did provide an exemption for ministers of religion, but Mr Russell had not been charged under the regulations.

BASED ON LAW

The magistrate said in his judgment that on these four charges he had to make a decision based on law — whether or not there were exemptions for priests, doctors, midwives and nurses.

Mr E. L. King, for the defence, had said the exemptions granted in the regulations were valid in law.

Mr Hoffmann said Mr Russell's presence at the KTC camp in Nyanga was



The Rev D. Russell

covered by the relevant exemption and he therefore did not require a permit to be in the area. He therefore found Mr Russell not guilty on these counts.

(Continued on Page 3, col 8)

Russell is not guilty

ARGUS 14/10/76

(Continued from Page 1)

The remaining charge related to an allegation that Mr Russell had addressed a public meeting in Nyanga on April 3, and he was called on to base his judgment, not on points of law, but on the facts of the matter, Mr Hoffmann said.

Mr Albert Tshume was the only State witness on this subject and the court had to be satisfied before accepting the evidence of a single witness that his evidence was acceptable in every material respect.

UNSATISFACTORY

He could not but agree with Mr King's submission that Mr Tshume was an unsatisfactory witness and contradicted himself.

'The information that Mr Tshume wanted to convey to the court can only be described as obscure, with all his prevarications in the course of his evidence and cross-examination,' Mr Hoffmann said.

He described Mr Russell as 'an ardent campaigner for the underprivileged, with his heart set on the maintenance of family unity.'

'This court, legally speaking, could not find that his evidence was otherwise than reasonably possibly true.'

He therefore found him not guilty on this charge.

OPINION

Mr Hoffman said it had been unnecessary for the defence 'to overwhelm the court with the considered opinion' of four theologians as to the fact Mr Russell was carrying out his lawful pursuits as an ordained minister when in Nyanga.

The evidence of the Anglican Archbishop of Cape Town, the Most Rev Bill Burnett, who licensed Mr Russell as a minister to migratory labour, would have been sufficient.

The court had also heard Professor J. J. F. du Rand (Ned Geref Kerk, Professor of Theology at the University of the Western Cape); Bishop Stephen Naidoo (Roman Catholic Auxiliary Bishop of Cape Town); and Dr John de Gruchy (Congregational Church, lecturer in Theology at the University of Cape Town).

Mr E. L. King appeared for the defence instructed by Mallinick, Ress, Richman and Co.

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Cape Times 15/10/76

Anglican priest compared to Pontius Pilate

THE Rev David Russell was compared to the Biblical figure Pontius Pilate yesterday when a Wynberg magistrate acquitted the Anglican priest on four counts of being in Nyanga without a permit and one charge of addressing a meeting there without permission.

The magistrate, Mr G Hoffmann, said he could not rid himself of a regrettable comparison between Mr Russell and another Biblical figure "who washed his hands of the same Christ whose injunctions the accused proposes so closely to embrace".

He was referring to Mr Russell's evidence and to a letter written by Mr Russell to a senior police officer last year, in which he said he did not see it as his responsibility to encourage people either to stay or to leave a squatters' camp.

Regrettable

Mr Hoffmann said it was regrettable that a man of religion who, requested by the authorities to co-operate in advising illegal residents to leave, chose to wash his hands of both the residents and the authorities.

The magistrate also criticized the number of prominent clerics and theologians who had testified for the defence. The court had been inundated and overwhelmed with the opinions of "such illustrious personages" as the Anglican Archbishop of Cape Town, the Most Reverend Bill Burnett, and others.

Attitude

Strength and truth did not always lie in numbers, said Mr Hoffmann, adding: "It could tarnish the image of a higher church authority when he testifies that it would be proper for a priest in the pursuit of his Holy office to advise illegal immigrants to disobey the law by refusing to move when legally ordered to do so."

The court was convinced that this attitude could not be justified scripturally, he said, let alone legally..

Mr Hoffmann ruled that Mr Russell was acting within the law on three counts when he visited Nyanga — without a permit — in the course of his work as an ordained priest.

He found that the priest should be given the benefit of the doubt on a fourth permit charge and on a charge of addressing a meeting on April 3.

He agreed with the defence submission that one of the main State witnesses, Mr Albert Tshume, was an unsatisfactory witness.

Mr Russell was mobbed by friends — both Black and White — after his acquittal.

Mr Russell was represented by Mr E L King, instructed by Mallinick, Ress, Richman and Company. Mr S Schrock appeared for the State.

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Russell relieved at finding

ARGUS 15/10/76

at finding

The Argus Religious Affairs Correspondent

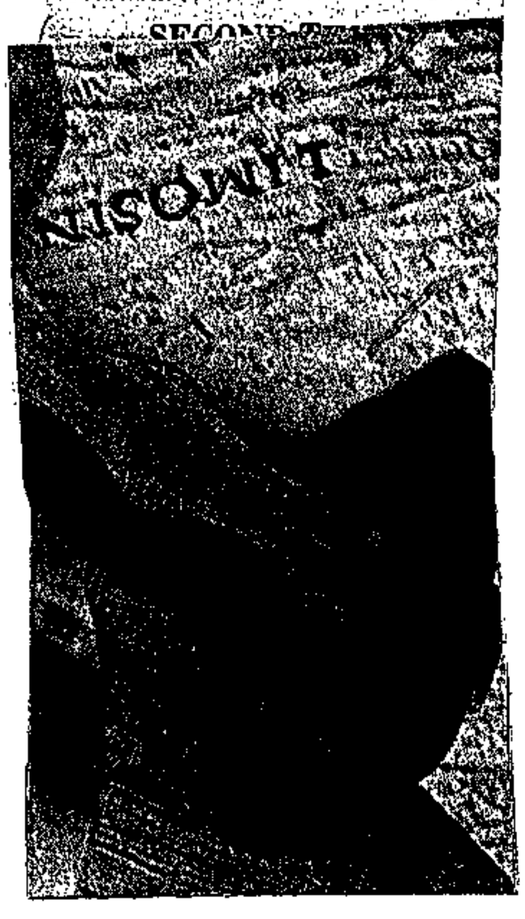
THE Rev David Russell, the Anglican priest whose ministry is to migrant labourers in the Cape Town diocese, today expressed his 'relief' that a Wynberg Magistrate's Court had held that as a minister of religion he was entitled to enter African urban areas without a permit.

Mr Russell was found not guilty yesterday on four counts of entering Nyanga township without a permit, and one of addressing a public meeting.

The magistrate Mr G. Hoffman, held that as a minister of religion performing his duties, Mr Russell was exempted from the permit requirements.

Although the charges related to occasions in April and May, Mr Russell said today he had regularly visited the township since his appointment by the Archbishop, the Most Rev Bill Burnett, last October. 'I have been carrying on my work as usual,' he said.

SECOND



Council wants police cover for officials

1/12/76
Times

Staff Reporter

THE DIVISIONAL COUNCIL of the Cape decided at its monthly meeting yesterday to ask the Government for police protection for its officials whenever they have to demolish unauthorized squatters' shacks.

A report from the secretary of the council, Mr W R Vivier, stated that entry by officials into African areas was at present "beset with a degree of risk".

While officials from the Squatter Control Section had maintained a good relationship with the inhabitants of the emergency camp, Crossroads, and had been provided with an unofficial "protective shield" by them when undertaking their duties in the camp, this protection could not always be guaranteed, the report said, "especially when occupied shacks have to be demolished".

If the council's policy with regard to the demolition of shacks was to be efficiently carried out at the emergency camp, he said, it was "clear that police protection will have to be sought at the highest level".

Solution

Mr Vivier also said that squatting had become a major problem in the council's area of jurisdiction and that the solution to the problem was at present "in limbo" owing to a "difference of opinion between council and the Chief Bantu Affairs Commissioner (Western Cape) and the Bantu Affairs Administration Board (Peninsula Area) in regard to the party responsible for the removal of illegal Bantu".

The council also resolved at yesterday's meeting to:

- Impose a charge of R25 per shack on the owner or lessee of land where the council had demolished a structure and/or removed material in terms of the Prevention of Illegal Squatting Act of 1951;
- Arrange for a personal accident insurance cover for the inspectorate of the Squatter Control Section;
- Obtain independent legal opinion as to which authority is responsible for the removal of people illegally in the council's area, with particular reference to Crossroads.

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Sunday Times Editorial 5/12/76

Official protection?

By RAYMOND HILL

OFFICIALS, who go into squatter camps to demolish shacks, may get special police protection — and extra insurance on their lives.

A Cape Divisional Council report also indicates that the squatter problem in the Peninsula appears to be growing at "an alarming" rate daily.

The report states that the squatter problem has had "an impact" on the council's finances and new facts regarding them have emerged as a result of the council's meeting last month.

It was noted at the meeting that the council had a "very delicate" relationship with the community at the Cross Roads squatter camp. This could easily be destroyed through "certain actions" of officials from other authorities.

A report to the council states that "Bantu squatting" had become a major problem and that the solution is at present "in limbo" because of a difference of opinion between the Divisional Council and the chief Bantu Affairs Commissioner, Western Cape.

"The resistance is likely to be strong when demolitions have, perforce, to be taken on a large scale," the report states.

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DD 8/12/76

Council dismisses squatter accusation

EAST LONDON — Complaints against the municipal compound in Beacon Bay were exaggerated, the Beacon Bay Town Council was told at its last meeting of the year.

Replying to a letter from Mr R. G. Tarr of Bird Street, which is being circulated among the residents of the area, which accuses the council of establishing a population of labourers, squatters and bush dwellers, the Town Clerk of Beacon Bay, Mr P. Gerber, said Mr Tarr was just anti the compound.

"The compound is there to house people for our essential services such as sewerage and urgent road works. It is under strict control and has a maximum of 42 people."

Mr Gerber said the Bantu Affairs Administration Board had agreed to assist with the control of the compound and a compound committee had been established which included four black residents which met every Friday.

"We can be proud of the compound today if we compare it with when we took over. It has flush toilets and hot and cold running water."

Mr Gerber said the State Health Department had inspected the compound and had reported favourably on the conditions there.

To encourage the residents of the compound to be houseproud, the council agreed to give prizes as an incentive.

It was also agreed to write to Mr Tarr after Cllr A. Reuter said he took exception to Mr Tarr's remarks in his letter.

In his letter Mr Tarr said the compound was not supervised and it was the council's intention to allow the compound to grow for what they felt was a much needed black location for Beacon Bay. — DDR.