

INDUSTRIAL RELATION — STRIKES —

JUNE .



NO BAASKAP: A Saccawu member pickets outside an OK Bazaar outlet in Johannesburg

Support call by OK strikers

By CHIARA CARTER
and MONO BADELA

THE South African Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers' Union (Saccawu) has called for community support for a nationwide strike at OK Bazaars

The company has responded by saying it would be forced to close some of its stores. *Soweto 7/6-13/6/90*

About 5 000 workers at 122 OK Bazaars stores throughout the country downed tools this week in support of wage demands

Hardest hit by the strike is the Witwatersrand, but the strike has spread to stores in Natal, where workers did not vote in favour of the strike, and to Bophuthatswana

The workers are demanding an across-the-board wage increase of R160 and a minimum wage of R800

On the high wire

More than 4 000 SA Commercial, Catering & Allied Workers' Union members started a wages strike at about 100 OK Bazaars outlets on Monday (34) (152)

Union spokesman Jeremy Daphne says the strike began after negotiations and conciliation board meetings failed to resolve differences over wages. He claims the strike spread to 122 stores countrywide by Tuesday.

OK industrial relations spokesman Gavin Brown says the strike on Monday was concentrated in the PWV though some stores in Cape Town and Natal had also been affected. At that stage no branch had a 100% walkout and operations were normal.

The action follows a ballot last week among the union's 10 000 OK members in which 58% voted for a strike. OK's work force is about 25 000.

Small majority (255)

The union claims the small ballot majority is due to the concentration of a large number of stores in Natal "where intimidation was rife." It had decided to strike — not because of "mindless militancy" — but because it believed that worker antagonism towards the OK was greater than the ballot result suggested.

The union has demanded an across-the-board increase of R160 a month, a minimum R800 (now R620) a month, 5% commission for sales personnel and a 13th cheque. Other demands include payment of laundry costs and recognition of March 21 as a paid holiday.

The company has offered service-based increases ranging from R115 to R145 and a minimum wage of R710 after one year's service. With regard to March 21, the company has put it to the union that employees should be granted a choice of 12 days a year from the public holiday calendar.

In the wake of the strike, the company has now threatened to accelerate its programme of closing marginally profitable stores, with two already closed and the intended closure of Faraday in Johannesburg and Goodwood West in Cape Town.

OK says it is unable to meet the union wage demand because of its poor financial performance this year. After-tax profit in 1989 was 14,6% down on the previous year.

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(24) (152)

"The strike is seen as an act of economic suicide," says Brown, and if it continues "the company will have no choice but to pass on costs by reducing the work force."

The union says that, although it recognises the company's profit margin had dropped, a broader perspective than the latest figures had to be examined (255)

"OK's had good years, but it has had a consistent record of low wage increases," Daphne points out. "We're looking at retained profits and the history of OK's financial wealth."

It is too early to see the effect of the strike but a union spokesman warns "Even if most OK stores are surviving with the employment of casual workers, pickets will ensure that they do not get any customers." ■

Strike action continues

DANIEL FELDMAN

STRIKES at OK stores, Shell oil and chemical plants, and Posts and Telecommunications continued yesterday, but remained consistent in the number of people involved and the number of work places affected.

OK Bazaars industrial relations PRO Gavin Brown said "The situation has stabilised now at just under 6 000 SA Commercial Catering and Allied Workers (Saccawu) employees striking at an average of 120 stores."

The workers are demanding wage increases and more benefits.

Violence also continued at OK stores nationwide, according to Saccawu national organiser Jeremy Daphne.

He said AWB members entered the Potgietersrus OK, threatening workers and distributing a threatening pamphlet, and that problems occurred in Natal when Inkatha OK employees tried to persuade workers not to support the strike.

Fourteen Saccawu members were reportedly arrested yesterday — eight in Pietersburg and six in Cape Town.

Daphne said Saccawu was planning to challenge OK management on the stores it had closed and their plans for further closures, and policy on not paying bonuses to workers involved in industrial action, even when the action was legal.

In Durban and the Eastern Cape, 240 Chemical Workers' Industrial Union (CWIU) members remained on strike at three Shell oil and chemical plants.

CWIU national organiser Pat Horn said there was little chance of the strike spreading as the 240 strikers comprised all CWIU's Shell members.

She added that Shell Chemical made an

offer on Wednesday which had aligned their wage proposals with those of other companies, but had yet to resolve the conflict about the implementation date for increases.

The union has demanded that the company change the implementation date for increases from March 1 to July 1 from 1991.

Bound

Shell responded yesterday in a statement "The company has no problem in principle with changing the date and has offered various alternatives, but will not consider linking the anniversary date to the increases of non-unionised employees."

"The CWIU represents no more than 20% of Shell's employees, and it would be untenable if the company were to be bound by the date of union wage negotiations in granting increases to the remainder."

Approximately 80 strikers demonstrated peacefully outside Shell's Durban offices yesterday.

On the East Rand, 30 Posts and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa) members continued their strike at the Boksburg Post Office to demonstrate against alleged racist incidents.

They were joined for a demonstration during the lunch hour by more than 100 other Potwa members from other East Rand post offices and engineering yards.

A Posts and Telecommunications spokesman said the situation had not changed.

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Violence mars OK stores strike

B Day 7/6/90 (152)

AN UPSURGE in violence was reported at strike-hit OK stores nationwide yesterday, while postal workers downed tools on the East Rand and 240 employees stopped work at Shell plants in Durban and the Eastern Cape.

Furthermore, the National Union of Wine, Spirits and Allied Workers (Nuwsaw) will conduct a strike ballot within the next week among 5 400 employees of 83 wineries and depots nationwide.

At OK stores nationwide more than 6 000 workers continued to strike for increased wages at approximately 125 stores, according to spokesmen for both the SA Commercial Catering and Allied Workers' Union (Saccawu) and OK Bazaars.

Saccawu national organiser Jeremy Daphne said police intervened with striking picketers in Cape Town, Pietersburg, Pretoria and East London, reportedly arresting 25

Assault

He also said newly recruited OK employees at the Cresta, Yeoville and Randburg stores were seen carrying weapons at work, including knives.

"We emphasise that the union is committed to peaceful and disciplined industrial action," he said.

An OK statement said "Reports are now streaming in regarding incidents of intimidation and assault almost exclusively from the PWV area."

The company called on the union to "take all necessary steps to control the hooligan element" but conceded most workers were striking peacefully.

About 225 postal workers on the East Rand downed tools yesterday to protest against alleged racist incidents, said a Post and Telecommunications Workers Association statement.

Potwa spokesman Sizwe Matshikiza said workers from five different loca-

DANIEL FELDMAN

tions were protesting against a Boksburg Post Office guard "who sprayed an executive member of Potwa's main branch", and were calling for the removal of the post office's senior superintendent for "ill treatment" of workers.

A Post and Telecommunications spokesman said "The case of the security guard is at present being sorted out with Potwa's local committee. It is a pity that Potwa is underestimating the value of negotiations to the extent that it prefers to strike."

In Durban and the Eastern Cape yesterday about 240 Chemical Workers Industrial Union (CWIU) members began strike action at Shell's oil and chemical plants.

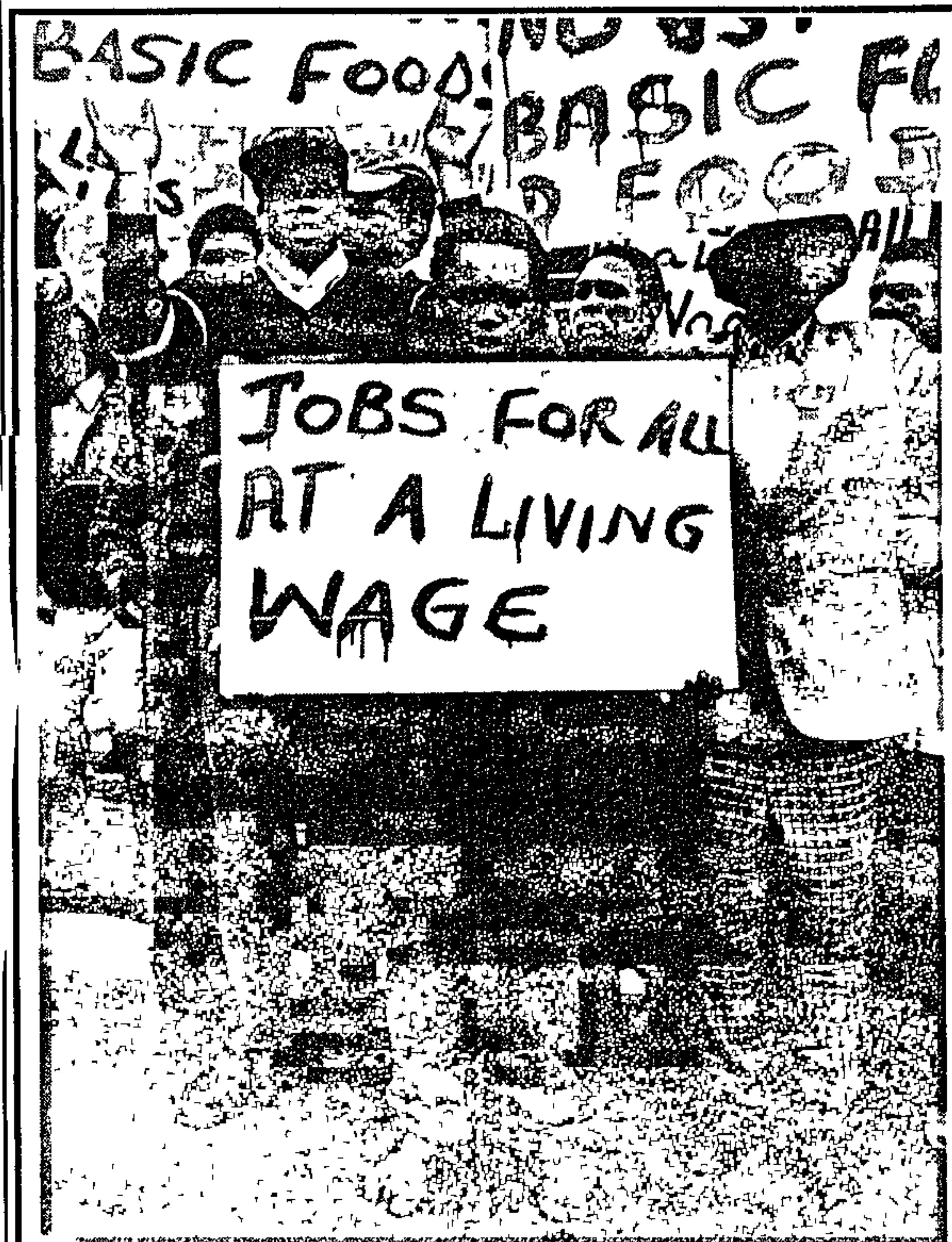
CWIU said the dispute stemmed from the company's "refusal to change the implementation date for increases to 1 July as from 1991, despite the fact that non-unionised members get their increases on 1 July each year."

A Shell spokesman attributed the strike to the deadlock of wage negotiations and said proposed increases ranged from 15% to 20%, with both parties agreeing to a process of restructuring the current pay scales.

The National Union of Wine, Spirits and Allied Workers (Nuwsaw) will conduct a strike ballot within the next week among 5 400 employees of 83 wineries and depots nationwide.

Nuwsaw president November Nkosi said yesterday the decision was made against the SA Wine and Spirits Industry Employers Association after wage negotiations had broken down, dispute was declared, and mediation and conciliation meetings had taken place.

SA Wine and Spirits Industry Employers Association spokesman and negotiator Riaan Kruger was unavailable for comment. Company spokesmen would not comment for him.



ON THE MARCH: Unemployed workers march through Cape Town last Saturday to demand cheaper food. The march, organised by the Western Cape Unemployed Workers' Union, was one of several throughout the Cape. 14/6 - 20/6/90 PIC BENNY GOOL

By CHIARA CARTER

THE week-old strike by about 6 500 workers at OK Bazaars stores around the country has developed into a clash between strikers and rightwing supporters.

A spokesperson for the South African Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers' Union (Saccawu), Mr Jeremy Daphne, said there had been several incidents in Johannesburg in which whites leapt out of cars and tore up strikers' placards.

Daphne said a white employee in Potgietersrus had led AWB members into the

store and the AWB had issued a pamphlet warning strikers that it represented the majority of whites.

Daphne claimed the Cresta OK Bazaars was using rightwing supporters as "scab labour".

There have been several cases of clashes between strikers and the police in the Northern Transvaal, Johannesburg and Pretoria.

About 74 workers have been arrested.

Rightwing 'scabs' in OK strike

Workers at 129 of the 166 stores are on the Saccawu-organised strike.

Both the ANC and the PAC have publicly pledged support for striking workers. Community support continues to grow.

Saccawu is planning marches in major centres later in the week. OK workers will march in uniform.

OK Bazaars is threatening to close two more stores, one in Cape Town.

Worker attacked at strike-hit OK

By Thabo Leshile

A temporary worker employed by strike-hit OK Bazaars was attacked, allegedly by a group of strikers, outside the chain's Linden, Johannesburg, branch yesterday.

Godfrey Maota (20), said he and other temporary workers had just left the store after work when they were chased by a group of about 20 strikers, who had apparently been waiting for them.

"They caught up with me. They then punched and sjambokked me all over," said Mr Maota, showing a swollen eye and weals on his body.

"One of them tried to stab me. I wrestled the knife from his hand and flashed it at them and managed to escape."

It's still not OK as strike conflict rises

W/Man 8/6-14/6/90

CONFLICT continues to mount in the OK Bazaars dispute, with more arrests, claims of intimidation of non-strikers and inter-union tensions in Natal.

Yesterday, the fourth day of industrial action, about 6 000 workers were on strike at some 125 stores countrywide.

The South African Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers Union (Saccawu) reported that another nine strikers had been arrested, three in Krugersdorp and six at the OK's Adlerley Street branch in Cape Town.

In Cape Town, police had warned strikers gathered in the store canteen

The OK Bazaars seems to be digging in for a long haul in its dispute with Saccawu. DREW FORREST reports

they would be arrested if they ventured on to the street, the union said.

Another nine workers in Pietersburg have been summonsed to appear in court on charges of breaching municipal by-laws.

In an earlier statement, Saccawu complained of large-scale police intimidation of union members. Policemen had torn up picketers' placards in Pietersburg and a total of 24 work-

ers had been arrested in King William's Town and Pretoria.

Police spokesman Major Reg Crewe denied the harassment charges. "We act against individuals, not organisations," he said.

OK industrial relations executive Gavin Brown reported a spate of attacks on non-strikers at bus-stops, taxi-ranks and railway stations, mainly in Pretoria and Johannesburg.

Two non-strikers from Pretoria and an employee of the Sandton Hyperama had been admitted to hospital, one in a critical condition, after being assaulted.

In an ominous development in Na-

tal, Saccawu's Jeremy Daphne alleged members of the Inkatha-linked United Workers Union (Uwusa) had been coercing Saccawu workers not to join the strike.

Uwusa had played a pivotal role in the patchy response of Natal workers, he said. Fourteen of a total of 30 Natal stores were strike-hit, as against 47 of the 59 in the Johannesburg and Highveld region.

Brown confirmed that the kwaMashu branch had been closed "as a precautionary measure to avert sectarian violence".

The dispute hinges on wages, with Saccawu demanding an across-the-board increase of R160 and a minimum wage of R800, and the company offering service-related rises of between R115 and R145 and a minimum rate of R710 after a year's service.

Also in dispute are demands for a 13th cheque as a right — it is currently offered on the strength of workers' "contribution to the success of the company", with strikers being denied a bonus — five percent commission for sales representatives and March 21, Sharpeville Day, as a paid holiday.

There are clear signs that the OK is digging in for a long haul and that it hopes to use the dispute as a prelude to restructuring its conflict-ridden relationship with Saccawu.

Arguing that trading conditions are deteriorating — its recent figures show a 14 percent drop in after-tax profits — it has insisted that it can restructure, but not increase the size of its wage offer.

Saccawu has called on the OK to dip into its retained profits. But significantly, it has shifted the focus of its demands, calling for management to withdraw its "completely unacceptable" split offer and warning against threatened store closures. These had been raised at a late stage in negotiations as a bargaining chip, it said.

At a press conference this week, Brown said the strike could accelerate rationalisation within the group and lead to retrenchments. At least a dozen stores had been earmarked for closure, he said.

6 500 workers at 127 OK stores on strike

JOHANNESBURG. — The personnel of 127 of OK Bazaars' 166 stores are on strike, the SA Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers' Union (Saccawu) said on Saturday, adding that none of the stores is trading normally.

The union said about 6 500 union members were involved in the strike, which had taken the form of canteen sit-ins and pickets, and there had been strong community support.

Saccawu also said there had been widescale arrests and intimidation of workers by police. It said 67 workers were arrested this week, 21 of whom were still in detention. Charges included intimidation and contravening the Gatherings and Demonstrations Act.

The union also charged that there were a number of incidents involving police going into store canteens to threaten and arrest workers. — Sapa



ANC economist Tito Mboweni, right, with striking workers outside the Eloff Street, Johannesburg, branch of the OK Bazaars on Friday. *Picture ROBERT BOTHA*

Shell and OK Bazaars strikes continue

WILSON ZWANE

STRIKING Shell SA workers were evicted from the company's Port Elizabeth premises, and OK Bazaars strikers alleged intimidation by armed non-strikers at the weekend.

Non-striking employees at OK were arriving at work, armed with knobkerries and knives, SA Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers Union (Saccawu) spokesman Jeremy Daphne said.

He claimed workers employed to replace striking Saccawu members at the Cresta, Johannesburg, store were intimidating strikers.

Saccawu has called on management to remove the replacement workers immediately or close the store, and to remove right-wing elements from its stores.

OK spokesman Gavin Brown said the company had laid a trespassing

complaint after unknown white men illegally entered the Potgietersrus store's staff canteen and addressed strikers.

Asked about the allegations against non-strikers, he said they were probably armed to defend themselves against the "hooligan" element among the strikers.

Brown said about 120 stores and 6 000 workers were involved in the eight-day-old wage strike.

The dispute between the Chemical Workers Industrial Union (CWIU) and Shell SA took a new turn at the weekend when union members were evicted from the company's Port Elizabeth installations.

CWIU national organiser Pat Horn

said Shell used an interim court order to evict strikers from the Deal Party, Don Pedro and harbour installations.

"Workers at the Deal Party installation were beaten with batons by the police," Horn alleged. "The workers had been occupying the premises since the start of the strike on Wednesday to avoid being locked out."

Shell spokesman Colleen Channon-Bracher said the interim court order was sought as a safety measure.

"Shell is not able to supervise effectively the storage tanks and heavy plant machinery against the actions of the unruly crowd who have openly threatened violence," she said.

She denied Shell had called in police, and said the police had not acted violently.

Wage talks were due to resume tomorrow.

BBB 15

LAST Monday, about 5 000 workers took to the streets to engage their employer, OK Bazaars, in a test of strength that underscores the precarious relationship existing between the two parties.

The strike is a culmination of months of behind-the-scenes bargaining between OK management and the South African Commercial Catering and Allied Workers Union (Saccawu), which represents about 10 000 employees of the retail chain.

The two parties reached a stalemate at a Conciliation Board hearing on May 21, unable to reach agreement on wage increases and other benefits.

At issue are demands by Saccawu for a R160 across-the-board increase and a R800 minimum pay.

Offered

In addition, the union demands a five percent commission for sales staff, recognition of March 21 as a paid holiday and a 13th cheque "as a right".

The chain has offered union members at 166 outlets service-based increases ranging from R115 to R145 a month and R710-a-month salary after a year's service. The company employs about 25 000 employees at 200 stores.

Saccawu official Mr Jeremy Daphne said the union's members were not prepared "to compromise on their demands".

The union has rejected service-linked increases in favour of across-the-board rises - because it believes "unequal hikes" are part of management's attempt to divide members.

Demand

This has been denied by OK, which says service-related hikes are aimed at "correcting a wage curve".

Daphne said "Year after year, OK tries to keep wage increases as low as possible. Last year's increases were the lowest of all major chain store groups".

Last year, the two parties agreed to a split increase of R108 across-the-board, R105 in 1988 and a R100 two-part rise given to Saccawu members after a 12-week strike in 1986/87.

OK's industrial relations spokesman, Mr Gavin Brown, this week said the chain store's offer amounted to R33,5 million while the union's across-the-board demand

5 000 await outcome of OK strike battle

By LEN MASEKO

represented an additional R9 million.

He said the company's offer was fair "and very generous", considering its poor financial results. Profit-before-tax at year ending March 1990 was 14 percent down on the previous financial year.

The only way the company could meet the union's wage demands was to borrow money, Brown said.

On March 21 (Sharpeville Day), management offered the union an annual 12-holiday package in which the "commemorative day" could be slotted in - a proposal rejected by the union.

Brown said "The current public holiday situation is something of a mess. While we recognise the impor-

tance of March 21 we are against the politicisation of public holidays. We cannot go on every year granting additional public holidays".

Brown believes the issue should be discussed at "national level" between the South Africa Employers' Consultative Committee on Labour Affairs and the trade union federations.

Attitudes

If anything, the strike has led to the hardening of attitudes on both sides with the union saying the main reason for the strike was "the baaskap mentality" displayed by management over the years.

Daphne said "Our members are tired of

being kicked in the guts. They have now adopted a hostile attitude towards management".

He cited the mass dismissal of union members at OK's Hyperama in 1984, in Welkom in 1986 and in Roodepoort two years later.

To date, the dismissed workers have not yet been reinstated.

Brown said it was strange that the union mentioned the issue of "baaskap" mentality only now when it had failed to do so during negotiations between two parties.

Brown has described the industrial action as "an active economic suicide" and "industrial mugging".

"We will respond to this mugging".

The company has warned that the strike might lead to retrenchments and closure of certain unprofitable stores - something that Saccawu believes management would be using as a bargaining chip.

Closure

"In addition, the strike could mean that stores which have been identified for closure might have to be closed

earlier and this might result in loss of jobs".

OK have already been shut down two stores in Cape Town and the East Rand and a further 10 could be closed within the next 12 months.

Whatever the outcome of the strike, the two parties face the enormous responsibility of ensuring that they - so to speak - do not kill the goose that lays the golden egg.

OK strikers replaced by scholars

By Julianne du Toit

School pupils and temporary workers are now being employed, as 6 500 OK Bazaars employees entered their ninth day on strike today

Mr Keith Hartshorne, director of OK's personnel division, said yesterday the company had known the strike was coming and had hired and trained schoolchildren and "anyone looking for a job".

But the South African Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers Union (Saccawu) has accused OK Bazaars of hiring "right-wing thugs"

OK countered that strikers are intimidating non-strikers.

The company has laid a complaint of trespassing with the police after a group of men entered the Potgietersrus store without permission and addressed strikers in the canteen

OK picketers face increasing flak from all quarters

PICKETING OK Bazaars strikers are facing a rising tide of harassment from police, customers and right-wing supporters, says the South African Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers Union

Saccawu also reported that planned marches by strikers yesterday in six centres, including Johannesburg and Pretoria, had been denied permission

Several hundred strikers and sympathisers had, however, marched in Cape Town and Durban, despite the last-minute withdrawal of the permit in the latter city.

And in another development, the African National Congress, the Congress of South African Trade Unions and Mass Democratic Movement organisations have warned in a statement that action in solidarity with the OK strikers is to be announced. The ANC and the Pan Africanist Congress have publicly expressed their support for the strike.

Yesterday, the union sent a letter to Commissioner of Police Hennie de Witt arguing that a threatened ban on peaceful picketing under an "antiquated" provincial administrator's order would close "an important outlet for high emotions".

The order, banning advertising notices in public places without council permission, is not intended to restrict placard protests, union lawyers argue

Saccawu strikers have found that picketing is not OK with many people. DREW FORREST reports

Saccawu's Jeremy Daphne said the union had suspended a picket in Nelspruit after police warned it was illegal, and had sparked complaints from the Afrikaner Weerstandsbeweging. Similar warnings had been issued in Pretoria and Johannesburg.

"Police appear to be extremely uncomfortable with the pickets. They're digging up antiquated provisions and interpreting them to suit themselves," he said. Police have denied the claims of harassment.

Daphne also said the union was under pressure to suspend pickets at the Sandton and Eastgate shopping centres, after being informed that picketers inside the complexes were trespassing.

He added that the police had reportedly torn up placards in Sandton and Springs, and that picketers in Delarey had been attacked by unknown whites.

OK industrial relations executive Gavin Brown said picketers were generally well-behaved.

The strike, over wages, appears to have stabilised, with between 120 and 130 stores being affected. Saccawu estimates that close to 7 000 workers have taken industrial action.

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OK 'confident' staff will have jobs after store shut

By ANDREA WEISS
Staff Reporter

OK Bazaars is "quite confident" that no jobs will be lost as a result of the closure of their Goodwood West store

Speaking from Johannesburg today, industrial relations official Mr Gavin Brown said there was a nationwide rationalisation in progress.

OK was busy relocating staff to other stores nearby and did not anticipate that anybody would lose their job as a result of the Goodwood West closure. About 26 people are employed at the store

The Sea Point store closed in January this year and all the staff were relocated

At least 120 OK outlets countrywide are still hit by a strike with an estimated 6 500 workers participating, Mr Brown said

Mr Brown said the union had been warned that strike action could accelerate the closure of stores, but the fact that stores were being rationalised was not strike-connected

He said no negotiations were in sight, although OK had indicated that they were "waiting at the negotiation table"

OK Bazaars on the horns of a dilemma

OK Bazaars is in a serious dilemma — it is already paying employees 81 percent of the value added that the group generates.

There are only a few options available to meet union demands for increased remuneration.

The optimum one is to boost employee and general asset productivity and thereby increase the whole cake.

Paying a larger portion of the 81 percent to union members at the cost of non-union members would probably precipitate widescale defection by the non-unionised members and this could have an adverse impact on productivity.

Other options

The other option is to squeeze one of the other categories of stakeholders to meet the demands of the workers.

In OK Bazaars' case there really doesn't seem to be much scope for this — shareholders are already getting a pittance; reinvestment in the group (in percentage terms) looks fairly minimal; the government is unlikely to accept a smaller cut; longer-term there may be some scope for reducing borrowing requirements.

The group's latest annual report (for the year to end-March) shows that of the R460 million of value added by OK Bazaars, employees received a massive R371,6 million — equivalent to 80,8 percent of it.

Increasing power

Shareholders were paid out R10,9 million in dividends — equivalent to 2,4 percent of the value added.

Significantly, and no doubt a reflection of the increasing power of the unions, the employees' percentage take in financial 1990 was up from 78,6 percent in financial '89.

By contrast, the shareholders' stake was down from 3,2 percent in '89.

The allocation of the rest of the value-added funds, interest and finance charges accounted for 7,7 (6,2) percent; 3,2 (3,7) percent went to the state in

Diagonal Street

ANN CROTTY



the form of direct taxes; the remaining 5,9 (7,3) percent was reinvested in the group to fund growth and maintenance and replacement of assets.

(A value-added statement shows what value has been added to the materials and services that a group has bought, by the application of the resources at the disposal of the group.

These resources include employees, funds borrowed and the capital supplied by shareholders.

In addition to paying for these resources, funds have to be invested to ensure that the operation remains viable. And the government always has to take its whack.)

Greater productivity

Although they are not directly comparable, the figures from Pick 'n Pay are significant.

In financial '90 employees received 71 percent of the value added; shareholders received 7,2 percent in the form of dividends; the taxman got eight percent; 13 percent was reinvested in the group.

Greater productivity at Pick 'n Pay means that the cake that has to be shared is significantly larger.

So, although in percentage terms Pick 'n Pay's employees get a smaller share of the cake, in absolute terms they enjoy higher levels of remuneration.

Interest payment

In addition, because Pick 'n Pay is able to use supplier credit quite extensively, it has little in the way of net interest payments.

Suppliers may not be too happy about this, but it means that everyone at Pick 'n Pay is that much better off.

OK gears up for strike action

OK BAZAARS management "fully expected" a strike to start today at stores countrywide, according to company spokesman Gavin Brown

"A contingency plan was formulated several months ago. Our stores will carry on running as normal, and there should not be any problem with customer service," Brown said

The strike expectation follows the preliminary results of a strike ballot conducted last week, in which 57% of SA Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers' Union (Saccawu) members favoured strike action at OK stores. There is also speculation a boycott could accompany the strike.

Brown said, according to his sources,

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5 829 of 10 175 (57%) employees had favoured the strike by Friday. About 90% of Saccawu members at OK stores cast votes. There are over 25 000 OK employees nationwide.

"If the union alleges there was a much higher percentage favouring the strike, OK will challenge them for verification," Brown said.

Saccawu spokesmen could not be reached to confirm or deny these figures.

Last week's ballot followed the failure of a final conciliation board meeting on May 21 to resolve a wage dispute. The ballot

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bonds as they required certain documents

Strike

was scheduled to end on Wednesday, but the deadline was later extended

Brown said he did not know how many stores would be affected, though Saccawu allegedly contacted its national branches two weeks ago informing them of proposed strike action to begin today

"In the past, most of the support has been in the PWV area"

Brown said there was a chance that some union members may not strike. He did not know how many of the non-union employees would conduct a sympathy strike

"But 57% is hardly a ringing endorsement for strike action," he added

Saccawu has demanded a R160 a month

across-the-board increase and a minimum monthly wage of R800. It also called for a 5% commission for sales personnel, a 13th cheque, an allowance for washing uniforms and March 21 as a paid public day

OK has offered service-related increases ranging from R115 to R145 and a minimum wage of R710 after one year's service. It has made no offer on commissions or a 13th cheque, did not agree to a laundry allowance, and offered to substitute a current paid holiday instead of recognising March 21

In the year to end-March, OK Bazaars results fell 15,5% to R20,2m, which analysts attributed to politically-motivated action and a decline in consumer spending

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OK threatens to close stores as 4 000 strike

By Stan Hlophe

OK Bazaars yesterday threatened to close three stores and embark on large-scale retrenchments in response to a strike by more than 4 000 of its workers at 100 stores

The Pretoria-Witwatersrand-Vereeniging area is the hardest hit, with hundreds of workers picketing store entrances yesterday

OK industrial relations spokesman Gavin Brown said at a press briefing in Johannesburg that as a result of deteriorating trading conditions the company was not in a position to accede to the workers' wage demands

The workers are all members of the SA Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers' Union (Saccawu)

The union's co-ordinator, Jeremy Daphne, said that year after year OK had tried to keep pay increases as low as possible. Last year, the increase at OK was the lowest of all major chain store groups

Explaining OK's stand, Mr

Brown said "We have advised the union that we will accelerate our process of closing shops that are marginally profitable. We have already informed them that we intend shutting down two stores - Faraday in Johannesburg and Goodwood West in Cape Town - in June

Relocation

"Up to the beginning of the strike, we were negotiating the relocation of the staff, but we don't know now where that process stands"

In addition, workers could be retrenched from other stores as "low sales caused by strike action meant fewer jobs"

Mr Brown said union demands for a R160-a-month across-the-board increase and a minimum wage of R800 could not be met

"Our profit after tax was 14,6 percent. This strongly reflects the deteriorating economy. The company is offering between R115 and R145, depending on the years of service

"Our basic monthly wage is R710. Our offer is 17,7 percent, which is way above the inflation rate of 14 percent. The union demands amount to 20 percent"

OK also rejected a call for a raise in sales commission, a 13th cheque, an allowance for washing uniforms, and March 21 (Sharpeville Day) as a paid holiday. Management has offered to substitute a paid holiday.

Mr Brown warned the union that not only would the company be obliged to accelerate its programme of store closures, but would also be unable to maintain the present level of employment

● Sapa reports that the strike has spread to Bophuthatswana

Workers at OK Bazaars in Ga-Rankuwa have downed tools, following the preliminary results of a strike ballot held by Saccawu last week

The administration manager of OK Bazaars at Ga-Rankuwa said about 80 percent of the staff there had walked out, but the store was continuing to operate with casual labour and senior staff

The OK strike - two different stories

Star 6/6/90

By Stan Hlophe

With more than 4 000 OK Bazaars workers on strike and more than 100 stores involved countrywide, the management of the company and the South African Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers' Union (Saccawu) have blamed each another for the strike.

OK spokesman Gavin Brown says:

"Yesterday, about 103 stores were on strike, with more than 4 000 workers involved

"The strike at most of the stores except two has been peaceful

"There has been a lot of intimidation in the other two stores — head office in Eloff Street and in Pretoria

"Police had to use teargas at the Eloff Street branch after strikers blocked traffic outside the store

"There have been threats of burning houses and one worker from the Randburg branch was assaulted when he refused to join the strike.

"The company will be obliged to accelerate its programme of store closures because it will be unable to maintain the current level of employment

"The union has negotiated in bad faith, and it has been frustrating and unreasonable

"What the union has demanded is tantamount to economic suicide and industrial mugging, and we are not prepared to be part of that OK has tried to have improved relations with the union but has been given a cold shoulder"

Saccawu co-ordinator Jeremy Daphne says:

"About 58 percent of the workforce from 122 stores has been on strike since Monday.

"The company's offer of service-related increases is an attempt to divide the union members

"Saccawu rejects these unequal increases OK is not agreeing to March 21 as an additional paid commemoration day and Saccawu sees this as proof of the OK's attitude towards the aspirations of the exploited masses

"It is using the slim pro-strike ballot margin as a tool to label the union undemocratic This was just one example of the ill-will caused by the company. Mass dismissals in 1984 at Sandton, in 1986 at Welkom and in 1988 at Roodepoort had generated immense ill-will.

"The management has a 'baaskap' mentality and has adopted a hostile and iron-fist attitude. It has been uncompromising in the wage negotiations The management has shown a bad attitude, being naive and insensitive towards workers' aspirations

"OK has consistently paid low wages and has been using unorthodox methods unlike those of their competitors"

VS

Star 6/6/90

152-1000

OK strike has spread to 122 stores, says union

The strike by OK Bazaars workers has spread to 122 of 166 stores around the country

Jeremy Daphne, spokesman for the South African Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers' Union, said last night there had been numerous reports of action — some involving police — against strikers.

Mr Daphne said eight workers had been arrested while picketing in Delareyville, West Rand Workers at the Eloff Street, Johannesburg, branch were teargassed by police and in Vereeniging a shop steward was held by police on Monday night for three hours and questioned

"There have been a number of allegations from OK management regarding the conduct of striking workers. The union emphasises that it is committed to peaceful and disciplined industrial action," he said.

Emphasis

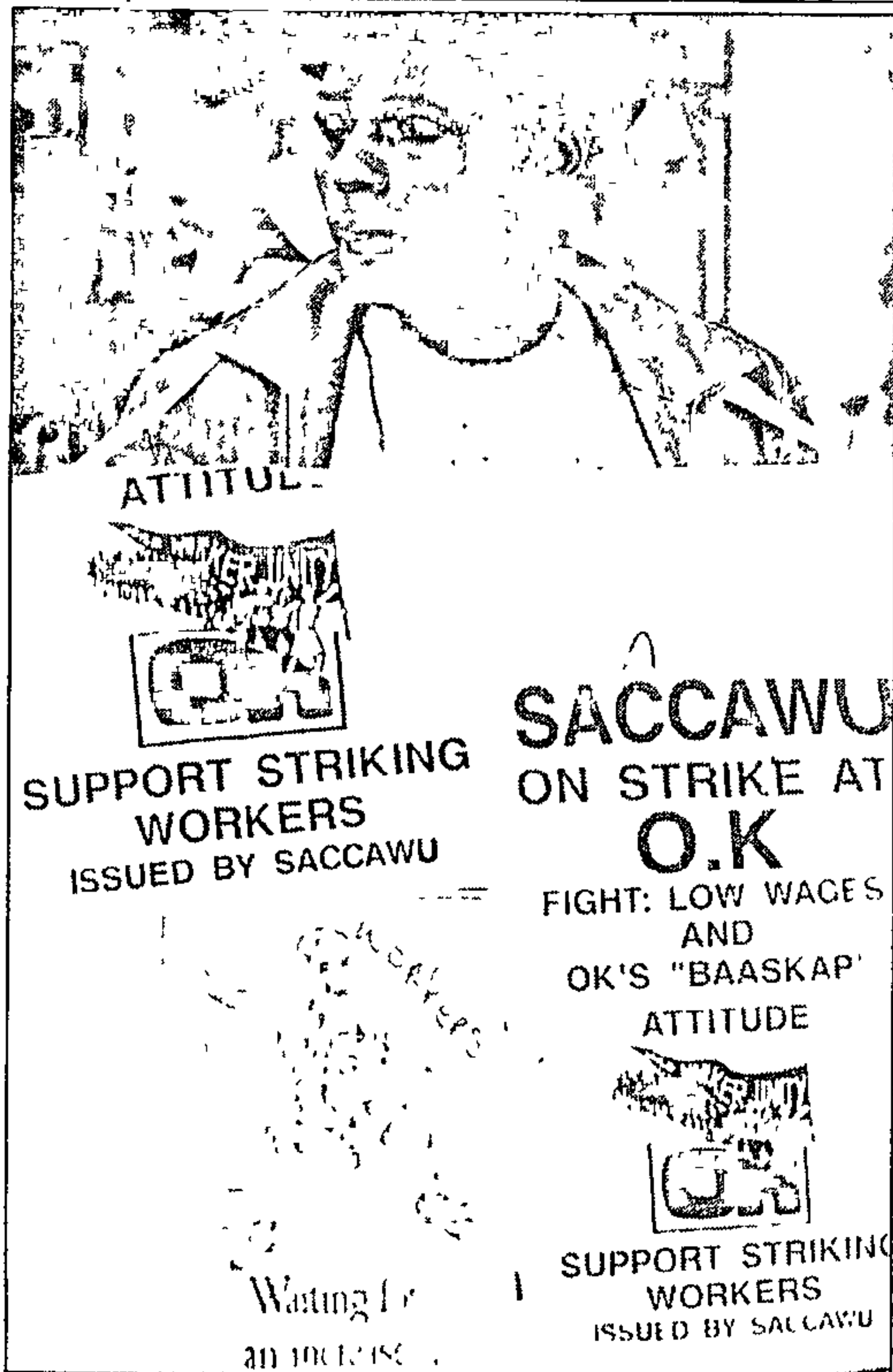
The union had also experienced problems with members of the public harassing picketing workers, he added

He said OK's management had placed great emphasis on the fact that 58 percent of Saccawu's members had voted in support of industrial action

"In most regions the 'yes' vote was over 70 percent. The main reason for the 58 percent is the war situation in Natal"

Mr Daphne said yesterday although the company had admitted a poor record for the past financial year, management should be compelled to dig into retained profits to pay legitimate wage demands

OK spokesman Gavin Brown



A striker holding a placard outside a Johannesburg branch of the OK Bazaars.

● Picture by Stephen Davimes

said this was patent evidence of the union's ignorance of finance. Retained profits were withheld from shareholder dividends and retained specifically to fund the company's future growth. If this fund were used up, OK would have to borrow at crippling interest rates.

The union is demanding a R160 a month across-the-board increase, a minimum wage of R800, a 13th cheque as a right, a

five percent increase for sales staff and March 21 (Sharpeville Day) as a paid holiday.

OK is offering a R115 to R145 a month increase depending on years of service and is prepared to negotiate a 13th cheque as "a no-strike bonus". It has offered a 12-day public holiday package, with specific days to be chosen by the union. But it is not prepared to "simply add" March 21 to the holiday calendar — Sapa

Workers go on strike at OK's stores

By LEN MASEKO

ABOUT 5 000 workers went on strike at OK Bazaars' 122 stores countrywide on Monday, setting the stage for a showdown between the two parties.

The South African Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers Union (Saccawu), which represents the workers, estimated that as many as 6 000 OK employees were on strike while management put the figure at between 2 000 and 4 000.

Dozens of Saccawu members picketed OK outlets during the past two days, carrying placards which accused the retail chain of "baasskap mentality" and "under-paying its staff".

They demanded - among other things - a R160 across-the-board increase, R800 minimum pay and recognition of March 21 as a paid holiday.

The chain store has offered the union's nearly 10 000 members at its 200 stores service-based increases ranging from R115 to R145 a month and a R710-a-month salary after a year's service.

Saccawu official Mr Jeremy Daphne said the strike followed a "yes-vote" by 57 percent of the union's members who polled during last week's ballot.

A majority of the strikers were employed at the chain's Pretoria-Witwatersrand-Vaal outlets while, in Natal, the strike was patchy.

He said: "Our members in Natal did not fully support the strike because they are busy fighting for their lives."

"It is disappointing that OK management is now gloating the Natal situation in spite of the fact that our members did not want to be sitting ducks for members of a rival organisation".

However, 16 stores were affected by the strike in Natal, Daphne told a Press conference in Johannesburg yesterday.

Mr Gavin Brown, the chain's industrial relations spokesman, said the company regarded the strike as "an active economic suicide" and "industrial mugging".

"The company is unwilling to go on this route (active economic suicide) and will have to respond to this mugging", said Brown,

Another 900 join nationwide OK strike

Staff Reporters

About 6 000 OK Bazaars workers are now striking countrywide in support of union demands for pay increases, the company's industrial relations spokesman, Gavin Brown, said today.

Amid claims by the South African Commercial and Catering Workers' Union (Saccawu) of widespread police intervention and intimidation at many of the 120 affected stores, the strike was swelled by another 900 employees yesterday.

The union claimed police told

workers in Cape Town they would be arrested if they were seen out of the store, 70 policemen who arrived in 10 vans tore up placards in Pietersburg, and workers were arrested in the northern Transvaal town, King William's Town, Delareyville, Vereeniging and Pretoria.

Saccawu also alleged 110 workers from another union who were helping out at the Cresta store in Randburg arrived carrying knobkerries and knives.

Striking Johannesburg OK workers were allegedly harassed

by the company's security staff. Workers at the Eloff Street branch came to The Star offices after the incident and said they were called "kaffirs" and ordered to move the picket away from the store's premises.

The angry workers said they were photographed again by security staff.

The strike started on Monday after a breakdown in talks over pay increases, a 13th cheque and the union's demand for March 21 (Sharpeville Day) as a paid holiday.

PAC urges settlement in OK Bazaars strike

Staff Reporter

THE Pan Africanist Congress (Western Province) has urged OK Bazaars to settle with striking workers and not to allow an already tense situation to worsen.

PAC co-ordinator Mr Barney Desai said in a statement that the movement viewed the escalation of the strike by members of the South African Commercial Catering and Allied Workers' Union with concern.

"Until the unionisation occurred in this industry, black workers have generally been paid wages which barely gave them an opportunity of improving their quality of their life," he said.

"SUPER PROFITS"

Shareholders, on the other hand, were the recipients of "super profits".

"The situation is intolerable and taking into account the staggering inflation, the conditions of workers have worsened."

Mr Desai condemned "threats" to striking workers that they would lose some of their staff benefits.

Meanwhile The Argus Corre-

spondent in Johannesburg reports that students and temporary workers have been employed as 6 500 OK Bazaars employees go into their ninth day on strike today.

Mr Keith Hartshorne, director of OK's personnel division, said yesterday the company knew the strike was coming and had had time to hire and train schoolchildren and "anyone looking for a job".

But the South African Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers Union (Saccawu) has accused OK Bazaars of hiring "rightwing thugs" who allegedly intimidate striking workers with kieres and knives.

OK Bazaars has countered this with the accusation that strikers are allegedly intimidating non-strikers at taxi-ranks and train stations in the PWV area and said non-strikers had laid claims of assault and intimidation against strikers.

The company laid a complaint of trespass with the police after a group of unknown men entered the Potgietersrus store without permission and addressed striking workers in the canteen.

Huge metal strike looms

152
South 14/6-20/6/90

By CHIARA CARTER
UNIONS representing about 380 000 workers in the metal industry are beginning preparations for a nationwide strike within the next month.

The next round of metal industry industrial council negotiations, which takes place this week, is expected to lead to the national dispute.

Negotiations

Metal unions are to meet the Steel and Engineering Industries Federation of South Africa (Seifsa) in Johannesburg this week for a further round of annual wage negotiations, but sources say there is little hope of fur-



Numsa's
general secretary
Moses Mayekiso

ther progress in the talks.

The major unions in the industry, the National Union of Metalworkers of South Africa (Numsa) and the Metal and Electrical Workers' Union of South Africa (Mewusa), are opposed to a proposal by employers that workers do not get individual increases.

This would mean that only the minimum wages in each grade are increased

Another major stumbling block is Seifsa's proposal that small companies be excluded from the provisions of the agreement which sets the basic rate of pay and working conditions in the industry

Employers

Seifsa, which represents the major employers in the industry, is under considerable pressure from the government to exclude small companies from the agreement as part of a move to deregulation

At last week's talks, Seifsa demanded that unions agree that plant-level bargaining take place only at the discretion of companies

Seifsa accused Mewusa of conducting a campaign for plant-level bargaining. The union has denied this.

About 380 000 workers are affected by the agreement.

The present agreement expires this month

Teachers decide to end strike after talks with Govt officials

Striking teachers yesterday voted to suspend their strike action from next term, which begins on July 10.

This development came about after a five-hour meeting in Johannesburg yesterday between teachers, who have been on strike for almost two weeks, and officials from the Department of Education and Culture (House of Representatives).

Teachers and officials discussed the list of teachers' short-term demands sent to the department on May 18.

The discussions have apparently paved the way for future negotiations between the department and the Action Committee of Teachers (ACT) and the Progressive Teachers' Union (PTU).

Chief Director of Education

Awie Muller and Director of Colleges Cyril Beukes flew to Johannesburg from Cape Town yesterday after about 60 teachers had staged a sit-in in the House of Representatives building in Bree Street, Johannesburg on Tuesday.

A joint statement read out after the meeting said the department would consider not withholding the salary cheques of teachers who participated in the strike, but might take action against teachers who took part in the sit-in.

The statement added that the department had agreed to reassess the role of the inspectorate after much discussion about the demand that the system of evaluating teachers be scrapped or re-evaluated.

Education Reporter and Sapa

Rubbish built up

By DON HOLLIDAY,
Municipal Reporter

RUBBISH in Cape Town has started to pile up, ambulances will only carry emergency cases and meat will have to be brought in from elsewhere as the city council's refuse removal, ambulance and abattoir services are first to be hit by the wildcat strike by thousands of municipal workers which goes into its second day today.

City council spokesman Mr Ted Doman said today all services were affected to some extent.

"The emergency services — fire and ambulance and so on — are working relatively well, but refuse removals might not take place and people are advised not to put their rubbish out today," he said.

Ambulance department spokesman Mr Michael Petersen said ambulance staff had held a meeting this morning and had read with concern remarks attributed to ambulance chief Mr Rod Douglas yesterday.

"Living wage"

"He said the service was 100 percent normal — that's not true, we just want to correct that."

"Yesterday we decided to down tools from 6.45am to 11am in support of a living wage and an end to privatisation."

He said they had held another meeting today and had decided on a go-slow until further notice.

"We will only do emergencies like road accidents. This was decided by the majority at all sector stations, Retreat, Mitchell's Plain, Bellville and Atlantis, and at the central ambulance station at Pinelands."

"Meat will have to be brought into Cape Town from other centres to make up a shortfall caused by the municipal workers' strike."

According to Dr W van Heerden, director of the Maitland abattoir, no slaughtering of sheep or cattle took place yesterday when the strike started. However, about 623 pigs were slaughtered.

The abattoir usually slaughters 6 600 sheep, 650 cattle and 700 pigs a day. This amount provides just over a day's supply of meat for Cape Town. Dr Van Heerden said slaughtering of sheep, cattle and pigs was taking place today, but at a slower rate.

"Attendance is about the same as yesterday," he said.

The Meat Board is arranging for meat to be brought in from other centres.

Court order

Thousands of striking municipal workers today defied a Supreme Court order not to gather at the Civic Centre, forced their way past security staff in the main concourse and occupied parts of the building.

However, union officials managed to restore order a short while later and confined the strikers to the concourse.

The city council is faced with a crisis as enforcing the order would probably mean calling in the police to disperse the strikers.

The main concourse of the Civic Centre was filled with thousands of strikers for the second day in a row.

A Sheriff of the Court read out the court order over a public address system at 8.15am.



STRIKE-HIT: Black bags of refuse pile up uncollected. Left: Unemptied litter bins and rubbish in the gutter line the Grand Parade. ● Huge crowd in Civic Centre foyer — picture, page 19.

Pictures: HANNES THIAI, The Argus

His voice was drowned out by the crowd which loudly sang "Forward we shall march to a people's government."

The acting town clerk Mr Gys Hofmeyr, indicated that he was willing to meet some South African Municipal Workers' Union officials again today. By 8.45am the union had not yet responded to the offer.

Police were once again stationed outside the Centre. A water cannon vehicle was on standby.

Unlike yesterday, council security officers did not restrict access to the building.

Copies of last night's court order were taped to the external doors of the Civic Centre.

Workers union representative Mr Salie Manie said they were discussing the court order with senior council officials today.

"We're negotiating — that's all I'm prepared to say."

● See page 5



CITY

Court clampdown on city strike

By GILL TURNBULL
Supreme Court Reporter

STRIKING Cape Town municipal workers have been restrained from an illegal wildcat strike after an urgent application in the Cape Town Supreme Court.

Late yesterday Mr Justice J J Fagan granted the application by the Municipality of Cape Town against the South African Municipal Workers' Union, Mr Salie Manie, and about 4 000 striking workers with immediate effect.

Obstructing entrances

An interdict was granted in terms of which striking workers were restrained from

● Gathering on or occupying the Civic Centre or other municipal premises except to work.

● Obstructing entrances to the Civic Centre.

● Intimidating or harassing municipal employees.

● Inciting, instigating, calling for, supporting, organising or joining an illegal strike at the applicant's various premises in the Cape Town municipal area.

The striking workers were ordered to pay the costs of the application.

Among papers handed to the

court was a report from the City Administration Department stating that as a result of the strike the abattoir was unable to start work yesterday, causing a build-up of trucks delivering livestock.

All rent offices were closed. The City Engineer's Department reported an 85 percent stayaway at Mitchell's Plain, Athlone and Raapenberg sewerage plants, but said the department could cope with "normal activities".

There was a 95 percent stayaway at the administration stores, Ndabeni stores were closed and a 100 percent stayaway disrupted all horticultural districts, except Athlone and Heathfield.

There was also a 50 percent stayaway at head office.

In evidence Mr David Beretti, director of personnel, said some employees arrived for work at the Civic Centre yesterday, saw what was happening and returned home.

Mr Barry Dawson, a member of the city council's security branch, told the court the council had not asked for police support during yesterday's demonstrations.

Mr Ernest Thorne, labour relations adviser for the city council, said he was inside the

Civic Centre concourse at 2 15pm yesterday.

"The situation was very tense. People were climbing up the statue, a lot of alcohol was being drunk and blankets and pillows were being brought in because people intended to sleep there."

Mr Thorne said a Mr Manie was "whipping up the crowd" over the public address system.

When Mr Manie asked the crowd what they would do if the municipality took them to court they replied "The council can f off. The council se m r".

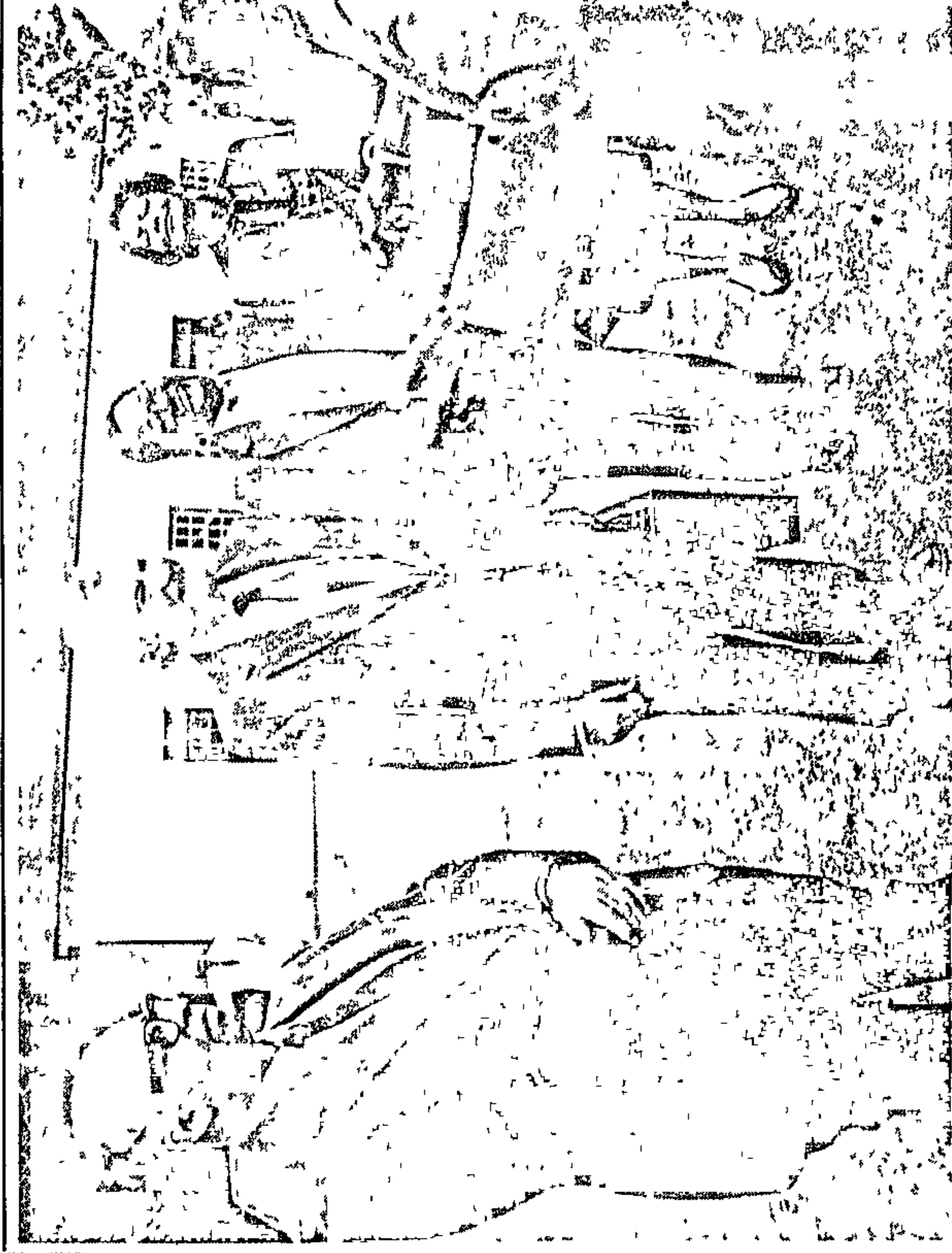
A rule was issued calling on the respondents to show cause on June 20 why the order should not be made final.

Mr Justice Fagan was on the Bench. Mr H Viljoen SC, assisted by Mr P Hoffman, instructed by Silberbauers, appeared for the municipality.

Negotiations

● The South African Municipal Workers Union has criticised the Cape Town council for attempting to restrain the strike through a Supreme Court application.

A spokesman for the union, Mr Roger Ronnie, said the council had chosen to resolve an industrial dispute through the court instead of through negotiations.



Council gets court order on strikers

Cape Times 14/6/90
152

Court Reporter

THE Cape Town City Council went to court yesterday to stop a wildcat strike by thousands of municipal workers.

Late yesterday Mr Justice J J Fagan ordered the strikers not to gather at the civic centre, where hundreds congregated during the strike yesterday.

The strikers were also ordered not to obstruct council operations or intimidate or harass city council workers.

Mr David Beretti, director of personnel, told the court a letter had been written to the union on Tuesday expressing "grave concern" about a union meeting planned for yesterday. The letter had been faxed to the union warning that its action was unlawful.

The city council and the union met at 12 15pm yesterday. Mr Manie, a union official, was present.

The council told the union officials it had acted in good faith with the final wage offer of a 13,5% increase, and this would not be improved upon.

The union should have declared a dispute and dealt with the matter through the channels stipulated in the Labour Relations Act. The union had also been warned if the strikers were not back at work at 2.15pm a court order would be sought.

Security officer Mr Barry Dawson said the main entrance had been forced open shortly before 9am.

● Council workers want more pay — Page 2

Stop strikers City council asks court

By CHAIRA CARTER

THE Cape Town City Council on Wednesday was granted an urgent court order restraining the South African Municipal Workers' Union (Samwu) and its members from occupying the Civic Centre or taking part in an illegal strike.

The move followed an all-day "siege" at the Civic Centre when thousands of militant municipal workers staged a sit-in at the council's headquarters.

The wildcat strike in support of wage demands brought council operations to a virtual standstill.

On Tuesday, there were demonstrations at several council depots throughout Cape Town.

In terms of the interdict granted by Mr Justice JJ Fagan, Samwu and its members are restrained from obstructing access to the centre, intimidating council employees or obstructing council operations.

Impasse

Union officials are denied access to council premises for any purpose other than their "normal duties".

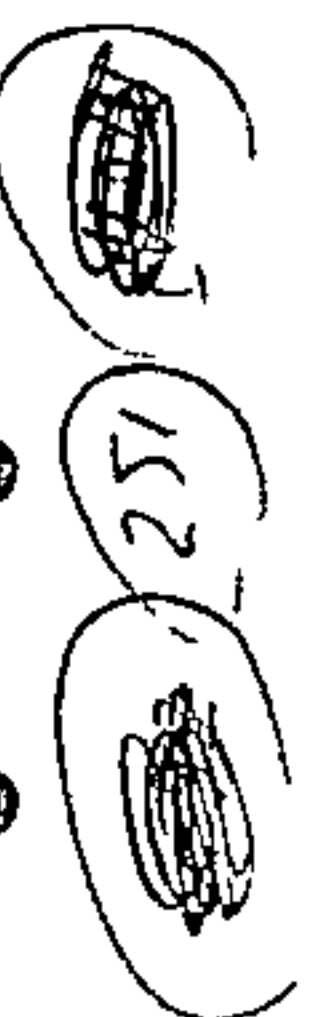
The order restrains the union from initiating, supporting or organising any illegal strike at any council premises.

The return date is June 20.

Talks between Samwu and the council's executive committee remain at an impasse after an emergency meeting between the two parties on Wednesday.

Thursday, June 14, 1995

CHM - THIS 14/6/95



Fears for civic centre clashes

Staff Reporter

THOUSANDS of municipal employees, unaware of a court order issued late yesterday, decided yesterday afternoon to return to the civic centre today to continue their demands for a pay increase, sparking concern last night of confrontation and arrests.

The SA Municipal Workers Union (Samwu) is concerned that clashes could take place between police and strikers outside the civic centre.

Samwu spokesman, Mr Roger Ronnie, said last night that strikers could be unaware that an interdict had been granted in the Supreme Court against any action on city council property.

"We are worried that any union member not responding immediately to order will be in contempt of court and liable for arrest," Mr Ronnie said.

Union leaders planned to be at the civic centre early today to try

and head off any confrontation, he said.

Mr Ronnie said 8 000 to 10 000 workers participated in a stayaway and converged on the civic centre yesterday while talks were held inside between the Council and Samwu.

He described the city council's stance at the meeting as "intransigent." The city council in turn accused the union of acting "unfairly and in bad faith."

The city council team was led by the acting chairman of the executive committee, Mr Louis Kreiner, and the Samwu delegation by Mr S Manie.

Police spokesman Major Gys Boonzaaier said no damage had been reported to police yesterday.

Maj Boonzaaier said police monitored the situation from a distance in the interests of public safety.

Council public relations officer Mr Ted Doman said when he and other officials had arrived at the Civic Centre building yesterday

morning "we discovered that the building was 'blockaded by 4 000 to 5 000 workers'"

Wage negotiations had been in progress for some time, and the white South African Association of Municipal Employees (Saame) had accepted the Council's offer, while the non-racial Cosatu-affiliated SA Municipal Workers' Union (Samwu) had not, he said.

Samwu claimed that yesterday's action was taken by workers themselves, not by the union.

The executive committee of the City Council met a delegation of the workers, and said it believed the way they were behaving in the dispute was unfair.

Mr Doman said the council's latest wage offer was a 13,5% increase, which Samwu had rejected. As far as the council was concerned, the next step was for both parties to thrash the dispute out in the Industrial Court.

● A city council spokesman appealed to homeowners not to put rubbish out today as the workers were unlikely to remove it.



WORKER POWER ... In the Civic Centre foyer yesterday where thousands of strikers congregated to demand a pay hike.

Picture: ERIC MILLER

Civic Centre, siege

Argus 13/6/90 (152)

Thousands of chanting city council workers in pay protest

By JOHN YEILD and DON HOLLIDAY
Staff Reporters

THE Cape Town Civic Centre was under siege today as a crowd of several thousand singing, chanting municipal workers carrying placards gathered outside the centre, which was locked from the inside.

There was a strong police presence of at least 80 men and a water cannon and several riot vehicles. Virtually the entire municipal function ground to a halt as the workers staged a wildcat strike in support of wage demands.

Security officials blocked all entrances to the Civic Centre and many non-striking workers were denied access to the building.

Shortly before 9 am strikers forced open doors at the eastern entrance to the Civic Centre and hundreds of strikers filled the main foyer, chanting and toy-throwing.

Jeered loudly

The crowd, which started gathering outside the centre before daylight, jeered loudly when a police vehicle towing a dog trailer drove past.

At 8.30 am several hundred workers who had been standing outside the station entrance to the Civic Centre opposite the police, moved down the road and into the parking area on the south side of the Civic Centre to join several thousand colleagues.

They were singing "Forward we shall march" and holding placards reading "Council pays peanuts", "Jobs and houses for all" and "We demand a living wage".

Mr. Roger Romme, South African Municipal Workers Union spokesman, said workers had rejected the City Council's final wage offer and at a meeting yesterday had agreed to strike until demands were met. He said wage increase demands ranged between 15 and 30 percent.

W. J. Beretti Director



Map the changes on Europe's new face

THE ARGUS focuses on rapidly changing events in Europe with the publication of a special double-page map and eight-page special section included in The Argus on FRIDAY.

The prestige map is printed on glossy paper and is ideal for display in classrooms or on the wall of your study at home.

The map can be used as a reference to the special section which gives details of each country such as political and military affiliations, economy, population and type of government.

The special section also outlines up-to-the-minute political, social and economic developments and looks at what the future is likely to hold.

Come right up to date with a fast-coming map by Argus.

Atlantic drama: Martins strike log

By HENRI du PLESSIS
Yachting Reporter

THE Martin brothers yacht Allied Bank has struck a huge log while racing in the two-man transatlantic race from Newport to Plymouth.

Springbok sailor John held his brother Ian over the side by the ankles to inspect the damage while the yacht sailed on at eight knots.

The impact was hard enough to make them lose two knots in speed while involved in a close match race with American opponents Warren Luhrs and N-tish Iyengar in Hunter's Child, said their public relations officer Mrs Jeanne van Rooyen.

STILL LEADING

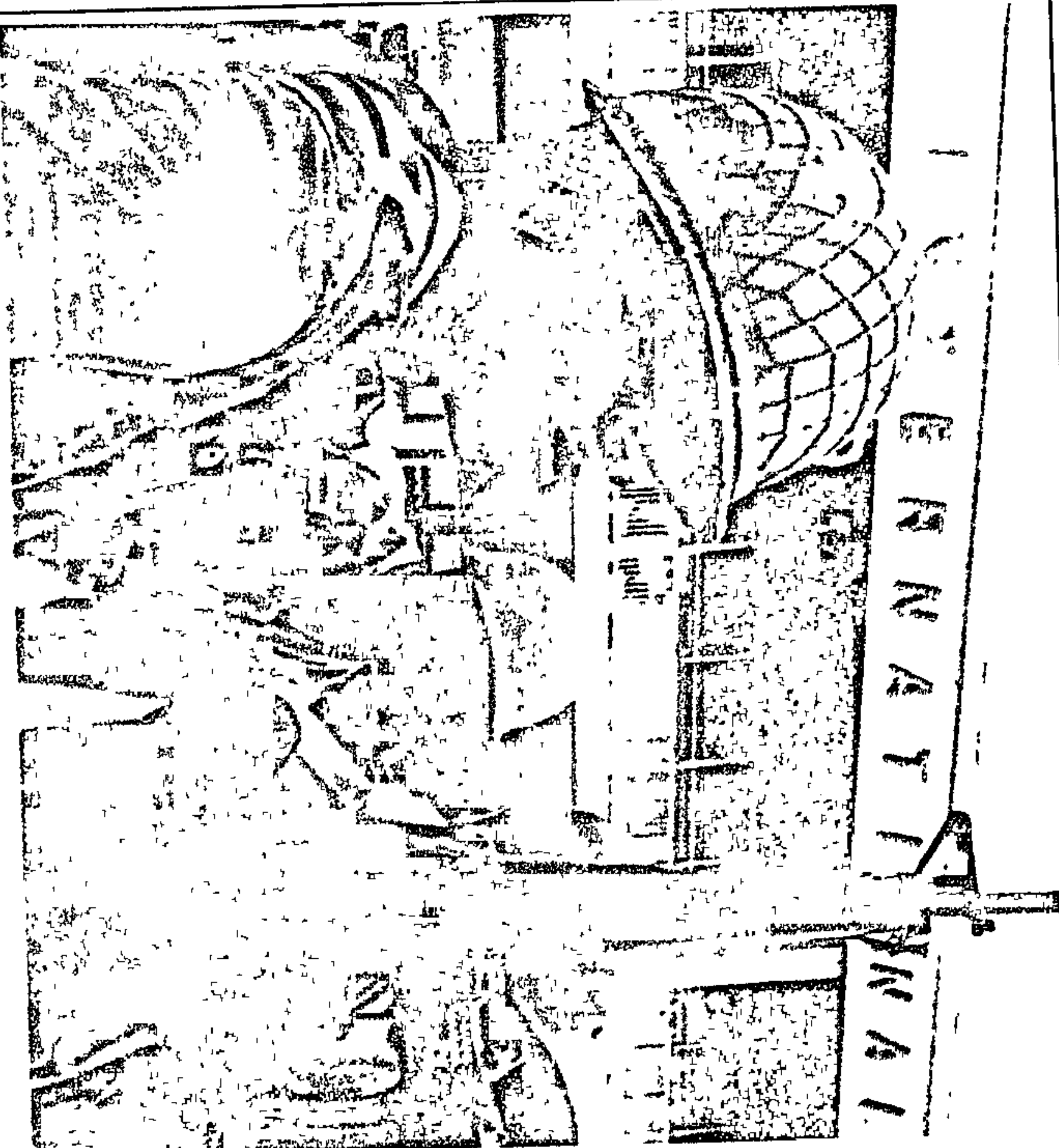
But the Martins have held onto their slim class lead and an inspection of the yacht's hull revealed only minor damage.

Mrs van Rooyen said According to John Martin, the log was as thick as a railway sleeper and twice as long.

We hit the log during daylight hours at eight knots. It broke the log in half when it hit the starboard rudder, throwing Ian and me forward, he said.

Some of the hull filler and carbon fibre of the outer skin of the yacht was damaged.

Quite a rude awakening at that speed, the possibilities of icebergs still lie ahead of



AIRPORT ALERT: Government soldiers stand guard at Liberia's International airport. The airport is less than 50km from the capital, Monrovia. The government is still in control of the airport.

Argus

Peace talks

peanuts', Jobs and houses for all" and "We demand a living wage"

Mr Roger Ronnie, South African Municipal Workers Union spokesman, said workers had rejected the City Council's final wage offer and at a meeting yesterday had agreed to strike until demands were met. He said wage increase demands ranged between 15 and 30 percent.

Mr David Beretti, Director of Personnel, said the council had offered a minimum wage of R4 19 an hour, as opposed to the existing R3,61 cents an hour. He said SAMWU's revised demand was R4,80 cents an hour. They were demanding minimum increases of 13,5 percent.

Salary and wages comprise about 40 percent of the entire city budget.

Outside, a marshall armed with a megaphone, directed new arrivals towards the crowd. "Stay together people," he shouted.

Speak to mayor

A worker said: "We want 40 percent, not 13 percent and we want to speak to the mayor."

A colleague added: "They've got a lot of money. We have to work Saturdays and Sundays for overtime to make enough money. We do the work."

At 8 40 am there was a surge up the stairs towards the entrance and marshalls shouted vainly "Wait, Comrades, please wait."

But the crowd surged towards the locked doors chanting "In, Comrades, in."

The doors remained locked at that stage, however.

Hertzog Boulevard was blocked by traffic officials as a small group of strikers gathered in the street on the northern side of the Civic Centre and waved their placards.

Council spokesman Mr Ted Doman, said there were on-going wage negotiations with SAMWU.

"We consider negotiations to still be under way. We have been in contact with SAMWU this morning and expect to be able to make an announcement later today," Mr Doman said.

Inside the Civic Centre, many offices and telephones are unmanned as employees have been unable to get into the building.

Mr Beretti said he had been told that City Planner, Mr Neville Riley's car had been shaken by strikers as he tried to enter the building.

Representatives of the Cape Ambulance and Rescue Service joined the municipal workers at the Centre.

Repair workshop and store-room workers, cleansing personnel and a few uniformed workers representing the city's ambulance staff took part.

13/3/90 (52)

450 Putco workers go on strike in Boksburg

Staff Reporter

All 450 workers at Putco's Boksburg depot walked out yesterday after a refusal by management to allow the Transport and General Workers Union (TGWU) to represent workers at a plant where it was in the minority.

Vosloorus commuters could be left stranded today by the strike, because the Boksburg depot services the township.

The strike could spread if the company does not respond to the action in Boksburg.

TGWU information officer, Kally Forrest said annual wage negotiations began with Putco last week.

The Transport and Allied Workers Union (Tawu) objected to the presence of TGWU shop stewards from Putco's Homelands depot outside Pretoria where Tawu have a majority of members.

"Management agreed with Tawu that TGWU could not represent members at Homelands. At that point we withdrew from the Transvaal wage negotiations," Ms Forrest said.

"Putco and Tawu continued to negotiate without us and the shop stewards felt very strongly about it."

"All our depots went back to discuss appropriate action and the Boksburg depot was the first to take action."

Ms Forrest said other depots would wait to see how Putco responded to the Boksburg strike before deciding whether to follow suit. TGWU has 1 348 members in the Transvaal at seven depots.

A spokesman for Putco strongly denied workers were on strike in Boksburg.

"We do not have a strike — we have a problem. There may be a strike in the future, but that is not the case at this point in time."

Ms Forrest said workers were definitely on strike.

Violence mars OK stores strike

B/Wany 7/16/90 (152)

AN UPSURGE in violence was reported at strike-hit OK stores nationwide yesterday, while postal workers downed tools on the East Rand and 240 employees stopped work at Shell plants in Durban and the Eastern Cape.

Furthermore, the National Union of Wine, Spirits and Allied Workers (Nuwsaw) will conduct a strike ballot within the next week among 5 400 employees of 83 wineries and depots nationwide.

At OK stores nationwide more than 6 000 workers continued to strike for increased wages at approximately 125 stores, according to spokesmen for both the SA Commercial Catering and Allied Workers' Union (Saccawu) and OK Bazaars.

Saccawu national organiser Jeremy Daphne said police intervened with striking picketers in Cape Town, Pietersburg, Pretoria and East London, reportedly arresting 25

Assault

He also said newly recruited OK employees at the Cresta, Yeoville and Randburg stores were seen carrying weapons at work, including knives.

"We emphasise that the union is committed to peaceful and disciplined industrial action," he said.

An OK statement said "Reports are now streaming in regarding incidents of intimidation and assault almost exclusively from the PWV area."

The company called on the union to "take all necessary steps to control the hooligan element" but conceded most workers were striking peacefully.

About 225 postal workers on the East Rand downed tools yesterday to protest against alleged racist incidents, said a Post and Telecommunications Workers Association statement.

Potwa spokesman Sizwe Matshikiza said workers from five different loca-

DANIEL FELDMAN

tions were protesting against a Boksburg Post Office guard "who spray-gunned an executive member of Potwa's main branch", and were calling for the removal of the post office's senior superintendent for "ill treatment" of workers.

A Post and Telecommunications spokesman said, "The case of the security guard... is at present being sorted out with Potwa's local committee. It is a pity that Potwa is underestimating the value of negotiations to the extent that it prefers to strike."

In Durban and the Eastern Cape yesterday about 240 Chemical Workers Industrial Union (CWIU) members began strike action at Shell's oil and chemical plants.

CWIU said the dispute stemmed from the company's "refusal to change the implementation date for increases to 1 July as from 1991, despite the fact that non-unionised members get their increases on 1 July each year."

A Shell spokesman attributed the strike to the deadlock of wage negotiations and said proposed increases ranged from 15% to 20%, with both parties agreeing to a process of restructuring the current pay scales.

The National Union of Wine, Spirits and Allied Workers (Nuwsaw) will conduct a strike ballot within the next week among 5 400 employees of 83 wineries and depots nationwide.

Nuwsaw president November Nkosi said yesterday the decision was made against the SA Wine and Spirits Industry Employers Association after wage negotiations had broken down, dispute was declared, and mediation and conciliation meetings had taken place.

SA Wine and Spirits Industry Employers Association spokesman and negotiator Riaan Kruger was unavailable for comment. Company spokesmen would not comment for him.

Hotel strike settled as wages raised

152
7/6/90
A strike at the Mariston Hotel in central Johannesburg was settled yesterday with workers receiving a R150 across-the-board increase, backdated to March 1.

A SA Commercial Catering and Allied Workers' Union (Saccawu) spokesman said the two parties agreed to:

- A minimum wage of R575 from October 1 and four months' maternity leave.

- No disciplinary action against alleged union intimidators.

- Details of the company's finances being disclosed within a few weeks.

Mariston spokesman W H Westphal said he believed the settlement was amicable although the hotel had not shown a profit for the last two months and was likely to be in the red again this month.

Strikers had not been dismissed, he said, and were due back at work tomorrow. — Sapa.

Friday June 8 1990

PO men on strike at seven depots

Sowetan 8/6/90

152
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By MONK NKOMO and LEN MASEKO

DOZENS of Post Office workers have gone on strike at seven depots on the East Rand and Pretoria.

A go-slow strike by Post Office workers in Atteridgeville and Mamelodi has led to a delay of mail deliveries in the past six weeks.

On the East Rand, members of the Post and Telecommunications Workers' Union have downed tools in protest against the alleged assault of a colleague by a white worker.

Mr Pieter Senekal, senior general manager of South African Posts and Telecommunications, yesterday accused Potwa of threatening it with strikes while negotiations were still continuing.

Negotiations between the two parties were due to resume next Monday.

He confirmed that labour-related problems had been causing delays in the delivery of mail in Mamelodi and Atteridgeville.

"SAPT has brought in extra people to help and the position should be back to normal by next week," Senekal said.

Potwa demands - among other things - an across-the-board increase of R400 a month and R1 100 minimum pay.

Affected depots on the East Rand are two in Boksburg and three in Alberton.

Friday June 8 1990

Breweries workers to vote over pay strike

MORE than 5 000 workers in the liquor industry will vote next week to decide on whether to strike.

The ballot follows the deadlock in wage negotiations between the National Union of Wine, Spirits and Allied

By LEN MASEKO

Workers and the SA Wine, Spirits Industry Employers' Association

NUWSAW president Mr November Nkosi said the union was demanding an across-the-board increase of R40 a week as against the employers' offer of R33.

Support

"If the ballot results in a national strike, then we - being part of the community - are appealing to the community, Nactu, Cosatu and independent unions to support us in our struggle for a living wage and better working conditions," Nkosi said.

Mr Riaan Kruger, a spokesman for the employers' association, was not available for comment yesterday.

AWB acts over strike - claim

ELEMENTS in the right wing are trying to undermine the strike at OK Bazaars stores nationwide, the South African Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers' Union (Saccawu) said last night. *Sowetan 8/6/90*

And while support for the strike was growing both on the shopfloor and in the community, workers were being "bombarded" with propaganda pamphlets calling on them to end the action.

A Saccawu spokesman, Mr Jeremy Daphne, said in a statement last night that Afrikaanse Weerstandsbeweging

members employed by the OK's Potgietersrus branch had entered the canteen and threatened workers. *152*

Daphne said in Natal Inkatha members working for the chainstore were persuading other workers not to support the strike.

"An OK Bazaars branch manager in Durban stated that he intended to call a meeting with an Inkatha warlord to discuss defending non-striking workers," Daphne said.

He said eight union members were arrested in Potgietersrus yesterday and six in Cape Town.

Capt. Tanya 8/6/90

Threats to strikers alleged

AS the national strike by about 6 000 OK Bazaars workers entered its fourth day yesterday, union leaders alleged further acts of intimidation against its members, including threats from the AWB.

More than 120 OK stores have been affected by the strike for higher wages by members of the SA Commercial Catering and Allied Workers' Union (Saccawu).

In the city and in Parow yesterday OK workers mounted street pickets.

At Potgietersrus OK, AWB members, allegedly led by a white OK worker, threatened workers, Saccawu national organiser Mr Jeremy Daphne said last night. — Sapa

Popcru march ^{stc} case postponed ^{8/6/90}

The case against 15 members of the Police and Prisons Service Civil Rights Union who allegedly took part in an illegal march to John Vorster Square was postponed in the Johannesburg Magistrate's Court yesterday to June 14 ~~25/13/90~~ (152)

Deadlock looms

~~151~~ 151
INDUSTRIAL council wage talks affecting close to 400 000 metal workers edged closer to deadlock yesterday. *WMan 8/6 - 14/6/90*

Although employers raised their minimum wage offer, to between 12,5 and 16,8 percent, the National Union of Metalworkers said the fifth round of talks failed to make significant progress

Numsa is to hold a national bargaining conference on June 23 and 24, at which it will decide whether to strike or settle in all the sectors it organises.

Further talks are set for June 14



THE GROOMS ... Some of the many grooms at Milnerton yesterday where trainers and union officials discussed wage demands by the grooms.

CMT Times 9/6/90

Pictures ORED ZILWA

Crisis at Kenilworth stabilised

A CRISIS that threatened today's horse race meeting at Kenilworth was resolved yesterday afternoon, when hundreds of grooms who had threatened a stayaway agreed to work today.

But they said that unless a meeting next Thursday between the SA Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers' Union (Saccawu), which will negotiate on their behalf for higher wages, and the Owners and Trainers Association went to their liking, they would "review their position", a Saccawu official said.

Cries of "viva" and "amandla" were heard when Saccawu officials, a delegation of trainers and hundreds of grooms met at the stables complex in Koeberg Road, Milnerton.

After numerous thinly-clad grooms stood in a freezing wind to air their grievances, an agreement was reached on Thursday's meeting.

A Saccawu official said demands would include a minimum wage of R250 a week, a pension scheme, alternate Sundays off and fixed working hours.

He alleged some grooms were paid as little as R65 per week and that child labour was being used.

Grim-faced members of the Owners and Trainers Association declined to comment afterwards.

A trainer said the unionisation of grooms was new to him and he would leave it to the association to sort out the matter.



THE NEGOTIATORS ... Horse trainers and union officials at yesterday's meeting. In the foreground a groom gives a clenched-fist salute.

Bloodshed threats as Shell strike grips

W/1-M6W 9/6/90 (152) (133)

By DAVID YUTAN
Labour Reporter

THE strike by Shell workers which began on Wednesday at several of the company's plants throughout the country, has taken a turn for the worse with allegations of threats of violence and "bloodshed" by strikers.

In Port Elizabeth, where 100 employees are on strike, Shell said it had to suspend operations and take steps to protect lives and equipment in response to alleged unruly behaviour and threats of violence by armed strikers.

A company spokesman said that yesterday's negotiations had deadlocked "because the union rejected suggestions even on the procedure and rules of strike action unless we met all their substantive demands."

And in Queenstown, a customer who defied striking workers and loaded his own truck with petroleum products, was threatened by strikers when he attempted to drive away with his load, Shell has alleged.

The strikes resulted from deadlocked negotiations between Shell and

the Chemical Workers Industrial Union (CWIU) over wages and the union's demand to change the review date for the salaries of unionised employees so as to coincide with the date on which the salaries of non-unionised employees are reviewed.

Defends offer

With regard to the strike by 60 Shell employees at the company's Reunion chemical plant outside Durban, Shell said that it expected to reach a settlement with the CWIU soon.

The company has defended its offer of wage increases of between 16 and 22 percent, together with improvements to housing and education benefits, as "equal to any of the comparable recent settlements entered into by the CWIU with other members of the industry."

The CWIU is demanding that the review date for salaries of unionised employees be changed from March 1 to July 1 — the date for non-unionised employees.

● Repeated efforts to obtain comment from the CWIU before going to press were unsuccessful.

ANC boosts OK strike

Bitter turn as bosses say 17 stores could be closed

By **CONNIE MOLUSI**

THE wage strike by OK workers received a boost on Friday when the ANC economic desk joined in the midday picket of OK stores.

The ANC said it was showing solidarity with striking workers

The South African Commercial Catering and Allied Workers' Union (Saccawu) has held meetings with community organisations canvassing nationwide support for the 6 000 striking workers.

The move by the ANC could throw community support behind the strike, and already some OK stores are being boycotted by black consumers

The strike seems set to take a bitter turn following the company's threat to close 17 stores as a result of industrial action

Workers have been holding placards at all store entrances throughout the week-long strike

The strike follows a deadlock in negotiations on wages and conditions of employment.

The main wage demand is a rise of R160 a month across the board. The OK is offering ser-

vice-related increases ranging from R115 to R145

OK has also rejected other union demands such as rises in sales commission and March 21 as a paid public holiday

According to Saccawu spokesman Jeremy Daphne, "settlement of the strike hinges on OK's willingness to start negotiating meaningfully and to withdraw their completely unacceptable position of proposing unequal increases"

"Management has contributed towards the hardening of workers' attitudes by insisting on proposing unequal increases. Also, at a late stage in the negotiations, they suddenly announced 17 stores had been earmarked for closure"

Saccawu accepts OK showed poor financial performance last year, but believes management must dig into retained profits to pay current wage demands.

"A broader perspective than the latest figures has to be examined," said Daphne.

However, OK Industrial Relations spokesman Gavin Brown said the demand of a R160 hike

across the board and a minimum wage of R800 could not be met

"Our profit after tax was 14,6 percent. This strongly reflects the deteriorating economy

"Our basic monthly wage is R710 and the wage offer is 17,7 percent - way above the inflation rate of 14 percent," said Brown

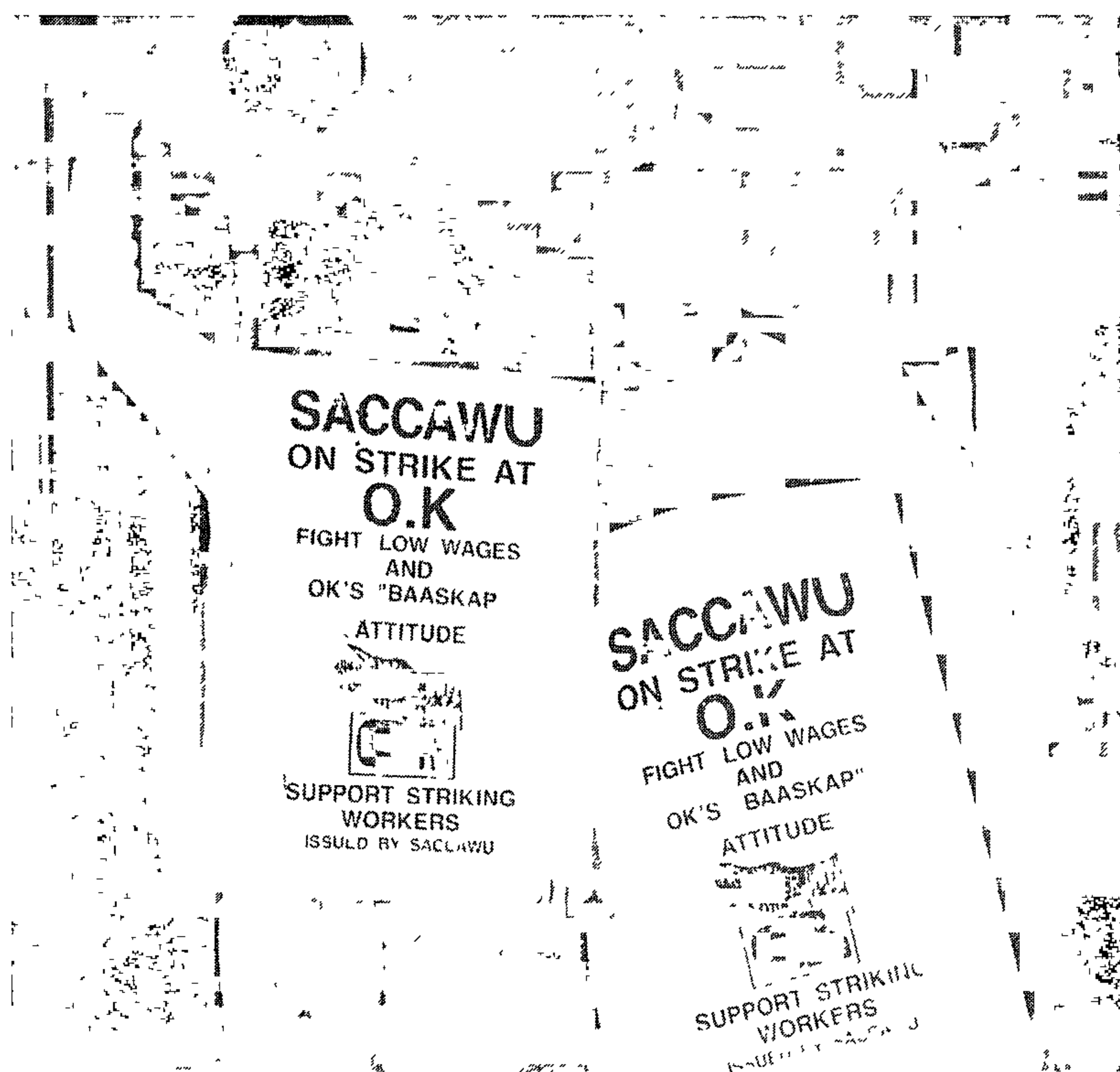
Spokesman for the ANC economic desk, Tito Mboweni, said they joined the strike to show solidarity with workers

He added that big business was holding meetings with the ANC at plush hotels, while paying workers poverty wages

"It's one thing to meet at hotels and smile at each other, but quite another when companies refuse to pay workers a living wage," said Mboweni

"We find it unacceptable that big business cannot meet workers' demands. Our main constituency is the working class in this country and we support the workers in their efforts to earn a living wage"

The strike has been marred by allegations of intimidation. The union has said police have intimidated workers, while OK has accused strikers



Showing solidarity with the working class struggle for a living wage, Tito Mboweni of the ANC economic desk joins an OK striker at a picket line. **PICT: ANDRIES MCINEKA**

of intimidating shoppers. Saccawu said eight workers were arrested in Pietersburg, six in Cape Town and six in Johannesburg

The union said there has been widespread rightwing intervention in the strike. In Johannesburg whites tore the placards of picketing workers,

while in Potgietersrus white OK worker Hendry Blignout and a group of AWB members threatened workers and distributed a racist pamphlet

The union said a Durban branch manager stated that he intended meeting an Inkatha warlord to discuss defending non-striking workers

AM-7045 11/6/90 ~~152~~ 152
Strikers' eviction granted

PORT ELIZABETH. — On Friday night Shell was granted an interim court order to evict striking employees from their premises. This they proceeded to do with the assistance of a major contingent of armed riot police with Hippos, accompanied by Shell company officials

Cap-Tail 11/6/70
QwaQwa strike ends (152)

WITSIESHOEK. — A four-week strike by more than 10 000 public sector workers in QwaQwa ends this morning after an agreement was signed here at the weekend

Workers baton-charged ~~claim~~

12/6/90
About 700 workers from the Elektrode Maatskapy of SA (Emsa) company in Meyerton near Vereeniging were allegedly baton-charged by police in central Johannesburg yesterday

However, police spokesmen for both the Witwatersrand and police headquarters in Pretoria had no knowledge of the incident by late last night

The incident occurred outside a building which houses the American consulate, where the workers had gone to demonstrate against Emsa, which is affiliated to the Danbury, US-based Union Carbide Corporation

After a 30-minute demonstration outside the Kine Centre in Commissioner Street, police arrived and allegedly gave the 700 workers two minutes to disperse.

The commanding officer allegedly said over a loudspeaker that the gathering was illegal, but did not specify the applicable Act.

The workers began dispersing but exactly two minutes later those who

had not dispersed were allegedly baton-charged

National Union of Metalworkers of SA (Numsa) shop stewards' committee chairman John Musundwa held a meeting with American consulate officials, asking them to pass on to Emsa's parent company a petition asking UCC to address workers' grievances.

Numsa shop stewards' committee vice-chairman Jordan Mhlambi said later there had been several attempts to have grievances conveyed via Emsa management to UCC, but workers believed none of these had ever been passed on

They have asked for an across-the-board R2-an-hour increase, for all increases to be linked with the rate of inflation, and for management to refrain from "racist attitudes"

Workers at Emsa's Meyerton plant embarked on strike action last Tuesday. Workers at all nine Emsa plants subsequently joined the strike in solidarity. — Sapa

star 13/3/90 (152)

450 Putco workers go on strike in Boksburg

Staff Reporter

All 450 workers at Putco's Boksburg depot walked out yesterday after a refusal by management to allow the Transport and General Workers Union (TGWU) to represent workers at a plant where it was in the minority.

Vosloorus commuters could be left stranded today by the strike, because the Boksburg depot services the township.

The strike could spread if the company does not respond to the action in Boksburg.

TGWU information officer, Kally Forrest said annual wage negotiations began with Putco last week.

The Transport and Allied Workers Union (Tawu) objected to the presence of TGWU shop stewards from Putco's Homelands depot outside Pretoria where Tawu have a majority of members.

"Management agreed with Tawu that TGWU could not represent members at Homelands. At that point we withdrew from the Transvaal wage negotiations," Ms Forrest said.

"Putco and Tawu continued to negotiate without us and the shop stewards felt very strongly about it.

"All our depots went back to discuss appropriate action and the Boksburg depot was the first to take action."

Ms Forrest said other depots would wait to see how Putco responded to the Boksburg strike before deciding whether to follow suit. TGWU has 1 348 members in the Transvaal at seven depots.

A spokesman for Putco strongly denied workers were on strike in Boksburg.

"We do not have a strike — we have a problem. There may be a strike in the future, but that is not the case at this point in time."

Ms Forrest said workers were definitely on strike.

Civic centre under siege by staff

Own Correspondent

CAPE TOWN — The Cape Town Civic Centre was under siege today as a crowd of several thousand singing and chanting municipal workers carrying placards gathered outside. The centre was locked from the inside.

There was a strong police presence of at least 80 men and a water cannon and several riot vehicles.

Virtually the entire municipal function ground to a halt as the workers staged a wildcat strike in support of wage demands.

Security officials blocked all entrances to the centre and many non-striking workers were denied access.

Soon before 9 am workers forced open doors at the eastern entrance and hundreds of strikers filled the main foyer, chanting and

toy-toying. The crowd, which started gathering outside the centre before daylight, jeered loudly when a police vehicle towing a dog trailer drove past.

At 8 30 am several hundred workers who had been standing outside the station entrance to the centre opposite the police moved down the road and into the parking area on the south side of the centre to join several thousand of their colleagues.

They were singing "Forward we shall march" and holding placards reading "Council pays peanuts", "Jobs and houses for all" and "We demand a living wage".

Outside, a marshall armed with a megaphone directed new arrivals towards the crowd "Stay together people," he shouted.

One of the workers said "They

don't want to give us money. If there's no answer today, tomorrow we'll come with the truck."

Another worker said "We want 40 percent, not 13 percent, and we want to speak to the mayor."

Another colleague added "They've got a lot of money. We have to work Saturdays and Sundays for overtime to make enough money — we do the work."

At 8 40 am there was a surge up the stairs towards the entrance and marshalls shouted vainly "Wait, comrades, please wait."

But the crowd surged towards the locked doors chanting "In, comrades, in."

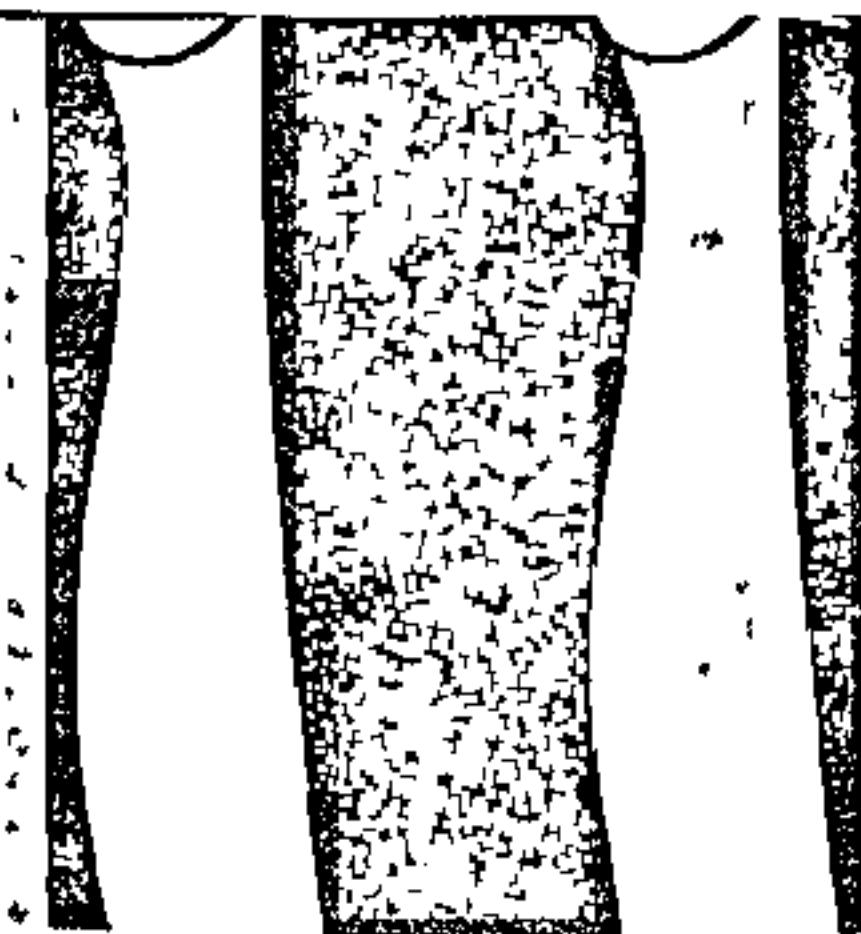
Roger Ronnie, South African Municipal Workers' Union spokesman, said workers had rejected the city council's final wage offer and at a meeting yesterday had agreed to strike until demands were met. He said wage increase demands ranged from 15 to 30 percent.

David Beretti, director of personnel, said the council had offered a minimum wage of R4,19 an hour as opposed to the existing R3,61 an hour. He said Samwu's revised demand was R4,80.

Salary and wages comprise about 40 percent of the city budget.

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NEWS

Liquor strike looms over R7 discrepancy

The wine and spirit industry faces a countrywide strike by workers over a R7 difference between the employers' weekly wage increase offer and the union's demand.

National Union of Wine, Spirit and Allied Workers president November Nkosi yesterday told a media conference in Johannesburg that the union was preparing a national strike ballot for next week.

Proposal

The union was confident that workers would vote for a strike, which would be timed to have maximum effect on the liquor industry, he said.

The National Congress of Trade Unions-affiliated union's revised wage proposal was for a R40-a-week across-the-board increase. Management — represented by the SA Wine and Spirits Industry Employers Association — has offered R33.

The labour action would involve 5 400 union members at 83 wineries and depots, including Douglas Green of Paarl, Gilbeys Distillers and Stellenbosch Farmers Winery, Mr Nkosi said.

Workers at 11 of the depots had accepted management's offer but would take part in strike action through "majori-

tarianism" if the ballot result called for a strike, he said.

The union's initial wage proposal for 1990 was for a R60-a-week across-the-board increase. This was revised to R45 after annual wage negotiations in February.

Employers initially offered between R28,50 and R31,50 for various grades.

Following a second round of negotiations in March, mediation by the Independent Mediation Service of South Africa, and a meeting of the Conciliation Board early last month, the union revised its proposal to R40 and employers offered R33.

Workers currently earn between R762 and R1 297 a month.

Bonuses

The union is also calling for 20 days' annual leave after 10 years' service, retrospective to April this year.

Management has offered one extra day for five-nine years' service, three days for 10-14 years and five days for more than 15 years' service, provided existing long-service bonuses are incorporated into wages.

Leave currently totals 15 days for one-nine years' service and 17 days for workers with more than 10 years' service — Sapa

Regional Court. They were not asked to plead.

CH 1 T1215 7/6/90
Shell plants strike *(1/52)*

DURBAN — About 240 Chemical Workers Industrial Union members at Shell's oil and chemical plants in Durban and the Eastern Cape are on strike. The union is in dispute with Shell's oil and chemical divisions about working conditions.

CAT 7/5/80 7/6/80
900 join OK strike

JOHANNESBURG. — About 900 more employees at OK Bazaars stores around the country have joined the strike to support wage and service conditions demands. The strike began nationwide on Monday.

CHC
T-12
7/6/80

Liquor workers may go on strike

JOHANNESBURG. — The wine and spirit industry faces a countrywide strike by 5 400 workers over a R7 difference between their weekly increase offer and the union's demand. National Union of Wine, Spirit and Allied Workers president Mr November Nkosi said yesterday the union was preparing a national strike ballot for next week and was confident workers would vote for a strike.

The union's revised demand was for a R40 across-the-board increase. Management — represented by the SA Wine and Spirits Industry Employers' Association — has offered R33. — Sapa

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Nursery teachers sacked

By LEN MASEKO

Forty-two members of the SA Black Municipal and Allied Workers Union, who went on strike at Soweto creches early last month, were fired on Monday, a Sabmawu spokesman said yesterday. Soweto 6/6/90

The nursery school teachers took part in a strike at seven creches in Meadowlands, demanding a minimum pay of R500 a month, a provident fund and maternity leave.

Sabmawu official Mr Philip Dlamini said his union would challenge the dismissal of its members by the Organisation of Creches (OC), which runs the day-care centres.

Mr JM Nyama, secretary of the OC, could not be reached for comment yesterday.

In a letter to Sabmawu, Nyama said the teachers had recently been increased by 10 percent and that "any increased financial pressure" would lead to the closure of the creches.

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Health service nearing disaster

■ From Page 1

demonstration for an hour every day. They have threatened that if hospital authorities do not attend to their grievances they will add another hour daily to their demonstration.

In Soweto, private doctors' consulting rooms are said to be flooded with patients and the Red Cross has its hands full as it cares for casualties.

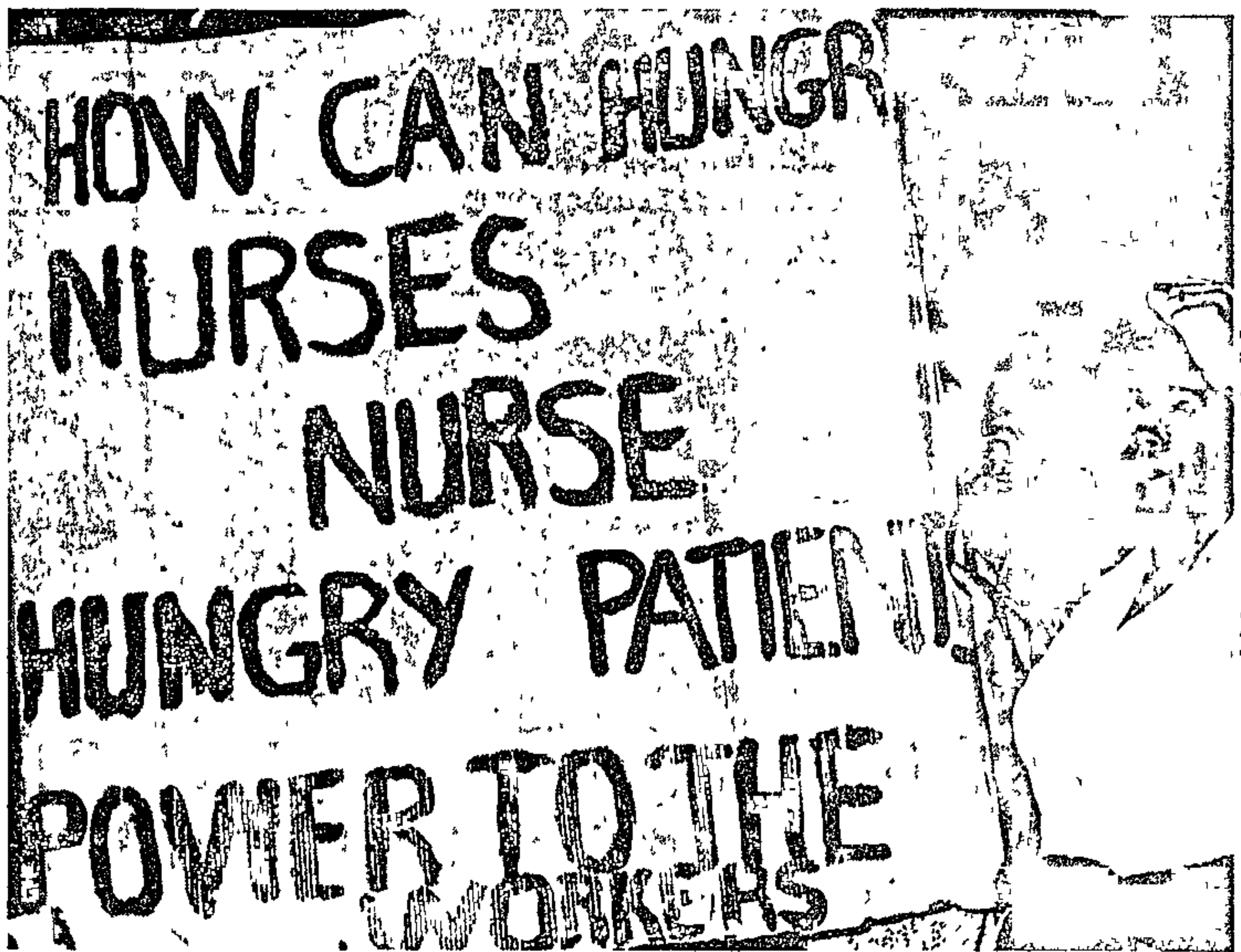
Transvaal Administrator Danie Hough has appealed to the public to volunteer to help at affected hospitals. The hardest-hit are Baragwanath, Hillbrow and Natalspoor, according to Hough.

Other hospitals affected by the strike include Coronationville, Boksburg-Benoni, Sebokeng, Pietersburg and Witbank's Lynneville.

The Cape Peninsula's two major training hospitals, Groote Schuur and Tygerberg, were also affected by strikes during the week until workers returned to work on Friday afternoon, said Nehawu.

In the Cape on Friday more than 6 000 workers in 10 provincial hospitals went on a one-day strike in sympathy with striking colleagues.

■ See Page 7



Hospital workers are threatening to double their hour's daily protest if grievances are shelved.

Dig into profits, union tells OK

B/pay 6/6/90

DANIEL FELDMAN

SA Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers' Union (Saccawu) spokesmen yesterday called on OK Bazaars management to "dig into its retained profit" to help meet striking employees' wage demands.

But OK industrial relations spokesman Gavin Brown said the union's proposal "confirmed their complete ignorance of finance". He pointed out retained profits were earmarked specifically for future growth and excluded from shareholder dividends.

Brown said the only way the company could meet the union's wage demands was to borrow money, which would incur exceptionally large interest rates. The company borrowed R194m in the year to end-March 1990, as opposed to R124m in the year to end-March 1989.

The strike action had spread to 122 OK Bazaars stores nationwide, Saccawu organiser Jeremy Daphne said yesterday.

OK management said the number of participating stores fluctuated during the day, averaging around 113 stores. It was estimated 5 500 employees were striking, up from about 4 000 on Monday.

There are about 200 OK stores employing 25 000 people in SA, and Saccawu is organised in 166 of them, with a membership of over 10 000.

Daphne said the 58% of workers who

favoured the strike "was not an accurate indication of the level of antagonism against OK". He claimed up to 80% of employees in the PWV area favoured the strike, but the national average was lower because many Natal employees voted against the action.

"We understand that in Natal, where Saccawu members have been killed and maimed in the Inkatha/UDF struggle, wage increases do not seem as important when lives are at stake."

"We expected Natal to vote against the strike, and we are not displeased with them. And even with their vote, 16 of 30 Natal stores are participating in the action," Daphne said.

Most strikes remained quiet, with workers conducting peaceful pickets and sit-ins in store canteens.

However, a police spokesman confirmed police fired teargas at picketing workers at the Eloff Street store after they ignored a warning to disperse. No injuries were reported.

Brown said management was not involved in the incident.

According to Daphne, a main reason for the strike was the "baasskap mentality".

□ To Page 2

OK strike

management had displayed over the years. He said OK executives had been paternalistic and arrogant, and had "kicked the union in the guts for the last decade".

OK's three mass dismissals — in 1984 at Sandton, in 1986 at Welkom, and in 1988 at Roodepoort — had generated "immense ill will", said Daphne. By comparison, he said Pick 'n' Pay had experienced several similar wildcat strikes in the last few years but had never embarked on mass dismissals.

Brown agreed that relationships with the union leadership had not been good for several years, but said the union had never broached the subject of the "baasskap mentality" in negotiations. "It's very irre-

sponsible to say it is a cause of the strike without ever raising it with us. It seems to be a smokescreen to draw the focus away from the economic issues," he said.

He also said OK had made an attempt to improve the relationship by proposing several innovative programmes early in this year's negotiations.

Saccawu alleged that eight workers were arrested while picketing at OK in Delareyville on the West Rand, and six workers were arrested, charged with loitering and refused bail in King William's Town. Police spokesman Maj Reg Crewe said no arrests had been reported.

□ From Page 1

Labourers take home R300 - union

By Stan Hlophe

An unskilled labourer working as a sweeper at the OK Bazaars earns less than R500 a month before deductions. He takes home about R300. He is also entitled to 12 percent discount on store purchases.

Workers backed by the South African Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers' Union (Saccawu) say the price of food, transport, rent, education for their children is no cheaper for a cleaner, than for a furniture salesman.

They maintain that is why they have embarked on strike action because OK is among the lowest paying retailers. Cashiers, general workers and clerks with service ranging from five to 20 years earn less than R1 000.

OK's industrial relations spokesman, Gavin Brown, says the minimum wage for the unskilled labourer is about R600 and for the cashiers R710 after one year's service. He said the company had offered increases ranging from R115 to R145, based on length of service.

Saccawu has rejected OK's offer and demanded a R160 across-the-board increase, Brown said. He claims OK salary scales are above average.

A supervisor or chief till controller earned R1 500 and a furniture salesman (the highest paid worker) earned R2 500 plus commission of 3 percent.

All employees are entitled to pension, medical, educational and housing benefits. Additional leave was linked to service, said Mr Brown.

Workers told The Star that most did not subscribe to the medical aid scheme because they could not afford it.

Strike: Deliveries resume

Staff Reporter *Cam - 6/6/70*

DELIVERIES of soft drinks to retailers by Peninsula Beverage workers resumed yesterday after a week-long strike by about 80 truck handlers.

A spokesman for the Food and Allied Workers' Union said yesterday the company's management had given in to all demands except those concerning wages.

Negotiations between the union and management were continuing in an attempt to settle the dispute.

The workers are demanding a wage increase of 96%, while management said they were prepared to negotiate regarding the increase in January next year.

The union spokesman said the workers had received a 19.2% increase in January this year.

He said agreement had been reached that workers would be paid for last week's public holiday.

Con. speaks on ...

OK stores hit by national strike

DANIEL FELDMAN

RETAIL giant OK Bazaars threatened to accelerate the closure of marginally profitable stores as more than 4 000 SA Commercial Catering and Allied Workers' Union (Saccawu) members began a strike yesterday at about 100 stores nationwide, demanding higher wages and more benefits.

OK industrial relations spokesman Gavin Brown said yesterday the OK had decided early this year to close "at least a dozen stores in the next 12-18 months". Two have already closed and two more — Faraday in Johannesburg and Goodwood West in Cape Town — are scheduled to close this month. *B1 Day 5/6/90*

Most of the stores proposed for closure were older and only somewhat profitable. He said the OK was scheduled to open only one or two stores this year in their place. If the strike continued, he said it would be difficult to place the retrenched employees at stores.

The strike follows ballots cast last week by the union's more than 10 000 OK employees. According to OK statistics, 6 034 of 10 418 (58%) of the members favoured action. The OK has 24 954 employees.

Brown said the strike was concentrated in the PWV area, though some stores in Cape Town and Natal were also hit. About half of the OK's 200 outlets, which include warehouses and stores, were affected.

"All of the stores are continuing to operate normally," Brown said, adding that no branch had 100% strike action. He said the number of strikers involved at each store varied from 10%-60%.

Saccawu organiser Jeremy Daphne confirmed union members were striking after

□ To Page 2

OK strike *B1 Day 5/6/90*

a majority — which he estimated at more than 60% — favoured the action. He did not know how many employees were involved or how many stores were affected.

Saccawu has demanded a R160 a month across-the-board increase and a minimum monthly wage of R800. It wants a 5% commission for sales personnel, a 13th cheque, a laundry allowance and March 21 as a paid holiday.

The OK cited its poor performance this year as the reason it was unable to meet the workers' demands. "Our 1990 first-quarter profit after tax was down 14.6%, which strongly reflects the deteriorating economy. The strike is an act of economic suicide," Brown said.

He said the company had offered increases equal to R34.5m annually and could not afford more. "Our offer is 17.7% — above the inflation rate of 14%. The union demands amount to more than 20%. It's impossible."

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The OK has offered service-related increases ranging from R115 to R145 and a minimum wage of R710 a month after a year's service.

Regarding March 21 as a paid holiday, Brown said it was put to the union in negotiations that workers be given 12 public holidays a year and they could decide the days they would recognise.

OK personnel director Keith Hartshorne said in statement "The industrial action will almost certainly lead to job losses. Depending on the conduct of the union and its members, it is extremely likely that large-scale retrenchments will have to occur as the company seeks to maintain its viability."

Brown said retrenchments could begin in a matter of weeks if the company was forced to make financial cut-backs.

Illegal boycott action was also taking place at some stores, Brown said.

Strike hits soft drink deliveries

Labour Reporter

AR6U 5/6/90

DELIVERIES of Coca-Cola and other soft drinks from Peninsula Beverage Company Ltd to most retail outlets in the Peninsula have been affected by the week-long strike by about 80 truck-assistants

The workers, who help with the off-loading of trucks at retail outlets and who are members of the Food and Allied Workers Union (Fawu), have been striking in support of their demand for an immediate 96 percent wage increase

NEGOTIATIONS

A spokesman for management said the workers had had an annual increase in January and that management was 'prepared to negotiate' with respect to the increase due next January

Today was the first day of deliveries since the strike started a week ago and in the meantime negotiations between the union and management are continuing in an effort to resolve the dispute

A spokesman for a leading retailer said that its supplies had not been affected by the strike because it usually kept enough stock for about four weeks

Coloured teachers' strike spreads

Star
5/4/90 By Janet Heard,
Education Reporter

The strike by coloured teachers in Johannesburg has spread to other areas including Pretoria, Klerksdorp, Krugersdorp, Potchefstroom and Kimberley, according to the Action Committee of Teachers (ACT)

The "chalks down", a protest against the late and non-payment of teachers' salaries, will continue until the Department of Culture (House of Representatives) meets the teachers' short-term demands, ACT said

ACT co-ordinators Ronnie Swartz and Mike Davy told a press conference in Eldorado Park yesterday that there had been no official response from the department

152
This is the second time coloured teachers have "downed chalk" in a month, for the same grievances

Mr Swartz is one of the delegates from the giant non-racial National Teacher Unity Forum (NTUF) which will meet National Education Minister Gene Louw today to discuss the deepening crisis

Review

Mr Swartz said teachers would review the strike after the Minister's response. He warned that if the response was negative, there would be "national mass action"

Mr Davy said there had been reports that the department was

considering withholding the June salary cheques of teachers who are on strike

"At the moment teachers are maintaining order and discipline at school by keeping the pupils in their classes

"Should the department persist with the threat to withhold cheques, teachers have indicated that they still have more forms of action lined up to intensify pressure on the department," he said

ACT has called an emergency meeting with principals tomorrow afternoon at the Rand College of Education

The Department of Education and Culture could not be reached for comment at the time of going to press

Unions warn Post Office of major, crippling strike

Staff Reporter

South Africa might experience a crippling Post Office strike in the next two weeks, the Post and Telecommunications Workers' Association (Potwa) and the South African Post and Telecommunications Employees Association (Saptea) warned yesterday.

At a press briefing in Johannesburg, Potwa president Kgaps Masonkutu said because of the Post Office's failure to meet workers' demands for a R1 100 minimum "living wage" and a R400 across-the-board wage increase, the current go-slows and sit-ins at post offices were likely to be transformed into a full-scale strike.

A decision was expected to be taken after a secret ballot by Potwa's central executive com-

mittee in the next two weeks.

Saptea president Rabi Gobind said his union fully endorsed Potwa's position and would also conduct a ballot to determine the form of industrial action to be taken.

Both unions, with the "coloured" Post Office Employees Association of SA (Peasa), have been engaged in wage talks with the Department of Posts and Telecommunications since last October.

Mr Masonkutu said Peasa was also in full agreement with the two unions.

The three unions also demand an end to the privatisation of postal services, six months' maternity leave, and an end to the temporary status of some employees.

We'll close stores, OK warns strikers

Cape Times
5/6/70
152

Own Correspondent

DURBAN — OK Bazaars management threatened to close its "marginally profitable" stores yesterday following a nationwide strike for higher wages by more than 4 000 workers at 100 outlets.

The hardest-hit region is the Transvaal, where hundreds of workers marched out of their posts yesterday morning and began picketing entrances.

And in Cape Town, one person was arrested after allegedly assaulting a worker.

"We cannot say at this stage whether union members are involved in such acts or outsiders," OK industrial relations official Mr Gavin Brown said.

Officials the South African Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers Union (Saccawu) would not comment yesterday other than to say the strike was a "national campaign".

Mr Brown said hundreds of workers could be retrenched from other stores as "low sales caused by strike action mean fewer jobs".

The workers are on legal strike after a ballot among members voted in favour of the industrial action. They are demanding an R800 minimum monthly wage, a R100 across-the-board monthly increase, a hike in sales commission and March 21 (Sharpeville Day) as a paid public holiday.

"We cannot be a party to this economic mugging," Mr Brown said.

"Our profit after tax was 14,6%. This strongly reflects the deteriorating economy. The company is offering between R115 and R145 depending on the years of service."

National postal strike may be in the offing Potwa

DANIEL FELDMAN

POSTAL workers could begin a national work stoppage within the next two weeks to back demands for higher wages, according to senior Posts and Telecommunications Workers Association (Potwa) officials.

The strike would involve Potwa members including postal sorters, packers, cleaners and labourers.

The action was proposed after SA Posts and Telecommunications personnel management senior GM Pieter Senekal announced at the weekend that postal workers could not be granted a further wage increase this financial year, as only central government could grant the raise.

Potwa president Kgabisi Mosunkutu said Potwa regional representatives would report back to their constituents this week to "receive fresh mandates" and gauge regional support for a national stayaway.

He said go-slows were initiated more than two weeks ago to back demands for wage increases, and he felt the go-slows and sit-ins would escalate into fullscale strikes if workers' demands were not met.

Reporting back to representatives from Potwa and the SA Postal Telecommunications Employees Union (Saptea) after a meeting earlier last week with Public Affairs Minister Dawie de Villiers, Senekal said finan-

cial constraints confounded staff association demands that the non-pensionable allowance granted on April 1 be made into a pensionable allowance.

Potwa had sought a general wage increase of R400 a month across the board, as well as a minimum wage of R1 100 a month.

The minimum wage is R627,50 a month after increases ranging from 9% to 20% earlier in the year.

Investigating

Potwa media liaison officer Sizwe Matshikiza said there was "certainly the possibility of sustained, nationally organised industrial action".

Senekal said Posts and Telecommunications was investigating the possibility of extending promotional opportunities on certain "lower levels", as well as the possibility of "increasing these occupational groups' annual salary notches".

He also said it would consider the salary issue again in the next financial year "should government grant further salary adjustments".

A postal operations spokesman said judgment on the situation would be made on a day-to-day basis.

Hotel strikers baton-charged

86
4/6/90 By Stan Hlophe 152
Five employees of the Mariston Hotel in Joubert Park, Johannesburg, were allegedly shot and several others baton-charged when police dispersed more than 200 strikers at the weekend.

The strikers, members of the Catering and Allied Workers' Union, are demanding a "living wage" of R650 a month. They are now earning R380 a month.

A Mariston Hotel manager refused to comment.

Those injured were Irene Qika, Beauty Qika, a woman known as Sarah and two men known only as Buti and Johannes. They were admitted to Hillbrow Hospital.

Police denied there was shooting, but confirmed that about 60 demonstrators were baton-charged outside the hotel after being warned to disperse.

Unions could face tough line

EMPLOYERS may react firmly to anti-privatisation stayaways and other action planned by Cosatu next month

DANIEL FELDMAN

Cosatu is preparing a nationwide protest campaign in July following "highly unsatisfactory" meetings with Ministers in charge of privatisation

Steel and Engineering Industries Federation of SA (Seifsa) executive director Brian Angus said "Action would be a completely inappropriate way of dealing with problems, and a very dim view would be taken of it. Employers wouldn't support it at all, and would probably take appropriate action in response"

Though he said Seifsa would not recommend any specific responses, he assumed employers would take their own independent actions including no work/no pay, warnings, and possible dismissals

"We are all concerned about the Natal violence and similar situations, but this is nothing employers can do anything about," Angus said, referring to an issue Cosatu organisers cited in proposing the action.

"From Seifsa's point of view, workers in

the metal industry are tired of stayaways" Several members of Cosatu's anti-privatisation action sub-committee confirmed at the weekend possible mass action encompassing all members would be finalised at a meeting this week.

Anti-privatisation committee chairman and Posts and Telecommunications Workers Association vice-chairman Floyd Masehele said the action, originally planned only for public sector employees, will now involve all Cosatu-affiliated union members. 6/24/90

He said it would be a nationally organised action, regardless of the specific nature of it. Demonstrations, sit-ins, and marches during working hours are currently on the drawing-board

The action was proposed after a top-level Cosatu delegation met with Mineral and Energy Affairs and Public Enterprises Minister Dawie de Villiers and Administration and Economic Co-ordination Minister Wim de Villiers last week.

Teachers' strike prevents exams

TANIA LEVY (152)

STRIKE action by teachers prevented about 40 000 pupils from starting exams at most coloured schools on the Reef on Friday.

Pupils at Kiptown High were sent home at 11am when about 35 of the school's 50 teachers refused to invigilate, a teacher said.

Silver Oaks High headmaster Lawrence Plessis said the disruption of exams would be detrimental to matric pupils in particular, whose June exam results were important for university entrance and bursary applications.

He said more than 80% of the West Rand school's teachers joined the action. *10am 4/6/90*

Teachers are refusing to teach or invigilate until the coloured Department of Education and Culture responds to a list of demands presented by Transvaal teachers at the end of the first protest a fortnight ago.

Short-term demands include prompt payment of salaries, employment of temporary teachers for no less than a year at a time and suspension of inspections. Plessis said although teachers' grievances were legitimate their strategy was out of order.

THEO RAWANA reports that House of Representatives liaison officer Thinus Dempsey said the number of students affected was only about 20 000 at about 20 schools.

"The problem is that the teachers march to coloured Education and Culture offices and address their grievances to National Education Minister Gene Louw."

He said Louw would see the teachers tomorrow.

Progressive Teachers' Union spokesman Mike Davy could not be reached for comment yesterday.

DET pupils still prefer English

10am 4/6/90 LINDEN BIRNS

BLACK secondary school pupils' attitudes to learning Afrikaans vary from neutral to positive although English remains their preferred language.

This is the view of the Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC) whose Institute for Educational Research recently concluded a study into the status of Afrikaans at Department of Education and Training (DET) schools.

Project co-researcher Gerrit Kamper said "The status of Afrikaans at black schools is still a hot issue, even 14 years after the 1976 Soweto riots."

At the time enforcement of Afrikaans as an official medium by the then Education Minister M C Botha and his deputy Andries Treurnicht helped spark intense unrest.

The HSRC study revealed that generally, pupils see Afrikaans as valuable for study and job opportunities. Findings show matric pupils are more positive than Std 8 scholars, but all prefer English.

The investigation identified a shortage of text-books and learning aids, a lack of subject atmosphere, inadequate pupil-teacher interaction, and the use of unstimulating and stereotype teaching techniques as hindering factors.

The study claimed that teachers' attitudes to Afrikaans and its teaching was positive.

It identified problems facing teachers such as large class groups, erratic professional and managerial guidance and inadequate professional liaison with their colleagues.

The study recommendations included that all pupils should have their own text-book, tape recorders be made available and teachers whose mother-tongue is Afrikaans be recruited.

Katlehong probes 'racism' claim

By Abel Mabelane

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Katlehong City Council treasurer L P Nel has been suspended while the council probes allegations of racism against him.

Council workers went on strike last Tuesday and Wednesday demanding a 10 percent wage increase and Mr Nel's dismissal.

Katlehong mayor Gideon Molotsi confirmed yesterday that Mr Nel had been given special leave.

He said a special council meeting next Friday would determine Mr Nel's position, and the workers would be informed of the outcome.

Mr Molotsi added that the workers had been told that the 10 percent wage increase announced by the Government applied to Transvaal Provincial Authority employees, but not those working for the city council.

Doctor held as workers stone police

PORT ELIZABETH — A doctor was arrested when workers stoned police outside Livingstone Hospital after a march.

About 500 workers marched out of the hospital yesterday carrying ANC banners and placards.

They started toyi-toying on open ground opposite the hospital.

The doctor was arrested when the group started stoning the police while they were talking to him.

Teargas had to be used to disperse the mob. They regrouped, however, and tried to free the doctor, a police spokesman said. A private vehicle and two police vehicles were damaged in subsequent stoning.

The spokesman said the incident occurred when the crowd — all believed to be members of the National Health Worker's Union — marched from the hospital's premises.

Started toyi-toying

They marched across Stanford Road to open ground where they started toyi-toying.

Police requests that they disperse were ignored and when police approached a man whom they believed was the leader, the crowd started hurling stones at them.

The spokesman said the police had no option but to use teargas to disperse the mob. They regrouped, however, and tried to free their suspected leader. More stones were thrown and vehicles were damaged.

Activities at the hospital were reported to be back to normal yesterday afternoon, but telephone calls to the hospital remained unanswered.

No comment could be obtained from the union.

— Sapa

Coloured teachers down chalk again

SKR 2/6/90 152

THOUSANDS of coloured teachers in the PWV region downed chalk yesterday for the second time in a month after the failure of the Department of Education and Culture (House of Representatives) to respond to their demands

The strike started as mid-year examinations were due to begin.

The co-ordinator of the Action Committee of Teachers (Act), Mike Davy, said yesterday that teachers had decided the "chalk down" was total and that no mid-year examinations would be written

Decision

He said the strike would continue until the House of Representatives responded to teachers' short-term demands.

The decision to strike was taken by about 1 000 teachers at a meeting in Eldorado Park on Wednesday

They also decided that no administrative work would take place

Yesterday it could not be established whether the strike was total, but it has affected all schools in and around Johannesburg and schools in Pretoria, Potchefstroom and Boksburg

"Teachers insist that children attend schools and teachers will supervise them in the classroom to ensure disci-

JANET HEARD
Education Reporter

pline is maintained. Junior classes will have informal tuition," Mr Davy said

"We feel this situation could have been avoided had the department responded to our short-term demands earlier this week."

Teachers had agreed that, if the department responded favourably, they would work during the June holidays to catch up on the syllabus

Short-term demands include that all outstanding salaries be paid immediately, that salaries be paid on time, that there be full parity between male and female teachers and that equipment be supplied to schools

Coloured teachers downed chalk for a week last month before handing a memorandum to the regional director of the department, listing their grievances. They gave him until May 29 to respond.

The liaison officer for the House of Representatives, Mr Thinus Dempsey, confirmed the protest but could not say how many pupils were affected by the teachers' action, Sapa reports

"Word reaching us from our circuits in the Transvaal confirms that protest action is being conducted by teachers. But we will only know later what the extent of the action has been," Mr Dempsey said

Nelspruit bus service halted after boycott

NELSPRUIT — A boycott of the daily bus service between KaNymazane and Nelspruit yesterday resulted in the owners, Matsebula's Bus Service, suspending operations until further notice

General Manager Pierre Delport said buses arrived at various stops in KaNymazane yesterday morning to find no passengers

He said intimidators

CLYDE JOHNSON
Lowveld Bureau

also prevented passengers from purchasing their monthly tickets and those who had bought tickets were threatened

Buses transporting passengers were stoned and thousands of rands worth of damage was caused to windows and windscreens

Rumours that passen-

gers would boycott the service spread about 10 days ago, following a company announcement of tariff increases

The increase, amounting to an average of 22c a day, was considered too high

"We cannot run the risk of getting killed with petrol bombs and stones so we had no option but to suspend the service until matters get sorted out," Mr Delport said

Thousands of workers either walking or travelling by taxi arrived late for work

Taking advantage of the situation, most taxis raised their fees to R2 a single ticket, which far exceeds the new bus fare

Mr Delport said it was a tragedy that a small minority was intimidating 80-90 percent of the community.

Postal strike looms over Pretoria

PRETORIA could face a Post Office strike today, Post and Telecommunications Workers Association (Potwa) vice-chairman Floyd Mashele said yesterday.

"We can't say for sure if there will be a strike, it's up to the regional committees to decide what sort of industrial action they want to take," he said.

"It could be that just some of the Pretoria regions decide to strike, but at this stage it's difficult to say," he said.

A joint delegation from Potwa and the SA Postal and Telecommunication Employees Association (Saptea) will meet Department of Posts and Telecommunications officials in Pretoria today to seek clarity on salaries.

Calculations

Although a media liaison officer said the talks were not negotiations but "a report-back to the delegation after discussions with management", Mashele said the union "wished to negotiate a living wage".

Potwa has demanded a monthly minimum wage of R1100 as well as an across-the-board increase of R400 a month.

In response, Post Office personnel management senior GM Pieter Senekal said at a meeting with Potwa and Saptea on May 7 that its minimum wage of R627,50 a month was higher than that of

DANIEL FELDMAN
and LINDEN BIRNS

most other major employers, and that Potwa's demands for a minimum wage of R1 100 were based on calculations for a family of six members "and could not be accepted on a general basis."

"The Post Office is committed to, within its financial ability, paying its staff a livable wage," Senekal said.

Rumours of an upcoming national postal strike abounded earlier this week. One direct mail company even sent out notices to its clients warning of a full work stoppage, while some individuals were notified by postal workers that there would be a one-day strike of black postal employees on either June 4 or June 6.

"We've heard the rumours, but we don't know what's going to happen. We're taking the issue day by day," said a postal operations spokesman.

But Potwa spokesman Sizwe Matshikiza said: "We wish to assure the public that Potwa is not co-ordinating a country-wide strike action for the month of June," adding the rumours could be an attempt to "destabilise or cause chaos for the union."

"However, Posts and Telecommunications workers, depending on the situations they face at factory floor, may embark on any action they deem fit in an attempt to have whatever demand they put forward, addressed," he said.

Wave of worker protests in July

Bloom 1/6/90
NATIONWIDE stayaways, demonstrations and marches were planned for July, a Cosatu spokesman said yesterday.

Industrial action, in sympathy with Natal violence, was scheduled for the first week of July; with other action, in response to government's stand on privatisation, during the rest of the month, he said.

Anti-privatisation campaign co-ordinator and Post and Telecommunications Workers Association (Potwa) vice-chairman Floyd Mashele said. "Final details will emerge at the end of next week, once the co-ordinating committee has met."

A Cosatu delegation met yesterday to discuss the industrial action timetable. Mashele said it was likely there would be a countrywide stayaway on July 2 and demonstrations and marches on July 7.

(152)  DANIEL FELDMAN
and LINDEN BIRNS

A top-level Cosatu delegation consisting of public sector union leaders who met Mineral and Energy Affairs and Public Enterprises Minister Dawie de Villiers and Administration and Economic Co-ordination Minister Wim de Villiers in Cape Town on Tuesday, described the meeting as "completely unsatisfactory" and warned the Ministers' attitude was "a recipe for confrontation".

Mashele said Cosatu was "geared to take any action to stop privatisation", and was considering the series of July actions to focus attention on workers' opposition to it.

He proposed for each week in July dif-

☐ To Page 2

Protests

Bloom 1/6/90
ferent public sector unions take some form of action, including sit-ins, pickets and marches during work hours

Cosatu had aimed at the meeting to secure a commitment from the Ministers that there would be an end to privatisation

Cosatu also called for the "re-nationalisation" of privatised corporations such as Iscor and Sasol

A Cosatu statement said "Dawie de Villiers refused to confirm his statement, reported several weeks ago, that all privatisation would be halted until the relevant

(152)  From Page 1
parties had been consulted" As a result, Cosatu members felt they "had no option but to intensify our programme of action against privatisation" Dawie De Villiers's media liaison officer Sandy Clark said the Minister had no comment on the talks, and had not described them in any way, as they were just "part of the ongoing dialogue between government and any party interested in discussing privatisation"

Neither of the Ministers nor the Privatisation Board chairman Pieter van Huyssteen could be reached for comment last night

Coloured teachers go on strike today

Sta 1/6/90
By Montshiwa Moroke

More than 1 000 coloured teachers on the Reef are to embark on a strike from today for an indefinite period

About 1 000 teachers took this decision at a meeting in Eldorado Park on Wednesday after the failure of the Department of Education and Culture (House of Representatives) to respond to their demands

Action Committee of Teachers co-ordinator Mike Davy said the strike would continue until the department had addressed teachers' short-term demands

Among the teachers' demands are a "living" wage, parity between male and female teachers, and prompt payment of teachers' salaries.

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Cosatu plan to shake up govt

CAP6 Tm 11/6/90 152 2 11/6/90

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — Nationwide stayaways, demonstrations and marches, still in the final planning stages, were scheduled to take place throughout July, a Cosatu spokesman said yesterday.

Industrial action, in solidarity with the Natal violence, was planned for the first week of July, with other action, in response to the government's stand on privatisation, taking up the remainder of the month, Cosatu spokesman Mr Floyd Mashele said.

He was speaking yesterday after a Cosatu delegation met to discuss the July industrial action timetable.

There would probably be a

Stayaways, marches set for July

countrywide stayaway on July 2, and demonstrations and marches on July 7, he said.

Cosatu leaders who met cabinet ministers Dr Dawie de Villiers and Mr Wim de Villiers in Cape Town this week said the meeting was "completely unsatisfactory" and warned that the attitude of the ministers was "a recipe for confrontation".

They said the ministers tried to deny that privatisation was oc-

curing by focusing instead on the term "commercialisation", and Cosatu "gained the clear impression that the government was preparing to go ahead with the privatisation programme".

Mr Mashele said Cosatu was "geared to take any action to stop privatisation", and was considering the series of actions in July to bring attention to the workers' opposition to it if the government's response had not changed by then.

He proposed that each week in July different public sector unions take some sort of action, including sit-ins, pickets and marches during work hours, to highlight their opposition.

"We hope it will be resolved through negotiation before this occurs," Mr Mashele added.

Talks 'on grooms' pay demands today

By JOHN YELD and SHARON SOROUR
Staff Reporters

NEGOTIATIONS to increase the pay package of Milnerton grooms — threatening to go on strike unless their demands are met — take place at the racecourse today.

The grooms are demanding a minimum R250 a week, plus a pension fund.

A Cape Turf Club spokesman said today representatives from each stable — about 40 grooms — would meet a delegation of trainers.

He said most of the other grievances of grooms had been met.

The last wage agreement in 1986 set a minimum R67,50 a week, and a 10 percent annual increase.

"The grooms have a valid case for an increase and this has to be negotiated," said Mr Eric Hodgson, chairman of the Western Province Owners and Trainers' Association.

"There is always the possibility of a strike, but I think it can be avoided. I can't make up their minds for them.

"I don't think racing will be interfered with. Even with a strike, racing will go on.

Mr Hodgson pointed out that the association was not directly involved in the dispute and was "merely endeavouring to assist". Of a membership of 950, only 35 were trainers.

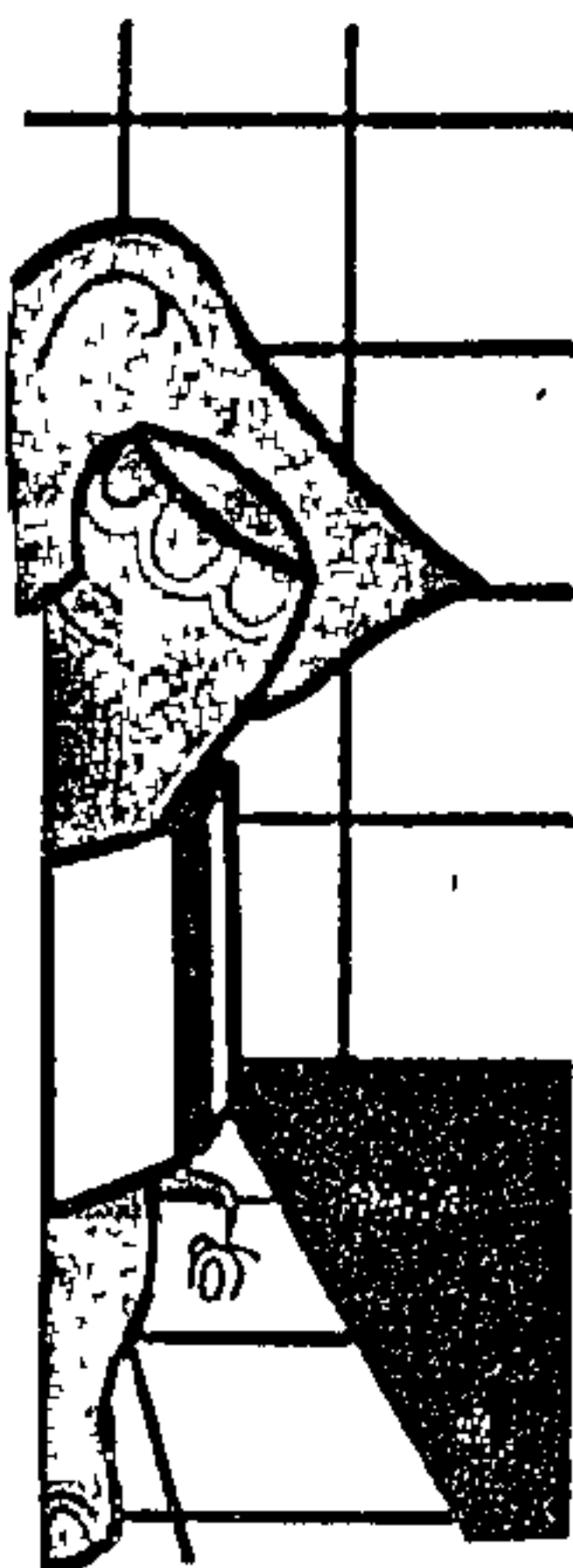


AND NOW IT'S THE SPIRIT OF... STRANDFONTEIN: cheque for R777,10 greeted David Kramer and "Sexy Boy" cal District Six, when they visited Dennegeur Primary School to accept a gift on behalf of the cancer crisis fund. Denne- Rudolph van Zyl, is in the centre, with :

Schoolchildren give to cancer

INTROUB
n Reporter
UR Primary
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cer when both his
sister underwent
some years ago,
sent a circular to
ring them each to
rds the fund.

"When I read about the campaign in Argus Woman, it struck me that there are so many women out there who could benefit by Groote Schuur's cancer unit," he said.
His sister, who received treatment too late, died of cancer five years ago, and his mother, who is 80 now, "is still going strong and travels overseas regularly".
Attaching the Argus Woman campaign report to his circular, Mr Van Zyl said the Strandfontein Village school knew it could depend on p



Putco strike may spread

800/15/6/90

Own Correspondent

THE Putco labour dispute which has disrupted the company's operations at some depots in Johannesburg and the East Rand has not yet spread to Pretoria - but a Putco spokesman said there were "rumblings" in the city

Putco workers engaged in a sit-in strike at the Lea Glen works in Roodepoort today, while operations at the company's Boksburg depots were disrupted when drivers parked their buses in the nearby township of Vosloorus.

Mr Isaac Tait, General Manager. Human Resources of Putco, said the company could be forced to close several depots if the strike action continued.

Normal

The depots in Alberton, Springs and Wynberg had already been closed because of major passenger subsidy cuts by the Government, he said.

A spokesman for the Pretoria depot, Mr Bruno Maotla, said buses were

moving as normal in Pretoria

Wage negotiations between Putco and the two unions representing its workers - the Transport and Allied Workers' Union (Tawu) and the Zakhoni Transport and Allied Workers' Union (Zatawu) - were continuing, Tait said

Putco today published an advertisement in morning newspapers appealing to the two unions to set aside their differences and negotiate with the company.

This follows Tawu's refusal to recognise the negotiating rights of the minority union, Zatawu

In the advertisement, Putco warned that commuters might be left stranded if competition between the unions continued

NUM stands firm despite gold's fall

DANIEL FELDMAN

DESPITE plummeting gold prices and the recent announcements of miners' retrenchments, the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) is standing firm in its refusal to alter its 1990 wage demands.

NUM spokesman Jerry Majatladi said yesterday: "These recent problems do not justify paying low wages. The Chamber of Mines can still meet our demands and realise a profit, although it won't be as large as before."

Chamber spokesman Peter Bunkell said the gold industry's current situation to some extent mandated what it could offer the union. "We believe under the circumstances our offer was eminently reasonable," he said.

Two gold mines this week announced a total of 1 100 miners would be retrenched. Yesterday the gold price fell to \$339,50 and closed in London at \$346,25, its lowest level in almost four years.

The NUM has declared a dispute in

its wage negotiations with the Chamber, and a conciliation board is scheduled for Monday, said Majatladi.

Demands include a minimum wage of R600 a month and average wage increases ranging from 20% to 32%. The Chamber has offered increase of 13,5% to 16%.

Majatladi disputed the Chamber's alleged lack of funds. He said it was able to offer the Council of Mining Unions, which represents white miners and artisans, an average increase of nearly R500 a month. In comparison, the union's demands translated into an average increase of about R202 a month.

In response to the announcement of forthcoming retrenchments, Majatladi said "Of course we don't want to see any miner retrenched due to circumstances beyond his control, and workers cannot be blamed for poor showings."

OK legal action to remove strikers

OK BAZAARS began legal action yesterday against the SA Commercial Catering and Allied Workers' Union (Saccawu) aimed at the removal of strikers from the Eastgate Hyperama premises.

The case is due to be heard in the Supreme Court today.

OK spokesman Gavin Brown claimed that about 160 strikers were guilty of drunkenness, assaults on employees, and disorderly conduct.

Saccawu has already agreed to remove the workers from the store's premises, but plans to contest the company's demand that the strikers not be permitted within 500m of Eastgate.

"That's half a kilometre. Workers have to be closer to the store to picket,"

said union spokesman Jeremy Daphne Brown. Brown said the 500m demand was made because assaults had been reported as occurring at bus and taxi stations about that distance from the store.

The union has promised to look into the allegations of violence. Daphne claimed many unrest incidents countrywide had been instigated by non-striking employees, casual labourers and customers.

He said the union would contest OK's decision to close its Johannesburg Faraday store today.

Saccawu said it also intended challenging OK's practice of not giving bonuses to workers who took part in legal strike action, saying this was viewed as an unfair labour practice.

Vosloorus workers on strike

15/6/90

By Abel Mabelane
East Rand Bureau

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About 250 Vosloorus Council employees went on strike this week for better wages and working conditions, town clerk George Prinsloo said today.

Mr Prinsloo said workers demanded salary increases from the beginning of July and complained that some of their colleagues were doing work for which they were not paid.

He said the strike was "absolutely unlawful".

"We have told the workers to return to work while we are looking into some of their complaints.

"A meeting was held with the workers' representatives on Wednesday but no agreement was reached and the discussions will continue next week."



STRIKE DEMAND ... Thousands of municipal workers crammed into the Civic Centre foyer yesterday on the second day of a strike in demand for higher wages. Picture STEWART COLMAN

City workers vote to carry on strike

Capl Times 15/6/90

By DAN SIMON and PETER DENNEHY

THOUSANDS of striking municipal workers voted unanimously to continue protesting for higher wages at the Civic Centre today, despite fears that police will enforce a court order prohibiting any action on city council property.

This follows a deadlock in wage negotiations between the council and its workers, the council executive committee announced last night after meeting union members for several hours.

Contacted for comment, a police spokesman said last night "We are there to maintain law and order and prepared for any eventuality."

The decision to continue protesting was taken late yesterday afternoon, following the dead-

lock between the SA Municipal Workers' Union (Samwu), representing about 10 000 striking workers, and the committee.

Yesterday's talks focused on union demands that the Supreme Court order prohibiting strike activity on council property be lifted and a police presence outside council offices be called off. The court order was issued on Wednesday night after a sit-in at the centre earlier that day.

Samwu representatives yesterday told chanting and cheering strikers protesting at the centre for the second day that it was only prepared to begin its wage negotiations for 40% across-the-board increases once the council lifted the order and asked police to leave.

Samwu office-bearer Mr Stan Brickwa said the workers' strike action, in which 10 000 of 12 000

Samwu members were involved, was likely to continue today.

The union was not yet prepared to declare a deadlock, as it would first have to consult its members.

Mr Louis Kreiner, acting chairman of the council's executive committee, said the council's final offer was a minimum wage of R4,19 an hour.

"The offer represents a minimum increase of 13,5%, with increases at the lower end of the structure of between 16% and, in one instance, 18%.

"These offers compare most favourably with both local government and the market place."

The council considered its offer to be fair and reasonable, but Samwu had rejected it, so the matter should now go to arbitration.

Wildcat strikers defy Supreme Court ruling

W/Man 15/6 - 21/6/90

THOUSANDS of municipal workers were still occupying Cape Town's civic centre late yesterday on the second day of a wildcat strike which has brought city services virtually to a halt.

Workers occupied the building early yesterday for the second day — this time in defiance of a supreme court order forbidding them from gathering there.

A large police contingent remained outside the civic centre yesterday as workers chanted, sang and *toy-toyed* up and down the vast concourse.

Negotiations were still underway yesterday between the South African Municipal Workers Union (Samwu) and the city council's executive committee.

Ambulance workers yesterday staged a go-slow and ferry only emergency cases in solidarity with the striking workers, who have rejected a city council wage offer of R4,19 an hour (with 13.5% across-the-board) and are holding out for R5 and an across-the-board increase of R66 a week.

Allied demands are for the working

By GAYE DAVIS

week to be reduced from 46 to 40 hours, for June 16 to be a paid holiday and housing allowances to be given to employees in rented accommodation.

A new demand yesterday was that the city council block the court order stopping them from gathering at the court.

"The council presents itself as liberal and at the forefront of change in South Africa but its deeds don't match its words," said Sahe Mame, chairperson of the Samwu's Cape Town branch.

He said the union rejected the city council's contention that wage negotia-

tions were closed and that in view of the impasse, a formal wage dispute should be declared. There was no deadlock yet, the union said.

City council spokesman, Ted Doman, said virtually every municipal function had been affected but that emergency services were coping.

Rubbish bags and litter began piling up in city streets yesterday. Slaughter at the Cape Town abattoir, where 165 workers were reported to be absent, was disrupted.

Stayaways at council nurseries, roads and waterworks divisions were reported as ranging from 40 to 80 percent.

Municipal workers to extend stoppage

By PETER DENNEHY
Municipal Reporter

STRIKING Cape Town municipal workers voted yesterday to continue their work stoppage in support of their wage demands on Monday.

And in Durban, almost the entire municipal work force began a sit-in yesterday, initially demanding a 30% increase and a minimum salary of R850 a month, but later reducing their demand to 17% across-the-board.

In Cape Town, S A Municipal Workers' Union (Samwu) office-bearer Mr Roger Ronnie said at a press conference that the union was still willing to negotiate, but it had been placed

in a situation of deadlock by the council.

He condemned the council for resorting to Supreme Court action, as this had the potential to make criminals of many of its workers.

He had heard the council was in the process of hiring labourers, including convicts, in an attempt to break the strike, he said.

Council spokesman Mr Ted Doman declined to comment on this yesterday.

Meanwhile, the council has taken out a full-page advertisement in the Cape Times in which it says that in terms of its offer, 99.5% of Samwu members will earn more than R835 a

month. Only eight out of 15 452 will earn the minimum of R819 a month.

"To meet the demands of the Samwu we would have had to increase rates by an additional 11%, over and above the recent increase of 14%," the council says.

Mr Ronnie said the council budget made provision for a 29% increase in staff costs for the new financial year (starting on July 1), yet it was offering workers only 13.5%.

Mr Doman said percentages could be misleading. He confirmed that it was estimated that staff costs in the forthcoming year would amount to R500 million.

Samwu officials said the workers had decided to hold a public meeting tomorrow afternoon in the Good Hope Centre, to explain their action and to seek support from the broader community.

Samwu general-secretary Mr John Ernstzen said the workers did not want to see the community disadvantaged, but they felt they must do "those things that are necessary".

Asked whether he considered the council's 13.5% offer less than the present inflation rate, he said that what was at issue was not whether it was more or less than the inflation rate, but whether it was a living wage



LITTER PILE.. A scene at the Grand Parade yesterday shows the effect of the strike by municipal workers. Household refuse has also not been collected for three days.

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Cape Times, Saturday, June 16, 1990 3

Union ordered out of OK store

By CONNIE MOLUSI

THE South African Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers' Union, organiser of the OK Bazaars strike over wages, has been forced to leave the premises of OK Hyperama at Eastgate.

The Rand Supreme Court made the order following an urgent application on Friday. The union also undertook not to interfere with normal business operations at Eastgate.

WARRKS JULY 16

Police keep a low profile as crowds make it a holiday

STAFF REPORTERS

JUNE 16 was commemorated peacefully throughout the country yesterday. And, for the first time in the history of the event, police kept a low profile.

Three main services were held in Soweto. One by the ANC at the Jabulum Amphitheatre where 40 000 people had gathered to pay tribute to the fallen "heroes" of 1976.

At Orlando Stadium about 2 500 people gathered under the banner of the PAC on this solemn occasion to mark the anniversary, and

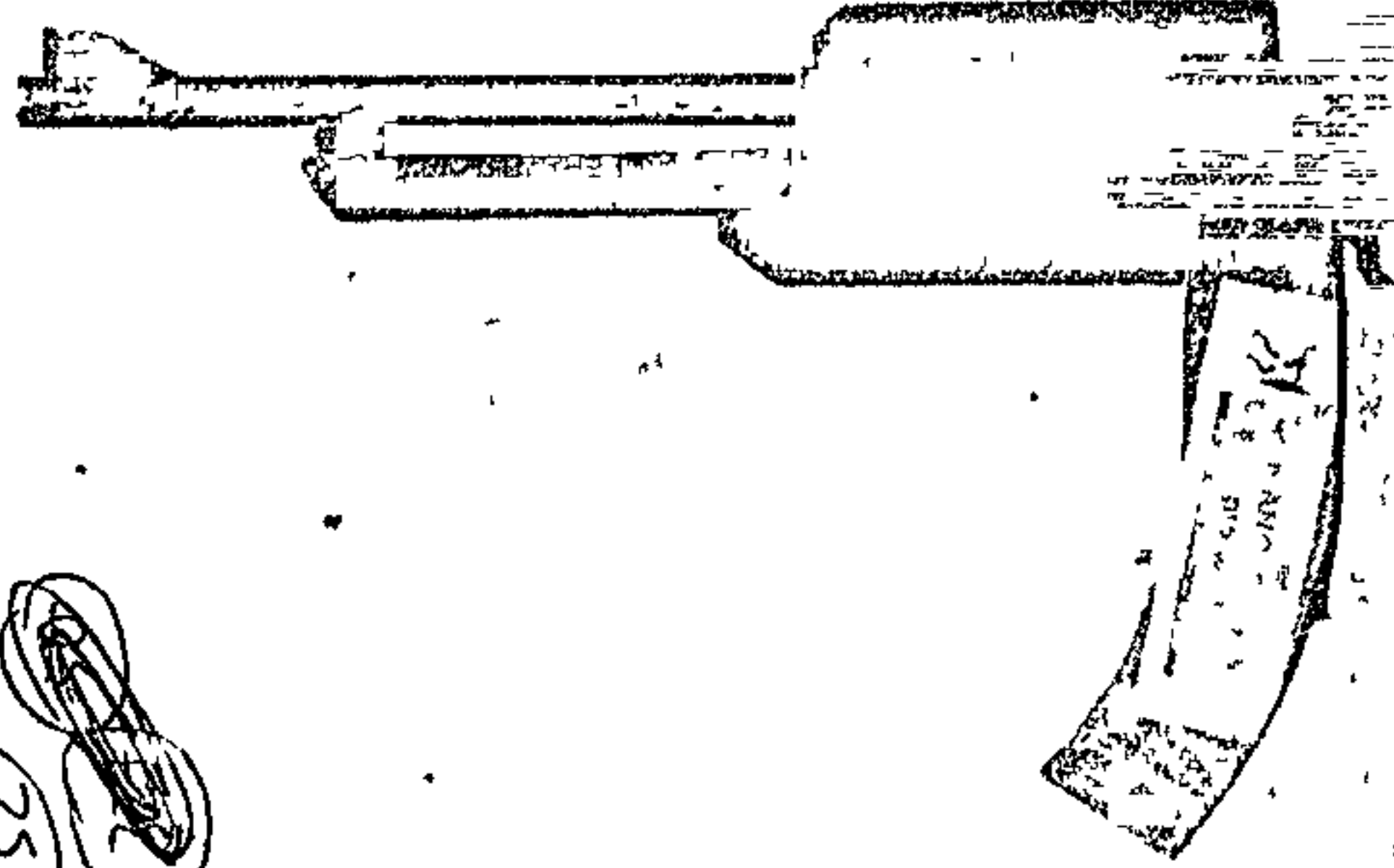
At Regina Munda, until this year the traditional venue for June 16 services, Black Consciousness Movement speakers called on about 3 000 people attending the service for discipline and an end to inter-organisational violence presently plaguing the country.

It was tense, but quiet, in most of Natal with many people apparently having resisted the Soweto Day stayaway call and reporting for work.

A police spokesman for Durban and Maritzburg said

clen 17/6/90

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180 000 miners may lose their jobs

By PATRICK MAFARO

ONE hundred and eighty thousand workers employed at 17 low-profit gold mines may lose their jobs if the price of gold continues to fall.

The Chamber of Mines, which released these startling figures to City Press, said the mines are on the Reef and in the Free State.

They are a source of income to many others besides mine workers.

Closing the marginally profitable mines will result in a lot of suffering as

Anglo American could lay off nearly 8 000 employees at Freegold's South Region.

Gold and Uranium Division managing director Lionel Hewitt said at current gold prices and operating costs, certain mines could not sustain certain operations which would be stopped over the next nine months.

He added that management had invited discussions with affected worker representatives. "At Freegold South Region this planned curtailment is likely to involve the reduc-

Soviet Union sales are flooding the market. It is estimated over 300 tons of gold have been swapped for foreign loans.

The Middle East has entered the market because of the weakening oil price; and Relations between the East and West have improved.

Gold analysts are talking of the price sliding to lows of 320 dollars.

The London-based Metal Bulletin attributes the price slide through the psychological 360-dollar mark to rumours that Ja-

255 million dollars to cover external debts.

Dark days are ahead for miners because other big industries which would have absorbed them also face a bleak future. The unemployment figure already stands at six million.

With economists estimating economic growth as low as one per cent, the more than 200 000 people who flood the job market each year have bleak prospects.

Economists point

profile as crowds make it a holiday

STAFF REPORTERS

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tional violence presently plaguing the country. It was tense, but quiet, in most of Natal with many people apparently having resisted the Soweto Day stayaway call and reporting for work.

A police spokesman for Durban and Maritzburg said there had been no "unrest" incidents.

Wadley Stadium in Edendale, Maritzburg, venue for one of about six rallies scheduled for yesterday, held less than 1 000 at 1 pm, when the rally was due to start.

A spokesman for the Sasol factory at Umkomas - one of the areas where trouble had threatened - said most of the workforce had turned up on time.

Another June 16 service was at Alberton where co-leader of the 1976 students' revolt Kholiso Seathole told an Azapo service that the government was to blame for the turmoil in black education.

Central Johannesburg had its own share of the June 16 activities when Joyco members staged a placard demonstration outside the Methodist Cathedral after earlier having been ordered to disperse from Joubert Park.

Having warned protesters that they had no permission for the Joubert Park gathering, police again ordered the crowd to disperse as it toy-toyed outside the cathedral. About 20 armed members of the SAP were on the scene.

Crowd marshals directed people to move on to Saratoga Cathedral, where Joyco held a service. It was like a public holiday in Soweto, with most traffic heading for either of the three services billed for the day in the sprawling area.

The Indian township of Lenasia near Johannesburg experienced a major shutdown of businesses earlier in the week, the Lenasia Traders' and Professionals' Association called on all outlets to be closed on June 16 and to have extended shopping hours on Friday evening and this morning.

There was a merry-making atmosphere at Jabulani, where people remembered the event with song and dance, interspersed with poetry and speeches.

Throughout the morning session of the rally the programme was interrupted by the arrival of dignitaries, ANC leaders Walter Sisulu and his wife Albertina, Steve Tshete, Ruth Mompati, and others.

"Mama Africa" Miriam Makeba addressed the crowd.

At Orlando, the gathering, which was convened by the PAC-inclined Nactu, was addressed by speakers from the trade union and other affiliates of the PAC.

Hundreds of supporters and followers sprang on the ground as youths sang and chanted PAC slogans.

The gathering saw hundreds of PAC supporters from various areas on the Reef bused in to give the PAC view of circumstances surrounding the eventful June 16.

The services which started two hours late, because there was no sound system, was opened by Archbishop PW Ntsoni, of the Apostolic Methodist Church of South Africa.



The June 16 mood... a youth holds aloft his 'Made-in-Soweto' AK-47 rifle' yesterday.

Schools decide to ignore

By SOPHIE TEMA

1/A 50

THE schools crisis deepened this week as students in Soweto decided not to take mid-year holidays this year.

The executive of the Congress of South African Students (Cosas) announced a joint decision between students and the organisation that schooling continue to make up for time lost since the beginning of the term.

The Pretoria Teachers' Union also took a resolution to ignore the official school calendar and continue with classes.

DEBT Northern Transvaal regional director Job Schoeman said "Although efforts to make up for lost time in black education are welcome, arbitrary decisions on the opening and closing dates for schools will not be tolerated."

He said teachers who did not report for duty when schools reopened would be disciplined.

The executive said this was also part of a defiance campaign against the move.

The executive told the Press conference the move was to prepare pupils for the examinations they hoped to write from July 3, whereafter schools would go into a short recess from July 13 to August 1.

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Schools officially closed on June 15 and reopened on July 10. At a Press conference in Soweto this week, Cosas executive members said the decision not to close schools was supported by all education organisations and the pupils.

Cosas said the move followed the breakdown in education in the PWV areas as a result of the failure by the Department of Education and Training (DET) to provide pupils with textbooks.

The executive said parents and others concerned had also supported the Cosas move.

The executive told the Press conference the move was to prepare pupils for the examinations they hoped to write from July 3, whereafter schools would go into a short recess from July 13 to August 1.

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TYSON BACK TO HIS FEARSOME BEST?

THERE is no doubt that Mike Tyson's one-punch knockout of Henry Tillman on Saturday was as impressive as the former champion has ever been. But will he over-rate his victory? Report — Page 15

STRIKERS
... Nearly
2 000
striking
city council
workers
packed the
Good Hope
Centre
yesterday
and vowed
to continue
their work
stoppage
until their
demands
are met.

Picture: ALAN
TAYLOR

Strike: Day 6

CMT Ticks 18/6/90

Garbage piles up as municipal workers vote



Staff Reporter
CAPE TOWN'S streets
were strewn with garbage
at the weekend as the
strike by 2 000 city municipi-
pal workers took its toll —
and workers again re-
solved yesterday not to re-
turn to work today.

This takes the strike into its sixth day.
At a meeting in the Good Hope Centre yesterday afternoon "to explain to the community" why the workers embarked on the strike, about 2 000 SA Municipal Workers' Union (Samwu) members vowed to continue the strike and to "bring the council to its knees" till their demands are met.

In addition to Samwu's 40% across-the-board increase, the union is also demanding an end to the employment of casual labour, a housing allowance for rented houses and the recognition of June 16 as a public holiday.

The workers decided that they would continue to gather at the Civic

Centre despite a Supreme Court interdict last week preventing them from entering the premises.

City council spokesman Mr Ted Doman said "some people" had been working over the weekend and that only some refuse had been removed from streets.

"We are managing to keep our heads above water in certain areas," he added.

'Deep trouble'

Refuse piled up in most city streets over the weekend and refuse bins were overflowing yesterday. The Grand Parade lay strewn with refuse and in several city suburbs, spilled refuse bags were in evidence.

In another development, at least 100 traffic officers (all members of Samwu) had also decided to on a "go-slow" in the issuing of tickets and in sympathy with the strikers.

Mr Doman said he had no knowledge of the go-slow.

At yesterday's meeting, UDF Western Cape vice-chairman Mr Dullah Omar said the community "supported the council workers" and that it was

not necessary to apologise to the community for their action.

Samwu office-bearer Mr Roger Ronnie told the workers that the council "is in deep trouble".

He accused the council of lying to obtain an interdict to bar workers from the Civic Centre.

Mr Doman said emergency services like the ambulance service were coping adequately.

However, it is believed that neighbouring municipalities have "loaned" firemen to the council to assist in the ambulance service.

In a statement yesterday, the Cape Recycling Network alerted home-owners to the "urgent need for recycling as much domestic waste as possible".

Recycling could prevent a recurrence of the existing problem and could save the city council a considerable amount of the expense incurred in the removal of the wastes, the organisation said.

During this period, it is imperative that attention also be given to setting up community collection depots.

Council's pay-dirt poser

By DON HOLLIDAY

Weekend Argus
Municipal Reporter

DEADLOCK between defendant and increasingly militant municipal workers and an uncompromising City Council executive committee over wage demands this week has plunged the council into one of its worst crises.

The wildcat strike by at least 4 000 workers has taken its toll on municipal services.

Refuse piles up on pavements, ambulance services are restricted to emergencies and a meat shortage looms with abattoirs slaughtering a greatly reduced number of animals.

Court order

The public has been unable pay bills at the Civic Centre as the offices are closed while the strikers occupy the centre's main concourse, in spite of a Supreme Court order restraining them from occupying the building.

At the heart of the executive committee's refusal to improve on its final offer is growing concern at the huge amount of the city's budget that is swallowed up by salaries and wage bills.

Personnel costs were the largest item of expenditure in the city budget announced by executive chairman Mr Dick Friedlander last month.

"The City Council's ability to improve the pay and related benefits of its staff is severely constrained by its ability to generate additional sources of income," Mr Friedlander said in his budget speech.

"In this regard, I must direct your attention to the fact that in the coming year provision for wages and related benefits constitute some 41,7 percent of our budgetary requirements."

"Last year the total remuneration package for staff amounted to R389,1-million compared with an estimated cost of R500,9-million for the 1990/91 financial year," he said. The South African Municipal Workers' Union, on behalf of its

11 000 Cape Town municipality members, has refused to accept the final offer of R4,19 an hour as a minimum wage.

The existing minimum is R3,61 an hour and SAMWU's demand is R4,80 an hour.

The executive committee has repeatedly said a state of deadlock had been reached and that the matter should be submitted for arbitration but this, too, has been rejected by the union.

SAMWU president Mr Salie Maine said the union felt deadlock had not been reached, and considered wage negotiations to still be open.

The council has criticised the union's tactics, and said the council was being forced to negotiate under duress.

To give in to union demands or reach a compromise after it had made its final offer could set a precedent which would compromise the council in future wage negotiations.

An urgent interdict issued on Wednesday by the Supreme Court, Cape Town, restraining strikers from gathering on council premises for purposes other than to work was ignored by the workers at the Civic Centre.

As a court sheriff read out the order on Thursday over a public-address system, his voice was drowned out by the singing and chanting masses below him.

The council was faced with the option of enforcing the order or letting the occupation of the centre continue. They chose the latter.

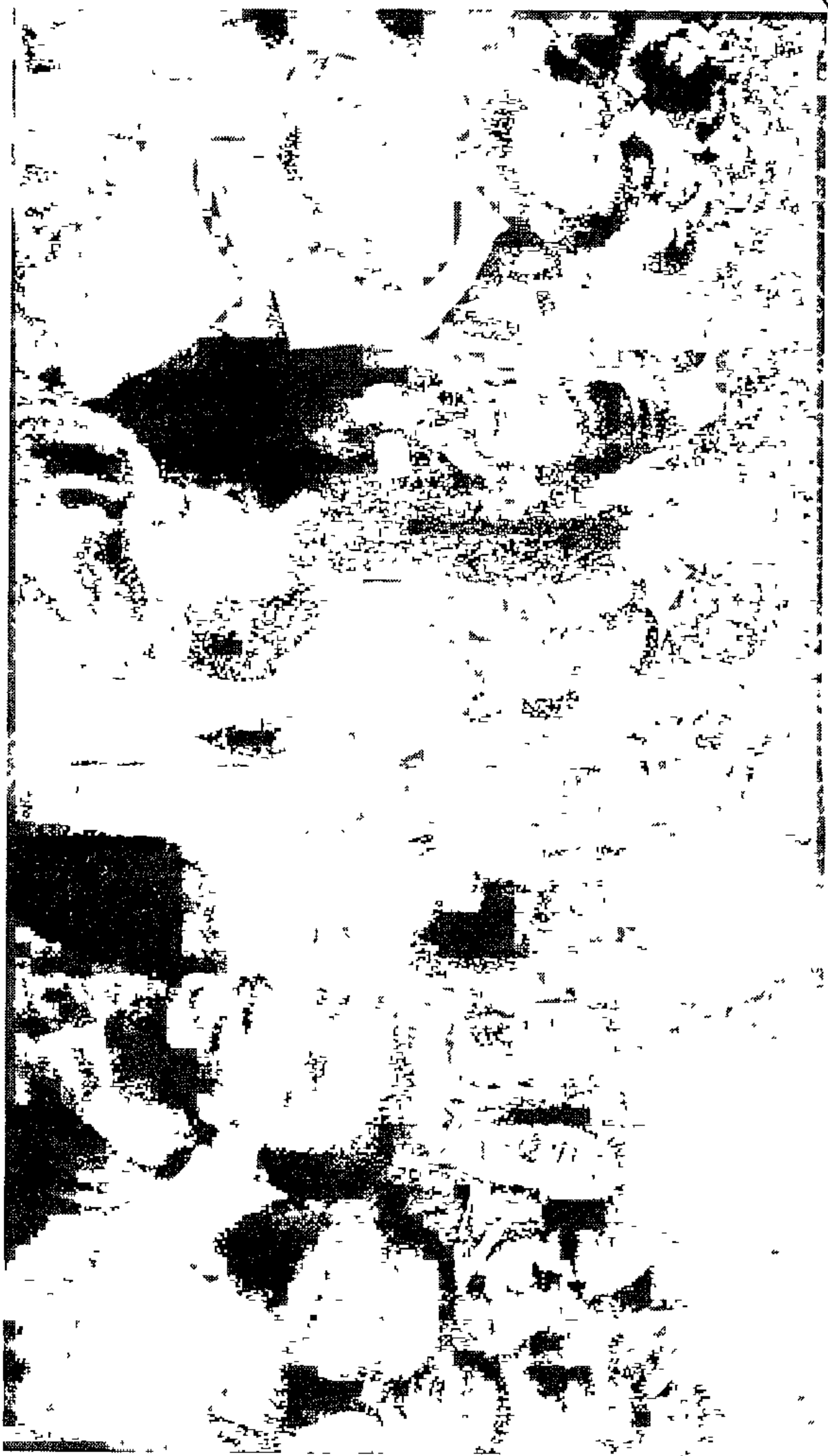
Public image

An forced removal could severely blight the council's public image.

To remove an unwilling mass of people from the building would almost certainly have required the assistance of dozens of police who have been stationed outside the centre since the beginning of the strike.

● Council spokesman Mr Ted Doman appealed to Capetonians not to put their rubbish on the streets for collection and to those in the city centre to deposit bottles into "igloos". He also appealed to people to minimise waste.

See Page 4.



Striking municipal workers give clenched-fist salutes inside the Civic Centre.

Pictures: Andrew Ingram Weekend Argus



Security guards seem oblivious of the rubbish littered outside the centre.

Cathedral stand-off

Police surround workers • Water cannon used at station

By DON HOLLIDAY
and JOHN YELD
Staff Reporters

A STRONG contingent of riot police surrounded St George's Cathedral where a crowd of about 2 000 striking municipal workers gathered today after they were prevented from entering the Civic Centre.

Earlier, police used a water cannon to prevent the workers from leaving the third-class entrance to the Cape Town station.

A municipal traffic officer directing traffic outside the Cathedral was slightly injured when he was knocked down by a police riot van turning into St George's Street from Wale Street to loud boos from the workers.

The South African Municipal Workers' Union hired double-deckers buses to ferry the workers from the Cathedral to the City Park Stadium in Athlone, but the workers initially refused to go.

They were told they could not use the Cathedral Hall, which had already been booked.

The first six buses arrived about 9.30am and workers swarmed into them. However, after two had left, other workers still standing in the Cathedral grounds then took up a loud chant of "Ons bly hier" (We're staying here) and those already in the buses got off.

Two empty buses then left, but another three arrived and the strikers climbed aboard.

There were tense scenes as the several hundred workers still left sang loudly and jeered

police and any City Council vehicles which passed.

Police blocked St George's Street at the Church Street intersection and scores of riot police took up positions around the Cathedral. Some had dogs and the water cannon was parked at the head of Adderley Street.

A senior riot policeman using his car's loudhailer warned onlookers to move.

"My suggestion is that you leave this area immediately for your own safety," he said to more boos from the workers.

Union president Mr Salie Maene used a loudhailer to tell the workers he was returning to the council to continue negotiations and he appealed for discipline.

"We want you to keep order when the buses arrive we want you to get in them for the City Park Stadium. Do we understand each other?" he shouted.

Earlier heavily armed riot policemen guarded the entrances to the Civic Centre and non-striking employees were carefully screened by municipal security staff before being allowed in.

Piling up

The main concourse, where thousands of the strikers gathered for three days last week, was deserted.

Although rubbish is piling up in the city centre and some suburbs, high-density Sea Point is relatively clear after an urgent appeal by the local traders' association.

Chairman and Sea Point councillor Mr Chris Joubert said the association's executive committee had held an emergency meeting on Saturday, after which they had sent notices to all traders and flat dwellers

The notices had appealed to people to package their rubbish securely, sprinkling it with antiseptic fluid if necessary and to clean the pavements in front of their premises.

Assistant City engineer for cleansing, Mr Tom de Bruin, said his department was only able to cope with emergency refuse removals.

"We are coping reasonably well with emergencies, but are not able to remove domestic refuse until further notice."

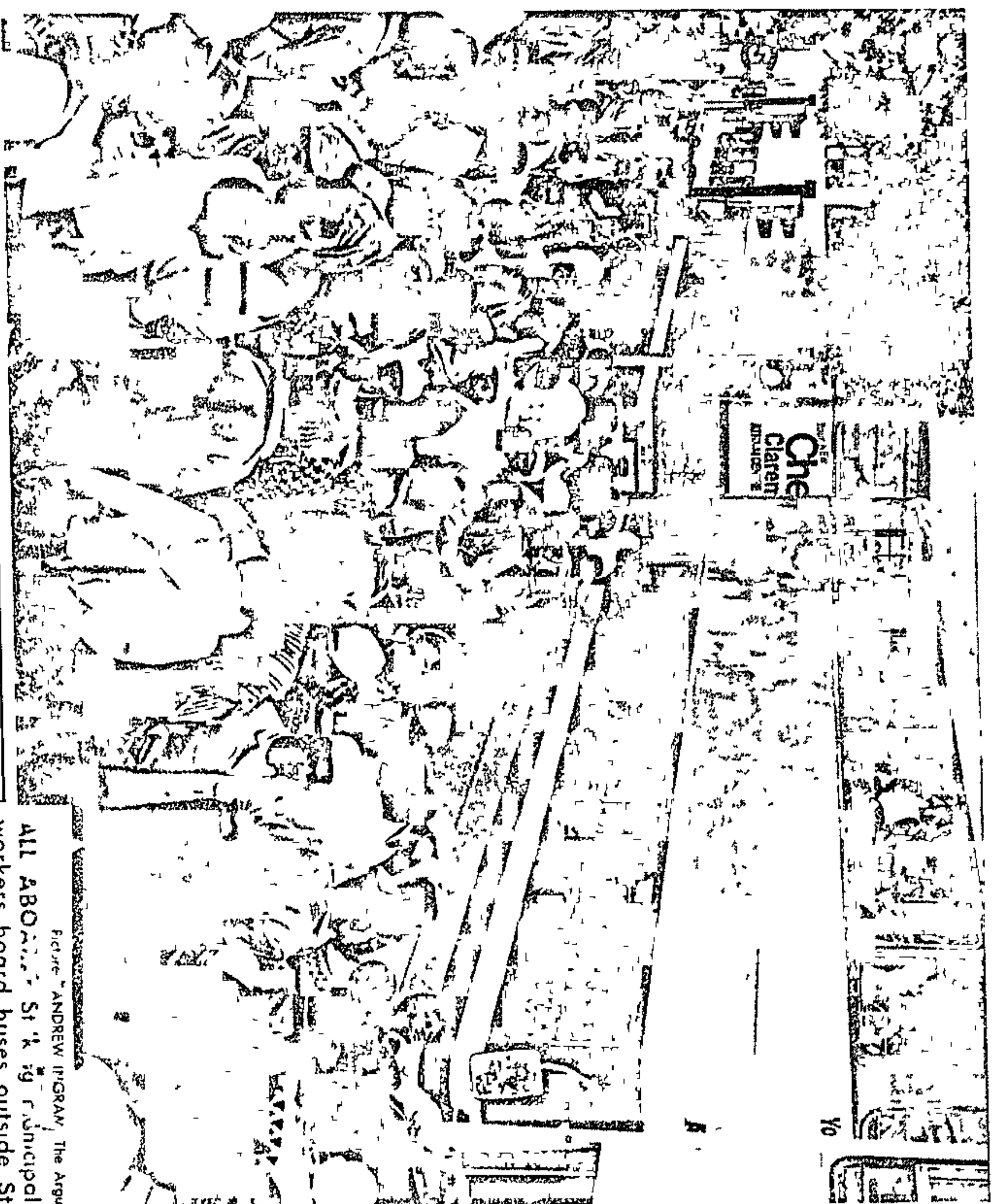
"I suggest that wherever possible people take their refuse bags to their nearest municipal cleansing depot where there will be trucks available to take them away. The cleansing depots can be located in the telephone directory," he said.

Limit access

The City Council said in a statement today it had no choice but to limit access to the Civic Centre today to members of the public needing to conduct business there and to members of staff.

"The council regrets the severe disruption of the operation of Cape Town's Civic Centre because of its occupation on three successive days last week by large numbers of striking municipal workers."

"This has been accompanied by damage to property, intimidation and threats to employees wishing to carry out their duties there, and the public being prevented from conducting business with the council."



Crucial DP talks on leadership and role in SA

Dhlomo absent at De Klerk meeting

ALL ABOARD St George's Cathedral this morning after they were prevented from gathering at the Civic Centre. The buses were bound for the City Park Stadium in Athlone. However, the strikers delighted after a decision was taken to stay.

By DON HOLLIDAY
and JOHN YELD
Staff Reporters

A STRONG contingent of riot police surrounded St George's Cathedral where a crowd of about 2 000 striking municipal workers gathered today after they were prevented from entering the Civic Centre

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There were tense scenes as the several hundred workers still left sang loudly and jeered



HELPING HANDS: Two riot policemen help a traffic policeman to the kerb after their van had knocked him down at the intersection of Wale and St George's streets. He was not seriously injured.

police and any City Council vehicles which passed

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Crucial DP talks on leadership and role in SA

By MICHAEL MORRIS, Political Correspondent
A LEADERSHIP tussle developing in the Democratic Party is likely to be resolved only later in the year, but the party's most immediate task is to affirm its role in helping create a new South Africa

The party's parliamentary caucus meets again tomorrow for a continuation of the debate with the party begun immediately after its disastrous performance in Umlazi

However, while the leadership issue has been a prominent feature of the discussion, sources say the question of the party's political role is more pressing

SINGLE LEADER

Sentiment in favour of a single leader is by no means universal

While the caucus — which is not empowered to change policy or alter the leadership — has accepted the need to replace the troika with a single leader, this view is not necessarily shared in all constituencies

The congress of the Western Cape region, for instance, recently voted overwhelmingly against a resolution calling for a single leader

Caucus sources say the more important debate is about the DP's function in helping create a new South Africa. There is a strong feeling the party should retain its independence and hold firm to liberal principles

There is, in fact, much confidence that the party has a significant role to play

Democratic Party chairman for the Western Cape, Simon's Town MP Mr Jannie Momberg, said DP MPs were far more at home selling President

Putco management 'surprised' as 750 go on strike at three depots

By Stan Hlophe

About 750 workers at three Putco depots went on strike this weekend, a Transport and General Workers' Union (TGWU) information officer, Kally Forrest, said.

Workers were asking management to re-open two depots in Springs and Wynberg, which were closed in April and May.

The original demand for union recognition at

the Homelands depot in KwaNdebele still stood. The three depots affected by the strike were at Denilton, Homelands and Mamelodi.

She accused management of breaking the TGWU's majority membership at Homelands depot by transferring workers

Putco's assistant managing director, Mike Oldham, confirmed two

strikes, but said the Mamelodi depot was unaffected. He said he was surprised by the union's action as it had re-entered negotiations talks last Thursday.

Workers had been transferred to create "a better service".

The bus industry is facing cuts in Government passenger subsidies and several depots have been forced to close.

Wine industry strike-threat

Capl. T. H. S. 19/6/80 (152)
JOHANNESBURG — A countrywide strike ban by the National Union of Wine, Spirits and Allied Workers (Nuwsaw) began yesterday after a wage dispute impasse.

The dispute involves the union and Stellenbosch Farmers' Winery, Distillers' Corporation, Gilbeys, Douglas Green, Union Wine and Henry Tayler and Ries.

The union has asked for a R40 a week increase across-the-board and has been offered R33, said Nuwsaw president Mr November Nkosi.

Deal ends strike at Putco depots

19/6/90 By Stan Hlophe

A strike by 750 Putco workers was called off yesterday after agreement with management was reached regarding the transfer of rival union members, Transport and General Workers Union (TGWU) information officer Kally Forrest said.

Miss Forrest said the strike was called off after manage-

ment agreed to transfer about 500 members of the rival Transport and Allied Workers' Union (Tawu) from the Homelands depot to Soshanguve.

Rivalry between the two unions flared during wage negotiations. The TGWU claimed it had lost its membership majority because of an earlier transfer of workers from the Homelands depot. This was denied by Putco.

Wage discussions were then postponed when the TGWU walked out after Tawu objected to their inclusion in the wage talks.

This led to strike action by TGWU members at three depots, leaving hundreds of commuters stranded.

The three depots affected by the strike were Denilton, Homelands, and Mamelodi. Talks will resume today.

Health threat as strike goes on

Garbage warning

CLP (152) CAPT Timp 19/6/90

Mandela talks to Thatcher — on the phone

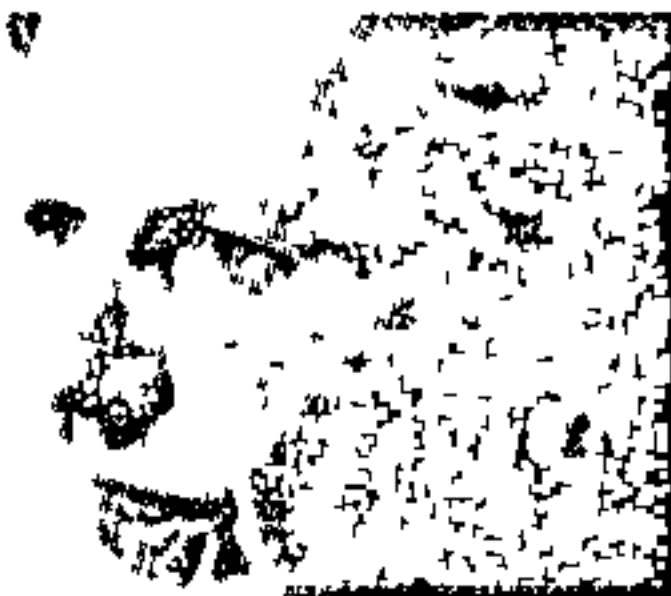
CLP (152) CAPT Timp 19/6/90

Own Correspondent

LONDON. — British Prime Minister Mrs Margaret Thatcher and ANC deputy president Mr Nelson Mandela spoke on the telephone for over 40 minutes during his low-key trip to London, it was revealed last night.

A Downing Street spokesman admitted that the call had taken place "over the weekend". However, he declined to reveal who had initiated the discussions, or their content.

He said "no meetings" had taken



CALL ...
Mrs Thatcher

place between Mrs Thatcher and Mr Mandela.

It is understood that the call took place on Saturday, shortly after ANC foreign affairs spokesman, Mr Thabo Mbeki's meeting with British Foreign Secretary Mr Douglas Hurd.

Mr Mandela's trip to London was billed as a strictly private visit to see ANC president Mr Oliver Tambo, convalescing after suffering a stroke last year.

● Sanctions 'vital to struggle' — Page 2

By DANIEL SIMON and DALE GRANGER

WITH the municipal workers' strike entering its seventh day, city health authorities yesterday warned of an impending crisis as uncollected garbage piled up in Cape Town.

Dr Nula Durcan, acting Medical Officer of Health, yesterday said the city could become a breeding ground for disease and infection if residents do not dispose of their own garbage.

If normal refuse collection services did not resume soon, the city could face an "upsurge" in cases of gastro-enteritis, according to Dr Durcan.

● It was disclosed yesterday that the strike by about 8 000 municipal workers is to continue "indefinitely" as workers vowed to "hold out" for their 40% across-the-board wage demand.

The council has also refused to budge from its final minimum wage offer of R4,19 per hour after a fruitless meeting

between the parties yesterday.

● Police and strikers confronted each other outside St George's Cathedral, and eight union members were arrested at Cape Town station ('Police confront workers' — Page 3.)

Businesses were yesterday urged to organise their own refuse collecting services.

And Green and Sea Point residents called for casual labour to be brought in to "clean up the streets".

Dr Durcan said the health department was "concerned about fly-breeding" which could lead to a real danger of a spread of gastro-enteritis if the strike did

not end this week. CAPT Timp 19/6/90 (152) 228

In order to minimise a health threat, Dr Durcan suggested that flat-dwellers "double bag" their refuse and tie it securely, while businessmen should try and arrange private removal firms to collect their refuse.

"Households in turn should collect paper and glass separately and use bio-degradable refuse for their gardens."

Last night Mr Morrie Silbert, Green and Sea Point Ratepayers' Association chairman, said he had been inundated with complaints by residents.

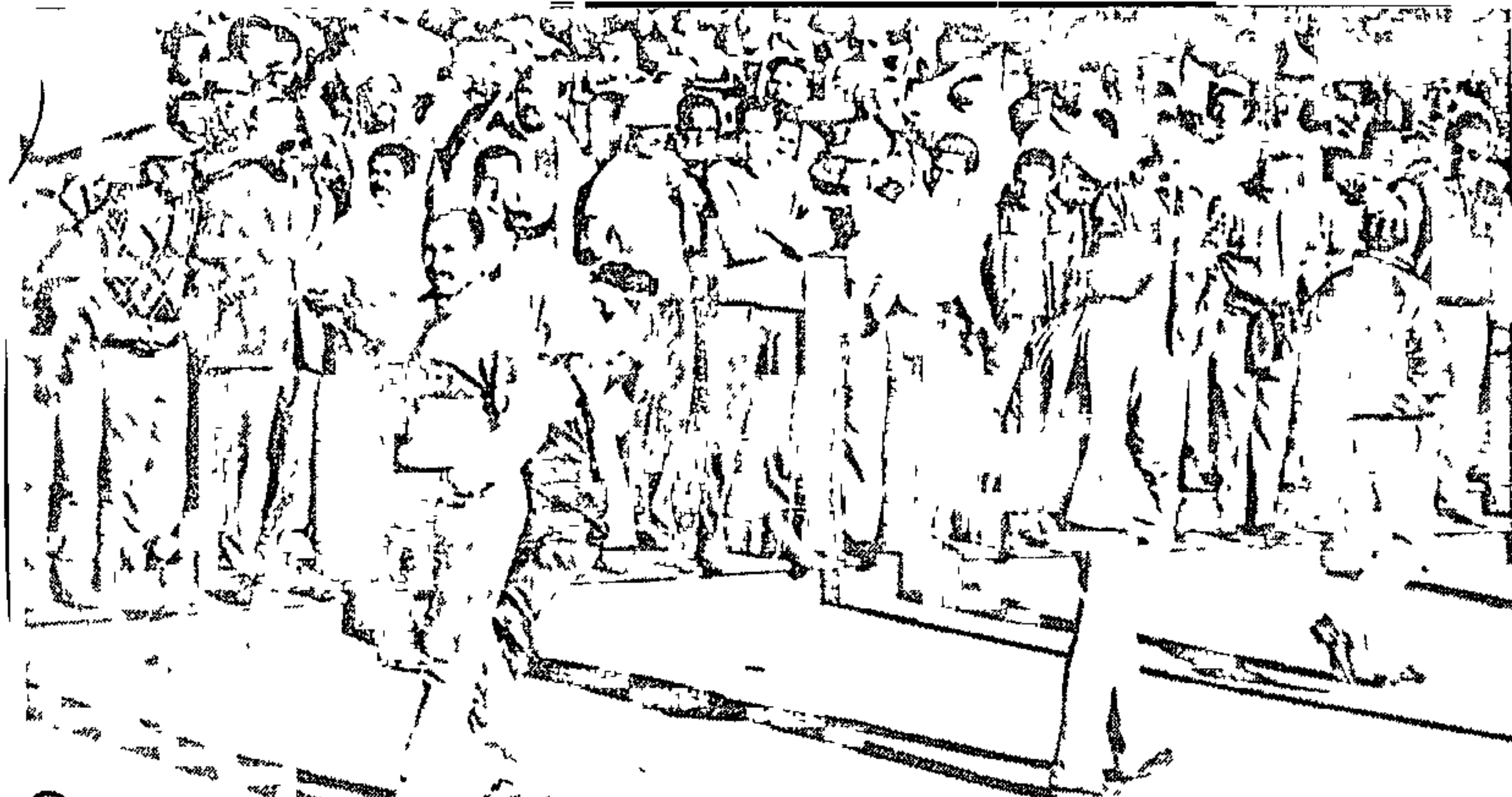
"The council should employ casual labour until an agreement is made with the workmen. You either get the staff to do the work or you replace them," he said.

Dr John Sonnenberg, city councillor for Sea Point, said while an offer had been made to the workers, the council could not engage casual labour.

According to a city engineering department spokesman yesterday an alternative plan for the collection of refuse would be in place by tomorrow. This would entail residents being able to drop off their refuse at about 33 stations around the entire municipal area.

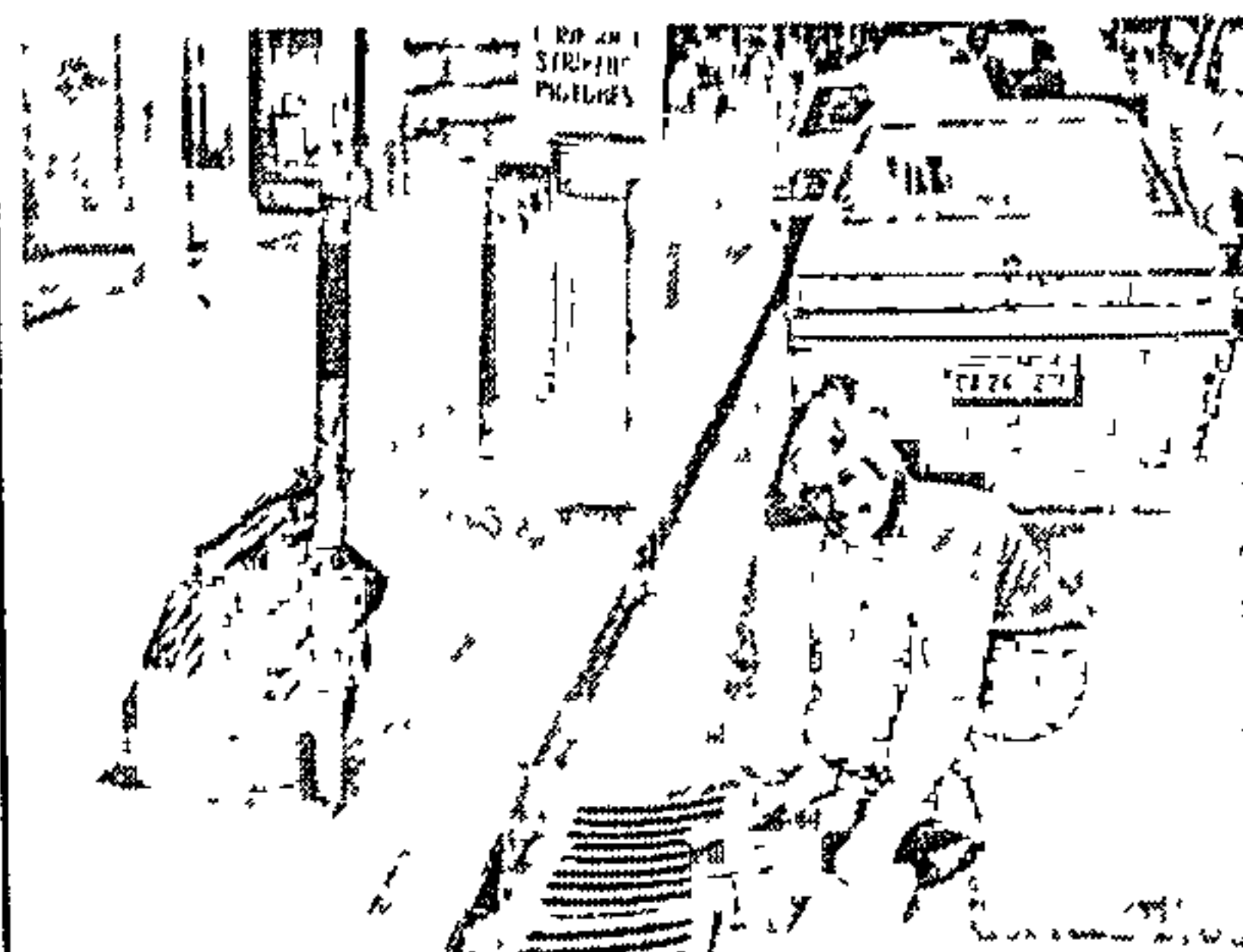
Members of the public who are not sure of the location of their local depots, can consult page 792 of the 1989/90 telephone directory.

The cleansing department can be reached after hours at 462 4415.



ABOVE: Striking municipal workers gathered outside St George's Cathedral yesterday. Buses later took them to Athlone stadium. **BELOW:** Ms Dorothy Woodrich, owner of a St George's Street coffee shop, keeps her own doorstep clean during the sixth day of the municipal workers strike yesterday.

Picture STEWART COLEMAN



Police confront striking workers, 8 unionists held

Cape Times 19/6/90

Staff Reporter

POLICE confronted striking workers for the first time yesterday in the Cape Town municipal worker's strike, and in another incident, arrested eight union members for trespassing on civic centre ground.

During the confrontation, police used a water cannon to disperse a group of about 70 striking municipal workers who held an illegal gathering on Cape Town station's roof parking area.

A police spokesman said the group had been warned to disperse but they refused to do so. The group ran away and congregated at St George's Cathedral where their numbers later swelled to about 800.

Police also enforced a Supreme Court order by arresting eight SA Municipal Worker's Union (Samwu) officials and shop stewards for allegedly trespassing on civic centre property.

The eight were later released after appearing in the Cape Town Magistrate's Court where they and were granted R100 bail each.

The city council said that because attempts to persuade the workers to abide by the court order had failed the council was obliged to ask for the help of the SA Police to regulate orderly entry to the civic centre.

Garbage mounts *corrected* as strike *1976/90* continues

CAPE TOWN began the week facing piles of garbage and litter in the city streets as the strike by municipal workers entered its sixth day.

An estimated 2 000 workers are taking part in the South African Municipal Workers' Union strike, demanding among other things a 40 percent across the board increase.

Refuse

The first real effects of the work stoppage were evident early on Monday morning with piles of bulging black refuse bags, many spilling their contents at street corners.

Much of Loop street was strewn with litter, particularly around all-night cafes and nightclubs.

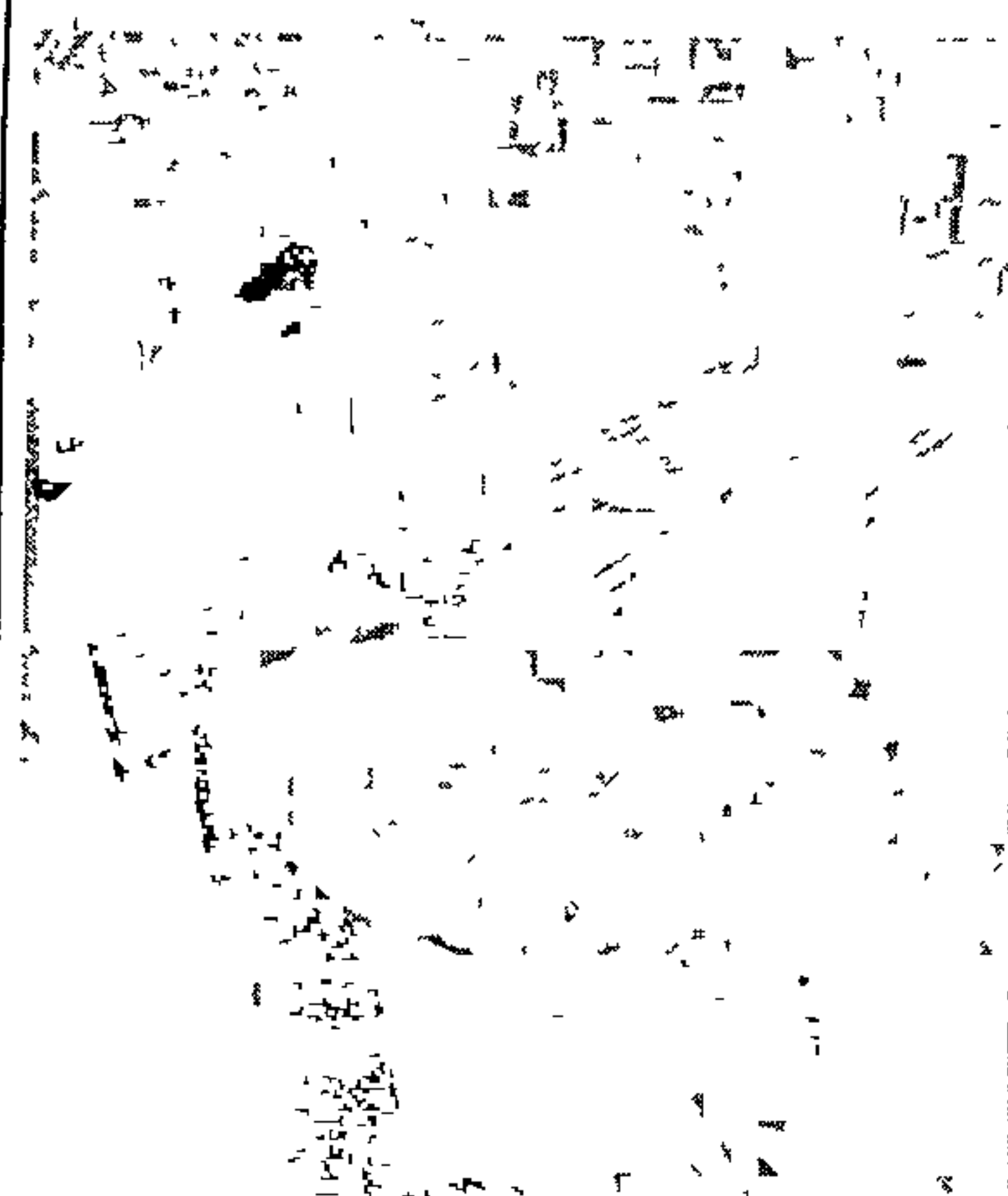
At a meeting in Cape Town on Sunday to explain to the community why workers were striking, Samwu workers vowed to continue the strike. - Sapa.



Pictures DOUG PITHEY, The Argus

A WEEK OF RUBBISH: Cape Town is starting to look like a huge rubbish dump as the strike by municipal workers enters its seventh day with no solution in sight. This is what Plein Street looks like.

Plan to tackle garbage crisis



GARBAGE GALORE: Diners try to ignore the mess on the Grand Parade as dirtbins overflow with a week of rubbish

By JOHN YELD and ANTHONY DOMAN
Staff Reporters

FULL details of a contingency plan to deal with the city's growing mountain of uncollected rubbish will be announced by the Cape Town City Council today as fears mount of a possible health risk to the city

The unofficial strike by several thousand municipal workers entered its seventh day today, with the council and the South African Municipal Workers Union (Samwu) still deadlocked over the question of pay increases

The workers are demanding increases of up to 40 percent — R4,80 an hour — and the council is refusing to budge from its final offer of R4,19 an hour

"STALEMATE"

Further talks yesterday failed to break the deadlock

"There has been a stalemate since last week and the stalemate continues," said council spokesman Mr Ted Doman today

The council has arranged for domestic refuse to be delivered to its depots in an "interim contingency plan" to deal with the rubbish

Cape Town's acting Medical Officer of Health, Dr Nula Durcan, said today there was no need to panic. She appealed to residents to get rid of their refuse as best they could

She suggested that flat-dwellers "double-bag" their refuse and tie it securely, while businesses should arrange for

the private removal of their garbage

There was again a strong police presence at the Civic Centre today to enforce a court order against the workers

There was no sign of any of the strikers in the city. Samwu officials could not be contacted early today

● Slaughtering at the Cape Town abattoir has been held up because of the municipal workers strike and the Meat Board has appealed to farmers not to deliver any more livestock

● Waste may be deposited in cleansing department vehicles at the depots which are at, among other places, Mowbray, Lakeside, Wynberg and Sea Point. They are.

The Mowbray depot is on Klipfontein Road, opposite the Children's Red Cross War Memorial Hospital;

The Wynberg depot is at the corner of Broad Road and Rosmead Avenue, opposite the fire station;

The Muizenberg depot is on Main Road, between False Bay and Lakeside; and

The Sea Point depot is in Tramway Road.

● If residents are unsure of the depot location or need assistance they should call their local depot on the telephone number listed on page 792 of the new telephone directory

Star 20/6/40

Southern Sun faces strike over wages

By Julianne du Toit

Southern Sun hotels may face a strike after conciliation board discussions between management and the South African Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers' Union (Saccawu) broke down this week.

The union, with a membership of 6 000, over half the company's employees, has called for strike ballots at the end of next week.

The key issues are wages, the instalment of casual workers as union members, and "racist canteen facilities", says the union.

Management is offering a R100 increase on its minimum monthly wage of R590, while the union is demanding a minimum wage of R800 and an across-the-board increase of R160.

Carl Ludick, group industrial relations manager, said that in real terms workers were earning close to R1 000, with such benefits as transport, meals, medical aid and a 13th cheque.

Union spokesman Allan Horwitz claimed that a worker at Pietersburg Holiday Inn was interrogated, detained and later assaulted by police called in by management because of an alleged theft. He said this would not have happened had the worker been white.

OK plans further court actions

DANIEL FELDMAN

OK BAZAARS was due to bring applications tomorrow for court interdicts against striking employees at seven PWV stores, including the Sandton Hyperama, the Benoni Hyperama, and the Cresta, Randburg, Hillbrow and Rosebank stores, company and union spokesmen said yesterday.

A court order to keep strikers out of the Edenvale Hyperama was issued yesterday.

OK spokesman Gavin Brown said the decision for the interdicts was "taken very reluctantly", but was needed to address the "on-going incidents of violence, assault and intimidation" at the stores.

"Previous assurances by union members to prevent such incidents have proved ineffective," he said. *B. Brown 20/6/70*

SA Commercial Catering and Allied Workers' Union (Saccawu) spokesman Jer-

emy Daphne said a union delegation had visited the affected stores yesterday and believed "many of the allegations were unfounded or grossly exaggerated".

He said while the union was in the process of conducting its investigation at the stores, OK issued a notice to workers in the affected stores ordering strikers off store premises by 1pm yesterday, failing which legal action would be taken.

"OK thus prevented the union from concluding its investigations and resolving any problems that might exist by constructive and peaceful methods," said Daphne.

The strike is continuing at 129 stores. Striking employees plan to march through Johannesburg's city centre today.

Cape municipal strikers to continue action today

LESLEY LAMBERT

152

CAPE TOWN — The municipal strike in which more than 2 000 council employees are refusing to work until their demands for salary increases of up to 40% in some cases are met, enters its seventh day today.

Yesterday members of the SA Municipal Workers' Union (Samwu) were bused out of the city centre to a stadium in Athlone after a confrontation with riot police outside St George's Cathedral.

They decided to continue their strike action today and to return to the stadium.

Eight union officials were arrested earlier in the day when police tried to prevent striking workers from leaving the Cape Town railway station. They appeared in court on charges under the Internal Security Act and were released on bail of R100 each.

Samwu, which represents the majority of the council's 15 500 employees, is demanding a minimum starting salary of R4,80 an hour, which according to council officials would mean a 40% increase in some cases. It is also demanding a 40-hour week, recognition of June 16 as a holiday, housing allowances, an end to casual employment and the filling of all vacant posts.

The council, which spends about R500m out of an annual budget of R1,2bn on wages, is sticking to its offer of 16% to 18% increases for unskilled and semi-skilled employees and 13,5% for higher level employees. It has agreed to meet the union and discuss any issue other than the wage package.

When the strike started last week, workers surrounded the Civic Centre and many remained there, despite a Supreme Court interdict ordering them to move.

Police fire water cannon outside Good Hope Centre

Strikers arrested

AKG45 26/6/90 (A2)

By JOHN YELD, DALE KNEEN and HENRI du PLESSIS
Staff Reporters

SCORES of striking municipal workers were arrested outside the Supreme Court, Cape Town, and a water cannon was fired at crowds outside the Good Hope Centre as the week-long stayaway developed into confrontations between police and strikers today.

The first incidents occurred near the Supreme Court about 8.30am when about 40 policemen, led by the acting district commissioner of Cape Town, Colonel Philip Delport, arrested about 60 strikers and put them in two vans.

Earlier Keerom Street, which runs past the Supreme Court entrance, was sealed off by police. Five riot vehicles, a police van and a water cannon were parked in Keerom Street. Other riot vehicles patrolled Wale Street, where workers gathered.

About 8.20am the workers moved to the court where they were met by police.

They were told that an application they expected to be heard in court today had, in fact, been handled yesterday.

The union had until today to reply to the allegations made by the council, in terms of which a court order was granted last week, restraining the striking South African Municipal Workers' Union workers from gathering at the Civic Centre.

Snatched placard

Yesterday union attorney Mr Dines Gihwala said the union was applying to be allowed to file an answering affidavit on August 9, and the application was not expected to be opposed.

About 10am police used a water cannon to drive off several hundred strikers who had gathered outside the Good Hope Centre.

The strikers had marched to the centre from the Central Methodist Mission in Butevant Street.

The workers sang and shouted outside the centre before police took action.

Two workers stood on the centre island of Sir Lowry Road holding placards. One was snatched by a policeman.

A riot policeman addressed the crowd in a loud hailer and said: "I am a lieutenant in the South African Police. In terms of the Internal Security Act this is an illegal gathering. You have one minute to dis-

FW to step into labour Bill row

By MICHAEL MORRIS
Political Correspondent

PRESIDENT De Klerk is set to step into the row over the controversial Labour Relations Act to try and prevent a damaging confrontation between the unions and the government.

Presidential aides were to be contacting Cosatu officials today to discuss their request to see Mr De Klerk.

It was also possible that the Cabinet, meeting routinely today, would discuss the rising tension between the unions and the Department of Manpower.

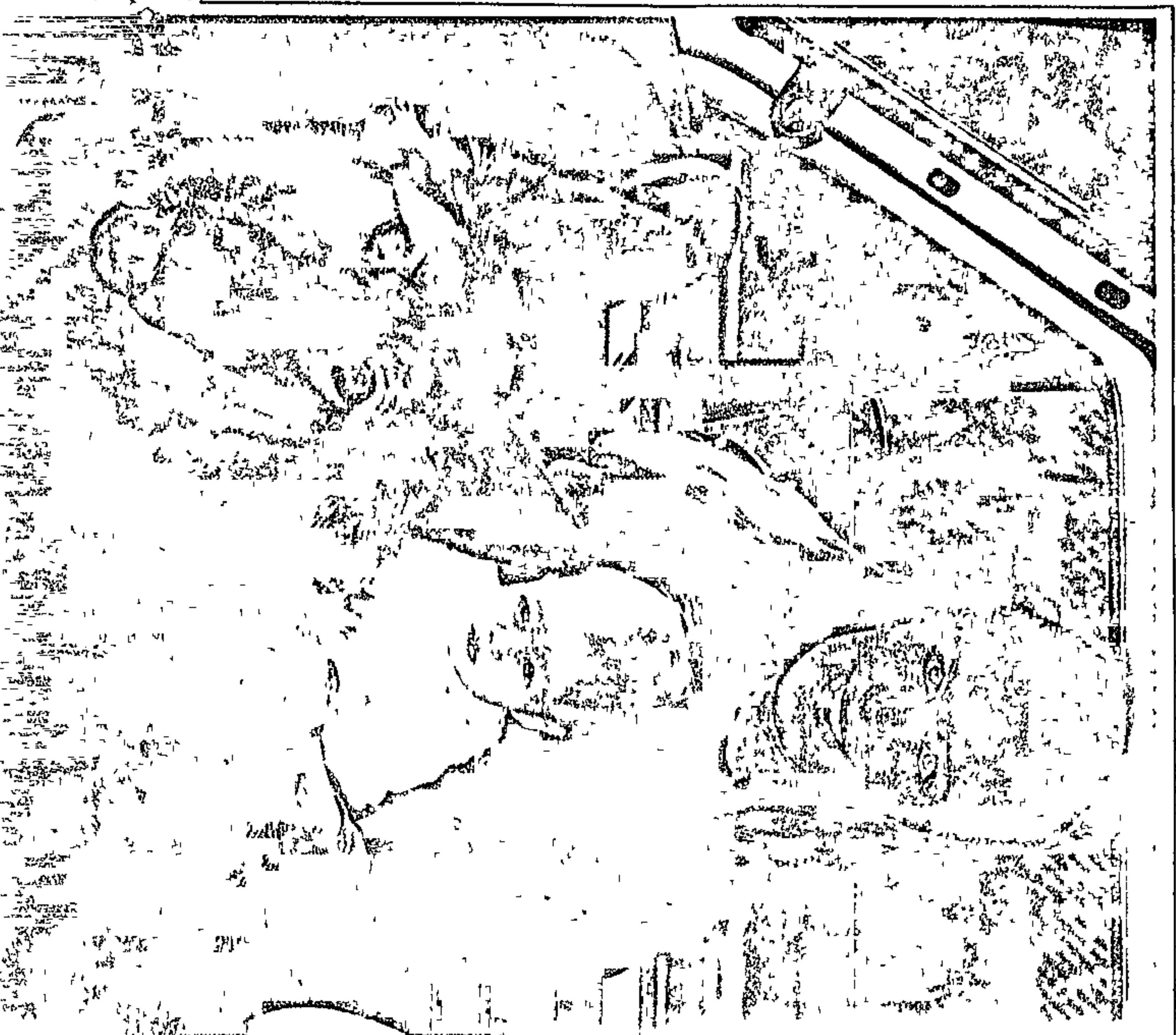
Mr De Klerk confirmed early today that Cosatu had telephoned him at home last night.

"NO UNDERTAKINGS"

In a statement, Mr De Klerk said he had taken note of their views, but made it clear he was not prepared to enter into discussions on the telephone.

Mr De Klerk gave no undertakings or assurances to Cosatu.

However, he said Cosatu officials would be contacted to-



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The first incidents occurred about 8 30am when about 40 district commissioner of Cape port, arrested about 60 strikers

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Mr De Klerk gave "no undertakings or assurances" to Cosatu

However, he said Cosatu officials would be contacted today in connection with their request to meet him.

Last night's telephone call followed Cosatu's warning yesterday that it would launch a nine-part action programme — including a national mass stay-away — unless a meeting with the President went ahead.

Cosatu wants Mr De Klerk to find a way to introduce amendments this year to the Labour Relations Act

Minister of Manpower Mr Eli Louw has argued that more time is needed to consider the legislation

● See page 4.

The first incidents occurred about 8 30am when about 40 district commissioner of Cape port, arrested about 60 strikers.

Earlier Keerom Street, which runs through the main shopping centre, was sealed off by police and a water cannon were parked on the street. Police vehicles patrolled Wale Street, which runs parallel to the coast.

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met by police

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About 10am police used a water cannon to clear a group of about 100 hundred strikers who had gathered

The strikers had marched to the Methodist Mission in Buitenkant Street

The workers sang and shouted
took action

Two workers stood on the center holding placards. One was snatched by a policeman.

A riot policeman addressed the crowd through a loud hailer and said: "I am a lieutenant in the South African Police. In terms of the Internal Security Act this is an illegal gathering. You have one minute to disperse."

His voice was drowned by jeers. Police carrying batons and shotguns gathered on the centre isle as the crowd moved back towards the steps of the centre.

The water cannon then drove up and started spraying the crowd, most of whom scattered inside

A journalist close to the firing line reported that teargas has been mixed with the water

A bottle was thrown from the top of the stairs towards police

● Where to dump your rubbish, page 5



Picture **WILLIE** de **KLERK**, The Argus

SKIRMISH: A police officer grabs hold of a striking municipal worker during a confrontation outside the barricaded Court Lounge restaurant in Keerom Street, near the Supreme Court, today.

Rubbish: Dump- your-own plan

CMT Tuts 20/6/90 152

By PETER DENNEHY
Municipal Reporter

THE council has appealed to residents to take their refuse bags to 33 demarcated sites from tomorrow while thousands of workers remain on strike.

In Durban municipal employees were granted a minimum wage of R850 a month, after a 15,5% increase was agreed to on Friday evening, averting a strike. Cape Town's municipal workers would have a minimum of R819 a month if the council's 13,5% increase were put into effect.

The Cape Town branch of the Municipal Workers' Union wants 33%

The union said yesterday va-

grants and unemployed people were being paid R35 a day to clean the city.

Council spokesman Mr Ted Doman said last night "The cleansing branch from time to time does employ casual labour as a matter of course."

Some cleansing vehicles were in action yesterday. A compactor driver said he was a council worker, but not from the cleansing department.

Among the 33 disposal points in the official contingency plan are Rondebosch Common, Green Point Common, Grand Parade, Maynardville and several sports fields and parking lots.

Garden waste should be kept and bottles taken to igloos, the council said.

It asked residents to assist "in

the interests of public health" by taking their domestic refuse in securely tied plastic bags.

The council hoped that those who could not move their own refuse would be helped by neighbours and friends.

"If aged or infirm people still need assistance they should telephone 210-2921."

Mr Doman said that fewer than 6 000 employees were absent from work yesterday.

Both sides meet again in the Supreme Court today, when the union will submit affidavits opposing the order granted last week to keep striking workers out of the civic centre.

Acting Medical Officer of Health Dr Nula Durcan recommended the use of dog repellents on refuse bags kept on the premises.

1102, to allow better land use
The developers are Township Real-

Triangle region, to become the
largest single development undertaken
by CWRSC," said Mr de Wet

Cape municipal strikers arrested

Own Correspondent

CAPE TOWN - Scores of striking municipal workers were arrested outside the Supreme Court this morning where their union was originally scheduled to have filed replying affidavits to a council application locking them out of the Civic Centre

About 40 policemen, led by the acting district commissioner of Cape Town, Colonel Phillip Delpont, loaded

the strikers into two vans about 8 30 am and Keerom Street, which runs past the Supreme Court entrance, was sealed off by police

The striking municipal workers, who had gathered outside the Cape Supreme Court from about 8 am, were told by police that the application had been handled yesterday. They were told to disperse and most did so

• See picture on Page 12

Star 20/6/90

152

152



City strike talks back on track

City 714 P 21/6/90

Staff Reporters

TALKS to end the Cape Town municipal workers' strike are back on track after a day in which strikers and police confronted one another in the city.

In a clash outside the Supreme Court, police yesterday arrested 74 SA Municipal Workers' Union (Samwu) members for protesting within 500 metres of the Cape Town Supreme Court building.

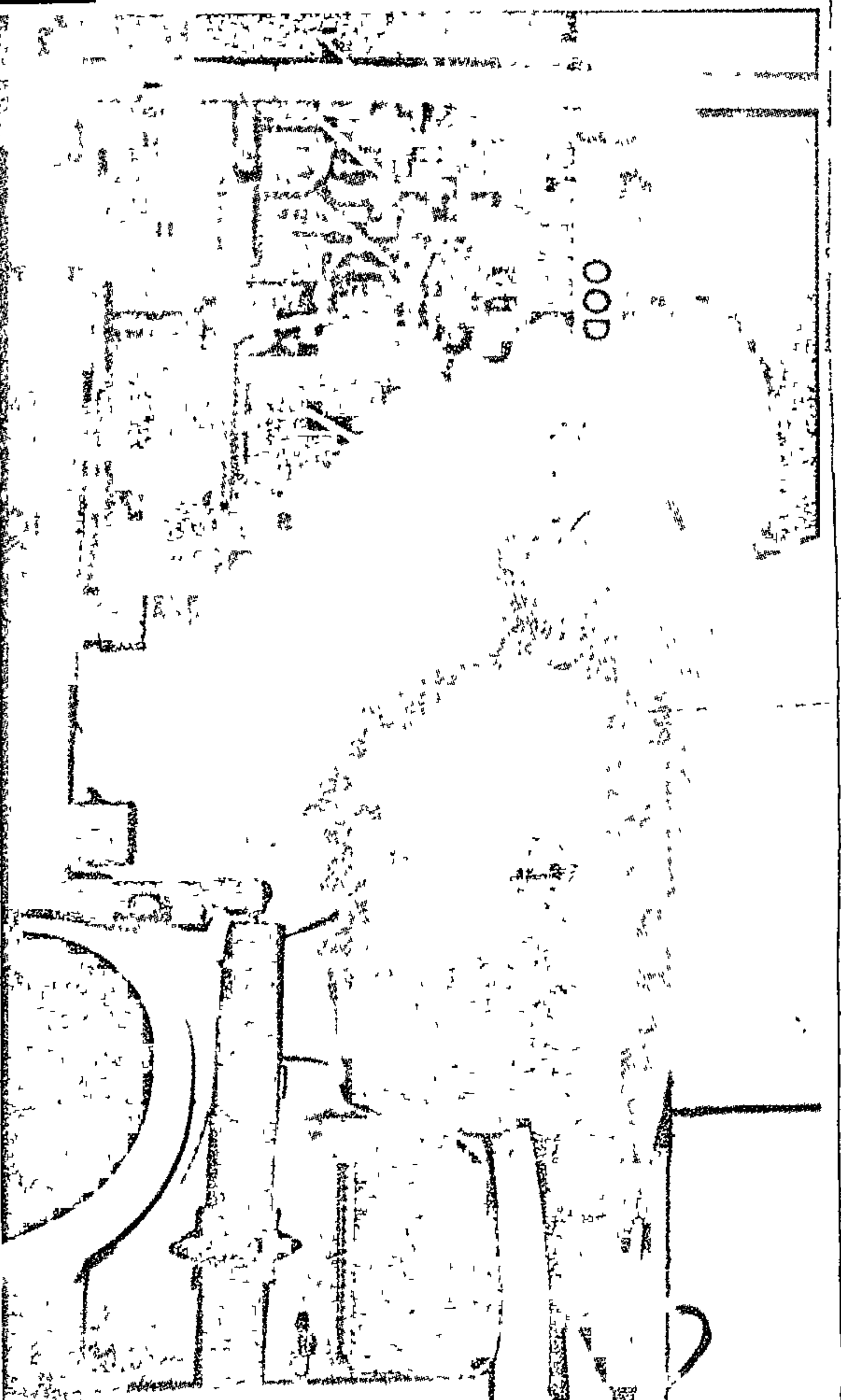
Workers, who said they were told they were "a threat to public order", had converged on the court, where a return interdict against Samwu granted to the city council was due to be heard.

They were released yesterday evening.

In addition to the Supreme Court confrontation, a water cannon was used to disperse workers at the

100 pgs. 2

WELCOME
TO THE WORLD
OF



WATER CANNON . . . Police use a water cannon to disperse municipal workers on strike outside the Good Hope Centre yesterday

Picture REUTER

Judge President denies ordering bar on workers

THE Judge President of the Cape, Mr Justice G G A Mutshik, yesterday denied ordering police court orderlies to prevent city council employees, possible respondents in an interdict application by the council, from entering the court building.

This emerged yesterday afternoon — the return date of an interim interdict — after a row erupted about the arrest of 56 workers outside the Supreme Court building and the barring of scores from entering the court.

Court orderlies, however, said they feared overcrowding as 250 people wanted to enter the building.

The interdict was granted on June 13 in favour of the city council against the SA Municipal Workers' Union, union official Mr Sale

Manie and about 4 000 striking members.

In court Mr Dullah Omar, counsel for the union, said he regarded it as a serious matter when union members, who had a direct interest in the case, could not be present as Keerom Street had been cordoned off and union members barred from entry.

It was unclear under which authority police acted in arresting the workers. Someone was guilty of contempt of court by obstructing the court in the execution of

its duty, said Mr Omar.

He and Mr Siraj Desai, counsel for Mr Manie, had arrived at court with the union's national secretary, Mr John Ernsten, but the latter was prevented by a court orderly from entering. When challenged, the court orderly said instructions had come from the Judge President.

Mr Omar asked the court to investigate the matter.

Mr Paul Hoffman, for the council, denied it

had called in the police and that the 56 workers had been arrested on the council's instructions.

Mr Justice Foxcroft said he was troubled by the arrest of the 56

Before making the order, extending the interim interdict, he said the Judge President had denied issuing the order barring workers from court.

Mr Justice Foxcroft said certain of the respondents might have wished to state their position in court. They were entitled to do so but had been prevented from exercising their legal right. They could be accommodated if they were allowed to file replying affidavits.

By agreement, the matter was postponed to August 9 and the union and Mr Manie must file replying affidavits by July 26.

From page 1

Strike

Good Hope Centre, where at least one picketer was arrested.

At the same time about 2 000 other workers — who sought refuge in the Methodist Church on Greenmarket Square after leaving the court area — were permitted after negotiations with police to walk in groups of five to the Good Hope Centre, where they voted to continue the strike.

The workers also agreed to meet again at the centre today.

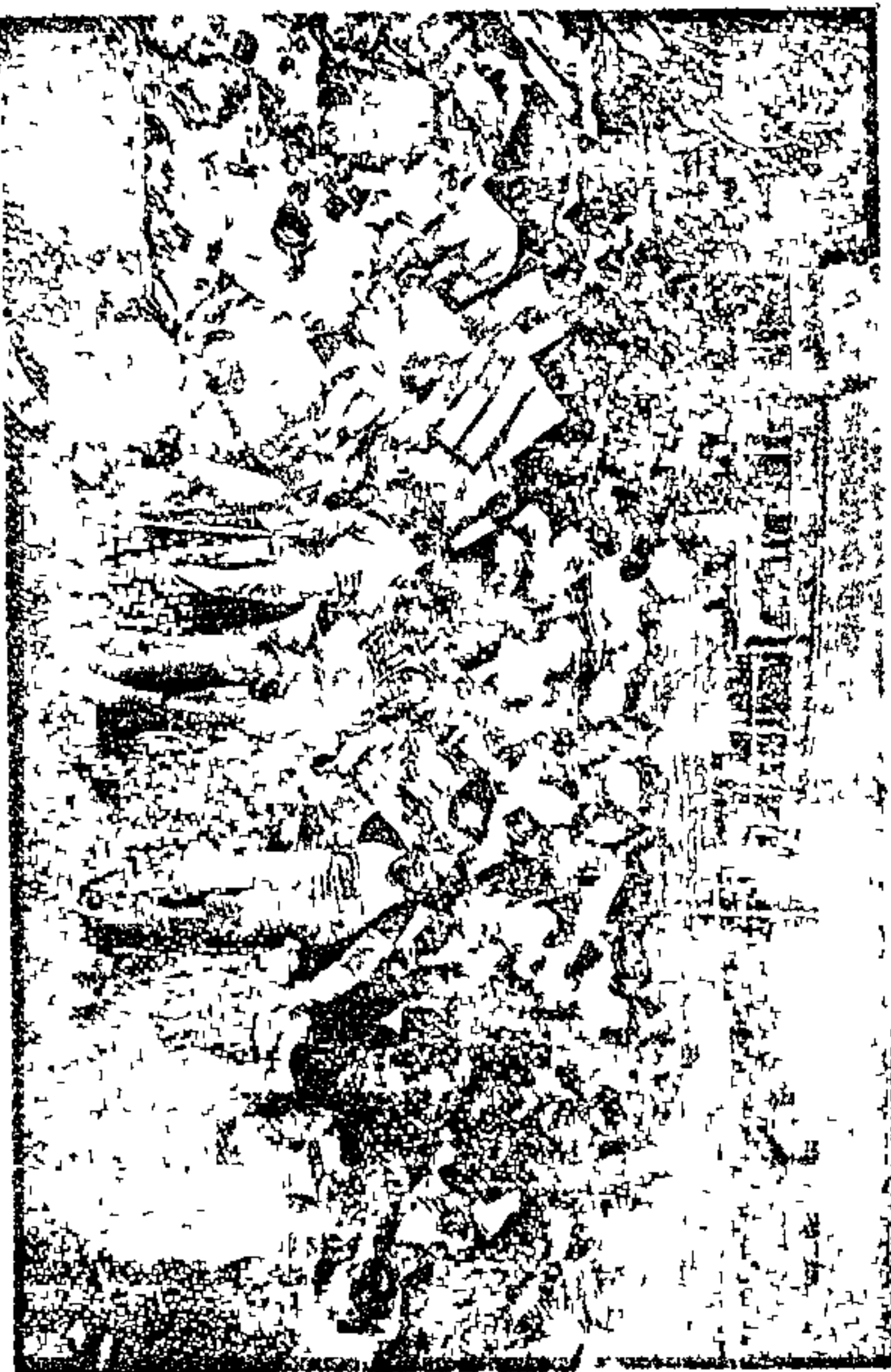
Later yesterday, council spokesman Mr Ted Doman and union spokesman Mr Roger Ronnie reported talks had taken place, and would resume this afternoon.

Neither side would reveal what had been discussed. It is understood that the initiative for the meeting came from the union.

Mr Doman also confirmed that a meeting had taken place on Tuesday evening between the council's executive committee and an ANC-Cosatu delegation.

Mr Chris Joubert, a councillor for Sea Point, said two freelance refuse collectors, hired by the Green and Sea Point Traders' Association, had taken five-ton trucks to cart away refuse "for a small fee."

And citizens bearing refuse bags made regular appearances at some of the cleansing depots, staff there reported.



RUBBISH DUMP... People who wanted to rid themselves of rubbish did not wait until the council contingency plan came into operation officially today before dumping their bags on Green Point Common. Vernon Trump, Shaun Trump and Wayne Williams thought this was a big joke.



PILING IT UP... Capetonians have jumped the gun in getting rid of their refuse, piling it up before city council trucks arrived at dumping points. Here Mr Jack Hickfang of Green Point adds his contribution to a heap at the Tramway Road depot in Sea Point yesterday. From today residents must dump their rubbish into cleansing branch vehicles.

Police lead 2 000 marching strikers

152
Soweto 21/6/90

ABOUT 2000 striking OK workers yesterday marched on the chain store's head office in central Johannesburg to present a memorandum to the management.

Led by traffic police, the march started at the corner of Kerk and End streets through Delters and down Pritchard Street to the OK head office at the corner of Pritchard and Von Brandis streets.

Scores of workers peered through office windows and lined the streets, while some onlookers even perched on rooftops to catch a glimpse of the procession.

Flags

The march brought traffic to a standstill.

Huge flags of the African National Congress, SA Communist Party, and the Congress of SA Trade Unions, as well as its affiliates, fluttered overhead during the procession.

When the marchers reached the OK headquarters, workers sat down while a 10-member delegation led by Mr. Kaizer Thibedi presented a memorandum to the OK Chief of Security, Mr. Garrith Jones.

"We would like to believe it will not take too long before you respond to the memorandum," Thibedi told Jones, who declined to comment.

Memo

Demands contained in the memo include an across the board increase of R160, a minimum wage of R800, a 13th cheque, five percent commission for sales staff, March 21 as a public holiday, and an end to dismissals and store closures without prior consultation with the union.

Police were present at the OK building but kept a low profile. No incidents were reported during the march. - Sapa

Sacked men in squatting protest

Sowetan 21/6/90

152

WORKERS dismissed by Barlows Appliances are squatting outside the main gate at the company's head offices in Sandton.

The National Union of Metalworkers of South Africa said the workers are protesting against the dismissal of more than 400 colleagues in September last year.

The sackings followed a dispute with the company after the employers refused to provide black workers with canteen facilities.

Numsa said negotiations over providing a canteen have been going on for several years.

Mr Sam Nyabi, a shop steward, said negotiations

started in 1985 and were unsuccessful.

The workers then decided to take action in a defiance campaign last year by using the staff canteen. Disciplinary action was taken against them.

Water

The Barlows workers have been squatting since Monday and have asked management to allow them access to water and toilet facilities.

However, in a letter to the workers, company spokesman Mr HH Bell refused them access to the premises. He said they should direct all their enquiries to the company's branch at Bramley.

Nyabi said the union would meet management

today to discuss reinstatement of the workers.

Bell said yesterday they would meet the workers over settling the dispute.

21/6/90

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Strikers arrested in Cape protest

Own Correspondent

More than 50 municipal workers were arrested outside the Cape Town Supreme Court yesterday — and a water cannon fired at a crowd of workers outside the Good Hope Centre — as the weeklong stayaway developed into confrontations between police and strikers.

A union official claimed that at the Buitenkant Street Methodist Church another 60 people were arrested for gathering on the pavement.

This could not be confirmed by police.

The first incidents occurred near the Supreme Court at about 8.30 am when about 40 policemen led by Acting District Commissioner of Cape Town Colonel Phillip Delport arrested about 60 strikers.

Go to attorneys

The strikers gathered first in Wale Street, then moved towards the court.

They were told that an application they had expected to be heard in court yesterday had been dealt with on Tuesday.

A Warrant-Officer Van Wyk, who told the workers he was in charge of court security, said: "Gentlemen, go to your attorneys and hear the story from them."

"There is no interdict, you can take my word for it."

He was referring to an interdict application which had been set down for hearing yesterday.

Strike 'ceasefire' ¹⁵²

A "CEASEFIRE" in the labour "war" between the Cape Town City Council and about 10 000 employees represented by the South African Municipal Workers Union (Samwu), is on the cards.

The eight-day strike, which has paralysed Cape Town's essential services, has resulted in rubbish piling up in the city's streets, several arrests and clashes with the police.

In a clear shift from a previous position, Cape Town's town clerk Dr Stanley Evans, indicated on Wednesday that the council would be "discussing the union's total package, including wages and the other demands". The council was expected to give the union an official response today.

A spokesperson for the union, Mr Roger Ronnie, indicated that the situation had improved and that the two parties "are on talking terms".

South 2116 - 2716/90
● See Page 2

Stayaway planned over Natal violence

Week of action

152
Sowetan
21/6/90

Week of action

From Page 1

Sayco's vice-president and member of the JWC, Mr Nyami Boo, said all organisations, including the Pan Africanist Congress, the Azanian People's Organisation or even the Democratic Party would be involved.

"Gatsha (Buthelezi) will remain central in the conference because our intention is to isolate him," he said.

It was hoped to meet De Klerk before the planned peace conference to resolve the question of the Natal violence and also to present him with affidavits about violence in the province.

Mr Jay Naidoo, national education officer for the South African Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers' Union and member of the JWC, said that from all their dealings with Buthelezi, they were convinced he was not serious about peace.

Replying to a question that industry was complaining that there had been too many stayaways, Mhloni said they believed that commerce and industry had not played an effective role in putting pressure on Buthelezi and De Klerk to end the Natal violence.

OWN CORRESPONDENT

A JOINT working committee of the Congress of South African Trade Unions and the United Democratic Front yesterday called for a "National Week of Action" from July 1 to 7.

The action will include a one-day mass stayaway on July 2 and marches on July 7.

Jointly co-ordinated by the working committee of Cosatu and the UDF, the South African Youth Congress and the African National Congress, the action is aimed "against the apartheid war in Natal".

At a Press conference in Durban yesterday the organisations attacked KwaZulu Chief Minister Mangosuthu Buthelezi, saying his actions had ruled out prospects of immediate peace talks to end the fighting in Natal.

Statement

They demanded that

- * The KwaZulu police be disbanded as they were Buthelezi's private army;
- * The State of Emergency be lifted in Natal.

- * "Warlords" be arrested and prosecuted,

- * Security forces play an effective and impartial role as peace-keepers, and that

- * Freedom of political activity be guaranteed to all parties

Explaining the week of action, Mr Thami Mhloni said in a statement

After consultations with the different formations it has been agreed to call for a national stayaway on Monday July 2 and marches are being planned in all major centres for Saturday, July 7

"People are to march to the symbols of apartheid to hand over memoranda containing our demands to President FW de Klerk.

He said they believed there could be no political settlement in South Africa until the war in Natal had ended.

A peace conference of all anti-apartheid groups was also planned for the weekend of August 4 and 5

SOCIAL

Sowetan
About 2 000 C
head office in l
full story

Gold

Page

M B
P
OUR BIG

SA
Suits

Handsomely tailored
single and double
breasted suits.

Jackets

Choose from the latest
in formal jackets

LEATHER BOMBER

TROUSERS

Plain and pleated.
Stripes, checks in
a full range of colours

Shirts

Lounge & sport shirts

Short sleeve
& knitted sh

Jackets

Crew necks, V-necks
in assorted patterns
and designs

Shoes

Lace-ups, slip-ons.
Formal shoes, and
casual shoes

Shoes

Shoes

Shoes

Shoes

M
131 COMA

New meeting today, but council firm on policy ...

No work, no pay

AKLUS
2/16/90
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By DENNIS CRUYWAGEN, Staff Reporter

STRIKING municipal workers will not be paid today when the rest of their working colleagues get their weekly wages from the City Council.

In a statement today council spokesman, Mr Ted Doman, said. "People who are absent from work without leave or without legal cause will not be paid."

He could not say how many workers would be affected, but added that up to two days ago fewer than 6 000 workers had been absent from work

Mr Louis Kreiner, acting chairman of the council's executive committee, said today the South African Municipal Workers' Union had not been informed that strikers would not be paid

Another round of talks

"They don't have to be told — this is council policy and the union knows it. People who don't work don't get paid. This is the normal position for any person who does not do a day's work."

He said the committee would meet today before another round of talks with union officials

Asked if this meant that talks between the council and the union were on again, Mr Kreiner said. "I can't say anything like that."

Mr Doman said the executive committee and union officials had decided at a meeting yesterday to meet again today

"I can't say if the talks are back on track again because we've been talking to the union ever since workers went on strike a week ago."

Released on warning

Meanwhile, more than 50 workers who were arrested outside the Supreme Court in Keerom Street yesterday were released on warning about 6pm last night

Before their release police told them they could pay a R50 admission of guilt fine before August 6 or appear in court the following day, said lawyer Mr Huxley Joshua. The workers were unwilling to pay the fine, he said

Mr Joshua said he found it "interesting" that workers were told early yesterday they were to be charged for demonstrating outside the court.

Later, he said, police told them they were to be charged with "being in an area close to parliament"

His colleague, Mr Dhinus Gihwala, said council for the workers and for the municipality had agreed yesterday that advertisements would be placed in Cape Town's three daily newspapers tomorrow to inform more than 4 000 workers that they have until July 26 to file affidavits in reply to a Supreme Court order given to the council last week. Similar messages would be broadcast over Radio Good Hope

• See page 6.

Picture: DOUG PITHEY, The Argus
lene Mitchell, all aged five
in power is all about out-
workers drag on

Municipal strike still not settled

APGAS
22/6/90

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By DENNIS CRUYWAGEN
Staff Reporter

THE Cape Town municipal workers' strike is continuing and no progress has been made towards a settlement, according to council officials.

Strikers, estimated at between 6 000 and 8 000, will meet today to consider their options. They have not been paid for the time they have been on strike.

The workers, all members of the South African Municipal Workers Union, went on strike on Wednesday last week after a wage dispute with the city council.

Union demands

The union has demanded a minimum of R4,80 an hour and the council is refusing to budge from its final offer of R4,19 an hour.

Many municipal services are affected and refuse has been piling up in the streets and at businesses and private homes.

Yesterday union officials were supposed to meet the council's executive committee. However, union spokesman Mr Roger Ronnie said the meeting had not taken place, but added that informal talks were held.

"We are to meet the executive committee today," he said.

Confirming that the two parties had not met yesterday, acting executive committee chairman Mr Louis Kreiner said talks today would depend on whether there was a request for a meeting from the union.

Council spokesman Mr Ted Doman said today no progress had been made in settling the dispute.

Help for workers

Mr Ronnie said offers of help for workers were streaming in from community organisations, including the Western Cape Traders' Association and the Muslim Judicial Council.

The city council has appealed to the public not to dump refuse indiscrimi-

nately at roadsides but only in council vehicles parked at the 33 designated collection points.

All of these have been in operation since yesterday morning.

The operating hours are from 8 am to 5 30 pm on weekdays and from 8 am to 1 30 pm on Saturdays.

The following actions would also help the refuse situation:

- Minimise your refuse by keeping your garden refuse on your premises.
- Keep your pavement clean.
- Do not leave refuse bags in the street where they are accessible to vagrants and dogs.
- Report the vehicle registration number of anybody littering to the police or cleansing depot.

Letter to mayor

Meanwhile Mayor Gordon Oliver has been asked by eight management committees to call an extraordinary meeting of the council to avert what they say could be a dangerous situation.

In a letter to Mr Oliver, the eight said the decision not to pay thousands of striking workers would deepen the wedge between employee and employer and affect council services even more.

They warned that confrontation between the council and striking workers was becoming more intense and called on Mr Oliver to intervene.

"We endorse sir, as you have stated, that Cape Town wholeheartedly supports the right of individuals to pursue their feelings of discontent," the letter said.

The eight management committees are Athlone and District, Kensington, Wittebome/Wynberg, Mitchell's Plain, Retreat, Schotsche Kloof, Woodstock-Walmer Estate/Salt River and Rylands Estate.

No pay for days on strike, says council

By PETER DENNEHY

STRIKING municipal workers were paid yesterday — but only for the days on which they worked last week, before the strike began

"People who are absent from work without leave or without legal cause will not be paid," City Council spokesman Mr Ted Doman said

During today's talks with the city council, the SA Municipal Workers' Union (Samwu) is expected to request measures to alleviate the extent to which workers will be out of pocket as a result of the strike.

Previously deadlocked talks between council and the union on the wage dispute began again late yesterday, and Samwu officials will report back to the workers in the Good Hope Centre today.

By late yesterday, the council had apparently not budged on its wage offer. However, some movement could occur on other demands.

● The council has appealed to people to dump rubbish in the bins and not at the roadside at demarcated disposal sites. They have also asked that dumping not be done after hours.

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Progress in ending strike? City's concern rises as garbage piles up

Municipal workers sacked

Sacked

Municipal Reporter

PROGRESS is "hopefully" being made towards reaching an agreement to end the city council municipal workers' strike, council executive committee chairman Mr Louis Kremer said last night.

Mr Kremer said his team had held discussions with the South African Municipal Workers' Union leaders for about two hours yesterday.

"We arranged that they must contact us again on Monday and tell us when they want to speak to us again," he said.

"Hopefully we are making progress," he said.

Union leaders could not be reached for comment last night.

Meanwhile, strikers will stage a protest march from District Six to the city centre this morning.

On Thursday, workers handed out thousands of pamphlets calling on their supporters to join them in the march.

Another march, which is partly in support of the strikers, is due to take place in Athlone this morning.

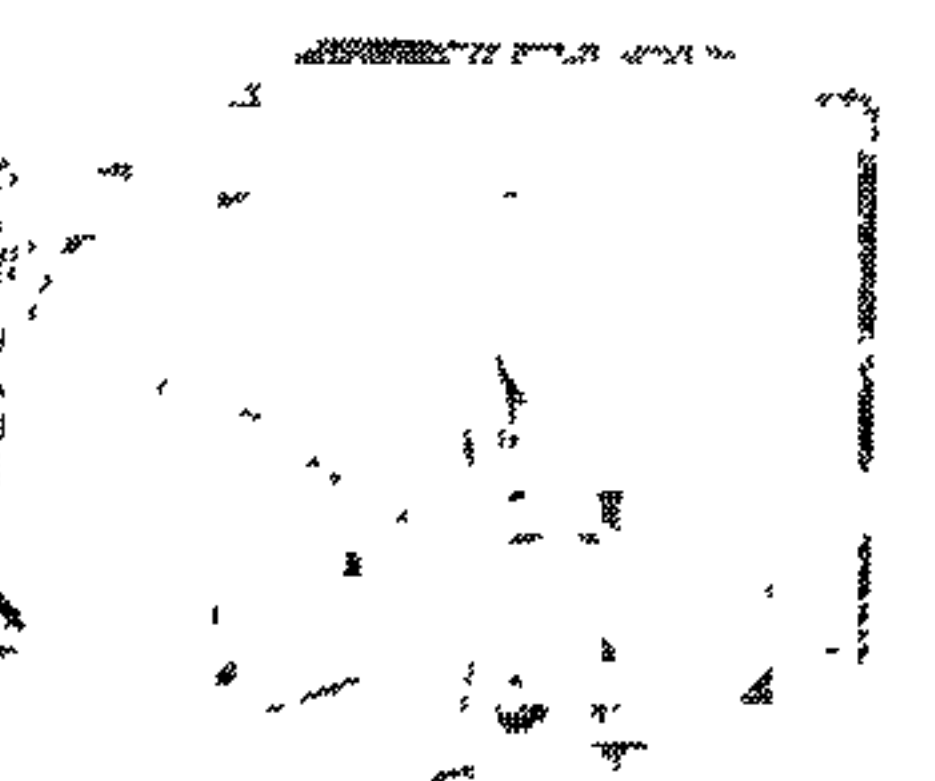
Police told the Belgravia Youth Congress and Sayco that their march would be illegal in terms of the Internal Security Act, and that police "could not accept responsibility for what may occur as a result of an illegal march or gathering".



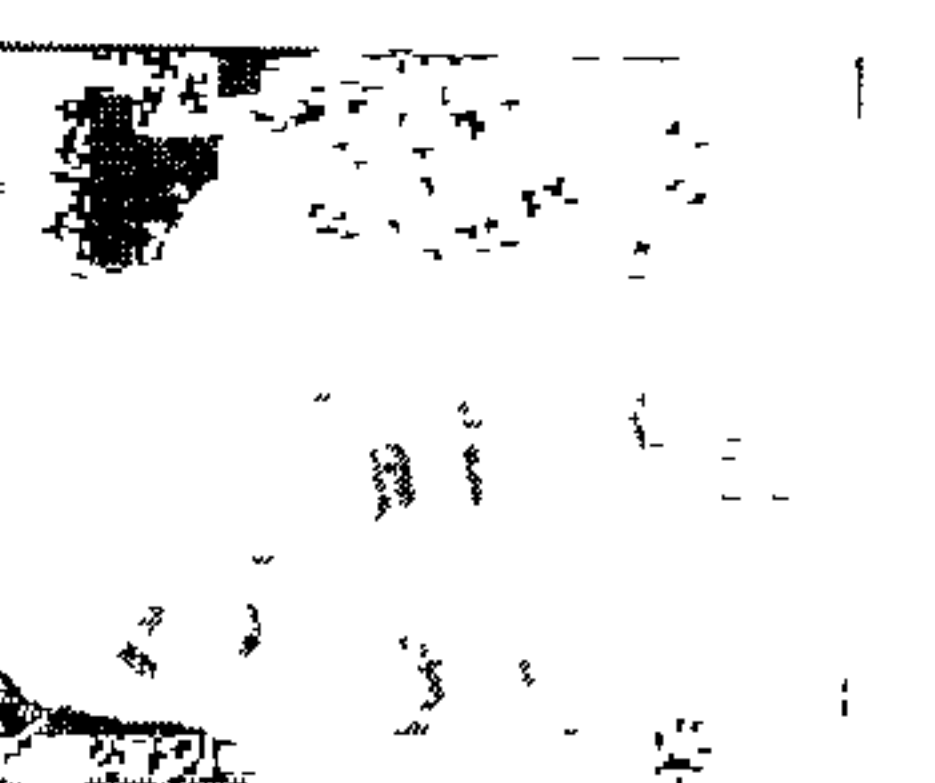
Ms Margie Johnson
... "recycled"



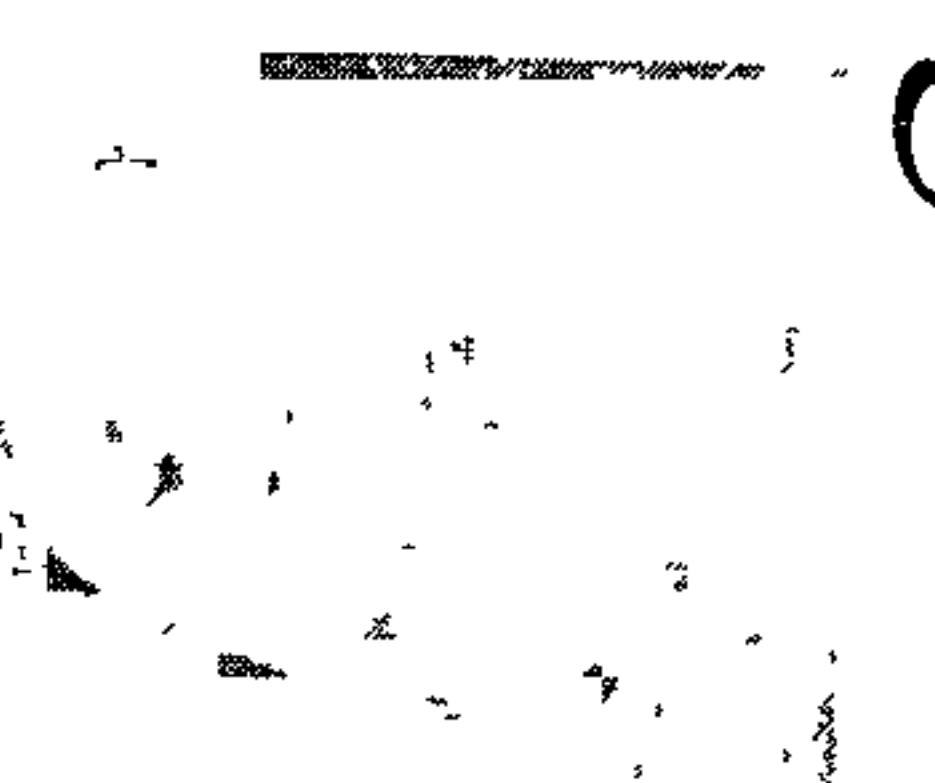
Mr Mieto Mzongwana
... "familiar"



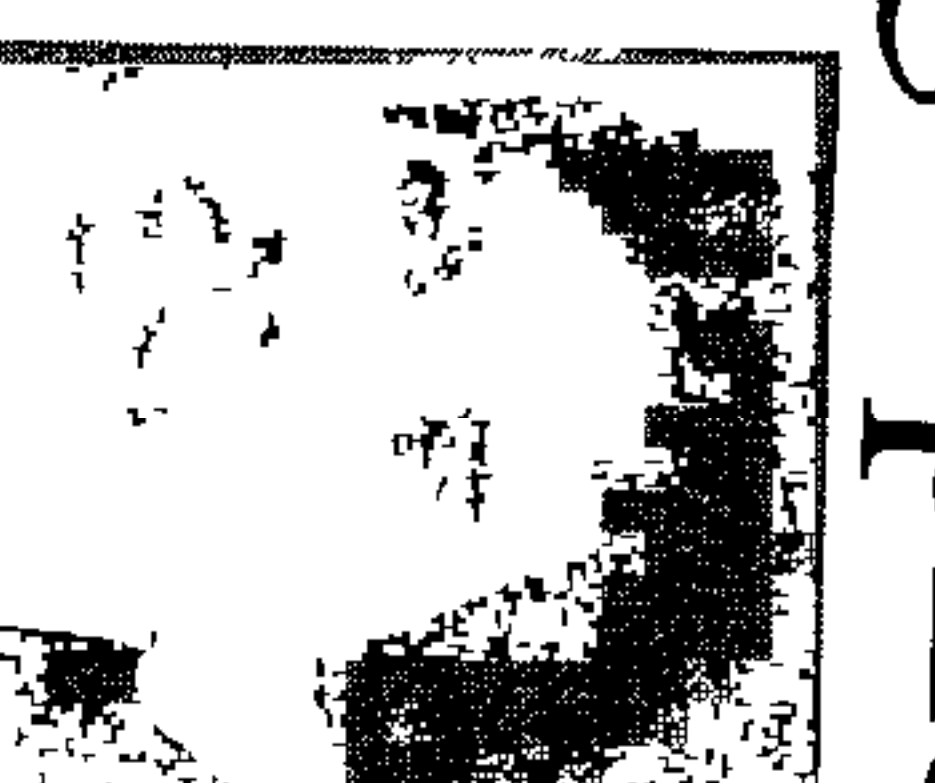
Mrs Freda Glaun
... "piling up"



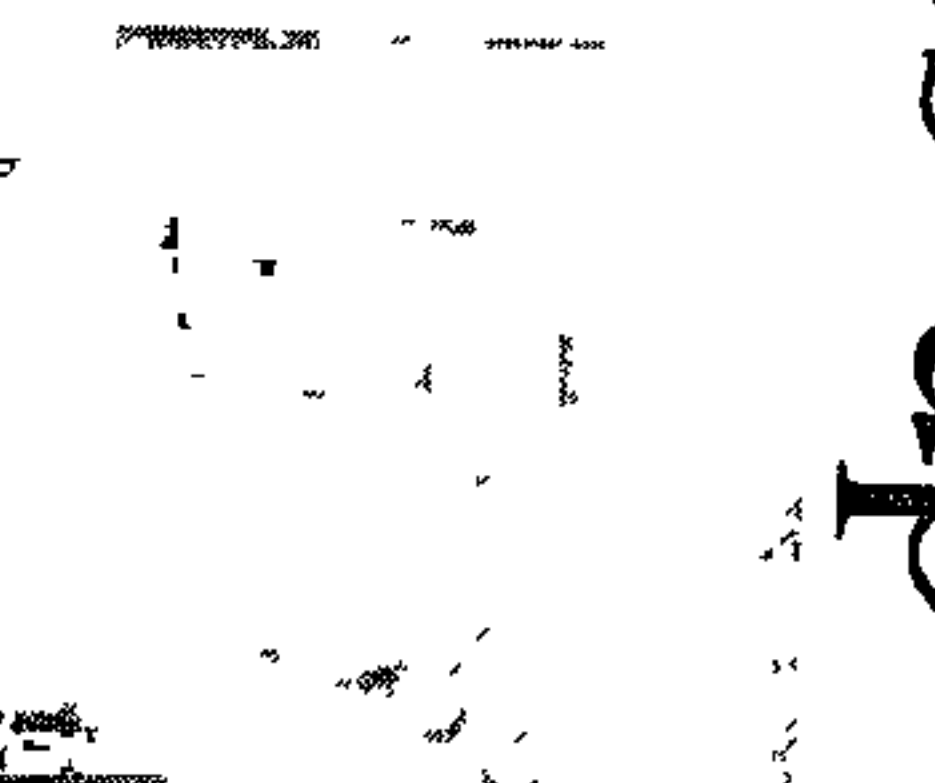
Mrs Elizabeth Gray
... "inconvenient"



Ms Miriam Weakley
... "need increase"



Mr Shafiq Johnson
... "disgusted"



Mr Rodney Tredrea
... "it's a pain"

By PETER MALBIN

AS uncollected refuse bags continue to pile up in the city because of the municipal workers' strike, residents interviewed expressed their concern and anger at the worsening situation.

"I notice that it's piling up every day. It's going to become a health hazard," said Mrs Freda Glaun of Sea Point.

Mrs Elizabeth Gray of Constantia said the strike was highly inconvenient.

"At the moment my garbage is gathered at

my home and I am taking it to Meadowridge tomorrow if it isn't raining," she said.

Ms Miriam Weakley of Vredehoek said she was glad the strike wasn't taking place in summer as there would be a "health problem". "How long can the strikers afford not to work?" she wondered. In the meantime, she said, the council should hire people to man the trucks on a temporary basis.

She said the strikers deserved an increase.

Mr Shafiq Johnson of Athlone said he was totally disgusted with the situation.

"I don't see why the government cannot give them more money. They (the strikers) do

a lot of work. They keep our places clean."

He said his nearest depot was in Mowbray, but he didn't have any transport to get his garbage there. He has dug holes to store his garbage. Meanwhile, the situation is "getting out of hand" as the odour spreads, he said.

Mr Rodney Tredrea of Newlands said the strike was a pain as "the place looks untidy".

He thought the council should do something to rectify the situation.

For Mr Mieto Mzongwana of Nyanga, garbage piling up outside his home is a familiar sight. "In the location they come very irregularly to collect," he said.

He supports the strikers' demands. White people have to live with the realities of collecting their own garbage without workers, he said.

The strike could make people realise how much garbage they throw away which instead could be recycled, according to Ms Margie Johnson of Rondebosch.

She said taking garbage to depots was not inconvenient. Neighbours should assist one another to transport the garbage. "It's appalling to see how many people dump their garbage on the streets."

PRETORIA — More than 800 Verwoerdburg municipal workers were dismissed yesterday after refusing to end a three-day strike over a wage disagreement.

Confirming the sackings, Verwoerdburg Town Council personnel manager Mr Sarel Marais said the strike had been illegal and workers had ignored two management ultimatums to go back to work.

About 840 members of the SA Municipal Workers Union (Samwu) and the National Union of Public Service Workers were ejected from a municipal yard, Samwu spokesman Mr Walter Thaledi said.

Dismissed workers could reapply for jobs, Mr Marais said — Sapa

CP Press 24/4/90

Fairest Cape becomes a stinking rubbish dump

CP Correspondent

IT has been called the Fairest Cape, but any visitor to Cape Town over the past 10 days would be forgiven if he thought he had called at the wrong port.

The term "fairest" does not apply to Cape Town right now. Maybe it should be called the "Dirtiest Cape" or the "Stinking Cape", because the strike by municipal workers, all members of the South African Association of Municipal Workers, has caused a massive build-up of rubbish.

Plastic rubbish bags put on the city's pavements last Wednesday by businesses and residents have still not been removed.

Dogs and other scavengers have opened the bags, strewing the pavements with filth.

Pedestrians have developed the

art of avoiding the unsightly rubbish and turning their noses the other way

The city council has appealed to the public not to dump their refuse at roadsides, but only in council vehicles parked at 33 collection points since Thursday.

Concern has been expressed that the rubbish pile-up represents a health hazard

The wage dispute between the Samwu and the council started when the council refused to give in to a union demand for a minimum wage of R4,40 an hour, offering them R4,19 an hour.

Last Wednesday some 8 000 workers went on strike and since then between 6 000 and 8 000 workers have not reported for work

This week they were not paid for the time they have been on

strike. Community organisations have come to their assistance and the union is to start giving food parcels to workers.

Tempers flared on Wednesday after the council got an order in the Cape Town Supreme Court restraining 4 000 striking workers from entering the Cape Town Civic Centre, and more than 56 workers were arrested – and later released – when they went to court to reply to these allegations.

Union secretary John Ernzen has accused the council of declaring war on workers.

In a joint statement issued by Cosatu, the UDF and the ANC this week after a meeting with the council, Mayor Gordon Oliver was told he had to understand he could not march with workers one day and suppress them the next

Council strike talks 'looking promising'

ARG 45 25/6/90
Staff Reporters

THE executive committee of the Cape Town City Council and representatives of striking municipal workers will come face-to-face today in a meeting which is "looking promising"

Executive committee chairman Mr Louis Kreiner confirmed the meeting was taking place

Asked if an end to the deadlock in the wage dispute between the council and the South African Municipal Workers' Union was in sight, he said "Today's meeting looks promising."

RELUCTANT

Union sources said "there are signs of movement" in the dispute, but were reluctant to say whether an end to the strike was in sight

Town Clerk Dr Stanley Evans confirmed that casual labour was being used to help clean up

"We have been using some other labour to clean up after hours," said Dr Evans

Reacting to a rumour that the labourers were being paid R35 a night, he said that as far as he knew they worked at the normal casual labour rate

"In some cases there has been some intimidation," he added

However, nothing serious had arisen.

CLEANING

The council's refuse collection-point system was working well.

"We have done cleaning in some township areas too," he said.

"We had trucks and front-end loaders out at the weekend in some areas such as Kewtown and Gatesville. Residents came out of the flats to bring their refuse to the trucks."

He emphasised that the refuse presented no health risk "at this stage".

By HEATHER
ROBERTSON

COMMUNITY pressure on OK Bazaars is mounting as the wage dispute involving about 7 000 labourers and shop assistants at 129 of its branches country-wide enters the third week.

There have been numerous clashes at several OK branches this week and more than 100 workers, all members of the South African Commercial and Catering Allied Workers' Union (Saccawu),

Pressure on OK mounts

South 21/6-27/6/90

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have been arrested.

The strike received a significant boost when workers at OK's branches in Cape Town gave support.

About 53 percent of the workers at these branches supported the strike in a secret ballot Saccawu only

recently began to organise workers at these branches

There at 98 workers on strike at OK's Adderley Street branch

The union has accused the management of worsening the dispute by resorting to court action

Community support for the workers' demand of a minimum wage of R800 and across-the-board increase of R160 remains strong

A joint statement, issued by the African National Congress, the Congress of South African Trade Unions and the National Union of South African Students, said "solidarity action" with the striking OK workers would be announced soon

According to a Saccawu organiser in Cape Town, Waafa Abduraghiem, workers have been told that staff discounts on OK goods would be taken from them unless they resigned from the union

Workers have allegedly been told that they would lose five percent of their bonus for each day they were on strike

In Malmesbury striking workers were allegedly told by management that the strike had been called off and they were forced to sign a contract stating that they would not engage in further industrial action

Saccawu spokesperson Jeremy Daphne said 116 workers had been arrested since the start of the strike

Four workers are in detention

Gavin Browne, spokesperson for OK Bazaars' head office has denied that members of Saccawu who are on strike would be denied staff discount

"As long as people are employees, irrespective of what organisation they belong to, they get staff discounts" He added, however, that striking workers might lose their bonus

Browne explained that strikers who have breached conduct would be dismissed. He indicated that it is too early to say how the strike has affected sales nationwide but sales have been hurt in the Johannesburg CBD



STRONG: OK workers build community support for their strike.

CMF Times 21/6/90 73/52

Court orders on OK strikers

JOHANNESBURG —
The OK Bazaars strike yesterday took several dramatic turns as the company obtained court orders against strikers at two of its branches, applied for urgent interdicts against strikers at nine branches and about 4 000 strikers marched through Johannesburg.

In addition, 13 workers were arrested, eight at Phalaborwa, two in Vereeniging and two in Pretoria, bringing to 166 the number of workers arrested since the strike began last week.

A total of 131 OK stores are now involved, the SA Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers' Union said — Sapa

Oil rig workers down tools for better pay

CAPE TOWN 21/6/90

Staff Reporter

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OIL rig workers on three rigs off Mossel Bay went on strike this week, demanding higher wages and were taken off the rigs, a Chemical Workers' Industrial Union (CWIU) official said yesterday.

CWIU spokesman Mr Martin Jansen said about 120 workers — employed by Sopelog — downed tools on Tuesday on three rigs demanding an 18% salary increase and a minimum wage of R1 200 a month.

The union and the management of Sopelog, one of the sub-contracting companies to Soekor, began negotiations yesterday and will continue today, Mr Jansen said.

He added that management took the striking workers off the Nymphaea, Omega and Actinia rigs.

A source on one of the rigs said workers had been airlifted from the Nymphaea and Actinia rigs on Tuesday night.

Striking workers on the Omega were taken ashore yesterday morning, he added.



About 1 500 OK Bazaars strikers sang and danced their way through central Johannesburg yesterday in a protest march which ended at the company's Eloff Street head office.

● Picture by Ken Oosterbroek.

Court orders petrol bomb in OK strike

The OK Bazaars strike yesterday took several dramatic turns as the company obtained court orders against strikers at two of its branches, applied for urgent interdicts against strikers at nine other branches and a large crowd of strikers marched through Johannesburg.

In addition, 13 workers were arrested, eight at Phalaborwa, two in Vereeniging and two in Pretoria, bringing to 166 the number of workers arrested since the start of the strike last week Monday, according to a statement issued by SA Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers' Union (Saccawu) spokesman Jeremy Daphne.

The statement also said one striking worker's house in Pretoria was petrol-bombed, and police action was taken against workers in Durban, who allege they are being harassed by police at their homes.

Growing

Mr Daphne added that numerous workers had been issued with notices to appear at management disciplinary inquiries. The union has told the company that any inquiries must be held after the strike.

The union says support for the strike is growing. A total of 181 OK stores are now involved.

In a list of demands handed to OK's head office in Johannesburg by Saccawu branch secretary Kaiser Thibedi following a march by about 4 000 workers, he called on the OK to "swallow their pride and be prepared to settle the dispute".

The demands included

- An across-the-board increase of R160,
- A minimum wage of R800,
- A 13th cheque, and
- March 21 as a paid holiday

Sapa

New meeting today, but council firm on policy...

No work, no pay

AKLUS
21/6/96
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ZAB

By DENNIS CRUYWAGEN, Staff Reporter

STRIKING municipal workers will not be paid today when the rest of their working colleagues get their weekly wages from the City Council.

In a statement today council spokesman, Mr Ted Doman, said: "People who are absent from work without leave or without legal cause will not be paid."

He could not say how many workers would be affected, but added that up to two days ago fewer than 6 000 workers had been absent from work.

Mr Louis Kreiner, acting chairman of the council's executive committee, said today the South African Municipal Workers' Union had not been informed that strikers would not be paid.

Another round of talks

"They don't have to be told — this is council policy and the union knows it. People who don't work don't get paid. This is the normal position for any person who does not do a day's work."

He said the committee would meet today before another round of talks with union officials.

Asked if this meant that talks between the council and the union were on again, Mr Kreiner said "I can't say anything like that."

Mr Doman said the executive committee and union officials had decided at a meeting yesterday to meet again today.

"I can't say if the talks are back on track again because we've been talking to the union ever since workers went on strike a week ago."

Released on warning

Meanwhile, more than 50 workers who were arrested outside the Supreme Court in Keerom Street yesterday were released on warning about 6pm last night.

Before their release police told them they could pay a R50 admission of guilt fine before August 6 or appear in court the following day, said lawyer Mr Huxley Joshua. The workers were unwilling to pay the fine, he said.

Mr Joshua said he found it "interesting" that workers were told early yesterday they were to be charged for demonstrating outside the court.

Later, he said, police told them they were to be charged with "being in an area close to parliament".

His colleague, Mr Dhinus Gihwala, said council for the workers and for the municipality had agreed yesterday that advertisements would be placed in Cape Town's three daily newspapers tomorrow to inform more than 4 000 workers that they have until July 26 to file affidavits in reply to a Supreme Court order given to the council last week. Similar messages would be broadcast over Radio Good Hope.



Picture DOUG PITHEY, The Argi

CLEAN SWEEP: Dieter Harms, Jean Gouws and Nolene Mitchell, all aged five and from a Roeland Street creche, show what broom power is all about outside their school as the strike of municipal workers drags on

Strikers march on OK's head office

WILSON ZWANE

MORE than 2 000 OK workers marched on the retail giant's head office in central Johannesburg yesterday where they handed a list of demands to management.

The march was joined by non-striking Dion workers as it progressed from the corner of Kerk and End streets along Delvers Street and down Pritchard Street to the OK's Eloff Street store.

Presenting the memorandum to the OK's Chief Security Controller, SA Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers' Union (Saccawu) official Kaizer Thibedi said management should not view the 18-day-old strike by more than 6 000 employees countrywide as a "test of strength" but merely as a strategy to get them to meet the workers' demands.

"We have resolved other disputes in the past and we would like to believe that it will not take long before you respond to this memorandum," Thibedi said.

Among other demands, the strikers

want an across-the-board increase of R160 a month and a minimum wage of R800 a month.

Another key demand is that management abolish what Saccawu described as its "baasskap mentality".

OK spokesman Gavin Brown said the claim of "baasskap mentality" was never raised during negotiations between OK and Saccawu.

"The union should come and talk to us about what they perceive as 'baasskap mentality'," Brown said.

He added that although OK respected the right of every South African to hold peaceful protests, the wage settlement would come about only when the parties sat down and negotiated.

OK is offering workers service-related increases ranging from between R115 and R145, a bonus to non-striking workers and a "negotiable" minimum wage of R710 a month after a year's service.

F/M 22/6/90

OK BAZAARS STRIKE

Accusations fly ⁽¹⁵²⁾

The strike at OK stores entered its third week on Monday with the union claiming more of its pickets arrested and generally harassed by police, members of the public and rightwing groups. ~~(SSS)~~ ~~(SSS)~~

Jeremy Daphne, spokesman for the SA Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers' Union, says a total of 146 workers have been arrested since the beginning of the strike. According to Daphne, there is still no agreement with the police over the legality of pickets.

The union warned last week of "unpredictable consequences" if its members continue to be arrested while picketing. The company maintains police intervention has been necessary only at some stores "where a hooligan element among strikers has behaved criminally and breached rules of conduct set out by the union itself."

OK Bazaars spokesman Gavin Brown says the company has launched eight urgent Supreme Court applications for eviction of strikers from stores, mainly in the PWV area. This follows a successful court application by OK last week when pickets at the Eastgate, Bedfordview, shopping centre were instructed to vacate premises or face court action.

Shopfloor support for the strike remains strong, says Daphne. He reckons that about 7 000 workers are striking at 129 of the 166 stores organised by the union.

The dispute hinges on wages, with the union demanding a minimum R800 a month, recognition of March 21 as a paid holiday; and a 13th cheque and 5% commission for sales personnel. The company is offering service-related wage increases of between R115 and R145 and a monthly minimum of R710 after a year's service.

According to the union, incidents of alleged violence over the past two weeks include threats by AWB members at Potgietersrus.

The company says it deplores the incident and has lodged a complaint of trespass with the police.

There have also been "a number of problems with Inkatha in Natal," says Daphne. It seems OK employees, who allegedly belong to Inkatha, coerced workers not to support the strike.

Last week the union responded to the company's argument that it cannot increase the size of its wage offer due to deteriorating trade conditions.

The union is suggesting that over the years OK should have directed more of its earnings into wages.

The union challenges the company over store closures and calls on management to negotiate the issue. Brown counters that the company decided to rationalise its stores before wage negotiations reached a dispute.

He adds that a meeting was scheduled this Wednesday to discuss store closures. ■

Strike rate trebles this year

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By DREW FORREST

SOARING figures this year — and a massive increase in industrial action in the public sector — are highlighted in statistics released yesterday by consultants Levy, Piron and Associates.

The consultancy also predicts that in the light of rising worker expectations, the shifting political climate and conflict over the Labour Relations Act, strike action in the months ahead will reach unprecedented levels.

The consultancy's latest strike report shows that nearly three times as many man days were lost through strikes in the first six months of this year as in the equivalent period of 1989. The tallies are 1,2 million and 436 000 respectively.

Compared with the first half of 1988, when 220 000 man days were lost, the strike toll is nearly five times greater this year.

Reflecting the current union push on the public sector, resulting in strikes in the health, rail and postal sectors, the

consultancy also reveals that a staggering 46,2 percent of strike action this year has involved state employees. In the first half of 1989, the figure was 0,4 percent.

The consultancy comments that soaring worker militancy has also led to a rise in other forms of worker protest, such as sit-ins and demonstrations. Significantly, overtime bans account for 43 percent of all types of industrial action.

Reports of intimidation during strikes, particularly where companies resort to "scab" labour, are increasing, it says.

Topping the "strike propensity" figures is the National Union of Metalworkers, which accounted for 19 percent of strikes in the first six months of this year. It is followed by the Chemical Workers Industrial Union (11,8 percent) and the National Union of Mineworkers (11 percent).

In terms of man days lost — reflecting the size of strikes and their duration — the South African Commercial Catering and Allied Workers Union has been the

most active (12,3 percent), followed by the Paper, Printing Wood and Allied Workers Union (10,6 percent) and Numsa (9,1 percent).

Most strikes continue to centre on wages — 63,5 percent of total — while the average level of wage settlement in negotiations is 17,5 percent this year. The union winning the highest pay rates remained the CWIU, whose members were paid an average rate of R6,28 an hour, followed by Saccawu (R5,41) and Ppwawu (R4,94).

The latest issue of the consultancy's *Bargainers' Bulletin* points out that although the inflation rate had dropped to 14,6 percent, the food index had risen to between 16,8 percent and 18 percent for lower income groups.

Commenting on soaring public sector strike figures, the bulletin said massive pay increases for police, prisons and the defence force had set an unrealistic level of expectations in the sector.

Less and less OK: more stores to shut

OK BAZAARS has informed the SA Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers Union that it is to close four more stores within weeks and that 12 others are candidates for closure.

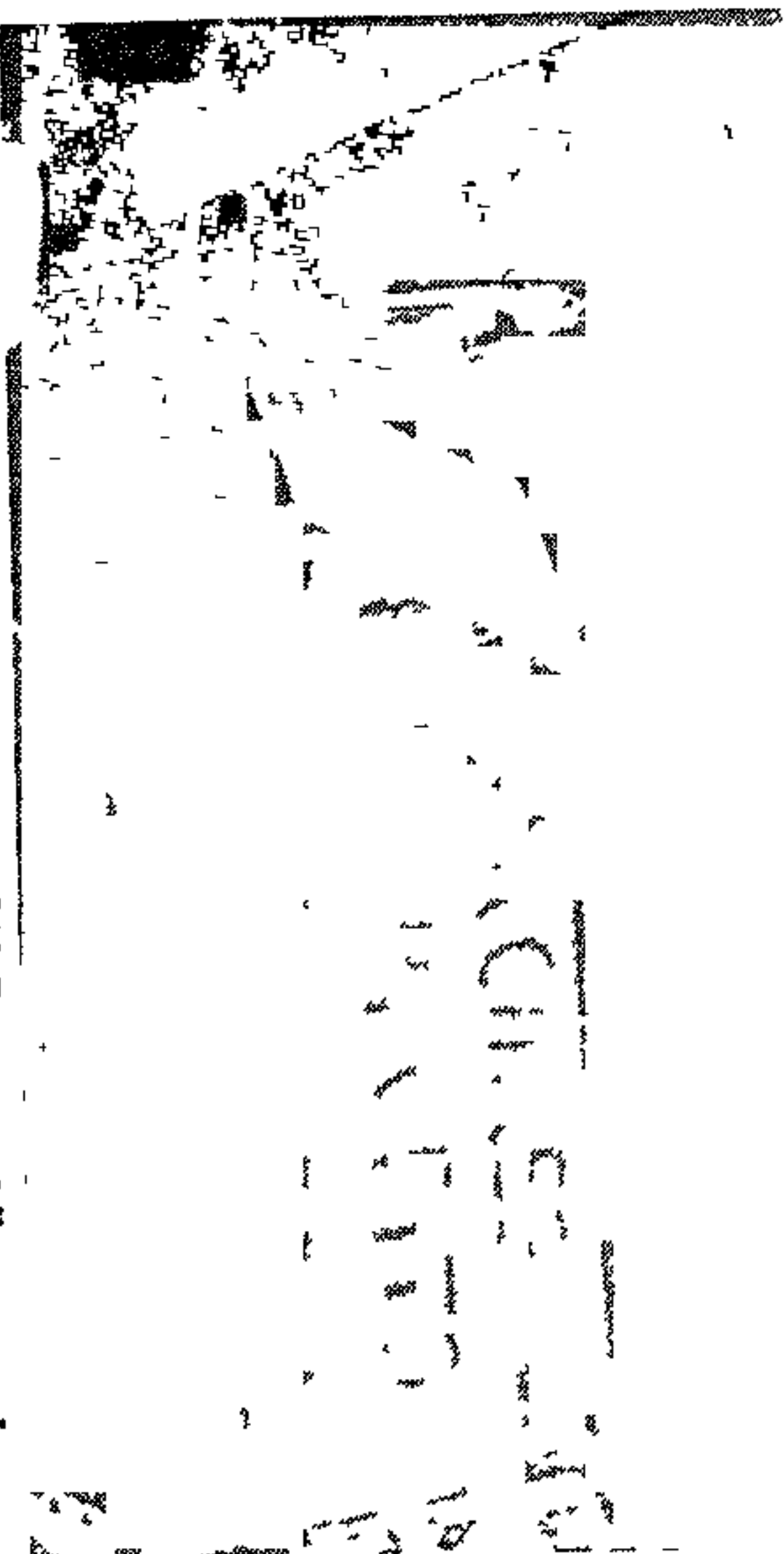
And as the OK strike moves into its fourth week, further industrial action looms in the retail sector.

On Wednesday conciliation board hearings on a wage dispute at Checkers broke down and was adjourned with the parties widely separated.

Next week a CB sits to resolve a wage battle at Edgars, and about 3 000 workers at 44 hotels in the Southern Sun group are to ballot on strike action, also over pay.

Describing the OK closure threat, relayed to the union in a letter this week, as "devious and dishonest", Saccawa official Jeremy Daphne said the OK had held back the information until wage talks, and was now using it as a "bargaining chip".

OK industrial relations executive Gavin Brown could not be reached for a reaction. Earlier he said that the closures were in terms of the OK's rationalisation programme, but had been brought forward because of the strike. He declined to say which stores were affected, saying



Under the watchful gaze of Von Brandis ... OK Bazaars strikers march through the city

the issue was "too delicate". In other developments in the OK strike yesterday.

● About 800 workers vacated nine stores in the PVV after an agreement between the union and the company was

made an order of the Supreme Court.

OK had backed its original application for the eviction of strikers with numerous allegations of harassment, intimidation and assault. The union stressed that it had not admitted these

● Union official David Molele and four OK strikers were arrested on charges of holding an illegal gathering while walking in the street, according to the union Police confirmation and comment could not be obtained.

The union estimates that more than 170 workers have been arrested since the strike started.

● Seven strikers appeared in the Pretoria magistrate's court on charges of assault.

Yesterday, Saccawa held a critical head office meeting to decide how to proceed with the strike, following a two-week consultation with workers in the regions. The outcome was not known, but sources said it could result in an approach to management for fresh negotiations.

At Checkers, the union is demanding R172 across-the-board and a minimum wage of R890, against the company's offer of R118 and R748. Industry sources said that soon-to-be-published company figures would reflect its financial straits.



SIGNED... SA Municipal Workers' Union president Mr Salie Manie and Mr Louis Kreiner, acting chairman of the council's executive committee, sign the joint announcement ending the strike.

Picture RICHARD BELL

City garbage strike ends

By PETER DENNEHY
Municipal Reporter

CAPE TOWN'S municipal workers' strike came to an end yesterday when the City Council and the union settled on a new minimum wage of R845 a month.

This is R10 a month more than the council had offered to 99,5% of its members before the strike began.

At one stage the union had demanded 40% increases, which it later dropped to 33%, and it dropped more after that. The union got a mandate from strikers yesterday before signing the agreement with the council.

The council's eight lowest-paid employees would have been paid R819 a month in terms of the council's previous offer.

The agreement was announced in a joint statement by Mr Salie Manie, president of the SA Municipal Workers' Union (Samwu) and Mr Louis Kreiner, acting chairman of the executive committee.

Mr Kreiner said the agreement "does not necessitate any increase in rates".

Union official Mr Roger Ronnie said yesterday that the lowest-paid workers had been getting R719 a month in total before the strike. Hourly-paid workers had previously got a minimum of R3,61 an hour and weekly workers a minimum of R161 a week, he

From page 1

said *Cap-Town 26/6/90*
Most of the union's members were paid either hourly or weekly, he said. Of the 11 500 Samwu members, 10 000 received less than R24 700 a year.

He said the council's concession on wages yesterday brought its offer to non-labourers up from 13,5% to 14%. Labourers got higher percentage increases. *152*

Mr Ronnie said the council had also given an undertaking to reduce the number of hours in the council's working week without any loss in pay.

At present there were 46 hours in the council working week, while the union demanded that there should be only 40, he said.

Mr Ronnie said a compromise would have to be reached on hours and the union hoped a shorter working week would be implemented by October 1.

No undertakings had been made over the union's demand for a housing allowance for those in rented accommodation, Mr Manie said, but the council had at least indicated it was prepared to talk about it.

"If the council wants to take the lead in anything, it should take it in giving people housing allowances," Mr Manie said. "That is now a standard union demand."

Nobody would be fired for striking, even though the strike was illegal as municipal workers are officially "essential service workers" who may not legally strike at all, unionists said.

The union and the council agreed to talk about giving casual workers permanent status.

Mr Ronnie said the council had also agreed to give hourly- and weekly-paid employees an extra day's holiday, bringing their total annual leave to 18 days.

The council would not allow strikers to take leave retrospectively on strike days, but it did allow strikers to spread their wage or salary losses over four weeks or two months.

• Meanwhile, the cleansing department began to make inroads on the refuse backlog even before the strike ended. A spokesman said that on Saturday and Sunday 110 and 96 compactor-loads had been picked up, far more than the usual weekend numbers of 35 and 20.

To page 2

PAC warns of violence

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — The PAC and Nactu yesterday warned of possible violence in rejecting a Cosatu-ANC call for nationwide stayaway and protest action next week.

Both organisations said in separate statements yesterday that they had not been consulted about the Week of Action originally called by Cosatu to protest at Natal violence, the maintenance of the state of emergency there and the continued existence of the KwaZulu homeland.

The PAC-Nactu stand against

participation has raised the spectre of confrontation between workers staying away and those going to work, particularly in the light of continuing violence between PAC and ANC supporters.

However, Nactu said Cosatu had assured the labour federation that a pamphlet it intended releasing would indicate that no one should be forced to join the stayaway.

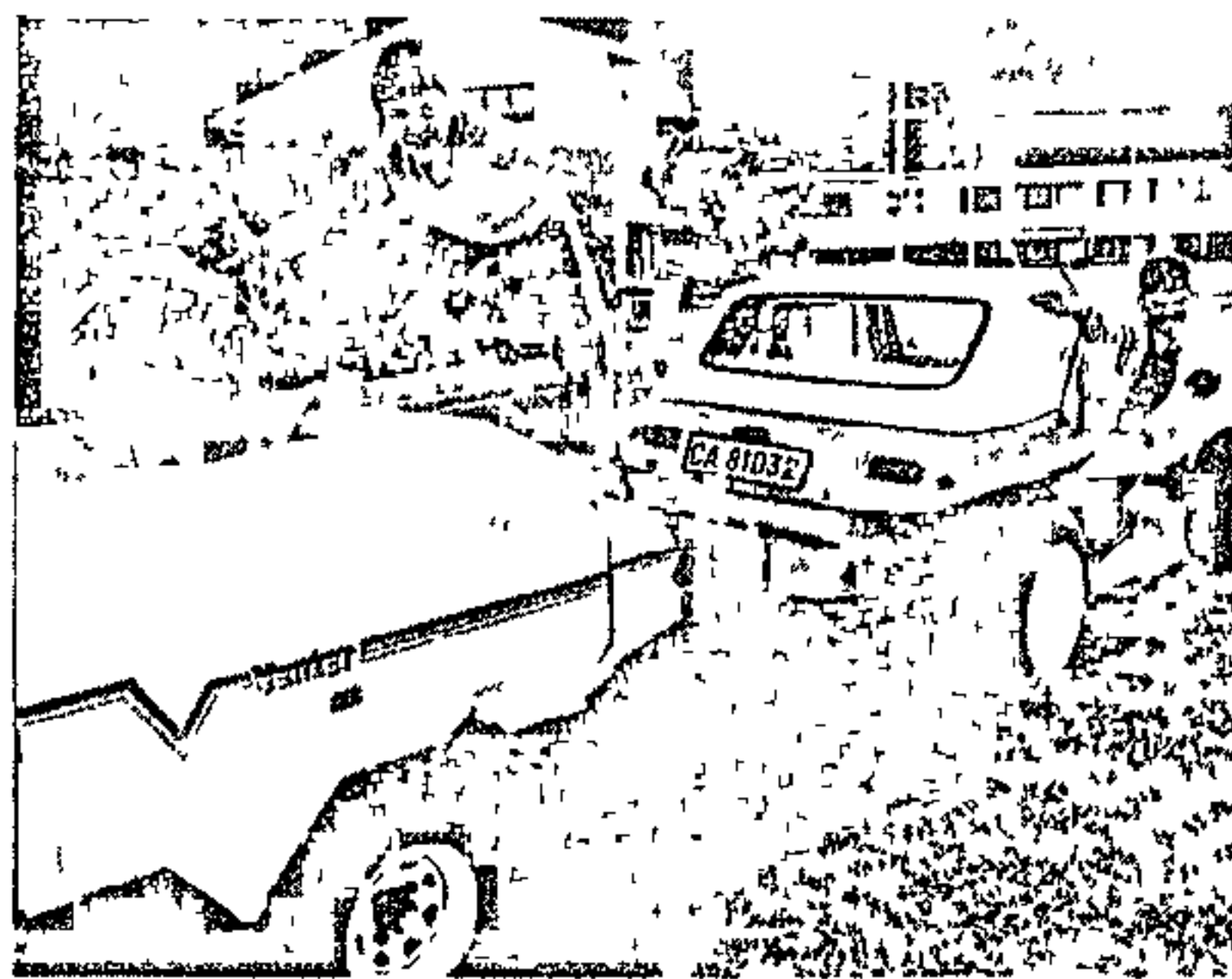
ANC internal spokesman Mr Ahmed Kathrada's only comment yesterday was "We can only reiterate that what has been announced will go ahead."

Cosatu yesterday urged the PAC and other organisations to reconsider their opposition to national mass action against violence in Natal.

Cosatu general secretary Mr Jay Naidoo said the union federation did not want to enter into a slanging match with organisations opposing mass action against the Natal violence.

Opposing the campaign could only benefit the "apartheid regime and those perpetrating violence against our people" — Sapa

Pay package deal ends council strike



Picture: HANNES THIART, The Argus

ENTERPRISING SPIRIT. Thabo Wolfaardt, a Standard 5 pupil at SACS Junior School in Newlands, proved himself a young entrepreneur when he turned R2 into R40 within 2½ hours. Thabo made the small fortune in SACS's extend-a-rand campaign to boost the school funds by making Mum the driver while he played garbage remover at 50 cents a bag. Thabo now says he can sympathise with the municipal workers who have to do this every day. His friend, Hendrik Jacobsz, helped a "bit" and was rewarded with a hamburger, said his mother Mrs Celeste Wolfaardt.

OK, union to meet in bid to end 23-day strike

The Argus Correspondent
JOHANNESBURG — OK Bazaars management has agreed to meet the South African Commercial Catering and Allied Workers Union (Saccawu) to resolve the national strike which entered its 23rd day today.

Company spokesman, Mr Gavin Brown, said yesterday OK had accepted the union's invitation to re-open talks on wages and working conditions but proposed a meeting on Thursday instead of tomorrow.

Last week OK instituted legal proceedings at 11 of its stores, alleging misconduct by strikers.

On Friday Saccawu applied for a court order declaring OK's conduct during the strike an unfair labour practice.

OK's present minimum wage is R620 a month.

Saccawu is demanding an increase of R160 across-the-board and a minimum wage of R800. Management offered R115 to R145 depending on years of service.

By JOHN YELD, Staff Reporter
and Sapa

CLEARING of Cape Town's rubbish mountain began in earnest today after an agreement was reached between the Cape Town City Council and the South African Municipal Workers' Union.

Many of the union's 10 000-odd members, including refuse removal staff, have been on a wildcat strike for nearly two weeks.

Yesterday the council's executive committee and union officials agreed to adjustments in workers' wages and conditions and workers are returning to their jobs today.

Joint statement

Samwu and the council issued a joint statement, saying that after constructive discussions yesterday it had been "possible to reach a creative solution to the impasse regarding the Samwu/City Council wage negotiations".

The statement was issued jointly by Western Cape leader of Samwu Mr Salie Manie and the acting chairman of the council's executive committee, Mr Louis Kreiner.

"In particular, it has been possible to adjust the package of lower level employees, which will translate into a minimum monthly wage of R845, along with other adjustments," the statement said.

The council's previous "final" offer was for a minimum of R835 a month for "99,5 percent" of Samwu's members. In a Press advertisement during the strike, the council said only eight of 15 452 employees would earn the minimum of R819 a month.

An offer of a 13,5 percent increase for higher paid unskilled and semi-skilled employees earning up to R23 000 a year has been increased to 14 percent.

Further discussions

Town Clerk Dr Stan Evans said further discussions would take place regarding other demands of Samwu workers, such as those for shorter working hours and improved accommodation benefits.

"We are calling for reports on these matters and will go into them."

Workers would return to work today and some may have started yesterday afternoon, Dr Evans added.

"I am very happy it has been settled. I feel it is a good, creative resolution. The situation has been well handled for the benefit of all the people of Cape Town."

Workers had rallied to help the city during previous crises and he believed they would respond positively again, Dr Evans said.

Last night a Samwu spokesman said the union did not want to add to the joint statement.

Mr Manie said earlier yesterday the strike had "succeeded in opening doors" and had forced the council to increase its wage offer.

● The strike started on Wednesday June 13 when thousands of municipal workers invaded the concourse of the city's Civic Centre, toyi-toying and singing.

Rubbish began piling up in the city's streets and there were few refuse collections.

TEL 731002



German cleric refused SA visa

Staff Reporter

FORMER Mitchell's Plain cleric, the Rev Gottfried Kraatz, has been refused a visa to enter South Africa and is being deported back to Germany.

Pastor Kraatz, a German Lutheran church cleric and an outspoken opponent of apartheid, who was first deported from South Africa in 1985, was on his way to Cape Town to represent the Evangelical Church in Germany at the South African Council of Churches annual meeting.

When he arrived at Jan Smuts Airport, immigration officials told him his name was "on the computer" and that his application for a visa would have to be referred to Pretoria.

Mr Kraatz said he had waited 11 hours to hear whether his visa would be granted.

Samwu end strike

THE Cape Town municipal workers' strike ended yesterday, following a decision by the striking workers' trade union - the SA Municipal Workers Union - to accept a small wage increase and an undertaking to negotiate better working conditions.

Leader of the Western Cape union, Mr Salie Manie, told thousands of cheering workers at the Good Hope Centre that the City Council had decided to raise its offer of a 13,5 per cent increase in wages to 14 per cent. (152) (14000)

Strikers returning to work would not be penalised, and minimum wage-offers had been increased from R835 to R845. Further negotiations would take place on shorter working hours and help with housing. - Sapa. Sowetan 26/6/90

Climax to racism campaign

LONDON - A 10-day anti-apartheid campaign by British local authorities reaches a climax today with a ceremony at the House of Commons at which local councils will express their opposition to racism.

Councillors from all over the United Kingdom will present declarations against apartheid to the ANC's chief representative in Britain, Mendi Msimang, and the president of the British Anti-Apartheid Movement, Archbishop Trevor Huddleston. Sowetan 26/6/90

The ceremony marks the close of 10 days of action by local authorities.

Councils will call on the South African Government to release all political prisoners. - Sowetan Foreign Service.

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FACTFILE by Morris McWhirter

CAPE TOWN 22/2/90 (152) ~~22/2/90~~

Thousands to march in city today

Staff Reporter

THOUSANDS of city council, OK and Eskom workers are expected to march in Cape Town and Bellville tomorrow in support of "living wage" demands backed by an unprecedented cross-section of extra-parliamentary movements

The marches were announced yesterday at a city press conference held to outline objections to President F W de Klerk's reluctance to pass amending legisla-

tion to the Labour Relations Act.

Council workers, OK staff and Eskom workers are involved in ongoing and bitter labour disputes with their managements.

For the first time in many years a press conference platform was shared by the PAC, the ANC, Azapo, the UDF, Cosatu and several member unions yesterday.

Chairperson Ms Luci Nyembe, regional secretary of Cosatu, said this was because in the present

supposed climate of "progressive labour relations we find we are being thrown back into the middle ages".

This had "provoked" the organisations to unite in opposition

Ms Nyembe added that the ANC executive was "very positive" about Cosatu's call for the executive to review continued participation in negotiations with the government

CPM 7445 22/6/90 (152) 206
Rubbish pile-up threat

PRETORIA. — Rubbish is threatening to pile up all over Verwoerdburg as the municipality's black staff enter the second day of a pay dispute.

The strike has affected all municipal services, including refuse removal. A municipal negotiating team met union representatives yesterday — Sapa

Their own intervarsity

Staff Reporter

AN alternative intervarsity will be held at the University of Cape Town tomorrow for students who do not want to attend the traditional encounter at Newlands between UCT and Stellenbosch.

Teams from the universities of Cape Town, Stellenbosch and Western Cape and Good Hope Training College, Khayelitsha, will take part in the alternative intervarsity organised by the South African Tertiary Institutions' Sports Congress.

The day starts at 10 am and the highlight will be at 5 pm with a rugby match between UCT and Stellenbosch.

Council, workers to split court costs

Supreme Court Reporter

A PROVISIONAL Supreme Court order of restraint on thousands of striking Cape Town City Council employees last month has been discharged by consent between the parties with each to pay their own costs.

The urgent application was brought against the South African Municipal Workers' Union, Mr Salie Manie and about 4 000 striking workers on June 12, restraining them from gathering in the Civic Centre, intimidating municipal employees and inciting others to support an illegal strike.

The strike was called off about two weeks later after wage agreements between the union and the council.

Acting judge, Mr Justice J van Deventer presided. Mr H Viljoen SC, assisted by Mr R P Hoffman, instructed by Silberbauers, appeared for the municipality.

CPA to talk to
wage protesters

THE Cape Provincial Administration (CPA) is prepared to meet the SA Municipal Workers' Union (Samwu) following a weekend protest march by workers demanding direct talks with the provincial authorities

Samwu cited as "intolerable" the situation regarding wages and demanded to meet the "highest" CPA officials.

— Sapa

OK, union in deal over workers

By Shareen Singh (152) of its members.

OK management and the South African Commercial Catering and Allied Workers Union (Saccawu) reached an agreement yesterday that strikers at nine stores would vacate company premises pending negotiations.

Saccawu spokesman Jeremy Daphne said the agreement, which became an order of court, was undertaken without the union admitting any of the company's allegations.

Workers at Benoni Hyper, Benoni OK, Rosebank, Hillbrow, Cresta, Randburg, Alberton, Eloff Street and Sandton were ordered to stop intimidating and assaulting shoppers and workers and causing damage to property.

Both parties compromised, with OK management withdrawing its demand that strikers stay 500 m away from company premises.

The agreement is subject to the union's right to challenge the eviction

OK alleged misconduct by strikers at several stores, Mr Daphne said, but the union's attempts to investigate such allegations were hampered by the company. Management issued evacuation notices to workers at the stores Saccawu visited to check on misconduct, he said.

Mr Daphne said four more stores joined the strike yesterday, bringing the total to 135.

The strike started about two weeks ago at about 100 OK stores after management and the union reached deadlock on wages and working conditions. Saccawu demanded an across-the-board increase of R160 a month and a minimum wage of R800 a month. OK was offering R115 and R155 a month depending on the number of years of service.

Negotiations between the parties have not resumed since then.

Court orders strikers to quit nine OK stores on the Reef

A RAND Supreme Court order was granted to OK Bazaars yesterday, stipulating that the SA Commercial Catering and Allied Workers' Union (Saccawu) leave and not re-enter nine of the company's Witwatersrand stores.

Saccawu agreed to the order without having admitted to the OK's allegations.

Although the application by the OK had been postponed indefinitely, the union had approached the company's representatives 10 minutes before the case for an out of court settlement, OK spokesman Gavin Brown said.

Saccawu had agreed to leave, and had undertaken not to enter OK stores at: Alberton, Benoni, Benoni Hyperama, Cresta, Eloff Street, Rosebank, Hillbrow, Randburg Hyperama and Sandton Hyperama.

It had also undertaken not to obstruct unlawfully the normal operations of OK's business at those premises, and would abstain from harassing casual staff or damaging company property.

Union spokesman Jeremy Daphne said it had been a negotiated settlement. The OK had withdrawn its demand that strikers remain 500m away from company premises, he said, which allowed picketing to continue.

The court order is also subject to Saccawu's right to challenge OK's ejection of the strikers from its premises.

Thousands of Saccawu members have been on a wage strike for almost three weeks — Sapa

Jo'burg faces a municipal strike similar to Cape's, says councillor

TANIA LEVY

JOHANNESBURG could face a municipal workers' strike similar to the current strike in Cape Town, DP councillor Clive Gilbert said yesterday.

Speaking during the Johannesburg City Council's budget debate Gilbert said Johannesburg's workers were paid less than their coastal counterparts. He warned that a crisis was looming regarding council employees' salaries.

He said Johannesburg municipal workers earned 10% to 20% less than workers in Durban or Cape Town, where workers went on strike after rejecting the council's minimum wage offer of R835 a month.

Johannesburg was offering between R600 and R700 a month — an amount which did not even match the Cape Town Council's rejected offer, and was nowhere near the R960 a month minimum being demanded by the striking workers under the banner of the SA Municipal Workers' Union (Samwu).

Management committee chairman Ian Davidson said provision had been made in the budget for salary increases, although these could not be quantified in public.

However, the increases were skewed toward the lower level employees and grade one workers could receive a 34% pay hike Davidson said certain unions had indicated acceptance of these increases but negotiations were still underway.

He said he did not believe the issue would develop into a strike. Trade unions were part and parcel of the city's management and were mutually dependent on the council, he said.

Earlier in the day DP councillor Hans Strydom said the R1 000 a month allowance paid to councillors was an insult. After deductions this amount shrank to R834 a month and from this secretaries, telephone bills and other administrative costs had to be paid. The poor allowance meant the best brains and talent would not be attracted to serve on the council.

Strydom said MP's were paid ten times the amount but had a tenth of the contact that city councillors had with their constituencies.

971-714 p 23/6/90

Order on 400 sit-in strikers

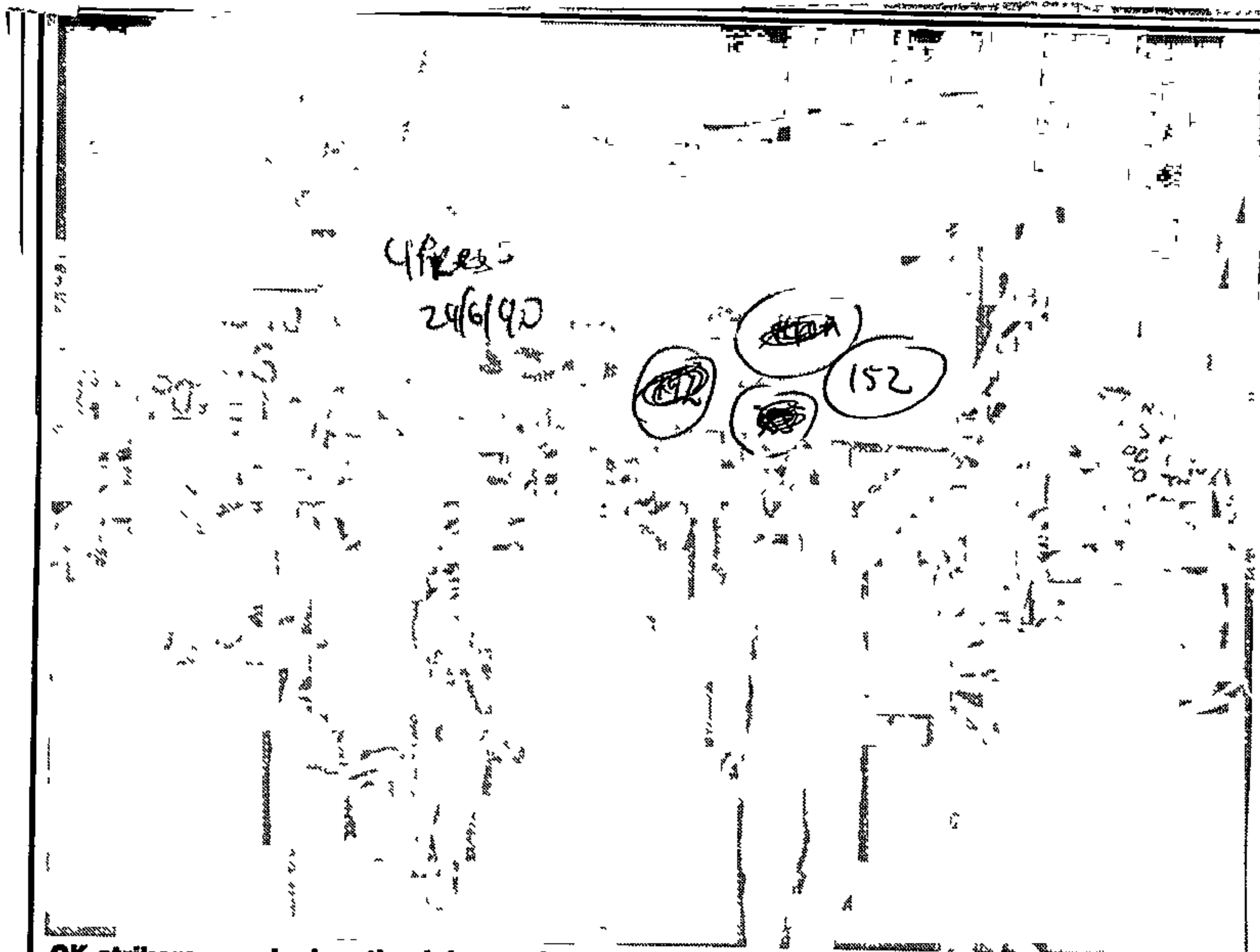
Supreme Court Reporter

ALMOST 400 striking workers who have placed an Atlantis factory under siege by a sit-in in the canteen have been ordered to vacate the premises by Supreme Court order

Mr Justice J Foxcroft made the order after an urgent interdict was brought against the National Union of Metalworkers of South Africa and the workers.

In papers, Mr Etienne Max Schutte, personnel manager of Grapnel of Atlantis, said the strikers, engaged in wage negotiations, ignored demands for them to vacate the premises or return to work.

Although the strikers' behaviour had been exemplary, it may be necessary to make use of casual labour, which may cause conflict.



OK strikers marched on the Johannesburg head office this week to present a petition.

Strikers march on OK head office

ABOUT 2 000 striking OK workers were joined by Hyperama workers this week when they marched peacefully from Cosatu offices to OK headquarters in President Street, Johannesburg, to present management with their demands.

The strike – in its third week – is the result of a wage dispute. Workers are demanding a monthly R160 increase across the board.

A petition was handed to Garrith Jones, OK's head office security controller.

Ccawusa branch secretary Kaizer Thibedi, who presented the petition, said it was time OK management swallowed its pride and settled the dispute, as there was a real danger that it would escalate.

He said the OK was reaping the effects of placing the welfare of workers at the bottom of its priorities, and now says it cannot afford to pay more.

"Our view is that the OK's willingness to pay attention to low wages and shop floor dissatisfaction is questionable."

Workers seek double OK's profits

Examined top of the pension pay-outs

By JULIE WALKER

ASSETS under management at the Mine Officials and Mine Employees Pension Funds total R10bn and in flow of more than R38m a month needs to be invested by fund manager Barry Botes.

Pensions of more than R20m a month are paid out. The two are in the top three private pension funds. Mr Botes says benefits to

THE strike at OK Bazaars enters its fourth week with union members still demanding an increased wage package amounting to more than double the company's taxed profit for 1989.

About 6 500 members of the SA Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers Union (Saccawu) are on strike at about 120 stores. The strike has cost workers R4m in lost wages. OK is also suffering, some shops reporting falls of 15% to 20% in sales.

About 58% of Saccawu's 10 000 members at the company voted to strike. The OK employs about 25 000 people.

The union demands an across-the-board increase of R160 a month and a minimum of R600.

Other demands include March 21 (Sharpeville) as a paid holiday, and a 13th cheque.

The company offers service

Strike costs both parties millions

By ADRIAN HERSCHER

forms part of the company's funding base.

"The shareholder funding base has not grown sufficiently in the past couple of years leading to increased borrowing at great expense. Drawings from retained earnings would only aggravate the borrowing requirement and further erode profitability."

A feature of the dispute is the type of increase on offer. Across the board increases have been granted in the past eight years. Although the company offered differentiated increases last year it relented. But this year it has stood firm.

OK spokesman Gavin Brown says across the-board increases distort the wage structure.

"Some of those at the more senior levels would receive increases of less than 10%."

Mr Daphne says the union regards wages at the bottom of the scale as "very low". Because of this, increases should be shared equally in money terms.

The strike has been marred by allegations of intimidation by strikers and by non-strikers. Several incidents have been issued evicting strikers from stores and preventing them from interfering with customers, suppliers and non-strikers.

The union says allegations about strikers' behaviour are exaggerated and some security guards behaved aggressively and provocatively towards them.

The parties are scheduled to meet soon to discuss store closures.

Mr Brown says: "No conditions have been set and other issues may arise."

Designing lady Lyme blossoms

By JULIE WALKER

CHRISTMAS has come early for Lyme Curley and Garry Gass — their signwriting business has to look that far ahead to cope with the growing demand for their service.

They established Catalogue Production Services (CPS) in 1986 when they branched out on their own after working for many years with a fashion chain.

They saw a gap for a marketing-production house to provide a middle-man service between agencies and clients.

The exodus of businesses from Johannesburg's central business district meant new signage needs and the proliferation of suburban shopping malls gave rise to competition — opening doors for Lyme and Garry.



Lyme saw a tired Noddy Christmas display at a shopping centre, and mentioned it to Garry. He said that if she could do better, she should tell the centre's management.

Act sparks strong reaction on labour front

So we can
25/6/90

152

THE intense activity on the labour front at the moment underlines the problems posed by the present Labour Relations Act, Congress of SA Trade Unions spokesman Neil Coleman says.

OK Bazaars is entering its fourth week of confrontation with SA Commercial Catering and Allied Workers Union members, and with thousands of workers on strike around the country. Saccawu is also involved in disputes with Edgars and Checkers.

Municipal workers have downed tools at Sandton in Johannesburg, Verwoerdburgstad near Pretoria, and have all but crippled Cape Town's refuse removal system.

Industrial action is also taking place in at least four other companies, including Satchwell Controls, Grapnel Silencers, Southern Sun and on at least three oil rigs off the South African coast.

Thousands of unionists

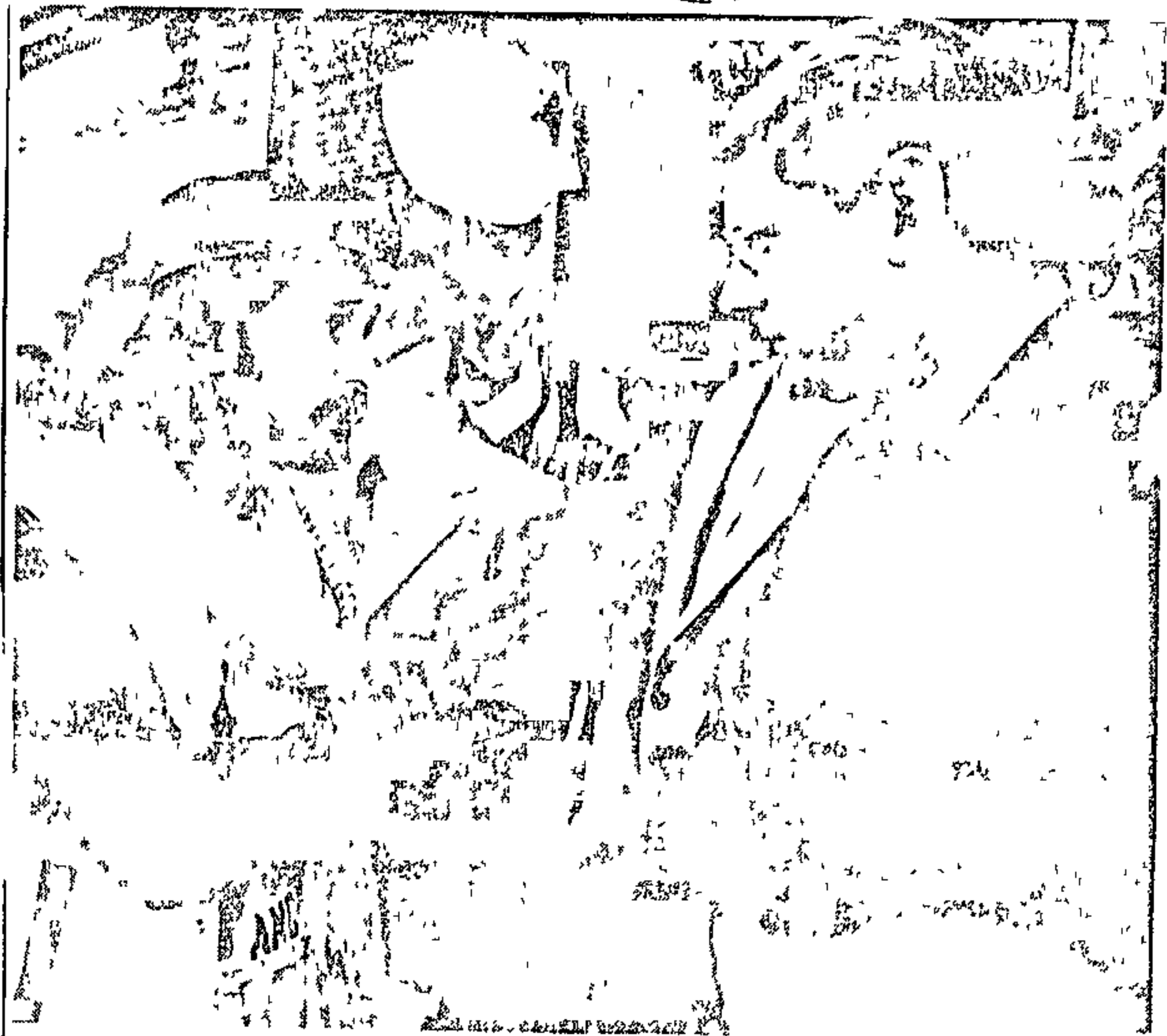
from the wine and spirits industry will cast their ballot on Friday for a nationwide strike.

Mr Coleman emphasised that disputes arose from immediate grievances. "But the problems of the LRA feed into the situation. When faced with a potential dispute, there is no set framework ... Both Saccola (the SA Consultative Conference on Labour Affairs) and ourselves (Cosatu and the National Council of Trade Unions) have recognised this."

Cosatu is due to reply on Friday night to a proposal by State President FW de Klerk that he and Manpower Minister Eli Louw meet the unions on Tuesday to discuss the Saccola accord amendments to the present LRA.

The unions have promised industrial action "of unprecedented proportions" if the amendments are not pushed through Parliament by the end of this session. - Sapa

Cam Times 25/6/90 (25) 152



CONFRONTATION . . Mr Salie Manie, flamboyant leader of the municipal strikers, outlines worker demands to the regional personnel director of OK Bazaars, Mr Don Algera, during a joint city council/OK strikers' march through central Cape Town on Saturday. Picture OBED ZILWA

Athlone marchers appear

Staff Reporters

PENINSULA TECHNIKON rector Mr Franklin Sonn and 25 other protesters appeared briefly in the Wynberg Magistrate's Court on Saturday afternoon, after they were arrested during a march in Athlone

All were charged with taking part in an illegal gathering and warned to reappear in court on August 2

The marchers had intended to hand over a petition at the Athlone police station, calling for an end to police violence in townships, the lifting of the state of emergency in Natal, the dismantling of the KwaZulu police

and the abolition of the Internal Security Act — under which they were charged

Meanwhile, a legal march in Cape Town on Saturday morning went off peacefully. About 2 000 strikers took part, most of them city council or OK Bazaars employees

Afterwards strike leaders addressed workers in District Six

South African Municipal Workers' Union officials said the city council was "showing signs of movement"

The leaders are expected to report back to all the municipal strikers in the Good Hope Centre this afternoon and later make an announcement

OK strikers call for new talks

By Shareen Singh

SACCAWU has invited OK Bazaars management to a meeting on Wednesday — a day after the start of the chainstore's June sale

In a statement at the weekend, South African Commercial Catering and Allied Workers Union spokesman Jeremy Daphne said strike action during the June sale could cripple OK. The union was giving management the chance before this

But settlement would depend largely on OK's willingness to make a significant shift in its pay offer

The union also expects OK's holding company, South African Breweries, to intervene in settling the dispute

At a meeting in Cape Town on Saturday after a march by more than 2 000 workers, a spokesman called "Comrade Julian" alleged that OK management was using Inkatha and the AWB to harass strikers.

Last week the OK management accused strikers of misconduct and applied for a court order restraining workers from assaulting and harassing shoppers and causing damage to property.

But an agreement was reached between management and the union (which became an order of court) that strikers at nine stores would vacate company premises pending further negotiations.

On Friday SACCAWU applied to the Industrial Court for an order declaring OK's conduct an unfair labour practice. Judgment will be given today.

The union said the OK was refusing workers access to canteens, refusing to grant union officials access to strikers, and blocking telephone communication between officials and shop stewards.

Sixteen workers were arrested on Friday and one on Saturday, the union said, bringing the total number arrested during the strike to 213

Police guard on factory after shooting

By DAVID YUTAK
Staff Reporter

RIOT police were today guarding the closed Atlantis factory where several workers were injured at the weekend when police opened fire with teargas and rubber bullets

The police action was the culmination of a two-month wage dispute at the Grapnel factory in Atlantis

About 400 striking workers had held a sit-in at the factory since Wednesday last week

The police were called after the workers refused to obey a Supreme Court interdict ordering them to leave

BOTTLES

Police today confirmed the shooting and said police were compelled to open fire, first with teargas and then with rubber bullets, when workers had responded to their warning to disperse by attacking with stones and bottles

Five policemen were slightly injured and two police vehicles damaged, according to the spokesman

A spokesman for the workers said they were unable to disperse as police had given only five minutes warning before opening fire

© Unrest report — page 2.

From drifter to

crusader

SALIE Manie is a drifter, a man who has for years "been looking for something to do", before he found his niche with the South African Municipal Workers' Union (Samwu)

It is as Cape leader of Samwu that he, of the flowing black locks, Yasser Arafat-type scarf, black beret decorated with an African National Congress badge, has caught the public's eye over the past few days

On June 13 Cape Town woke up to find that some 10 000 Samwu members had gone on strike in demand for higher wages. Thousands of workers, whose absence almost paralysed some municipal services, took to the Civic Centre

"This is something that will be imprinted on my mind for as long as I live. I've attended mass rallies, and spoken at bigger meetings, but I've never experienced the feelings I felt in the Civic Centre on June 13," said the charismatic 41-year-old council worker

While representatives were negotiating with the council, armed police waited outside the Civic Centre

After the meeting the delegation told workers crammed into the Civic Centre that the council would not change its final wage offer.

It was a decision which would trigger off a strike, some called it a wildcat strike, the most visible signs of which were mountains of rubbish building up in Cape Town.

"Another memory which will remain with me for the rest of my life is the way in which the decision to go on strike was taken. I was addressing our members from a third-floor balcony. They were on the second floor of the concourse

"I told them that we had two options to return to work the next day as the council wanted or to remain there. When I put the first option to them not one hand was raised

He's been called flamboyant and a cross between a pop music star and a revolutionary, but Salie Manie, Cape leader of the Samwu does not see himself in those terms, writes Weekend Argus Reporter, DENNIS CRUYWAGEN. 30/6/90

"Then I said 'Those people in favour of returning here tomorrow

"The workers responded as one, lifting their hands, shouting 'Tomorrow again'."

The strike lasted for 13 days before a settlement — the union did not get the R4 80 an hour it was demanding — was reached between the two parties

"We're not happy with the increases, but we've won a victory on two fronts. We've managed to get more for workers than the R4 19 which the council had offered initially and the workers through their collective action forced their employers, who had declared a deadlock in their negotiations with us, to open their doors."

He said of the negotiations. "The parties need to understand that they are equals when sitting around the table. In relation to labour issues, the council should take some lessons from developments in the labour arena around the country."

The union made a point of telling the council that it was representing a workforce which did not have the vote and had no say or control over how the council functioned, he said

"We said if they were serious about running the city in the interest of its citizens they should take the views of the workers seriously."

Could the strike have been avoided? "It's difficult to say because ultimately you find that people's earnings determine what they are prepared to do. Things must have been very tough for our members to have resolved to go on strike"



Mr Salie Manie

Throughout the strike, the youthful-looking Salie Manie, led from the front, putting a great strain on his body racked by pneumonia

"The members elected me as their leader and it would have

looked quite strange if I wasn't there," he said

The support of his wife, Rugaya, whom he married 17 years ago, their three children and colleagues kept him going

Comforting, too, was the desire from the council that the dispute be settled quickly so that he could go home and recover

The decision to strike, he said, had not been taken by the leadership of the union. "It came from our members who'd told us that they'd resort to action if the council did not come up with something reasonable and acceptable."

His deep involvement with the strike did not go unnoticed in some quarters

His wife fielded some abusive telephone calls and one morning the family awoke to find rubbish dumped outside their home in Squarehill, Retreat

Born in Athlone and raised in Bonteheuwel, he loves Cape Town and regrets the build-up of rubbish in Cape Town and the breakdown of some services

"If I had had a choice I would have avoided this kind of situation, though I must add that municipal workers have been taken for granted. They are called out when there's a mountain fire or a burst water main

"The point is that those people who are prepared to do so much for Cape Town when it's expected of them had certain sections of the community coming down on them when they asked for a living wage."

Municipal workers do not earn a lot. The average monthly wage, even after 20 years' service with the council, was about R600. With their increases some of them will now take home about R900 a month, Mr Manie said

"We want a 40-hour week. We feel that it should not be necessary for people to work overtime to survive"

After the strike, the big clean-up

Teams tackle the rubbish mountain

CMA-Tips 27/6/90 152

Staff Reporter

CAPE TOWN'S cleansing services will have collected a backlog of 7 200 tons of garbage by the end of next week, an assistant city engineer, Mr Tom de Bruin, said yesterday. This would bring the rubbish-collection situation back to normal after the city's striking waste collectors returned to work following an agreement between the council and the SA Municipal Workers' Union on a new minimum wage of R845 a month.

Mr De Bruin said Cape Town on average filled 250 compactor vehicles with 1 200 tons of gar-

bage a day. He was speaking at Lavender Hill where he and the city engineer, Mr Arthur Clayton, were inspecting a special clean-up drive by council teams who had been sent into the area which had been particularly badly affected by the strike.

Front-end loaders were used to assist the garbage men.

The backlog of rubbish would be removed from the CBD by this weekend while most areas would be cleared by the end of next week, Mr Clayton said.

There had been a full turnout by workers yesterday, and the city council would resume its nor-

mal refuse-collection procedures from tomorrow.

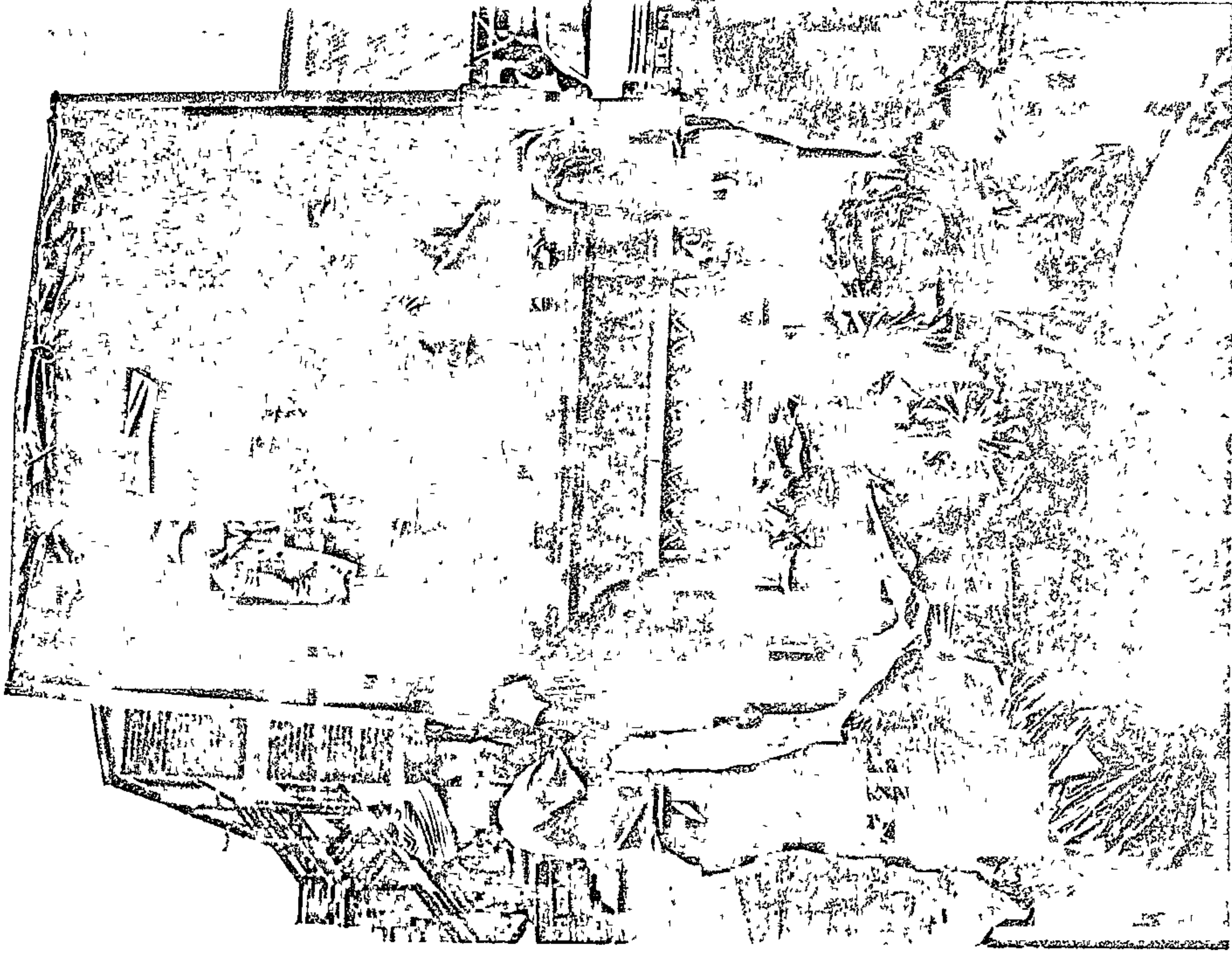
"The contingency plans worked well because of the public's co-operation," he said.

No real health hazards emerged anywhere.

He asked householders, however, to put out only domestic refuse for the time being, and to retain their garden refuse until next week.

Cleaner Mr Manuel Murray said yesterday "I'm glad to be working again and very pleased with the increases."

Workers did not mind the extra work caused by the backlog, he said.



OPERATION CLEANUP Garbage men sawing it to allow an L-shaped mill to clear the loads of rubbish that piled up there during the municipal workers' strike.

Picture RICHARD BELL

Cape municipal strikers back at work

CAPE TOWN — Striking municipal workers return to work today with agreement being reached between the Cape Town City Council and the SA Municipal Workers' Union.

The first task at hand will be the cleaning up of refuse which has accumulated in the streets since the strike started two weeks ago.

In a meeting yesterday, the two parties reached agreement on a package that included an increase in the minimum starting salary from R790 a month to R845. The council's original offer had been R819 against SAMwu's demand of R950.

A Samwu spokesman said the council also gave an undertaking in principle to

LESLEY LAMBERT

negotiate a reduction in the number of working hours — currently 46 hours a week ~~(46)~~ (152) ~~(46)~~

He said the council also agreed to start a process of employing temporary workers on a full-time basis and to grant an additional day's leave to employees with a maximum of 15 days' annual leave in respect of Samwu's demand for the recognition of June 16 as a holiday.

The spokesman said Samwu would continue to negotiate for a housing allowance and the filling up of vacant posts which the council had frozen. It would also renegotiate the June 16 holiday next year, he said.

B1 Day 26 / 1790

Judgment in OK strike action today (152)

WILSON ZWANE

JUDGMENT in the the SA Commercial Catering and Allied Workers Union (Saccawu) application for an order declaring OK Bazaars' conduct an unfair labour practice by the Johannesburg Industrial Court is expected today.

According to Saccawu spokesman Jeremy Daphne, the urgent application was brought on Friday. *Biden 25/6/90*

"The union maintains that the altering of the practice of striking workers having access to canteens and other designated areas during business hours, the refusal to grant union officials immediate and unhindered access to striking workers and the

refusal to allow telephonic communications between union officials and the shop stewards constitute an unfair labour practice," he said

Saccawu also warned that the OK Bazaars could be hard-hit if the strike action was not resolved by Wednesday this week, as OK's June sale was scheduled to start tomorrow

But OK spokesman Gavin Brown said "appropriate arrangements" to minimise Saccawu's action had been made.

□ To Page 2

OK strike *Biden 25/6/90*

However, Saccawu had given the chain store an opportunity to avert further and more intensified conflict by calling for a meeting on Wednesday, Daphne said

He added that the union also expected OK's holding company SAB to step in and start "taking responsibility" for the settlement of the dispute

On Friday strikers at OK stores in Johannesburg told Business Day the black

community was responding "nicely" to calls not to buy from the OK's outlets

Brown admitted that sales in the central business district areas, especially in the Transvaal, were noticeably affected. He said the drop in trading was caused by pickets intimidating customers

Brown added that OK had indicated, in principle, its willingness to meet Saccawu

From Page 1

26/6/92

Tension in Natal over stayaway

Own Correspondent

DURBAN — Tension is mounting in Natal's black townships over the proposed national stayaway called by Cosatu for Monday July 2.

Smear pamphlets are being distributed in some townships and there have allegedly been threats of intimidation.

The stayaway has been called as part of the national Action Week to put pressure on the Government to end the Natal violence.

Many local businesses have indicated they will approach the stayaway with the no work, no pay principle, which means many workers will lose wages.

Residents in local townships have complained of "veiled threats" to those who defy the stayaway call.

Pamphlets accusing the ANC of intimidation and describing the organisation as being run by Indians and Xhosas have been circulated in townships.

ANC demands inquiry

Staff Reporter

THE African National Congress and Atlantis community organisations have slammed police action against striking workers in the town at the weekend and yesterday demanded a commission of inquiry into the shootings.

At least 21 people had been injured, union officials said yesterday, adding that two workers were in danger of losing their sight.

About 400 workers at Grapnel Silencer Services had been engaged in a sit-in strike since last Tuesday following a wage dispute. Grapnel management secured a court interdict on Friday ordering the workers to vacate the premises.

At a press conference yesterday, National Union of Metalworkers of South Africa (Numsa) shop steward Mr Carl Cloete said police took action against workers early yesterday morning when they were on their way to the Grapnel premises.

BIRDSHOT WOUNDS. . . Mr Desmond Solomons, 23, left, and Mr Dexter Pitso, 25, show the birdshot wounds they suffered during police action in Atlantis at the weekend

Picture BENNY GOOL

● Police said yesterday that on Saturday they had arrested three men after giving the workers at Grapnel six minutes to disperse.

"The crowd became aggressive towards the police," police said, adding that they started throwing bottles and stones at the police.

Police then used rub-

ber bullets, and when the crowd continued to throw stones birdshot was used — 15 minutes after the order to disperse was given and not five minutes as a Numsa spokesman said, police said.

According to police information only four workers were injured on Saturday



Star 26/6/90

NEWS

OK agrees to more talks with Saccawu

By Shareen Singh

OK Bazaars management has agreed to meet the South African Commercial Catering and Allied Workers Union to resolve the national strike, which entered its 23rd day today.

Company spokesman Gavin Brown said yesterday OK had accepted the union's invitation to reopen talks, but proposed a meeting on Thursday instead of tomorrow.

Earlier, OK instituted legal proceedings — accusing strikers of misconduct at 11 stores.

Saccawu applied for an order declaring OK's conduct during the strike an unfair labour practice. Judgment was postponed to tomorrow.

OK's minimum wage is R620 a month — R359 below the February supplemented living level of R979 a month for a family of six.

Saccawu has demanded an increase of R160 across-the-board and a minimum wage of R800. Management has offered between R115 and R145

By Abel Mabelane,
East Rand Bureau

Striking Vosloorus council employees had been warned to return to work on Monday or they would lose their jobs, Vosloorus mayor Morris Sinokela said yesterday.

The workers downed tools about three weeks ago after their demands for salary increases were not met.

Meeting

Mr Sinokela said the council guaranteed the striking workers their jobs, at a meeting held with worker representatives on Tuesday, but warned that the strikers would not be paid for the period they were on strike.

"We also warned the employees to return to work before July 2 at the latest, failing which they lose their jobs," he said.

He said the TPA had approved a 10 percent increase for the workers from the council's bridging finance because the council had no funds as a result of the rent boycott.

Agreement

Mr Sinokela also said the council had reached an agreement with members of the taxi association, the Vosloorus Independent Party, the Chamber of Commerce and the Vosloorus Hostel Committee that residents must pay a flat rate for rent and services.

He said members of the Vosloorus Crisis Committee refused to attend the meeting, adding that they would only talk to council officials and not to councillors.

Mr Sinokela said that about 52 percent of Vosloorus's residents had paid their rent last month, but added that the council expected the situation to worsen this month because of the strike.

OK, union to meet in bid to end 23-day strike

The Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — OK Bazaars management has agreed to meet the South African Commercial Catering and Allied Workers Union (Saccawu) to resolve the national strike which entered its 23rd day today

Company spokesman, Mr Gavin Brown, said yesterday OK had accepted the union's invitation to re-open talks on wages and working conditions but proposed a meeting on Thursday instead of tomorrow.

Last week OK instituted legal proceedings at 11 of its stores, alleging misconduct by strikers

On Friday Saccawu applied for a court order declaring OK's conduct during the strike an unfair labour practice

OK's present minimum wage is R620 a month

Saccawu is demanding an increase of R160 across-the-board and a minimum wage of R800. Management offered R115 to R145 depending on years of service.

TEL 231002

ANC calls for support of nationwide stayaway

THE ANC national executive committee (NEC) yesterday urged its supporters to observe a planned nationwide stayaway on July 2 and mass marches on July 7 called by Cosatu and the UDF.

Next week's action has been planned to protest against the continuing Natal violence and to demand an end to the state of emergency as well as the disbanding of the KwaZulu "bantustan" and the KwaZulu police force.

Another demand is that the former Namibia-based 32 Battalion be withdrawn from Natal.

In a statement, the NEC, which met the internal leadership for four days last week, supported the call for a national peace conference in Natal on August 4.

Expressing its solidarity with the victims of Natal violence, the NEC said it believed the government had failed to take effective steps to end the Natal violence.

"We are emphatic that KwaZulu, as a bantustan, and hence the KwaZulu police, is a creation of the government. The government therefore has a direct responsibility to stop the violence in Natal."

The ANC said the meeting received extensive progress reports from all

PETER DELMAR

regions concerning the establishment of branches, membership fees collected and the rate of recruitment of new members.

The ANC plans to work towards convening regional conferences in all of its 14 regions during the third quarter of this year.

In another statement timed to coincide with SA Freedom Day today, the ANC said at no time had its strength and "moral authority" been greater. "The question of political power, who wields it and how it is to be used, remains at the top of the political agenda."

The ANC said achieving the central objective of the Freedom Charter, "The People Shall Govern", had become more urgent.

Unemployment, poor health, education and working conditions, lack of housing and other inequalities convinced the ANC that the "white minority regime lacks the will to bring about meaningful change in our country".

"If such transformation is to have meaning for the vast majority of the oppressed, it must address the stark inequalities that separate black from white," it said.

26/6/90
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lieved" Beissner had resigned from the organisation but that he had not seen the resignation.

and PAC and their peace p
Vosloorus two weeks ago

Court to rule tomorrow on application against OK

B/000 26/6/90

DANIEL FELDMAN

JUDGMENT is scheduled to be delivered tomorrow on the SA Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers' Union's (Saccawu) urgent Industrial Court application against OK Bazaars

The union applied for an order to declare some OK actions an unfair labour practices

Saccawu organiser Jeremy Daphne said the OK actions included not allowing striking workers access to canteens and other designated areas, refusal to grant union officials immediate access to workers at OK stores, and failure to allow telephonic communication between officials and shop stewards at stores

OK spokesman Gavin Brown said he had no comment about the pending decision.

In response to Saccawu's proposal to continue wage negotiations tomorrow, Brown said he "welcomed the decision and looked forward to the meeting later this week", although he could not verify when it would take place

Daphne yesterday reiterated the union's

demand for a R160 across-the-board increase

"OK's present minimum wage of R620 a month is R359 below February's supplemented living level (SLL) figure of R979 a month for a family of six living in Johannesburg. Even if the company meets our increase demand, the minimum wage will be R199 below SLL's figures. OK workers cannot afford a lower increase," he said

(152)

Hostility

(152)

The strike, now in its fourth week, still involves about 7 000 striking workers at 131 stores nationwide

Little progress has been made in resolving the original dispute over wage and living conditions during the past few weeks, and the strike has been marked by continued allegations of violence, numerous arrests and growing legal hostility between the company and the union.

NO strike in Cape Town - 131 stores nationwide

27/6/90

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NEWS

Stayaways cost stores R25-m

By Shenaaz Bulbulia

In the past four months consumer boycotts and stayaways have cost two supermarket chains a loss of turnover of over R25 million

Checkers has been the worst-hit by sporadic countrywide protests and has claimed a loss of turnover of over R20 million. Pick'n Pay has calculated losses amounting to R5 million.

A spokesman for OK said its outlets had been affected by unrest-related protest action but declined to comment on the effects on the company as a result of strike-related activity.

Sergio Martinengo, managing director for the Checkers Group, told The Star yesterday that since mid-February stayaways and boycotts in 17 areas countrywide, including homelands, had cost the group a loss of turnover of over R20 million.

The Checkers Group was concerned of the possible effects of Cosatu's planned work stoppages due to take place on July 2 and July 7 in sympathy with the Natal conflict.

In order to circumvent the expected damage that may be caused by the July protest organised by Cosatu, the Checkers

Group planned to man their stores with causal staff on the designated days and merchandise its branches the day before, said Mr Martinengo.

The area worst-hit by consumer boycotts and work stayaways in the past months was Temba in Bophuthatswana, he said.

Some of the other areas significantly affected by boycotts and stayaways includes Welkom, Louis Trichardt, Klerksdorp, Groblersdal and East London. However, Johannesburg was the only area that did not suffer the strain of protest action, he said.

If the boycotts and stayaways continued, the Checkers Group may have to assess the viability of continuing business in a particular area, said Mr Martinengo.

Pick'n Pay chairman, Raymond Ackerman, told The Star that consumer boycotts and stayaways had affected several of its outlets, mainly in Bophuthatswana and Ciskei.

The financial director of OK, Brian Borchers said OK stores were significantly hit by unrest related protest action particularly in Bophuthatswana and Natal during March and February.

CHT
4/14/83
27/6/83

Train deaths: 6 acquitted

(152)


Court Reporter

SIX SATS (now Spoor-
net) workers who faced
charges of attempted
murder following inci-
dents in which commut-
ers were thrown from
trains during rail strikes
earlier this year, were
yesterday discharged in
Cape Town Regional
Court.

Magistrate Mr J M
Lemmer said the state
had not been able to
prove its case beyond
reasonable doubt. The
court was not convinced
of events alleged to have
taken place on the train.

Mr F Sibert was the prosecutor and Mr F
van Dyk appeared for the accused.

March: Request for cop with 'long fuse'

CM 7/4/77/6/90

Staff Reporter

152

THE Atlantis Industrial Group has asked police to ensure that the officer in charge of law enforcement at today's planned protest march in the area be a good communicator and "not short on the fuse", an executive member of the group said yesterday.

Mr Colin du Sart said feedback from employees was that Saturday's police action against striking Grapnel workers — during which several workers were injured by birdshot — was "a bit heavy".

The workers at Grapnel Silencer Services — all members of the National Union of Metalworkers of South Africa (Numsa) — have been involved in a strike since last week Tuesday over a wage dispute.

And in another development, a member of the Atlantis Management Committee, Mr Freddie Brandreth, resigned from the committee on Monday night in protest against the police shootings on Saturday.

Court rejects Saccawu's application Union loses in OK strike row

Sowetan 28/6/90

152

THE Industrial Court yesterday dismissed an application by the South African Commercial Catering and Allied Workers' Union over the right of striking members to enter OK Bazaars' stores.

The union had sought to overturn 11 Supreme

Court orders forbidding its striking members from entering the chainstores' shops.

About 6 500 Saccawu members have been participating in a 25-day strike at OK Bazaars stores nationwide in support of improved wages and working conditions.

OK Bazaars' industrial relations spokesman Mr

Gavin Brown said yesterday's Industrial Court decision meant strikers could not enter 11 OK Bazaars stores

Strikers at these stores would also have to refrain from any alleged intimidation of non-strikers, customers or suppliers' vehicles.

In the application, Sac-

cawu questioned the right of the company to deny its members access to the premises, saying it constituted an unfair labour practice.

Brown said a meeting between the company and Saccawu would still take place tomorrow morning to try to resolve the dispute. - Sapa.

PAC, Nactu, snub Cosatu stayaway call

THE Pan Africanist Congress of Azania, the United Front of Independent Trade Unions of South Africa and Nactu have given the thumbs down to the national stayaway called by Cosatu and the UDF for Monday.

At a Press conference in Johannesburg yesterday, PAC spokesman Mr Benny Alexander said while the ANC never approached them about the proposed national stayaway, "we trust that our sister organisation, the ANC, will call off its action which will only escalate the violence in Natal." (152)

Alexander said the PAC saw no reason why the ANC and Inkatha could not resolve their differences amicably. Sowetan 28/6/90

• To Page 2

PAC and Nactu snub stayaway call

• From Page 1

"They both (ANC and Inkatha) meet with the Government, they both recognise F W De Klerk as a man of sincerity and integrity, they both believe in negotiations. Their differences are

therefore not fundamental. Sowetan 28/6/90

"By the ANC's own admission, Inkatha is its brainchild and we are not aware of Chief Buthelezi's resignation from the ANC," Alexander said

General secretary of

Nactu. Mr Cunningham Ngukana, said although Nactu is a natural ally of Cosatu Nactu was not consulted and did not have the opportunity to discuss the issue within its structures. (152)

"We have conveyed to Cosatu that the "Week

of Action" may lead to violence spilling into the PWV townships (152)

Mr Bhekí Khumalo of the Independent Unions said "We will not allow workers to be used for waging party political wars for the ANC. Our membership is determined to defy the stayaway," he said

E

Retailers' woe over boycotts

152

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28/6/90

CONSUMER boycotts and stayaways have cost two supermarket chains losses of over R25 million in the past four months.

Checkers has been the worst-hit by sporadic countrywide protests and has claimed a loss of turnover of over R20 million.

Pick'n Pay has calculated losses amounting to R5 million.

A spokesman for OK said its outlets had been affected by unrest-related protest action but declined to comment on the effects on the company as a result of strike related activity.

R20-m loss

Sergio Martinengo, managing director of the Checkers Group, yesterday said that since mid-February stayaways and boycotts in 17 areas countrywide, including homelands, had cost the Group a loss of turnover of over R20 million.

The Checkers Group was concerned about the possible effects of Cosatu's planned work stoppages, due to take place on July 2 and July 7, in sympathy with the Natal conflict.

"There is no doubt that even this would affect our turnover. While at this time I don't have figures, we are taking steps to lessen the damage," he said.

In order to circumvent the expected damage that may be caused by the July

protest, the Checkers Group plan to man their stores with casual staff on the designated days and stock its branches the day before, said Martinengo.

The area worst-hit by consumer boycotts and work stayaways in the past months was Temba in Bophuthatswana, he said.



MARTINENGO
Checkers

Some of the other areas significantly affected by boycotts and stayaways include Welkom, Louis Trichardt, Klerksdorp, Groblersdaal and East London. However, Johannesburg was the only area that did not suffer the strain of protest action, he said.

If the boycotts and stayaways continued, the Checkers Group may have to assess the viability of continuing business in a particular area, said Martinengo.

"We will have to assess whether a particular store will remain viable or

whether we have to close temporarily. However, we don't intend closing any stores in the near future," said Martinengo.

Pick 'n Pay chairman, Raymond Ackerman, said that consumer boycotts and stayaways had affected several of its outlets, mainly in Bophuthatswana and Ciskei.

The total damage has cost Pick'n Pay a loss of about R5 million in terms of loss of turnover, Ackerman said.



ACKERMAN
Pick 'n Pay

The financial director of OK, Brian Borchardes, said OK stores were significantly hit by unrest related protest action, particularly in Bophuthatswana and Natal during March and February.

Borchardes declined to comment on the effects on the company as a result of strike related activity. - Own Correspondent.

Checkers dispute: strike ballot looms

Staff Reporter

5/2
29/4/90
The SA Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers Union (Saccawu) is expected to hold a strike ballot among Checkers staff next week, after wage negotiations between Checkers and Saccawu broke down on Wednesday afternoon.

The union rejected management's final pay offer, after seven days of negotiations.

Checkers offered a R135 a month across-the-board in-

crease from July 1, and a further R5 a month from January 1 1991. Saccawu demanded a R165 a month across-the-board increase and a minimum wage of R830.

Yesterday, the Conciliation Board was told wage talks ended in dispute.

A Checkers management spokesman, A MacLaurin, said Checkers management was not in a position to make any further offers at this stage.

'Stayaways and violence ruining Natal economy'

Own Correspondent

DURBAN — Natal's economy was being destroyed by stayaways coupled with violence, the Durban Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and the Natal Chamber of Industries said yesterday.

Commerce chief executive Geoff Tyler said stayaways had now reached the stage where investment capital was fleeing and firms were relocating in stable areas.

Further unemployment could be expected, he said

Declined

Industry executive director and labour adviser John Pohl said a number of firms that had declined to build new factories because of the violence.

Commenting on the Congress of SA Trade Unions (Cosatu) call for a national stayaway on Monday July 2, Mr Tyler said: "If stayaways continue, the chances of attracting investment in our area will continue to be adversely affected."

He quoted examples of a factory which had 21 employees killed and an-

other which had a 25 percent absenteeism blamed on violence.

Mr Pohl said the estimate of R100 million lost each day of a stayaway did not include wages, and that while time lost could be made up, this was not the answer.

Employers were now being forced to take a tougher stance on stayaways and both chambers agreed that the "no work, no pay" rule should definitely be enforced.

● Tension is reported to be mounting in Natal's black townships over the proposed national stayaway called by Cosatu for Monday

The stayaway has been called as part of the national Action Week to put pressure on the Government to end the Natal violence

"The Natal war is a national crisis, and so we have called for a national stayaway," a Cosatu spokesman said this week.

"In an attempt to bring pressure to bear on the Government to take firm steps to end the violence, we have called for this stayaway to show our strength."

National stayaway planned for Monday

By DENNIS CRUYWAGEN
Staff Reporter

PLANS for a national stayaway on Monday in protest against the situation in Natal were disclosed at a joint Press conference by the African National Congress, the United Democratic Front (UDF) and the Congress of South African Trade Unions (Cosatu).

As part of the campaign the organisers will hold a rally at Athlone stadium on Sunday.

Speakers will include Umkhonto we Sizwe commander Mr Chris Hani and veteran ANC leader and former Robben Island prisoner Mr Harry Gwala.

LIFT EMERGENCY

The organisers yesterday demanded that the government lift the emergency in Natal and disarm the Kwazulu police.

Next week's campaign is part of the National Week of Action organised by the ANC in sympathy with the Natal conflict.

The Pan Africanist Congress (PAC) yesterday appealed to the ANC to call off its action to seek the disbandment of the Kwazulu police, the arrest of Inkatha "warlords" and to isolate Chief Gatsha Buthelezi.

PAC general secretary Mr Benny Alexander said at a Press conference in Johannesburg that the ANC had not sought the PAC's support for its plans.

The PAC would also not allow itself to be embroiled in a war waged by two parties who ultimately agreed on fundamental issues, he said.

"Both Inkatha and the ANC meet the government, they both recognise President De Klerk as a man of sincerity and integrity and both parties believe in negotiations.

"The PAC will not get involved because we see no reason why these warring groups cannot resolve their differences," he said.

"The action planned next week will escalate the violence in Natal. The ANC should allow Mr Mandela to go and meet Inkatha and accept our services as mediators."

PAC, Nactu defy stayaway call

THE PAC and Nactu said yesterday that they would not support a Cosatu-ANC call for a nationwide stayaway on July 2 and protest action next week.

The two organisations said in separate statements yesterday that they had not been consulted about the "Week of Action", originally called by Cosatu to protest against Natal violence, the maintenance of the state of emergency and the continued existence of the KwaZulu homeland.

The PAC and Nactu urged the ANC and Cosatu to resolve their differences with Inkatha through discussion.

Their stand against participation has raised the spectre of confrontation between workers staying away and those going to work, particularly in the light of

PETER DELMAR

continuing violence between PAC and ANC supporters.

Nactu general secretary Cunningham said Cosatu had assured Nactu that a pamphlet it intended releasing would indicate that no-one should be forced to join the action.

The PAC said it could not support a campaign which would lead to further violent clashes among the oppressed and which directed the struggle away from the principal enemy, "the settler-colonialist capitalist system of De Klerk and Oppenheimer".

To Page 2

Stayaway

Ngcukana said Nactu was unable to support the "Week of Action" because it was not consulted and was therefore unable to discuss the issue within its structures.

Nactu believed the ANC and Cosatu should enter into dialogue with Inkatha to find peaceful solutions to the ongoing violence in the Natal region.

"We trust that our sister organisation the ANC will call off its action which will only escalate the violence in Natal, allow

(Nelson) Mandela to go and meet all the warring factions and accept our services as mediators," the PAC said.

DAN FELDMAN reports Cosatu spokesman Neil Coleman said last night Cosatu would go ahead with the planned action as it had "received overwhelming support from Natal and elsewhere".

ANC internal spokesman Ahmed Kathrada said yesterday "We can only reiterate that what has been announced will go ahead".

From Page 1

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ATLANTIS BUYERS CO-OPERATIVE			

Hospital strike over dismissal

ABOUT 300 members of the National Education, Health and Allied Workers Union yesterday downed tools at the J G Strijdom Hospital in Johannesburg in solidarity with a colleague who was allegedly dismissed unfairly, union officials claimed. *Sowetan 29/6/90*

Nehawu's Johannesburg organiser Mr Neil Thobojane said that gardener Mr Johannes Mafuna had earlier been called in by the hospital secretary and ordered off the premises without representation from union shop stewards.

He said strikers gathered at the hospital compound and refused to return until the matter had been resolved.

Hospital superintendent Dr C Pretorius was unavailable for immediate comment. Sapa. (152) (2)

Stayaway on UDF

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WALTER SISULU

Sowetan 29/6/90

By ALI MPHAKI

COSATU, the UDF and Sayco are adamant about their call for a stayaway

on Monday, despite opposition from the PAC, Nactu and Inkatha.

The stayaway has also been endorsed by ANC internal

leader Mr Walter Sisulu.

Sisulu said the call deserved the "full support of all our people and their organisations".

The PAC, Nactu and the Independent Trade Unions of South Africa said they saw no reason for the

stayaway as the ANC and Inkatha could solve their problems amicably.

"Moreover, we were not consulted about their proposed stayaway, and we did not have a chance to discuss it with our members," said Nactu's general secretary

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P.T.O

CASINO FACTOR

ALL HAWKERS AND

Casino is Cheaper | Casin

Stayaway is on - UDF

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Sowetan 29/6/90

● From Page 1

Mr Cunningham Ngcukana.

The stayaway is part of the planned "Week of Action" which will culminate in national marches and rallies on Saturday July 7

It is primarily aimed at pressurising the Govern-

ment to end the war in Natal.

"We believe that the apartheid state has the capacity to end this conflict, if it can find the political will.

"The national mass action is designed to encourage them to find that will," Cosatu's secretary general Mr Jay Naidoo said

He said that even at this late stage, he wanted to call upon the PAC-aligned organisations not to oppose the mass action and to contribute towards pressurising the Government to end the violence in Natal.

"Attacking us through the Press will make no contribution in this direction," he said.

Police teargas Edgars protesters

Star 29/6/90

By Musa Mapisa

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Two men were arrested after police baton-charged and fired teargas at protesting Edgars employees at Edgardale in Crown Mines, Johannesburg, yesterday

Shop stewards claimed 13 people were injured in the clash, but police said no injuries had been reported

Shop steward Jimmy Rapholo said about 300 protesters assembled outside the Edgars group head office to protest against management's unwillingness to meet their demands

The company is negotiating with the Federal Council of Retail and Allied Workers

Mr Rapholo said police

arrived and ordered the demonstrators to disperse

"About a minute later police baton-charged the workers," he said

A police spokesman said police charged the workers after they refused to disperse

Two men were arrested after objects were thrown at police

OK BAZAARS STRIKE

Still circling ^{F/M 29/6/90}

In a significant turn of events, the striking SA Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers' Union (Saccawu) last week called for the resumption of wage talks with OK Bazaars.

However, the union also applied for an Industrial Court order declaring the company's conduct in the bitter dispute an unfair labour practice. The result of the application was expected as the *FM* went to press.

Hindrance

The union's Jeremy Daphne argued that the unfair labour practice was constituted by the withdrawal of striking workers' access to canteens and other designated areas during business hours; the failure to grant union officials immediate and unhindered access to striking workers at stores, and the refusal to allow phone calls between officials and shop stewards at stores.

The application follows an agreement between Saccawu and OK last week that striking workers vacate nine of the company's Witwatersrand stores (Alberton, Benoni, Benoni Hyperama, Cresta, Eloff Street, Rosebank, Hillbrow, Randburg Hyperama and Sandton Hyperama).

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The union also undertook not to obstruct the normal operations of OK's business and to stop harassing shoppers and workers or damaging company property. But it maintains the right to challenge the eviction of striking workers from company premises.

Daphne stressed last week that the agreement was undertaken without the union admitting to numerous allegations made by the company. He claims the company prevented the union from carrying out investigations of alleged misconduct, and issued notices to strikers at stores the union had visited, ordering them to leave the premises.

OK industrial relations executive Gavin Brown counters that the company had asked for the removal of striking workers, not a union investigation; and eviction was only sought where continued intimidation, violence and vandalism "were beyond the capacity of the union to control."

Brown argues that the union's Industrial Court application is "an attempt to overturn a Supreme Court order made with the consent of both parties."

The union says workers at the Grahams-town and Tzaneen stores have joined the strike, taking the number of stores involved to 131. It says 212 workers have been arrested since the strike began four weeks ago.

Brown has disclosed that the strike has affected trading, particularly in the Johannesburg CBD, where a drop in sales has been reported. He said he was unable to give

percentage figures. The company has already announced that four more stores are to be closed within weeks and that 12 more are scheduled for closure. Brown says the closures are in line with the company's rationalisation process and have been brought forward because of the strike.

Daphne criticises the company's approach on store closures, repeating the charge that the company withheld information on this as a "bargaining chip."

Brown confirms that both parties have indicated their willingness to resume negotiations, adding that the company "is not setting any preconditions to the talks."

On Monday, the union repeated its R160 across-the-board demand. "OK's present minimum wage of R620 per month is R359 below the Supplemented Living Level of R979 per month for a family of six." Even if the company met the union's R160 demand, it would still mean wages R199 below that level, says the union. ■

300 strike
as UCT pay
talks stall

ABOUT 300 UCT employees belonging to the Transport and General Workers' Union (TGWU) downed tools yesterday to protest against the slow progress in wage negotiations

Talks between UCT management and the TGWU began on February 28 and after 11 meetings no agreement has been reached

In an attempt to speed things up, the two sides engaged a mediator who held talks with both parties on June 21. The talks were then adjourned until yesterday

The union has rejected the management offer of an 18% increase. Management is now offering a minimum basic salary of R13 000 a year

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ANC: 29/6/90

Action lines drawn

JOHANNESBURG. — The battle lines were drawn yesterday in the African National Congress' mass stayaway offensive next week against Inkatha and its leader, Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi.

The ANC has warned the government that the process of negotiations could be derailed unless its demands to pull Inkatha's teeth are met.

The "week of national mass action", launched at a press conference yesterday by Mr Walter Sisulu and other ANC leaders, aims to:

- Isolate Chief Buthelezi politically.

- Force the government to disarm and disband the KwaZulu Police.

- Arrest the so-called Inkatha "warlords", whom they blame for the violence in Natal.

The Pan-Africanist Congress and Chief Buthelezi have both slammed

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From page 1

the ANC action, saying it will heighten conflict.

And while the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, yesterday welcomed a PAC offer to mediate between the ANC and Inkatha, the ANC rejected it.

Amid widespread fear that the ANC action could escalate the violence in Natal, in which 3 000 people have died so far, the South African Council of Churches yesterday outlined a code of conduct for all parties concerned.

It states that "everyone wants an end to the violence in Natal. Some people are planning actions such as a stayaway and marches to call for peace."

"All must be free to choose what they want to do for peace without fear of intimidation. All must respect the right of people to hold different views."

The code says that those who either want to work or stayaway during the week of protests should be allowed to do so without interference.

The code says people should not be forced to take part in marches or protests, and organisers and all organisations must condemn attacks on people's homes and families as criminal behaviour.

The security forces must also uphold the right of people to protest peacefully and must not interfere with meetings, marches, rallies and stayaways.

The code was drawn up after meetings this month between the SACC's general-secretary, the Rev Frank Chikane, Chief Buthelezi, Dr Diliza Mji of the UDF/Cosatu Joint Working Group in Natal, Mr Jay Naidoo of Cosatu and Mr Sisulu.

The PAC was also consulted, as was the government, with a letter being sent to President F W de Klerk setting out the process of negotiations.

In Cape Town the ANC week of public demonstrations starts on Sunday with a rally at Athlone that will be addressed by Umkhonto we Sizwe commander Mr Chris Hani.

The Azanian Students' Movement (Azasm) also condemned the stayaway yesterday.

It called on black students and youth "to be indifferent" to the ANC call because the black school calendar had already been severely disrupted this year.

At its press conference yesterday the ANC alliance said that in the light of the potentially explosive situation that could develop because of opposition to the offensive, it recognised and respected the right of anyone not to participate in the stayaway and the week of protest.

The purpose of the action was to force President De Klerk "to find the political will" to put an end to the Natal conflict, the ANC said.

Chief Buthelezi's response yesterday to the upcoming offensive was to condemn the planned stayaway but at the same time he appealed to Inkatha members to act responsibly. — Sapa

CM Times 29/6/9.

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300 hospital workers strike

JOHANNESBURG. — About 300 members of the National Education, Health and Allied Workers' Union (Nehawu) yesterday downed tools at the J G Strijdom Hospital here in solidarity with a colleague who was allegedly dismissed unfairly by the administration, union officials claimed.

Nehawu's Johannesburg organiser, Mr Neil Thobojane, said a gardener, Mr Johannes Mafuna, was ordered off the premises by the hospital secretary without representation from union shop stewards. — Sapa

Police teargas Edgars protesters

Star 29/6/90

By Musa Mapisa

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Shop stewards claimed 13 people were injured in the clash, but police said no injuries had been reported.

Shop steward Jimmy Rapholo said about 300 protesters assembled outside the Edgars group head office to protest against management's unwillingness to meet their demands

The company is negotiating with the Federal Council of Retail and Allied Workers.

Mr Rapholo said police

arrived and ordered the demonstrators to disperse

"About a minute later police baton-charged the workers," he said

A police spokesman said police charged the workers after they refused to disperse

Two men were arrested after objects were thrown at police

National protest campaign angers bosses

Stayaway workers will risk penalties

By Shehnaaz Bulbulia
and Karen Stander

Employers may take disciplinary action against workers who heed the ANC/Cosatu call for a national stayaway and nationwide protests planned for next week.

All companies interviewed by The Star said a policy of "no work, no pay" would be followed. Some said disciplinary action could be taken.

The Cosatu campaign, endorsed by the ANC and the UDF, aims to force the Government to take action against KwaZulu Police and Inkatha "warlords" to end the six-year Natal war which has cost 3 000 lives.

Next week's protest campaign has pitted the ANC and Cosatu in a new confrontation with Inkatha, while the South African Council of Churches has formulated a peace proposal in a bid to defuse possible violence.

The National Council of Trade Unions (Nactu) and the Pan Africanist Congress (PAC) will not support the campaign. The PAC has appealed to the ANC to halt the campaign, saying it could only serve to heighten the conflict between the ANC and Inkatha.

An SACC code of conduct during the campaign has been endorsed by both the ANC and Inkatha.

Yesterday both Cosatu and Inkatha called on opposing factions not to intimidate workers either opposed to, or supporting the stayaway.

Employers interviewed yesterday expressed discontent with the organisers of the stayaway and said the protest action would do little to solve the Natal conflict.

Mockery

Anglo American spokesman James Duncan said the company did not support stayaways as a means of solving problems. Anglo would implement its policy of "no work, no pay".

The managing director of the South African Breweries Beer Division, Graham Mackay said SAB had also adopted a policy of "no work and no pay", and depending on the circumstances, disciplinary action may be brought against workers who heeded the stayaway call.

Cosatu's campaign, Mr Mackay added, was making a mockery of the ongoing talks between employers and organised labour.

Chain stores have arranged for housewives and students to fill in for protesters at the tills.

At a press conference in Johannesburg yesterday called by Cosatu, the UDF and the SA Youth Congress (Sayco), Cosatu general secretary Jay Naidoo said the intention of the week of protest was to pressure President



No sale... nanny Mina Thobedi was confronted by two men who offered R1 000 to buy fourteen-month-old Chandre for a witchdoctor. ● Picture by Sean Woods.

By Shareen Singh

Two men tried to buy a 14-month-old baby for a witchdoctor, a young Roodepoort mother told The Star yesterday.

Debbie van Ryneveld, of Witpoortjie, said she was shocked when her maid, Mina Thobedi, telephoned her at work and told her that two men had offered R1 000 for her son Chandre.

When Mina refused to hand over the baby, the men said they would send someone later with R5 000 to

Men try to buy baby for witchdoctor

collect it for a witchdoctor.

Mrs van Ryneveld and her husband rushed home immediately and telephoned the police.

The police kept a watch on the house from a side street, Mrs van

Ryneveld said. At about 3 pm a man shouted to the maid from across the road that he had come to collect the baby.

But then he realised the parents were at home and said he would be back today.

Mrs van Ryneveld said her husband would be able to identify the man, but the police did not see the incident.

Since the ordeal she has taken Chandre and Mina to work with her. "I am too scared to leave my baby at home," she said.

South African Council on Trade Unions (Nactu) and the Pan Africanist Congress (PAC) will not support the campaign. The PAC has appealed to the ANC to halt the campaign, saying it could only serve to heighten the conflict between the ANC and Inkatha.

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Chain stores have arranged for housewives and students to fill in for protesters at the tills.

At a press conference in Johannesburg yesterday called by Cosatu, the UDF and the SA Youth Congress (Sayco), Cosatu general secretary Jay Naidoo said the intention of the week of protest was to pressure President de Klerk to put an end to the war in Natal.

'Find the will'

Mr Naidoo said the State had the capacity to end the conflict, if it could find the political will. "The national mass action is designed to encourage it to find that will."

In Ulundi yesterday, Inkatha president Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi said there had not been "one single call for a stay-at-home which had not been enforced upon the people".

It was tragic that the leadership of the ANC, including deputy president Nelson Mandela, still insisted that the armed struggle was necessary and should not be called off, he said.

● In Durban, ANC leader Walter Sisulu said Monday's stayaway action was decided upon because "we have no other weapon at our disposal" for ending the Natal carnage.

"The ANC reiterates in the strongest terms possible our support for the nationwide stayaway," he added.

Mr Sisulu said the steps needed to achieve Natal peace included disarming the KwaZulu Police, dismantling the "KwaZulu bantustan" and arresting known "warlords".

Clashes as shops strike spoils

21/6 - 1/7/90

(152)

By GLENDA DANIELS and DREW FOREST
POLICE clashed with protesting Edgars workers and Checkers braced for its first company-wide strike yesterday as labour conflict intensified in the strife-torn retail sector.

At the same time, OK Bazaars management was locked in day-long talks with the SA Commercial and Catering Workers Union (Saccawu) aimed at resolving the four-week wage strike by close to 7 000 workers at over 120 stores.

Details of progress towards settlement were not available, and talks will resume next Friday.

Employers see the upsurge as a spin-off of wider political developments in the country.

Yesterday police baton-charged and tear-gassed a group of more than 1 000 Edgars workers from Johannesburg and Reef stores who staged a protest sit-in outside the group's Edgards head office while conciliation board hearings were in progress.

The Federal Council of Retail and Allied Workers, involved with Saccawu in the Edgars negotiations, said 15 workers had been treated in hospital after police action. A police spokesman said two workers were arrested on charges of public violence, but could not confirm any injuries.

Edgars' group personnel executive, Don Findlay, said the conciliation board had been adjourned until today following the clashes, adding that he believed settlement of the wage dispute was still possible.

Yesterday Saccawu announced it is to hold strike ballots at Checkers from Monday after stalemate at conciliation board hearings this week. A strike would potentially involve about 14 000 workers at 170 outlets.

Stressing that Checkers faced much tougher trading conditions this year than last, human resources director Andy MacLaurin said the group had no reason to be ashamed of its final wage proposal.

Management has offered R135 a month across-the-board from July 1 and a further R5 from next January. Improved staff discounts would effectively take the minimum wage to over R800, MacLaurin said.

In response, Saccawu has demanded R165 across-the-board and a minimum rate of R830.



The wide-eyed face that sparked the outrage. baby seal on a South African beach

Wave of outrage at seals slaughter

By CHARLES LEONARD

'No work, no pay' for stayaway workers

ARGUS 29/6/90
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Argus Correspondents

JOHANNESBURG. — Employers may take disciplinary action against workers who heed the ANC/Cosatu call for a national stayaway and nationwide protests planned for next week.

All companies interviewed said a policy of "no work, no pay" would be followed. Some said disciplinary action could be taken.

The Cosatu campaign, endorsed by the ANC and the UDF, aims to force the government to take action against Kwazulu Police and Inkatha "warlords" to end the six-year Natal war which has cost more than 3 000 lives.

CONFRONTATION

Next week's protest campaign has pitted the ANC and Cosatu in a new confrontation with Inkatha, while the South African Council of Churches (SACC) has formulated a peace proposal in a bid to defuse possible violence.

The National Council of Trade Unions (Nactu) and the Pan Africanist Congress (PAC) will not support the campaign.

The PAC has appealed to the ANC to halt the campaign, saying it could serve to heighten conflict between the ANC and Inkatha.

A SACC code of conduct during the campaign has been endorsed by both the ANC and Inkatha.

Yesterday both Cosatu and Inkatha called on opposing factions not to intimidate workers either opposed to, or supporting the stayaway.

DISCONTENT

Employers interviewed expressed discontent with the organisers of the stayaway and said the protest action would do little to solve the Natal conflict.

Anglo American spokesman Mr James Duncan said the company did not support stayaways as a means of solving problems.

Anglo would implement its policy of "no work, no pay"

The managing director for the South African Breweries Beer Division, Mr Graham Mackay said SAB had adopted a policy of "no work and no pay", and depending on the circumstances, disciplinary action may be brought against workers who heeded the stayaway call.

Cosatu's campaign, Mr Mackay said, made a mockery of the talks between employers and organised labour.

Chain stores have arranged for housewives and students to fill in for protesters at the tills.

PRESSURE DE KLERK

At a press conference in Johannesburg called by Cosatu, the UDF and the SA Youth Congress (Sayco), Cosatu general secretary Mr Jay Naidoo said the intention of the week of protest was to pressure President De Klerk to put an end to the war in Natal.

Mr Naidoo said the State had the capacity to end the conflict, if it could find the political will.

"The national mass action is designed to encourage it to find that will."

In Ulundi yesterday, Inkatha president Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi said there had not been "one single call for a stay-at-home which had not been enforced upon the people".

It was tragic that the leadership of the ANC, including Mr Nelson Mandela, still insisted that the armed struggle was necessary and should not be called off, he said.

Stayaway goes on in face of dissent

(152)

DANIEL FELDMAN

IN spite of rejection by the PAC, Nactu and Inkatha of a stayaway and week-long protest against Natal violence, the organisers are to go ahead with their plans.

Cosatu, the UDF and Sayco said yesterday that the proposed "week of national action" would comprise the national stayaway on July 2, marches and rallies countrywide on July 7, and locally organised actions from July 2-6.

UDF publicity secretary Murphy Morobe said at a Press conference yesterday the action would proceed as planned, despite PAC, Nactu and Inkatha statements opposing it.

Sapa reports that Law and Order Minister Adriaan Vlok yesterday warned trade unions against political activities which would contribute to countrywide destabilisation of the political situation. He said firm action would be taken and new legislation could be implemented to curb this trend.

Speaking to Pietersburg businessmen, Vlok welcomed the PAC's offer yesterday to mediate in the Natal deadlock between the ANC and Inkatha, but said he was surprised by the move as the PAC had not shown any willingness to negotiate with anyone before.

On Wednesday, PAC general secretary Benny Alexander said his organisation could not support the stayaway and protest campaign as "it led to a misdirection of the struggle away from the principal enemy".

In response, Morobe called on the PAC

□ To Page 2

Stayaway

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and its affiliates to "withdraw their opposition to the mass action, and to contribute towards pressuring the regime to end the violence in Natal".

ANC internal leader Walter Sisulu said urgent steps needed to be taken to achieve peace in Natal, including the immediate lifting of the state of emergency, the disarming and disbanding of the KwaZulu police force, the dismantling of the KwaZulu "bantustan", the appointment of a judicial commission of inquiry into police activity in Natal and the arrest and prosecution of the warlords.

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□ From Page 1:

"The decision to take national action, "was not taken lightly", Morobe said.

But he said it was obvious peace moves at regional level were doomed to failure.

A President's Office spokesman said the President would not comment on the proposed action.

KwaZulu Chief Minister Mangosuthu Buthelezi yesterday condemned the planned stayaway, saying it was another way of fanning the flames of violence in the country.

● Comment. Page 8

Winery workers want strike

MEMBERS of the National Union of Wine Spirits and Allied Workers (Nuwsaw) yesterday voted overwhelmingly in favour of a strike, while the SA Commercial Catering and Allied Workers' Union (Saccawu) resumed wage negotiations with OK Bazaars and announced that it intended to hold a strike ballot at Checkers next week.

For the past two weeks, Nuwsaw has been conducting a strike ballot against the SA Wine and Spirits Industry Employers' Association after a breakdown in annual wage negotiations. *BIDAY 29/6/90*

Employer spokesman Riaan Kruger said he had been informed by the union yesterday that 2 816 members (76%) had advocated strike action. The union offer was accepted by 884, and 159 ballot papers were spoiled. The workers represent employees from 83 wineries and depots.

He did not comment on what the employers' response would be, pending an

DANIEL FELDMAN

announcement on proposed action by the union. Nuwsaw representatives were unavailable for comment last night.

Earlier, Nuwsaw president November Nkosi said if union members voted to strike, it "would be timed to create the most impact on the liquor industry".

The union has demanded a R40 a week across-the-board wage increase as well as 20 working days annual leave after 10 years' service, with increases made retrospective to April 1. Current wages range from R176 to R199 a month.

The employers offered a R33 a week across the board increase, and extra days of leave depending on years of service. The union and employers had previously reached compromise on maternity and paternity leave, and the reduction of labour

☐ To Page 2

Strike

hours to 44 hours a week *BIDAY 29/6/90*

After resuming wage negotiations yesterday, OK and Saccawu representatives agreed to adjourn the meeting until July 6. OK spokesman Gavin Brown and Saccawu national organiser Jeremy Daphne refused to release details of the negotiations.

The strike continues at 131 stores, involving around 7 000 workers. Daphne said the union was proceeding with its Section 43 application to the industrial court to declare OK's conduct an unfair labour practice, and was also waiting for a reply from the police commissioner regarding the legality of the union's pickets.

After a conciliation board expired yesterday between Saccawu and Checkers, the union announced intentions to conduct a strike ballot next week, according to Checkers spokesman Adele Gouws.

She said Saccawu rejected Checkers' final offer earlier this week of a R135 across the board increase on July 1, and a further R5 increase on January 1 1991. This would have meant a minimum salary of R770 a month by the beginning of next year.

The union has demanded an across the board increase of R165 and a fixed minimum wage of R830 a month.

☐ From Page 1

Wide-ranging

strikes loom

By DICK USHER
Business Staff

STRIKE action is looming in several important industrial sectors

In the retail sector, where the OK strike is in its fourth week, a strike ballot is to be held by the South African Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers Union (Saccawu) at Checkers where wage negotiations broke down this week

Meanwhile, the National Union of Wine, Spirits and Allied Workers (Nuwsaw) has voted for a strike in the liquor industry and last weekend's national bargaining conference of the National Union of Metalworkers (Numsa) decided to declare dispute in the metal and engineering industries after employers' latest offer

The conference decided to recommend industrial action if there was not a significant improvement in the offer from the Steel and Engineering Industries Federation (Seifsa). It also decided that in the automobile and tyre industries, if no adequate offers were made after further negotiations, strike action should be considered

In the textile industry, mem-

bers of the South African Clothing and Textile Workers Union (Sactwu) in Natal will this weekend discuss their response to wage offers from the Frame Group. Negotiations in the blanket division went to mediation and in the cotton textile division went to conciliation this week

At Checkers, after seven days of negotiation, Saccawu rejected the employer offer of a R135 a month across-the-board increase from July 1 and a further R5 a month from January. Saccawu demanded a R165 a month increase and a minimum of R830 a month

Union spokesman Mr Papi Kganare said that a conciliation board and mediation had failed to resolve the dispute

The Nuwsaw dispute affects employees of the Wine and Spirits Industry Employers' Association at 83 wineries and distilleries. The union demanded a R40 a week across-the-board increase backdated to April 1 and 20 days' annual leave after 10 years' service. Employers offered R33 across-the-board and extra days of leave depending on length of service

In the metal and engineering industries, although Seifsa said considerable progress had been

made at the sixth round of talks, Numsa felt that the employer offer was not satisfactory on wages, job security, parental rights, holidays, the extension of the main agreement to non-parties

The union said progress had been made in other areas

On wages, Seifsa's final offer was a 15 percent increase for artisans, R1,24 an hour, to 18 percent for labourers, 64c an hour. Numsa was dissatisfied with automobile industry employer offers on job security, wages, overtime, parental rights, annual bonus and holidays

In the tyre industry it prioritised these issues and also payment for detainees

Negotiations in the motor industry were felt to be not sufficiently advanced to make recommendations

The conference prepared a schedule of dates for completion of negotiations and consideration of further employer offers

Also in dispute, with developments still pending, are about 500 000 members of the National Union of Mineworkers at Chamber of Mines employers and De Beers.

INDUSTRIAL RELATION — STRIKES

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THE STAYAWAY FOR PEACE

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(22)
(23)

Zambian arrested after coup is foiled

CP Correspondents
A ZAMBIAN army lieutenant was captured by fellow soldiers after he announced on State radio yesterday that President Kenneth Kaunda had been toppled in a coup after five days of anti-government violence.
The officer, who identified himself in repeated broadcasts as Lt Mwamba Luchembe, of the Signals Corps, was escorted from Radio Zambia's studio on the outskirts of the capital about 90 minutes later, Sapa reports.
"I wanted to take over the government but Kaunda's puppets are stopping me," he said pointing to the soldiers surrounding him.
Political observers in Lusaka told the African News Organisation (ANO) the short-lived coup was an indication of Zambia's political tension and turbulence.
An unidentified army officer broad-



Political tension over national protest week

By S'BU MNGADI and CONNIE MOLUSI

PEACE is the watchword for tomorrow's controversial stayaway. Amid continuing tension between supporters of the ANC/Cosatu/UDF alliance - which called the stayaway - and those of rival political organisations and trade unions, some parties yesterday pledged to adhere to a South Africa Council of Churches nine-point code of conduct.
The stayaway is part of the alliance's "week of national protest action" to force the government to end the continued fighting in Natal.
Before going into a briefing session with captains of commerce and industry in Durban yesterday, Patrick "Terror" Lekota said the ANC would not tolerate intimidation of workers who wished to go to work tomorrow.
"We want the protest to be dignified and peaceful. We are therefore calling for discipline from everyone."
The protest action has been condemned by the PAC, Nactu, Azapo, Inkatha and big business.
They feel the stayaway is divisive and will increase confrontation. They favour dialogue between the ANC and Inkatha.
Buthelesi told a KwaZulu Police passing-out parade in Ulundi on Thursday there had never been a stayaway that had not been forced on people and that it was "criminal to mount the kind of programme which will inevitably degenerate into a violent protest".
At a Press conference in Johannesburg this week, Cosatu general secretary Jay Naidoo said the mention of the protest was to press State President F.W. de Klerk to end the war in Natal.
Naidoo said the State had the capacity to end the conflict if it could find the political will. "The national mass action is designed to encourage it to find that will."
The ANC has called on the PAC "even at this late stage, to withdraw its opposition to the mass ac-

Landlord's thugs beat us up, say flat tenants Page 2

Join our Spring School Page 4

Spotlight on the July Page 22

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The stayaway is part of the alliance's "week of national protest action" to force the government to end the continued fighting in Natal.

Before going into a briefing session with captains of commerce and industry in Durban yesterday, Patrick "Terror" Lekota said the ANC would not tolerate intimidation of workers who wished to go to work tomorrow.

"We want the protest to be dignified and peaceful. We are therefore calling for discipline from everyone."

The protest action has been condemned by the PAC, Nactu, Azapo, Inkatha and big business.

They feel the stayaway is divisive and will increase confrontation. They favour dialogue between the ANC and Inkatha.

Buthelezi told a KwaZulu Police passing-out parade in Ulundi on Thursday there had never been a stayaway that had not been forced on people and that it was "criminal to mount the kind of programme which will inevitably degenerate into a violent programme".

At a Press conference in Johannesburg this week, Cosatu general secretary Jay Naidoo said the intention of the protest was to press State President FW de Klerk to end the war in Natal.

Naidoo said the State had the capacity to end the conflict if it could find the political will. "The national mass action is designed to encourage it to find that will."

The ANC has called on the PAC "even at this late stage, to withdraw its opposition to the mass action and contribute towards pressing the regime to end the violence in Natal".

Most employers said they would apply the "no work, no pay" policy, but questioned why they were victimised by stayaways.

Spokesman for the Johannesburg Chamber of Commerce and Industry Ken Mason said any absenteism not negotiated with employers would be regarded as an unpaid holiday.

The Natal Chamber of Industry, the SA Chamber of Business and big business in general feared the stayaway would cost hundreds of millions of rands in lost production.

The fighting in Natal has cost about 5 000 lives since 1982.

When tension over the proposed stayaway threatened to erupt into violence, the SACC this week drew up a code of conduct for political behaviour.

It was signed by the ANC, Nactu, Inkatha and the Natal Chamber of Commerce, among others.

The points of principle are:

- Those who choose to stay away from work must be allowed to do so without interference.
- Organisers of marches or other protest actions must publicly declare their plans. (This will facilitate monitoring of such action).
- Those who choose to take part in such marches must be allowed to do so without interference.
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Stayaway peace plea

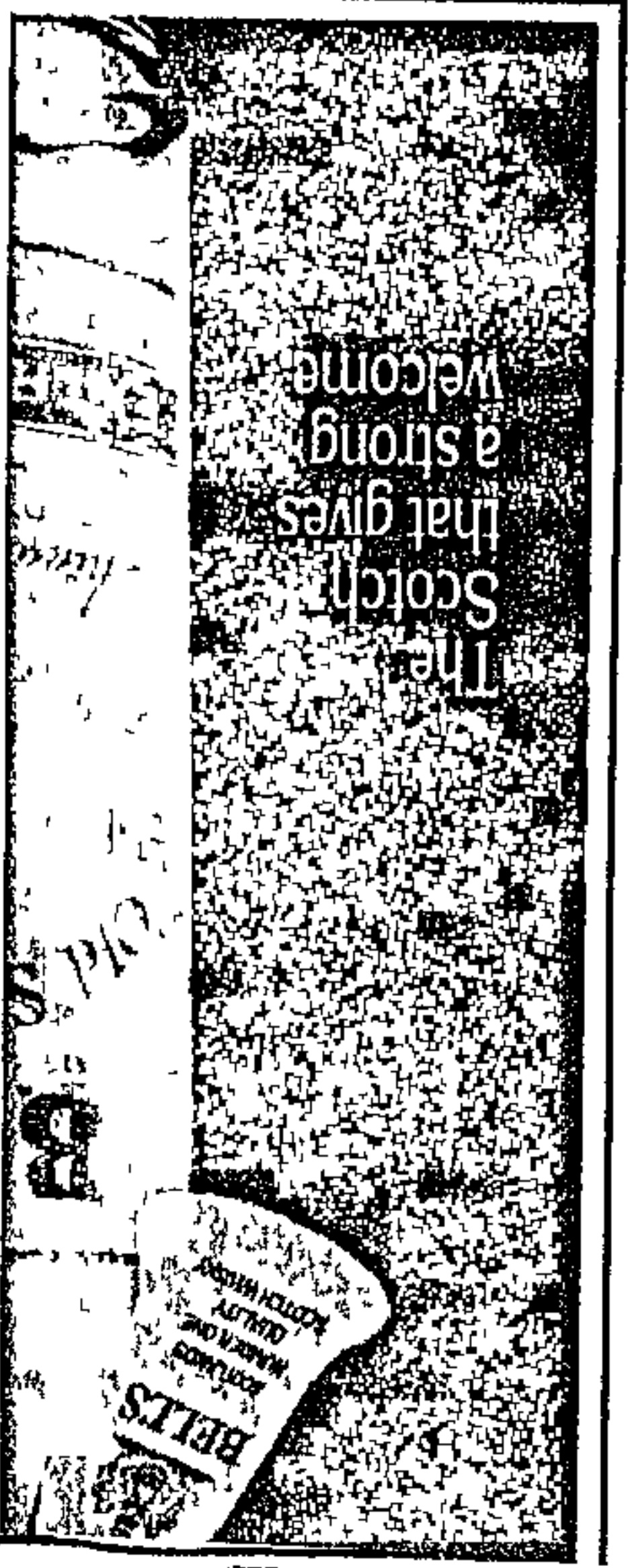
From Page 1

as criminal behaviour;

- The security forces must uphold the right of people to protest peacefully and must not interfere with meetings, marches, rallies and stayaways. Their duty is to protect all people equally, both those who take part in such protest action, and those who choose not to

must be allowed to do so without interference;

- Those who choose not to take part in such actions must not be forced to do so;
- Organisers of any protest action must ensure that it is peaceful;
- All organisations must condemn attacks on people's homes and families



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To Page 2

City stayaway

ownship stations deserted as thousands of workers heed ANC call

APUS 2/7/90 152

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assle'
e seal

/E SAWYER

reporter
LE" the seal, found
up and exhausted on
look beach, has been
returned to Seal Island
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ITABLE PLACE

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Picture BRENTON GEACH
The Argus

FREEDOM: SPCA senior in-
specter Aloudien Toefy
about to release the seal,
dubbed "Hassle" for its

Staff Reporters and Sapa

POLICE gathered in force at virtually deserted township railway stations as thousands of workers appeared to heed the African National Congress call for a stayaway protest against the continuing violence in Natal.

The controversial stayaway, called by the ANC and the Congress of South African Trade Unions (Cosatu) to force the government to intervene in the conflict in Natal, has been snubbed by some organisations in the black community, including the Pan Africanist Congress and Inkatha

At some stations this morning police far outnumbered commuters

The normally packed peak-hour morning trains on the Khayelitsha line were virtually empty today, said a regular commuter

This was confirmed by Spoornet spokesman Mr Brian Lotter, who said trains on the Khayelitsha line were running at about 30 percent capacity. Other lines were normal and trains were on time.

The stayaway had not been felt at Rex Trueform, Cape Town's biggest clothing factory, a spokesman said early today

City Tramways spokesman Mr Bob Krause said it would take time to survey passenger figures for the company's 900 routes. He was unable to give any figures

Mr Jan Kotze, the general manager of one of Cape Town's biggest dairies, said they had arranged previously for their staff to work yesterday and take off today

The production manager of the Good Hope Bakery reported an 80 percent stayaway

Police liaison officer Captain Attie Laubscher said no reports of intimidation had been received this morning. He warned that police would act firmly against intimidators

"We'll keep a low profile and not act if everything is peaceful, but we won't stand for any chaos



YAHOOO! England's Gary Lineker celebrates his match-winning penalty kick in extra time which gave England a 3-2 victory over Cameroon in the World Cup quarter-finals last night

● Full report, page 14

Divers search for tourist

Argus Africa News Service

MBABANE — The body of a tourist who slipped over a waterfall at a Swaziland beauty spot almost a week ago has still not been recovered

Scuba divers and rescue workers have been searching since Tuesday for 18-year-old Ryan King, from Abilene, Texas, but believe his body is wedged in a crevice among huge boulders below the Mantenga Falls, an American embassy spokeswoman said today

Mr King was posing for a photograph on the lip of the falls when he slipped. He was on a Christian youth fellowship tour of southern Africa

City shivers as temerature

deserted township railway stations as thousands of workers appeared to heed the African National Congress call for a stayaway protest against the continuing violence in Natal.

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"We'll keep a low profile and not act if everything is peaceful, but we won't stand for any chaos or intimidation," he said.

In Durban, it was reported that trains from black areas were only half-full.

Most Putco bus drivers in Soweto arrived for work today.

Yesterday, Inkatha supporters staged an anti-stayaway rally in Soweto.

Inkatha's West Rand leader, Mr Themba Khosa, claimed that more than 5 000 Inkatha supporters armed with shields and sticks had arrived at a Soweto rally. A Soweto police spokesman said only 150 had taken part.

The South African Chamber of Business and the employers' organisation, Saccola, said employers had indicated that they would adopt a "no work, no pay" policy.

"Mass Action" week

Yesterday, the ANC and Inkatha agreed at community level to resolve the conflict between the two organisations.

Community representatives of the two organisations met in Wattville near Benoni in an attempt to iron out differences that have led to tension between the ANC and Inkatha on the eve of the "Week of National Mass Action" organised by ANC affiliates to protest against the violence in Natal.

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Bloom 2/7/90 (152)

Sacob advises no pay for stayaway workers

THE SA Chamber of Business (Sacob) has advised employers to adopt a "no work, no pay" stand on today's planned nationwide stayaway which, at the weekend, was shaping into a major test of strength for the ANC.

Sacob joined a growing list of organisations to come out against the controversial ANC/Cosatu stayaway call, saying it did not believe the planned action would help end violence in Natal.

Any disciplinary steps should be taken in terms of well-established company policy and procedures with due regard to the sensitivity of the situation, Sacob said at the weekend.

Meanwhile, the police announced that

PETER DELMAR

large numbers of SAP and SADF members would be stationed at strategic points, particularly on transport routes, to ensure that the stayaway proceeded peacefully.

Sapa reports that Maj-Gen J C van Niekerk, the regional commissioner for Natal — the area where possible violence is most feared — said security forces would travel with commuters where necessary. Joint operation centres would operate at strategic points and helicopters would monitor the situation from the air, he said.

The PAC, Azapo, Inkatha and the National Council of Trade Unions (Nactu)

have all come out against the stayaway, saying it would only exacerbate strife in Natal, KwaZulu and other areas.

Federal Independent Democratic Alliance (Fida) president Johan Gogotya also condemned the stayaway at the weekend, saying it would jeopardise thousands of workers' jobs.

Inkatha leaders were due to meet a Cosatu and ANC delegation yesterday to discuss "looming violence" connected with the stayaway call.

All sides have committed themselves to an SACC code of conduct giving people the right to go to work or stay at home without

□ To Page 2

Bloom 2/7/90 (152)

Stayaway

being intimidated

PAC general secretary Benny Alexander predicted at the weekend that the stayaway would be well supported in Durban and Port Elizabeth.

But, he said, it was likely to be much less successful in other urban centres.

In an attack on the ANC, Azapo said in a statement that the previous behaviour of

ANC supporters left it unconvinced that people going to work would not be harmed, intimidated or even killed.

Azapo had gone a long way towards organising a conference on ending violence in Natal and elsewhere, and the ANC and PAC had already agreed that a planning meeting would take place later this month, it said.

□ From Page 1

'High levels of intimidation'

(152)

Strike action trebles lost production

BIDAM 2/7790

NEARLY 1,2-million man-days were lost because of industrial action in the first half of 1990 — almost treble the number for the same period in 1989 (463 864), a recently released labour report said.

Much of the activity was accompanied by unusually high levels of intimidation and violence, said consultants of Levy, Piron and Associates, who compiled the statistics.

They expect that "this large scale mobilisation will not abate in the months ahead, in light of the government's decision regarding amendments to the Labour Relations Act and the possible results of annual wage talks now in full swing".

The consultants warned that this could

DANIEL FELDMAN

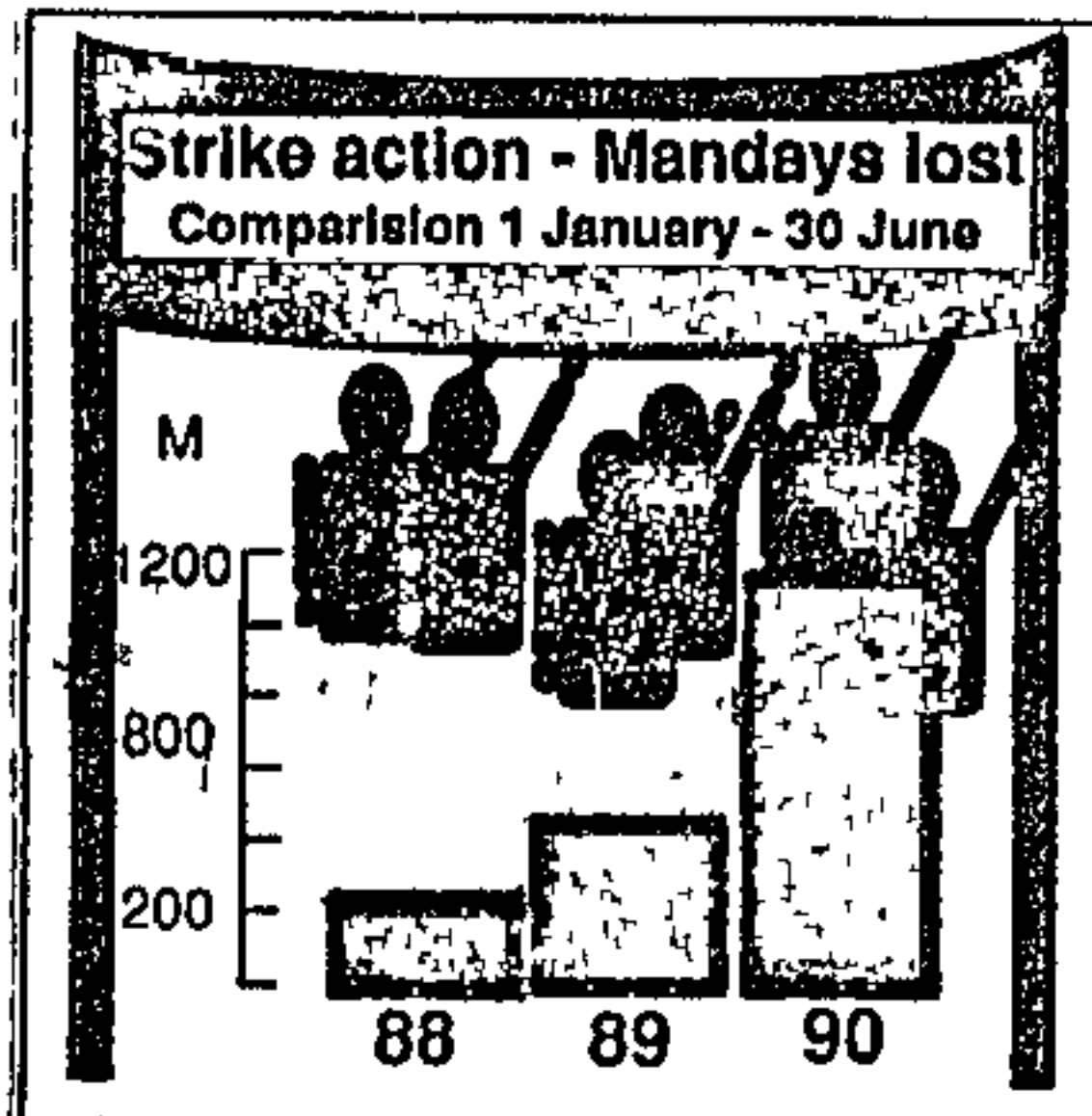
herald "an unprecedented wave of industrial action which employers would find difficult to counter".

Employer, union and government spokesmen said the significant increase in strikes was due to a combination of heightened worker expectations resulting from recent political changes, and SA's economic problems.

Anglo American chief communications officer James Duncan commented "Political changes since the beginning of the year, together with economic constraints, have almost certainly led to mixed feelings of expectancy, uncertainty and frustration in most sections of the population. It is probably not wrong to assume that these have contributed to greater levels of industrial disturbances of various kinds".

The report said there had been a dramatic increase in the level of strike action in the public sector. The figure jumped from only 0,4% of the total man-days lost during the first half of 1989 to 46,2% during the first half of 1990.

"Much of the industrial action taking place in schools, hospitals and local municipalities has succeeded in bringing to the public's attention the plight of public sector workers — an area that has been largely overlooked by the union movement until now — as far as their wages and working conditions are concerned," said Levy Piron senior consultant Brian Allen.



Graphic: LEE EMERTON Source: LEVY, PIRON & ASSOC

□ To Page 2

Checkers workers' strike ballot begins

(152) DANIEL FELDMAN (152)

A STRIKE ballot conducted among employees of Checkers would begin today, a spokesman for the SA Commercial Catering and Allied Workers' Union (Saccawu) said. *R1000 4 790*

The union is demanding a salary increase and more perks. The company has offered an across-the-board increase effective from last week.

Sapa reports that Saccawu declared a dispute on Friday with the SA Creamery, Cheese Association.

A Saccawu spokesman said the company failed to improve its offer of a R130 across-the-board increase and a R790 minimum monthly wage.

SHOW

152

OF

Sowetan 2/7/90
**Cops, army on
lookout as week
of protest starts**

FORCE

Musical

Duo

Phukwana

is dead

Page 3

ANC's

Jackie

Sahni

speaks

Page 6

THE South African Police, backed by the army, will be out in full force this week to ensure the safety of anyone who ignores the call by the ANC and affiliates for a national stayaway and protest action.

Fears are also mounting that the stayaway will lead to further strife between black political rivals as PAC, Inkatha, Nactu and Azapo have urged their members to ignore the call

• To Page 2

Cops, army prepare for stayaway

152

• From Page 1

"Any person wishing to go to work should not be hindered," Minister of Law and Order Mr Adriaan Vlok said in a statement on Saturday in Pretoria.

"I therefore wish to give the assurance to those wishing to go to work that the Government will do all in its power to ensure their safety and that of their homes, families and belongings

"The police, backed by the Defence Force, will be out in full force to maintain law and order and to protect those wishing to go to work," Vlok said

The ANC and Cosatu have called for a national stayaway and protest action, starting today, against violence in Natal.

According to Vlok, "the reasons given for, and the aims of the stayaway are also incorrect, unconvincing and unattainable"

"The Government is not responsible for the violence in Natal," he maintained

Vlok said it had "become clear that there is a real threat of serious confrontation with ensuing violence erupting between various parties and their supporters" during this week's planned protest actions

"It, for instance, now appears that the ANC/Cosatu/UDF alliance, which is responsible for organising the stayaway, will bring it in direct confrontation with the PAC, Nactu, Inkatha, Azapo, and certain organisations who have called on their members to ignore the stayaway

"Incitement and intimidation of innocent workers to obey the call for the stayaway have already started," Vlok claimed.

"This in itself could lead to renewed violence and bloodshed. Should this happen the responsibility will surely rest with the organisers," he said

"Intimidation is a serious and abhorrent crime and is against the laws of the land. The Government and the ANC have committed themselves during the Groote Schuur talks (in Cape Town in May) to eradicate it - Sapa

Stayaway Stop it

CAPE 2/7/90
TINIS

But ANC vows there will be no intimidation

Staff Reporters

THE ANC yesterday told workers in the Western Cape they would not be "intimidated or threatened" in any way if they did not take part in today's mass stayaway

The undertaking, made by South African Youth Congress (SAYCO) president Mr Peter Makaba at an ANC rally at Athlone Stadium yesterday, came as police warned they would be on full alert against any violence

The ANC said at the weekend that the mass actions to protest against the continued killings in strife-torn Natal townships would be peaceful, and that those opposed to it had nothing to fear. It called on its members to observe the code of conduct drawn up by the South African Council of Churches (SACC).

However, the proposed stayaway threatens to expose new violence among a black opposition arguing bitterly over its merits.

The stayaway, intended as the first day of a "week of action" aimed at emphasising the violence in Natal, has split black movements who disagree on its potential to end conflict — and on one side has temporarily united sworn enemies.

The ANC, the UDP and the Congress of South African Trade Unions (Cosatu) endorse the stayaway call, saying that only such decisive action will force Pretoria to take real steps toward stemming a virtual Zulu civil war in strife-torn Natal. But opposing the call are the PAC, Azapo, the National Council of Trade Unions (Nactu) and Inkatha — usually scorned as a government-stooge group by the PAC and Azapo. The groups have cited precedents of murderous intimidation caused by past politically motivated actions. The ANC has also warned that negotiations could

STOP INKATHA AND POLICE



RALLY About 2 000 people attended a meeting in Athlone yesterday to rally support for today's stayaway. Mr Chris Hanu, chief of staff of Umkhonto we Sizwe, was to have spoken at the rally but was unable to attend because a meeting he was to have addressed in Port Elizabeth was postponed. Mr Hanu is expected to arrive here today. Picture

BENNY GOOL



P.T.O.



Stayaway hailed as 'major victory'

11/6/90
3/7/90
152

THE huge stayaway by an estimated three million workers throughout the country has been hailed as major victory by organisers, the African National Congress, Cosatu and the UDF.

Between 70 and 90 percent of workers were absent yesterday in all the major industrial centres with the exception of the Western Cape, where only an estimated 10 to 15 percent heeded the call not to work.

The loss in productivity in the stayaway could cost South Africa about R750-million, the South African Chamber of Commerce reported.

The manpower manager of the Cape Town Chamber of Commerce, Mr Charl Adams, said the impact had been limited in Cape Town, and the stayaway in industries was described by a spokesman for the Cape Chamber of Industries as "not extensive", with average absenteeism less than 20 percent.

Police presence

Western Cape police spokesman Lieutenant Denise Brand said only isolated intimidation attempts had been reported and the strong police presence at strategic places had been effective.

Elsewhere, a number of violent incidents were reported and several people were arrested on charges of intimidation at Helenvale, Port Elizabeth.

Police dropped thousands of "go to work" pamphlets from a helicopter over Pretoria townships to tell people fearful of going to work that their

security was being monitored.

Cosatu said in statement it estimated about three million workers had stayed away — "making it as big as any other stayaway in the history of our country".

Absenteeism estimates for the major industrial centres were Natal 75-80 percent, Eastern Cape 85-95, Witwatersrand 75-85, Vaal 80 and Pretoria 70-80.

Slammed

The stayaway was slammed as damaging to the economy and contributing to tensions in Natal by Inkatha president Dr Mangosuthu Buthelezi.

Dr Buthelezi claimed in a statement that intimidation and violence had played a major role in the stayaway which had been "no victory for the ANC and Cosatu".

But the alliance refuted claims of intimidation as "absolute nonsense" and said the "overwhelming response" demonstrated conclusively that the violence in Natal was a matter of extreme concern to their supporters.

The alliance called for a nationwide week of protest which would take the form of demonstrations, culminating in mass marches and rallies on Saturday.

The Pan Africanist Congress, Azanian Peoples Organisation and the National Council of Trade Unions also vociferously opposed the stayaway call because they said the ANC alliance had not consulted them or workers over the issue. — Staff Reporter, Argus Correspondent and Sapa

6 000 hotel workers set to strike

By Shareen Singh
A major strike is looming in the hotel industry as more than 6 000 workers are set to down tools at Southern Suns Hotels nationally.

Members of the South African Commercial Catering and Allied Workers' Union (Saccawu) balloted last week in favour of a strike after wage talks deadlocked and a conciliation board failed to resolve the dispute.

Saccawu spokesman Alan Horwitz said workers wanted an

across-the-board increase of R160 a month and a minimum monthly wage of R800. The current minimum wage at Southern Suns was R590, he said.

Union's demand

On deadlock, management had offered an increase of R100 a month or 15 percent, whichever was greater.

A major issue in dispute is the union's demand for an end to fixed-term contract labour.

Mr Horwitz said contract em-

ployees who got much lower wages than full-time staff were demanding the company employ them directly and on a full-time basis.

Over the last four months Southern Suns had dismissed 117 workers at four holiday resorts, many of whom were contract workers, he said.

Southern Suns spokesman Karl Ludick said the company had made a final offer at a conciliation board hearing "after much deliberation" and was not considering any shift in offer at this stage.

Thousands heed stayaway call

Productivity losses may reach R750m

MORE than R750m in lost productivity could result from yesterday's ANC/UDF/Cosatu stayaway, called to protest against the continuing violence in Natal and heeded by hundreds of thousands of workers across the country, the SA Chamber of Business (Sacob) said yesterday.

A Sacob spokesman said all participants in the economy would suffer the consequences of the stayaway action.

Cosatu and the ANC put the number of workers who stayed away at 3-million, with estimates of 95% and 80% of workers absent in the eastern Cape and Durban respectively, and 50% in the western Cape.

The ANC, Cosatu and the UDF said the response demonstrated unequivocally "the

● Picture. Page 2

extent of support for the programmes and policies of our organisations."

~~Inkatha president and Kwa-~~
major factor during the stayaway.

Inkatha Institute executive director Gavin Woods said yesterday he doubted either side could claim the extent of the stayaway as a victory. Nactu, Azapo, the PAC and Inkatha opposed the stayaway call.

Manufacturing industry was worst hit and Toyota in Durban, Volkswagen in Uitenhage and Samcor in Pretoria closed down yesterday, as did Mercedes-Benz in

MATTHEW CURTIN
and TRACY MELASS

East London

Frame Group chairman Mervyn King said 80-90% of the workforce stayed away yesterday while Shell and Iscor spokesmen said absenteeism varied between 5% and 45% at plants throughout the country.

In contrast, the Chamber of Mines and Anglo American said mining production had not been affected.

An Anglo spokesman said attendance was only down at Highveld Steel and Ergo.

Gencor reported some disruption to the group's activities.

The engineering industry's employers federation Seifsa said members suffered a 70% stayaway in the Transvaal, 75% in Port Elizabeth, 9,1% in the Cape and 8% in the Free State.

East London Chamber of Commerce director Dave Groom said over 80% of workers had stayed away.

Trains in Johannesburg and the southern Transvaal ran at only 10-20% of normal occupancy. In Port Elizabeth and East London the figure was 10% and 15%, but spokesman Jacques Pienaar said trains in Durban were 40% full, and Cape Town commuter traffic appeared normal.

A Putco spokesman said 50% of its buses were running normally in the PWV area, half-full on average, while 93% of its buses were operating in the Durban area.

Employers followed a course of "no

□ To Page 2

Stayaway

work, no pay", on Sacob's advice, and there were no reports of dismissals.

While Law and Order Ministry spokesman Brig Leon Mellet spoke yesterday of widespread intimidation, reports indicated incidents were sporadic.

Sapa reported that a mob in Soweto set fire to a train yesterday afternoon, causing delays in returning home for commuters who went to work. No one was hurt.

Witwatersrand police liaison officer Eugene Opperman said no link had yet been established between the bomb explosions yesterday morning at East Rand railway stations and the stayaway action.

PETER DELMAR reports the ANC, Cosatu and the UDF said it was the first time a national stayaway had been held to focus attention on a regional issue and should

finally lay to rest beliefs that Inkatha represented the people of Natal.

However, Buthelezi said in his statement "Clearly, the ANC/Cosatu cannot control and have no influence whatsoever over people they claim support them — hence the violence. So much for their so-called 'peaceful' stayaway."

The three organisations hinted that similar protest action could be repeated if sufficient progress was not made towards ending the Natal violence. They said they would seek a meeting with President F W de Klerk to discuss the Natal situation.

Police were yesterday investigating a poster put up at the ANC's regional offices in Johannesburg which threatened ANC deputy leader Nelson Mandela and which purported to come from the AWB.

□ From Page 1

MINIONS

3 bombs
on Reef
- cops

Sumner 2/19/90

stay away

At least three million workers did not turn up for work nationwide, Cosatu reported yesterday

There were sporadic incidents of violence and three bombs exploded on the Reef, police said

In Johannesburg major retail

By SY MAKARINGE,
JOSHUA RABOROKO and
Sapa

Outlets and chaunties yesterday reported stayaway figures as high as 100 percent in certain areas while the poorest support for the call was in the Western Cape (50 percent) Cosatu's Mr Neil Coleman said last night

On the streets and in the factories workers suggested that much

of the success of the stayaway could be attributed to the lack of transport. The Ministry of Law and Order in its report on the stayaway claimed the nation-wide action was accompanied by large-scale intimidation in spite of calls for non violence.

In the Vaal several mini-buses and taxis were set alight when thousands of people heeded the call



The Noord Street bus terminus in Johannesburg was unusually quiet yesterday as about three million people took part in a national stayaway.

RLIE PARKERS

FROM 27th-7th JULY
Low Price
Specials
WE PROMISE TO BEAT
ANY ADVERTISED PRICE
FROM 3rd JULY-7th JULY

EASY
WAVE
Triple
Pack
759

TC B.
Twin
Pack
200 ml +
200 ml
649

BLACK
LIKE ME
Twin
Pack
629

QUICK
CURL
Twin
Pack
599

DYNAMIC
CURL

SWANKIE
LOOK

THE PAC and Azapo have come under fire from the ANC for their attitude towards yesterday's stayaway protest against the violence in Natal.

The two organisations, together with Nactu and Inkatha, have not given their support to the stayaway called by the UDF, ANC and Cosatu.

On Sunday at a meeting at Athlone Stadium in Cape Town, senior ANC leader Mr Harry Gwala said he knew of no PAC activities in Natal.

He knew of individuals who were members of Azapo but there was no

ANC slams PAC, Azapo over lack of support

Stayaway row looms

Sowetan Reporter

"Organisation like Azapo" in Natal

Earlier, South African Youth Congress president Mr Peter Mokaba assured workers who planned to go to work yesterday that they had nothing to fear.

"We'll show that the youth are militant and

radical but disciplined. We do not want the police to defend anyone because we will not attack anyone.

Attack

"We won't attack our people in the townships - if they go to work we'll let them go," he said. He also criticised the PAC. "We are not

worried that the PAC are not participating."

But he wanted to know how many members the PAC had. "We have the numbers. Where do they come from?"

The ANC did not want to compete with the PAC or even fight it because that would serve no purpose.

"We must see who seizes power first. Why must the PAC live in opposition to the people and not the enemy?"

He said the stayaway was intended to save lives. "Because we are revolutionaries we are going to embark on this action."

The people of Natal had been murdered over a period of years.

"No liberation movement worth its salt can stand by while its people are being murdered." He alleged the involvement of "vigilante forces" of the "apartheid puppet" Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi.

Enemy

The organisers of the stayaway had been told that their action was inappropriate. "No liberation movements ask the enemy how to fight him," he said. If the business community wanted to stop the

Mothopeng is hailed

DAR-es-Salaam - The militant PAC slogan "One Settler, One Butler" reverberated once again last weekend when jubilant cadres of the movement's armed forces hailed their president, Mr Zephania Mothopeng.

Mothopeng was addressing hundreds of PAC cadres, mostly members of the movement's armed wing, the Azanian People's Liberation Army, in Dar es Salaam on Sunday. The crowd welcomed the ageing leader who was in the Tanzanian capital at the weekend for consultations with the movement in exile and for talks with the leader of that country, President Ali Hassan Mwinyi.

The PAC president was also scheduled to meet Julius Nyerere.

R50 Vaal library fee hits black students

By SONTI MASEKO

cially" to use the reference section of the library

THE Vereeniging Town Council is charging residents living outside the area a R50 membership

R750 m COST

APL T-13 3/7/90

Cosatu: A massive show of support

MORE THAN R750m in lost productivity could result from yesterday's ANC/UDF/Cosatu stayaway, heeded by hundreds of thousands of workers across the country, the SA Chamber of Business (Sacob) said yesterday

A Sacob spokesman said all participants in the economy would suffer the consequences of the stayaway which varied sharply from region to region.

Three bombings, infighting and threats of intimidation and a work stayaway of up to 100% marked yesterday's one-day national strike.

The stayaway - called by the ANC and Cosatu to spur the government to sharper measures to end the six-year-long conflict in Natal - drew strong support in Natal, Vaal Triangle, Eastern Transvaal and Eastern Cape where businesses were paralysed.

The call was less effective in the Western Cape where absenteeism of 15% to 20% was recorded.

The stayaway was opposed by the PAC, Azapo, Inkatha and the National Council of Trade Unions rivals to the ANC.

Last night the ANC and Cosatu claimed a massive show of support, with more than half of businesses in the Durban metropolitan region closed.

More than three million people heeded our call, Mr Popo Molefe, UDF publicity secretary, said.

This is a message to the government that the people want the warlords in KwaZulu stopped.

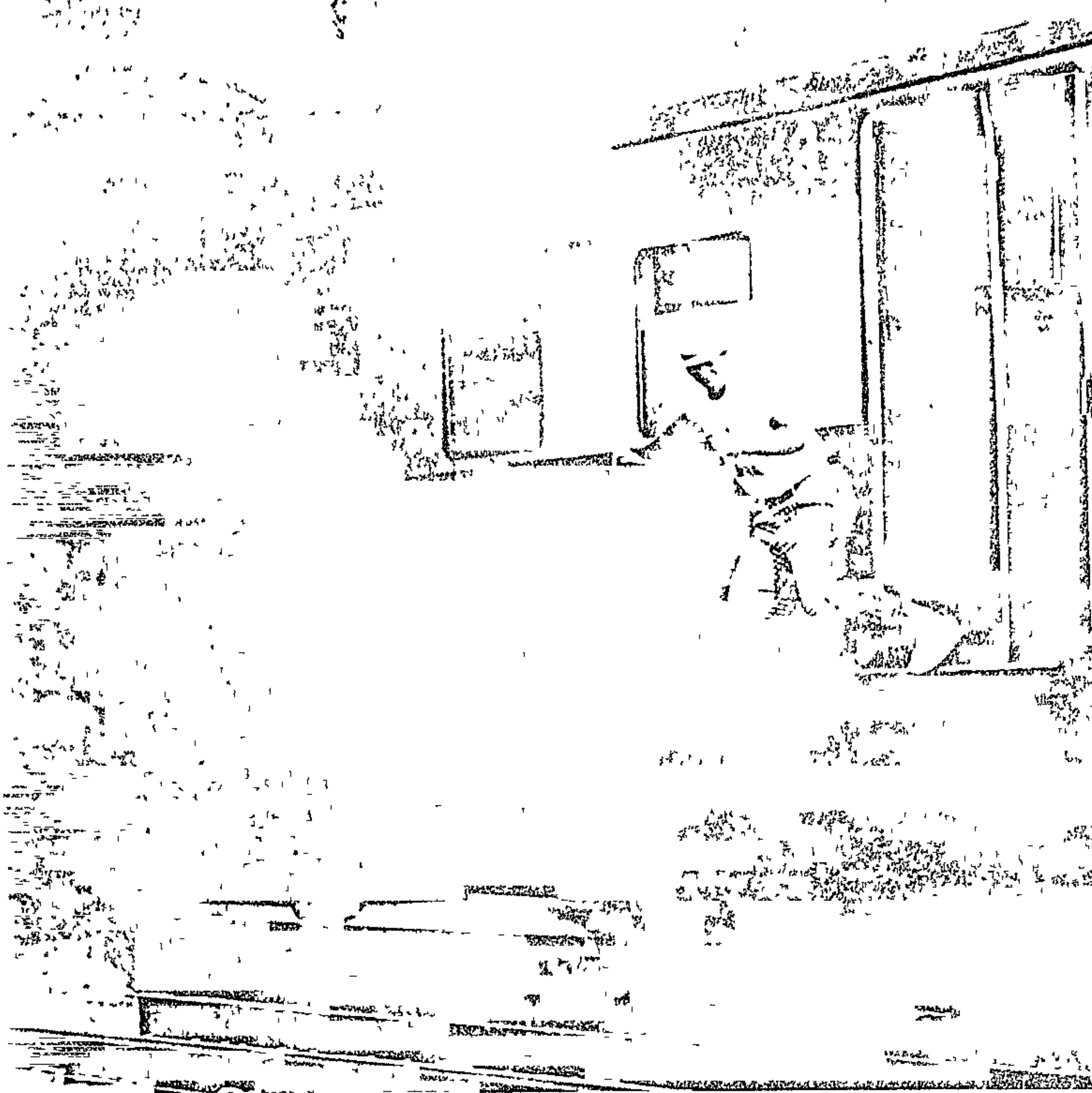
Cosatu yesterday questioned the grassroots support of rival organisations while political observers claimed that the success of the stayaway showed massive extra-parliamentary support for the ANC.

In a surprise discussion, UDF president Mr Archie Gumede is reported to have withdrawn his support for the union. He could not be reached for comment yesterday.

The ANC call was also slammed yesterday by KwaZulu Chief Minister Chief Mangosuthu Buthe, who said: "The stayaway has clearly exacerbated tensions in the region."

Two explosive devices ripped through residence of the National Party councillor in Durfontein, Mr Jan Burgers, and the home of the late Lt Col A C Sibonyani in Kagiso. No one was injured.

Police explosives experts were called to a Braam-



ESCAPING THE DANGER ... A panic-stricken passenger, fearing for his safety, jumps from a moving train as it approaches Nonkqubela railway station, Khayelitsha, shortly after it sliced through a pile of burning tyres placed on the railway line. Witnesses said the screams of terrified passengers could be heard some distance from the train as it entered the pall of black smoke.

Picture: OSED ZILWA

Stayaway

fontein service station shortly before midnight last night after an unexploded limpet mine was found under the handle of one of the petrol pumps.

Limpet mines also exploded at the Dube and Kathlehong railway stations, and a Soweto passenger train was set alight.

Earlier the home of an activist was bombed in Kagiso township near Krugersdorp.

The target of the blast, Mr Serge Mokonyane, secretary of the Krugersdorp Residents' Organisation, said the blast "comes after numerous threats" from rival organisations including PAC over the stayaway.

● In Cape Town police supported by troops patrolled Khayelitsha in a day which saw police in a van narrowly missing a burning tyre barricade. Burning roads and a railway line, and police fired teargas at stone-throwers during sporadic clashes.

Youths also stopped mini-bus taxis in Nyanga and ordered drivers to unload passengers. Langa, Guguletu and Crossroads were calm with minimal police presence.

A large section of Lansdowne Road Extension was littered with rocks and partly burnt tyres.

Shortly after several police vehicles had gathered at a huge burning barricade, a petrol bomb was flung, narrowly missing one of the vans. Police set off in pursuit of the perpetrators and three shotguns blasts were heard shortly after. It is not known if anyone was hurt.

Cosatu estimated that between 10% and 15% of all workers in the Western Cape heeded the stayaway call.

Mr Colin McCarthy, executive director of the Cape Chamber of Industries, said he doubted whether many factories were "more than 20% affected".

Dr Stanley Evans, town clerk of Cape Town, reported that the municipality had experienced a 12,5% stayaway. Spoornet, also a large employer, said attendances were down between 40% and 80%.

Mr Bob Krause, PRO for City Tramways, said his firm's buses had carried only 40% of their usual load from the black townships, but in coloured and white areas taken together, "we carried 80%". Own Staff Reporters and Sapa

Upsurge in unrest

CAT Times
4/7/90

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THREE days into the ANC's week of protest, an upsurge in violent incidents and allegations of widespread intimidation has been reported.

While police were the targets in numerous stoning and petrol-bomb incidents countrywide on Monday during the stayaway call, the Cape was rocked by a series of flare-ups in Khayelitsha and the Boland towns of Ashton, Robertson and Montagu.

Intimidation to enforce the stayaway had also been rife in townships, according to Law and Order spokesman Brigadier Leon Mellet.

He said petrol bombs were thrown at buses in various areas and eight limpet mines were placed on railway lines or at stations serving black commuters in the Johannesburg area alone.

Last night ANC internal leader Mr Walter Sisulu shifted blame for Monday's incidents away from the stayaway call, saying that "the violence had come from various quarters".

He said the incidents were "minimal for action on such a scale".

In Kroonstad the police single quarters were stoned and extensively damaged. Tearsmoke was used to disperse the group of attackers and a black man was arrested.

In some of the incidents recorded by police on Monday.

● A man was attacked by a group in Durban who hacked him to death with pangas. Police



BOLAND UNREST: Cops and ANC talk — PAGE 4

dispersed the group with pistol and shotgun fire. A man was wounded and arrested.

● Two KwaZulu policemen were killed and houses belonging to two other KwaZulu policemen were reduced to ashes during weekend attacks on KwaZulu Police at Umlazi, south of Durban.

● In Virginia, OFS, a mine personnel manager was fatally stabbed during an illegal meeting by about 1 000 miners.

Yesterday Brig Mellet said residents in black areas were intimidated into heeding the Monday's stayaway call.

They were warned, he said, "sometimes with a smile", by members of street committees that they would have their houses burnt or their

families necklaced if they went to work.

Soweto residents who had turned on their lights on Monday morning in preparation for going to work had their houses stoned.

"Vicious intimidation is being used to force the will of some people on to others," Brig Mellet said.

He also confirmed that Law and Order Minister Mr Adriaan Vlok was preparing tough legislation aimed at rooting out intimidation on the left and the right which will be introduced in Parliament early next year.

Mr Sisulu said the ANC had ordered its members to abide by the SA Council of Churches' code of conduct during the stayaway — and added that there had been attacks on ANC members.

"Two of our activists were bombed in Kagiso, Krugersdorp and at a meeting addressed by Mr Alfred Nzo (near Pretoria) a man was shot dead and the police were provocative," he said.

"Relationships between the oppressed people and the ruling class" created the situation in which police were attacked, Mr Sisulu said.

As the armed struggle had not yet been suspended, some attacks could have been carried out by Umkhonto we Sizwe, he added.

Mr Sisulu said that while the ANC spoke out against violence and had succeeded in rooting it out within the liberation movement, the government had to deal firmly with its own police force, with the right wing, and with vigilantes.

He leaves his wife and six children, one of whom is an advocate at the Johannesburg Bar

CHT
Tint
4/7/90
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4 500 hotel workers strike

JOHANNESBURG — About 4 500 workers went on strike yesterday in 35 Southern Sun hotels, after a 75% vote in favour of strike action

Union publicity officer Mr Jeremy Daphne said management were trying to lock out striking workers, but despite this, workers at over half of the hotels were at present conducting canteen sit-ins

Too late for classification
BIRTHS

MOORE

To James and Gayle a healthy son born 25th June 1990. Both well Thanks to doctor and staff at Louis Leipoldt.

... months pregnant woman at knife-point and who later raped two other women in Yellowwood Park was jailed for an effective 20 years by a Durban magistrate yesterday

CHT
Tint
4/7/90
Media association move

JOHANNESBURG — The Media Workers Association of SA's registration with the Department of Manpower was a major step towards the development of Mwasa as a trade union, said acting general secretary Mr Mathata Tsedu.

Missing boy's body found

PORT ELIZABETH. — Police divers have found the body of 5-year-old Gerald Spandiel, who went missing after a motor accident near Mid-delburg on Saturday night. A dam on the farm Grootvlei was partly drained to enable rescue teams to recover the body.

CHT
Tint
4/7/90
Renamo area recaptured

MAPUTO. — Mozambican armed forces say they have recaptured a string of rebel-controlled small towns in a three-month offensive in the centre of the country. The Renamo rebels' general staff was destroyed in the offensive.

Parabats put to the test

PRETORIA — More than 400 paratroopers yesterday attacked and destroyed an "enemy" base north of the city in one of the largest military exercises of its kind in recent years.

Reports by Staff Reporter Own Correspondent, Sapa Reuter AP and UPI

Workers occupy wine farm office after row

By ANDREA WEISS
Staff Reporter

while the hearing was under way

FARM workers besieged an office complex at Anglo American's Boschendal wine farm in a row over the alleged slapping of a Food and Allied Workers' Union member

1 000 STOPPED WORK

The alleged assault caused a two-day work stoppage in the cannery of Anglo American Farms in Groot Drakenstein

A personnel officer was dismissed yesterday after a disciplinary hearing, according to the group manpower resources manager for Amfarms, Mr Mark Allan

About 1 000 workers stopped work on the farm, in the cannery, winery, restaurant and dairy on Monday and yesterday

Union spokesman Mr William Makhunga said members of the National Union of Wine Spirits and Allied Workers' Union, the South African Commercial Catering and Allied Workers' Union and the South African Wood Workers' Union were also involved in the stoppage

Mr Allan said the staff member had been suspended on full pay immediately after the alleged assault, pending the outcome of a disciplinary inquiry.

● The go-slow by workers at liquor giants Stellenbosch Farmers Winery, Distillers Corporation and Gilbeys, which started yesterday morning, looks likely to continue with the possibility of a full-blown strike later, Sapa reports.

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(152)

NEWS

Santa threatened by industrial stayaways

By Carina le Grange

The operation of the mobile X-ray units of the Johannesburg branch of Santa (South African National Tuberculosis Association) is seriously threatened by the stayaways and industrial unrest of the past months, says an official.

Santa Johannesburg director James Leadbetter, in control of mobile X-ray units which operate in industry and commerce, yesterday told The Star 1 100 X-rays were cancelled on Monday due to the Cosatu stayaway.

Annually, 50 000 new cases of TB are registered in South Africa, and daily, between 10 and 20 people die of the curable disease. Santa recently said the country was faced with a TB epidemic.

Mr Leadbetter had taken the unusual step of writing to the Minister of Health, Dr Rina

Venter; the deputy president of the African National Congress, Nelson Mandela, and the presidents of the Council of SA Trade Unions and the National Council of Trade Unions.

Mr Leadbetter explained that at R4,25 an X-ray, Santa needed to take 16 000 X-rays a month to break even and continue operations to detect TB.

Urgent plea

Due to stayaways and industrial unrest, only 8 926 were taken in April, 12 200 in May and 13 554 in June, he said. Initial bookings for June had been 19 450.

He said he made an urgent plea to Dr Venter for assistance and action in a situation that was getting rapidly out of hand due to industrial unrest.

To Mr Mandela and the presidents of the union federations, he explained "The whole system is

dangerously threatened by the same people it is designed to protect — the breadwinners of the families of all races.

"Santa is a non-governmental, non-profit organisation. It is not subsidised by either the Government or the private sector."

"It is not the loss of money which concerns us, but the people. With the lack of response many people go undetected," he said.

"The reality is that if the people don't pitch up, we are out of business and if we are out of business there is nothing to replace us. The only practical alternative to X-rays appears to be to educate the public. However this takes time — which we don't have."

The minimal charge of R4,25 an X-ray was possible because of Santa's non-profit-making status, and into that charge was built the price of the care and rehabilitation of TB patients.

Thousands of hotel workers go on strike

MATTHEW CURTIN (152)

THOUSANDS of Southern Sun/Holiday Inn workers went on strike yesterday after 75% of SA Commercial and Catering Workers' Union (Saccawu) members voted in favour of action in a ballot last week.

Saccawu national co-ordinator Jeremy Daphne estimated that 4 500 workers took part in the strike yesterday and services in 35 hotels were disrupted.

Southern Sun/Holiday Inn industrial relations spokesman Carl Ludick said 19 hotels out of the 43 with majority Saccawu representation went on strike. The group has 53 hotels.

Workers have gone on strike over pay and conditions. Management's offer stands at a minimum monthly wage of R590 and R100 or 15% increase in wages, whichever is greater.

Saccawu has demanded a minimum wage of R800 and an across-the-board increase of R160, or 18%.

Saccawu insists casual workers be covered by the existing collective bargaining agreement.

Ludick said the agreement would not be extended. The trade's seasonal nature meant large numbers of casual workers were employed and management would entertain only a separate agreement.

Ludick said management's latest wage offer accounted for the company's annual profit margin of between R153m and R188m and given the downturn in the economy and the four- and five-star hotel industry, he was not optimistic further wage concessions could be granted.

The company had made extensive arrangements, including recruiting hotel students and housewives, to ensure hotel ser-



● LUDICK

□ To Page 2

Hotel strike

vices were not seriously affected. All hotels were operating normally yesterday.

Saccawu vice-president Chris Mohulatsi said yesterday the strike would continue indefinitely and no meeting had been arranged to resolve the situation.

Management and Saccawu met last night to decide upon strike conditions. Ludick denied union claims of lock-outs at

some hotels, but said strikers' occupation of hotel staff canteens was unacceptable.

Management would be seeking legal advice if occupations continued.

In Sabie, police fired teargas on 120 toy-toting strikers after protests were made by hotel neighbours. Ludick emphasised management had not called the police.

□ From Page 1

Nafcoc plea for SA to stay labour intensive 152

WILSON ZWANE
and OWEN MAUBANE

NATIONAL African Federated Chamber of Commerce (Nafcoc) president Sam Motsuenyane yesterday urged businesses not to introduce automation and to recognise that SA was a developing country that needed labour intensive industries

"Mechanisation will put thousands of people out of work. Apparent waves of turbulence such as stayaways should not make us lose our sense of reality."

He conceded, however, that he had doubts about the effectiveness of this week's nationwide stayaway called by the ANC-UDF-Cosatu alliance.

"We are all concerned about violence. But I am not convinced that the stayaway will end violence in Natal. I believe that all black leaders should come together and negotiate a peace settlement," Motsuenyane said. (K2A)

Embrace

Asked how Nafcoc saw its role in relation to black political organisations, Motsuenyane said, "We believe that collaboration with all groups, rather than being seen to side with one, serves our best interests." South African Black Taxi Association (Sabta) spokesman Fanyana Shiburi said, "Our membership comes from all black political groups and as such we have to embrace all political ideologies."

PETER DELMAR reports that the PAC, one of the organisations leading opposition to Monday's stayaway, yesterday described the protest as a tactical blunder which had backfired on the ANC.

PAC general secretary Benny Alexander said the ANC claim that the stayaway call met with an overwhelming response was based only on figures for four cities and ignored "the hundreds" of towns and cities where workers did not stay at home.

He believed the greatest failure of the stayaway lay in the fact that Inkatha had not been isolated or that the action had not helped curb violence in the Natal/Kwa-Zulu region.

Business warns on stayaway

152
Dowdham 4/7/90

THE economy and all its players will pay the cost of Monday's stayaway called by the ANC/Cosatu/UDF, the South African Chamber of Business

Sacob suggested that the stayaway cost the country about R750 million in loss of productivity and that the day's action had made no contribution to the end of hostilities and violence in Natal

Violence marred the day's peaceful intentions with reports of arson, sabotage, violence and death filtering in from all over the country

The police unrest report noted an alarming increase in violence for the 24-hour period ending at midnight on Monday.

The police report said one person was killed yesterday. The name of the dead person was withheld

Strike hits Sun hotels

MORE than 6 000 Southern Sun Hotel employees countrywide began a wage-related strike yesterday. (152)

The South African Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers' Union held a strike ballot last week after a conciliation board failed to resolve the wage dispute.

On deadlock, management offered an across-the-board monthly increase of R100 or 15 percent, whichever was greater. *Sowetan* 4/7/90

Saccawu was demanding R160 a month more and a minimum wage of R800 a month. (153)

A major issue in dispute was the union's demand for an end to fixed-term contract labour. - *Sowetan* Correspondent. (154)

Strike on Anglo farm

By CHIARA CARTER
WORKERS downed tools at Anglo American's Groot Drakenstein operations this week to demand the dismissal of an employee who allegedly assaulted a shop steward. 152

50-11-7190
A spokesperson for the Food and Allied Workers' Union (Fawu) said the branch secretary, Ms Lizzie Phuke, had seen a man assault the branch vice-chairperson last Friday

South
A spokesperson for the National Union of Wine, Spirit and Allied Workers (Nusaw) said about 1 000 workers downed tools on Monday to demand the man's dismissal

Suspended

Anglo American human resources manager, Mr Mark Allen, confirmed there had been a work stoppage involving about 200 workers

He said that after the incident the alleged assailant was suspended with full pay.

He was subsequently dismissed after being found guilty at a disciplinary hearing

Meanwhile a consumer boycott is looming in the liquor industry where the National Union of Wine, Spirit and Allied Workers is poised to take strike action at 83 wineries and depots which form part of the Wine and Spirits Industry Employers' Association

The move follows a breakdown in annual wage negotiations



On strike for more money . . a Southern Suns worker displays a placard outside Jan Smuts Airport Hotel yesterday.

Management warns hotel 'sit-in' strikers

By Shareen Singh

Southern Sun management yesterday warned striking workers to leave company premises or face an eviction order, company spokesman Mr Karl Ludick said.

The South African Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers' Union (Saccawu) and Southern Sun failed to reach agreement on Tuesday over strike rules and access to canteens.

Yesterday, the company warned workers that their sit-in was in breach of strike rules.

Saccawu spokesman Allan Horwitz said Southern Sun had locked out workers at 43 hotels. The union yesterday threa-

tened "serious confrontation" if the lock-out continued.

Mr Ludick said not allowing workers on hotel premises did not constitute a lock-out.

Workers at 18 hotels staged canteen sit-ins, Mr Horwitz said.

Teargas

Johannesburg Sun workers held an overnight sit-in at the hotel canteen because management threatened to lock them out, the union said.

Police fired teargas at workers outside the Sabie River Bungalows in the Eastern Transvaal, resulting in four workers being sent to hospital.

At the Harrismith Holiday Inn police allegedly evicted striking workers from a canteen.

Sixty workers were detained at the Ermelo Holiday Inn and four picketing outside the Cape Sun were arrested yesterday.

Both management and the union estimated about 5 500 workers were on strike.

Workers were demanding an across-the-board increase of R160 a month, an end to contract labour and the reinstatement of 107 dismissed workers.

Management offered an increase of R100 a month or 15 percent, whichever was the greater.

● Picture by Sean Woods

STAR
5/7/90

dent Guillermo Endara

CH-7-1-5 5/7/90 **Boland wine strike ends**

JOHANNESBURG — Workers at Anglo-American Farms Ltd's Groot Drakenstein Estate near Franschhoek, which includes Boschendal, have gone back to work after a two-day work stoppage.

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NEWS

Durban braces for July onslaught

By Norman Chandler,
Pretoria Bureau

The violence in Natal is not expected to have a major effect on the July holiday season and it is hoped that strikes at some of Durban's top hotels will be resolved by the time Transvaal holidaymakers reach resort areas this weekend. Durban publicity chiefs say they believe the season will be "reasonably good".

Long-term prospects on the weather coast augured well "compared to the weather being experienced in other parts of the country", they claim.

Bookings at hotels and resorts are heavy although some accommodation is still available. Bids to overcome the strike action, which began at Holiday Inns throughout the country earlier this week, were being made.

The companies involved have a number of hotels, resorts and time-share establishments throughout the province.

Strike

The strike, calling for higher wages, has been called by the SA Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers' Union.

Hotel accommodation in Durban this weekend, when the Durban July Handicap will be run, is almost unobtainable. Natal north and south coast resorts are about 80 percent full for the period July 9 to 22.

Satour says Drakensberg resorts have rooms available but advance booking was essential.

Satour has established a Natal Holiday Hotline, from which details of accommodation can be obtained. The telephone number is Durban (031) 304-7144.

Worker action spreads over pay negotiations

By Brendan Templeton
and Shareen Singh

Major industrial sectors are bracing themselves for a growing wave of industrial action as annual wage negotiations deadlock.

At least 25 000 workers have already gone on strike and about 472 000 are in dispute or deadlock.

● The catering sector has at least 13 000 workers like at OK Bazaars and Southern Suns

● About 5 400 liquor workers of the National Union of Wine, Spirits and Allied Workers' Union have voted for strike action

● A strike is looming at Checkers after workers started a strike vote last week. The SA Commercial Catering and Allied Workers' Union (Saccawu) said ballot results received so far showed overwhelming

support for strike action.

● Saccawu is also involved in disputes at Edgars, Metro Cash and Carry, Frasers and Fairways

● The National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) and National Union of Metalworkers (Numsa), have expressed dissatisfaction with final wage offers

● 3 000 Cobra Watertec workers in Springs and Krugersdorp downed tools yesterday over wage demands

Numsa has already declared a dispute with the the Steel and Engineering Industries Federation of South Africa (Seifsa). The negotiations with Seifsa involve more than 200 000 Numsa members.

Wage talks between the 250 000-strong NUM and the Chamber of Mines have reached deadlock.

● See Page 5.

500 jobs at OK on the line as strike continues

(152)

DANIEL FELDMAN

OK BAZAARS would retrench at least 500 workers in the PWV area as "a direct result of the SA Commercial Catering and Allied Workers Union (Saccawu) action" if the strike was not resolved soon, industry and union sources said yesterday.

The troubled retail giant also announced plans to accelerate its programme of closing marginally profitable stores and said three more stores were scheduled for "imminent closure".

OK spokesman Gavin Brown said management would formally advise Saccawu by tomorrow on the specifics of the proposed retrenchments.

He maintained the company was still open to discussions.

"However, the number of retrenchments could quite possibly rise if there is not an early settlement of the strike," said Brown. "Before the strike began OK pointed out the possibility of retrenchments, so this should not be seen as an opportunity to break the strike, but as a quite natural occurrence."

Saccawu national organiser Jeremy Daphne confirmed the union had been told informally of the retrenchment plan, but said it was unfortunate the company proposed it "at a point when we are both trying to find creative solutions to our dispute".

He stressed: "To date store closures have not involved any job loss. Once the union has received full information it will carry out consultations with membership to formulate a position."

OK disclosed the retrenchment plan yes-

□ To Page 2

OK jobs

terday at a meeting with Saccawu representatives to discuss store closures. Since January, OK has closed four stores, and two others — one in Pretoria and one in Durban — are to close this month.

Brown said 18 stores were targeted for closure at the beginning of the year because they were no longer profitable, were older than the other stores, or the demographics affecting the stores' customers had changed. After the three stores announced yesterday had closed, the remaining nine closures "would proceed with all due haste".

OK and Saccawu representatives will meet tomorrow to resume wage negotia-

tions adjourned last Thursday. The strike involves about 7 000 workers at 131 stores.

In other disputes involving Saccawu members, strike balloting has not yet been completed among Checkers employees, though Daphne said "results so far indicate an overwhelming majority in favour of industrial action". It was expected the ballot would be completed today.

A final meeting will be held today to resolve the dispute between Saccawu and Edgars, which involves about 3 000 workers. Mediation is also under way between Saccawu and Metro Cash 'n Carry and Frasers Mine stores and warehouses, involving about 6 000 people.

□ From Page 1

Stayaway cost workers R100m in pay ^{810am 517190} Sacob ⁽¹⁵²⁾

WORKERS lost an estimated R100m in wages on Monday when they stayed away from work, the SA Chamber of Business (Sacob) said yesterday.

Sacob economist Ben van der Walt said if it was accepted that three-million workers heeded the protest call, and that they had an average daily wage of between R25 and R30 each, then income lost to workers was in the region of R100m.

"It is not hurting the government, but all people including the very poor who feel the loss most," said Van der Walt.

"If it hurts the total economy, then it hurts everybody, and it hurts the possibility of redistribution of income and the tax situation," he added.

A Cape Chamber of Industry spokesman said that the clothing industry in the Western Cape had not been affected although the industrial sector had been hit by the stayaway.

"It is difficult to quantify the losses in terms of wages, but from the companies we surveyed, there appeared to have

LINDEN BIRNS

been a 15% to 20% stayaway in the Western Cape," she added.

Workers in the motor manufacturing industry recorded pay losses estimated at R1,16m on Monday.

Nissan declared Monday a no-work-no-pay day and reported a stayaway by about 4 000 workers out of their 5 000 staff, an 80% absence, with the day's wage loss estimated at R221 400.

Policy

Volkswagen reported a 100% stayaway on its production line, with wage losses totalling about R300 000 for the eight-hour shift, excluding overtime.

Samcor PR Ruben Els said Samcor suffered a 90% stayaway, with 3 255 of their 3 500 workers incurring a wage loss of between R157 000 and R165 000 for the day.

Mercedes Benz workers lost R210 000 in pay after all 3 500 production staff members went on strike, representing a

100% stayaway.

A company spokesperson said that after negotiation with Numsa, a no-work-no-pay policy had been adopted.

Toyota Manufacturing SA also took up a no-work-no-pay policy, closing the factory on Monday. According to a company spokesman, production staff forfeited about R250 000.

Law and Order spokesman Brig Leon Mellet said there was "no excuse for stayaways."

"If one takes the estimated cost to SA on Monday, and turns that money over to the SAP, it would help us police the situation better. We've asked for money before, but never received R750m."

ANC spokesman Joel Netshitenze said workers had voted with their feet in favour of the stayaway.

"They said a day away from work was worth sacrificing if it meant that thousands of lives in Natal could be saved by bringing about peace in the region," he explained.

He dismissed police claims that intimidation played a major deciding factor for workers who did not report

Wineries hit by a union go-slow

By Dan 5/11/90 DANIEL FELDMAN *152*

ABOUT 5 400 National Union of Wine Spirits and Allied Workers (Nuwsaw) members have embarked on a go-slow, refusing to work overtime at 83 wineries and depots after a 76% strike vote last week.

Nuwsaw president November Nkosi said the union would decide at a meeting tomorrow when strike action would be taken, but warned the imminent strike could commence within the next few weeks.

SA Wine and Spirits Industry Employers' Association spokesman Riaan Kruger said employers were willing to continue negotiations.

He said the go-slow had started at a number of depots in the Transvaal already, but supplies "had not been affected significantly".

The union has demanded a R40-a-week, across-the-board wage increase as well as 20 working days annual leave after 10 years' service, with increases made retrospective from April 1. The offer of a R33-a-week, across-the-board increase was rejected by union members.

The industry's offer included an increase of 18,7% on minimum wages to an inclusive annual package in excess of R12 000 for employees with five years of service, reduced hours, payment to female employees on confinement leave, paternity leave and improved retrenchment benefits, Kruger said.

Current wages range from R177 to R299 a week.

Stayaway showed 'extreme concern'

JOHANNESBURG — This week's national stayaway by about three-million workers demonstrates the "extreme concern" over the war in Natal. *South 5/7-11/7/90*

This was said in a statement by the Congress of South African Trade Unions, the United Democratic Front, and the African National Congress.

They issued a joint call for a one day stayaway to pressure the government to end the violence in Natal.

The statement said the million of workers decided to stay away despite the massive propaganda campaign against the action launched by the SABC and other mass media, by the government and by organisations like Inkatha, Pan Africanist Movement and AZAPO.

Threats by employers and a massive show of force by the security forces also failed to intimidate "our people into abandoning this action," the statement added.

It said the response demonstrated "unequivocally" the extent of mass support for the programmes and policies of Cosatu, UDF and ANC. "On the other hand, those organisations who chose to oppose the stayaway call, have clearly demonstrated that they are totally out of touch with the feelings of the communities they claim to represent."

"It was one of the largest stayaways ever in South African history, it was conducted in a peaceful and disciplined, and it focussed national and international attention on an issue which hitherto had been incorrectly portrayed as a "Natal problem", the organisations said in the statement.

On Monday, members of the Support group attempted to hand over food for the baby and clothing for Gunn at security police headquarters in Cape Town.

"We were turned away for the second time. Last week we tried to deliver clothing for the baby and police would not take it," said a member of the group.

"The security police said they were providing clothing for Shirley and food for her baby."

"They said they will only deal directly with her family even though we took her family's lawyer with us."

Gunn's mother, Mrs Audrey Gunn, who was with her when she was detained, is not in Cape Town to negotiate with police on her daughter's behalf.

Members of the support group held a picket on Monday and Wednesday calling for her release.

Cop raid yields toy gun

POLICE this week raided the home of an ANC legal department member in search of arms - but all they came up with was a toy gun.

Its owner, 13-year-old Sunnyboy Nkosi was briefly held and later released.

According to the latest Human Rights Commission report the home of Matthew Phosa, in Kanyamazane near Nelspruit, was raided by police who arrived in eight army vehicles, four of them hippos at about 11am on July 3. *South 5/7-11/7/90*

Phosa, who is serving on the ANC steering committee group, formed after the Groote Schuur meeting with the government, was not at home when the incident happened.

An ANC spokesperson said the police and army units had demanded to search the house in spite of residents having refused to allow them into the house without a search warrant.

Hotels consider taking legal action against sit-in strikers

SOUTHERN Suns/Holiday Inn management were considering legal action last night against 1 000 striking Saccawu hotel workers who defied a management ultimatum to end sit-ins by 4pm.

Company industrial relations spokesman Carl Ludick said all legal options would be considered against the strikers, who had occupied staff canteens in 13 hotels mostly in the PWV area and the Free State.

Saccawu spokesman Alan Horwitz said yesterday strikers would continue their sit-ins "as a matter of principle".

Horwitz condemned management's approach, which included denying strikers access to telephones and toilets as typical of the company's strong-arm tactics in industrial relations.

The growing tension in what is the largest strike to affect Southern Suns/Holiday Inns — Saccawu said yesterday the strike had spread to 38 hotels

MATTHEW CURTIN
and TRACY MELASS

involving 5 500 workers — comes after both sides failed to reach agreement on strike conditions on Tuesday night.

Ludick said the company was adamant strikers could not have access to hotel premises and regretted Saccawu's intransigence. He said the company was prepared to discuss the questions of picketing and use of hotel facilities.

He added despite union assurances that strikers would not disrupt hotel services, there had been a substantial number of incidents yesterday with numerous complaints from hotel guests and intimidation of working staff.

Horwitz said four strikers were arrested for picketing in Cape Town.

Yesterday, management at the Johannesburg Sun, Sandton Sun and the Downtown Holiday Inn said hotel services were operating normally.

13/04/79 577190

OK threatens to retrench strikers

OK Bazaars has threatened striking workers with retrenchment if the strike does not end soon, according to Mr Jeremy Daphne of the SA Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers' Union (SCCAU).

The union met the company yesterday to start negotiations on store closures.

To date, store closures have not involved any job loss. Once the union has received full information it will carry out consultations with membership to formulate a position," Daphne said.

The OK strike involves more than 7,000

JEREMY DAPHNE

workers in 131 stores. Daphne said permission for strikers to picket had been refused in many towns, and claimed "harassment of pickets continues in outlying regions".

The chain store's negotiator Mr Gavin Brown was not immediately available for comment. Sapa

JOHANNESBURG

Unionists were dispersed or detained in several incidents yesterday, more unions are set to strike and thousands of workers might be faced with retrenchment as industrial action hotspots up across South Africa.

An SA Commercial Catering and Allied Workers' Union (Saccawu) spokesman said the outcome of a strike ballot by Checkers workers would be made known today.

The union is deadlocked with Checkers management over an R830 minimum wage and a R165 wage increase.

Striking Southern Sun workers were given until 4pm yesterday to vacate Sun premises or the

Police action, more pickets in SA strikes

CMT Files 5/7/80 152

company would "utilise available remedies".

The dispute concerns worker access to company canteens.

Strikers were yesterday teargassed by police at Southern Sun's Sabie River bungalows, and the union claims 60 workers were detained while picketing outside the Ermelo Holiday Inn.

Meanwhile, the union says OK Bazaars has threatened retrenchment unless the strike

action at that company ends soon.

In the Eastern Cape, garbage is piling up with 3000 SA Municipal and Allied Workers' Union members apparently deadlocked in negotiations with the Port Elizabeth Municipality.

The union is demanding a R300-a-month increase and a minimum wage of R750.

A National Union of Wine Spirits and Allied Workers spokesman said

yesterday that a decision would be taken tomorrow as to when its strike would start.

The union is demanding an 18,7% minimum wage increase.

About 2000 Transnet workers in Cape Town who marched to deliver a petition to the company's MD, demanding increased wages, were dispersed by police.

They would strike if demands were not met, they said — Sapa

Strikes hit hotels

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South 57-11-790

By CHIARA CARTER
WHILE more than 20 000 workers are on strike at shops and hotels around the country, thousands of other workers are poised to join the wave of militant action that is sweeping the retail and catering industries.

About 5 500 workers at 38 Southern Suns hotels downed tools on Tuesday in support of wage demands.

The workers, members of the South African Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers' Union (Saccawu), are demanding a minimum wage of R800 a month and a R160 across-the-board increase.

The Southern Suns' final offer stands at R100 or 15 percent

The present minimum is R590

Saccawu also wants the hotel group to agree to let casual workers have union representation and to phase out sub-contracting

Clashed

Hours after the strike began, management and the union clashed over the presence of strikers on company premises

Workers are sitting in at 18 hotels, including the Cape Sun

A Saccawu spokesperson said seven workers were injured when police teargassed 120 workers at the Southern Suns hotel in Sabie on Tuesday

Detained

He said that 60 workers were detained for taking part in an illegal gathering at the Ermelo Holiday Inn and that four workers were arrested at the Cape Sun

● Meanwhile, as the month-old OK Bazaars strike involving about 7 500 workers continues, about

10 000 workers at 177 Checkers stores around the country are about to begin the first-ever strike at the company

They include workers at 15 Checkers stores in Cape Town

A Saccawu spokesperson said that preliminary ballot results indicated the majority of workers were in favour of industrial action

Breakdown

The move follows a breakdown in a conciliation board hearing aimed at resolving a deadlock over wages

The union is demanding an across-the-board increase of R165 a month and a minimum wage of R830

Checkers has offered a minimum wage of R765 and an across-the-board increase of R135 a month with an additional R5 next year

Edgars

A strike could also be on the cards at Edgars where last week a conciliation board hearing on a wage dispute ended without agreement being reached

Conciliation board hearings are scheduled to take place this week in wage disputes between Saccawu and the Metro Cash and Carry group, Frasers and Fairways stores

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LIVING WAGE
BALTIMORE AIRCOIL

BALTIMORE
AIRCOIL Co.
ARE
ID AGIC T

GRIEVANCES: Workers demonstrate
outside Baltimore plant in Philippi

A WEEK-LONG strike
by workers at an Ameri-
can multinational com-
pany factory in Philippi
ended on Wednesday.

About 30 workers downed
tools at the Baltimore Air-
coil factory last Tuesday
over a dispute about the rec-
ognition of a semi-perma-
nent shop steward at the
plant

The workers had previ-
ously agreed to drop the
dispute if the company
agreed to pay all workers
the same attendance bonus

A spokesperson for the
Metal and Electrical Work-
ers' Union of South Africa
(Mewusa) said the strike was
over "principles rather than
pay"

"We believe the

Strike at US firm called off

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South 517-1117-7190
company's policy of paying
higher earners a larger at-
tendance bonus than lower-
paid workers is discrimina-
tory," he said

The company was using
"apartheid legislation" to
prevent the union from tak-
ing strike action over a dis-
pute about the grading sys-
tem, he claimed.

The company has denied
this, saying the union can-

not go on strike over the
grading issue because it is
covered in the industrial
council agreement

About 30 of the strikers
demonstrated outside the
US embassy in Cape Town
at lunchtime on Thursday
last week.

They gave a memoran-
dum listing their grievances
to a member of the
embassy's diplomatic staff

Liquor firms await strike

Sowetan 517190

152

THE South African liquor industry will only know tomorrow when to expect strike action by their workers following a successful ballot by the National Union of Wine, Spirits and Allied Workers' Union.

Workers are currently on a go-slow and the union has placed a ban on overtime.

Union president Mr November Nkosi said at the Press conference in

Johannesburg yesterday they would only announce the starting date for strike action tomorrow.

Nkosi said 76 percent of the union's members in 83 plants nationally had voted for strike action in a ballot completed last week.

The 5 400-member union is demanding a R40 a week across-the-board increase against the

employer association's offer of R33

Nkosi said the union had asked Mr Anton Rupert and Mr Sol Kerzner, shareholders in some of the companies involved in the wage dispute, to intervene.

It had also demanded 20 working days' leave for all workers with 10 or more years service but the employer association had refused to meet this demand - Sapa

Stayaway a success — but not for black unity

South 517-111790

(152)

ANC estimated three million workers throughout the country heeded the call for a national stayaway to demand peace in Natal, thereby confirming the ANC has massive support countrywide.

The response, which varied between 70 percent and almost 100 percent in all major centres except Cape Town where absenteeism was less than 20 percent, has placed Inkatha on the defensive.

In Natal itself, between 80 and 90 percent of workers stayed away and more than half of Durban's businesses were closed for the day.

The government now faces tremendous pressure to solve the Natal situation before the negotiating process is derailed.

The MDM grouping has placed the blame for the situation squarely on Inkatha and holds the government directly responsible for Inkatha.

Whereas there were attempts at rapprochement in the past, the stayaway signals a far more aggressive policy towards Kwazulu Chief Minister Gatsha Buthelezzi and the Natal warlords.

Meanwhile the response by the PAC, Azapo and Nactu to the call has made the prospects of unity within the black liberation struggle more remote.

All three organisations last week came out against the stayaway, saying workers had not been properly consulted and that the ANC should sit down and talk with Inkatha.

WHILE Cosatu, the UDF and the ANC have emerged greatly strengthened from Monday's stayaway, the prospect of black unity has become more remote, reports CHIARA CARTER:

There is some merit to Nactu's argument that, as a "natural ally" of Cosatu, it should have been consulted or at least briefed on the stayaway plans beforehand. But the offer of the PAC to mediate between the ANC and Inkatha had the ring of political opportunism.

The move evoked an angry response from the ANC/MDM.

At a rally at Athlone stadium in Cape Town on the eve of the stayaway, Sayco president Mr Peter Mokaba accused those who opposed the stayaway of having "crossed the picket lines and joined the enemy".

The stayaway has been the first major national mass action since the unbanning of organisations and release of Mandela earlier this year.

At the Athlone rally, Gwala said it was only through taking such mass action that the national liberation movement would win real power.

Result of strike poll out today

THE outcome of the
countrywide strike ballot
being held at Checkers
Stores will be known
today.

The ballot was taken
after negotiations between
Checkers and the SA
Commercial, Catering
and Allied Workers
Union broke down last
week. Sowetan 5/7/90

Rejected

Negotiations dead-
locked when the union re-
jected an offer of an
across-the-board increase
or R135 from July 1 1990
and a further R5 increase
on January 1 1991.

Saccawu is demanding
a minimum wage of R830
and an across-the-board
increase of R165.

Meanwhile, Check-
ers spokesman said the
ballot was being carried
out in a "very peaceful
and non-confrontational
manner". - Sapa.

20 marches this weekend — all eyes on Vereeniging

By JO-ANNE COLLINGE

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THE programme of popular action for peace in Natal, which started with a massive stayaway on Monday, concludes at the weekend with 20 marches and rallies scheduled to take place across the country. *W/Mail 617-81790*

All eyes will be on the Vereeniging march tomorrow, where permission has allegedly been refused — as it was before the fatal Sebokeng shootings of March 26.

"In Vereeniging the right to march has been always been refused. They even refused OK workers the right to picket in town," Vaal unionist Vavi Zwelinzima told a Johannesburg press conference yesterday.

Zwelinzima said this weekend's march would carry on and, should there be any interference, they would canvass in the area for a consumer boycott.

He said a tentative date had been fixed: for it to start on July 16.

The Daily Mail attempted to confirm that the local authority had refused to allow the march but the chief of traffic and security, Mr JJ Dockel, described as "the only one authorised to comment on such things", was unavailable.

The marches and rallies have been or-

ganised jointly by the African National Congress, the Congress of South African Trade Unions, the United Democratic Front and the South African Youth Congress.

The ANC-aligned group is to seek a meeting with President FW de Klerk on the Natal situation.

They contend that the partisan actions of the police have been crucial to prolonging the strife there.

"We want to make it clear that Law and Order Minister Adriaan Vlok's recent announcement of a 'solution' to the Natal violence is completely off the mark," the organisations stated.

"Sending in 1 000 more policemen, setting up 48 extra police 'strongpoints', and introducing new legislation to 'curb intimidation' can only worsen the situation.

Most of the marches will be heading for police stations where memoranda containing specific demands will be handed in.

Permission has also been refused in Witbank, Ermelo, Middelburg, Vryburg and Orkney, said ANC representative Mohammed Valli Moosa.

"We are putting the authorities to a test," he said.

Delta shuts PE plant after strikers clash with police

By DREW FORREST

DELTA Motor Corporation closed its Port Elizabeth plant after the eruption of a highly significant strike over demands the company join the national bargaining forum in the auto assembly industry.

In a sequel to the strike, which involves 3 000 members of the National Union of Metalworkers, two people were seriously injured and 38 arrested on charges of attending an illegal gathering when police clashed with workers on their way to union offices in the city.

A police representative confirmed tear-gas had been used. The two injured men, hospitalised with multiple fractures, had been accidentally run over by a Casspir, he said.

In a statement, Delta said it closed its plant until further notice after workers walked off the job on Wednesday and returned to the plant yesterday but refused to work.

Discussions on the workers' demands could only take place once workers returned to work, it said.

In line with Numsa's push for central bargaining in the auto assembly industry, workers are demanding Delta join a national bargaining forum comprising

all major manufacturers. Wage negotiations in the forum are under way.

Last year, Delta took supreme court action after attempts to broaden the scope of wage bargaining in the Eastern Cape industrial council by admitting Mercedes Benz and Samcor's Pretoria operation to the Eastern Province Automobile Manufacturers Association (Epama).

In a recent declaratory order, the court ruled the move *ultra vires*. Numsa and employers plan an appeal.

Attempts were also made to reach an industry-wide agreement by negotiating through a sub-committee of the industrial council.

As a provisional step, a separate national forum was formed outside the industrial council to negotiate common-law wage deals. Delta's refusal to join it sparked Numsa threats after its recent bargaining conference that action would be taken against the company.

Numsa's Eastern Cape regional organiser, Dimba Mangqabashana, warned yesterday workers would not resume working until Delta agreed to negotiate.

Delta's resistance to national bargaining meant its wage offer last year was a lot lower than competitors, he said.

Wave of worker action engulfs the Eastern Cape

By PATRICK GOODENOUGH

A MOOD of worker militancy is taking hold in the Eastern Cape, with municipal, health, hotel and metal workers at a motor manufacturing plant out on strike.

The region's busiest hospital, Livingstone, has been targetted for the second time in six weeks, with workers protesting the sacking of 39 staff nurses.

Medical superintendent Dr Graham White said all of the general assistants and many of the nurses were not working.

Workers at two other city hospitals, Dora Ngiza and Provincial, also stopped working to demand that action be taken against the critical shortage of staff at black hospitals. Staff at a number of township clinics joined the action.

Many non-critical cases have had to be sent away, and nursing sisters have had to deal with laundry and cleaning.

White said the 39 nurses had not been retrenched, as they had originally been employed in temporary posts. They had therefore reached the end of their service.

Because of the acute shortage of trained nursing sisters, it was essential that temporary posts be filled by student professional nurses, he said.

Workers are also demanding that something be done about a serious staff shortage at black hospitals. Other demands included that black patients in the overcrowded, understaffed hospitals be accommodated in empty beds in white hospitals.

They said that although hospital apartheid has been certified dead, nothing had

changed

Meanwhile garbage is piling up after a three-day strike by over 2 000 Port Elizabeth municipal workers.

Following a deadlock in wage talks, the workers downed tools. Talks to try end the dispute also broke down, with each side demanding action from the other, before being prepared to capitulate.

The municipality has taken out full-page advertisements in the daily press, asking householders to dispose of their refuse themselves.

The town clerk, Paul Botha, said things were under control.

A South African Municipal Workers' Union (Samwu) representative said the workers were demanding an across-the-board monthly increase of R300, and an additional 20 percent raise.

Members of the Amalgamated Municipal Employees' Association also joined the strike.

The Delta motor corporation suspended production after workers there stopped work to demand that the company participate in wage negotiations on a national level.

Strikes are continuing at the Elizabeth Sun and Holiday Inn hotels, where 300 workers are sitting-in as part of a national wage action.

And about half the workforce at Stellenbosch Farmers Winery were locked out yesterday after refusing to accept a management wage offer. They were later also dispersed by police, and 74 arrested. — Ecna

Wine workers locked out as national strike looms

By DREW FORREST

IN a pre-emptive move, employers yesterday locked out more than 5 000 wine and spirits workers at plants across the country.

Arising from a wage dispute affecting 83 plants of major liquor groups — including Stellenbosch Farmers Winery, Distillers Corporation and Gilbey's — the lockout follows the launch of a national overtime ban and go-slow this week.

The employer move pre-empts a threatened lawful strike — the first across the industry — by members of Nactu's National Union of Wine, Spirits and Allied Workers

Workers reporting for work yesterday were handed a letter barring them from

the premises unless they accepted the SA Wine and Spirits Employer's Association's R33 across-the-board pay offer, which is to be withdrawn next Monday.

The union is demanding R40 a week. It says the current bottom rate is R176.

Charlie Hoeflich, speaking for the association, said there had been a "middling" response to the lockout, but that most Transvaal workers had refused the offer.

Union general secretary Fay Mandy said workers in the Transvaal, Free State and Eastern Cape were holding out. She was awaiting reports from Natal and the union's Western Cape stronghold.

Mandy said the union's national co-ordinating committee would meet today or tomorrow to time strike action.

(152)

W/Mand 6/7/90

Checkers braced for national strike action

CHECKERS management is braced for a nationwide strike to commence today, following the results of a strike ballot released yesterday in which about 80% of SA Commercial Catering and Allied Workers' Union (Saccawu) members voted in favour of industrial action.

And in unrelated action, more than 5 000 National Union of Wine Spirit and Allied Workers (Nuwsaw) members were locked out of liquor companies nationwide, while Southern Sun/Holiday Inn secured an interdict yesterday entitling the company to evict striking Saccawu members from its Transvaal hotels.

In the case of the Checkers dispute, Saccawu national organiser Jeremy Daphne said approximately 7 200 of the 9 200 ballots cast favoured strike action. Of Checkers 15 000 Checkers employees at 177 stores, almost 11 000 are Saccawu members.

Checkers spokesman Adele Gouws confirmed the results of the ballot, but would not elaborate on management's response.

Meanwhile, OK Bazaars and Saccawu representatives will meet today in an attempt to resolve the strike of 7 000 employees at 131 stores.

And a dispute was declared with Trador Cash 'n Carry, paving the way for strike ballots to be conducted among 1 000 Saccawu members next week, Daphne said.

He said negotiations were still taking place with Edgars, and strike ballots could be conducted soon if negotiations failed. Approximately 3 000 Saccawu members are involved in the dispute.

Yesterday more than 5 000 Nuwsaw members were locked out of liquor com-

DANIEL FELDMAN
and OWEN MAUBANE

panies nationwide by SA Wine and Spirit Employers' Association member industries.

Nuwsaw president November Nkosi said employer representatives would meet union leaders today.

The lock-out follows a 76% vote in favour of strike action by union members last week. The 5 400 employees have been conducting a go-slow this week at 83 wineries and depots, and a decision on when to go on strike will be made today.

Employers' Association spokesman Riaan Kruger said Nuwsaw members at 10 of the depots had accepted the employers' offer, but the total number of affected employees was only a few hundred.

Peaceful

In the PWV area, 1 200 employees were locked out of the Distiller's and Stellenbosch Farmers Winery in Wadeville.

Nuwsaw general secretary Fatima Mandy said most of the lock-outs were peaceful.

MATTHEW CURTIN reports that Southern Sun/Holiday Inn secured an interdict yesterday from the Pretoria Supreme Court entitling the company to evict striking Saccawu members from all 19 hotels in the Transvaal.

Yesterday over 5 500 union members at 39 hotels countrywide continued industrial action over pay and conditions.

Company industrial relations spokesman Carl Ludick said management was considering strategies last night.

Colliery strike ballot on cards

ALAN FINE

152

THE wage dispute between the NUM and the Chamber of Mines in respect of gold mines has been resolved. However, the union is holding out for more from collieries and is gearing up for a strike ballot among its 35 000 affected members.

NUM assistant general secretary Marcel Golding said last night the union had just conveyed its stance to the chamber.

In terms of the gold mine deal, workers stand to receive increases ranging from 14.5% to 17% *6/7/90*

However, in response to an equivalent offer for colliery workers, the union's 20% demand remained on the table.

"Coal mines are much more profitable than the gold mines now. But they pay substantially less than gold mines for the same class of work, and this is a good opportunity for these disparities to be narrowed," Golding said.

The NUM accepted all other facets of the chamber's last offer.

This included a five percentage point increase in holiday leave allowance, the establishment of a working committee to investigate unresolved proposals on skills development and education of black miners, and Gold Fields coming into line with other mining houses on terms for mine accident leave agreed between the NUM and the remainder of the industry in 1986.

On hours of work the NUM would "comply with the existing agreement" on a 96-hour fortnight, Golding said. However, it seemed this could lead to a work-to-rule given union allegations of widespread contraventions of the agreement.

Golding said the union remained open to further talks on colliery wages.

A chamber spokesman said employers were still studying the NUM response and were not ready to comment.

Workers strike nationwide for more pay

152 154 157
LH-Tri
6/7/90

JOHANNESBURG — Workers at 177 Checkers stores throughout the country are likely to follow OK Bazaars workers in a nationwide strike following a union ballot showing 80% support for action. OK Bazaars management yesterday acknowledged the likelihood of retrenchments if the 31-day-old strike involving 7 500 workers did not end soon.

Southern Sun yesterday obtained a court order to remove 1 900 sit-in strikers from 19 hotels in the Transvaal and is considering similar action in the Western Cape at the Cape Sun, Inn On The Square, Newlands Sun and other hotels.

The Catering and Allied Workers' Union is demanding a minimum salary of R950 a month. The company is offering a maximum of R815.

By yesterday morning the strike had spread to 35 of the company's hotels and 4 900 workers.

The liquor industry is also facing a major strike following a ballot. Members of the Union of Wine, Spirits and Allied Workers were locked out yesterday after wage talks ended in deadlock.

Meanwhile, municipal strikes in Bellville and Port Elizabeth and a strike at Port Elizabeth hospitals continued yesterday.

Negotiations have begun to resolve the work stoppage by Belleville municipality's cleansing, roads and refuse staff.

A Municipal Workers' Union official said a statement would be made after a delegation had visited the Civic Centre.

● The National Union of Mineworkers said yesterday that it had accepted a pay offer for gold miners but not for coal miners — Sapa and Staff Reporter

Workers sleep-in at Checkers

By Brendan Templeton

A sleep-in was staged at Checkers head office by members of the South African Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers Union (Saccawu) last night, after management refused to meet them in a last-ditch attempt to avoid a legal strike.

In a nationwide ballot yesterday, 80 percent of Saccawu's membership of about 9 500 called for a strike.

Saccawu warned in a statement it would embark on the strike if the proposed meeting with management did not bear fruit.

Saccawu spokesman Jeremy Daphne said the wave of unrest being experienced by the retail industry was the worst it had suffered since the early '80s when unions were fighting for recognition rights.

Municipal strikes hit PE and Cape

star 6/7/90

By Shareen Singh

The public sector has been hit by major strikes in Port Elizabeth and Cape Town involving municipal and hospital workers.

More than 3 000 workers at Port Elizabeth Municipality downed tools demanding higher wages.

A union official from the South African Municipal Workers Union (Samwu) said workers demanded a wage rise of R300 across-the-board and a minimum monthly wage of R750. The minimum wage at the municipality ranged between R362 and R550.

The union said 46 strikers had been arrested.

Garbage was piling up in the suburbs of Port Elizabeth and municipal authorities urged residents to assist in refuse removal.

Essential services at the city's two black hospitals have been cut after a strike by nurses and other employees.

Livingstone Hospital staff downed tools demanding the reinstatement of 36 nurses dismissed after attending a meeting at Uitenhage hospital, which authorities said was illegal.

About 413 nursing staff and other employees at Port Elizabeth Provincial Hospital and about

390 workers at Dora Ngiza Hospital downed tools in solidarity with Livingstone workers.

Several wards had to be closed at Livingstone Hospital and services in casualty had to be curtailed.

At Dora Ngiza where workers are staging a sit-in, only a skeleton staff is working.

Outside the public sector, 3 000 motor industry workers are also on strike at Delta Motor Company in Port Elizabeth over a demand for the company to participate in the industry's bargaining forum.

Flexing

In Cape Town, workers at Bellville Municipality went on strike yesterday, while wage negotiations between Samwu and management were in progress.

Railway workers in the region are also flexing their muscles. Transnet employees marched to management offices this week to deliver their wage demands.

The South African Railway and Harbour Workers Union (Sarwhu) said this was meant to pressure management while the union was involved in national wage negotiations with Transnet.

PE disrupted by municipal strike

South 57-11790

PORT ELIZABETH. — The city here was hit by two major strikes this week as health and municipal workers flexed their collective muscle to highlight wage and other grievances.

The Eastern Cape's busiest hospital was targeted for the second time in two months, with

workers this time protesting against the termination of service of 39 staff nurses.

Livingstone Hospital superintendent Dr Graham White said all the general assistants and many nurses were not working.

Workers at the Dora Ngiza hospital also stopped working to demand that

action be taken against the critical shortage of staff at "black" hospitals.

Staff at several township clinics joined the action.

Although the Livingstone strike began on Monday, its effect was only felt the next day because of the national stay-away.

On Tuesday the situation worsened, with many non-critical cases sent away — including patients brought in by ambulance from distant towns. Laundry began to run short.

Dr White said the 39 nurses had not been retrenched, as they had originally been employed in temporary posts. They had therefore reached the end of their service.

Because of the acute shortage of trained nursing sisters, it was essential that temporary posts be filled by student professional nurses, he said.

National Health, Education and Allied Workers' Union (Nehawu) members held talks with hospital authorities to try to resolve the strike.

Refuse

Workers' other demands included that black patients in the overcrowded, understaffed black hospitals be accommodated in empty beds in white hospitals.

Meanwhile more than 2 000 employees of the Port Elizabeth municipality downed tools on Tuesday, after wage talks broke down last week.

Uncollected refuse began to pile up and the municipality announced an "emergency plan" which required householders to dump their own refuse.

A South African Municipal Workers' Union (Samwu) spokesperson said the workers were demanding an across-the-board monthly increase of R300, and an additional 20 percent raise.

Members of the Amalgamated Municipal Employees' Association also joined the strike — PEN

Crackdown on returning activists

MORE than 20 people have detained under Section 29 of the Internal Security in a crackdown believed to be linked to the return of ANC member not on a government approved list.

Almost all the detentions have taken place in the past week, the Human Rights Commission says in its weekly report.

Among those detained are Western Cape activist Shirley Gunn, United Democratic Front activist and first president of the Congress of South African Students Ephraim Mogale, National Democratic Lawyer's member J B Sebanyoni, unionist, Edna Sethema, teacher, Morgan Mathebe, students, Thomas Mabeka, Calvin Mlato, William Manthusa, Mathebula, Ishmael Risiba, Johannes Sono, Edwin Radebe, Jappie

Sethshedi, Tshepo Molomane, Tshepo Mathlala, Piet Mathebe, Isaac Ditshego, Johannes Makila, Andre Ramalekana, Buurman Mathebe, Margaret Mathebe, and Rufus Pilusa.

The HRC report that 69 people are currently being held under Section 29 of the Internal Security.

Slammed

Meanwhile, members of the Shirley Gunn Support Group have slammed the police for refusing to deal with them in the absence of her family.

Gunn, a former trade unionist, was detained on June 25. She and her 15-month-old baby Haroon are being held in terms of Section 29 of the Internal Security Act.

On Monday, members of the Support group attempted to hand over food for the baby and clothing for Gunn at security police headquarters in Cape Town.

"We were turned away for the second time. Last week we tried to deliver clothing for the baby and police would not take it," said a member of the group.

"The security police said they were providing clothing for Shirley and food for her baby.

"They said they will only deal directly with her family even though we took her family's lawyer with us."

Gunn's mother, Mrs Audrey Gunn, who was with her when she was detained, is in Cape Town to negotiate

Stayaway showed 'extreme concern'

JOHANNESBURG — This week's national stayaway by about three-million workers demonstrates the "extreme concern" over the war in Natal. South 57-11790

Southern Sun obtains court interdict over striker sit-ins

Star 6/7/90

By Shareen Singh

Southern Sun Hotel Corporation obtained an interim interdict yesterday against the South African Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers' Union for the removal of 4 500 strikers from 19 hotels in the Transvaal and may consider similar action in Cape Town and the Free State

Saccawu members have been holding sit-ins at hotel canteens during the day

At the Johannesburg Sun more than 250 workers have been sleeping in the hotel canteen since the strike started on Tuesday.

Saccawu said its members had occupied hotel canteens demanding management allow strikers at all hotels access to its premises to hold meetings.

Incidents of clashes between police and strikers were reported at Sabie River Bungalows, Harrismith Holiday Inn and Ermelo Holiday Inn

THE ANC STAYAWAY

F/M 6/7/90

Nought for Natal

(152) (152)

Apart from the loss of wages and production — the effects of which will ripple detrimentally through the economy — the ANC-inspired work stoppage on Monday over the violence in Natal has achieved nothing (see *Current Affairs*). The issue certainly does not need to be highlighted. It is already a constant source of dismay to ordinary people.

As in so much of what it says, the ANC contradicts itself over Natal. It wants the violence to end, yet in almost the same breath it calls for the lifting of the State of Emergency and the removal of the most effective troops and police from the area.

In addition, it is an organisation that espouses violence quite openly. Nelson Mandela makes common cause with such notorious and celebrated terrorists as Gaddafi in Libya, Castro in Cuba and now the IRA. To crown his diplomatic triumphs he has only to support the Baader-Meinhof gang and he would have made another friend for President F W de Klerk (see below).

Essentially, what the ANC appears to be asking for is the complete withdrawal of the forces of law and order in Natal so that it can itself intimidate or terrorise the local population into its own way of doing things. As conservative Zulus are unlikely to acquiesce, the ANC is requesting a formula for continued bloodshed.

Having said that, we must also admit to some misgivings about the role of the security forces in Natal. Their patent inability to keep the peace is too reminiscent of the deplorable decision not to allow the army to intervene after India's independence when Muslim and Hindu did awful things to one another.

Perhaps the State of Emergency does need to be lifted in Natal. There may be some diplomatic advantages in so doing. But it needs to be replaced by a much firmer martial law enforced by many more army units than are deployed there now. These more stringent security measures would be aimed at breaking the cycle of violence and terror and keeping the peace thereafter.

But, in addition, measures need to be taken also to revive Natal's flagging regional economy which was certainly an early factor in the violence. For after drought and floods had deprived the rural people of even a meagre living from the land, and caused them to swell city populations, an urban mob of unemployed was an easy target for political brigands.

There are already refugee streams out of Maritzburg and benevolent organisations are providing the basics of life for a growing number of dispossessed. Attempts to bolster this aid, if only through public donation, should be given serious consideration. By almost any score Natal is a disaster area. ■

THE STAYAWAY

FIM 6/7/90

What was the point?

152

Now that the ANC has shown it can mobilise support, by whatever means, for a national stayaway, the question remains just what effect has Monday's political mass action had on the stated intention of ending the violence in Natal?



Gumede

Taken at face value, the combined ANC, UDF, Cosatu and SA Youth Congress call for the stayaway was made to support demands aimed at ending the violence and as part of a campaign to "isolate" KwaZulu and Inkatha leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi.

Some of these demands — that the state "disarm" the KwaZulu police and strip Buthelezi of his powers as KwaZulu Minister of Police — are so unrealistic that they were no doubt ruled out long before Monday's stayaway. It's hard to believe that mass democratic movement leaders could seriously believe the State President would even consider such demands.

As for lifting the State of Emergency in Natal, many people would like to see it go — once the violence has subsided. The ANC and (particularly in Natal) the UDF should remember that while it is probably an impossible task to determine who is responsible for the violence, to a greater or lesser extent they are party to that violence and part of the reason why the emergency is still in place.

The remaining demands — that government appoint a commission of inquiry into the violence and that "warlords" be arrested and convicted — do at least warrant serious consideration. But these demands were originally made some time ago by other organisations and have been a continuing concern, which the authorities are well aware of.

As for the "partisan" behaviour of the KwaZulu police, evidence does seem to exist of their frequent siding with Inkatha. But this, too, is an old issue which right now is before the Supreme Court. Whatever the complaints against some individual policemen, the force as a whole is badly needed to cover an already grossly underpoliced area.

To argue that the entire police force should be disarmed because of the alleged actions of some individual members is as ludicrous as suggesting the ANC or UDF or Cosatu be banned because of the actions of some of their members.

More seriously, however, is what the stayaway has actually done to bring a troubled province any closer to peace. At this stage, it appears that, if anything, the divi-

sions which the stayaway caused among political groups across the spectrum will only increase the level of violence and make peace negotiations just that much harder to reach.

Calling on the State to stop the violence is fine. But, as has been shown time and again, increased and, if possible, even more effective policing is only a temporary solution.

The warring parties will have to sort out their own differences before anything like a permanent solution can be found and towards that end the stayaway has contributed nothing. What it has done is make even an extreme group like the PAC sound reasonable (something they probably couldn't have achieved on their own), with its response that the stayaway would only increase the conflict and that the two groups should be talking to each other. Monday's exercise might just add a few members to the PAC's ranks at the expense of the ANC.

Besides claims that the stayaway call was only made after wide consultation and with grassroots support, it has widened splits in the ANC's regional leadership in Natal. Archie Gumede criticised the stayaway, later to be rapped over the knuckles by other ANC leaders for speaking out of turn.

As usual, commerce and industry bore the brunt of Monday's protest. With losses resulting from the stayaway estimated to be around R750m (R100m in Natal alone), business must now be getting more than a

little fed up with having to foot the bill for the latest ANC show of strength.

If the stayaway was meant also to force the business community to become more involved in settling the violence it probably didn't work. What it did do is make further inroads into the level of business confidence and for marginal concerns, probably pushed them closer to shutting down.

The ANC's claim that "the people" showed massive support for its call is also open to debate. Intimidation aside, with both the public and informal transport systems hardly working on Monday, even the most willing workers would have found it difficult to go to work.

For those less willing, a national stayaway call (in winter) is the perfect excuse to take a day off from the factory, regardless of political convictions.

With about 3m people not at work on Monday, lost wages must run high. Employers have adopted the usual policy of "no work, no pay."

If the stayaway was a test by the ANC to see how much support could be mustered, it is playing a dangerous game. Mass action is a potent weapon, which if misused could backfire badly. In the weeks to come, the organisers of this week's stayaway might find out what it has cost them in terms of lost support, from workers and employers alike.

Shaun Harris

BOLAND OBJECT LESSON

FIM 6/7/90

If there's a lesson to be learnt from the continued violence in three small Boland towns this week it is that government decisions to scrap apartheid must be implemented without delay.

Ashton has been troubled by racial strife for months but it flared anew last week when blacks protested at the continued racial segregation of municipal facilities including the public library.

The white-controlled town council claims it has agreed to open all facilities but not until scrapping of the Separate Amenities Act comes into force in October.

Government decided to delay the scrapping to allow local authorities to make the necessary arrangements for the "orderly" opening of facilities. But many black communities see the delay as simply reluctance to move away from apartheid.

Protests in Ashton led to police action

including the use of teargas, shotguns and rubber bullets against protestors who moved into the town centre.

After the damage to race relations had been done, the council announced the immediate opening of all facilities, but demonstrations in the Boland towns are continuing in protest against police behaviour during the earlier community action.

At the weekend protests spread to nearby Robertson and Montagu where blacks also demanded the immediate opening of all civic amenities and reduction of rents.

A recently completed R500 000 post office in Robertson was destroyed by fire on Sunday night and police used shotguns and teargas against groups of youths who barricaded streets with burning tyres.

The ANC has sent senior officials to the area to try to mediate.

Employers go to courts as strike violence rises

SUSAN RUSSELL

THE increase in strikes, worker militancy and violence on the shop floor and outside factory gates has resulted in many companies resorting to the courts to protect property and non-striking employees.

A study of a selection of interim orders granted against strikers in the Rand Supreme Court during the past six months reveals that while companies have not sought to halt strikes themselves by court order, they have used court orders as an instrument to curb strike violence.

Companies have also not sought interdicts against the unions themselves, but in most cases against individual members who have allegedly intimidated non-strikers and scab labour on the shop floor and outside the factory gates.

Affidavits in nine similar applications attest that intimidation and violence is aimed at employees who wish to continue work, and at replacement labour.

The affidavits indicate that for those who choose to work, the trip to and from the factory means the daily threat of possible injury.

Levy, Piron and Associates industrial relations consultant Pat Stone confirms that incidents of strike action have increased, as have worker militancy and strike violence. As reported earlier this week, a study by the firm showed that three times as many man-days were lost in the first six months of this year compared with 1989.

The attendant increase in violence, Stone said, tended to be directed towards non-strikers and scab labour. Where the company was involved in the retail trade, intimidation and acts of violence could also be directed at consumers.

Confronted

Affidavits in support of interim interdicts clearly demonstrate the invidious position in which non-strikers find themselves.

A supervisor in one instance was confronted on the shop floor and told to join the strike.

When he tried to leave for home he was confronted by a group of strikers.

The person at the head of the group threatened him with death and he was then assaulted by the group and subsequently hospitalised.

In an application brought by a cosmetics company, the court was told by way of affidavit that two employees who had chosen not to join an unlawful strike were confronted at their homes by groups of unknown people who threatened to burn down their houses if they went to work.

One labour lawyer recounted an incident in which a non-striker had an arm hacked off by striking colleagues.

Management representatives who deposed to affidavits in two separate applications said their respective companies had approached the police for assistance.

In both cases the police would not act against strikers until management had obtained an order for ejectment against strikers on factory premises, or an interim interdict.

Stone said that while employers had the legal right to continue business operations, the use of scab labour increased the risk of strike violence.

Tension

"As time goes by and strikers see that the employer is continuing with his business, particularly with scab labour, there is obviously a sense of frustration and a propensity towards further violence in an attempt to make the strike more effective," he said.

The increase in tension in labour disputes was not union orchestrated. In most cases the unions attempted to co-operate with employers during a strike.

Violence, he said, was happening on the shop floor while the degree of control unions had over members during a strike tended to ebb and flow.

Unions tended to lose control when frustration levels increased among strikers and they believed the strike might fail.

He also said strike-related intimidation and violence had been brought out into the open in recent months.

"There was a lot of violence and intimidation taking place in the townships even if we couldn't prove it. Now it is coming into the high streets, shopping malls and factory floors," he said.

According to Stone, the terms of interim orders were usually complied with whether or not they were seen as fair and equitable.

Strikers were more likely to comply with the terms of court orders that were clearly enforceable, he said, such as orders for ejectment from factory premises which could be enforced by the police if necessary.

A Johannesburg labour lawyer who acts for a number of large companies said the trend was for interdicts to be obtained only as a last resort to deal with unlawful conduct associated with a strike rather than the strike itself.

Teachers may end strike at start of term

star
6/7/90 Education Reporter

Teachers in coloured schools who have been on a "chalks down" strike for more than a month may resume teaching when schools open for the third term next week.

This follows the meeting between the Progressive Teachers' Union (PTU) and Minister of Education and Culture (House of Representatives) Allan Hendrickse in Cape Town on Wednesday

PTU general secretary Mike Davy said yesterday the meeting was "fairly encouraging" and the Minister conceded five of the seven key short-term demands of teachers.

Mr Davy would not speculate on whether teachers would suspend their action but said a decision would be taken at a mass meeting in Eldorado Park next Tuesday, the day schools reopened for the third term

"We will have to give the department a period of time to see whether the changes are actually implemented," he said.

Mr Davy stressed that the delegation visited the Minister as their employer to resolve an industrial dispute and did not recognise the tricameral Parliament. No breakthrough was made over the demand for full parity in salaries between men and women teachers. The Minister said it was a matter to be investigated by the Minister of National Education.

Lockout follows deadlock

MEMBERS of the National Union of Wine, Spirits and Allied Workers (Nuwsaw) were locked out yesterday morning after wage negotiations between the union and SA Wine and Spirits Industry Employer Association reached deadlock. *Sowetan 6/7/90*

President of Nuwsaw Mr November Nkosi said the lockout came after employees had received letters from employers on Wednesday stating the negotiations between the employer association and Nuwsaw had reached a deadlock.

The letter said as full legal procedure had been followed, the employers could legally lockout Nuwsaw members, just as Nuwsaw could legally call a strike - Sapa

OK strikers may be fired - Union

THERE is a strong possibility of retrenchments at OK Bazaars as the workers' strike enters its 31st day, the company confirmed yesterday

SA Commercial, Catering and Allied Worker Union spokesman Mr Jeremy Daphne revealed on Wednesday the OK had threatened workers with retrenchment if the strike did not end soon

"The union's characterisation of the possible retrenchment of staff in the PWV area as a threat is an unfortunate interpretation of a reality facing the company," OK spokesman Mr Keith Hortshorne said in a statement yesterday.

Reaction

"The retrenchments are no more than a natural consequence of the situation facing the company in the PWV area where the strike is at its most serious"

He said the retrenchments must be seen as a reaction by the company to the effects of the strikers own activities

The union had been advised of the possibility of retrenchments before the strike began

The company suggested that in order to make the process flexible and to ensure job security as far as possible, lay-offs were an appropriate alternative"

Daphne also said

there was an overwhelming vote in favour of a strike so far in the Checkers strike ballot

Although the voting was due to be completed by 1pm yesterday, Daphne said it was "fairly academic"

He said if Saccawu chose to take legal action at this stage, they could do so

* Food and Allied

Workers Union members at Mama's Pies were locked out yesterday, the union claimed

A spokesman at Mama's Pies confirmed the incident but said the issue had been "amicably" resolved.

The union said seven drivers had been dismissed last Thursday for refusing to deliver pies to OK Bazaars - Sapa

Govt still waiting for ANC report - Viljoen

THE Government was still waiting for an ANC's official response to the report of their joint working group, the Minister of Constitutional Development, Dr Gerrit Viljoen, said this week

Viljoen was reacting to a report from London in which a senior spokesman for the ANC, Miss Frene Finwala, alleged that the ANC had proposed several amendments to the report, but had received no comment from the Government.

He said Mr Nelson Mandela had told the State President before leaving for overseas that the ANC would not react to the report before the 10th of this month. He said in the meantime there had been exchanges between representatives of the Government and the ANC serving in the joint working group - Sapa

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Sisulu 'gagged' Gumede

JOHANNESBURG — Internal ANC leader Mr Walter Sisulu said last night that he took responsibility for the "gagging" of Mr Archie Gumede, United Democratic Front co-president.

Mr Gumede was quoted in a Johannesburg newspaper as saying he had been gagged by the UDF and the ANC because he had publicly voiced his disagreement over Monday's national stayaway.

Mr Sisulu said he had spoken to Mr Gumede on Wednesday and expressed the disappointment about the involvement of the press in a

purely domestic matter.

"I told him we will have to exchange views on the manner in which he went to the press and that until such time as we have had a chance to talk he should refrain from discussing the issue in the press," Mr Sisulu said.

He said the difference of opinion between Mr Gumede and the ANC-UDF alliance was in no way a "division in the ranks".

He added that the decision on the stayaway had been democratically canvassed, therefore it had not been appropriate for Mr Gu-

mede to have gone to the press without consulting his colleagues.

He said the democratic character of all ANC decisions allowed for a difference of opinion on strategy, but that once the decision was taken the participants were morally obliged to abide by that decision.

However, he had no doubt that when he and Mr Gumede got together the controversy arising out of Mr Gumede's press statements would be amicably resolved. — Sapa

25 000 out as strikes spread

7/7/80 152
Weekend Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — Labour unrest continued to spread across the country this week, bringing to about 25 000 the number of workers who have downed tools amid sporadic clashes with police.

Labour analysts ascribed the strikes to the annual round of wage negotiations now in full swing, a high inflation rate and heightened expectations following the unbanning of black political organisations this year.

The retail sector continues to be the hardest hit.

About 7 000 OK Bazaars workers have been on strike since June 4. Representatives of the 'South African Commercial Catering and Allied Workers' Union met OK management on Friday but were unable to resolve the dispute.

Saccawu said about 8 000 of its members at Checkers stores were due to begin a strike.

About 5 000 Saccawu members at 38 Southern Suns hotels went out on strike this week.

In Port Elizabeth 3 000 municipal workers are on strike, as are nurses at Livingstone Hospital.

About 2 500 Delta Motor Corporation workers downed tools in Port Elizabeth and about 1 200 Belville municipality workers are out.

Art 7/4/90 7/7/90 152

50 000 SA workers on strike

JOHANNESBURG — Strike action has spread like wildfire across South Africa's labour front.

By yesterday about 50 000 workers had downed tools, and at least one other strike is pending.

In Cape Town, about 1 200 Bellville municipal workers are on a wildcat strike with their representatives still deadlocked with management over wages.

And the National Union of Wine Spirits and Allied Workers (Nuwsaw) will decide today whether workers at six companies will go on strike.

The SA Commercial Catering and Allied Workers Union (Saccawu), whose members are already striking at OK Bazaars,

on Friday downed tools at 177 Checkers stores. More than 8 000 Checkers workers are involved.

And tension is building over Saccawu's Southern Sun strike. The company was on Thursday awarded an interdict from the Johannesburg Supreme Court allowing it to call on police to evict workers staging a sit-in at 19 hotels.

But striking workers who had occupied canteens in the Southern Sun and Holiday Inns group of hotels for three days vacated them last night after a meeting between management and the union.

About 5 500 workers are involved in the Southern Sun strike.

In the Eastern Cape, garbage is piling up on the streets of Port Elizabeth as a result of the strike by about 3 000 municipal workers. Three hospitals have also been affected by strikes.

Also in Port Elizabeth, about 2 500 of the 3 500 workers at Delta Motor Corporation have gone on strike. On Wednesday the workers were dispersed with teargas after gathering in the city.

And in the Free State, a strike by 25 000 mineworkers began yesterday at Harmony Gold Mine.

Mr Jerry Majatladi, press officer of the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM), said the strike was over union recognition and wages — Sapa and Staff Reporter.

Union to discuss strike at Edgars

Str
7/7/90

ABBEY MAKOE

A legal strike is looming at Edgars after two unions, Fedcraw and Saccawu, clashed head-on with the group over wages this week.

The unions demanded a R180 across-the-board increase, and a minimum salary of R900. Edgars group offered a R155 increase across-the-board, and a minimum salary of "not less R700" for new staff members and R800 for current employees.

Unions also demanded recognition of June 16 and March 21 as paid holidays, but Edgars offered to add an extra day to annual leave, which employees could choose to use as they liked.

However, Edgars agreed to pay its employees by the 30th of every month. Workers had before been paid on the "sixth of every new month".

Among the the unions' grievances is the existence of two medical aid schemes. One is said to cater for whites, coloureds and Indians and the other for blacks.

Fedcraw's general secretary, Nat Kettlele, said his union members would be meeting over the weekend to determine whether to develop the "without prejudice" talks or to "embark on a legal strike".

Saccawu could not be reached for comment at the time of going to press.

Stayaway will lead to surge in bloodshed

ST Times 7/1/90
(152)

Sunday Times Reporters
POLICE and the public are bracing themselves for expected clashes between rival political groups during this week's Cosatu-inspired marches and work stayaway.

Law and Order Minister Adriaan Vlok warned yesterday that incidents of intimidation had already begun — despite all parties having endorsed a "live and let live" charter drawn up by the SA Council of Churches.

The ANC, Cosatu and the UDF have called for demonstrations to pressurise the Government into "ending the violence" in Natal, disbanding the KwaZulu Legislative Assembly and suspending the KwaZulu police. But the PAC and Nactu, a trade union federation, have opposed the stayaway.

They say they weren't consulted and that the protests will merely deepen divisions.

Some Inkatha members, outraged by what they see as

an attempt to isolate them, are reportedly girding themselves for trouble.

Police fear violence in Natal could spread country-wide as rival groups pick sides during the stayaway.

Mr Vlok warned that it was clear there was a real threat of serious confrontation and violence this week.

"According to information, incitement and intimidation of innocent workers to obey the call for the stayaway have already started.

"This in itself could lead to renewed violence and bloodshed. Should this happen, the responsibility will surely rest with the organisers," he said.

Natal police commissioner General J C Van Niekerk has assured workers that the security forces will do all in their power to protect people wishing to go to work.

Policemen and troops will be stationed on major transport routes and helicopters will be used to monitor possible disturbances.

By MARION DUNCAN

SOUTH AFRICA's strife-torn economy is being swamped by a rising wave of worker militancy that is unprecedented in its history.

Already this year, 1.2-million man-days have been lost to strikes and stayaways — almost three times the number for the same period last year (463 864) and five times the figure for the second half of 1988 (229 614).

The cost in hard cash is impossible to estimate, but stoppages and reductions in production and loss of sales alone are accounting for tens of millions of rands a day.

And industrial relations experts are not optimistic.

A snap survey by the Sunday Times of a dozen in-house industrial relations (IR) managers and outside consultants produced unanimity on the prospect of things getting worse before they get better.

All were also concerned about the increasing violence connected with industrial action, which several experts described as "very, very ugly".

Said Jackie Kelly of Andrew Levy, Piron & Associates "Now that the latest round of wage talks

is in full swing, the next three months will probably see increased militancy and pressure in the form of strike action and unrest.

"Combined with the tensions arising from the Government's decision not to pass legislation during this current session of Parliament on proposed changes to the Labour Relations Act, this could herald an unprecedented wave of industrial action."

Johan van den Berg, managing director of The Industrial Relations Consultancy, agreed "IR consultants are supposed to act as hope merchants, concentrating on preventive measures. But right now we're not preventing anything. We're working full time put-

ting out fires"

A major concern of everyone involved in IR at the moment is that the unions appear to have lost control of their members.

Said Mr Van den Berg, "Increasingly, members are pressing unions to start now with the redistribution of wealth that they expect as a result of the reform process."

"Since the release of Nelson Mandela, those expectations have been running high — and they are looking at the private sector to fulfil them."

"In the past, union executives have been prepared to negotiate unrealistic demands down to realistic levels. But not any more."

"Now they are sticking with wage demands of 50 to 60 percent,

which are quite impossible to meet

"And the politicisation of the movement is now tremendously hard to deal with. This festering civil war in Natal is actually affecting shop floor relations around the country."

"We have clients in Pietersburg, where there isn't a single Zulu, who are having labour problems because of Natal."

IR experts further agreed that union executives were becoming more difficult to approach: they are not talking to the Press or to private companies without permission from their general secretariats; they are not prepared to have informal discussions on even the most innocuous topics; and they will not even agree to address

Militant unions could leave SA's embattled economy in tatters

tels, city hospitals in the Eastern Cape, and Natal, the Port Elizabeth, and Cape Town municipalities, at Delta Motor Corporation, the Stellenbosch Farmers' Winery, and in schools and manufacturing plants around the country.

There are consumer boycotts in Welkom, Louis Trichardt, Klerksdorp, Groblersdal, East London and throughout Natal.

The most dramatic increase in strike action this year has been in the public sector, where it has risen from 0.4 percent (of all strikes) in the first half of 1989 to 46.2 percent from January to June this year.

Man-days lost to the economy highlight the scale of the unrest in the retail sector 12.3 percent; in printing 10.6 percent; in the mines 9.1 percent; in the chemical industry 9.8 percent; and in transport 4.1 percent.

Trigger factors include wage demands (63.5 percent), grievances and general disciplinary problems (26 percent) and dismissals (1.7 percent).

As Miss Kelly put it: "This is large-scale mobilisation which will not abate in the months ahead."

IR symposiums or conferences

Employers are responding with a harder line resorting to interdicts and lockouts. They are also reluctant to talk openly about either their problems or their opinions, fearing retaliation from the publicity

And now there are fears that companies will either put the brakes on proposed expansion plans, or turn increasingly to mechanisation — which will aggravate already severe unemployment

There are strikes, stayaways, sit-ins or work stoppages in the Checkers and OK Bazaars chains, Southern Sun and Holiday Inn ho-



Brush with death... Abram Ngwape in hospital after a car ploughed into the crowd he had joined during the strike. ■ PIC: TLADI KHULELE

Panic may have led to Putco strike horror

By SOPHIE TEMA

PANIC at the sight of a KwaNdebele strike sparked off by a "sudden" Putco bus fare increase might have cost a white schoolteacher his life this week, said a colleague of the dead man.

Teacher Danie Malan, 55, was stoned to death and his car set on fire near the homeland's Ubuhlebethu High School in Siyabuswa this week after his car plunged into the strikers, killing four people and injuring three.

The mob had blocked the main road, and Malan, without slowing down, drove straight into the crowd.

The school's headmaster, Renier Oosthuizen, said Malan must have felt very threatened when he drove into the throng of protestors.

He said "Malan was a very intelligent man, and would not behave irrationally or impulsively. He must have felt that his life was in danger and thought the only way out was to drive through the crowd and get away."

Oosthuizen said Malan was always calm, reserved, and definitely had no resentment or bitterness towards blacks.

He said Malan, a former departmental head at the school, had great love and admiration for the black children of the school.

Malan is survived by his wife, Anna-lize, who is a teacher at KwaNdebele

man identified as Sakhi, KwaNdebele police said.

Liaison officer Captain Joep Joubert said the injured were Abram Ngwape, who is in Philadelphia Hospital, and Aaron Dlamini and David Nyathi, who were discharged from hospital on Friday.

Yesterday, KwaNdebele police began investigating charges of murder and culpable homicide against the people responsible for Malan's death.

Further reports said the KwaNdebele government, which opposed the tariff increases, had intervened, arranging a suspension at least until Wednesday when commuter representatives will meet Putco management.

Sapa reported Putco had suspended the fare increases indefinitely as a result of the incident and violence.

A Putco spokesman confirmed the company had decided not to increase fares until further discussions with the homeland leadership.

The spokesman conceded passengers had been given short notice of the fare hikes, unlike in other instances when they were warned months before the increases took effect.

Commuters in the area told City Press the fare hikes were implemented and brought into effect on Wednesday without their knowledge.

Most said they only discovered the prices of daily and monthly tickets had

APT 10015 9/7/90

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Strikes: 1990 to be worse

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — As strike action gripped the hotel and retail industry last week — and with the possibility looming of major strikes in the metal and coal mining industries — the extent of industrial unrest could overtake the peak levels of 1987

SPA Consultants director Mr Stuart Pennington yesterday predicted 1990 would prove to be a worse year than 1987 as workers took advantage of the relaxed political cli-

mate to push for a fairer share of the economic pie

Mr Pennington said the liberated political climate in the country was being seized upon by workers and unionists who believed the timing was "perfect" to push their demands as far as possible

Those employers who had pursued an adversarial approach to industrial relations in recent years were now in a state of "utter despondancy" and out of touch with wider political and social issues. There have been 136 strikes this year already, in contrast to 118 strikes in 1988 and 181 in 1987

And consultants pointed out there has been a marked upward trend in the length of strikes

The events of last week demonstrated the trend

By Friday over 22 000 Saccawu members were on strike at Southern Suns/Holiday Inns hotels and OK Bazaars stores nationwide

At the Southern Suns/Holiday Inns 5 500 workers at 38 hotels across the country continued striking over the weekend with management and Saccawu yet to reach agreement over strike conditions after management secured interdicts to evict strikers from Trans-

vaal and Cape hotel premises. No new meetings have been set between the two sides

While the resumption of the NUM/Chamber of Mines wage dispute in respect of gold mines on Thursday means there will be no repeat of the 1987 strike, the union and chamber are still in dispute over wages for colliery workers

In Port Elizabeth the Delta Motor Corporation closed down its plant on Thursday after a walk-out by 2 500 out of the plant's 3 500 workers over concern about Delta's participation in national wage negoti-

ations

Over 9 000 staff at Checkers began industrial action at 150 of Checkers' 177 outlets countrywide after at a late night meeting on Thursday

Saccawu demand an across-the-board increase of R165 per month and a minimum monthly wage of R830. Checkers' final offer was a R135 increase

At Edgars the wage dispute affecting 3 000 workers remains unsettled, with Saccawu considering the possibility of balloting for strike action

Sunday Star is affected by strike

Star 9/7/90
A strike by casual workers, which resulted in some copies of the Sunday Star not having all the usual sections inserted into the main body of the paper, will be discussed at a meeting to be held between the workers and management of The Newspaper Printing Company, printers of The Star, today.

The workers are demanding a reduction of the workload, an increase in wages and permanent staff status. Some of them have been casual workers since 1983.

Bellville strike suspended, pay talks resumed

ARLUS 9/7/90
By CLIVE SAWYER
Tygerberg Bureau (52)

THE strike by 729 Bellville City Council workers has been 'suspended and wage negotiations have resumed.

The decision to return to work was taken this weekend, a SA Municipal Workers' Union (Samwu) spokesman said.

Council plans to apply today for an industrial court interdict against the strikers have been dropped.

R750 A MONTH

"We are hoping negotiations will be as normal as possible," the Samwu spokesman said.

The strike started on Thursday when cleansing, roads, and parks and gardens workers downed tools because of dissatisfaction over annual wage talks.

At that stage the council was offering a monthly wage of R465 while the workers had demanded R750.

A council spokesman confirmed that all workers had reported today and that normal negotiations would continue.

Shifts in en

Talks fail to resolve OK strike

Staff Reporter

The OK Bazaars strike continued today after talks between management and the South African Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers' Union (Saccawu) failed to resolve the wage dispute.

The parties met on Friday and Saturday, but no progress was made, the union said. The talks were adjourned until Wednesday.

Between 7 000 and 7 500 OK workers from 135 stores

came out on strike on June 4 after a conciliation board failed to break a wage deadlock.

Saccawu demanded an across-the-board wage increase of R160 and a monthly minimum of R800.

Management offered between R115 and R145, depending on length of service.

The union estimated that 35 000 of its members were locked in disputes and 23 500 were on strike nationwide.

No end in sight - Saccawu

THE South African Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers Union, a key player in the wave of industrial action presently sweeping the country, has offered little hope that its thousands of striking members would be returning to work soon.

If anything, more Saccawu members are ex-

pected to join their colleagues on strike if present trends are anything to go by, union spokesman Jeremy Daphne said in a telephone interview.

The union's longest running dispute is with OK Bazaars, where between 7 000 and 7 500 workers have been involved in a legal strike for

higher wages at 130 stores countrywide since June 4, after conciliation board attempts to resolve the dispute collapsed on May 21.

Intense negotiations between Saccawu and OK management, which opened on Friday and which were still going strong on Saturday morning, were unlikely to resolve the dispute and so allow the strikers to return to work, Daphne said.

Details

Although he was prevented by prior agreement from revealing details of the negotiations, he said the situation did not look positive. "The differences (between management's wage increase offer and the union's

demand) are enormous. The negotiations could go on all weekend without producing a result."

Despite this, the fact that Saccawu and OK were for the first time negotiating since the start of the strike over a month ago, was cause for some optimism. Labour lawyer Graham Damant is mediating in the negotiations.

Daphne said there had been an incorrect report broadcast by the SA Broadcasting Corporation, saying that the dispute was over. This, he said, had caused immense confusion because some strikers had tried to return to work while the strike was in fact a long way from being resolved. - Sapa

Striking workers battle to survive

The Argus Correspondent *10/7/90*
JOHANNESBURG.— Survival has become more important for the striking OK Bazaars workers as the company management and the South African Commercial and Catering Workers Union (Saccawu) fail to reach a settlement on the wage dispute.

For some of the striking workers picketing outside the OK shops around Johannesburg, begging, vegetable vending, "piece" or casual jobs and gifts have kept them going, while others hope for an early settlement as their bank balances shrink each day.

"It is difficult for the workers as a lot of them have to rely on contributions from sympathisers," said Mr Arthur Mackenzie, a striking worker. He said his relatives were helping him out.

"But I am afraid it will soon be difficult for them to provide for their families as well as mine," he said.

Mrs Octavia Tshabalala said her family understood the situation. "My children, for instance, have accepted that they now have to eat cabbage and pap instead of steak and rice," she said.

A picketing shop steward said he was not worried about the short-term suffering as a result of the strike. "To me realising our long-term goals as signified by our demands is more important," he said.

Unions expect a rise in strikes

Sowetan 10/7/90
Sowetan Correspondent

THE recent spate of strikes in the commercial, catering and public sectors is expected to escalate, unions say

Estimates by the SA Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers' Union indicate that 23 500 workers were on strike at hotels and chainstores nationwide and a further 35 000 were locked in dispute.

The OK strike entered its 36th day today and talks between management and the union held over the weekend failed to resolve the dispute

A meeting between the parties is scheduled for tomorrow

Checkers management and Saccawu were holding talks in an attempt to break the deadlock and avert the company's first legal nationwide strike which involves about 9 500 workers

The union's members at Southern Suns and Holiday Inns, on strike since last Tuesday, were interdicted on Friday to vacate company premises in Johannesburg

Saccawu filed an application in the Industrial Court yesterday to challenge the evictions.

But management was in the process of applying for the same eviction order in other regions affected by the strike

The Eastern Cape is the region most affected by the current wave of industrial action

Port Elizabeth's municipal workers have been on strike since last week and garbage is piling up in the city and surrounding suburbs

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Sowetan 10/7/90

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Strikers dig in as talks fail

THE OK Bazaars strike continued yesterday as talks between management and the South African Commercial Catering and Allied Workers

SOWETAN Correspondent

Union failed to resolve the wage dispute.

The parties met on Friday and Saturday, but no progress was made, the union said.

The talks were adjourned until tomorrow.

About 7 500 workers downed tools on June 4 after a conciliation board failed to break a wage deadlock.

The strike affected 135 of the chain's stores.

Saccawu is demanding an across-the-board wage increase of R160 and a monthly minimum wage of R800.

Management offered between R115 and R145 depending on length of service. (24) (152)

The union said settlement of the strike which entered its 36th day today hinged largely on management's willingness to increase its offer.

Saccawu was also involved in major strikes at Southern Suns Hotels and Checkers and the union was in dispute at several other chain stores. (24) (152)

The union estimated that about 35 000 of its members were locked in disputes and 23 500 were on strike nationwide.

ors

section will have to be passed on to developers and ultimately the eventual home-owners."

His call for the authorities to act follows a report by the SA Federation of Civil Engineering Contractors that unrest had already cost civil contractors R15 million, excluding the thousands of rands being spent each month on on-site security

SAFCEC branch manager Mr Des King said 3 000 jobs in the civil

FOR YOU IF

Cape Times 10/7/90 (152)
Householders protest

PORT ELIZABETH. — People in Port Elizabeth's "coloured" areas are refusing to dump rubbish at collection points set up during the present strike of municipal employees.

To draw attention to their desperate housing plight, they will leave their rubbish in the streets.

They also indicated at a mass meeting at the weekend that they supported the strikers and their wage demands.

The meeting agreed on a month-long programme of action to highlight the housing crisis, northern areas co-ordinating committee secretary-general Mr Richard de Donker, said yesterday.

Port Elizabeth's town clerk, Mr P K Botha, said there would be a meeting of municipal department heads today and he would raise the matter.

CALL Tmp 10/7/90 (152)
Wine union to strike

JOHANNESBURG. — The National Union of Wine, Spirits and Allied Workers (Nuwsaw) is to call a national strike by all its members tomorrow.

It said yesterday the decision was reached on Saturday by the Nuwsaw's national co-ordinating strike committee at a meeting here

Nuwsaw members declared a national overtime ban and go-slow on July 2. The employers' association subsequently decided to lock out all members who refused to accept its offer of R33 a week across-the-board, and this became effective on July 4.

Other decisions by the committee included a decision to solicit widespread support and to picket at all companies and company subsidiaries locally, nationally and internationally. — Sapa

Cape Times 10/7/90 (Wed) 152
PE workers still out

PORT ELIZABETH. — Port Elizabeth municipality's 3 078 striking workers failed to resume work yesterday despite an ultimatum to do so.

The workers, on strike for almost a week, will now be given a further warning and could face disciplinary action if this was ignored, town clerk Mr P K Botha said.

The municipality has offered the strikers a 12% increase. The workers, however, want a R300-across-the-board rise, plus a further 20%.

Strikes at three government hospitals here are also continuing.

A spokesman for the Regional Director of Hospital Services said there had been in-depth discussions between Cape Provincial Administration officials and trade union members in attempts to reach agreement. — Sapa

Labour briefs

Work stoppage ends

CAPL Tm 10/7/90
A TWO-DAY wage strike by about 800 Bellville municipal workers ended yesterday, according to the council's director of management services, Mr Peet van den Heever.

Workers downed tools on Thursday in what Mr Van den Heever described as an "unlawful" stoppage which was in conflict with their conditions of services.

The action followed the expiry of the 1989/90 wage agreement on June 30 and occurred during current wage negotiations.

All departments were affected, but it had not been necessary to employ temporary labour, Mr Van den Heever added.

The South African Municipal Workers' Union, which represents the Bellville strikers, was not immediately available for comment. — Sapa

City strikers to picket hotels

Cart times 10/7/90
152

Staff Reporter

ABOUT 400 striking Southern Sun/Holiday Inn hotel workers meeting in the city yesterday decided to continue the strike and to picket hotels

As the SA Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers' Union (Saccawu) members left the St George's Cathedral hall late yesterday and walked back to the union's Loop Street offices there was no obvious police presence and the strikers did not carry banners.

Saccawu regional organiser Mr Power Malgas said the strikers had decided to continue to picket hotels involved in the strike and had elected a committee to monitor the strike.

He said they would defy any attempt to prevent protest

The union has demanded a R160 a month across-the-board increase on the present R590 minimum wage, against a R100 a month offer.

Mr Malgas said the union had received notice of the intention of Southern Sun's management to prevent union members from continuing a sit-in in the staff canteen of the Beacon Isle Sun, the only Southern Cape hotel that has not already been vacated by workers after court orders

The industrial relations manager of the Southern Sun group, Mr Carl Ludick, said the strike was affecting 40 of its hotels and involved some 5 000 workers

About 400 workers in the Free State and East London were still occupying company canteens and the company

intended taking legal steps against strike action in Natal, which it considered to be illegal, Mr Ludick added

Saccawu claimed that the strike involved 6 000 workers and had spread to 45 hotels by yesterday.

These figures apparently included the 3 000 workers at eight Southern Sun hotels in the city who had joined the strike, according to a union spokesman, reports Sapa.

Saccawu says it intends filing an urgent application to the Industrial Court to contest the issue of worker access to company premises.

Mr Ludick said the Natal Liquor and Catering Trades Employees Union had informed the group that it would seek an interdict restraining Saccawu members from intimidating its members at the Malibu Hotel in Durban, where the NLCTEU held majority

Saccawu said its members at the Malibu had been threatened with dismissal and that "armed scabs" had been brought in to work at several hotels

The union condemned the use of white hotel school students and school pupils to fill vacancies created by the strike, as well as the continued detention by police of 49 members arrested at the Secunda Holiday Inn last week.

There was also a heavy police presence, "which increases when pickets are held", at Gold Reef City in Johannesburg, Saccawu said

CAPL T. 10/7/90 (152) (177)
Delta strikers return

PORT ELIZABETH. — About 1 000 workers at Delta Motor Corporation returned to the plant yesterday after being warned by management that the strike from Wednesday last week could result in disciplinary action, including dismissal.

Although it was not known whether the 1 00 were willing to return to work, certain sections of the Delta factory had resumed full production.

The company issued an ultimatum in newspaper advertisements over the weekend, warning strikers to return to work yesterday morning.

Workers downed tools on Wednesday to protest against the company's refusal to take part in the national bargaining forum for wage and working conditions in the motor industry which have been endorsed by the other major manufacturers. — Sapa

Liquor workers set to strike

BATTLE lines have been drawn for a widespread industrial showdown in the wine and spirits industry following a national lockout by employers and a legal strike poised to start today.

An employer offer of a 33% weekly increase, backdated to April 1, for some 4 500 union members expired at 5pm on Monday, Wine and Spirits Manufacturing Employers' Association spokesman Mr Riaan Kruger said yesterday.

The employers' body, representing companies like Stellenbosch Farmers' Winery, the Distillers' Corporation, Douglas Green, Gilbeys, Union Wines and Henry, Taylor and Ries, has been locked in dispute with the National Union of Wine, Spirits and Allied Workers for the past six months.

Union members at 83 plants countrywide had started a go-slow strike and overtime ban last Tuesday, with employers responding with a general lockout on Thursday.

Mr Kruger said about 1 400 Nuwsaw members had accepted the employers' offer.

Worker action had the strongest impact in the Transvaal, where distribution of stocks had been disrupted — Sapa

Strike bites at busy Durban hotels

By Helen Grange

The Southern Sun hotels strike has left at least three busy Durban hotels without the bulk of their black staff.

As the holiday season reaches its peak, Natal Southern Sun hotels are nearly all fully booked and using casual labourers to meet demands.

A spokesman for the Elangeni Hotel said room service had been affected and some items on the menu were unavailable. Operations were "slower" than usual.

Although many workers had not turned up at the other

Southern Sun hotels in Durban, all reported they were coping with casual labourers.

In Cape Town, where striking workers set up pickets outside five hotels, hotel spokesmen said business was carrying on.

● The Southern Sun/SA Commercial Catering and Allied Workers Union (Saccawu) dispute will go to mediation tomorrow but court actions against the union continue, Shareen Singh reports.

By yesterday afternoon, management had secured three more eviction orders to remove strikers from company premises in East London, Cape Town

and the Free State.

Southern Sun management has now interdicted workers at Sun hotels countrywide.

Saccawu's application challenging the eviction orders will be heard in the Industrial Court today. Saccawu said the strike was growing daily and yesterday estimated 6 000 workers were out on strike at 41 hotels.

● OK Bazaars management and Saccawu were to meet at mediation today Weekend talks had made no progress.

● Mediation in the Checkers/Saccawu strike continued yesterday

Coloured teachers vote to end strike

Str 11/7/90 152

By Janet Heard,
Education Reporter

Teachers at coloured schools in the Transvaal will return to school today after voting last night to suspend a strike that has dragged on for more than a month.

The decision to suspend the strike was taken at a meeting of more than 1 000 teachers in Eldorado Park.

Although most teachers voted to return to school, they stressed alternative strategies of defiance would be formulated until all their short-term demands had been met.

Teachers suspended the strike after a decision by the Department of Education and Culture (House of Representatives) to meet five of the seven short-term demands, which all centre on the improvement of working conditions.

At the meeting, teachers expressed widespread dissatisfaction with the department's failure to implement parity in salaries between men and women.

Teachers were advised by the Action Committee of Teachers/Progressive Teachers Union not to take part in the department's evaluation process until it had been revised.

Hotel and catering strikes spread to liquor industry

M645 11/7/90 (152)

By SHARON SOROUR
Staff Reporter and Sapa

MORE than 6 000 hotel and catering workers were joined today by several thousand liquor industry workers as strike action spread nationwide.

Tension is mounting between Southern Sun Hotels and the SA Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers' Union (Saccawu) as the hotel strike enters its second week.

Workers at 41 Southern Sun/Holiday Inn hotels are demanding a R160 across-the-board monthly increase — management is offering R100 — on a minimum wage of R590.

Saccawu regional organiser Mr Power Malgas said strikers in the Western and Southern Cape had elected a committee to monitor the strike and co-ordinate a plan of action which included "involving organisations like the African National Congress, Cosatu and the United Democratic Front to mobilise workers".

Strikers at eight hotels — the Cape Sun, De Waal Sun, St George's, Newlands Sun, President, Inn on the Square, Bellville Holiday Inn and Cape Town Holiday Inn — are planning to picket the hotels today.

Several marches are also planned in spite of an agreement, announced by both the union and the company

yesterday, to enter mediation tomorrow or Friday.

Several thousand workers in the wine and spirits industry went on strike today after a wage dispute and national lockout by employers.

The workers, members of the National Union of Wine, Spirit and Allied Workers (Nuwsaw), have refused a R33 weekly wage increase offer by the South African Wine and Spirit Industry Employers' Association.

They are demanding an across-the-board increase of R40 a week.

ACCEPTED OFFER

Spokesman Mr Riaan Kruger confirmed today that workers at plants in Stellenbosch — Stellenbosch Farmers' Winery, Distillers Corporation and Gilbeys — and in Johannesburg were on strike.

While nearly 6 000 workers of a total of 10 000 in the liquor industry were affected by the dispute, about 1 400 union members at 29 plants had already accepted the employers' offer.

The offer — a wage increase of 18,7 percent at the lowest level — was backdated to April 1 and workers would each receive R462 back-pay.

● About 23 500 Saccawu members are on strike at six companies OK Bazaars, Checkers, Southern Sun, San-

itary City, Win Corporation and An-beeco

The longest-running strike is at OK Bazaars where more than 7 000 workers — on strike since June 4 — are demanding a R160 across-the-board increase. Management is offering wage increases ranging from R15 to R145 in relation to the amount of service given by workers.

● The Argus Bureau reports from Port Elizabeth that one of the city's worst periods of industrial strife continues in spite of the return to work of strikers at four of the city's hospitals and at three plants.

Refuse is piling up, however, as the municipal strike involving more than 3 000 workers remains unresolved.

Town Clerk Mr P K Botha has said the municipality will not make an offer for a monthly minimum wage until strikers return to work.

The SA Municipal Workers Union feels the council is not showing any movement and, under the circumstances, will not return to work.

About 120 Checkers employees at Greenacres, all members of Saccawu and who have been on strike since Friday, have been joined by workers at other stores. Wage negotiations broke down last week, but mediation continued yesterday.

Top hotel
not caught
on the
bellhop . . .

By SHARON SOROUR
Staff Reporter

IT'S business as usual at the five-star Cape Sun hotel in spite of disruption caused by the nationwide Southern Sun strike.

Although baton-carrying security men guarded the entrance and foyer, the atmosphere was calm and guests and the public moved freely in and out of the luxury hotel.

The Cape Sun is one of eight Cape Town hotels affected by the strike — now in its second week — by about 1 000 Western Cape members of the SA Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers' Union.

Casual labour has ensured the Sun's services do not come to a halt.

MEALS SERVED

All the restaurants were open and meals were served. At the Palm Court restaurant, the normal snack menu, which includes light meals like sandwiches, was not available because of striking kitchen staff. A buffet was available and salads, cold meats, soups and quiches were served.

At Riempies restaurant a carvery was available, and at the Noon Gun bar the usual pub lunch was on offer.

A waitress said technicians and university students had been employed to replace "many people" who were on strike.

Two University of Cape Town students were manning the door, attending to mounds of baggage waiting to be taken to rooms.

Respite for PE as strike action eases

CAPE TOWN 11/7/90 (152) (10) (10)

PORT ELIZABETH — One of Port Elizabeth's worst periods of industrial strife eased yesterday when striking workers at four of Port Elizabeth's hospitals and the city's biggest private employer opted to return to work.

Talks were also due to take place to try to end the strike by 3 000 municipal workers.

At Delta Motor Corporation, about 3 000 employees voted to return to work on Monday after company management had placed newspaper advertisements threatening disciplinary action, including possible dismissal, if they did not return.

Dirt and laundry had piled up and skeleton staff worked under pressure to provide services at the Livingstone, Dora Nginza, provincial and Empilweni hospitals where non-medical staff and nurses were on strike.

Strikers at the Sharley Cribb Nursing College and other regional medical facilities also returned to their workplaces on Monday after talks between regional hospital authorities and the National Education, Health and Allied Workers' Union (Nehawu).

About 1 600 employees were involved in the strike, which brought a stern warning from the National Health and Population Development Minister, Dr Rina Venter, on Monday.

She said striking could not improve the workers' position in the negotiation process.

The strike was sparked when 39 staff nurses were perceived by Nehawu to have been unfairly dismissed from the Livingstone hospital.

However, a spokesman for the Cape administrator said the nurses had not been dismissed but were fulfilling a contract which expired on June 30.

A union spokesman said that, subject to further talks with provincial hospital authorities, Nehawu has accepted an offer of 16 temporary positions for the dismissed nurses. But the CPA spokesman said negotiations would not continue since the situation had returned to normal.

The Delta employees, who downed tools last Wednesday, struck in support of demands by the National Union of Metalworkers of SA (Numsa) that Delta join SA's six other major vehicle manufacturers in the national bargaining forum.

The body determines wage and working conditions in the motor industry, but Delta recognises only the Regional Industrial Council.

A company spokesman said production was back to normal yesterday — Sapa

CMT TITS 11/7/90 (30) (101) (152) (200)

Industries rocked by labour disputes

THE country's retail and hotel industries have been rocked by a wave of labour disputes involving up to 24 000 striking workers, with another 5 000 workers poised to enter the fray over wages and conditions of service

Wage demands articulated by the Cosatu-affiliated SA Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers Union (Saccawu), arrayed against Sanlam and SA Breweries-owned companies, lie at the heart of the strikes

Employers most affected by the large-scale work stoppages include the Southern Sun/Holiday Inns hotel group, where some 6 000 workers at 41 hotels countrywide have been on strike since July 5

Hopes that the labour dispute will end soon were boosted by agreement by both the union and the company to enter mediation on Thursday or Friday this week

Up to 7 000 workers at 130 OK Bazaars stores have refused to work for the past month and more than 300 have been arrested for

picketing, according to Saccawu spokesman Mr Jeremy Daphne

And at Checkers, some 9 500 workers at 161 stores have been on strike since July 6.

The disputes in the hotel group, OK Bazaars and Checkers have been referred to mediation

But as the contending parties move closer to possible resolution of their differences, Saccawu members in another two major retail groups have edged closer to full-scale strike action

According to Saccawu, 90% of its 2 400 members at 30 Trador Cash and Carry voted for strike action during a ballot held over the past two days, and were expected to lay down tools

The dispute hinges on wages and linking retrenchments to wage negotiations

And at Edgars, where Saccawu represents some 3 000 workers, the union and management are scheduled to hold final talks on wages next week

Another six companies with Saccawu-linked workforces have also been drawn into disputes over wages and conditions of service

These are Frasers, Smart Centre, Fairways, Metro Cash 'n Carry, Sacca and Clicks, where a dispute was declared yesterday

Mediation is being held at Frasers, the Smart dispute has been referred to a conciliation board, the Fairways dispute will be referred to mediation today, the Metro dispute is to be referred to a CB on July 17 and the Sacca dispute is also to be referred to a conciliation board, Mr Daphne said in a statement

The union will convene a meeting of all unions organised in SAB to discuss the situation in the group and its industrial relations practices

"The central issue revolves around the eradication of poverty and redistribution of wealth. Attitudinal problems, particularly in SAB, are also an important factor," Mr Daphne said

● Striking Saccawu members set up pickets outside five Cape hotels yesterday. A spokesman for the union, Mr Beville Lucas, said the pickets were to protest against the Southern Sun/Holiday Inn group's eviction of strikers from hotels — Sapa

Inquiry sees 'We need guns' banner

Pretoria Correspondent

A banner proclaiming: "We are suffering because of our skin! We need guns like all whites! We will show you that we are real blacks", has been handed to the commission of inquiry into the causes and consequences of a strike at Ga-Rankuwa Hospital

The banner — also bearing the request: "Boshoff and Swanepoel leave please" — was handed in as evidence yesterday by a legal representative of the Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA), J K Wessels, during his cross-examination of a member of the hospital's workers' committee, J Ndlovu

It was alleged during earlier evidence that the strike started as a direct result of the TPA's refusal to remove two officials after they had been accused by hospital workers of being racists who inti-

imidated their subordinates.

Mr Ndlovu denied any knowledge of the banner, which the TPA's legal team alleged was confiscated during the strike. He added that the wording had no political connotations.

Mr Ndlovu said yesterday that the refusal to dismiss the officials was the main reason for the strike, but that there was also dissatisfaction with management's response to workers' other grievances.

The workers alleged, among other things, that white workers received preference where promotions and the allocation of office equipment was concerned. However, Mr Ndlovu said during his testimony that he was not aware of any other workers of comparative rank to him who had a better office than he did.

Members of the commission, which is being chaired by Mr Jus-

tice P M Cillie, interrupted Mr Wessels's cross-examination twice yesterday to inform him that they felt Mr Ndlovu had provided a reasonable answer to his question and that there was no need to continue pressing his point.

However, during another interruption, Mr Justice Cillie said the witness had not "given the impression of speaking the truth at all times".

He agreed it was "insensible to down tools" at a hospital, that Ga-Rankuwa Hospital was of importance to millions of blacks who received medical care there, and that strike action by any member of a medical team would result in the efficiency of the team being affected.

He said he had thought about the fact that a disruption of services might result in the death of patients.

24 000 are on strike

Sowetan Reporter

ABOUT 24 000 members of the SA Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers Union - about a third of the union's total membership - are presently on strike in the retail industry.

Hard-hit by the strikes are Checkers (9 000 employees) and South African Breweries' subsidiaries OK Bazaars and Southern Suns Hotels, where about 12 000 workers have embarked on industrial action.

The disputes at the retail companies revolve around Saccawu's demands for across-the-board increases between R100 and R200.

BOPHUTHATSWANA police yesterday confirmed the detention of 55 striking workers at the OK Bazaars store in Garankuwa

Liaison officer for the Bophuthatswana police Colonel David George said the employees were being held un-

Strikers detained

der emergency regulations for allegedly holding an illegal meeting at the store

A spokesman for the South African Commercial, Catering and Allied

Workers' Union said 75 of the striking members at the Garankuwa OK store were arrested at about 2pm last Thursday

He said the union's lawyers had been briefed Strikers were at Garankuwa, Loate, Bethanie and Jericho police stations

Many stayaway in Mamelodi protest

152 258

Sowetan 11/7/90

By MONK NKOMO

THOUSANDS of people in Mamelodi stayed away from work yesterday in protest against police action that left 256 people injured after tearsmoke was fired at a rent meeting on Sunday.

There was a total stayaway by pupils and teachers at all schools in the township.

The stayaway action was sparked off by police action at HM Pitje Stadium where 16 000 residents had attended a report-back meeting on the five-year-old rent boycott.

Mr Moss Chikane, executive member of the UDF in Pretoria, condemned the police action and

said the matter was going to be taken up at the highest level.

He also lashed out at the police for having blocked entrances into the stadium after tearsmoke was fired into the crowd.

Police have denied blocking exits and setting alight a furniture truck.

Chikane said he had received reports that some vehicles were set alight in the township.

A spokesman for the police public relations division in Pretoria said a bus was destroyed after being set alight in Mamelodi yesterday morning. No arrests were made.

Political and civic organisations

in Mamelodi yesterday briefed lawyers with the intention of suing the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, and Minister of Defence General Magnus Malan for damages.

A police spokesman said the meeting was illegal because permission granted for indoors.

Chikane said if the police knew the meeting was illegal they should have told the organisers in time.

"Instead, they came two hours after the meeting had started and, without warning, fired tearsmoke," Chikane said.

The police spokesman said the organisers were warned about the illegality of the meeting.

Thousands join Mamelodi stayaway

PRETORIA — Thousands of Mamelodi residents yesterday heeded a stayaway call in protest against police action in the township at the weekend, in which an estimated 230 people were injured

A police spokesman said it was a "complete stayaway"

No buses or taxis operated and no children attended the first day of the new school term.

Barricades, rocks and burning tyres blocked the streets of the township

11/7/90 (152)
yesterday, and at least one bus was burnt

Trains were running to the city, but a Spoornet spokesman said train usage from Mamelodi had dropped by 40%

The police spokesman said no arrests had been made and no incidents of intimidation had been reported

Uniformed police and members of the SADF patrolled the township — Sapa

Union acts over pay

MEMBERS of the National Union of Wine, Spirits and Allied Workers are to begin a wage-related strike today, the union said in a statement yesterday.

The strike follows the rejection by Nuwsaw of the employers' offer of R33 a week across-the-board increase.

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Overtime

Last week Nuwsaw members declared a national overtime ban to prevent the companies from "piling-up stock".

However, a spokesman for the union said employers in the liquor industry decided to lock out all Nuwsaw members last Wednesday after rejecting their offer.

Strike hits supplies of liquor

LIQUOR supplies have been affected to "a certain extent" in the Transvaal, but for the time being there is no need to storm liquor stores. *W. van der Merwe* 24/7/90

The countrywide strike started yesterday by about 4 500 workers in the liquor trade, is expected to affect deliveries.

Mr Riaan Kruger, secretary of the South African Wine and Spirits Industry Employers Association said yesterday that liquor supplies had not been "affected noticeably".

The industrial action follows after the National Union of Wine, Spirits and Allied Workers refused to accept the association's R33 across-the-board increase backdated to April 1.

The union is demanding a R40 across-the-board increase and 20 days' annual leave for all workers with 10 and more years service.

Liquor supplies dwindling

By Brendan Templeton

Liquor stocks are dwindling in stores on the Reef where major distilleries are encountering delivery problems because of strike action

The bottling plant of Stellenbosch Farmers Winery (SFW) in Wadeville, Germiston, was shut down and producers were employing scab labour to run their factories and deliveries, liquor store owners said

SFW was unavailable for comment

Companies affected by the strike are SFW, Distillers Corporation Ltd, Gilbeys, Union Wine, Douglas Green of Paarl and Henry Taylor and Ries

Members of the National Union of Wine, Spirits and Allied Workers (Nuwsaw) went on strike yesterday after a lockout since last week

Hardest hit are the smaller dealers who do not have the cash to stockpile or were caught unawares by the strike

A Blackheath Rebel store spokesman said all his supplies were affected and his stocks looked "terrible" He was unable to fetch new stock

Two weeks

Boksburg Rebel store reported 90 percent of their stock was not getting through There had been no deliveries over the past two weeks, spokesman Kobus Erasmus said

A Nigel store owner said he had received no deliveries from SFW or Gilbeys for two weeks Distillers Corporation was still trying to get stocks through

"I don't understand Trucks are going out, but I'm not receiving anything Do they only look after the big guys?" he said

But Randburg's Rebel store, the third biggest in the chain, denied that larger stores received preferential treatment

"Our deliveries are not as regular as I would like We are calling in orders ourselves," store spokesman Quinton Humphries said

A Krugersdorp store said no new stocks had been delivered over the past two weeks

Big Game Liquor in Springs was happy because they had just received a consignment dropped off by white student workers



What a wonderful world . . . this is the type of photo the judges hope to see entered in the CPL/M-Net "Our Wonderful World" competition Professional and amateur photographers should submit entries by September 14 Prizes include four-wheel-drive vehicles and safari holidays. For further information, telephone (011) 435-9801. © Picture by Duncan Butchard

Hotel strike builds up: Mediation starts today

Capt TMS 12/7/90

MEDIATION between the Southern Sun/Holiday Inn hotels and striking workers would begin today, SA Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers' Union (Saccawu) spokesman Mr Power Malgas said yesterday.

He said hotel strikers were prepared to "strike indefinitely" to eradicate company racial policies, but they were "more flexible" when it came to wage negotiations.

About 6 000 workers throughout the country are demanding a R160 across-the-board increase and the hotel group's final offer is R100.

Mr Malgas said the strikers' ranks were swelling daily, with more workers joining picket lines at eight Cape Town hotels — the Cape Sun, De Waal Sun, St George's, Newlands, President, Inn on the Square, Bellville Holiday Inn and Cape Town Holiday Inn.

Yesterday about 70 strikers toyi-toyi-ed through the city centre streets with placards and banners decrying their employers and calling for higher wages.

Strikers are applying for city council and magisterial permission to picket Southern Sun and Holiday Inn hotels lawfully, a Cosatu spokesman said.

Saccawu has criticised the two hotel groups for using "scab" labour, mostly white schoolchildren, and for paying them R1 500 — nearly three times the minimum amount paid to regular workers. — Staff Reporter and Sapa

10 000 walk off job (152)

Capt Tim B 12/7/90
JOHANNESBURG — More than 10 000 Krame group workers walked off their jobs yesterday to back demands for higher pay, the South African Clothing and Textile Workers' Union announced

This is the biggest single stoppage to rock an industry since a spate of strikes began early last month.

The strike has affected East London and the Natal districts of Germany, Jacobs, Mobeni and Ladysmith, the union said.

Comment from the company was not available yesterday — Sapa

● Hotel strike builds up — Page 4

Plastics workers still out

WORKERS in the plastic moulding section of the United SA Brush Manufacturing Company in Bellville South continued a wage strike yesterday, but work had resumed in other departments, the company said in a statement.

The company met representatives of the Chemical Workers' Industrial Union yesterday following a sympathy strike by most of the workers, company personnel director Mr Garth Snyman said.

The company's final offer for all areas other than plastic moulding was accepted by employees and an agreement had been signed, said Mr Snyman.

Although both parties made minor changes to their position, there had not been a settlement with the plastic moulding section workers. — Sapa



PICKETER... A hotel worker pickets outside a Cape Town hotel yesterday. Workers say they intend striking and picketing until their demands are met.

Picture: OBED ZILWA

Strike spreads to liquor industry

A NATIONAL strike in the liquor industry involving more than 2 000 workers began yesterday amid claims that white pupils were being used as temporary labour

Transvaal employers have been hit hardest by the legal strike over wages, with 1 428 workers either striking or locked out, according to a spokesman for the SA Wine and Spirit Industry Employers' Association, Mr Charlie Hoeflich

In the Western Cape, 664 members of the National Union of Wine, Spirits and Allied Workers (Nuwsaw) had joined, he said

He confirmed union claims that white students and pupils had been hired

He said 1 400 Nuwsaw members had accepted the company offer of a R33 weekly increase and had resumed work.

Nuwsaw is demanding a R40 across-the-board weekly increase. The lowest monthly wage earned by union members is R762 — Sapa

CAPE TIMES 12/7/80 (152)

Interdicts against intimidation

THE Chemical Workers Industrial Union and 148 of its members have been temporarily interdicted from intimidating employees at an Epping Industria plastics factory, Kohler Xactics Plastics.

Issued by Mr Justice M R de Kock in the Cape Town Supreme Court on Tuesday, the interim order also prohibits the union and other respondents from interfering with any of the company's employees or its business.

The return date was set at August 1. Union members dismissed for illegally striking over the proposed retrenchment of 35 colleagues in late June have since been picketing the factory and the Bonteheuwel station.

CWIU spokesman Mr Mike Coetzee denied union members had intimidated or victimised what he described as "scabs".

Company spokesman Mr Jeff Fish confirmed the interdict — Sapa

South 127-187190

Chain linked to workers' charter plan

By CHIARA CARTER

THOUSANDS of clothing workers plan to link hands to form a human chain along main roads in major centres around the country next Wednesday ~~152~~ (152)

The demonstration is in support of Cosatu's Workers' Charter Campaign

A spokesperson for the South African Clothing and Textile Workers' Union (Sactwu) said the human chain would be a "massive demonstration of worker support for the charter"

He said the union hoped the chain would encourage further involvement in the campaign by rank and file members

Independence

Earlier this year the national executive committee of Sactwu adopted a resolution around the workers' charter which called for the independence of unions and a range of worker rights including the participation in decision-making at factories

About 600 of the union's shopstewards this year took part in an educational programme about the charter which was also extensively discussed at the union's regional congresses

Earlier this year, thousands of Sactwu members responded to a union call for workers to demonstrate their support for the campaign by wearing red headbands at work

Sactwu is presently demanding union notice boards in all factories

Cosatu has adopted both the redband and notice board campaigns

The federation is presently considering whether to call a month of action around the charter next month

The draft versions of the charter, which are being discussed within the federation, seek to outline worker and trade union rights in a post-apartheid South Africa

***South* LABOUR**

Number of strikers nears

30 000

By CHIARA CARTER

ACCESS to company premises has increasingly become a flashpoint as a wave of national strikes involving thousands of workers continued to snowball this week.

The number of workers on strike countrywide is now approaching the 30 000 mark

Employers have countered this unprecedented worker militancy with lockouts and ejection orders.

Wineries

More than 5 000 workers in the liquor industry were locked out by employers last Thursday after they embarked on an overtime ban and a go-slow in support of wage demands

The workers, members of the National Union of Wine, Spirit and Allied Workers (Nuwsaw), began the first national strike in the industry on Wednesday

The strike involves workers at 83 wineries and depots which form part of the Wine and Spirits Industry Employers' Association

The strikers include about 1 500 workers in the Cape — mostly from small

towns in the rural areas.

Nuwsaw is demanding a R40-a-week across the-board increase backdated to April 1 and 20 days' leave after 10 years of service

Employers have offered R33 across-the-board

A Nuwsaw spokesperson said the union was meeting with community organisations to discuss solidarity action, including marches

Boland

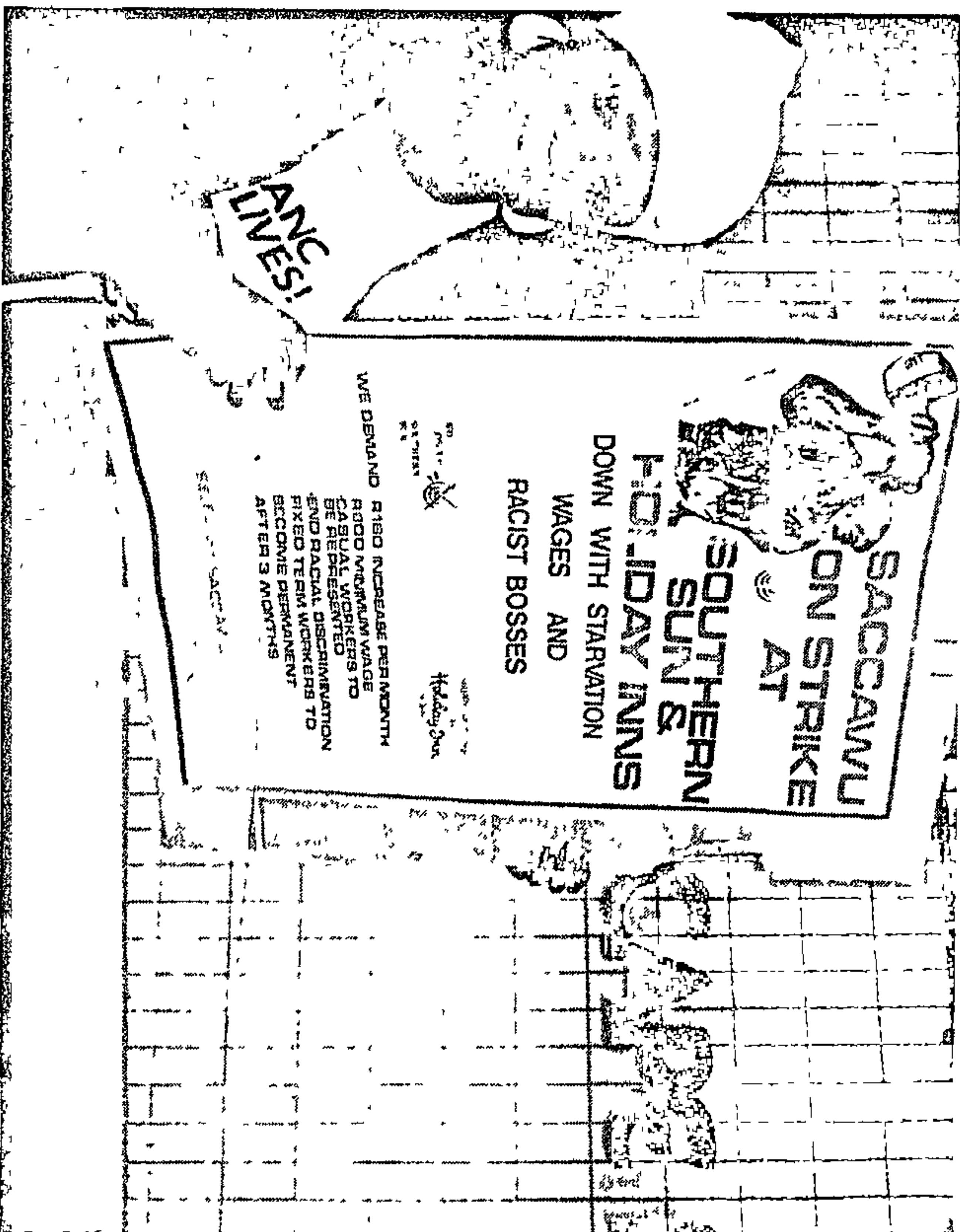
The strike is expected to heighten tensions in the Boland where there have been several violent clashes between township residents and the police recently

Meanwhile about 6 000 strikers at 41 hotels which form part of the South African Breweries-owned (SAB) Southern Suns group have been excluded from company premises

They include about 1 300 workers at the Cape Sun, De Waal, Inn on the Square, President, Newlands Sun, Cape Town and Bellville Holiday Inns and St George hotels

Southern Suns Industrial Relations spokesman Mr Carl Ludick said the company had obtained ejection orders for all strike-hit hotels

The workers are demanding a mini-



HOTEL HOTBED: SACCACWU members picket in front of the Cape Sun Hotel

imum wage of R800 a month and a R160 across-the-board increase

The Southern Suns final offer stands at R100 or 15 percent

A mediation meeting between the two parties is scheduled to take place later

this week

Saccawu this week declared a wage dispute at the giant Clicks chain of companies

About 1 600 union members downed tools at 29 Trador Cash and Carry Stores

over a dispute about wages and retrenchment.

Saccawu members are also involved in strikes and disputes at dozens of chain stores and shops — including OK Bazaars, Checkers and Edgars

Hotel workers march through Jo'burg streets

Wimpey 1314-1617190
BY GLENDA DANIELS and DREW FORREST

ABOUT 3 500 Southern Sun strikers yesterday marched through central Johannesburg to three of the group's hotels, as mediation aimed at resolving the 10-day strike began.

And, in another development, Cosatu yesterday threatened consumer boycotts against four dispute-hit subsidiaries of SA Breweries, including Southern Sun, accusing them of "poverty wages, racist attitudes and union-bashing tactics". About 20 000 workers at SAB companies were on strike or in dispute, it said.

The federation said it would embark on a programme of action, including demonstrations and marches, to highlight the practices of the hotel group, OK Bazaars, Edgars and Afcol.

Describing the statement as "inappropriate and irresponsible", SAB spokesman Dunbar Bucknall said the group believed the disputes should be resolved by negotiation "within our decentralised operating mode".

Yesterday's march — to the Downtown Holiday Inn, Rand International and Johannesburg Sun — was staged without official permission and marchers dispersed on the instructions of police.

It coincided with a further police crackdown on strikers. The South African Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers Union (Saccawu) said 168 workers had been arrested during a protest by Checkers, Southern Sun and Wimpy employees in Newcastle, and would appear in court on charges of attending an illegal gathering.

And 15 hotel workers had been held in Johannesburg, Pietersburg and Harare. Saccawu added that 79 strikers detained at the Ga-Rankuwa OK had been released and re-detained. It also blamed rightwingers for the firebombing of the Springs homes of two OK workers.

Yesterday OK's personnel director Kieth Hartshorne challenged Saccawu to state its position on an alleged "act of thuggery" against non-strikers at OK's Elsberg store. Workers had been abducted and assaulted at union offices, he said.

Mediation aimed at resolving the five-week-old OK strike is continuing.

Post-strike cheers for 'non-hostile' boss Albert

W mail 1317190

By DREW FORREST

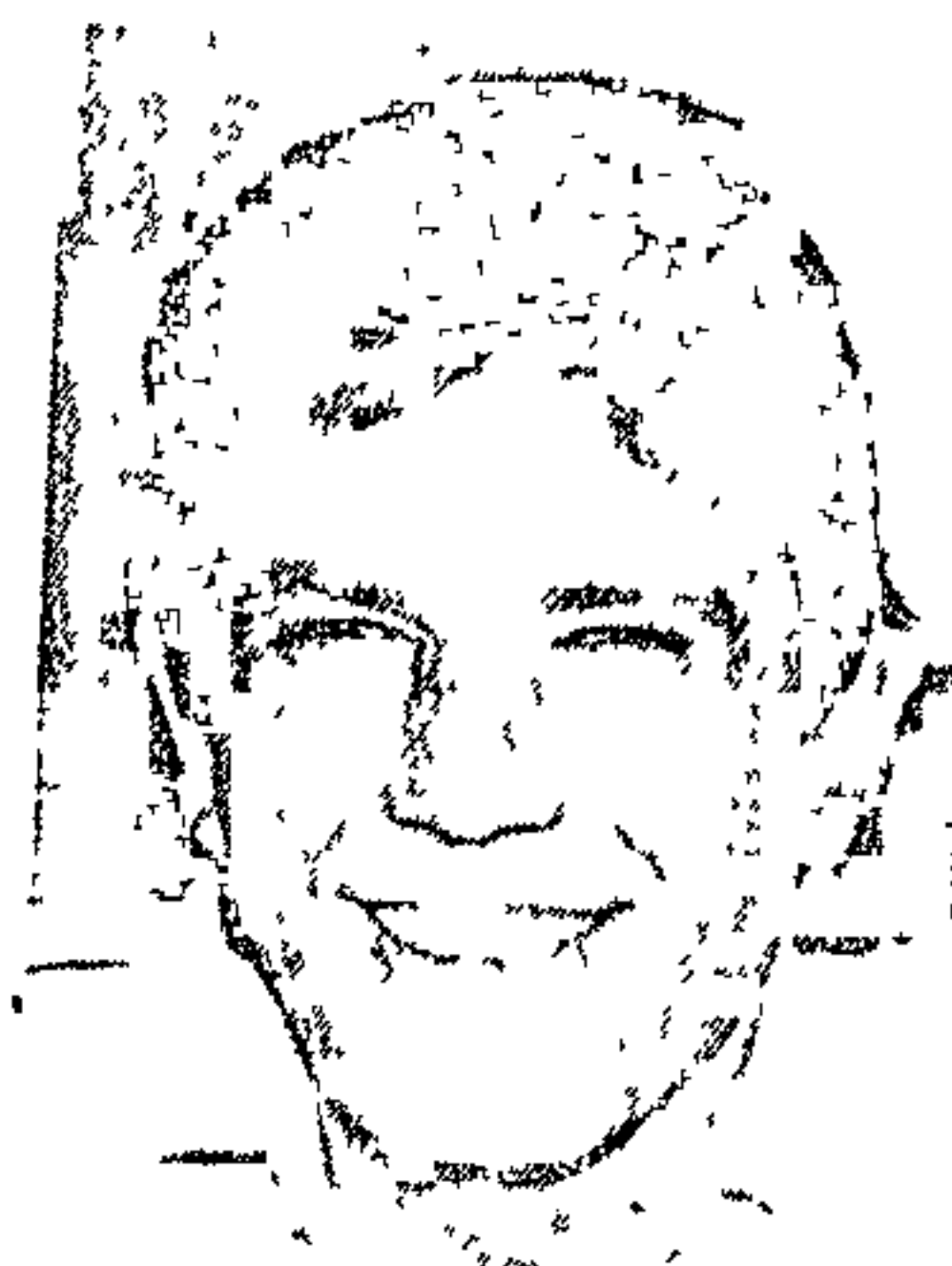
A UNION praising management after a strike? Absurd! But that is precisely what happened this week at wholesale chain Trador Cash and Carry.

The Trador strike — settled after two days yesterday — makes an interesting contrast with other bitter and protracted disputes under way in the commercial sector.

Its management style can be traced to managing director Albert Koopman: well-known proponent of "participative management", co-author of *Corporate Crusaders* and one of the Afrikaners who attended the 1987 Dakar talks with the ANC.

Yesterday Saccawu praised Trador's "non-hostile" approach to its 1 600 strikers.

After Trador closed its 30 stores — to prevent conflict, Koopman says — workers were allowed to sleep in company canteens, where they were catered for; to picket and to move freely to and from company premises.



Trador's Albert Koopman

es. The company was also lauded for not using the courts.

Significantly, Saccawu settled for the company's final R160 offer. But it also won the vital concession that there will be no retrenchments or store closures for 18 months. Other companies have linked higher increases with retrenchment threats, Saccawu says.

Describing himself as a "humanitarian", Trador's Koopman said the company's first strike in no way reflected on management's "excellent" relationship with the union. "Saccawu is consolidating — we were caught up in a general upsurge," he said.

RETAIL SECTOR STRIKES

Chain ganging (152)

The strike ballot at Checkers last Friday brings to more than 23 500 the number of Saccawu members out at six companies. The others are Southern Sun, OK Bazaars, Sanitary City, Win Corporation and Anbeeco. At Checkers more than 8 000 workers are out at most of the chain's stores after rejecting an offer of a R135 across-the-board rise and R765 minimum. Their demand is R165 and R830. Talks have resumed.

The union's Jeremy Daphne says another 15 000 are in dispute with various employers over wages and there is the possibility of strikes at Trador, Sacca, Smart Centre, Metro, Fairways and Frasers Mine Stores.

"The situation is a reflection of wide-

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spread and accumulative dissatisfaction deep down on the shopfloor, with a history of low wages and, in many cases, poor management attitudes," says Daphne. He adds "The principal issue is a quest for economic survival and not misdirected militancy, as alleged by management."

At Southern Sun tension mounted this week as the company was granted Supreme Court notices ejecting workers staging canteen sit-ins at 40 hotels. The union is contesting and applying for access. Between 5 000 and 6 000 workers are on strike over wages, mass dismissals, other lay offs and the use of casual labour.

The union's demand is for a minimum R800/month and an across-the-board increase of R160. The company offer is R100 (or 15%, whichever is greater) on the present R590 minimum. The union says mass dismissals at various hotels over the past four months are "an intrinsic part of the strike."

OK Bazaars' strike is in its sixth week. Lengthy mediation and negotiation last weekend failed to find a breakthrough. Mediation is to resume.

OK last week notified the union of plans to lay off more than 500 workers, mainly in the PWV, because of the strike. The union demands the withdrawal of dismissal notices. ☐ Wage bargaining in the metal industry, where the Main Agreement on labour expired on June 30, has reached "a critical stage." Seifsa executive director Brian Angus says none of the unions has accepted the employers' final offer of an 18% increase (64c/hour) for labourers and 15% (R1,24) for artisans. Despite rejection of the offer by

FIM 1317790 (31) (152)
Numsa and other unions, Angus says employers are under pressure from employees to implement it.

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SAB threatened with boycott, blanket action

By Brendan Templeton
and Sapa

Blanket industrial action and a boycott may be brought against all South African Breweries (SAB) subsidiaries, Cosatu announced yesterday.

The trade union umbrella body is attempting to influence the company to settle the nationwide strikes in its subsidiaries OK Bazaars and Southern Sun hotels.

Cosatu cited what it called "racist union bashing" and what it said was the refusal by the country's biggest beer producer to pay a living wage in its subsidiaries.

OK Bazaars and Southern Sun are paying their workers R620 and R590 respectively a month as a minimum wage.

SAB publicity affairs manager, Dunbar Bucknall, described Cosatu's statement as inappropriate and irresponsible.

The tone of Cosatu's statement was confrontational and SAB took exception to being labelled a racist union basher, he said.

The matter should be settled by the proven process of negotiation, he added.

"Having said that, we have little doubt that, in the final

analysis, common sense and reason will prevail," Mr Bucknall said.

Cosatu described the minimum wages being paid by OK Bazaars and Southern Suns as an indictment on the "rich corporation".

"If SAB can't afford to pay a living wage, who can?" the umbrella body said.

Its subsidiaries were locking people out while, in other strikes, companies were allowing strikers access to the premises.

Attacks

Numerous court actions and attacks by right-wing elements were being used in an attempt to break the strikes, the union federation said.

Scab labour was also being used to attack workers, Cosatu claimed.

"White scab labour is being paid up to three times what our members are paid," Cosatu said, citing the R8,50 an hour being paid to replacement labour at Southern Sun hotels as opposed to regular workers' pay of about R3 an hour.

Details of the programme would be announced next week, Cosatu said.

By Staff Reporter

Settlement has been reached in the Trador Cash and Carry strike — the first sign of a breakthrough in the strike-torn retail industry.

Management agreed to a R160 across-the-board increase back-dated to April 1.

This was a "highly significant" breakthrough which was a big step forward in the fight against poverty and job security, the South African Commercial Catering and Allied Workers Union (Saccawu) said.

Breakthrough comes in retail strike

Trador also undertook not to retrench or close stores for the next 18 months.

But conflict in other companies seems set to continue as employers and workers battle over wage demands.

Mediation broke down on Wednesday between Checkers and Saccawu, but continued yesterday afternoon between OK

Bazaars and the union.

OK Bazaars yesterday claimed a group of non-striking workers was removed from the Elsburg store and taken to Saccawu offices. They were then allegedly assaulted and threatened with death if they continued working.

OK Bazaars challenged the union to "publicly declare its position on this act of thugery".

In the liquor industry where about 3 000 workers are on strike, talks between the employers' body and the striking union are due to start next Wednesday.

The Southern Sun strike involving about 6 000 workers is escalating into a bitter dispute, with allegations of intimidation of picketers coming from the union.

Saccawu met Southern Suns yesterday in an attempt to end the hotel strike which has been on since July 2.

A joint protest outside New-castle Checkers ended in the arrest of 168 workers from Holiday Inns, Southern Sun, and Wimpy. There have been 98 arrests since the beginning of the strike, Saccawu said.

Saccawu said it contacted Holiday Inns head offices in Britain and a number of airlines which use the hotels for support.

More strife threatens on labour front

AKGus 13/7/90 152

By SHARON SOROUR
Labour Reporter and Sapa

WITH more than 40 000 workers, still on strike countrywide, an escalation in labour strife is looming with Cosatu threatening consumer boycotts against companies involved, and even secondary action against their suppliers.

The strikes are costing millions of rands a day and arrests, assaults and allegations of union intimidation have raised tension.

Two strikes ended yesterday — the two-day legal strike by about 350 shift workers, including 110 members of the Chemical Workers Industrial Union, at the United SA Brush Manufacturing Company in Bellville South and the Trador Cash and Carry nationwide strike involving more than 1 600 members of the South African Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers' Union (Saccawu) at 29 stores.

"Drastic action"

But others are continuing

While the Western Cape arm of the Federated Hotel, Liquor and Catering Association of South Africa claimed careful contingency plans had succeeded in cushioning the effects of strikes in the local hotel and liquor production industries, Cosatu said it was being "forced to consider drastic action in the face of blatant union-bashing tactics, and the attempt to criminalise legitimate strike action".

Claiming companies had been aggressive and intransigent and that workers had been attacked by police and right-wing elements, Cosatu warned it was considering consumer boycotts as well as solidarity action against suppliers.

It also planned demonstrations and marches to gain public support for its dispute with OK, Southern Sun and other South African Breweries' subsidiaries.

● Nearly 400 people at Gabriel Shock Absorbers in Retreat stopped work on Wednesday and occupied the canteen in a wage strike.

● Tension between Southern Sun hotels and the SA Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers' Union (Saccawu) continues in spite of mediation between the two parties. The dispute has led to nearly 6 000 Saccawu members nationwide striking at 43 hotels since July 2.

Yesterday strikers in Cape Town — who have applied for magisterial and city council permission to picket from Saturday to August 14 — picketed outside seven of the eight Peninsula hotels affected by the strike.

Union spokesman Mr Jeremy Daphne said 98 strikers, none in the Cape, had been arrested since the start of the strike.

● The National Union of Wine, Spirits and Allied Workers (Nuwsaw) started a national legal strike over wages on Wednesday.

Strikers are demanding a R40 weekly increase. The South African Wine and Spirit Industry Employers' Association — representing Distillers Corporation, Stellenbosch Farmers' Winery, Gilbeys, Union Wine, Douglas Green and Henry, Taylor and Ries — is offering R33. The present minimum monthly wage earned by Nuwsaw members is R762.

A union spokesman said 3 800 workers at 47 companies had joined the strike by yesterday. Thirteen strikers had been arrested at the Port Elizabeth premises of Union Wine on Wednesday, and 47 in Stellenbosch yesterday.

Charges

The workers were released on bail and are expected to appear in court to face charges under the Internal Security Act.

In the Western Cape 650 union members were on strike at SFW in Stellenbosch, while 600 Nuwsaw members stopped work at Distillers Corporation in Epping, a spokesman said.

About 200 workers were striking at Union Wine in Wellington and another 200 at the company's Oudtshoorn factory.

Employer sources said 2 997 workers had downed tools since Wednesday, with 55 plants or depots and six companies affected.

● Mediation between striking OK Bazaars employees and management is expected to continue today. The 7 000 Saccawu members — who are demanding a R160 across-the-board increase while management has offered increases ranging from R115 to R145 — have been on strike at 120 OK stores countrywide since June 4.

OK accused union members of assaulting and intimidating non-striking workers from Elsburg.

● More than 9 000 Checkers employees continue to strike at least until mediation between management and Saccawu, which broke down two days ago, resumes on July 18.

● About 200 general workers at Durban's St Augustine Hospital went on strike yesterday.

● Several thousand workers at Consolidated Cotton Corporation, part of the Frame Group, downed tools on Wednesday.

in the face of a group of angry women who stripped and

have moved in on two squatter camps over the past two days

looks like political manipulation to me" — The Argus Correspondent and Sapa

Cosatu will reconsider mass action plan if talks go well

By MICHAEL MORRIS
Political Correspondent

THE Congress of South African Trade Unions has undertaken to reconsider its programme of mass action in protest at the government's handling of the Labour Relations Act dispute.

This will happen if the working party set up after talks with President De Klerk comes up with "satisfactory proposals"

The undertaking was made yesterday after the first meeting of the working party

But Cosatu also indicated that it would only take part in the working party if there was certainty that it would conclude its work within 30 days, that none of its proceedings were cloaked in secrecy and that the aim was to "formulate a settlement for consideration

by all constituencies".

The working party was set up after President De Klerk stepped into the growing row over the government's refusal to bring labour legislation in line with the agreement between Cosatu, the National Council of Trade Unions and the employers' federation, Saccola, during the past session of parliament

The government argued that key elements of the agreement needed to be discussed by organisations, which were not party to it.

It suggested the law be amended during next year's session of parliament

Saccola and department of manpower representatives at yesterday's meeting agreed to consider the conditions Cosatu set for taking part in the talks,

as well as a number of other proposals.

If the conditions are accepted, the working party will meet again on July 26

The other proposals Cosatu made were that the government should agree that

● All public sector workers be granted basic worker rights immediately,

● There should be no "secret meetings" with employers on labour relations, and that

● A second interim Bill be drafted immediately to extend the Labour Relations Act to all workers and on a proper Labour Appeal Court system

Cosatu also wants Saccola to agree to measures between now and the enactment of the original Amendment Bill to give effect to the agreement between them

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115

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(152)

(1424)

CH

sified action during May and June. Wages continue to remain the most important strike trigger; stoppages related to wages were relatively high from January to June despite being largely unrelated to annual wage negotiations.

Statistics compiled by labour consultants Levy, Piron & Associates show wages account for the largest percentage of strikes in terms of man-days lost (63,5%), followed by grievances/discipline (26%) and dismissals (1,7%).

"These figures are a reflection of the heightened expectations of the work force set against the backdrop of recent political developments and a stagnant economy," the

consultants say.

The six unions most given to strikes are listed as Numsa (19,1%), Chemical Workers' Industrial Union (11,8%), NUM (11%), Printing, Paper, Wood & Allied Workers' Union (6,6%), and Food & Allied Workers' Union (4,4%).

In terms of man-days lost, Saccawu led the field (12,3%), largely as a result of the OK Bazaars strike. Next came the Printing, Paper, Wood & Allied Workers' Union (10,6%), Numsa (9,1%), SA Chemical Workers' Union (5,6%), Chemical Workers' Industrial Union (4,7%) and Transport & General Workers' Union (4,1%).

FSA-Contact says the OK Bazaars

national strike is the main dispute arising from annual wage negotiations though various disputes related to wage negotiations in the retail, metal and mining sectors are looming.

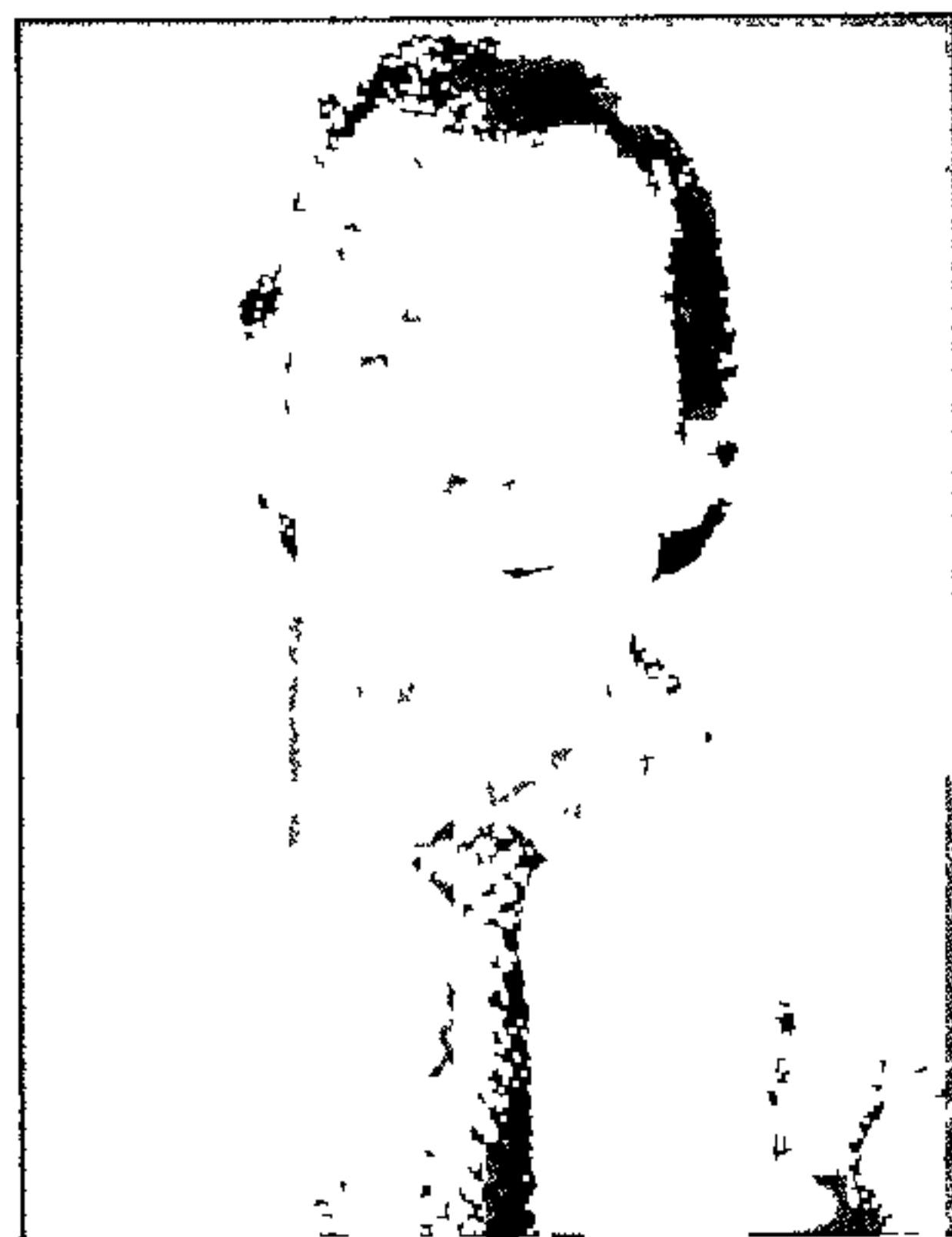
A significant feature is the action by public sector employees in response to low wages, conditions of service and privatisation. Marked industrial action in this sector included strikes in municipalities, hospitals, post offices and schools. This indicates "a concerted effort to align conditions in the public sector with those in industry as a whole," according to FSA-Contact.

Levy & Piron reports that the level of strike action in the public sector has jumped

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(152)

(1424)



**Beaumont ... more than
1m man-days lost**

from 0,4% during the first half of 1989 to 46,2% during the first half of 1990.

"Much of the industrial action taking place in schools, hospitals and local municipalities has succeeded in bringing to the public's attention the plight of public-sector workers as far as their wages and working conditions are concerned," it adds.

In education, in particular, prolonged action has resulted in the discussion of several

contentious issues, including the right of association and negotiation on matters pertaining to the profession, salary scales and structures and job security, says FSA-Contact.

Demands relating to national bargaining structures continue to be tabled and "can be aligned with union emphasis that their demands be taken seriously, especially in a context of high worker expectations."

As far as strike outcomes are concerned, there is evidence of a marked decrease in the resolution of disputes by negotiated settlement in the second quarter of the year (36%). Negotiated settlements formed 52% of outcomes for the January-June period. ■

STRIKE REPORT FIM 13/7/90

Losing time (152) (1424)

More than 1m man-days have been lost in strikes this year, reports Mike Beaumont of consultants FSA-Contact, in its latest review of strike statistics for January-June.

Demands relating to wages and working conditions triggered 57% of strikes and caused 43% in the second quarter. Disciplinary issues accounted for a greater percentage of industrial action in the second quarter than in the first and caused 10% of strikes.

Strikes caused by a combination of factors, such as joint wage and recognition submissions, or by issues related to bargaining, accounted for 32% of strikes for the quarter and 25% for the six-month period.

Beaumont says the sectors having most strikes were metal and motor followed by the public sector and transport which had inten-

13/7/90
Cosatu
threatens
blanket
SAB strike

By BRONWYN DAVIDS

GIANT trade union Cosatu last night accused Southern Sun Hotels of paying white "scab" labour three times the amount regular employees are paid, and threatened a nationwide consumer boycott of all SA Breweries (SAB) companies

More than 20 000 workers at several SAB subsidiaries, including Southern Sun, are striking for higher wages

Cosatu said either a blanket consumer boycott or blanket industrial action would take place to combat the corporation's "racist attitude" and its refusal to pay a living wage

Last night, SAB group public relations manager Mr Dunbar Bucknall criticised Cosatu's "confrontational" stance

Severely criticising SAB, Cosatu cited the minimum wages being paid by SAB's companies as being an indictment on the "rich corporation".

Cape Times 13/7/90

Strikes 'costing millions'

152

STRIKES by more than 40 000 workers nationwide will continue today as economists warn that the present industrial action is costing the economy millions in lost production

Included in the industrial action are strikes in the liquor industry, Southern Sun hotels, Checkers, OK and the Frame group

● Strike action by about 3 800 workers in the wine and liquor industry continues into a second day. Workers are demanding a R44 a week increase. Employers have offered R33

The strike appears to have strongest support in the Western Cape and East Rand, according to a spokesman for the National Union of Wine, Spirits and Allied Workers, Mr November Nkosi

Yesterday, 46 striking Stellenbosch Farmers' Winery workers were arrested outside the company's Stellenbosch plant

Union members said police told them workers had taken part in an illegal gathering

Besides 70% support at SFW, the walkout enjoyed sketchy support at Gilbey's and Union Wine in Stellenbosch. The union claimed 90% support at the Union Wine factory in Wellington

The strike has also effected Gilbey's operations in Cape Town and Union Wine in Paarl

Employers have agreed to meet union officials today in Stellenbosch

● Strike action has hit 43 of Southern Sun's 56 hotels countrywide, according to an SA Commercial Catering and Allied Workers' Union (Saccawu) spokesman

Union representatives in the Western Cape were waiting for the result of yesterday's first round of mediation between Saccawu and the South African Breweries-controlled hotel group as the strike goes into its ninth day

Workers have this week picketed

the Cape Sun, De Waal Sun, the President, Inn on the Square, the St George's, the Newlands Sun and Bellville and Cape Town Holiday Inns

According to a spokesman for Fedhasa Western Cape, well-laid contingency plans have succeeded in blunting the effects.

Mr James Vivier said that despite a combined force of some 2 000 striking workers in the closely linked industries, Southern Suns and Holiday Inns hotels, as well as bottle stores, had managed to provide virtually untroubled services

● With strikes by about 6 500 OK employees at 130 stores nationwide now in the sixth week, an OK spokesman warned that if current negotiations failed, about 570 employees would be retrenched today

Checkers dispute

Negotiations between union officials and Checkers have been suspended until next week.

Mediator Mr Brian Currin said both parties in the Checkers dispute had shown "a keen commitment to settle", but that the suspension of talks meant the strike by 9 500 employees at 161 stores would continue until at least July 18

● On Wednesday about 10 000 workers at Consolidated Cotton Corporation, part of the Frame Group, downed tools over wages and working conditions, disrupting production at New Germany, near Pinetown, Jacobs (Durban), Ladysmith and East London

The national organiser of the South African Clothing Textile Workers' Union, Mr Elias Banda, said the strike followed a breakdown in negotiations which began early in May

The union wants a R20 across-the-board increase in July and another in January

Management is offering R13 for lower grades and up to R15 for higher grades — Sapa and Own Correspondents

Unions set their sights on SA Breweries

By DICK USHER

Business Staff

SOUTH African Breweries is about to become the second corporate giant targeted for a union campaign

The campaign, which is likely to be similar to that of the Congress of South African Trade Unions (Cosatu) against Barlow Rand, was set in motion at a meeting of unions involved in SAB or its subsidiaries this week

It arises out of the current strike wave involving the South African Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers' Union (Saccawu) which has so far af-

fects SAB subsidiaries OK Bazaars and Southern Sun hotels and appears likely to spread to Edgars

Saccawu spokesman Mr Jeremy Daphne said that in addition to Cosatu, affiliates Saccawu, the Food and Allied Workers' Union and the Paper, Printing, Wood and Allied Workers' Union, the campaign could potentially involve affiliates of the other major federation, the National Council of Trade Unions (Nactu), and the Federation of Commercial, Retail and Allied Workers (Federation) and possibly the independent National Union of Distributive Workers (Nudaw)

He said Cosatu had been brought into the campaign and was sitting on its structures as a federation and the ANC had indicated its support early in the OK Bazaars strike

Nactu had indicated general support for the disputes involving Saccawu, as had associated political groupings such as the Pan-Africanist Congress

Mr Daphne said some initial planning had been done at this week's meeting which would be continued next week when it was hoped to reach finality

"It is likely that there will be a high degree of interaction with the community and a lot of

involvement is placed on community involvement," he said. He also said that an SAB shop stewards council would be revived

This had been set up after training courses for SAB shop stewards were conducted by the International Union of Food and Allied Workers' Association about two years ago

Industrial relations analysts, asked about Saccawu allegations of poor management style by SAB and its associates, said the group had a reputation for power-based bargaining rather than bargaining based on information and trust.

Watering holes run dry as liquor strike starts to bite

PLANNING a weekend party? Then you had better nip down to your local bottle store now — the well is starting to run dry at some watering holes in the Transvaal as the strike in the liquor industry continues.

Many liquor stores are collecting stocks themselves, although smaller ones without the appropriate vehicles or staff are finding it difficult to keep some favourite brands on their shelves.

Capacities

If you live near a large bottle store, chances are you will be able to find the liquor you are looking for because many of them have storerooms with large capacities.

The Star interviewed a number of liquor outlets during the week which were experiencing diffi-

BRENDAN TEMPLETON

culties with their deliveries — some had not received new supplies for about two weeks and their stocks were looking "terrible".

Others said they were coping although they could run into difficulties if the strike continued for much longer than a week.

One store owner said he expected his regular weekend trade to be down by 20 percent.

Rebel Discount Stores has informed its outlets not to talk to the press after some stores revealed the difficulties they were experiencing with the strike.

Yesterday, only one store said they were having problems with beer deliveries. Cosatu announced on Thursday a

possible boycott against South African Breweries subsidiaries.

This was part of a campaign to pressurise the group to accept union demands in the OK Bazaars and Southern Sun strikes.

Go-slow

The liquor strike started last Monday with a go-slow and overtime ban by about 5 400 members of the National Union of Wine, Spirits and Allied Workers (Nuwsaw), who demanded a R40 a week across-the-board increase. They went into a full strike on Wednesday when talks with employers failed to take place last weekend.

Yesterday Distillers Corporation withdrew permission for striking workers to be at certain points on their Germiston premises.

Watering holes run dry as liquor strike starts to bite

Star 14/7/90 (152)

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Drenched striker gets axe threat

JOHANNESBURG — An East Rand fireman allegedly threatened a shop steward with an axe yesterday shortly after striking workers and a fire they had built were doused with water from high pressure hoses

The incident occurred outside the strike-hit Stellenbosch Farmers' Winery plant in Wadeville, according to Mr November Nkosi, president of the National Union of Wine, Spirits and Allied Workers

The drenched workers and up to 700 colleagues were locked out of the factory premises on Thursday

The national strike, involving 3 800 members, continued into its third day yesterday

Also in Wadeville, the Distillers Corporation yesterday ordered about 500 strikers off the factory premises

Meanwhile union officials and management of the Southern Sun/Holiday Inns hotel group are still locked in mediation for the second day in an attempt to end the nine-day-old hotel strike, the SA Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers Union (Saccawu) said yesterday

And mediation to end the more than month-long strike at OK Bazaars was adjourned on Thursday night until next Thursday

Negotiations to break deadlocked wage talks and a strike by 10 000 workers in the

Frame Group of companies were also continuing yesterday, a spokeswoman for the group's Durban head office said

Meanwhile Durban's King Edward III Hospital — which was forced to close its doors to emergency surgical cases on Thursday — was operating normally yesterday

● SA Breweries yesterday said it took offence to a statement by the Congress of South African Trade Unions (Cosatu) on Thursday which said it had earmarked all SAB subsidiaries for a possible consumer boycott to combat the corporation's "racist, union-bashing attitude"

Cosatu also promised a protest programme of demonstrations and marches

'DON'T ACT AGAINST STRIKERS'

By SHARON SOROUR
Weekend Argus Reporter

ONE of the major unions in the wave of country-wide strikes has threatened legal action unless the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, stops police action against strikers

Saccawu — the SA Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers' Union — gave this warning in a letter to Mr Vlok after an approach to the Commissioner of Police in Johannesburg failed, union spokesman Mr Jeremy Daphne said.

"Police harassment"

The letter, written "in the light of ongoing police harassment", states that the arrests of picketers were not only "without any justification in law but also constitute a gross interference with workers' rights to picket and serve to heighten emotions and exacerbate frustrations".

Unless the arrests were stopped, Saccawu would "reserve its rights to seek relief in the Supreme Court", Mr Daphne said.

Meanwhile nationwide strikes continue with more than 40 000 workers involved.

- Mediation between OK Bazaars management and striking employees has been adjourned until Thursday with an improved offer by management being taken to 7 000 Saccawu workers — who have been on strike at 130 OK stores nationwide since June 4 — for their consideration.

- Southern Sun hotels and Saccawu resume mediation on Monday while arrests of picketers continue, according to Mr Daphne. Nearly 6 000 employees have been on strike at 43 hotels since July 2.

- The Checkers strike involving about 9 000 workers continues. Mediation resumes on July 18.



NATIONAL

City hotel workers join huge strike

NEARLY 3 000 Southern Sun/Holiday Inn workers at eight Cape Town hotels have joined the countrywide hotel strike.

Strikers, who are demanding a R160 across-the-board monthly increase — management has offered R100 — and a minimum wage of R590, met yesterday in St George's Cathedral hall for four hours to discuss their strike programme.

Afterwards, more than 300 strikers danced and sang through rain-washed city-centre streets on their way back to the Loop Street offices of the South African Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers Union (Saccawu)

Mid-afternoon traffic was disrupted as they crossed major intersections, but marshals regulated traffic and strikers and there were no incidents.

Last week nearly 5 000 workers, all Saccawu members, staged countrywide sit-ins at 35 Southern Sun/Holiday Inn hotels

The hotel group's management was granted a Supreme Court interdict last week to remove strikers from 19 of its Transvaal hotels.

Management has threatened to extend the interdict to evict workers from company premises at the Beacon Isle Hotel in Plettenberg Bay, the only hotel where strikers are still occupying the staff canteen.

Last week Cape Sun strikers were holed up in the five-star hotel's staff canteen without food or facilities for three days. They were allowed to send a delegation to buy food after the hotel management and union official, Mr Power Malgas, reached an agreement

Security guards carrying truncheons and a shot-guns were posted outside the Cape Sun yesterday. Guests entering and leaving the building were unhindered. — Staff Reporter and Sapa

Scant relief as wave of strikes rolls on

Argus
17/7/90
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By SHARON SOROUR
Labour Reporter

STRIKES involving tens of thousands of workers throughout the country, in industries as diverse as hotels and motor manufacturing, are continuing.

One of the worst-hit sectors is the hotel industry. New wage offers made by Southern Sun Hotels are being considered by the SA Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers' Union (Saccawu) after mediation over the weekend.

Nearly 6 000 employees, who have been on strike at 43 hotels since July 2, are demanding a R160 across-the-board monthly increase and an R800 minimum wage.

Legal pickets

Saccawu members in the Western Cape will stage legal pickets outside five Peninsula hotels this week.

About 200 workers at the Gabriel SA plant in Retreat are on strike over wages. They occupied the staff canteen last week during a wage dispute involving the National Union of Metalworkers of SA (Numsa).

They are demanding a R2,50 an hour across-the-board increase for the lowest grade worker and R3 for artisans. They have been offered between 65c for the lowest grade and R1,38 for supervisors and "productivity-linked incentives".

A strike is looming at Pick 'n Pay in the Western Cape after Saccawu

shop stewards declared a dispute on work conditions after negotiations between the union and management collapsed last week. Negotiations resume this week.

The strike over wages by more than 3 000 members of the National Union of Wine, Spirit and Allied Workers' Union continues, but the union will meet the South African Wine and Spirit Industry Employers' Association tomorrow.

Mediation between OK Bazaars management and Saccawu has been adjourned until Thursday with an improved offer by management being taken to 7 000 employees.

More than 9 000 Checkers employees will continue to strike until mediation resumes tomorrow.

Meanwhile, Saccawu has accused the Southern Sun hotel group of "insane power play" following full-page newspaper advertisements and other measures to counter union demands.

Mr Allan Horwitz, national union spokesman, said the group's "insane power play" was hurting the South African economy more than strikes by workers "struggling to survive in the face of low wages, high inflation and the racist, win-at-all costs attitude of major corporations".

Saccawu accused the company of spending "thousands of rands a day to beat the strike. This included advertisements in newspapers, lawsuits (six in eight days), white casual workers at R8,50 an hour and extra security guards.

Stayaways 'causing immeasurable harm' E Cape strikes continue

Labour Reporter

WIDESPREAD strikes, work stoppages and organised stayaways by nearly 40 000 workers nationwide, costing millions of rands, are causing "immeasurable economic harm" to the country.

The president of the Afrikaanse Handelsinstituut, Mr Tom de Beer, said the spate of "unrest and protest action frequently manifested by meaningless violence, strikes, organised stayaways, work stoppages and consumer boycotts, was counter-productive" and economically crippling.

He said that the pressure these actions placed on economic activity resulted in unemployment and lower productivity.

The Chamber of Commerce manpower manager in the Western Cape, Mr Charl Adams, said a nationwide strike could cost up to R400 million a day.

"Although it is very difficult to estimate the exact amount a strike costs daily, about R450 million is lost every public holiday when nobody is working. If a nationwide strike is comprehensive, even though all employees are not striking, it could cost up to R400 million a day," Mr Adams said.

COST R500 MILLION

Afrikaanse Handelsinstituut labour spokesman Mr Mickey Dames said that in 1988 a three-day work stoppage at certain companies cost R500 million.

Strikes led to a drop in productivity and an increase in prices as businesses had to "make up" on a loss of profit caused by the strike.

"Strike action reduces the company's profits — usually measured after 20 working days — and small companies especially suffer during this kind of action," he said.

Mr De Beer said confrontation and "irresponsible protest action" were detrimental and did not "contribute to the building of a strong economy and a better South Africa".

Argus Bureau

PORT ELIZABETH. — Industrial action continued at hotels, liquor companies and by municipal workers today.

As the strike by municipal workers entered its third week, there were reports of behind-the-scenes efforts to convene talks.

The Municipal Workers' Union has said its members would return to work if the municipality made a firm offer on a minimum wage.

The municipality has refused to discuss the issue until workers return to duty.

However, it is believed that the SA Municipal Workers' Union might agree to informal talks.

Employees returned to work yesterday at two Uitenhage companies, Cumar and Hella.

● About 250 illegally striking Gabriel SA workers were fired yesterday after ignoring a Supreme Court interdict ordering them to vacate company premises and resume work.

Gabriel spokesman Mr John Bird said the workers — all members of the National Union of Metalworkers' (Numsa) — were dismissed after they had been given "ample deadline to fulfil the terms of the interdict".

City hotel workers in 'racism' protest

CAT TIGHTS 17/7/90
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Staff Reporter and Sapa

ABOUT 300 striking Southern Sun/Holiday Inns workers marched through the city last night to highlight the two-week-long strike action against "starvation wages and racist bosses".

Southern Sun/Holiday Inns, Checkers and OK Bazaars — all subsidiaries of the South African Breweries holding company — are currently locked in mediation with the SA Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers' Union (Saccawu).

And in Retreat, about 220 Gabriel SA workers — all National Union of Metalworkers of SA members — were fired yesterday for illegally striking since Wednesday over wage demands, company spokesman Mr John Bird said last night.

A spokesman for Saccawu, Mr Jeremy Daphne, said in Johannesburg yesterday that details of the mediation could not be divulged at this stage, but "offers" had been exchanged.

Mr Daphne said picketers were still being arrested countrywide, including 82 Checkers workers picketing in Ermelo yesterday.

Southern Sun and Holiday Inns Group declined yesterday to issue a statement on the day's negotiations.

'Withdraw interdict'

Mr Bird said an urgent Supreme Court interdict was granted on Thursday, ordering workers to vacate the premises. They had until noon yesterday to return to work or face dismissal.

"The workers refused to take up tools, demanding that Gabriel withdraw the interdict and pay for its costs and insisted that they be paid for the duration of their strike. Management refused and the strikers were dismissed," he said.

A Numsa spokesman said workers were demanding a R2,50 across-the-board increase against a company offer of 63 cents to R1,63.

● About 3 800 striking workers in the wine production industry yesterday were firm in their demand for a R40 weekly increase and are set to continue their legal strike which enters its sixth day today.

The National Union of Wine, Spirits and Allied Workers will meet employers in Stellenbosch tomorrow to try to reach a settlement, Nuwsaw president Mr November Nkosi said.

● Workers at the strike-torn Grapnel Exhaust Systems plant in Atlantis staged wildcat stoppages last week and yesterday to try to stop disciplinary hearings of four colleagues accused of taking part in an illegal strike, said a Numsa spokesman.

The strike, involving about 400 workers, was a sequel to an illegal wage strike in late June when police shot and wounded three workers.

● Talks to resolve a six-day legal strike by more than 10 000 workers in the Frame Group of textile companies resumed yesterday, said SA Clothing and Textile Workers' Union spokesman Mr Elias Banda. Workers at plants in Durban, Pinetown, Ladysmith and East London are demanding a R40 across-the-board increase.

● Meanwhile, Saccawu will embark on a one-hour national work stoppage at all organised workplaces in the commercial and catering trades on July 27 between 2 and 3pm.

Reacting to the Saccawu announcement, SAB group public relations manager Mr Dunbar Bucknall said "The planned work stoppage is some sort of gesture and we will just have to see how it goes."

Cleaning firm bombed

17643
18/7/90

Crime Reporter

TWO petrol bombs caused thousands of rands damage to a dry-cleaning company which cleans linen for the Beacon Island Hotel, where workers are on strike.

The Deputy-Mayor of Plettenberg Bay, Mr John Truter, was in The Klene Centre in Faris Street when the bombs were thrown through a side window about 8pm yesterday.

The building is in an industrial area next to the Bossiesgif squatter community, where people have been protesting this week.

DOUSED FIRE

A smoke-detecting alarm was sounded and Mr Truter walked downstairs, where he found that a fire had started.

He called the fire, Mr Bill de Lange, and the two doused the fire with extinguishers.

Mr De Lange said a "substantial amount" of linen was damaged.

"Fortunately very little clothing seems to have been damaged," he added.

Mr De Lange searched through debris today to establish if equipment had been damaged.

Strike ballot at Metro Cash 'n Carry stores

SACCAWU will start holding strike ballots among 5 000 members at 168 Metro Cash 'n Carry stores today after the failure of a conciliation board hearing to resolve a wage dispute, a union spokesman said yesterday

Metro have offered a monthly across-the-board increase of R135. The union

MATTHEW CURTIN

has demanded R150

More than 22 000 Saccawu members are striking over wages, working conditions and dismissals at OK Bazaars, Checkers and Southern Sun/Holiday Inn

(3) 152

200 on strike given the sack

By BRONWYN DAVIDS

ABOUT 200 workers from SA Metal & Machinery — all members of the National Union of Metalworkers of SA (Numsa) — were fired yesterday on the second day of a wage dispute, manager Mr John Bidderman-Pam confirmed last night.

A Numsa spokesman said workers at the Salt River and Epping plants were demanding a minimum wage of R4,50 per hour.

This follows Monday's dismissal of 220 Numsa members from Gabriel SA in Retreat, where workers picketed yesterday.

And at Steeldale Company in Epping, about 110 Numsa members are striking to have 29 retrenched workers reinstated — and to urge management to resume negotiations about re-

trenchment with the union.

● Yesterday about 500 hotel strikers — all members of the SA Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers' Union (Saccawu) — again marched to all the Southern Sun Hotels in the city.

Saccawu spokesman Mr Jeremy Daphne said yesterday 72 workers were arrested on by-law charges at Checkers stores.

In Newcastle, 16 hotel workers were arrested, while mediation with Southern Sun/Holiday Inns is in recess until Friday.

About 7 000 workers at 130 OK Bazaars stores were still striking.

● Mr Daphne also said a conciliation board hearing a Metro Cash and Carry broke down yesterday and 500 Saccawu workers at 168 stores would decide today whether they to strike.

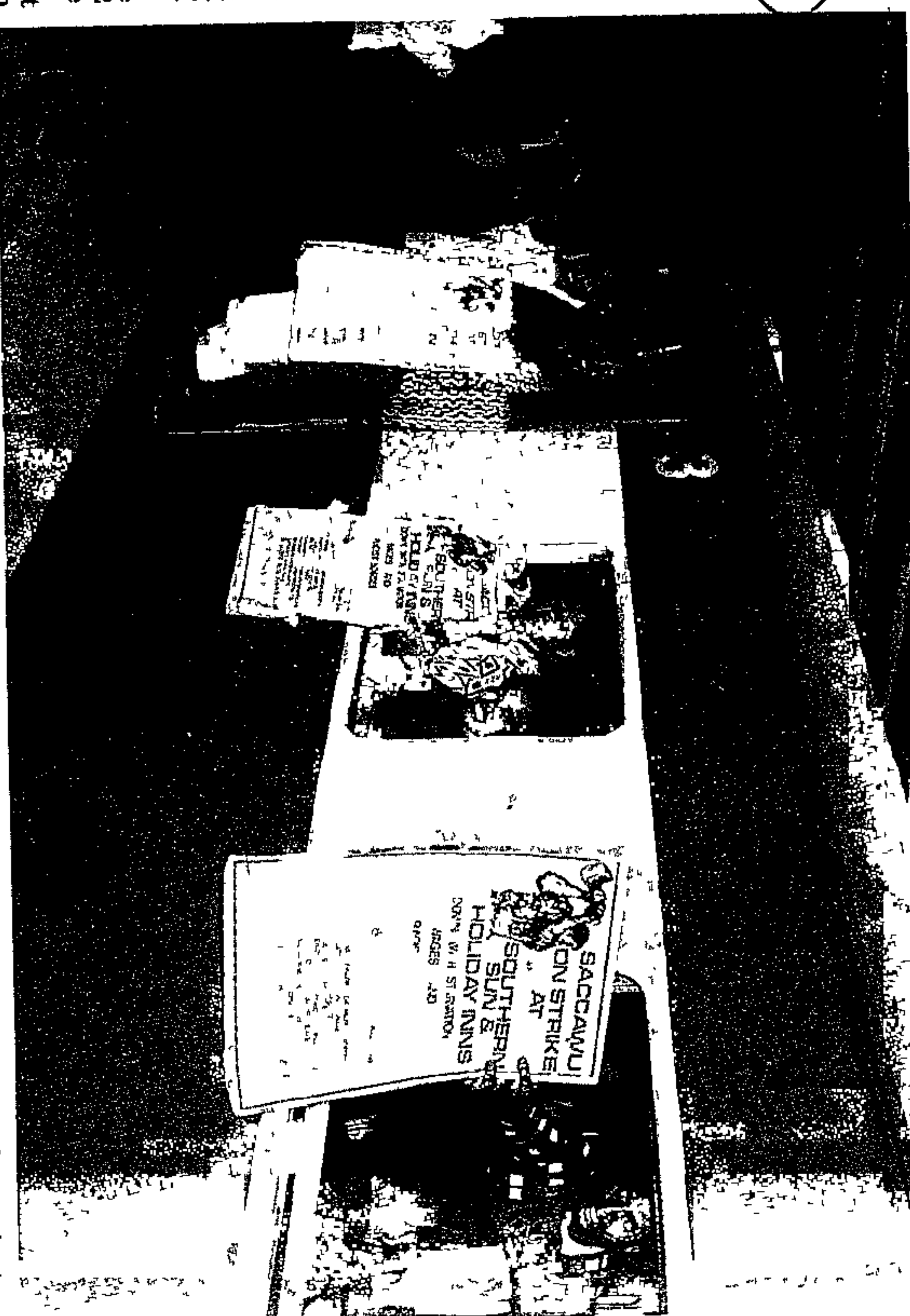
● The National Union of Wine, Spirits and Allied Workers (Nu-

saw), which represents 3 800 striking wine industry workers, will today meet employers from six companies — Stellenbosch Farmers' Winery, Distillers Corporation, Union Wine, Gilbeys, Henry, Taylor and Rhes, and Douglas Green of Paarl.

● Sapa reported that 148 workers — members of the Chemical Workers' Industrial Union — fired by Epping plastics factory, Kohler Xactics, staged a picket outside a Cape Town building yesterday where a senior management meeting was being held.

● Last night, Transvaal police rejected a Saccawu claim that 82 members were arrested while picketing Ermelo Checkers.

They confirmed, however, that 16 people were arrested for an illegal display of placards in a municipal area — apparently a municipal by-law contravention.



ALL ABOARD ... Hotel strikers board Cape Flats-bound trains after marching through the city as part of ongoing strike action against 43 Southern Sun Hotels and Holiday Inns. Picture: Obed Zilwa

Talks held in bid to resolve strikes ⁸²

By SHARON SOROUR
Labour Reporter

ATTEMPTS to resolve wage disputes at strike-torn industries throughout the country take place this week.

The National Union of Wine, Spirit and Allied Workers' Union (Nuwsaw) meets the South African Wine and Spirit Industry Employers' Association (Sawsiea) in Stellenbosch today.

More than 3 500 workers, on strike since July 11, are demanding a weekly increase of R40. They have been offered R33.

A boycott of the six companies affected by the strike — Stellenbosch Farmers' Winery, Distillers Corporation, Union Wine, Gilbeys, Henry, Taylor and Ries and Douglas Green — has begun in Stellenbosch

MEDIATION

Nuwsaw spokesman Mr William Makhunga warned that the boycott would spread to other parts of the country if negotiations broke down today

Sawsiea spokesman Mr Charles Hoefflich said that resolving the dispute depended "on the union's attitude and approach"

The effects of the boycott could not yet be felt.

Mediation between supermarket chain Checkers and the Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers' Union (Saccawu) resumes today

About 9 500 workers are on strike and picketing and canteen sit-ins continue at 161 stores nationwide.

Yesterday 72 picketers were arrested, according to a union spokesman.

The union's battle with OK Bazaars

resumes under mediation tomorrow. More than 7 000 are on strike at 130 OK stores.

About 5 000 Saccawu members from 168 Metro Cash and Carry stores will take part in a strike ballot tomorrow after a conciliation board hearing broke down yesterday

The union's demand of a R150 across-the-board increase has met with an offer of R135

The union is also involved in the Southern Sun/Holiday Inns strike by more than 6 000 members at 43 hotels. Mediation will resume on Friday.

Yesterday about 300 placard-bearing strikers toyi-toyed through the city centre and demonstrated in front of the Inn on the Square, the St George's and the Cape Sun hotels

The Chemical Workers' Industrial Union is also involved in several disputes in Epping, Paarden Eiland and Johannesburg

FACE DISMISSAL

About 150 employees of Kohler Xactics, a plastics factory in Epping, hope to be reinstated after being sacked on June 25 for a one-day strike in protest at retrenchments. Union representatives held talks with management yesterday.

Ten employees of a Paarden Eiland spray-paint factory, Balco, face dismissal over their demand for a 30 percent weekly increase

In Johannesburg, mediation arrangements are being made between the union and Ciba-Geigy following a strike by 172 employees since May 7 after the company refused to take part in a chemical industries provident fund initiated by the union.

Liquor industry boycott threat

Labour Reporter

NRG 19/7/90 (154)

THREATS of a nationwide consumer boycott have hit the strike-torn liquor industry after a failed attempt to resolve a wage dispute.

Talks between the National Union of Wine, Spirit and Allied Workers' Union and the South African Wine and Spirit Industry Employers ended in a deadlock late yesterday afternoon, according to union spokesman Mr William Makhunga.

More than 3 500 workers — including 664 in the Western Cape, 1 420 in the Transvaal and 1 000 in the Free State and Eastern Cape — on strike since July 11, are demanding a weekly increase of R40 each. The employers are offering R33.

About 10 000 employees would benefit from any increase gained.

A consumer boycott of the six strike-related companies — Stellenbosch Farmers' Winery, Distillers Corporation, Union Wine, Gilbeys, Douglas Green and Henry, Taylor and Ries — began in Stellenbosch on Monday and the union warned that it would spread to Cape Town and other parts of the country if the dispute remained unresolved.

According to Mr Makhunga about 1 500 union and community members will go ahead with a march through the streets of Stellenbosch on Friday to hand over a list of demands to each of the six companies affected by the strike.

The union also demands 22 days' annual leave for workers with more than 10 years' service.

Although major Western Cape liquor outlets have not yet been affected by the strike, most liquor stores on the Reef have experienced problems and smaller liquor outlets were expected to run into severe problems.

Pick 'n Pay's senior buyer in Johannesburg, Mr Geoff Kahn, said demand was exceeding supply and all retailers and bottle stores had problems because of erratic deliveries.

26 000 in 'human chain' protest

152
19/7/90

Labour Reporter

IN one of Cape Town's biggest trade union demonstrations, more than 26 000 clothing and textile industry workers formed a "human chain" in support of a workers' charter.

Wet weather failed to dampen exuberance as hordes of workers, mostly women, spilled out of about 500 factories from Worcester to Cape Town to form separate chains in 15 industrial areas yesterday.

The lunch-hour pavement protest was organised by the SA Clothing and Textile Workers' Union and organiser Mr Ebrahim Patel hailed it as "a huge success".

DISCIPLINE

He said the demonstration was free of violent incidents.

Police kept a low profile as workers, decked out in the union's colours of red and yellow, waved placards, sang and toyi-toyed.

In Salt River about 8 000 people lined Victoria Road for several kilometres and traffic was disrupted when toyi-toying workers surged into the road.

Some motorists hooted and shouted messages of support.

At Epping an estimated 5 000 took part, Parow Industria 2 500, Elsies River 2 100 and Atlantis 2 200.

About 1 100 linked arms in Paarl, 200 in Wellington and 600 in Worcester.

Mr Patel said the demonstration was proof of the "depth of worker interest in the changes taking place in South Africa and the determination of workers to have their rights incorporated in a post-apartheid constitution".

The right to strike and picket, bargain with employers, belong to a trade union and trade union independence are included in the Cosatu workers' charter.

But the Cape Clothing Manufacturers' Association complained that the campaign was being "taken to the streets" instead of before the Industrial Council.

Several employers extended lunch hours by 30 minutes to allow employees to protest.

Strike stalemate broken in PE

McCas
19/7/90
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The Argus Bureau

PORT ELIZABETH. — Householders are happily starting to dump refuse on the pavements in anticipation of striking municipal workers returning to work today

The 15-day strike by more than 3 000 municipal workers ended late yesterday

A joint statement by the unions and the municipality said the impasse had been broken and the workers had decided to return today.

Workers have been gathering daily at the municipal cleansing depot, but have refused to work

The statement, signed by Mr P K Botha, Town Clerk, and Mr Fezile Mavuso of the SA Municipal Workers Union and Mr A Piedt of the Amalgamated Municipal Employees said wage negotiations would start at the soonest mutually convenient date.

The parties said that because of the sensitivity of the matter no further information could be given at this stage.

The unions have been asking for a R300 across-the-board increase plus 20 percent

Before the strike the municipality offered a 12 percent increase.



Picture WILLIE de KLERK, The Argus

PROTEST CHAIN: Thousands of textile and clothing workers line Victoria Road in Salt River in support of a workers' charter. Demonstrations were held from Worcester to Cape Town.

Strike threat by food-industry union

ARGUS
19/7/90
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By SHARON SOROUR
Labour Reporter, and Sapa

WORKERS in the food industry are threatening to join tens of thousands of employees in industries as diverse as hotels and motor manufacturing as the spate of nationwide strikes continues in spite of intense mediation.

The Food and Allied Workers' Union (Fawu) is locked in two disputes. In Cape Town about 150 workers are threatening to strike at Enterprise Bakery, part of the Sasko group, after a management weekly wage increase offer of R30 was refused by the union. Workers are demanding R45.

The workers also are demanding equal leave and improved health and safety conditions, according to Fawu spokesman Mr Adam Paulse.

Sasko spokesman Mr G Konig said the company was willing to enter into mediation with Fawu over the wage dispute.

In Johannesburg, Cadbury subsidiary Chaplate Industries is threatening to retrench workers after a wage dispute with Fawu. The company is refusing to increase the wages of 800 workers to R5 an hour.

Meanwhile, 3 000

mineworkers, members of the National Union of Mineworkers went on strike at Rand Mines' Harmony gold mine in Welkom yesterday in support of an immediate wage increase negotiated by the union with the Chamber of Mines, Sapa reports.

Num and management meet on July 27 to review an offered 13 percent increase at the mine.

About 6 000 members of the SA Clothing and Textile Workers' Union and the National Union of Leatherworkers are poised to strike on July 27 following a wage dispute with the Footwear Manufacturers' Federation.

The unions are demanding a 22 percent package deal increase while the federation is offering a 19 percent across-the-board weekly wage increase.

Pick 'n Pay management in the Western Cape and SA Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers' Union (Saccawu) shop stewards resume negotiations today to resolve a dispute on work and other conditions.

Mediation between strike-hit OK Bazaars and the union starts today after the company offered an undisclosed improved offer recently. More than 7 000 workers are on strike at 130 stores.

About 5 000 Metro Cash and Carry employees, all Saccawu members, will take part in a strike ballot today after negotiation between the union and management broke down.

The union is demanding a R150 across-the-board increase against a management offer of R135.

Saccawu's battle with Southern Sun/Holiday Inns — involving more than 6 000 workers at 43 hotels — resumes under mediation tomorrow.

Sugar and salt

In Johannesburg, about 50 striking hotel workers moved into Southern Sun's head office in Sandton City, armed with small bags of sugar and salt to stave off hunger, according to a union shop steward.

Saccawu shop steward Mr Albert Netshishivhe said that the workers planned to continue their sit-in until their demands were met, or they were forced out by a court order.

Checkers management and Saccawu met yesterday to discuss management's final offer of a R140 across-the-board increase. The union is demanding R150.

The Chemical Workers' Industrial Union is involved in several disputes in Paarden Eiland, Epping and Johannesburg.

8, 10 am 191 71 70 152

Numsa to hold strike ballot

MATTHEW CURTIN

THE National Union of Metal Workers (Numsa) yesterday announced a strike ballot of its 115 000 members in the metal industry on July 30.

At yesterday's dispute meeting the Steel Engineering Industries' Federation (Seifsa) revised its final wage offer by 3c to 5c between lowest and highest rates by converting into a wage increase an extra 0,5% contribution to provident and pension funds.

This means labourers and artisans would receive increases of 19% and 15,5% on minimum rates. Numsa has demanded a R2 across-the-board increase, a 56% increase on lowest rates.

A Numsa statement said members would be consulted this week on the latest Seifsa proposals.

Wine 7/17/70
152

Liquor strikers call for boycott

TALKS between striking wine industry workers and the Wine and Spirit Industry Employers' Association ground to a halt yesterday when a wage dispute could not be resolved.

The 3 800 strikers, represented by the National Union of Wine, Spirits and Allied Workers (Nuwsaw), urged consumers to boycott their employers' products.

British and European trade unions have indicated support, said Nuwsaw spokesman Mr William Makhunga.

Peaceful

The parties are still deadlocked over union demands for a R40 weekly increase. Employers have offered R33.

A legal march will be held in Stellenbosch tomorrow to highlight demands.

Employers' Association spokesman Mr Riaan Kruger said the parties agreed only on the following points: That industrial action be conducted in a peaceful manner and that "victimisation, intimidation, harassment or violence be rejected."

● Early yesterday, some 300 striking hotel workers marched about 12km in pelting rain from the Newlands Sun hotel to the city centre and back to the Holiday Inn in Woodstock, a Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers' Union spokesman said.

About 6 000 Saccawu members are embroiled in a three-week wage dispute with Southern Sun/Holiday Inns.

● In Johannesburg, police detained four of the 11 mineworkers injured in a clash with security at St Helena Gold Mine in Welkom on Tuesday, a union spokesman said.

A mine spokesman rejected claims that the company had dismissed half of its workforce. The number was less than 10% after "repeated stoppages" — Staff Reporter and Sapa.

End to PE council strike

(152)

PORT ELIZABETH — Municipal workers here were due to return to work on Thursday after reaching an agreement with the city council.

A joint statement by the SA Municipal Workers' Union (Samwu) and the municipality said a meeting yesterday had "succeeded in breaking the present impasse and the strikers have agreed to return to work immediately" *South 1917-2517190*

Climbdown

The statement was released on the parties' behalf by Mr Paul Botha, the town clerk. It said negotiations on the wage dispute itself would commence as soon as possible.

Although the statement said no further information would be released "due to the sensitivity of the matter", it seems clear the settlement marks a major climbdown for the municipality.

Only hours before the settlement, municipal threats to dismiss the 3 000 strikers were being reported. They were the second such warnings in the 15-day strike.

Previously, the strike remained deadlocked over the municipality's insistence that strikers go back before any further offers could be made, while strikers demanded an offer before considering a return.

Union sources said management had made an offer of a minimum wage of R600 at yesterday's meeting. Workers

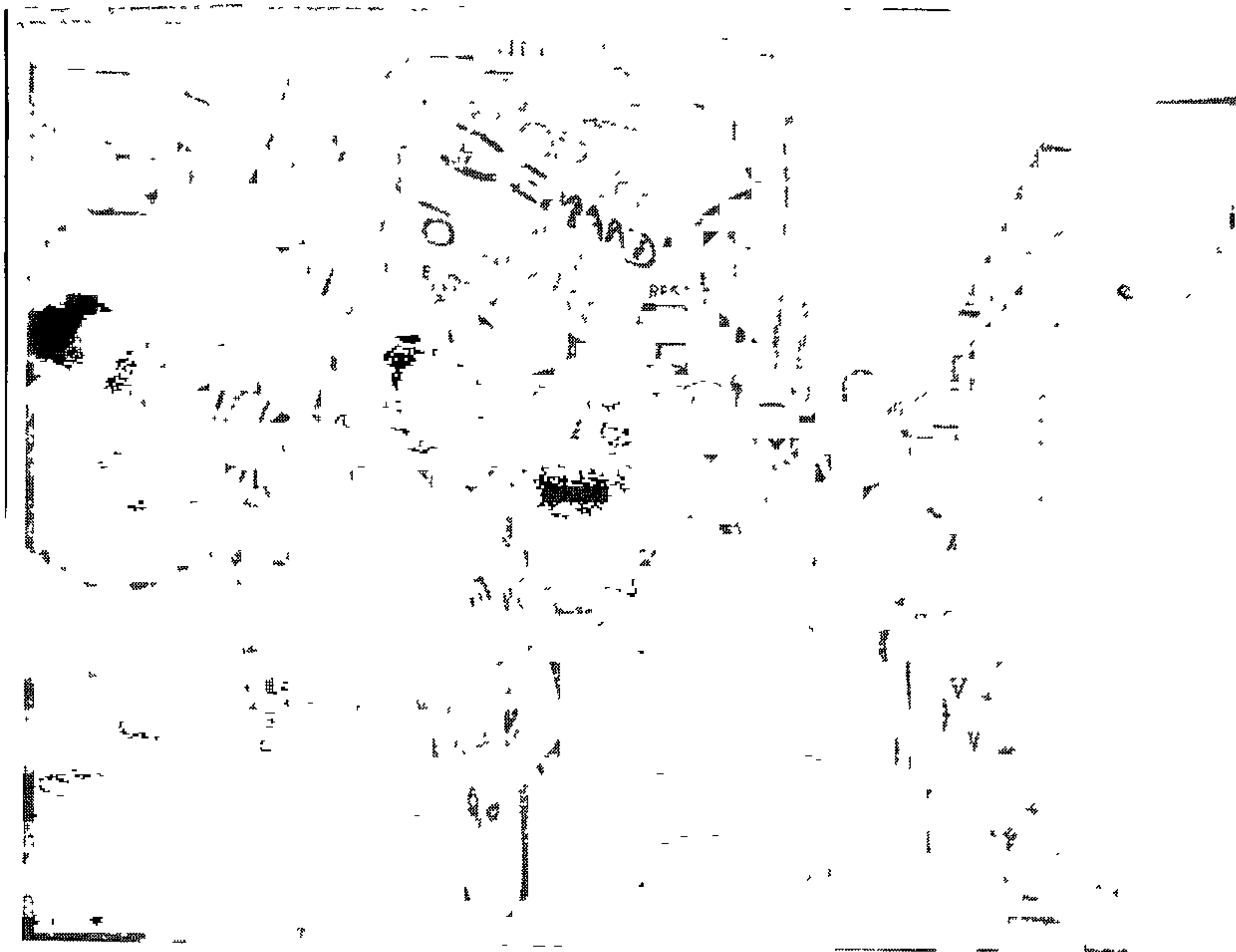
had been demanding R765, almost double the previous minimum of R362. The only previous offer from the municipality was for a 12 percent increase.

The settlement came only a day after councillors voted to give themselves salary increases.

A council sub-committee meeting on Tuesday night recommended an

increase for councillors of 20 percent, the maximum amount allowed by the provincial administration.

The mayor will get R4 800 a month, up from R3 840, the deputy mayor and chairmen of the management committees will get R3 600, up from R2 880, while councillors will get R1 200, up from R960 a month — PEN



WORKER POWER: Clothing workers in Main Road, Woodstock, join the "human chain" protest in support of Cosatu's Workers' Charter campaign PIC. YUNUS MOHAMED

Thousands form *South 1917 - 25/1/90* 'human chain' 152

By CHIARA CARTER

MORE than 26 000 clothing workers linked arms to form a human chain along main roads in industrial areas throughout Cape Town on Wednesday.

The demonstration, which took place in heavy rain, was the largest trade union demonstration ever in Cape Town.

The chain was part of a campaign by the South African Clothing and Textile Workers' Union (Sactwu) to put forward worker rights for inclusion in the laws and constitution of a new

South Africa.

Sactwu's national education officer, Mr Ebrahim Patel, said the demonstration indicated the extent of worker support for the Workers' Charter campaign.

"It shows the depth of worker interest in the changes taking place in South Africa, and the determination of workers to have their rights incorporated in the constitution of a new South Africa," Patel said.

Similar demonstrations also took place in industrial areas in Port Elizabeth.

Footwear and clothing workers may strike (152)

THOUSANDS of clothing and footwear industry workers in the Western Cape are poised to strike following a wage and service dispute between two major unions and the Footwear Manufacturers Federation (153)

Sowetan 19/7/90
The unions are demanding a 22 percent wage increase while the federation presented a final offer of a 19 percent across-the-board weekly increase at a meeting on Tuesday. - Sapa

Dismissed Kohler Xactics workers demonstrate outside the company's headquarters
PIC: YUNUS MOHAMED

More industrial action imminent

152
South 1917-2577190

By CHIARA CARTER

THE strike wave which has rocked South African industry shows no sign of abating. On the contrary, more industrial action is imminent.

By early this week, the number of workers on strike had reached the 40 000 mark — an all-time high.

Thousands of other workers are involved in go-slows, overtime bans and other forms of industrial action.

Most of the strikers are members of the South African Commercial, Cater-

ing and Allied Workers' Union (Saccawu).

Now thousands of other Saccawu members intend to take industrial action to highlight the union's living wage campaign.

Saccawu general secretary Mr Vivian Mtwa said all Saccawu members would take part in a one-hour national work stoppage next week during which they will picket outside their work places.

Mtwa said the union's central demand was the right of workers to picket.

He said Saccawu was also demanding the right to strike, access to company facilities during strikes and an end to rightwing assaults on strikers.

More than 400 Southern Sun and OK

Bazaars workers have been arrested so far — most of them for picketing.

This week, more than 80 Checkers workers were arrested at Ermelo for picketing.

Mediation

The union is presently negotiating with Checkers, while mediation is scheduled to take place later this week between Saccawu and OK Bazaars and Southern Suns.

The union is holding a strike ballot at Metro Cash and Carry stores this week.

The move comes after a conciliation board hearing broke down on Tuesday morning.

The union is demanding a R150 across-the-board increase while the

Why it's ok to strike

By MONO BADELA and
CHIARA CARTER

GOING on strike has become a way of life for tens of thousands of workers at hotels and retail stores around the country. *South 117-2517790*

The workers, members of the South African Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers' Union of South Africa (Saccawu), include between 7 000 and 8 000 OK Bazaars employees engaged in a six-week strike that has begun to resemble an endurance battle.

It is not the first time the union has clashed with the company.

In early 1987, thousands of OK Bazaars workers downed tools for three months to demand higher wages.

What keeps the workers on the picket line?

Saccawu general secretary Mr Vivian Mtwa says it is their conviction that "right is on their side".

"When our members go on a strike, they know very well it means sacrifice. They understand they are involved in a struggle. They are sustained by their belief in that struggle," Mtwa said.

"There is no special strike fund from which they can get support. What funds

there are are used to bail out members who are arrested."

Besides OK Bazaars, Saccawu members are involved in several other massive strikes at major national companies, including Checkers and Southern Sun Hotels.

Mtwa said the union was sustaining the strike action because there were strong support committees and a well-organised strike coordinating committee which met regularly to receive reports and strategise on the basis of workers' mandates.

Shop stewards were playing a key role alongside what he described as "energetic" officials at all levels of the union.

Mtwa said the direction of the strike ultimately depended on the negotiating team and shop stewards.

The union has explored several approaches to put pressure on both companies and the state.

It has spearheaded a move to make holding companies responsible for the labour practices of their subsidiaries.

In the case of OK Bazaars and Southern Sun, the giant South African Breweries (SAB) company has been targeted for action by Cosatu affiliates.

Next week, Saccawu intends to call on its 90 000 members to take action in

support of the right to picket during strikes.

Mtwa said the union intended to launch a campaign against the legal firm Deneys Reitz which, Saccawu claims, practices "union-bashing".

As a first step, picketing outside the firm's Sandton head office would start on Wednesday.

These strategies were adopted at Saccawu's first national congress in Johannesburg last month.

The congress was attended by 390 delegates representing 55 locals of eight branches around the country.

The congress was addressed by Saccawu general secretary Mr John Nkandeng, Cosatu vice-president Mr Chris Dlamini and former Ccaawusa general secretary Ms Emma Mashinini.

The congress endorsed the recommendations of Saccawu's landmark bargaining conference earlier this year.

These included far-reaching proposals on social security to stretch "from the cradle to the grave".

The congress decided on a guiding slogan for the union "Unity, Democracy, Socialism".

Mtwa himself has been with the union since the mid-70s.

Protest at Grapnel

FURTHER industrial unrest hit the strife-torn Grapnel factory in Atlantis this week when workers downed tools to protest against a company move to take disciplinary measures against four strikers. *(152)*

Last Friday, a two-hour work stoppage took place at the company and on Monday workers marched to the administration block to protest against management's decision to hold a disciplinary hearing into the conduct of four workers during a strike at the factory last month. *South 117-2517790*

The four appeared before a disciplinary inquiry chaired by an outside labour consultant on Monday on charges of taking illegal strike action, not obeying orders and refusing to comply with the terms and conditions of employment.

A company spokesperson said the findings of the inquiry would be made known later this month.

A spokesperson for the National Union of Metalworkers of South Africa (Numsa) said the union wanted to "build bridges" with the company but such actions made this difficult.

Pretoria teachers go back

Stnr 19/7/90
Pretoria Bureau

Teachers in Pretoria and surrounding areas returned to work yesterday after a week-long stayaway following a warning from the Department of Education and Training that they faced dismissal.

The local United Democratic Front office confirmed today that teachers at Mamelodi, Atteridgeville, Soshanguwe, Brits and Moutse schools suspended their protest action in a "tactical retreat" following DET Northern Transvaal chief director Job Schoeman's warning that they would be fired if they did not resume classes by next Monday, and that July absences would be treated as leave without pay.

The protest action began

when teachers refused to take classes during the DET-stipulated school terms. The present term began on July 10, but schools were effectively closed.

To protest over the lack of consultation on the school calendar, among other grievances, teachers instead intended to report for work on July 31, the first day of the DET's official school holidays.

"Teachers who fail to report at schools and perform their normal duties from Monday July 23 will have been absent for duty without permission for more than 14 days," said Mr Schoeman.

"Teachers' salary cheques for July will have to be adjusted. The inevitable effect of this is that salary cheques cannot be distributed before July 31."

Star 19/7/90 SEP 152

Mine strike, arrests increase tension

By Brendan Templeton

Tension increased at two Welkom gold mines yesterday when workers at one went on strike and four workers involved in a shooting incident on Monday were arrested at another.

Mining houses and the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) are also set to clash over the ban on open political expression for workers on mine property.

Harmony mine, recently the scene of racial tension when a white official was killed by black workers, saw about 3 000 workers start a wage strike yesterday.

NUM members at the mine, numbering 18 000 of the total workforce of 25 000, are demanding management implement an immediate wage increase in line with the increase negotiated by their union with the Chamber of Mines last month.

At nearby St Helena mine, the arrest of the four injured workers yesterday would do little to settle the problems on the mine, said NUM spokesman Jerry Majatladi.

The shooting occurred when toyi-toying workers wearing T-shirts with political slogans

clashed with mine security while returning from a union meeting over proposed retrenchments.

Over 1 800 workers on the mine face retrenchment and the resultant job insecurity caused tensions to increase, Mr Majatladi said.

He said open political activities like wearing T-shirts and holding political marches were banned on mines.

A General Mining spokesman said the restriction was necessary to prevent open conflict between different political supporters breaking out.

Cape firm fires 24

MORE than half the workforce at Shelco Shelving, near DF Malan Airport in Cape Town, have been dismissed following stoppages relating to the July 2 stayaway to isolate Inkatha (152)

According to a dismissed senior shop steward and member of the National Union of Metalworkers of South Africa, Mr Henry Mentoor, 24 workers out of the total workforce of 37 were fired on July 6.

Workers downed tools in protest against the disciplinary hearing of four colleagues who had complied with the stayaway call by the Congress of South African Trade Unions. Soweto 14/7/90

The four who stayed away were fired on July 6, sparking another stoppage and mass firing of the workforce - Sapa.

Employers lash out at wildcatters

CAPE TOWN: A volatile situation is brewing in the Western Cape engineering sector as wildcat stoppages lead to firings, lockouts and even police intervention — compounded by retaliatory protests (152) (153)

And, overshadowing the local shop-floor turmoil over deteriorating standards of living, is the national pay dispute in the metal, steel and engineering industry. *Wimark 2017-22/7/90*

Pitted against each other are the 200 000-strong National Union of Metalworkers (Numsa) and the Steel and Industries Employers Federation of South Africa (Seifsa), representing some 10 000 employers.

By yesterday there were 400 dismissals following snap strikes in the engineering industry, while another 110 workers were still on strike at the Steele-dale FBE plant in Epping Industria.

The industry has been plagued by wildcat strikes since the beginning of the year, ranging from differences over

wages and working conditions to protests against retrenchment

A local Numsa official admitted that many workers were flouting existing bargaining procedures and walking off the job during scheduled wage talks.

Illegal stoppages have taken place at four companies. *(154)*

In Atlantis, police fired at workers occupying the Grapnel Exhaust Systems plant, wounding three and sparking union and community outrage which ended in a massive protest, emptying factories in late June.

The Numsa official said the union refused to intervene in defusing illegal actions until employers had waived their rights to sue the union in terms of the controversial Section 79 of the amended Labour Relations Act

A Cape Town representative of Seifsa, Colin Boyes, said it was most distressing seeing wildcat strikes undermining a sophisticated collective bargaining system in the industry. — Sapa

Checkers settles ... but the union goes on striking

By DREW FORREST

UNIONISTS and management of the strike-hit Checkers supermarket chain have settled on wages — but union sources say the dispute is not over.

Management yesterday released a statement through Sapa saying agreement had been reached in the wage dispute which sparked the two-week strike by more than 9 500 workers at about 170 stores.

However, a source in SA Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers' Union said an additional demand for payment for one week of the strike remained in dispute.

"Until it's dealt with, the strike goes on," he said.

Management said that in terms of the pay settlement, reached through mediation, workers would receive a R140 across-the-board increase, bringing the minimum wage to R770 a month.

The R140 figure represents a slight improvement on management's original offer of R135 from July and R5 more next January.

The union had demanded R165 and a minimum rate of R830.

Management also said union members would receive a 12 percent discount on purchases, to a value of R375.

At Greentmans and Stuttards, the discount would be 20 percent, and staff would be allowed to pay off accounts at the stores over a six months.

'Racism' leads to protest by 300 hospital workers

By GLENDA DANIELS

ABOUT 300 workers at the JG Strydom Hospital went on strike yesterday because of "racist" practices by the administration, said a Johannesburg organiser for the National Education and Health Workers' Union, Vuyani Mabaxa.

Three reasons were given for the strike: W/Mon 20/7 - 22/7/90

● The head of the kitchen department is alleged to have said that she would replace African workers with coloured workers because African workers liked strikes.

● Vacant posts are not advertised and the administration gives jobs to relatives.

● There was a rumour that an administrator is being transferred to the hospital from the Johannesburg General Hospital and "workers know him to be a bad person".

Mabaxa said the 300 workers were members of Nkomo, which was not yet recognised by the hospital's administration, although negotiations regarding the issue were under way.

The Hospital Services' head of public relations in Pretoria, Jan van Wyk, could not be reached for comment.

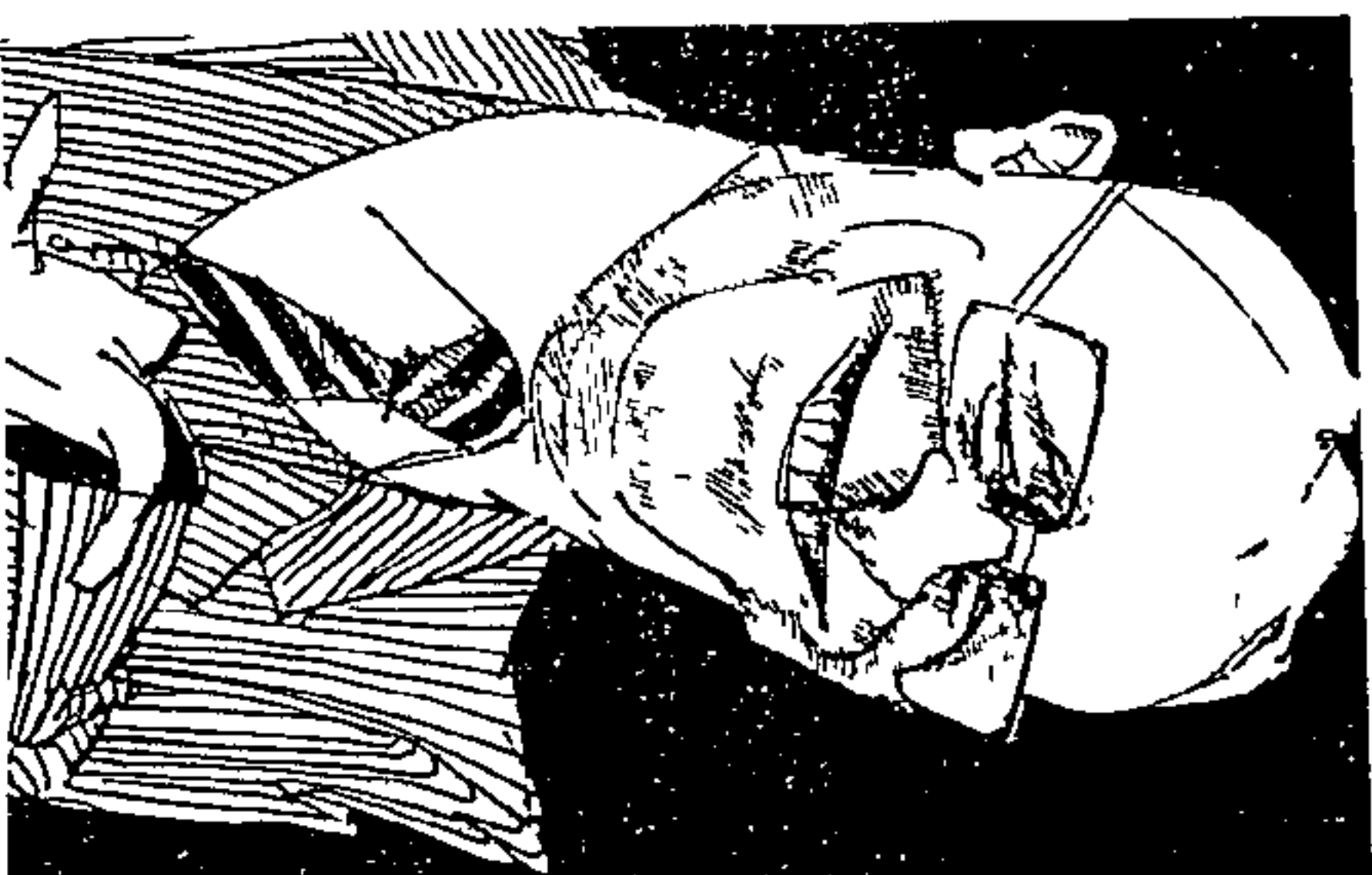
152
1984-22/11/90

Strikers have a right to picket. But is it legal?

Strike pickets have emerged as a major flashpoint on the labour front.

It's a key right — according to experts — but of uncertain legality

in South Africa.
DREW FORREST
reports



Adriaan Vlok ... Using the velvet glove tactic regarding picketers

In an apparently co-ordinated crackdown, picketers have been arrested across the country under obscure municipal bylaws outlawing advertising without local council permission. Saccawu holds the laws are being misapplied

A Transvaal Provincial Administrator's notice of 1973 aimed at unauthorised advertising has also been invoked, as have laws banning demonstrations in the vicinity of parliament and the courts

Legal sources believe that police are under instructions not to use tougher methods. But lawyers detect intense frustration within the force over the velvet-glove approach and nostalgia for lost Emergency powers

Specialists argue that picketing is an essential feature of South Africa's "adversarial" or "laissez faire" labour relations system, modelled on that of Anglo-Saxon countries

"It's the obverse of the employer's right to hire scabs," comments Wits University law professor Martin Brassey. "Where strikes are institutionalised and strike-hit employers tend to shut up shop, as on the Continent, scabs and pickets are less of a feature."

Labour lawyer John Brand remarks that the picket is a logical extension of the free-market ethic the state claims to espouse. "There are two options either you empower workers to fight for themselves, or the state has to step in."

Other commentators believe picketing provides a vital safety-valve for the violence inherent in strikes. Professor Eddie Webster, the head of the Wits sociology department, points out that between 1884, when the British authorities started to concede the right, and 1984 not a single "scab" was killed in the United Kingdom

"If you stop picketing and deny access to the workplace, you weaken the

union's power to discipline its members. A culture of covert coercion emerges, where strikers discipline their fellows away from the workplace and collective control."

The absence of a clear legal framework has prompted a growing move in South Africa towards self-regulation. Often, unions issue their own strike rules. During the 1988 national metal industry strike, for example, the National Union of Metalworkers circulated a code urging picketing strikers not to drink liquor, damage property or resort to violence or intimidation

In the wake of NUMSA's groundbreaking agreements with West German companies, employer-union deals enshrining the right to controlled picketing are also on the increase, says labour consultant Brian Allen. "Managements are saying: 'Let's permit it and regulate it'. They're pragmatic — they see the practice can't be stopped."

Typically agreements specify the location, spacing and numbers of pickets, and bind picketers not to display defamatory placards or interfere with customers, suppliers and non-strikers

The signs are that the state is also preparing to recognise, but circumscribe, the practice of picketing

In its latest annual report, the National Manpower Commission announced that it had drawn up a picketing code for submission to Manpower Minister Eli Louw this year. And the NMC's recent "working document" on the consolidation of the LRA proposes that some forms of picketing should be an unfair labour practice

An alternative view in the working document is that all picketing should be banned — but this apparently reflects the minority view of white unionists, who fear their members, habitual strike-breakers, may be harmed or intimidated

Acting NMC chairman Dr Frans Barker said the picketing code would not be given the force of statute, as this was too inflexible.

In line with the British model, the intention was to have a set of guidelines which could be used as evidence in the industrial court, he said.

VENERABLE institution elsewhere but legally precarious in South Africa, the strike picket has been thrown into eye-catching relief by the current labour turmoil in the retail and hotel sectors

National strikes at city centre stores and hotels has given rise to the most systematic and publicly visible use of the picket in our labour history

The practice has become a major flashpoint. Hundreds of picketers have been arrested, in the OK Bazaars dispute alone, 188 face charges

In response, the South African Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers Union (Saccawu), a Congress of South African Trade Unions affiliate, has written letters of protest to the commissioner of police and Law and Order Minister Adriaan Vlok, coupled with threats of supreme court action. It also plans a one-hour nationwide work stoppage in all Saccawu-organised plants to highlight the issue

Essentially a moral appeal to fellow-workers not to undermine strike action — either by "scabbing" or using the services of dispute-hit firms — pickets mounted outside or on the premises of strike-hit firms also serve to spotlight demands and pressurise employers.

The Labour Relations Act (LRA) is silent on the practice but picketers in South Africa are hemmed in by a web of other laws. In terms of the blanket ban on outdoor gatherings under the Internal Security Act, the phalanx of picketers so familiar in Britain and the United States is not possible here

Picketers also have to watch what they say to strike-breakers and customers of strike-hit firms. The Intimidation Act outlaws threats of damage or assault, and in terms of the LRA, an explicit boycott call is an unfair la-

E WEEKLY MAIL

Rates

by Mail	Weekly Mail only
6 mths	12 mths

Soft drinks may be in short supply

By Brendan Templeton

Soft drinks in the Johannesburg area may be in short supply at cafes and small stores due to a work stoppage at the Coca Cola main bottling plant in Benrose.

Personnel manager Rudi Bosch said supplies were disrupted after drivers complained they were being intimidated not to deliver to strike-hit supermarkets.

The stoppage began last Tuesday when drivers refused to work.

Deliveries are being continued by part-time crews.

Food and Allied Workers' Union spokesman Ernest Buthelezi said workers were being intimidated by management and "unknown workers".

The resultant stoppage was a result of the intimidation and solidarity with a request by Cosatu that workers at all SA Breweries subsidiaries take sympathy action to pressurise the umbrella company to accept striking workers' demands at Southern Sun and OK Bazaars, he said.

17643 20/7/90 (143) (152)

Liquor industry strike could spread to KWV

Labour Reporter

ABOUT one thousand employees at KWV in Paarl may join nearly 4 000 workers striking at six companies in the wine and spirits industry, the National Union of Wine, Spirits and Allied Workers has warned.

This follows a failed attempt this week to resolve a wage dispute between the union and the SA Wine and Spirit Industry Employers' Association.

The union has threatened that the consumer boycott of the six strike-related companies — Stellenbosch Farmers' Winery, Union Wine, Distillers Corporation, Douglas Green, Gilbeys and Henry, Taylor and Ries — which began in Stellenbosch on Monday would spread throughout the country if the dispute remained unresolved.

The strike, which began on July 11, followed a national lock-out of workers not accepting the final wage offer increase of R33 a week. Strikers are demanding R40.

According to union spokesman Mr William Makhunga the union was in the process of negotiating with KWV — the co-operative winegrowers' association representing 5 000 farmers.

"KWV will also face a strike, involving about 1 000 workers, if the union and the company do not reach a settlement and the union has instructed its lawyers to apply for a conciliation board hearing," Mr Makhunga said.

KWV spokesman Mr Theo Pegel said the company — which was not affiliated to the

employers' association — and the union had been "successfully" negotiating for four years "with positive results for both parties".

"The current round of annual wage negotiations are still in progress and I cannot comment on possible labour action by union members," Mr Pegel said.

About 1 500 union and community members have been granted magisterial and municipal permission to march through Stellenbosch today to hand over a list of demands to each of the six companies involved in the strike.

Although major Western Cape liquor outlets have not yet been severely affected by the strike, most liquor stores on the Reef have experienced problems.



Labour action looms for metal workers

152
20/7/90

By SHARON SOROUR

Labour Reporter, and Sapa

WHILE health workers have joined almost 40 000 employees on strike in various industries nationwide, labour action is looming in the metal industry following a deadlock in annual wage negotiations

Annual wage negotiations in the metal industry ground to a halt yesterday and there was "a very real possibility" of strike action after attempts to solve a wage dispute between the Steel and Engineering Industries Federation (Seifsa) and the National Union of Metalworkers of South Africa (Numsa) and other unions

According to Seifsa executive director Mr Brian Angus Numsa, which represents 115 000 workers, the federation rejected an amended wage offer of a 15,5 to 19 percent increase and intends holding a strike ballot to test the response of workers, who are demanding a 56 percent across-the-board increase.

The Food and Allied Workers' Union (Fawu) remains locked in two disputes in Cape

Town about 150 Enterprise Bakery workers are threatening to strike after the union turned down management's R30 a week wage offer of . Workers are demanding R35.

Chaplate Industries in Johannesburg, a Cadbury subsidiary, is threatening to retrench workers after a wage dispute with Fawu. The company is refusing to increase the wages of 800 workers to R5 an hour.

About 300 members of the National Education, Health and Allied Workers' Union (Nehawu) went on an illegal strike yesterday at the J G Strydom Hospital in Johannesburg

Nehawu spokesman Mr Vuyani Mabaxa said the workers had accused one of the senior employees in charge of the hospital kitchen of an allegedly racist attitude and had complained about their working conditions

Southern Sun Hotels and the South African Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers' Union (Saccawu) resume mediation today in an attempt to resolve a strike by more than 6 000 workers at 43 hotels nationwide

Hundreds of domestic workers, members of the South African Domestic Workers' Union, staged a protest march in Johannesburg armed with brooms and dusters. The workers marched to the offices of the Department of Manpower and handed over a list of demands which included a minimum monthly wage of R450, a 40-hour week, decent accommodation and maternity leave

Meanwhile the Western Cape engineering industry continues to be plagued by industrial action, including wildcat strikes followed by nearly 400 dismissals.

Still out

Earlier this week hundreds of workers staged illegal work stoppages at the Gabriel SA plant in Retreat, Grapnel Exhaust Systems in Atlantis, Shelco Shelving near DF Malan Airport and SA Metal & Machinery in Salt River and Epping Industria

More than 100 workers are still on strike at the Steeldale plant in Epping Industria, while workers fired from the Gabriel plant are protesting against their "unfair dismissal"

Boycott busier ... for the majority of Matrimonie owns 1 p ... writes in town met the consumer boycott with a boycott of their own.

- Future: AFP-PC.

7 000 workers on strike as E Cape labour unrest steps up

152

Daily Mail Reporter
LABOUR turmoil in the Eastern Cape has intensified as strikes by more than 7 000 workers at seven companies continued this week.

As a dispute at Cumar Abrasives enters its second week, about 190 workers are still locked out. They had previously downed tools and demanded an across-the-board increase of R2 a day.

After the workers refused a management offer of 95c, they received letters informing them that the offer had been withdrawn and the strike was illegal.

The regional organiser of the National Union of Metalworkers of South Africa, Bumba Mangqabashana, said there had

been no negotiations between the union and management.

He said the workers were adamant they would not resume working until their grievances were dealt with.

As the company had acted "unfairly", there was a strong possibility that the workers may join a national Cumar strike planned for the end of July.

Cumar management said from Johannesburg that it believed the strike was illegal, as there had been no conciliation board hearing and the strike ballot had been improperly conducted.

● The liquor trade strike continued with 3 800 workers from Stellenbosch Farmers' Winery, Union Wine Ltd, Dis-

tillers Corporation and Gilbey's Distillers and Vintners still locked out — a week after they downed tools.

A spokesman for the SA Wine and Spirit Industry Employers' Association, Riaan Kruger, said their last meeting decided that industrial action would be conducted peacefully.

The National Union of Wine, Spirit and Allied Workers spokesman said the company has offered an increase of R33 a week while the union wanted R40.

● A local resolution for a national strike by Checkers' employees appears to be close after five days of talks between management and the SA Commercial Catering and Allied Worker's

Union.
The company's latest offer of a monthly increase of R140 is close to the workers' demand for R150.

● The fate of the 38 retrenched workers at Albany Bakery hangs in the balance while management and the Food and Allied Workers' Union officials are still locked in dispute.

● An attempt at mediation is scheduled for today between the Holiday Inns management and Saccawu, as they try to end a three-week-old national strike by about 5 000 hotel workers.

● Over 100 workers at Oosiering Fisheries walked out this week protesting against wages and conditions — Pen

End of Checkers strike is in sight

Star 20/7/90 (152) 152
By Brendan Templeton

The end of the 13-day strike involving 9 500 Checkers workers appeared to be in sight yesterday, with management and the union hammering out a draft agreement, mediator Brian Currin said.

He warned that the strike was not over, but said he hoped a final agreement would be completed by last night.

His announcement follows mediation talks since Wednesday between Checkers and the South African Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers' Union (Saccawu).

Before going into the talks, Checkers issued a "final" wage increase offer of R140 across the board. The union had until yesterday to accept the offer. Negotiations started with the union demanding R150.

● OK Bazaars and Saccawu held mediation talks yesterday after the company issued an undisclosed improved pay offer. The company has also issued 570 workers with retrenchment orders and Saccawu spokesman Jeremy Daphne said settlement could be hampered if the company refused to withdraw the orders.

Some miners^{Star} back to work^{10/7/90}

About half the striking workers at Welkom's Harmony gold mine returned to work last night, Rand Mine spokesman Simon Crawford said today.

The mine had lost about 6 percent of its monthly output, as a result of the stayaway and an underground fire, he said.

The fire started last week and was extinguished yesterday.

The workers went on strike demanding the implementation an earlier wage increase agreed by the National Union of Mineworkers and the Chamber of Mines. — Staff Reporter

Settlement in Checkers wage strike

CHECKERS management and Saccawu officials ended the strike at the retail chain last night after two days of lengthy mediation talks

At the time of going to press both sides were still at the negotiating table, but Sapa reported mediator Brian Currin as saying the union and management had settled and were in the process of finalising an agreement. *8/10 am 20/7/90*

The strike by 10 000 Saccawu members at 161 Checkers stores began on July 7 after a conciliation board hearing failed to resolve the dispute over wages and conditions

Checkers' final offer was a R135 monthly

MATTHEW CURTIN

across-the-board increase (revised during mediation yesterday to R140) and a minimum wage of R770 a month to be implemented by January 1 1991. *6/58*

Saccawu demanded a R165 raise (revised during negotiations to R150) and a minimum wage of R830

The resolution of the Checkers dispute still leaves more than 15 000 people on strike in the retail industry

Saccawu is to continue mediation today with OK Bazaars and with Southern Sun/Holiday Inn managements in an attempt to resolve the disputes

Hospital workers go on strike

ABOUT 300 members of the National Education, Health and Allied Workers' Union (Nehawu) went on strike at J.G. Strijdom Hospital in Johannesburg yesterday, said Nehawu organiser Vuyani Mabaxa.

The striking general workers have accused a senior employee in charge of the hospital's kitchen of having an allegedly racist attitude.

The senior employee had allegedly threatened to re-

place African health workers with coloureds, because the African workers "like strikes", Mabaxa said. He said the union would take up the matter with hospital authorities today.

The strikers have also complained about working conditions at the hospital.

A hospital spokesman said yesterday the strike was not official. She said further comment should be obtained from a TPA official, who was unavailable for comment — Sapa.

National boycott likely against liquor companies

CAPE TIMES 20/7/90

WHILE the two-week-long Checkers wage strike appeared to be over after marathon negotiations last night, six strike-hit Cape liquor companies could face a national consumer boycott unless wage demands are met

Observers have also warned of an increasingly volatile situation in the Western Cape engineering sector. Annual wage negotiations have come to a halt and legal strike action could follow, according to the employers' association, Seifsa.

Yesterday the National Union of Wine, Spirits and Allied Workers (Nuswaw) said Stellenbosch Farmers' Winery, Distillers Corporation, Union Wine, Douglas Green, Gilbeys and Henry, Taylor and Ries could face the boycott after talks with management failed yesterday.

More than 3 800 workers in the Western Cape, Boland and Transvaal have been on strike for a R40 a week increase since last Wednesday.

After nearly 20 hours of negotiation, Checkers announced last night that all full-time employees would receive a backdated R140 a month wage increase, bringing the minimum wage to R770 a month. Union members would receive a 12% discount on purchases to the value of R375 a month.

The strike by 9 500 workers at 161 stores began two weeks ago.

● About 300 health workers are on strike at the J G Strydom hospital in Johannesburg. The workers have complained of working conditions.

● Interns at Durban's King Edward VIII Hospital yesterday pledged not to discontinue their protest action until concrete action was announced by National Health Minister Mrs Rina Venter — Sapa

Boycott threat

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2017/90
THE strike-torn liquor industry is threatened with a nationwide consumer boycott after attempts to resolve a wage dispute failed yesterday. 152

Talks between the National Union of Wine, Spirit and Allied Workers Union and the South African Wine and Spirit Industry Employers ended in deadlock.

A consumer boycott of the six strife-related companies - Stellenbosch Farmers' Winery, Distillers Corporation, Union Wine, Gilbeys, Douglas Green and Henry, Taylor and Ries - began on Monday and the union has warned it would spread

OK STRIKE F/M 20/7/90

More struggles ⁽¹⁵²⁾ ^{AB}

Lengthy mediation sessions over the past two weeks have failed to resolve the OK Bazaars strike. However, the union has agreed to take an improved wage offer to members for consideration, mediation was scheduled to resume on Tuesday ~~(14.0.90) (2.55)~~.

The SA Catering, Commercial & Allied Workers' Union went on strike for an across-the-board increase of R160 and monthly minimum wage of R800. The OK had offered service-related increases and a minimum of R710 after one year's service.

But as the gap between demand and offer is narrowed, another complication has arisen. The company last week issued 570 retrenchment notices to workers in the PWV area, effective from the end of the month. Union spokesman Jeremy Daphne says his organisation demands withdrawal of the notices as part of any settlement.

The OK's Keith Hartshorne says prospects for an early settlement have dimmed after the alleged abduction of non-strikers from OK's Elsburg store. He adds those not in favour of the strike were assaulted and threatened and the company challenged the union "to publicly declare its position on this act of thuggery."

In another development, the union took up with Law & Order Minister Adriaan Vlok the issue of arrested picketers. More than 400 Southern Sun and OK Bazaars workers have been arrested, the majority for picketing, the union says. It argues that such arrests "are not only without justification in law, but also constitute a gross interference with workers' right to picket." Unless arrests are discontinued, the union will reserve its right to seek relief in the Supreme Court. □ At its first national congress last weekend, the union decided to call a one-hour national stoppage on July 27, at all organised workplaces in the commercial and catering trades. The "hour of action" aims to highlight the union's living wage campaign and to establish a right to picket without police or municipal interference.

The union is also demanding the right to strike, access to normal company facilities while on strike, and an end to rightwing assaults on members. ■

Strikes end at OK, Checkers

CMT Tap 21/7/80

Agreement on wage increases

JOHANNESBURG — The seven-week-old national strike at OK Bazaars ended yesterday when settlement was reached between the company and the SA Commercial Catering and Allied Workers' Union.

And on Thursday, more than 9 000 striking workers at Checkers ended their two-week-old strike after a compromise agreement was signed, the union said.

According to the OK settlement, backdated to April 7, union members with less than five years' service will receive a R125 monthly increase, those with more than five but less than 10 years' service will get R135 and members with 10 years' service or more, R145. Saccawu members will receive a further increase of R10 a month from January 7 next year.

Workers have agreed to return to work on Wednesday.

It was further agreed that the company would withdraw the 587 notices of retrenchment issued to union members during the strike.

The company will also recognise March 21 as a paid commemoration day.

Checkers workers will return to work on Monday.

Their wage agreement provides for across-the-board increases of R140 a month and a minimum wage of R770 backdated to July 1.

Workers won a guarantee that the company would not lay

charges against workers who joined the strike and also a pledge that detained strikers will receive their full salaries.

● Striking workers marched to three companies in Stellenbosch yesterday to deliver strike-related demands to their employers, a spokesman for the SA Wine and Spirit Industry Employers' Association said.

The march was legal and no incidents occurred.

The national legal strike by about 3 800 members of the National Union of Wine, Spirits and Allied Workers entered its 10th day yesterday.

● About 200 workers citing "poor co-operation from management" joined a demonstration outside Tygerberg Hospital's administration block yesterday, a spokesman for the Health Workers' Union said.

In Johannesburg, meanwhile, a strike by about 80 members of the kitchen staff of the J G Strydom Hospital in Johannesburg ended yesterday.

● Enterprise Bakeries in Claremont and the Food and Allied Workers' Union have agreed to

mediation in a bid to break an impasse over annual wage talks, company spokesman Mr George Koning said yesterday.

The parties deadlocked last week, with management offering a R30 across-the-board weekly increase and Fawu demanding R45.

● A work stoppage by about 4 000 mine workers at Harmony gold mine, near Welkom in the Free State, ended yesterday afternoon after the National Union of Mineworkers and the mine owners, Rand Mines, agreed to begin negotiations on Monday on higher wages, according to the union.

Workers had been on strike since Tuesday afternoon at Harmony's Merriespruit shaft.

● Management at SA Metal and Machinery have accused sacked employees of intimidating former colleagues going to work at the scrap metal firm's Salt River and Epping Industria plants, company managing director Mr John Bidderman-Pam said.

The National Union of Metalworkers, which represents the 128 workers dismissed on Tuesday, was trying to arrange talks to discuss their reinstatement, a Numsa spokesman said.

● Meanwhile, Anglo American Corporation employees will stage a march in Johannesburg today to demand higher pay and to protest at alleged racism in the company.

The protesters will hand over a petition demanding a minimum wage of R1 600 — Sapa

Strikers to go back to work

THOUSANDS of striking workers will be returning to work after yesterday's settlement of strikes at two supermarket chains, the Harmony Gold Mine and the J G Strijdom Hospital.

The month-long workers' crisis at the Verwoerdburg Town Council also reached a possible end yesterday, with the announcement that some dismissed municipal workers could be re-employed on Monday.

● Two of South Africa's largest supermarket chains, OK Bazaars and Checkers, settled lengthy national labour disputes with the SA Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers Union (Saccawu) yesterday, bringing about a return to work for thousands of workers who have been on a countrywide strike

STAFF REPORTER and SAPA

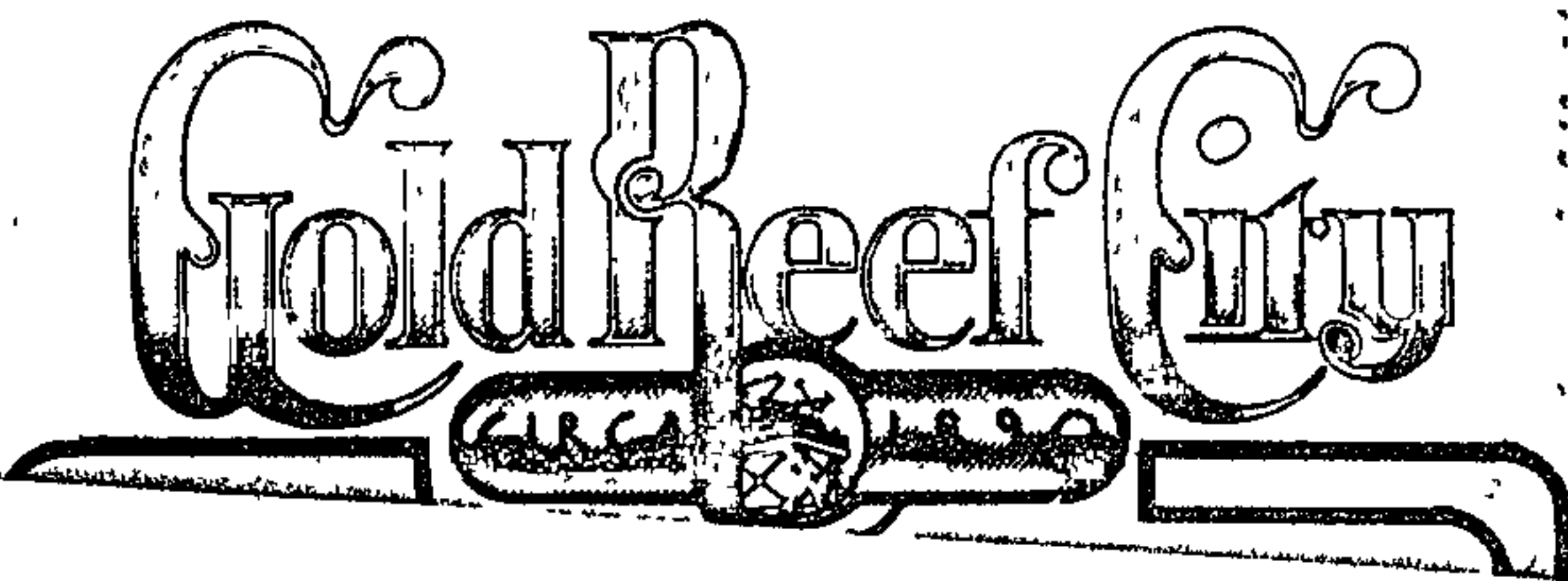
for weeks.

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In terms of the agreements struck, more than 9 000 Checkers employees will return to work on Monday after striking for two weeks, while about 7 000 OK employees will resume their duties on Wednesday, ending their marathon seven-week strike.

Checkers agreed to a R140 a month across-the-board increase for its workers. The OK settlement is based on length of service — workers with less than five years service will get a R125 increase, those with more than five but less than 10 years service will get

● TO PAGE 2.



Strikes to end ^{Star} 21/7/90

R135, and workers with 10 years or more R145.

The end of both strikes will bring relief not only to the supermarket chains and their non-striking employees, but also to thousands of black workers who have gone without pay for the duration of the strikes

The bitter aftertaste left by the many unpleasanties of the OK strike in particular will not, however, easily be forgotten

Saccawu said the OK strike had been characterised by widescale picketing and "a large large degree of police intervention"

An important outcome of the strike had been to make OK acknowledge that "management attitudinal problems do exist, are severe and must be addressed"

Yesterday's agreement included a clause stating that all parties concerned commit themselves to a process of discussion and negotiation aimed at identifying and providing solutions to difficulties

Saccawu yesterday also announced new labour-related protest action, planned for just two days after OK workers are due to return to work

The new offensive, Saccawu's "National Hour Of Action" on July 27, will focus on alleged right-wing harassment and the arrest of picketing workers during strikes. The protest will be used to demand the right to picket without interference and the right of access to company facilities by striking workers

Saccawu said the picket issue had been raised with the Commissioner of

Police, the Minister of Justice and the Minister of Law and Order

● A work stoppage by about 4 000 mine workers at Welkom's Harmony gold mine ended yesterday after the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) and the mine owners, Rand Mines, agreed to begin negotiations on Monday on higher wages, according to the union. Workers had been on strike since Tuesday afternoon at Harmony's Merriespruit shaft.

"Normal work resumed with the return of workers at yesterday afternoon's shift," said NUM's head office spokesman Mr Thomas Kepsife

Mr Kepsife said the wage negotiations would involve workers only at the Harmony Gold Mine

● The strike by about 80 members of the J G Strijdom Hospital's kitchen staff also ended yesterday after a "fruitful" meeting between two Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) officials, union leaders and a committee representing workers.

The workers went on strike after dissatisfaction about certain administrative procedures

● The Verwoerdburg Town Council and the South African Municipal Workers Union (Samwu) yesterday announced a possible end to a month-long strike after chairman of the council's management committee, Mr Pieter Smith, said 500 of the 750 workers fired after refusing to return to work would be re-employed on Monday. The cutbacks were a result of losses incurred in the strike action

In the agreement the union retained its right in respect of any employees who would be affected in this way. About 90 employees who did not take part in the strike action were not affected by the dismissals

It's OK again as strikers return to stores

BY MARION DUNCAN

SHOPPERS and supermarkets around South Africa will breathe a sigh of relief tomorrow when tens of thousands of striking Checkers and OK Bazaars employees go back to work.

The long showdown between members of the SA Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers' Union (SACCAWU) and the two giant retail chains — seven weeks in the case of the OK and two with Checkers — has caused hardship to striking families — and frustration to customers.

Agreement between the union and the chains on wages, bonuses, staff discount purchases, leave and public holidays was reached on Friday.

Yet another strike ended this weekend when around 80 kitchen staff at the J G Strydom Hospital in Johannesburg went back to work.

Agreement

Close on 4 000 mineworkers at Harmony gold mine near Welkom in the Free State also ended their work stoppage when Rand Mines agreed to negotiate with the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) on higher wages.

And agreement was reached between the SA Posts and Telecommunications Corporation and three staff associations — the Post and Telecommunications Workers' Association (POTWA), the Post Office Employees' Association of SA and the SA Posts and Telecommunications Employees' Association — on new minimum wages.

But there is less optimism about the continuing wave of unrest affecting other industries around the country.

The National Union of Metal Workers of SA (Numsa) has called a strike ballot among 115 000 members for the end of the month unless the Steel and Engineering Industries' Federation (Seifsa) meets demands on work conditions.

The countrywide strike by more than 3 000 members of the National Union of Wine, Spirit and Allied Workers and the strike by 11 000 workers at the Frame-owned Consolidated Cotton Corporation Mills in Natal are still unresolved.

Relief for shoppers as workers win better wages

By CONNIE MOLUSI

CALM returns to the retail industry this week with the resolution of the long and bitter wage strikes at OK Bazaars and Checkers.

In a settlement hailed as a victory for the labour movement, thousands of retail workers will return to work at Checkers tomorrow and OK on Wednesday.

The seven-week OK strike was characterised by picketing, arrests, police intervention and supreme court orders.

The South African Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers' Union (Saccawu) will hold a one-hour work stoppage on July 27 to focus on worker

harassment, arrests of strikers and the right to picket.

OK workers have won R135, R145 and R155 a month increases, depending on the number of years of service.

Other gains are March 21 as a holiday and a company undertaking to withdraw the 587 retrenchment notices served during the strike.

Saccawu spokesman Jeremy Daphne said the OK strike focused on two issues -- bad management and low wages.

"The union emphasised that these are historical problems which have resulted in the build-up of shopfloor dissatisfaction and hostility towards management.

"An important outcome of the strike

has been to make OK acknowledge the existence of attitudinal problems which have to be addressed through a process of discussion and negotiations."

After a two-week strike, Checkers workers won a R140 across-the-board increase and a R770 minimum wage.

The company has also undertaken to pay full salaries to striking workers still in detention, without charges being laid, on their return to work.

A Saccawu spokesman said union membership had increased dramatically during the strike, as head office workers joined the industrial action which led to the closure of two Checkers stores at Madadeni and Umlazi.

The settlements bring relief not only to retail workers but also to black shoppers who had to bear the brunt of supporting the strike by not shopping at the two stores.

OK Bazaars personnel director Keith Hartshorne said in a statement the company and Saccawu had committed themselves to negotiations aimed at resolving issues which led to conflict between the parties.

"OK hopes the settlement will mark the beginning of a period of reconciliation and dialogue aimed at establishing a relationship based on mutual respect, understanding and shared economic interest."

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12/7/90

Hotels still out but retail staff return

By SHARON SOROUR
Labour Reporter and Sapa

THOUSANDS of workers in the hotel and wine industries continue to strike although strikes at two retail chains have ended

Tension between Southern Sun Hotels and the South African Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers' Union (Saccawu) continues after mediation talks to resolve the three-week strike by nearly 6 000 workers at 41 hotels ended in deadlock on Friday

Southern Sun spokesman Mr Carl Ludick said the parties agreed on all wage-related issues — including an offer by the company to increase the minimum wage to R710 on October 1 1990, in addition to the monthly increase offer of R100 or 15 percent.

The deadlock came after the union rejected the company's offer to re-employ retrenched workers at the Sabie River and Pine Lake Inn hotels "as soon as possible".

The union insisted on immediate re-employment, Mr Ludick said.

An agreement was also reached whereby the dismissal of 27 Cape Sun workers — and 51 at Pietersburg — would be referred to arbitration.

Yesterday in Johannesburg

Saccawu and the Federal Council of Retail and Allied Workers' Union (Fedcrow) clashed over a wage offer made by the management of Edgars

Saccawu has apparently accepted management's offer of R165 a month and a 100 percent bonus after eight years while Fedcrow is sticking to its demand of R180 a month and a 100 percent bonus after five years

The four-hour long meeting degenerated into chaos at one point with Fedcrow members — who are threatening to go on strike if their demands are not met — accusing Saccawu members of compromising.

Strikes at two of the biggest retail chains in the country have ended and more than 16 500 employees go back to work this week.

The two-week strike at Checkers and the seven-week strike at OK Bazaars ended this weekend after the companies reached separate agreements with Saccawu.

Checkers' employees will get an across-the-board monthly increase of R140 which raises the minimum wage to R770, effective from July 1.

Management also agreed that Sharpeville Day, celebrated on March 21, may be swapped with Republic Day as a holiday, subject to the approval of the Department of Manpower.

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Between 500 and 700 workers, mainly Anglo American Property Services (Ampros) employees, staged a protest march through Johannesburg to the Anglo American Corporation head office on Saturday. A list of demands was presented to Ampros director Alec Gullan and the protesters dispersed peacefully.

Picture REUTER

Citrus workers vote for strike

AFRICA'S biggest citrus estate, Zebediela, is threatened with a strike following a decision yesterday by about 1 000 workers to down tools from August 3, writes MATHATA TSEDU.

The workers, members of the Naçtu-affiliated National Union of Farmworkers, said management had failed to conclude a recognition agreement since October last year, despite a court order setting that deadline.

They accused management of dragging its feet.

The workers rejected an offer by management's lawyers to begin negotiations at the end of August and instead resolved that talks should begin on August 1, failing

which they would down tools from August 3.

Management has been given until Friday to indicate whether they accepted the suggested date. *23/7/90*

The workers, some of whom earn about R80 a month, went on a month-long strike last year to demand higher wages, better working conditions and the recognition of their union.

Management refused to enter into talks with the union but later agreed to conduct negotiations through the union's lawyers appointed by the Legal Education Centre of the Black Lawyers Association.

Management could not be reached for comment yesterday.

OK and Checkers settle, hotel strike continues

OK Bazaars employees will return to work this week after management and the SA Commercial Catering and Allied Workers Union settled their bitter seven-week wage dispute on Friday.

Both Saccawu and OK are committed to a negotiation process aimed at identifying and solving the areas of conflict between them, which had led to union accusations of a "baasskap" attitude by management.

In a statement, OK said it hoped the settlement marked the beginning of a period of reconciliation and dialogue aimed at establishing "a relationship based on mutual respect, understanding and a shared economic interest".

Saccawu's national organiser Jeremy Daphne said that, apart from the material improvement coming out of the strike action, it had served to bring the principles underlying the wage dispute to the surface.

"The focus of the strike was on two key areas. Bad management attitude and low wages," he said.

"The union emphasised that these are historical problems which have resulted in the build-up of a high degree of shop floor dissatisfaction and

SUSAN RUSSELL

hostility towards OK management.

"An important outcome of the strike has been to make OK Bazaars acknowledge that management attitudinal problems do exist, are severe and must be addressed," Daphne said.

In terms of the settlement workers with less than five years service will receive an increase of R125 a month retroactive from April 7.

Retrenchment

Employees with five to less than 10 years service will receive R135 a month. Those with 10 years service or more will receive R145.

Workers will also receive an across-the-board increase of R10 a month from January 7 next year.

OK had also withdrawn the 587 notices of retrenchment issued to union members during the strike, but reserved the right to raise the retrenchment issue in terms of the retrenchment procedure in future.

Workers will return to work on Wednesday.

Daphne said Saccawu would focus

on the harassment and arrests of picketing workers during the union's national hour of action on July 27.

The union, he said, would be calling for the right to picket without interference.

"Withdrawal of facilities to striking workers by management heightened the level of conflict."

"Another demand that will be made is the right of access for striking workers to company facilities."

The end of the OK strike coincides with the settlement between Saccawu and Checkers after two weeks of industrial action.

Saccawu said in a statement that in contrast to the OK and Southern Sun/Holiday Inn strikes, Checkers union members had full access to canteens, telephones and other facilities.

Saccawu members are continuing strikes at Southern Sun/Holiday Inn.

Sapa reports that about 300 Saccawu members staged a Johannesburg protest on Saturday at the Johannesburg Sun, Rand International and Downtown Holiday Inn under the watchful eye of police.

At all three hotels they sang and toyi-toyed for 15 minutes before dispersing peacefully.

More strikes loom after failed negotiations

By Brendan Templeton

About 23 700 striking workers ended their disputes last week while more than 24 600 remained on strike.

About 165 000 are poised to take part in strike ballots after negotiations with employers failed.

Mining groups announced 7 100 more retrenchments over the last seven days.

Strike settlements included:

- OK Bazaars and 7 000 South African Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers Union (Saccawu) members Workers to return to work on Wednesday after seven-week strike.

- Checkers and 9 500 Saccawu members, who return today after a two-week strike.

- Port Elizabeth municipality and Amalgamated Municipal Employees Association. About 3 000 workers returned last week, pending wage negotiations.

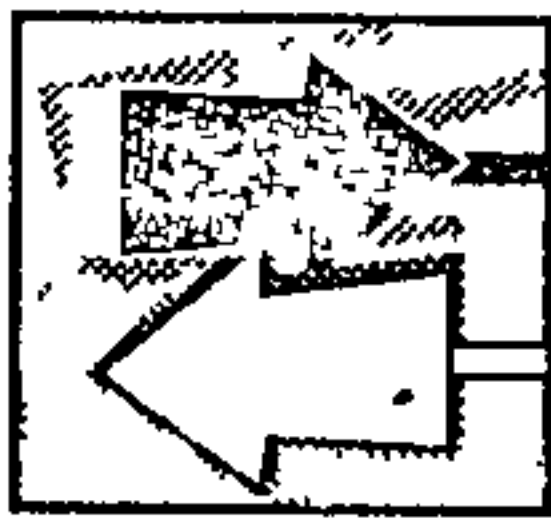
- Transvaal Provincial Administration and 80 J G Strijdom workers, on Friday after "fruitful" talks.

- Rand Mines and 3 500 members of National Union of Mineworkers at Harmony mine's Merriespruit shaft, who returned on Friday. Negotiations continued over stayaway of 3 600 at another shaft.

- Possible end to Verwoerdburg municipal workers' strike after agreement to reinstate 500 of 750 striking South African Municipal Workers Union members.

- WJM Pipelines, Lupaardsvlei, and National Union of Metalworkers (Numsa). Total of 102 fired strikers reinstated. Retrenchment of eight to go ahead.

Strike Barometer



Companies with workers on strike included:

- Southern Sun/Holiday Inns and Saccawu, at 41 hotels involving 6 000 workers. Strike 20 days old.

- Union demanding R160 increase, reinstatement of 105 workers and right of part-time workers to join union.

- Hotels offering R100 or 15 percent increase.

- Coca-Cola in Benrose and Food and Allied Workers Union. About 400 workers striking after drivers refused to deliver to strike-hit supermarkets.

- Liquor producers and the National Union of Wine, Spirits and Allied Workers Union. About 3 800 on nationwide strike over demand for R40-a-week increase.

- Employers offering R33. Consumer boycott threatened, union to apply for conciliation board.

- Consolidated Cotton Textiles and 10 000 SA Clothing and Textile Workers Union members over wage demand for R35 increase a week from July and R35 from next January.

- Ciba-Geigy and 172 Chemical Workers Industrial Union (CWIU) members in 78-day strike over company's non-participation in union's provident fund.

Referred to mediation on Tuesday

- Reckitt-Colman and 400 dismissed CWIU members over company's non-participation in provident fund. Boycott of firm's products possible.

- Labethica, Free State, and SA Chemical Workers Union. Total of 104 people arrested during six-week strike, union says. About 160 strikers demanding wage increase.

- West Rand Engineering Works, Krugersdorp, and Numsa. Total of 110 workers fired after strike over dismissed worker.

Strike ballots pending:

- Numsa with 115 000 workers employed by Steel Engineering Industry Federation of SA — from July 30 to August 10.

- Saccawu with about 5 000 members at 126 Metro Cash 'n Carry stores — starts today.

- National Union of Mineworkers in coal mines affecting 45 000 miners — soon.

Issues:

- Saccawu's 90 000 members will hold a one-hour work stoppage on Friday to highlight their "living wage" campaign, the right to picket and the right of strikers to company premises during strikes.

- About 7 100 mine retrenchments last week. Genmin's Gengold division announced 2 700 retrenchments. JCI to close shaft at Western Areas mine.

- About 4 400 to lose jobs. Anglo considering cost-saving measures at Freegold, Welkom.

News in brief

Workers' protest march

BETWEEN 500 and 700 people, primarily employees of Anglo American Property Services (Ampros), took part in an orderly protest march on Saturday which ended at the head office of Anglo American Corporation (152) Sowetan 23/7/90

A list of demands was presented to Mr Alec Gullan, a director of Ampros, with a request that it be given serious consideration - Sapa

Pay talks for mediation

MEDIATION in the current wage dispute between the Black Trade Union and Transnet will begin on Monday July 30. Blatu acting president Mr D Phiri said on Friday (22) Sowetan 23/7/90

Blatu is demanding a minimum salary of R1 100 a month and an across-the-board salary increase of R500. Management is offering a minimum wage of R680 plus a 9,1 per cent increase - Sapa

Quit, Aids row doc told

A DOCTOR from Highveld Blood Transfusion Services (HBTS) was asked by the Black Health and Allied Workers Union of SA to resign following the issue of a directive which called on all staff to stop using blood received from coloured and black people. Sowetan 23/7/90

Mr Siphon Ngwenya, General Secretary of Bhawusa, told Sapa the doctor - Dr SP Field - had issued the directive which said blood from black and coloured people was "high risk" and may be infected by the HIV virus which causes Aids - Sapa

Education 'tops the list'

BLACK South Africans should consider education as their first priority in preparation for leadership positions in the post-apartheid society. Sowetan 23/7/90

This was said by the United States Ambassador to South Africa, Mr William L. Swing, in his farewell speech to a group of South African students who left on a study tour to the United States yesterday.

Letter of demand for FW

ABOUT 15 000 people in Nkwenkwen township in Gazankulu near Tzaneen marched from the local stadium to Rietvlei Police Station on Saturday where the Rev B M Maakana handed a letter of demand to chief of Gazankulu Police Mphahlele B. Chabalala. Sowetan 23/7/90

The letter, directed to State President F. W. de Klerk, contained demands including the release of all political prisoners and detainees, the removal of the army and the security police in the townships and villages of Gazankulu and the holding of free political activities without hindrance. - Sapa

Next move in Zambia

LUSAKA - Advocates of a multi-party system in Zambia elected a national committee yesterday to lead the campaign for an end to one-party rule, culminating in a referendum scheduled for October 17. Sowetan 23/7/90

The National Interim Committee for Multi-party Democracy Referendum (NICMDRF), formed after a two-day meeting in Lusaka, is headed by former Cabinet Minister Arthur Wina. The government has promised Zambians a free campaign and vote in a referendum to decide if the country will revert to multi-party politics after 17 years of single-party rule - Sapa-Reuter

Num seeks recognition

SOME 600 guards and cleaning staff, members of the National Union of Mineworkers, on Saturday marched through central Johannesburg and presented a memorandum to the headquarters of the Anglo American Corporation, pressing demands for the recognition of NUM as their union. Sowetan 23/7/90

NUM's Witwatersrand chairman, Mr George Nkadimeng, said "Anglo American Corporation refuses to recognise NUM as a union for the workers

Anglo says the workers are members of the Transport and General Workers' Union" - Sapa

Hotel strike will continue, workers pledge

CM74/3
23/7/90

JOHANNESBURG — The three-week hotel strike by 5 500 workers at 41 hotels will continue, the SA Commercial Catering and Allied Workers' Union said yesterday.

The union said in a statement that it would today challenge Southern Sun's interim interdict preventing Malibu Hotel workers in Durban from joining the national strike.

Southern Sun have an order from the Natal Supreme Court forcing employees to continue work. Mediation talks between Southern Sun and Saccawu on resolving the strike ended in deadlock on Friday night.

A management statement said the deadlock came after Saccawu rejected the company's offer of re-employment of retrenched workers at the company's Sabie River and Pine Lake Inn hotels. The union insisted on immediate re-employment of retrenched workers, whereas the company offered re-employment "as soon as possible".

Southern Sun industrial relations spokesman Mr Carl Ludick said basic agreement had been reached on all wage-related issues, including an offer by the company to increase the minimum wage to R710 on October 1, in addition to the current wage offer of R100 or 15%, "whichever is the greater".

● About 300 Saccawu members staged a 15-minute protest on Saturday at three hotels here. They dispersed peacefully. — Sapa

Concern over scabs - Sacwu

THE South African Chemical Workers Union has expressed its concern over the efficiency of scabs hired by Labethica following a month-old lockout of union members by the company, says a spokesman for Sacwu.

The union's general secretary, Mr Humphrey Ndaba, said their concern stemmed from the fact that products made by Labethica were delicate. The company produces life-saving bags and drugs.

"Workers are usually given two months' training to handle production, but the company has indiscriminately engaged scabs without necessary training and thus maxi-

mising the risk of faulty production," the Sacwu official said.

The strike by 166 Sacwu members emanates from their demand for a monthly R150 across-the-board rise. *Sowetan* 23/7/90

Position

Mr F Short of Labethica said he was in no position to comment on the allegations by Sacwu and referred inquiries to the general manager of SA Druggist, a Mr Stanton, who was said to be in Port Elizabeth.

Sowetan could not reach Stanton as "he was on his way to Johannesburg", according to Short

Parow municipal workers in wildcat stoppage

PAROW Municipality was hit by a wildcat stoppage yesterday when 500 employees walked out in support of higher wages and improved conditions of service, a union spokesman said.

Workers downed tools as organisers representing the SA Municipal Workers' Union joined the council in recogni-

tion talks, he said.

Three weeks ago council workers staged a two-day stoppage in Bellville. In June a three-day municipal strike paralysed Cape Town garbage removals.

No demands were put to the Parow municipality, but workers wanted a R560 fortnightly wage, opposed to the current

R185 they earn

Other demands included a 40-hour working week, a medical aid and pension fund

● Stalemate persisted in the 12-day-old strike in the wine industry yesterday, with some 3 800 workers at six companies refusing to work over a R7 wage difference.

● Tygerberg Hospital man-

agement has agreed to meet members of the Health Workers' Union tomorrow after a protest stoppage by auxiliary staff last Friday.

● A wildcat strike by 120 workers protesting against the retrenchment of 28 colleagues from Steeledale FBE in Epping Industria, entered its second week yesterday. — Sapa

VOID ATTENTION DISEASE.

July 24 1990 & 24/7/90

152

Sit-in could paralyse black schools today

By Janet Heard,
Education Reporter

The formal education programme could come to a standstill at black schools countrywide today if pupils and teachers heed the call by the National Teacher Unity Forum (NTUF) for a sit-in.

Organisations affiliated to the NTUF have said pupils should not treat the day of protest as a holiday but should attend classes and take part in an alternative education programme.

The NTUF claims the support of 150 000 teachers countrywide and has 13 affiliates.

The action has been organised to pressure the Government into addressing the crisis at schools and to consolidate the national teacher-unity process.

The Natal Teachers' Society (NTS), a regional body which organises in white schools, has

given qualified support to a day of constructive action by teachers. Executive director David Ryman said yesterday that the NTS understood the action to be a day of constructive debate — and not a sit-in.

However, Minister of Education and Development Ad Stofel van der Merwe has criticised the proposed action and said it would deny pupils yet another day's tuition.

He said, "With the future of thousands of pupils critically at stake parents and the rest of the South African community may well ask themselves if anyone will benefit from an activity which by all rights should take place outside school hours."

Dr van der Merwe said many teachers who wished to be in the classrooms were being subjected to intimidation for the sake of the political aspirations of a small group of people.

Row over blame for bloodbath

Youths force

Stc 24/2/90



stayaway in

Sebokeng

Youths today enforced a worker stayaway by residents of the battle-scarred Sebokeng township amid fears of renewed clashes between Inkatha and African National Congress factions.

Fighting left at least 19 dead on Sunday and bitter disputes over who was to blame. Police are accused of siding with Inkatha against ANC supporters, Inkatha is accused of planning attacks on ANC/Cosatu supporters for days before the violence, and the ANC faction is accused of carrying out planned attacks on Inkatha.

All sides have proclaimed their innocence and claim to be victims of premeditated attack.

As yet it is not clear where the truth lies.

At least 19 people, including a policeman, died in running battles from Eytaton stadium — which both sides wanted to use for rallies — to Inkatha hostels in Sebokeng.

Today Hlangano Shabalala, treasurer of the Sebokeng Civic Association, said tensions were running high in the township. There were fears of revenge attacks.

Youths were at all major taxi ranks and bus stops to prevent people from going to work, Mr Shabalala said. Although police later intervened, only a few people managed to go to work. A bakery van was stoned.

Youths from the neighbouring Sharpeville township threatened to

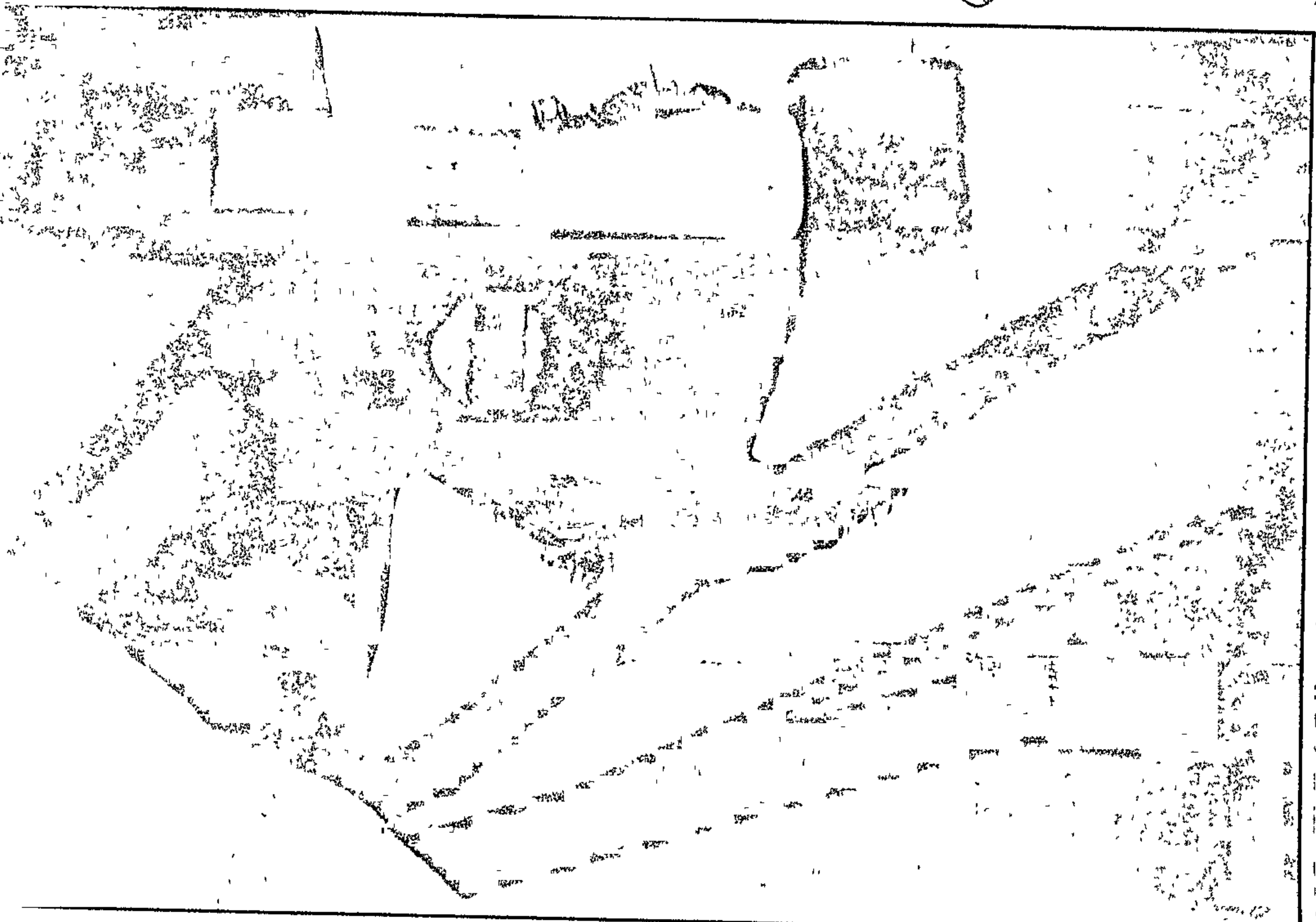
Staff Reporters

'Spear pierced his heart' — witness

By Craig Kotze

A riot policeman, who attempted to keep warring Inkatha and ANC groups apart in Sebokeng township, died after pulling an assegai out of his chest at the weekend.

Warrant Officer



the event of an attack by Inkatha members," Mr Shabalala said.

Police confirmed gangs had stopped workers travelling to work.

A spokesman said today the situation was under control and police were patrolling the area intensively to prevent further outbreaks of mass violence.

"There have been sporadic incidents of stone-throwing reported, but the situation is under control."

Patrols stay

"Our patrols will remain in place until we are satisfied the situation has returned to normal," said the spokesman, Captain Eugene Opperman of the Witwatersrand police.

Cosatu general secretary Jay Naidoo said yesterday the weekend violence was "yet another violent attack by Inkatha with police assistance."

Inkatha leader Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi said that in view of the actions and utterances of certain ANC leaders and supporters to isolate Inkatha and send hit squads to murder its leaders, he could understand Inkatha supporters feeling the need to defend themselves and carry arms.

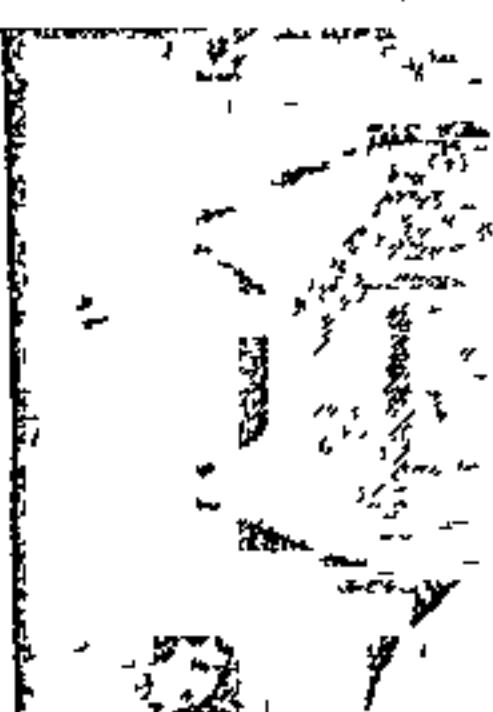
Police said the anti-Inkatha elements had deliberately provoked a fight with Inkatha.

"We believe that anti-Inkatha elements were the aggressors and deliberately carried out the attacks on Inkatha supporters. If they had not adopted a confrontational stance, the killings would not have taken place. They were there for one reason alone — confrontation," Colonel Frans Malherbe said.

He said a special team of detectives would investigate the killings. Colonel Malherbe said Inkatha and the ANC-backed Vaal Civic Association had applied to have meetings in the same stadium on the same day.

Inkatha, which also applied to Vanderbijlpark's magistrate, was given permission. The VCA, which did not apply to the magistrate, was turned down.

Police said they had held several meetings before Sunday with Cosatu legal advisers and informed them



Warrant Officer Petrus "Seppi" Jooste.

before being taken to hospital. He died an hour later, police said.

Warrant Officer Jooste was with a detachment of police escorting Inkatha members through a gauntlet of petrol bombs and stones hurled by suspected ANC supporters.

He and his men arrived at the hostels, only to be confronted by other ANC/UDF supporters waiting, according to police, to ambush the Inkatha members. Witwatersrand police spokesman Colonel Frans Malherbe said the mob approached the Inkatha members, but were warned by Warrant Officer Jooste that confrontation would not be tolerated. They refused to disperse and rubber bullets and

Unit died on "unlay after the spear was hurled at police at the Sebokeng single quarters where up to 21 people died in clashes.

The spear hit his heart but the policeman managed to pluck it from his chest and throw it away.

He died an hour later, police said.



teargas were fired at them. During this incident, a spear was thrown and hit the policeman in the chest.

"He just pulled it out and threw it away," said a policeman who was at the scene.

The assegai has since gone missing and police have been unable to find it.

Colonel Malherbe said it was not known who had thrown it or whether it was a Zulu spear.

"Even if it were a Zulu spear, it could not be ruled out that someone from the other side threw it. They also use spears and these are widely available," said Colonel Malherbe.

Warrant Officer Jooste was married, he and his wife had no children. A shocked Mrs Jooste was yesterday unable to speak to The Star.

US travellers warned about strife in SA

The Star Bureau

NEW YORK — Noting "escalating strife" in South Africa, the State Department warned today that the African National Congress may be preparing to step up the level of violence if talks with the Government break down, and issued a travel advisory warning to American citizens of the dangers of travel in South Africa and in Transkei and Ciskei.

The State Department advisory, a warning frequently offered to Americans travelling in or about to leave for foreign trouble spots, also claimed that some Americans in South Africa had been harassed by right-wing groups, but gave no details.

Meeting with ANC is still on, confirms De Klerk

Political Correspondent

President de Klerk confirmed last night that the Government would go ahead with planned talks with the African National Congress on August 6 — despite the police discovery of an alleged ANC/SA Communist Party plot to seize power if negotiations failed.

He issued a statement confirming the scheduled talks following a call by Conservative Party leader Andries Treurnicht and the Afrikaner Weerstandsbeweging for the talks to be cancelled in view of the infiltration of Umkhonto we Sizwe cadres and the "blatant declaration of war" by MK chief of staff, Chris Ham.

Mr de Klerk said that although the Government regarded the alleged ANC action in "an extremely serious light", it remained committed to a peaceful negotiation process — as agreed at the Groote Schuur talks in May.

However, the basic rules of the negotiation process "do not provide for any political organisation to stockpile arms to force its will at the negotiation table".

"The Government insists that the laws of the country have to be respected."

"As I have often said publicly, it is imperative that good government be maintained at all times."

"Change in whatever area must be orderly and should follow peaceful negotiation and discussion."

"The nature of Government action since February 2 this year (when the ANC was unbanned) was to achieve exactly that and was directed at normalising the political process."

Mr de Klerk also seemed to hint that top ANC leaders could be involved in the alleged plot.

Immunity

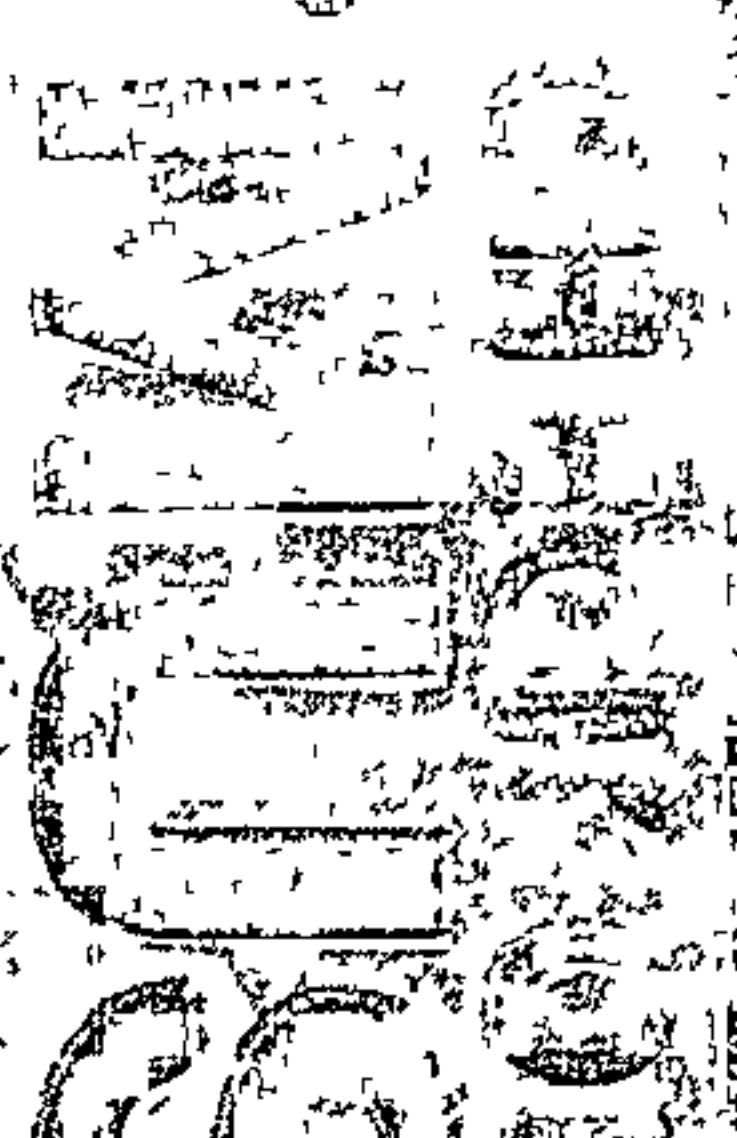
He pointed out that in the joint Groote Schuur Minute agreed to by the ANC and the Government after talks early in May, temporary immunity was granted to people who would otherwise have faced prosecution.

"In the light of the latest developments, it is necessary to emphasise that such immunity applies only in re-

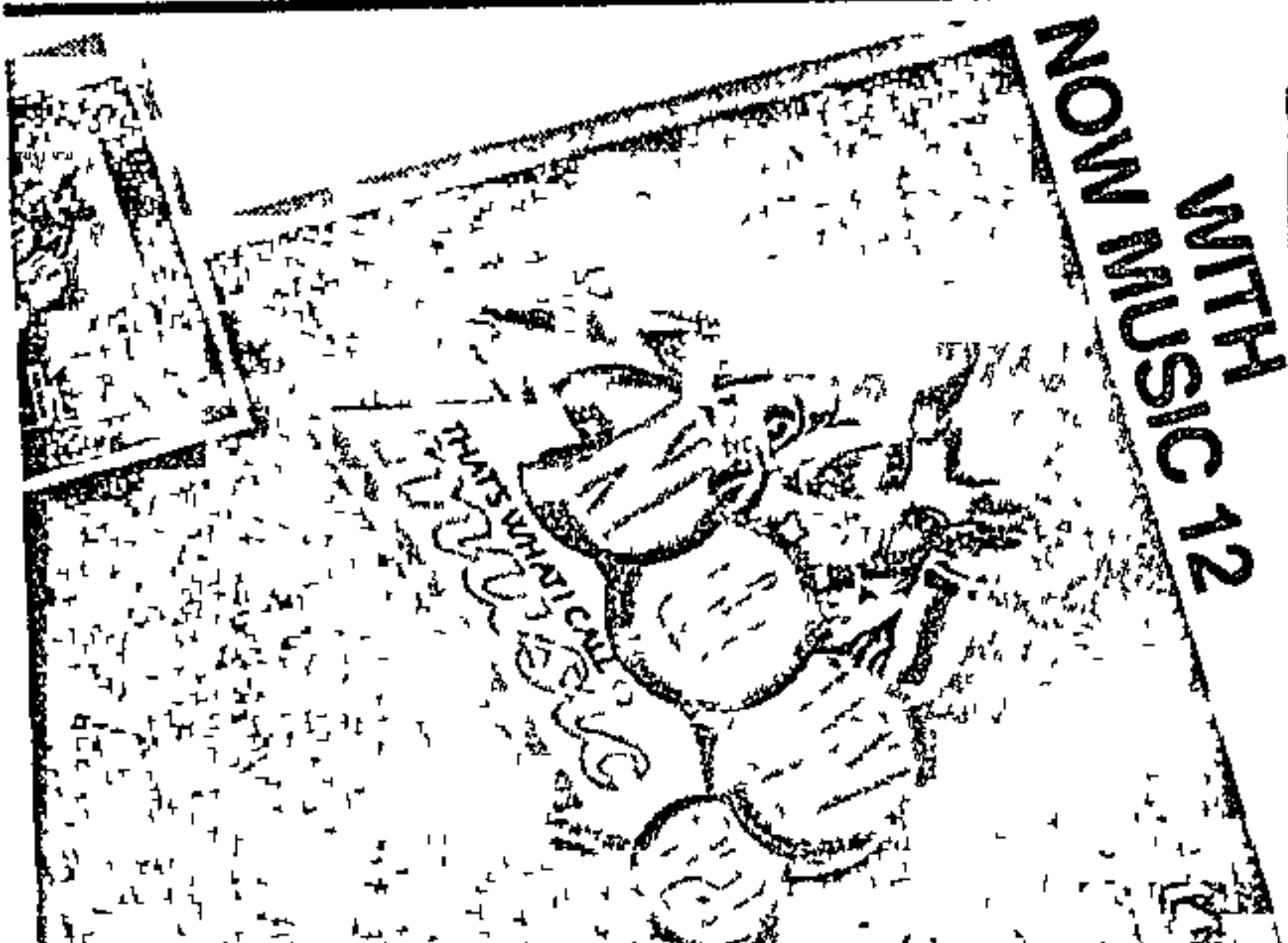
War fever... a Sebokeng anti-Inkatha hostel resident, armed with an axe and iron pipes, prepares for war after rumours circulated that Inkatha planned to attack ANC sympathisers at the hostel.

Picture by Alf Kumalo

Project



WITH MUSIC 12



No success in talks on striker access to hotels

THE SA Commercial Catering and Allied Workers' Union (Saccawu) and Southern Sun/Holiday Inn management failed to reach agreement on striker access to hotel premises yesterday.

Saccawu national co-ordinator Elias Hlongwane said yesterday's meeting concentrated on the issues of striker access and sitdowns, but as yet the situation had not changed.

"We still have no access to hotel premises," Hlongwane said.

Saccawu had obtained an Industrial Court order on Friday, instructing the company to enter into negotiations immediately on allowing strikers to hold meetings on strike issues in the hotels.

By Friday, negotiations between Saccawu and Southern Sun/Holiday Inn had reached deadlock over union demands.

According to Hlongwane, Saccawu reached agreement with management for casual workers to have the right to be part of the union. They also agreed that sick leave would be 42 days on a three-year cycle and the night shift minimum wage would go up by R100.

However, negotiations deadlocked over dismissed striking workers from Pine Lake and Sabi River and over the wage settlement, he said.

Southern Sun/Holiday Inn management's offer to re-employ all the dismissed workers four months after signing a settlement was "unacceptable" to the union, which wanted their immediate reinstatement, Hlongwane said.

He said that while agreement was reached on a R120 across-the-board mini-

OWEN MAUBANE

mum wage increase, the company's offer of R100 backdated to April 1 and R20 from October 1 1990 was unacceptable to the union, which preferred a R105 increase backdated to April 1 and R15 from October 1. However, he emphasised that the difference over wages was not crucial.

"Our priority is on dismissals because there isn't much of a gap between us on wages. As soon as agreement is reached on that we anticipate calling the strike off," Hlongwane said.

Southern Sun/Holiday Inn industrial relations spokesman Carl Ludick was unavailable for comment.

Meanwhile, Federal Council of Retail and Allied Workers Union (Fedcrow) spokesman Ned Kettlele said a meeting between Fedcrow and Saccawu at the weekend had ended in disagreement over accepting Edgars' offer of a minimum wage increase of R165 a month and a 100% bonus after eight years.

"We have confirmed with Saccawu that they have as yet not accepted Edgars' offer," Kettlele said.

He added that a meeting between the two unions was planned for tomorrow to "iron out differences" that had arisen over the weekend.

Saccawu and Fedcrow would be meeting jointly with Edgars management on Thursday to reach a settlement, he said.

The unions are demanding R180-a-month increase and a 100% bonus after five years.

ABOUT 700 Atteridgeville town council workers downed tools yesterday demanding the immediate resignation of two senior officials accused of favouritism in the appointment of staff

The workers, all members of the Transvaal Association of Employees of Black Local Authorities, called for the resignation of city secretary Mr Madumetsa Mogoba and his deputy, Mr Isaac Manthata.

Workers said they could not work with the two officials because of their insensitivity towards their grievances

A spokesman for TAEBLA said the strike was sparked off by recommendations by the management committee that a Tembisa man, who holds a diploma in public relations, be given the post of personnel manager

A council employee, Mr Titus Khalo, who holds an honours degree in administration and has been acting personnel manager of the council for eight months, has not been considered for the job.

Mr Dick Mboweni, the council's industrial relations officer, confirmed that TAEBLA had ob-

Council workers down tools

MONK NKOMO

jected to the recommendations made by the management committee

He said his report to that effect would be tabled before the council tomorrow

Employees also criticised the management committee for failing to appoint Mr Simon Bogopa as town clerk

Bogopa, who holds two degrees, is deputy departmental head of health services and has been employed by the council for 13 years

He is also a registered prospective town clerk. He was interviewed for the job about two months ago but nobody has as yet been appointed to the post.

Workers refused to go back to work and vowed to continue the strike until their demands were met and their grievances resolved

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Row over blame for clash

24/7/90

● From Page 1.

that their meeting would be illegal if it went ahead. These meetings were attended by Witwatersrand police chief Major-General Gert Erasmus.

On Friday, Sebokeng police chief Colonel Othniel Mazibuko had held talks with the VCA on the matter.

At a press conference in Johannesburg last night Cosatu said it had informed the Minister of Law and Order last Wednesday of allegations of Inkatha's planned attack on Cosatu and ANC members and supporters. A copy of the fax to the Minister was handed to the press.

Peter Harris, representing Cosatu, said the police said they had investigated the allegation

and found it to have no substance.

He said there was reason enough to believe an Inkatha attack was being planned and Cosatu, the Vaal Civic Association and the local ANC branch was doing everything possible to avoid the situation.

Before Sunday's Inkatha rally, several groups up to 600 strong wearing ANC/UDF T-shirts gathered outside the stadium and hurled stones at policemen and their vehicles, police said.

The police dispersed the mobs with teargas and rubber bullets.

When the meeting ended at 3.30 pm, Inkatha members travelling in seven buses were escorted from the stadium by police through a gauntlet of petrol bombs and stones, said police.

Call to suspend officials

Sowetan 25/7/90
By MONK NKOMO

THE two-day-old strike by 700 Atteridgeville Council workers yesterday took another turn when employees demanded that the council secretary and his deputy be suspended and charged for alleged irregularities.

The Transvaal Association of Employees of Black Local Authorities also demanded the immediate payment of a 13,1 percent salary increase promised by the council two years ago.

Workers demanded that the post of industrial relations officer held by Mr Dick Mboweni be abolished.

A memorandum, which was handed to Mr Enoch Sibanyoni, chairman of the management committee, called for the suspension of the secretary, Mr Madumetsa Mogoba and his deputy, Mr Isaac Manthata.

They demanded that the two officials appear before the council's disciplinary committee.

Refuse mounts as strikers stay out

Tygerberg Bureau

REFUSE piled up in Voortrekker Road during the second day of a wildcat strike by Parow Municipality workers, but the council assured residents services were being continued.

On Monday about 500 workers walked out in support of higher wages and improved working conditions.

Ms Mearle Brown, regional secretary of the South African Municipal Worker's Union, said a Samwu delegation met municipal officials, and the municipality agreed to "look into" the grievances.

According to a statement, wages were being negotiated at Industrial Council level.

810am 25/7/90

Metro workers to strike after ballot

(152)

THEO RAWANA

(52)

MORE than 5 000 workers at Metro Group's 160 stores will down tools tomorrow after an SA Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers Union (Saccawu) ballot favoured a strike.

A Saccawu spokesman said more than 75% of votes were in favour of a strike after two months of pay negotiations with management broke down last week.

The union was demanding a R150 a month across-the-board increase, while the company was offering R135.

Metro MD A McDiarmid said the strike did not affect all workers in the group as there were other unions that had accepted management's offer.

He refused to give a ratio of those favouring the strike to those against, saying he preferred to talk to the union rather than to the Press.

The union spokesman said there were two other unions — the Inkatha-affiliated United Workers Union of SA (Uwusa) and the National Union of Distributive and Allied Workers (Nudaw) — that had accepted Metro's offer.

The two unions' members totalled less than 500 workers, he said.

Hotel strikers present demands to MD

MORE than 2 000 SA Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers' Union (Saccawu) members marched to the Sandton Sun from the Sandton Holiday Inn at noon yesterday and handed over a memorandum to Southern Sun/Holiday Inn MD Bruno Corte. 8/04/25/79

Saccawu national negotiating team member Setena Khalle said the memorandum included a demand that wages should be increased by R160 across the board; that management eradicate the flexiwork programme used in the hotels, and that it end job reservation and segregated canteens.

Khalle said Corte had accepted the memorandum and offered to meet Saccawu as soon as possible. A meeting was set to take place at the Johannesburg Holiday Inn early today.

OWEN MAUBANE

In a telephone interview yesterday Corte said his meeting with the marchers was a "positive exercise".

"The strikers wanted me to clarify the company's position on ending the strike, and so I told them that we were very keen to see it end since it benefited no-one," he said.

Saccawu national organiser Allan Horwitz said the intention behind the march was to demonstrate to management that the strikers were dissatisfied with the company's termination of mediation last Friday. (152)

"We wanted to force management to re-examine its position," he said.

NEWS



Pedestrian jam . . . thousands of toyi-toying railworkers throng the streets of central Johannesburg yesterday as they march to Transnet's head offices to show management they are serious about wage demands.

● Picture by Ken Oosterbroek.

7 000 take part in march to Transnet

By Shareen Singh

More than 7 000 toyi-toying railway workers brought Johannesburg's city centre to a standstill yesterday when they marched on Transnet's head offices to submit demands.

The march was organised by the South African Railway and Harbour Workers' Union (Sarthwu) to show workers' rejection of Transnet's R700 a month minimum wage offer.

The union said it had dropped its demand from R1 500 to R1 000, but management had not shifted from its initial offer, which amounted to an increase of R100 a month.

Sarthwu official Nelson Ndumisa handed over a memorandum to Transnet's labour relations manager for the southern Transvaal, Anneke Burke.

Although union leadership was non-committal on whether a strike was looming, rank and file workers said they would fight for a living wage and use their only weapon to achieve this.

The union has not declared an official deadlock and dispute pending the outcome of the next round of negotiations in August.

More woes for Vereeniging

Sowetan 25/7/90 (152)

THE boycott-hit town of Vereeniging had more trouble added to its list of woes on Monday when about 1 000 municipal workers went on strike over wage demands.

Town clerk Mr CK Steyn confirmed the strike and said about a third of the municipal workforce arrived at work yesterday and told management they were downing tools over a R600 minimum wage demand.

About half the workforce came to work yesterday but were engaging in a sit-down strike, he said.

Spokesman for the Municipal, State, Farm and Allied Workers Union, Mr Phillip Masia said workers demanded the council pay them R600 minimum last month.

They thought it had

SOWETAN Correspondent

agreed to this after a notice about an approved wage increase was issued to them, Masia said.

Steyn denied the notice had said the union members would receive a minimum of R600 a month, but dealt with a 13 per cent increase which became effective

last Friday.

When workers realised their increase was from R400 to R440, they decided to go on strike, Masia said.

They met with management on Monday and were told workers could have made a mistake after reading the notice but this was no cause to strike, he said.

Steyn confirmed the

municipality had adopted a no work, no pay policy, but his door was always open to further negotiations.

"Of course, the council's services will be affected but we will be able to manage to keep essential services going by various ways and means we have up our sleeve," he said - *Sowetan Correspondent*

Sacked after downing tools

By CHIARA CARTER

HUNDREDS of workers were dismissed this week after a spate of "wildcat" strikes at several factories in the Western Cape.

On Monday, more than 200 workers were dismissed from Gabriel SA in Retreat after taking illegal industrial action.

A spokesperson for the National Union of Metalworkers of South Africa (Numsa) said that the workers downed tools last week in support of wage demands.

The move followed negotiations during which the workers demanded a minimum wage increase of R2,50 an hour and R3 for artisans.

The company responded with a final offer of 65 cents an hour for the lowest grade, R1 38 for supervisors and other productivity-linked incentives.

The workers were fired after they defied an interim interdict ordering them to vacate the company canteen and return to work.

The spokesperson said the union was trying to talk to the company which earlier did not respond to a Numsa offer to intervene in the dispute if the company agreed to waive its right to sue the union.

The workers have said they will return to work if the company agrees not to victimise strikers, to withdraw the interdict and to negotiate wages with Numsa.

Double blow for Nehawu

GRAHAMSTOWN — The National Education, Health and Allied Workers' Union (Nehawu) here received two disastrous blows when one of their officials burnt to death and the offices were burgled on the same day.

Organiser Mr Ntando Dyantyi was sleeping in a backyard shack in Fort Beaufort when he was burnt to death.

The fire is believed to have been accidental — ANA

something the company has refused to do because it does not have a recognition agreement with the union.

The company, however, maintains that the workers have been dismissed.

Numsa members at SA Metal in Salt River and Epping were warned they faced dismissal after they downed tools on Monday in support of wage demands.

The workers are demanding R1 an hour across the board increase while the company has offered 46 cents.

Terms

Numsa members at Steeldale Engineering are sitting in at the company premises after they downed tools earlier this week, also in support of wage demands.

About 300 members of the Metal and Electrical Workers' Union of South Africa (Mewusa) downed tools at Cape Gate in Parow this week to demand that the company adhere to the terms of an interim agreement with the union.

The union is also in dispute at Plessey and National Panasonic — both factories which experienced lengthy strikes last year.

About 100 CWIU members are involved in an "unprocedural" strike at Plasticon while members of the CWIU at Safimed have been taking industrial action, including a go-slow, since last week.

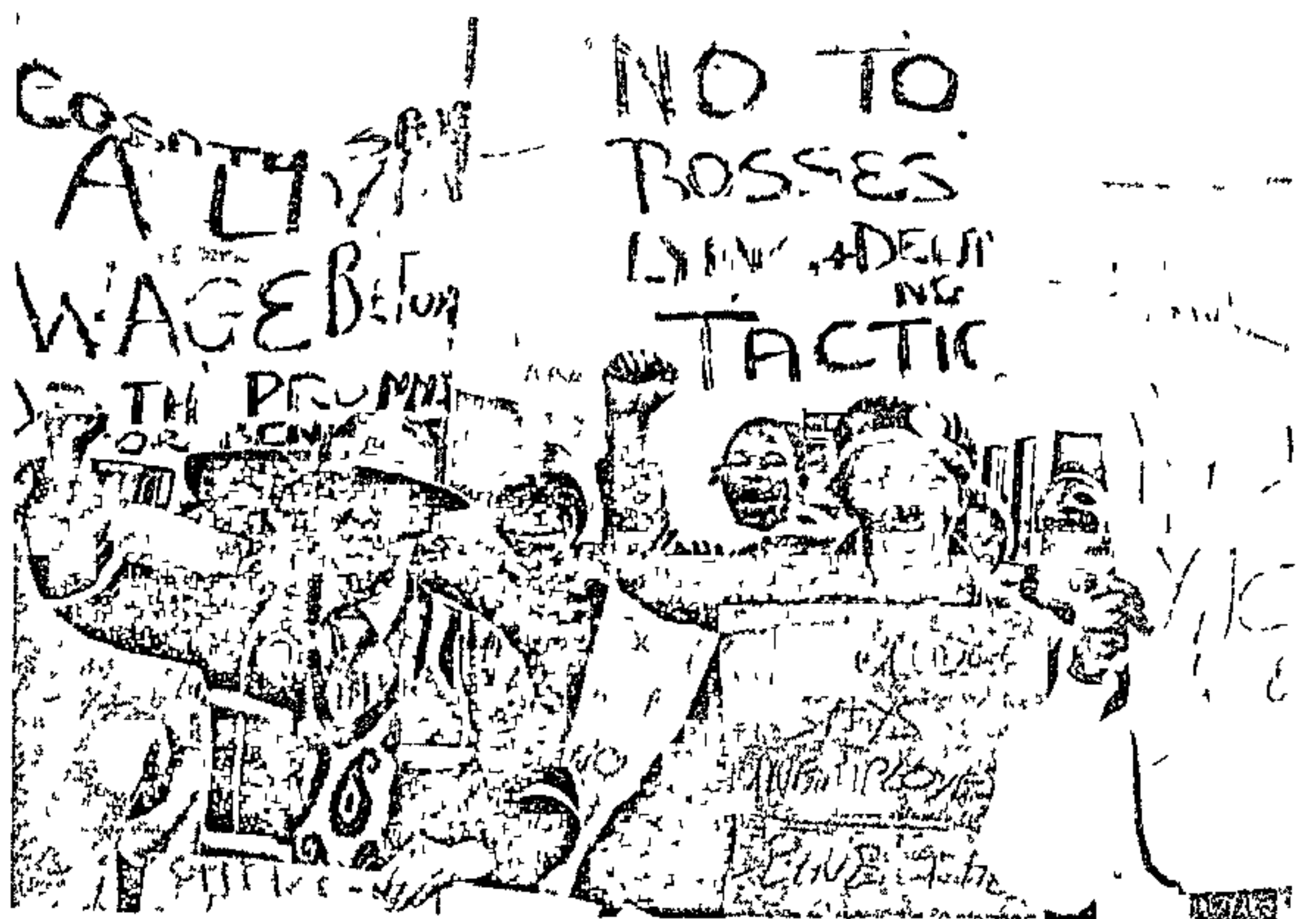
CWIU is also in dispute with BP and Metal Box (Blou Moulders).

Meanwhile, workers who were dismissed last month from the Kohler Xactics factory in Epping, following a sit in at the factory, staged two demonstrations outside the company headquarters in Salt River this week.

A spokesperson for the CWIU said the union intended contesting the dismissals in terms of Section 43 of the Labour Relations Act (LRA) in the industrial court.

Workers at Consol Plastics in Kuilsriver will hold a lunchtime demonstration in support of wage demands this Thursday, a CWIU spokesperson said.

Makhaya Mani reports that Sactwu members downed tools on Wednesday at the Oudishoom Leather factory to protest against the suspension of two workers.



WORKER MILITANCY: Dismissed Kohler Xactics workers demonstrate outside the company's headquarters
PIC YUNUS MOHAMED

More industrial action imminent

By CHIARA CARTER

THE strike wave which has rocked South African industry shows no sign of abating. On the contrary, more industrial action is imminent.

By early this week, the number of workers on strike had reached the 40 000 mark — an all-time high.

Thousands of other workers are involved in go-slows, overtime bans and other forms of industrial action.

Most of the strikers are members of the South African Commercial, Cater-

ing and Allied Workers Union (Saccawu).

Now thousands of other Saccawu members intend to take industrial action to highlight the union's living wage campaign.

Saccawu general secretary Mr Vivian Mtwa said all Saccawu members would take part in a one-hour national work stoppage next week during which they will picket outside their work places.

Mtwa said the union's central demand was the right of workers to picket.

He said Saccawu was also demanding the right to strike access to company facilities during strikes and an end to rightwing assaults on strikers.

More than 400 Southern Sun and OK

Bazaars workers have been arrested so far — most of them for picketing.

This week, more than 80 Checkers workers were arrested at Emrelo for picketing.

Mediation

The union is presently negotiating with Checkers, while mediation is scheduled to take place later this week between Saccawu and OK Bazaars and Southern Sun.

The union is holding a strike ballot at Metro Cash and Carry stores this week.

The move comes after a conciliation board hearing broke down on Tuesday morning.

The union is demanding a R150 across the board increase while the

NEWS

Striking hotel staff toyi-toyi in Sandton City

By Brendan Templeton

About 1 000 striking Southern Sun workers yesterday descended on Sandton City shopping centre, demanding to see Southern Sun/Holiday Inns group managing director Bruno Corte

The centre reverberated to the thunder of shuffling tackies as workers toyi-toyed, shouting for Mr Corte to take steps aimed at ending the strike deadlock at 41 of the group's hotels.

Startled shoppers stood aside as the strikers, who had marched from the nearby Holiday Inn, swept up to the main entrance of the complex

About 20 riot policemen armed with shotguns stood around, but the spirit between the workers and the authorities was cordial. A traffic officer even offered the use of his car's loudhailer when the workers' megaphone failed.

Mr Corte was ushered down and soon he and worker representatives had organised a meeting

at the Downtown Holiday Inn at 9 am today

The traffic department blocked off the road to the entrance to allow the informal conference to take place. Workers sat on the tarmac while their representatives and Mr Corte negotiated the meeting

Worker leaders accused him of trying to ensure that the strike stalemate continued, and of not being concerned about ending it

Mr Corte denied this "Oh, come on. We were able to work out an agreement on the Mike Gatting (cricket tour) issue. I'm sure we'll be able to solve this"

They then demanded he address the workers directly

"Sure I will, I'm not scared of them," Mr Corte said

He told the workers about today's scheduled meeting and they cheered his announcement

Shortly afterwards they sang Nkosi Sikelel' iAfrika before dispersing to waiting buses

Union challenge to SFW

CM-TT-15 25/7/90 152
NEARLY 4 000 striking workers in the wine industry plan to challenge Stellenbosch Farmers' Winery in the Industrial Court over "compulsory overtime"

Mr William Makhunga, a Stellenbosch-based official of the National Union of Wine, Spirits and Allied Workers, said yesterday that the dispute over working hours follows a union-imposed overtime ban in March. The company expected workers to work overtime when asked, while the union believed overtime to be voluntary, he said.

In September last year the Appeal Court ruled that workers had the common-law right to

refuse to do overtime.

Mr Makhunga said there was no sign of settlement in the 13-day countrywide strike by his union over wages and conditions of service.

● In Parow, meanwhile, the strike by municipal workers is spreading, says town clerk Mr H Carstens.

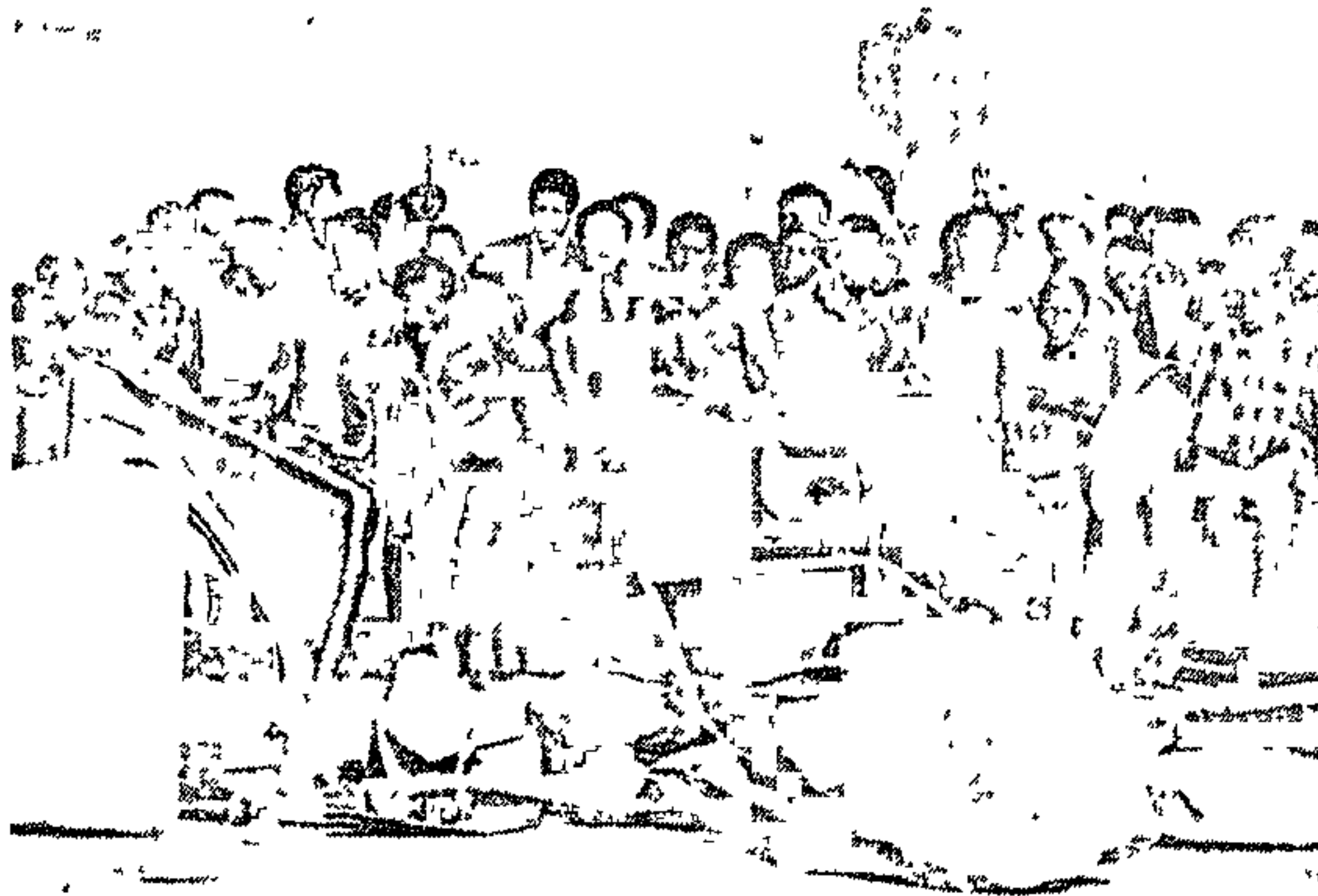
He said yesterday that the strike now involved more than 100 workers and had spread to the parks and town engineer's departments.

● And in Paarl about 180 striking workers at an engineering plant, Satchwell Controls, were locked out of the factory premises yesterday during a day-old legal strike over wages and conditions of service.

● More than 7 000 toyi-toyi-ing railway workers brought Johannesburg's city centre to a standstill yesterday morning when they marched on Transnet head offices to submit a memorandum of demands.

The march was organised by the South African Railway and Harbour Workers' Union (Sarhwi) to show workers' rejection of Transnet's R700 minimum wage offer.

The union said it dropped its demand from R1 500 to R1 000, but management did not shift from its initial offer. — Sapa



Sebokeng youths yesterday barricaded roads in the township as they enforced a worker stayaway.

Sowetan 25/7/90 152 Fears of new Vaal clashes

YOUTHS yesterday enforced a worker stayaway by residents of the battle-scarred Sebokeng township amid fears of renewed clashes between Inkatha and ANC factions

At least 19 people, including one policeman, died in running battles on Sunday

Yesterday Mr Hlangano Shabalala, treasurer of the Sebokeng Civic Association, said tensions were running high in the township.

He said youths were at

all major taxi ranks and bus stops to prevent people from going to work

Police confirmed gangs had stopped workers travelling to work

Meetings

"We believe that anti-Inkatha elements were the aggressors and deliberately carried out the attacks on Inkatha supporters," Colonel Frans Malherbe said

Malherbe said a spe-

cial team of detectives would investigate the killings

Malherbe said Inkatha and the ANC-backed Vaal Civic Association had applied to hold meetings in the same stadium on the same day.

Inkatha was given permission

Police said they had held several meetings before Sunday with Cosatu legal advisors and informed them that their meeting would be illegal if it went ahead

On Monday Cosatu said they had informed the Minister of Law and Order last Wednesday of allegations about Inkatha's planned attack on Cosatu and ANC members and supporters

1,2-m working days lost in six ^{Arden's} months ^{26/7/90}

The Argus
Correspondent ⁵²

DURBAN. — Nearly 1 200 000 working days were lost through strike actions in the first half of this year — almost treble the amount for the same period last year and five times the figure for the second half of 1988.

The SA Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers' Union, which recently settled with OK and Checkers, led the field (12,3 percent of the total working days lost) as a result of after the OK strike involving more than 6 000 workers.

The figures are contained in a strike report prepared by a Johannesburg industrial relations consultant Andrew Levy and Johan Piron and Associates who have also noted a dramatic increase in the level of strike action in the public sector

Difficult

"Now that the wage round is in full swing, it is anticipated that the next quarter will also prove to be a difficult period for employers with increased militancy and pressure in the form of strike action and unrest.

"Combined with the tensions arising from the Government's decision not to pass legislation during this current session of Parliament on proposed changes to the Labour Relations Act, this could herald an unprecedented wave of industrial action which employers will find difficult to counter," the report said

In the public sector the figures during the first half of 1989 jumped from 0,4 percent of the total number of strike actions to 46,2 percent during the first half of 1990.

Will continue

Wages accounted for the largest percentage of strikes in terms of days lost (63 percent) followed by grievance/discipline (26 percent) and dismissals (1,7 percent)

The most active unions strike-wise were. National Union of Metal Workers of SA (19,1 percent), Chemical Workers' Industrial Union (11,8 percent), National Union of Mineworkers (11 percent), Paper, Printing, Wood and Allied Workers' Union (6,6 percent) and the Food and Allied Workers' Union (4,4 percent)



Picture: JOHAN SCHRÖNEN, The Argus.

HOTEL MARCH: Members and supporters of the SA Commercial Caterers' and Allied Workers' Union took part in a peaceful march in Cape Town yesterday. A petition calling for improved pay and working conditions was delivered at the Cape Sun Hotel.

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Parents, teachers and pupils during a schools' crisis meeting at Odi Primary School in Oukasie, Brits, yesterday.

Stayaway over schools crisis

THOUSANDS of Oukasie residents yesterday stayed away from work to attend a meeting called to discuss the education crisis in the Brits area.

The meeting, at Odi Primary School, was attended by parents, teachers and pupils.

Teachers blamed the Department of Education and Training for the problems at both Letlhabile and Oukasie schools.

They said the depart-

By ALINAH DUBE

ment's refusal to address the problems was the Government's deliberate action to keep black people illiterate.

The transfer of teachers from schools where there was already a shortage of staff was said to have been the cause of problems.

The post of a principal who was transferred from Bothabelo High School

was cited as one of the issues which had resulted in the disruption of education.

The meeting heard that at another school 11 teachers were moved by the DET without being replaced, a move which has left the remaining staff unable to cope.

At Odi Primary School eight teachers were fired on Monday, while four classes have been without teachers since March.

"All these problems

were brought to the DET's attention. But instead, the authorities responded by either suspending or dismissing teachers," speakers said.

The meeting agreed there would be no effective education in the area until the DET had addressed the crisis.

A teacher delegation was due to meet Mr Job Schoeman, DET's regional chief director for the northern Transvaal, late yesterday.

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Odi
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Schoeman

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Strike saga continues

South 2617-118170

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By CHIARA CARTER
AS thousands of retain-
workers returned to work
this week, more than
300 000 workers pre-
pared for industrial action
and about 20 000 others
remained on strike.

Metal unions, including
the giant National Union of
Metalworkers of South Af-
rica (Numsa), are gearing up
for strike action which could
involve up to 200 000 work-
ers.

The move follows a break-
down in industrial council
wage negotiations earlier
this year.

Numsa is taking a strike
ballot among 23 000 mem-
bers in the coal industry.

Volatile

Several factories in the
sector are hit by wildcat
strikes, go-slows and other
forms of industrial action.

In Cape Town Numsa is
fighting to get more than 400
members reinstated after
mass dismissals last week
from Gabriel's and SA Metal
following unprocedural

strikes at both companies

A strike by more than 100
Numsa members at
Steeldale is continuing and
the union is preparing for
strike action at Bremco
Products in Atlantis if an
industrial council meeting
next week does not resolve
a wage dispute.

Work stoppage

The company has offered
a 30 cents across-the-board
increase and a 45 cents at-
tendance bonus while the
union is demanding an in-
crease of R2 an hour.

Meanwhile, the South Af-
rican Commercial, Catering
and Allied Workers' Union
(Saccawu) is pushing ahead
with plans to stage a national
hour-long work stoppage
this Friday in support of
workers' right to picket
freely during strikes.

Saccawu has about 90 000
members, most of whom are
expected to take part in the
demonstration.

About 5 000 Saccawu
members go on strike this
Thursday at Metro Cash and
Carry stores nationwide.

Stun grenades at shoe factory

South 26/7 - 11/8/90

From ZOLA NTUTU
PORT ELIZABETH.

— At least five workers were injured by baton-wielding police, and 26 arrested after teargas and stun grenades were used on strikers outside a

Port Elizabeth shoe company this week.

The workers, who are on strike, and members of the SA Clothing and Textile Workers' Union (Sactwu) and the National Union of Leatherworkers, were on their way to the union offices when the incident occurred.

Eastern Cape police liaison officer, Major Bill Dennis, confirmed the workers were arrested for taking part in an "illegal march".

Negotiations

About 2 500 workers from Bagshaw, Millana, Jack and Jill, K&M and Badger have been on strike since last week, demanding a wage increase.

Negotiations between union officials and management are in progress in a bid to end the strike, according to a Sactwu spokesperson.

More than 200 workers from the affected companies gathered outside the Badger shoe company waiting for workers there — also on strike — to come out and accompany them to the un-

ion offices.

They scattered when policemen in vans and casspirs fired teargas canisters.

A pregnant woman, Mrs Averit Rogers, said police grabbed her out of a toilet where she was hiding and pushed her to the ground.

Singing

Her knees were bruised and legs were still covered with blood from the wounds.

A spokesperson, Mr Freddy Magungu, said when he asked one policeman the reason for the arrests, he was told "they must stop singing".

"The police are provoking the people because no one can be arrested for singing," he said. — PEN

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Strikers want workers freed

By Brendan Templeton

The municipal strike in boycott-hit Vereeniging would not be resolved until 400 arrested workers were released, spokesman for the Municipal, State, Farm and Allied Workers Union (MSFAWU) Phillip Masia said yesterday.

The workers were arrested on Tuesday for "constituting a danger to traffic", and were each granted R50 bail, which would "take some time" for the union to raise, Mr Masia said.

Until then, the strike which started on Tuesday when about 1 000 workers downed tools demanding a R600 minimum wage, would not be resolved.

Boycott link

The strike was directly linked to the boycott in Vereeniging and Vanderbijlpark which was aimed at pressurising the municipalities to broaden democratic rights, he said.

Although the 400 workers were simply walking together and not marching, their right to free movement was restricted by the arrests, he said.

Municipal authorities had to overcome their "paranoia which leads them to ban marches instinctively" — they were "shooting at everything that moves", he added.

Workers, municipality in Parow wage battle

ABOUT 400 striking Parow Council workers and the municipality have been locked in a two-day battle on wage demands.

The workers, represented by the South African Municipal Workers' Union (Samwu), went on a wild-cat strike on Monday.

Meanwhile a strike of about 250 Eastern Cape employees at a wholesale merchant chain is set to begin this morning, while a threat of a nationwide boycott has entered into the 15-day-old strike at six Port Elizabeth liquor companies.

In other industrial disputes Production resumed at Goodyear, the workforce at Boeresake (Co-op) will return to work this morning, union and company officials met without a mediator for the first time yesterday to end the three-week-old strike at 41 Southern Sun/Holiday Inn hotels, and factory workers at Bagshaw Footwear were dismissed yesterday. Workers from the company and other shoe companies on strike will resume work today — Staff Reporter and Own Correspondent

Nactu backs strike

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Sowetan 26/7/90
THE National Council of Trade Unions has expressed its support for its affiliate, the National Union of Wine, Spirits and Allied Workers, in its national wage-related strike begun on July 9.

Nactu's acting general secretary, Mr Cunningham Ngcukana, said the federation believed its affiliate had done all that was required to settle the dispute amicably.

He said "Negotiations began on February 19 with the company offering R21 to R26,90 from Grade 1 to 6 and the union demanding R60 across-the-board.

"After five days of negotiations, the union demanded R45 a week and the company stood between R28,50 and R31,50.

"At the last meeting on March 14, the employer association offered an insulting 50 cents."

25 000 residents ¹⁵² march in Vosloorus

By MONDLI MAKHANYA

VOSLOORUS residents stayed away from work yesterday and about 25 000 people marched to the township's council offices.

The marchers handed over a petition to the National Party MP for Boksburg, Sakkie Blanche, and the Transvaal Provincial Administration's East Rand director, Pieter du Toit.

The Vosloorus Civic Association (VCA) is demanding, among other things, a single municipality and tax base for Boksburg and Vosloorus.

A large police contingent monitored the march but took no action.

Both Blanche and Du Toit undertook to pass on the petition to the central government and the TPA respectively yesterday. They refused to give a specific time for a response.

Blanche offered to act as mediator between the Vosloorus Town Council and VCA w/mo 27/7-29/7/90

"We are talking at national level and there is no reason why we cannot do the same thing at local level," he said.

The VCA publicity secretary, Keith Montsisi, hoped the co-operation between the two parties would continue.

69 liquor strikers held during three-week action

1/52
1964 27/7/80
By SHARON SOROUR
Labour Reporter

SIXTY-NINE strikers have been arrested since the start of the three-week industrial action by 3 800 liquor industry employees.

The most recent arrest took place in Wadeville, Germiston, on Wednesday when a striker was allegedly detained by police near the Distillers Corporation plant, the president of the National Union of Wine, Spirits and Allied Workers' Union (Nuwsaw), Mr November Nkosi, told Sapa.

Distillers Corporation and five other companies — Stellenbosch Farmers' Winery, Douglas Green, Henry, Taylor and Ries, Gilbeys and Union Wine — have been affected by the strike.

Refused offer

In the Western Cape, 664 workers as well as nearly 1 500 in the Transvaal and 1 000 in the Free State and Eastern Cape have refused a R33-a-week increase offer from the SA Wine and Spirit Industry Employers' Association.

Nuwsaw is demanding an across-the-board weekly increase of R40.

Mr Nkosi said nine Nuwsaw members were arrested at the Union Wine depot in Douglas this week, while 60 — 47 in Stellenbosch and 13 in Port Elizabeth — were arrested and released during the first week of the strike.

While liquor distribution and supplies have not been affected in the Western Cape, most liquor outlets on the Reef are experiencing problems.

This week the union called for a nationwide boycott of products of the six companies and threatened that about 1 000 workers at KWV in Paarl would join the strike if its demands were not met.

However, Employers' Association spokesman Mr Riaan Kruger said the effects of the boycott, which started in Stellenbosch, had not yet been felt.

The first round of talks between the association and the union failed to resolve the dispute last week.

No arrangements for further negotiations had been made.

13 000 workers down tools

23/7-24/7/90
w/mant 277-2417190
ABOUT 13'000 members of the Chemical Workers' Industrial Union throughout Transvaal staged a six-hour work stoppage in support of nearly 1 000 workers on strike at Ciba-Geigy and Rickett and Coleman (152)

The strike action — affecting Kempton Park and Brits — is over the multi-nationals' refusal to participate in the union-initiated National Provident Fund, the CWIU said yesterday.

The union and Ciba-Geigy will meet today to try to resolve the dispute through mediation.

Hendrickse bows to demos over school post

By PATRICK GOODENOUGH

LABOUR Party leader Allan Hendrickse has agreed to appoint a school teacher to a headmaster's post in Uitenhage, after hundreds of teachers, parents and pupils protested against his alleged politically-motivated refusal to do so.

The issue has become the latest in a string of events strongly indicating that Labour's Eastern Cape support base is tottering

The protests — which included demands that Hendrickse resign — centred on Joseph Slinger's application for the post of principal of Uitenhage High School, which has been without a principal for five years

Slingers reportedly campaigned against the tricameral system and the LP in the early 1980s.

A representative of the school's parent-teachers' association, Margie Terblanche, claimed that no appointment had been made because no LP members had applied

Earlier, Hendrickse denied that Slingers had not been appointed on political grounds. — Pen

5 000 Metro workers strike

MORE than 5 000 workers at Metro Group's 160 stores went on strike yesterday following last week's SA Commercial Catering and Allied Workers' Union (Saccawu) 75% ballot in favour of industrial action.

Pay negotiations have been deadlocked for two months despite a conciliation board hearing on July 17.

A spokesman for the Saccawu bargaining team said the union yesterday accepted a management proposal for mediation. The two sides will meet to try to resolve the dispute on Monday 6 (021 277 7190).

The spokesman said the strike had begun peacefully nationwide, although it had received reports of police harassment of pickets in Pietersburg.

Saccawu is demanding a R150 across-

MATTHEW CURTIN

the-board increase. Metro has offered a R135 increase.

Metro MD Tony McDiarmid said earlier this week that the strike did not affect all workers in the group, and Saccawu confirmed that the 500 members of the Inkatha-affiliated United Workers' Union of SA (Uwusa) and the National Union of Distributive and Allied Workers (Nudaw) had accepted Metro's offer.

Saccawu strike action by 9 500 workers continued at Southern Sun/Holiday Inn hotels yesterday.

The strike over pay and conditions in the liquor industry by 3 800 members of the National Union of Wine and Spirits Workers, now in its third week, remains unresolved.

Countrywide strike at Metro Cash 'n Carry

By Brendan Templeton

More than 5 000 Metro Cash 'n Carry workers have downed tools at more than 150 stores in the first nationwide legal strike in the company's history, a union spokesman said yesterday.

Group chief executive Tony McDiarmid confirmed the strike by SA Commercial Catering and Allied Workers Union (Saccawu) members but said exact figures were not yet available.

The strike's opening day was marred by police action in Pietersburg where picketers' posters were torn up, he said.

Mr McDiarmid said mediation was due to start on Monday.

At issue is the workers' demand for a R150 across-the-board increase. All other points, including March 21 as a recognised holiday, had been cleared up in previous talks.

● About 90 000 Saccawu members are due to hold a one-hour

work stoppage today between 2 pm and 3 pm in support of the union's "living wage campaign".

It will also highlight harassment of picketers by police and rightwingers as well as strikers' rights to picket and to have access to company facilities.

This follows the bitter scenes of the OK Bazaars and Southern Sun strikes during which strikers were evicted from canteens and frequent accusations of intimidation were heard.

Caterers down tools as strike action spreads

By SHARON SOROUR
Labour Reporter and Sapa

MORE than 100 000 workers in the commercial and catering trade — members of the SA Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers' Union (Saccawu) — were to down tools for one hour throughout the country today, continuing the spate of nationwide strike and work stoppages.

Union general secretary Mr Vivian Mtwa said the "hour of action" aimed to highlight Saccawu's living wage campaign and other demands, including:

- The right for union members to picket without police or municipal interference.
- The right to strike.
- Access to company premises and facilities while on strike
- The end to right-wing harassment and assaults on union members.

Meanwhile, about 5 000 Metro Cash and Carry workers, also members of Saccawu, embarked on a nationwide strike at about 150 stores yesterday.

Workers participating in a strike ballot this week voted in favour of taking strike action after wage negotiations broke down.

The union is demanding a

R150 monthly across-the-board increase while management is offering R135.

The three-week strike involving nearly 6 000 Saccawu members at 41 Southern Sun/Holiday Inn hotels is continuing after attempts at mediation ended in deadlock last week.

WILDCAT STRIKE

In Parow, a wildcat strike by about 400 council workers over conditions of service enters its fifth day after informal talks between the South African Municipal Workers' Union (Samwu) failed yesterday.

About 30 000 leather industry employees will get a 19 percent wage increase following a final national wage agreement between unions and the Footwear Manufacturers' Federation of South Africa.

According to federation director Mr Dennis Linde, the increase is backdated to July 1 and also applies to non-parties to the National Industrial Council for the Leather Industry.

Negotiations between about 200 employers and two trade unions in the industry lasted about three months and were marked by sporadic work stoppages.

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(152)

RETAIL STRIKES

(152)

The middle way

Unionists and management at two giant retail chains — Checkers and OK Bazaars — have settled on wages and working conditions. The agreements end industrial action

FIM 27/7/90

by about 16 000 members of the Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers' Union.

Its three-week-old Southern Sun-Holiday Inn strike continues and 5 000 Metro Cash 'n Carry workers at 160 stores are expected to strike this week on mainly wage issues.

The two-week strike at Checkers, involving more than 9 000 workers at 160 stores, was settled by mediation. The company says workers will get an increase of R140 across the board and a monthly minimum of R770 effective from July 1. Checkers originally offered R135 across the board and a further R5 from January. The union was asking for R165 and a minimum R830.

The company also agreed to discounts for employees and an extra week's leave for those with at least six years' service.

In the OK Bazaars settlement the union managed to get some wage improvements and March 21 (Sharpeville Day) as a paid holiday. The company withdrew 587 retrenchment notices issued during the strike and gave an undertaking to negotiate across-the-board increases next year.

No minimum wage

It refused to grant across-the-board increases and did not agree to a monthly minimum wage. It offered instead monthly increases of R135, R145 and R155, depending on the number of years of service, and agreed to make a R10 across-the-board increase from January.

According to the union's Jeremy Daphne, the strike focused on what he describes as bad management attitudes and low wages, which resulted in a high degree of dissatisfaction and hostility towards management. "An important outcome of the strike," says Daphne, "has been to make OK Bazaars acknowledge that management attitude problems do exist, are severe, and must be addressed."

The union is organising a national hour of action, scheduled for Friday (July 27), which will focus on the alleged harassment and arrest of pickets during the strikes. It will also call for the right to picket without interference.

□ After the Chamber of Mines refusal last week to raise its final offer on colliery wages, the National Union of Mineworkers has begun a strike ballot among its 12 000 colliery members.

The union is demanding an across-the-board 18%-20% increase, against the chamber's final offer of 14,5%-17% — which was accepted on behalf of gold mining members a few weeks ago.

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No end to council strike

TALKS between the Parow municipality and the Municipal Workers' Union have failed to end a four-day wildcat strike by 400 council workers.

The strike — over wages and conditions of service — is illegal under the Labour Relations Act which outlaws industrial action by workers manning "essential services".

Engineering and parks services have been hit hardest by the stoppage.

Meanwhile, the longest national strike in the South African wine industry entered its third week yesterday with little sign of an imminent settlement.

Ten more striking wine industry workers have been arrested, bringing the number of arrests to nearly 70, say union sources.

● About 30 000 employees in the leather industry have been awarded a 19% wage increase — Sapa

LABOUR BRIEFS

Workers strike at Phillipi plant

South 28/6/417190
ABOUT 30 workers downed tools at the Baltimore Aircoil factory in Phillipi on Tuesday in support of a demand for an extra 10 cents' attendance bonus

The move followed a last-minute attempt to stave off a strike at the factory. Representatives of the Metal and Electrical Workers' Union of South Africa (Mewusa) and the company held what both parties described as "constructive talks" on a range of disputes at the company.

Baltimore spokesperson Mr Tim Deversen said he still intended to discuss the matter with Mewusa representatives and was "startled" to find more than half the workforce had downed tools

Offshore riggers win wage dispute

A FOUR-DAY strike by more than 100 deep-sea oiling workers ended last week with an agreement hailed by the Chemical Workers' Industrial Union (CWIU) as "historic".

The workers, who are employed by Sopelog, an oil drilling outfit contracted by Sockor, downed tools on Monday last week in support of wage demands.

In terms of the agreement concluded last Friday, workers will get a minimum wage of R1 200 a month — an increase of 35 percent on the previous minimum of R890.

Other employees will get increases of between 16,5 and 18,5 percent implemented in two parts.

Workers Set for national

action

By CHIARA CARTER

THOUSANDS of workers around the country are expected to heed a call for a national stayaway next Monday.

The stayaway has been called by Cosatu, the ANC, the UDF, Sayco and the Joint Working Committee on Natal.

It will mark the beginning of a week of action to demand an end to the violence in Natal, which organisations have warned is a major stumbling block to creating a climate for negotiations.

In Cape Town, the stayaway will be preceded by a rally at Athlone stadium at 2pm on Sunday.

Speakers at the rally include Umkhonto we Sizwe chief of staff Chris Hanu, the leader of the ANC in Natal, Harry Gwala, Numsa president Daniel Dube and Sayco president Peter Mokaba.

Marches

Marches are scheduled to take place in major centres throughout the country next Saturday.

In Cape Town, the marchers will deliver a memorandum listing their demands to the central police station at Caledon Square and the security police headquarters in Loop Street.

The demands are the immediate disbanding of the Kwa-Zulu police, the arrest of all warlords, a neutral peace-keeping force, the end of the state of emergency in Natal, freedom of political association and a commission of inquiry into misconduct by the security forces.

A massive peace conference for all anti-apartheid forces is scheduled to take place at the beginning of next month.

Cosatu (W Cape) regional secretary Luci Nyembe said the week of action was aimed at forcing the government to end the war in Natal.

Ms Nyembe said the protest was also against other incidents of "reactionary violence" such as the shooting of 19 strikers in Atlantis last weekend.

"The forces of reaction are not just in Natal but all over the country," Nyembe said.

"Violence is an obstacle to negotiations. Those living in fear of their lives cannot negotiate and without freedom of political association there cannot be a climate for negotiations," she said.

Militancy

The stayaway comes against a backdrop of unprecedented worker militancy around the country.

So far about 1,2 million days have been lost through strikes in the first six months of this year - three times as many as last year and five times that of 1988.

There has also been an upsurge in other forms of protest

such as sit-ins and demonstrations.

With several large unions like Numsa and the National Union of Mineworkers on the verge of strike action and widespread discontent over the LRA, labour militancy seems unlikely to abate.

At a meeting between state president FW De Klerk and Cosatu and Nactu representatives earlier this week, the trade union federations warned that the government's failure to legislate amendments to the LRA had the potential to "exacerbate on an unprecedented scale industrial conflict".

Accord

The meeting agreed to establish a Joint Working Committee to examine all issues relating to the implementation of the accord on the LRA reached between the union federations and employer body, Saccola.

The committee will report back in 30 days.

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Samwu strike hailed a 'victory'

By Chiara Carter

THE conclusion to the 10-day strike by about 10 000 Cape Town City Council workers has been hailed as a victory by the South African Municipal Workers' Union (Samwu).

Samwu spokesperson Mr Roger Ronnie said that, while the new minimum of R845 and the 14 percent increase for non-labourers was significantly less than their initial demands, the union still saw the wage increases as a victory.

"That the council budged on wages after refusing to move on the issue is a clear victory."

In terms of the agreement reached on Monday, the council agreed to give hourly-paid workers an additional day's leave, which could be taken on June 16. According to the agreement, the union may negotiate again for June 16 as a paid holiday.

The council agreed to give all "permanent casuals" permanent status and to negotiate a reduction to the 46-hour week with the union, which is demanding a 40-hour week.

The union is also free to re-submit demands for a housing subsidy for employees living in rented accommodation and the unfreezing of all posts.

'War of words' in OK strike

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THE marathon strike by about 7 000 workers at OK Bazaars stores around the country is about to enter its fourth week with both sides holding firm to their positions while agreeing to meet.

OK, which begins June sales at most stores soon,

agreed to meet with the South African Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers' Union (Saccawu) on Thursday.

The strike has been marked by a war of words between OK Bazaars, which claims it cannot afford to meet the strikers' demands, and Saccawu, which says the strike is the logical conclusion to the company's "baaskap"

attitude

Saccawu organiser Mr Jeremy Daphne this week hit out at the company for paying wages significantly lower than the supplemented living level (SLL)

Daphne said OK's minimum wage of R620 a month was R359 less than the SLL of R979 for a family of six in Johannesburg. The present average wage of R750 a

month was R229 below the SLL

Daphne pointed out the union's demand for a minimum of R800 and an across-the-board increase of R160 a month would still leave most workers earning less than the SLL

Company spokesperson Mr Gavin Browne said the answer to Daphne's argument was "quite simple".

OK Bazaars could not afford to pay more than the 17,7 percent it was offering.

"We just don't have the money to meet the union's demand for 22 percent wage increases," Browne said

In reply to Saccawu's demand that the highly profitable SA Breweries, which is the holding company for OK Bazaars, intervene in the

dispute, Browne said companies within the SAB group paid the wages they could afford

"We would love to be able to pay the kind of salaries that workers in the beer division earn, but the retail trade is experiencing a downturn in profits with consumer spending down," Browne said

About 213 workers have been arrested during the strike.

The company obtained Supreme court ejection orders for several stores on the Witwatersrand last week

In an unusual twist, the union responded by challenging the ejection orders in the industrial court in terms of Section 43 of the Labour Relations Act

Shooting outrage

By CHIARA CARTER

ATLANTIS was this week in a state of turmoil after a weekend of violence at a factory in the town's industrial area

Two men, Mr James Myer and Mr James Plaatjes, are receiving treatment in Groote Schuur Hospital for serious eye wounds after police fired rubber bullets and bird shot at strikers at the Grapnel silencer factory last Saturday.

Plaatjes has worked for the company for 24 years

About 17 other people were reported injured in the incident

Another two people were injured when police fired teargas at strikers on Monday

Police fired teargas at a crowd of strikers and protesters who tried to march to the factory on Tuesday

Police were also reported to have fired teargas and rubber bullets at marchers on Wednesday morning

Thousands of workers in the area downed tools on Wednesday in support of the Grapnel workers

They included about 6 000 members of the SA Clothing and Textile Workers Union who joined the protest on Wednesday

In a memorandum delivered to the company this week a wide range of community organisations expressed outrage at police action and the way in which the company had handled the dispute

The chairperson of the shop steward committee at the factory, Mr Karl Cloete, said about 400 workers downed tools at the Grapnel tow-bar and silencer divisions last week in support of wage demands

Increase

The move followed the fifth round of annual wage talks between representatives of the National Union of Metalworkers of South Africa (Numsa) and the company

The company refused to increase its offer of a 16,5 percent increase. The workers are demanding an

increase of R2 an hour

Cloete said workers embarked on a "go slow" at the factories on Monday and the following day decided on a "no increase, no work campaign"

They then occupied the canteen where they re-

mained for the rest of the week

The company issued five notices, warning the workers that their action was illegal in terms of the Labour Relations Act and breached the agreement between the company and the union

Last Friday, the company obtained an interim interdict ejecting strikers from the premises

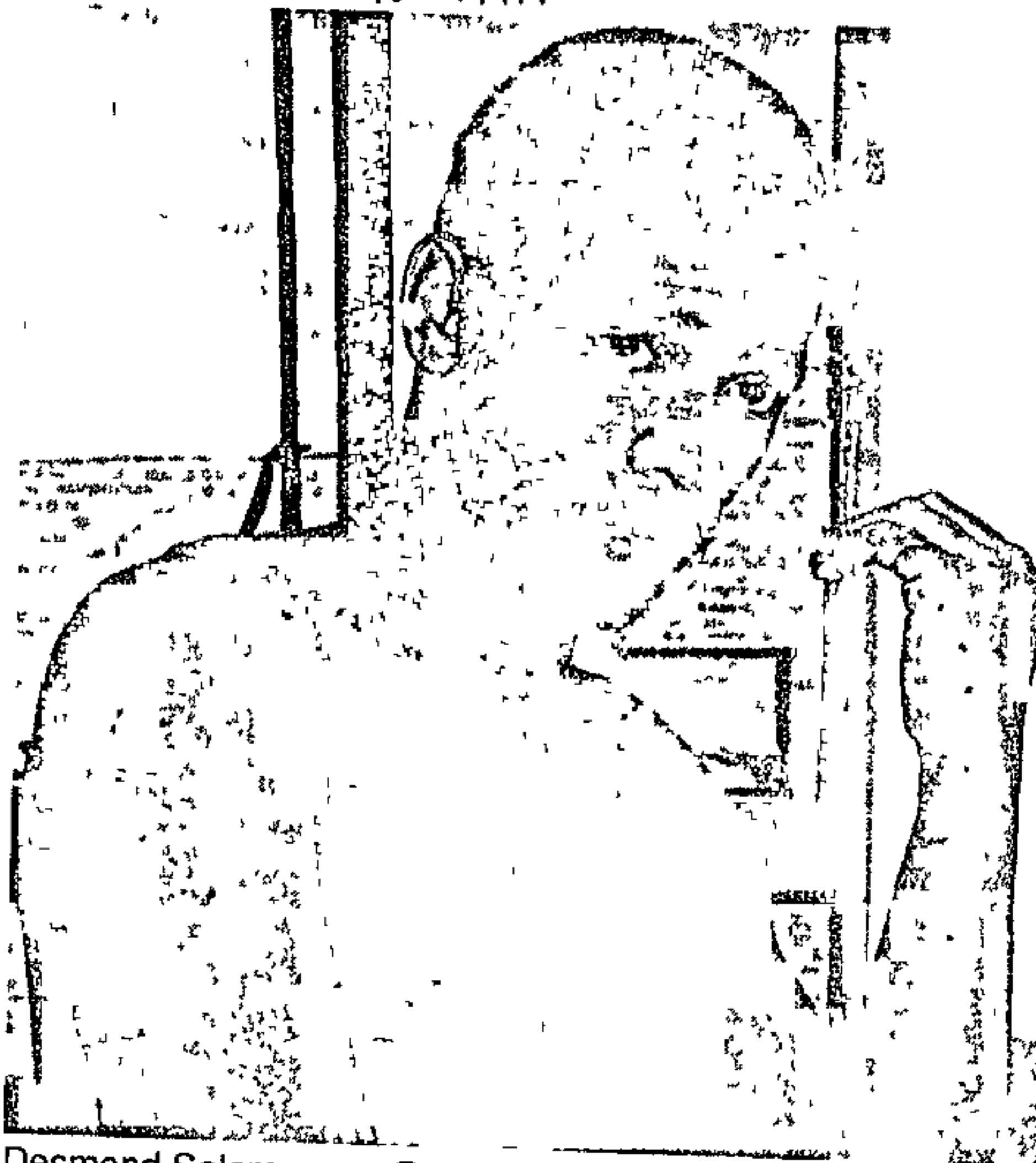
Cloete claimed management then agreed the strikers could remain on the company premises outside the building

Bullets

He said the managing director, Mr AE Schnchager, accompanied by police, arrived at about 4 pm on Saturday. Cloete said police opened fire with rubber bullets and birdshot while workers were still speaking to Schnchager

Police confirmed that action was taken against an "illegal gathering" in Atlantis

Grapnel could not be contacted for comment.



Desmond Solomons, a Grapnel employee, shows birdshot wounds after Saturday's shooting

South 28/6 - 7/4/90

Sleep-in at Epping plant

ABOUT 150 workers dismissed from an Epping plastics factory this week are sleeping in at the company premises. (152)

The workers, who are members of the Chemical Workers' Industrial Union (CWIU), downed tools at the Kohler Xactics plastics factory last Friday to protest against the retrenchment of 35 workers earlier in the week. ^{5^{pm}} 28/6-4/7/90

Company manager Mr Jeff Fish said the company had proceeded with "redundancies" after a month of talks with the CWIU failed to make headway. (28/6)

Fish confirmed that 145 workers were dismissed on Monday after they ignored three company ultimatums to return to their jobs.

Postal workers poised for action

South 2816 - 47790

ABOUT 650 post office employees who downed tools at the Philippi yard on Monday to demand the reinstatement of a colleague are poised to take further industrial action

A spokesperson for the workers' committee at the yard said labourers and technicians took part in a five-hour stoppage on Monday to protest against the dismissal last month of a colleague, Mr Warren Davids

Consumer boycott: hawkers expelled

Sowetan 30/7/90

MORE than 100 hawkers operating from the Marble Hall bus and taxi rank have been expelled from the centre as whites retaliate to the continuing consumer boycott in the north eastern Transvaal towns.

The director of the Organisation of Progressive African Healers and Informal Business, Mrs Maggie

By MATHATHA
TSEDU

Rankuesi, said yesterday the owner of the complex, Mr JJ Garden, had informed all hawkers through a loud hailer that they would have to leave.

"He said he could not allow them to sell in the complex anymore because black people were boycotting white-

owned shops.

"As a result, many hawkers are now destitute with rotting stocks. The attitude of these whites will only lead to the lengthening of the boycott," she said

Comment

Garden said he had no comment to make on the matter. He said he was

involved in meetings to try and resolve the boycott.

The consumer boycott, affecting Marble Hall and Groblersdaal, started last Saturday. It was organised by the Groblersdaal/Marble Hall Consumer Boycott Committee which comprises activists from Azapo and the ANC

By ANTHONY JOHNSON
TENSION rose yesterday between black political and labour organisations over the ANC/UDF/Sayco/Cosatu call for a stayaway next week.

The call — which is fast shaping up as a major test of strength against rival organisations — has run into sharp opposition with those outside the so called Charterist camp.

Azapo yesterday condemned what it called the "political one-upmanship" of the ANC in calling for the stayaway to demonstrate against the violence in Natal.

It accused the ANC of "seeking to fan emotional support for itself at the expense of black life".

Azapo publicity secretary Mr Strini Moodley

Tension over stayaway call growing

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said the ANC had broken an earlier agreement not to embark on mass action programmes such as boycotts or stayaways without consulting all other organisations.

"We do not believe that a stayaway will bring an end to the violence in Natal. Indeed, we are concerned that this will aggravate the violence not only in Natal but elsewhere in the country," he said.

The decision to call for a countrywide stayaway on Monday as part of a week of "mass action", has also been opposed by the Africanist union federation Nactu and the KwaZulu-based United Workers Union of SA (Uwusa).

The Transvaal's Uwusa president, Mr Jabulani Dlamini, said he urged Uwusa members to go to work in groups on June 2 "for fear of intimidation from Cosatu".

Cosatu said in a strongly worded statement last night that "in the past few days a climate of hysteria has been created by certain forces who seek to undermine the effectiveness of the 'National Week of Action'".

The SA Chamber of Business yesterday recommended that employers adopt a "no work, no pay" attitude to employees who participate in Monday's stayaway.

Cosatu's call has, however, received the support of the Black Sash national executive, which said in a statement "The black majority in SA has no means other than to withhold its labour to make the government respond to a situation that it regards as requiring urgent attention".

Violent action at protests causes concern

By MATHATHA TSEDU

THE violent break-up of demonstrations of workers by police in Pietersburg on Friday, which left at least 10 people hospitalised, has come under heavy criticism from trade unions and political organisations in the area.

The South African Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers Union (Saccawu), whose members were involved in a nationwide one-hour demonstration to demand the right to strike and to picket without police interference, said the unprovoked police action had angered workers.

Further action

"As we were protesting against police interference in legitimate trade union activity, they just moved into our members and beat them up with sjamboks while others were kicked. This is unacceptable and we are still to discuss what further action to take," Saccawu organiser Mr Elias Nong said.

The National Council of Trade Unions (Nactu) in Pietersburg said in a statement that police had to be stopped from "acting as if they were freelance industrial consultants who can intervene in labour disputes. The right to strike and to picket is inherent in the basic rights of workers they should be allowed to do so without disturbance from the police."

Sjambok wounds

A police spokeswoman in Pietersburg, a Sergeant Dreier, told *Sowetan* that demonstrations had taken place but denied that police had assaulted workers. A hospital spokesman, however, said at least 10 workers were admitted on Friday with sjambok wounds while many others were treated and discharged.

The regional chairman of Azapo, Mr Don Nkadimeng, said his organisation was concerned that cases involving the assault on workers and other people in the area by whites never went to court.

Wage deal ends Parow council strike

182
CAP 7-17 31/7/90
THE partial strike among Parow city council workers has ended, town clerk Mr T H M Carstens, announced yesterday.

He said in a statement that the strike's end had resulted from wage determinations made by the Industrial Council following "strong initiatives from the city council to the Cape Local Authorities Workers' Organisation".

In other strike action the South African Clothing and Textile Workers' Union (Sactwu) announced yesterday that members would start to picket outside the Lansdowne Textile Industry's plant. One-hundred-and-fifty workers were dismissed after a strike on July 18.

The union said it had called on the company to reinstate the dismissed workers immediately, to improve its industrial relations and to heed the concerns of workers.

Sactwu regarded the dismissals as an attempt to break the union's strength at the plant and as a way for the company to avoid responsibility for the actions of its foreman, who allegedly verbally abused workers.

Meanwhile, a showdown has been forced between the National Union of Metalworkers of South Africa (Numsa) and Delta Motor Corporation over the company's continuing refusal to join the National Bargaining Forum for the motor industry.

The country's six other major car manufacturers have joined the body, but Delta says its participation would not be in the company's or employees' interests.

The matter has been referred to the Industrial Council for automobile manufacturers in the Eastern Province and the hearing is set to take place in Port Elizabeth on Thursday — Sapa

Tens of thousands in strike wave

By SHARON SOROUR, Labour Reporter

TENS of thousands of workers in several industries throughout South Africa are still on strike

In Cape Town, the Transport and General Workers' Union will meet the management of Fidelity Guards on Thursday after a dispute over wages was declared last week

Nearly 300 employees are demanding a minimum wage of R600 a month while management is offering a 13,2 percent package increase which would increase their present monthly wage of R415 to R470.

DEMO AT RHODES

In Grahamstown about 400 Rhodes University workers, members of the Transport and General Workers' Union, demonstrated yesterday to protest against their annual wage increase offer

Sapa reports wage negotiations between the union and university authorities ended in deadlock last week.

The union is demanding a 45 percent increase to the present minimum wage of R270 while the university is offering a minimum monthly wage of R346, an increase of 26,85 percent

More than 3 800 liquor industry workers continue to strike after talks to end a wage dispute failed. The dispute arose after a national lockout three weeks ago.

The workers, members of the National Union of Wine, Spirits and Allied Workers, have refused a R33-a-week increase offer from the SA Wine and Spirit Industry Employers' Association. The union is demanding an increase of R40 across-the-board.

CLOTHING WORKERS

About 10 000 members of the SA Clothing and Textile Workers' Union are on strike at Consolidated Cotton Textiles

About 6 000 Southern Sun/Holiday Inn workers, members of the SA Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers' Union continue to strike amid pending mediation between the union and management.

Metal union begins 11-day strike ballot

THE National Union of Metal Workers of SA (Numsa) began an 11-day strike ballot yesterday to canvass members on strike action following last week's deadlock with Steel Engineering and Industries' Federation of SA (Seifsa) over wage demands, Numsa national organiser Alistair Smith said yesterday.

He said the union would canvass at least 80 000 of its 115 000 members from July 30 to August 10 on a number of key issues, including the union's 56% across-the-board wage increase demand.

Wage negotiations with Seifsa broke down last week after Numsa turned down Seifsa's offer of a 19% wage increase, for labourers and a 15,5% increase for arti-

sans

Also at issue are Numsa's demands for a 40-hour week, a holiday on March 21 (Sharpeville Day) and child care leave, Smith said.

Seifsa communications head Hendrik van der Heever said Seifsa had sent a letter to the industrial council last Friday requesting that it inform Manpower Minister Eli Louw that negotiations with Numsa had "officially" ended in deadlock.

He added that the 14 other trade unions in the metal industry, representing 100 000 out of the 215 000 employees, had accepted the Seifsa offer.

OWEN MAUBANE

