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RSC backs down on 'secret' Rooi Els sale, calls for public comment

By CLIVE SAWYER, Staff Reporter
OVERBERG Regional Services Council is to advertise for objections to the controversial proposed sale of land near Rooi Els to Armscor subsidiary Somchem, reversing an earlier decision that the sale would be "confidential".

A row broke out over the sale of the land after residents alleged that explosives tests in the area, which includes the Buffels River dam, could cause contamination of the water supply.

A RSC spokesman said the move was a compromise with the Rooi Els Local Council.

The RSC was empowered to sell land without advertising for objections if the buyer was a State department, the spokesman said.

This contradicts legal advice taken by the Rooi Els Local Council that sale of the land without advertising would be ultra vires.

Advertisements about the sale are expected to appear in the next two weeks. Once all objections have been made the matter will be referred to the Administrator for decision.

Asked if the sale would mean Somchem would control a larger land area, the spokesman said: "Wait until you see the advertisement. The public will be invited to scrutinise maps and other details at our offices."

The 400 hectares of land to be sold have been leased from RSC by Somchem since 1979 for R25 a year. The sale price is R500, according to a statement by the Rooi Els Local Council.

The land, known as Portion 186 of Hangklip farm 559, includes the Buffels River dam.

Residents' fears about the implications of development of the test site heightened after a mushroom-like cloud was seen above the test site in August last year, accompanied by a peculiar "whooshing" sound.

The explosion took place in the catchment area, residents allege.

Somchem general manager Mr J P Van Wyk assured the Wild Life Society in a letter that while new products would be tested from time to time, steps would be taken to protect the environment.

In terms of the the Armaments Development and Production Act, exact details of explosives research may not be disclosed.

Govt funding continues

TANIA LEVY

6/10/90 5/11/90

DIRECT government spending on infrastructure in black areas is still more than 10 times the amount spent by Regional Services Councils (RSC), the SA Institute of Race Relations (SAIRR) said in its latest newsletter (26/11/90)

The newsletter said government officials had acknowledged RSC funding alone could not eliminate existing backlogs in the townships and more state and parastatal funds would be spent on black infrastructure in the future.

Despite continued state funding, black local authorities are unable to maintain, let alone develop, township infrastructure

Black local authorities would have to increase their total income by 40% to be financially independent, the SAIRR said

The authorities seem to be looking to the Development Bank of SA to shoulder an increasing amount of the burden of development in black areas, the SAIRR said.

Rooi Els council to seek order expelling Somchem

Cape Times 5/11/1990
Staff Reporter

THE Overberg RSC — previously reported as saying it sided with Somchem — will not favour any of the parties involved in the dispute over the proposed sale of RSC land near Rooi Els to Armscor subsidiary Somchem, RSC chairman Dr Pierre Rabie said yesterday.

But the Rooi Els local council, which has spearheaded opposition to a Somchem explosive-testing site near the resort, yesterday said it is to seek a court order expelling Somchem from the area.

Somchem plans to buy about 400ha of land, which it originally hired in 1979 at an annual rental of R25 from the former Caledon Divisional Council, for explosives and propellants testing.

Ratepayers claimed the lease was unlawful and the proposed sale price of R500 to be economically "prejudicial".

They also feared that Somchem's ac-

tivities could pollute the water in the Buffelsrivier dam, situated in the testing site, and its surrounding catchment area.

Giving assurances that the Overberg RSC would "follow the correct procedures" regarding the sale, Dr Rabie said advertising would allow "ample time" for objections.

Meanwhile, Armscor spokesman Mr B R Retief said yesterday that Somchem was willing to exclude "the area in which the dam and water purification plant is situated" from the deed of sale.

However, Rooi Els local council chairman Mr C J du Plessis yesterday dismissed this as "unacceptable". "If the dam and catchment area are excluded from this sale, very little will be left for Somchem to use."

The Rooi Els local council would ask the Supreme Court to review the lease and sale of the disputed land.

"Preferably, we would like a court order that Somchem be requested to leave the area entirely," he added.

Rooi Els seeks legal action over test site

APR TIMES 8/1/90 261A

Staff Reporter

ROOI ELS residents are set to take legal action in the ongoing verbal battle about the nearby Armscor test site and have asked their legal advisers to probe the intervention of the Administrator in the dispute.

The row follows reports last week that the Overberg Regional Services Council intended to sell the 400-hectare piece of land — on which the test site is situated — to Armscor subsidiary Somchem.

Residents also expressed their fears that the testing of explosives at the site could contaminate the local water supplies.

Rooi Els local council chairman Mr Charl du Plessis said yesterday that residents were seeking the protection of the Supreme Court "because at the moment, a court of law seems to be the only impartial body to deal with the matter".

Mr Du Plessis questioned the impartiality of the RSC, saying that Chief Executive Officer Mr J S Marree had said in December last year in the presence of RSC chairman Dr P Rabie that the council "was acting more in the interest of Somchem than in the interests of ratepayers".

Mr Marree declined to comment yesterday saying the whole matter "was confidential".

"We consider that the national interest, Somchem's interest and the interests of the greater Hangklip area would have been better served by more candour on the part of the Overberg RSC," Mr Du Plessis said.

Matters had not been improved by a statement by administrator Mr Kobus Meiring at the weekend that a decision by the RSC to sell the portion of land would be final in terms of delegations made by him, Mr Du Plessis said.

night's desalination



Water services for Soweto ... helping to wipe out the backlog

It's working

261A

City council officials

rate the CWRSC F/M 19/1/90

Harold Rudolph, Independent Johannesburg city councillor for 17 years, mayor in 1986 and professor in constitutional law at Wits, is "totally sold" on the Central Witwatersrand RSC (CWRSC). He became a council member in October 1988.

"The CWRSC is a 'nuts-and-bolts' council and in no way political. It is helping to provide facilities and infrastructure in previously neglected, predominantly black,

served. It is a wonderful experience to sit around a table with representatives of all the various local authorities, to work and plan together for the benefit of the people in the areas that are most in need of assistance.

"Critics of the system said that the various races would compete for the funds. But in the case of the CWRSC, this is definitely not the case. Enormous goodwill exists and there is a general feeling of wanting to help those who are most in need of assistance.

"In this tremendous joint effort to spend funds on essential infrastructure, emotional barriers are broken down and goodwill generated as we plan together for the needs of people," he adds.

Rudolph says the tremendous political opposition from the Left and Right has largely dissipated in the light of the proven success record of the RSC concept.

"The proof of the pudding is in the eating. With R250m being spent on essential projects, it is clear that the purpose of the RSC Act is being fulfilled. Without this vehicle, the money would not have been spent in this way — and we are all in favour of getting the job done," says Rudolph.

Another hoary criticism against the RSC concept was that it would lead to "a huge

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bureaucracy." But, says Rudolph, the CWRSC operates with a small staff comprising a chief executive and a few other secretarial and financial staff members.

"And the 20 council members attending the monthly meetings to fulfil their representative functions do this for the princely sum of R246 a month before tax. So we are definitely not in it for the money," says Rudolph.

Rudolph was sold on the RSC idea as soon as he studied the RSC Act. "I saw that its focus was to provide infrastructure where the needs are greatest — and that it would be a totally nonracial body. While people from the Left and Right were attacking the concept, I believed that it would work.

"In the CWRSC council agenda for August 15, there was a 34-page progress report on 146 projects for a total of R250m that the council is engaged in. The general public is not always aware of these positive

achievements," says Rudolph.

Sandton town councillor Meyer van Niekerk, who has represented Sandton on the CWRSC since November 1988, says he originally saw the RSCs as "part of the apartheid system" and opposed the concept.

"But I must admit that the division of services made possible by the regional system is very cost-effective. The fact that we can share various services with other councils, and that bulk services are now provided by the RSC, means that areas like Alexandra can now also be assisted through the RSC system," he notes.

Van Niekerk says that while the council vote for each local authority is determined by the fees it pays for bulk services, Sandton has a very low voting power of only 4.86%. This is because it has an existing arrangement for residents to purchase electricity direct from Eskom — and not through the CWRSC.

"Notwithstanding this apparent discre-

pancy in voting power, these powers are rarely exercised, as most decisions are taken by consensus. Obviously, the success of the CWRSC depends on the people involved — and so far it has been successful. No small credit must go to the experienced and capable leadership of past CE John Mortimer. The CWRSC is working quite well," says Van Niekerk.

The function of the CWRSC is correctly focused on the provision of bulk supply services to its area members and basic infrastructure to those townships which have been "neglected for years," he adds.

Other services such as land use and transport planning (now under the jurisdiction of Jomet) are "in the pipeline to go to the CWRSC." In terms of this expected change, Johannesburg will remain the core city for the Jomet area, but the function will be administered by the CWRSC.

"Another beneficial change would be the

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future administration of cemeteries on a regional basis, rather than leaving this function with each individual council. The RSC Act includes a list of many other specified functions which could be found suitable to be transferred by government to the various RSCs," he adds.

These include passenger transport services, traffic matters, abattoirs, refuse dumps, fresh produce markets, ambulance and fire fighting services, airports, health and tourism.

F/M 19/1/90 (261A)

RSCs in perspective

Nigel Mandy is chairman of the Johannesburg Central Business District Association and of the Regional Affairs & Planning Committee of the Witwatersrand Chamber of Commerce and Industry. He is also an urban affairs consultant and author of *A City Divided* — Johannesburg and Soweto

Regional services councils (RSCs) have improved local government in metropolitan areas and could provide a worthy model for further constitutional innovation.

Taxes on industrial and commercial properties, and profits on services rendered to local authorities, are important sources of finance to provide municipal services.

In a town some distance from its neighbours such properties are in a single municipal area but in a metropolis, modern transport and communications have distorted the distribution of jobs and dispersed the population. This has presented major problems for local government planning.

Possible solutions include:

- Amalgamating to form a new super-municipality;
- Creating a two-tier local government in which the metropolitan body handles general affairs while individual municipalities handle more parochial matters;
- Various loose co-operative or consensus models; and
- Dictation by higher authority of revenue transfers from one municipality to another — an approach which US experience shows to be fraught with difficulties.

The Witwatersrand metropolitan area alone is responsible for one-third of the national Gross Geographic Product and the remaining metropolises for a further third. These areas are not over-concentrated: their economies effectively use the benefits of agglomeration but their managements need improved co-ordination.

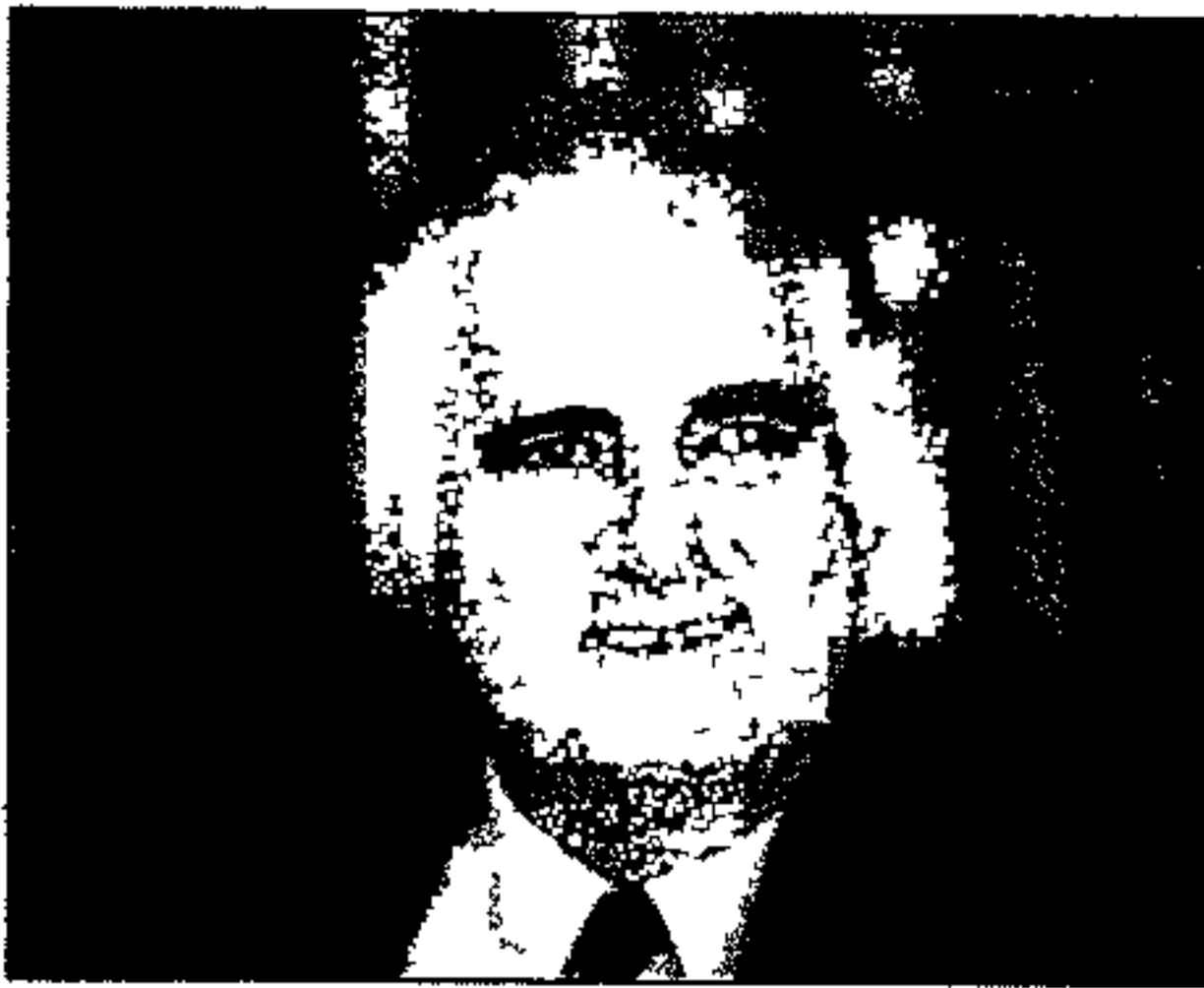
Achieving united action in metropolises is difficult anywhere because people identify with parts rather than the whole and because well-off areas are reluctant to share resources with poorer districts.

In SA this is worsened not only by ethnic and cultural differences but also by legally enforced segregation along racial lines.

The approach here has been to adopt consensus in terms of the Regional Services Councils Act of 1985. Instead of being the higher level of a two-tier metropolitan structure, RSCs are described as being "instruments of horizontal co-operation" with the municipalities. The RSCs deal with general

affairs under the tricameral constitution, while own affairs housing and municipal matters are, in theory, handled by the various Houses of parliament (black local government is handled as a general affair because there is no black House of parliament).

One unfortunate feature is that the RSC Act prescribes a single uniform model not only for metropolitan areas but also for large



Nigel Mandy

country regions.

Many critics have tended to reject RSCs because they dispute the legitimacy of the tricameral system and of participating black local authorities. But opposition is diminishing as evidence mounts of the practical non-political success of these nonracial bodies.

Membership of the RSCs comprises representatives not only of the formally constituted white and black local authorities, but also of coloured and Indian management committees for communities still incorporated within white local authority areas.

Voting is calculated according to the relevant percentages of bulk services used, which means that the white local authorities combined enjoy large majorities. But even the smallest local body has a voice, and there are extensive powers of appeal.

In practice it has been found that decisions are being taken by consensus — even in those regions of the Transvaal where the CP is theoretically opposed to RSCs.

The most rapid progress has been made in the Transvaal, all of which is now covered by 12 RSCs. The system is working reasonably well in the regions which can be regarded as being truly metropolitan.

The system is especially appropriate for relatively compact areas such as the Central Witwatersrand (with 14 local authorities bodies in 1 500 km²) and the East Rand (32 authorities in 3 000 km²).

More localised versions would seem to be suitable for the scattered white towns and their black satellites in country regions.

In the Transvaal metropolises the RSCs' organisations have been kept gratifyingly lean.

Budgeting is goal-directed. Good tendering and contract supervision procedures have been introduced. The more experienced and better-equipped local authorities are also making significant expertise available directly to adjacent black local authorities.

But amalgamation, for example, of Soweto with Johannesburg, does not appear to be politically nor financially feasible.

In the RSCs, identification of priorities is being done systematically.

- With the concurrence of white councillors and officials who have, in many cases, only recently become well informed on deficiencies in those black areas on which their own local economies so greatly rely;
- By consensus in nonracial decision-making bodies which possess executive powers;
- In a systematic and objective manner; and
- With due regard for the statutory injunction contained in Section 12 (6) of the Act, that is, that in determining the priorities in connection with the appropriation of funds, preference shall be given to areas where the greatest needs exist. This reflects a praiseworthy reversal of former government policies on black urbanisation.

The levies on turnover and payrolls of employers (including all three tiers of government) are raising substantial amounts which are being spent to good effect. Financing is being done mainly by way of outright grants, except that a major regional sewerage scheme on the East Rand is to be funded by loan capital.

The current levy rates of 0,1% on turnover and 0,25% on payroll are not onerous. But there are signs that, in future years, these might be steeply increased, and/or that RSC surcharges might be levied on electricity and water tariffs, and/or that the previously discarded idea of an additional establishment levy on productive plant might be imposed:

- To supplement the operating revenues of black local authorities;
- To finance black housing provision (as distinguished from township services infrastructure, which RSCs already provide); and
- To take over at least part of the burden of commuter transport subsidies.

But, says Central Witwatersrand RSC deputy chairman Nantes Botha, he is not aware of any such developments.

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A success story

(261A)

John Mortimer, immediate past CE of the Central Witwatersrand RSC (CWRSC), achieved his position after a career of 34 years with the Johannesburg City Council. His previous position as chief director of Technical Services with the council eminently qualified him for this demanding job.

FM: How do you rate the success of the CWRSC over the past two years?

Mortimer: When I started here on April 1 1987, we had hardly any staff, no offices, no records system or letterheads and not even a post office box.

In the few short years since then, we have grown to operating a budget of R906m for the year 1989-1990, and R355m already allocated on a large number of projects.

This was achieved with the co-operation of the council's 20 members, our small but efficient staff, and the professional assistance of the Johannesburg City Council. The CWRSC is reputed to be a nonracial body focusing its expenditure on the essential infrastructural requirements of neglected — largely black, coloured and Indian — urban areas. Is the concept working?

The concept is an absolute winner. This is a totally colour-blind body and about 87% of the total budget is spent on the requirements of non-white areas.

Approved projects to the value of R250m are in various stages of completion in a large number of local authority areas. Without the existence and intercession of the CWRSC, it is doubtful that this would have happened. **How do you calculate the voting powers of the various constituent bodies and local authorities on the CWRSC? Is the procedure not discriminatory?**

The CWRSC provides bulk services (water, electricity, sewerage treatment) to its constituent member bodies. By calculating the cash value of the purchase of regional services by each member as a percentage of the total CWRSC budget, a weight is given to the vote of the respective local body.

Incidentally, in calculating the value of the bulk services sold to local bodies we exclude industrial and CBD use of the services, and the voting power is therefore calculated on total domestic consumption only by each local body.

For every 10% or part thereof of total bulk services purchased by the local body, it gets one representative on the CWRSC (to a maximum of five members), but total voting power is limited to the actual percentage of bulk services purchased. The weight of the

vote is therefore not based on the number of representatives but on the percentage value of services bought.

Can any one local authority in the CWRSC outvote some of the smaller bodies, based on the greater weight of its vote?

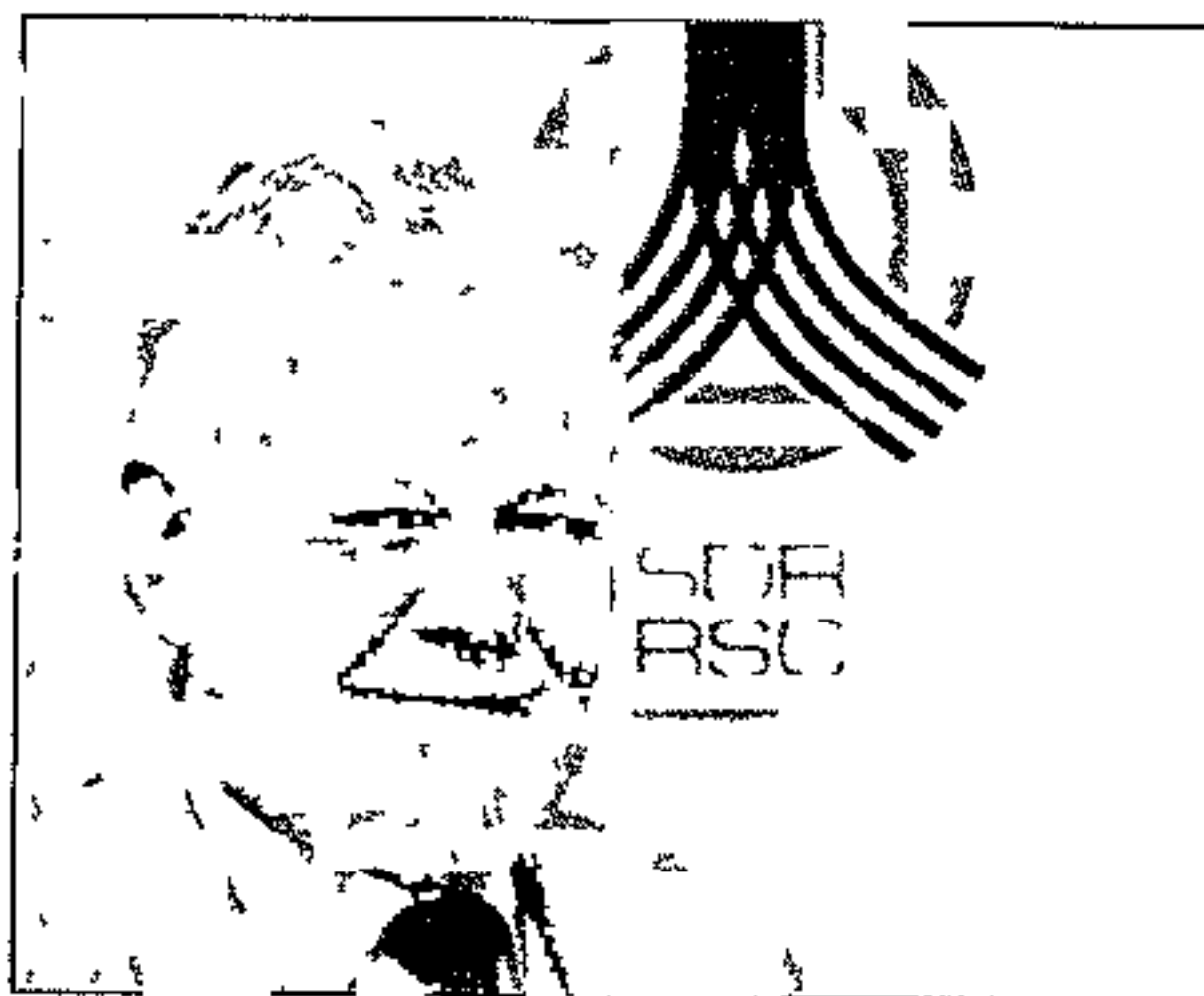
No local body can carry more than 50% of all the votes. This prevents any possible domination by the richer constituents.

Does the chairman have a casting vote?

The chairman has no voting power.

What other voting procedures apply?

While most of the CWRSC votes are taken on the basis of consensus, a quorum of 66,6% of the total voting power must be present at all CWRSC meetings. At least



John Mortimer

two-thirds of the voting power present must vote in favour of any adopted resolution.

Should a member be unhappy with a decision, he can ask that the resolution be reviewed at the next monthly CWRSC meeting. If he remains unhappy with the second decision made, he can appeal to the administrator, who will refer the matter to an appeal board under the chairmanship of the minister of finance or of the administrator. **What role can and does the CWRSC play in meeting the PWV's housing backlog?**

While we are not directly involved in housing, we do play a role in financing bulk services for urban township development. Obviously the need is greatest in the black areas, where uncontrolled squatting must be replaced by site and service developments. **What are the priorities for the CWRSC's funding in urban infrastructural financing?**

The metered supply of water to all registered erven is seen as a top priority, closely followed by waterborne sewerage facilities, basic roads and stormwater control, refuse removal, street and security lighting, providing electricity to homes, and cultural and social requirements such as sports fields,

parks, libraries and community halls. **How can black local authorities, with hardly any source of income during the ongoing rent and services boycotts, be expected to repay loans for these essential services?**

We discussed the budgets of all these authorities with the officials involved and found that they were not only suffering the effects of boycotts, but were frequently also overborrowed and therefore not in any position to repay additional loans.

The CWRSC therefore decided that funds for essential infrastructural developments will be financed as free grants to the authorities involved — subject to all the normal conditions such as proper tendering. But, where such financing can assist the local authority to increase its future income, soft loans at 10% interest are given.

But, generally, about 95% of all our financing is given in the form of free grants. **So you are not only financing infrastructure but are also trying to help the local authority balance its books in future?**

Yes, we try to add to the revenue base of the town, and also to create job opportunities in the area by allowing local contractors to tender for refurbishment contracts.

How do you justify the fact that white towns make the biggest contributions to the CWRSC budget, while almost 90% of expenditure is in the form of grants to black areas?

Until influx control was scrapped and the permanence of black urbanisation recognised in 1986, black townships were seen as dormitory towns and blacks were seen as "temporary sojourners." This policy led to the neglect of essential infrastructural developments in the black towns over many decades, while so-called white businesses benefited from relatively cheap black labour, based on the subsidisation and funding of black housing by the government.

The situation is now returning to normal and "white" businesses now begin to understand the necessity for financing the neglected infrastructure in these townships.

Do you think the levies on payroll and business turnover are sufficiently high to provide for all the requirements for the developing townships?

The tax base is very low. The regional services council (RSC) levy on payroll, salaries and drawings is a mere 0,25%, while the establishment levy is only 0,1% of turnover. But we have budgeted to receive about R160m from these levies in the 1989-1990 financial year. For the moment, this low level is sufficient.

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The CWRSC is already actively involved in this direction, and

□ Land-use planning Solomon says most RSCs want some say in this function, while local bodies "correctly see this function as the front line of their claims to autonomy from the RSC"

Again, in the case of the CWRSC, this function, together with passenger transport planning, is seen as essential for the council to fulfil, as both functions obviously have far wider regional implications that could involve the interests of a wide number of bodies (and even neighbouring RSCs)

These two vital functions will shortly become part of the role of the CWRSC ■

CWRSC's computers

■ Computerised billing system to help local authorities

A locally developed computer system, giving certain local authorities in the Central Witwatersrand region greater control over their



Essential infrastructure ... new computer system will speed up flow of funds

finances, is being installed by Information Technology Services (ITS), authors of the software

The R3,7m system — which comprises 24 computers distributed between administration offices in Soweto, Diepmeadow, Dob-

sonville and Alexandra — has been financed by the Central Witwatersrand RSC (CWRSC) as part of its programme to upgrade basic facilities under its jurisdiction

A five-year project management contract with ITS will ensure input of existing data, training of operators and clerks, and support and software development to meet the growing needs of these burgeoning residential areas

CWRSC deputy CEO Nantes Botha says that once the local authorities have greater control of their finances through the computer system, they will be in a position to provide improved community facilities, which will foster civic pride in the residents

"This will have long-term benefits, as the residents will be able to see the local authorities are reinvesting in the community"

The immediate impact of the system, says Botha, will be credibility for the local authority "Many people do not pay their accounts because they doubt their accuracy. As this system is on-line, all transactions are recorded immediately, meaning that accounts will always be current. Queries will also be attended to promptly, as all the information is available from the system's database"

The consolidated billing system, which is the basic application on the computer network, will process for each of the estimated 180 000 account holders in the region a consolidated account for electricity and water, rates, sewerage, refuse removal, and rental or loan repayments. The system will eliminate the delays experienced at present

"This all-in-one account will make it easier for everyone to keep track of what is being paid for," Botha says. "This, in turn, should result in prompter payment of accounts." However, a local authority could continue with the separate accounts system if the latter is preferred

The network of 24 computers is in place and the system and communication software has been tested and is working. The second phase is the installation of the consolidated billing system and the loading of existing data. Training of operators and clerks is in progress

"Progress with the installation is ahead of schedule," says Botha. "We saw the ITS system working well at other municipalities and believe it can meet the needs of the local authorities on the Central Witwatersrand"

"We are also relying on ITS's ability to project-manage the facilities while the local authorities find their feet as well as to develop further software as the need arises"

ITS's MD Mike Odendaal says the consolidated billing system software and data should soon be installed on all the computers. Thereafter the local authorities should start to see the effect of an efficient accounting system

BUDGET BENEFITS

If progress is measured through the amounts contained in annual budgets, then the Central Witwatersrand RSC (CWRSC) is on the right track

Its first budget (for 1987-1988) was for R495m, followed by R751m for 1988-89. This year, CWRSC chairman John Griffiths budgeted for income and expenditure of R906m, showing that the council's "business" is expanding.

A breakdown of revenue shows that an amount of R122,6m was carried over from the previous year, while bulk services receipts are budgeted at R614m. The other items are interest of R9m and budgeted levies income of R160m.

With grants for the year budgeted at R286m and operating expenditure at R5m, bulk services expenditure of R614m makes up the balance of the CWRSC's total budgeted expenditure for the year.

Interesting items contained in chairman Griffiths' budget address include

□ To date, an amount of R354m has been allocated to projects, of which an estimated R103m was for the year to end-June 1989;

□ A project breakdown shows that R85m (24%) has been allocated to water projects, R9m (2%) to sewerage, R90m (26%) to roads and stormwater, R13m (4%) to refuse removal, R45,6m (13%) to

electricity and R110,6m (31%) to other projects. The last includes sports fields, community centres, libraries and other community projects, (261A)

□ The CWRSC is now employing more labour-intensive methods in the provision of infrastructure, thus creating jobs for local entrepreneurs. In Soweto some small contracts were granted for the upgrading of the secondary water reticulation system. After the initial pilot projects were completed, "the council then gave permission for numerous further contracts to lay approximately an additional 120 km of piping in seven townships," reports Griffiths

He says the CWRSC has given its full blessing to the initiative and notes that about 600 new jobs had been created in the process in Soweto. The same principle is now being applied with the construction of local roads, where "the old traditional waterbound macadam method which was extensively and successfully used by municipalities up to the Fifties is being reintroduced;"

□ The council has decided to assist the conversion of hostels into family accommodation, with work being carried out by the private sector, and

□ A computer installation has been purchased to assist four black local authorities.

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(261A)

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From old to new ... RSC funds are channelled to upgrade services

principle of consensus that govern the monthly meetings of an RSC ensure most of the funds are channelled to the neglected black urban areas

This redistribution of wealth has met with a negative reaction from some surprising quarters

In Juta's RSC report of June 1989, Wits senior lecturer in business economics David Solomon quotes a "very disgruntled" representative from the coloured township of Ennerdale as saying: "In this RSC, the darker your shade, the luckier you are"

Solomon reports that the redistribution of wealth "is being pursued with some enthusiasm" within the Central Witwatersrand RSC (CWRSC)

The reason for the Ennerdale delegate's surprised reaction is that "black" communities (black, Indian and coloured), which command only 30% of the votes on the CWRSC, receive 85% of the "current budgeted capital expenditure"

Soweto alone receives R103m or 41% of the R250m development budget, while Diepmeadow receives R40m or over 16% of the total Ennerdale had to be satisfied with only R7m spent on roads, refuse and electrical services Nevertheless, with a mere 0,86% of the voting power, Ennerdale received 2,84% of the total capital expenditure budget

No wonder, then, that the representative still declares himself well satisfied with the "process of democracy"

But, says Solomon, while the financial benefits of the system to the black communities obviously meet with their approval, it can well be conceived that, in future, conflicts of interests between communities may upset the current cosy consensus

"We must expect some heat to be generated What remains to be seen is whether the framework of the RSC can contain the reaction without exploding

"I have often said that it cannot The origins of the institution have made it weak, the force of the social upheavals it is meant to contain are too great, and the heavy hand of central government authority that perme-

Redistribution plan

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■ The bridging and building functions of RSCs

While black local councils have a far lower voting weight in the regional services councils (RSCs), the focus of the Act and the

EFFECTIVELY COSTED

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How cost-effective is the administration of the Central Witwatersrand RSC (CWRSC)?

Based purely on the size of its budget (more than R900m for the 1989-1990 financial year) and the fact that this is administered by a permanent staff of only 12 people, the reply to this question must be strongly positive

Apart from the small permanent complement, 32 members of the Johannesburg City Council staff help to collect the CWRSC's monthly levies.

In his budget address for the 1989-1990 financial year, CWRSC chairman John Griffiths said the estimated operating expenditure of R3,419m was later revised to R3,682m (a 7,7% increase over the original budget). This was caused by higher payments to the council for its financial services (a 15% or R315 000 hike) and for

secretarial and legal services (a 24% or R107 000 hike)

But, while operating expenditure was slightly above estimates, it is still only 2,63% of total levy income for the financial year For the 1989-1990 financial year, operating expenditure will be hiked by 36% to R5,019m — representing 3,14% of the estimated levy income in 1989-1990

Of this higher estimate, only R552 000 provides for salaries and allowances This represents emoluments of the chairman, CE, council members and additional administrative assistance to the CE

The lion's share of the budgeted operating costs is made up of provisions of R2,83m and R696 000 for services to be rendered by the council, including the collection of levies (still representing less than 1,8% of the estimated levy income)

A model of consensus politics

(26A)

John Griffiths, chairman of the Central Witwatersrand RSC (CWRSC), has been involved in local government since 1962. Particularly as a member of the executive committee for roads and works (1981-1984) and for local government and land use (1985-1988) in the Transvaal, he obtained invaluable experience for his present position. He was responsible for establishing regional services councils (RSCs) in the Transvaal.



John Griffiths

FM: Can businessmen expect the monthly RSC levies to be increased in future?

Griffiths: Most of our funds are utilised for the provision of essential infrastructure in neglected (black) urban areas. In 1988, we assessed the backlog at about R450m. This increased to about R850m in 1989. With our own funds expended on an ongoing basis to meet this demand, the backlog remained at about R450m in 1989.

Based on current revenue trends (we budgeted for levy income of R160m in 1989) we should be able to get rid of the backlog within the next four to five years. But, with the pace of urbanisation increasing all the time, we may well find that infrastructural demands could increase to R1bn — or any other astronomical amount.

There is another reason why we should not rush the completion of infrastructural projects. We like to keep our input to the construction sector on a fairly even keel by not adding too much work in peak periods. This way, we negotiate better prices for the coun-

cils, while also helping the construction industry during its lean times.

Should we become harder-pressed for funds, we might, in addition to increasing levies, consider financing by way of loans with the Development Bank of Southern Africa.

Are you satisfied with the payment of levies by the business sector?

We have, for the first time, considered legal action against some defaulters. While the bigger companies pay regularly and on time, more and more of the smaller companies are defaulting. For example, in January 1989, 17,5% of our assessment forms were not returned in time. This percentage grew to 20,1% in February, 26% in March, 28,7% in April and 29,2% in May.

Does the RSC initiative hold any lessons for SA?

Decidedly, yes. In my opinion, it is a model of consensus politics with no single person or body trying to rule the roost. On a practical

basis, we have had excellent co-operation within the RSC structure for a number of years. We have broken through isolation barriers and have created a forum where goodwill and trust have been developed between all the population groups. And there are big benefits in the system for the smaller local bodies.

I also want to give credit to the CP, whose members are giving increasing co-operation to the boards.

Would you therefore say that the RSCs are successful?

Yes, they are achieving their purpose of creating links between people. The consensus principle is working very effectively.

Do you find that politics intrudes in your operations?

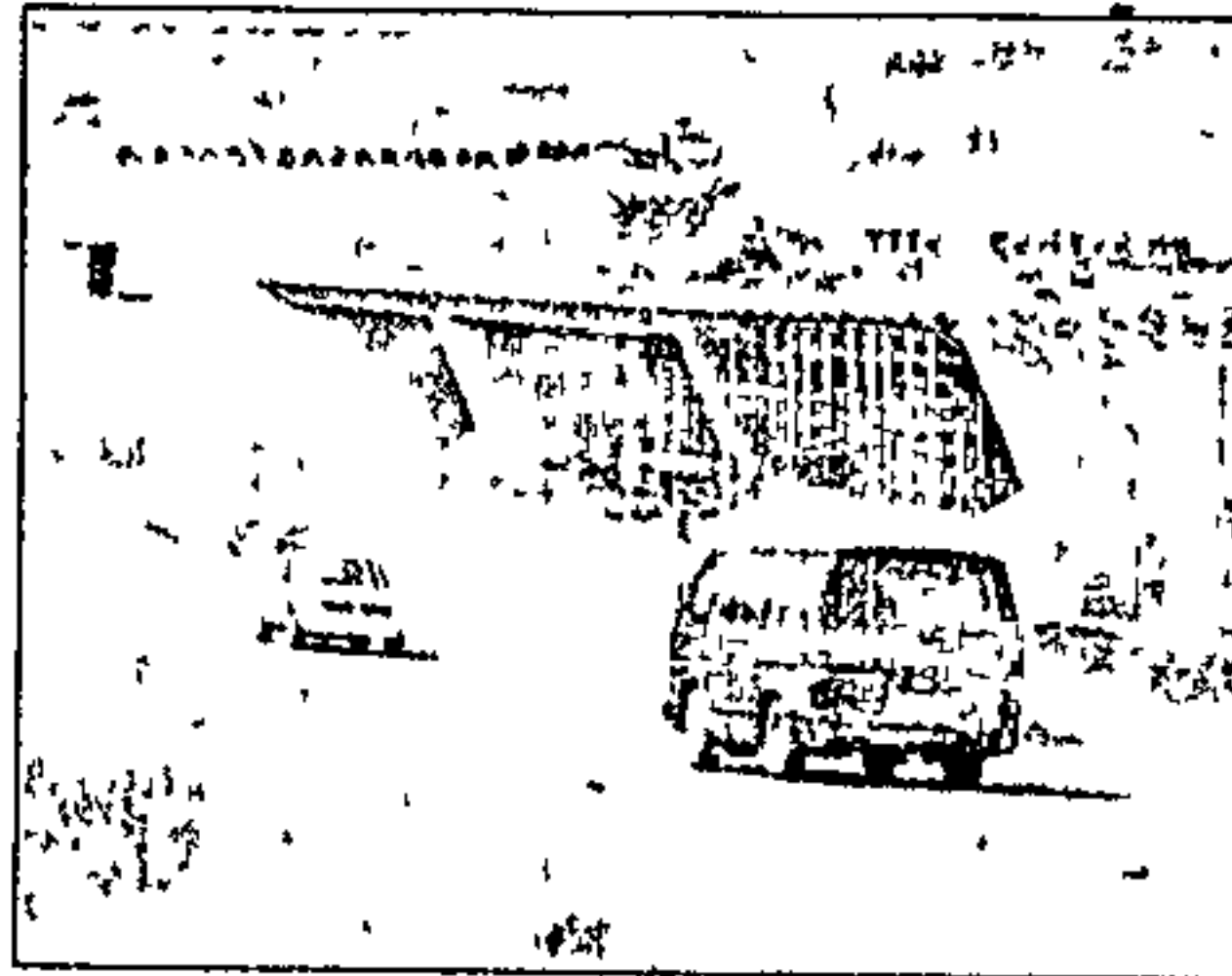
Politics is about power and the division of funds. You could, therefore, say that we are involved in politics — but in a positive, constructive way. And we ensure that about 80% of our funds are spent on the poorer, less-developed communities. We try to broaden the future income bases in these neglected areas by making grants to finance essential, income-generating infrastructure. This is one of our strongest focus areas.

How do you see the future?

I never involve myself in something that I do not believe in. Ever since I joined the CWRSC, I have never had a dull moment. I enjoy the challenges and opportunities offered by this unique system to the full. I find it stimulating and exciting.

F/M 19/11/90

(261A) (261)



New bridge in Soweto ... part of the costly upgrading of road systems

Transport challenge

■ Vital function of Jomet transport planning

What is Jomet? In terms of the Urban Transport Act of 1977, Johannesburg was named the core city in the Johannesburg metropolitan transport area (Jomet), comprising 17 municipal areas

Johannesburg is responsible for the "preparation, implementation and revision of a transport plan" for the area

"Successfully anticipating and meeting

the transport needs of tomorrow will need far-sighted planning and action. Urbanisation is increasing at an ever-quicken pace and indications are that this will be the trend well into the next century," reported the *Jomet News* in April 1989

Last November Bob Stanway, director of the Masstran Consortium, announced that a consortium of consulting engineers had been appointed by the Department of Transport to investigate a mass transit system for Greater Johannesburg

The feasibility study, to be submitted to the department by April 1991, is being undertaken in full co-operation with Johannesburg, as Jomet's core city, and the Central Witwatersrand RSC (CWRSC). Alternative land uses, modes of transport and transport policies will be investigated, with the view of devising an "optimum integrated mass transit system," with special focus on the transportation problems of the "inner central area of Johannesburg."

Transport modes under consideration include private vehicles, bus rapid transport, minibus taxis, guided transit, conventional rail, light rail and combinations of these

With transportation so closely linked to urban development and land planning in the broader Witwatersrand region, the CWRSC is awaiting government's decision on two points

□ Redrawing Jomet's borders so that these can coincide with the area of jurisdiction of the CWRSC, and

□ Transferring Jomet's functions for transportation planning, together with land planning functions (still residing with its various constituent local authorities), to the CWRSC

This will enable the CWRSC to oversee
Continue p 62

the regional planning functions in these two vital areas, so that the interests of all the local bodies can be jointly managed and looked after

Meanwhile, Jomet is continuing to draw up its Transport Land Use Strategy for the year 2000. In terms of the strategy, it was decided that the area should develop along major transportation routes (the corridor concept), concentrated on various focal points or development nodes

Jomet's Mixed Land Use-Balanced Transportation Strategy includes goals, objectives and policies, and projections on conditions for land use and transportation at the turn of the century. This was accepted by local authorities while the Transvaal Provincial Administration and National Transport Commission took note of the recommendations

But, in view of dynamic changes taking place in the area, the core city launched a public involvement programme in 1986

Meetings were held in 1987 and 1988 with councillors and senior officials of local authorities and the general public. The result was the introduction of the so-called Land Use and Transportation Structure Plan (Lutsplan) concept

For this purpose, the Jomet transport area was divided into three areas: SOK (the south-eastern corridor from Tembisa and Modderfontein, through Edenvale, Bedfordview, Germiston and Alberton to Tokoza and Katlehong), NEW (the northern and western areas including Roodepoort, Randburg, Sandton and Alexandra), and CSW (covering the central south-western areas of Johannesburg, Diepsmeadow, Dobsonville and So-

weto)

During the reviews that are now taking place, it has become clear that developments based on present trends will worsen "existing problematic traffic conditions in especially the Greater Soweto area, the north-west and emerging lower-income areas in the south-east"

In order to find more suitable options for the existing Lutsplan, a new public involvement programme was started in August 1989

"In addition to an audio-visual presentation explaining the alternatives and outlining the proposed preferred structure plan, a professional panel with relevant technical expertise will attend in order to guide the audience in their understanding of the proposed preferred structure plan," reports *Jomet News*

To keep the planning as democratic as possible, a forum will be created for the incorporation of public opinion in the preferred structure plan, "after which a final preferred structure plan will be prepared"

It can be assumed that the CWRSC will continue with these operations as soon as it takes over the core city function that should shortly be transferred to the CWRSC ■

Verwoerdburg town clerk accepts Soweto challenge

VETERAN Verwoerdburg town clerk Piet Geers is to take over the top Soweto administrative post Nico Malan left after a highly publicised row with the council

Geers, who is credited with transforming Verwoerdburg CBD to its present modern state, takes over as Soweto town clerk from March 1

Malan, generally regarded as the strongman who held sway over the previous Soweto council, was forced to resign after he tried to rescind an earlier decision to quit during a dispute with the new council.

Soweto council public relations officer Johan van der Westhuizen said Geers had 35 years experience in local government administration. He had been Verwoerdburg town clerk since 1974.

"He has had a wide experience in the total spectrum of local government. He is well-known as the architect of the very successful CBD project in Verwoerdburg," Van der Westhuizen said.

The council decision to appoint Geers was in line with mayor Sam Mkhwanazi's announcement last year that the council would try to attract the best expertise available in administration,

THEO RAWANA

Van der Westhuizen said.

Geers said from his Verwoerdburg home he saw his appointment as an opportunity to assist the Soweto councillors, who were a group of dedicated people with a sense of belonging.

He said their approach, which sought the development of Soweto as a priority, and their opening of communication lines with the people, would help Soweto people to take pride in their city.

Saying the RSCs were a good structure for the provision of services, Geers added: "Soweto can be a place where people see the practical things being done for them and, although they can pay so much for services, will develop a sense of pride in their city."

Asked how he felt about taking over from Malan, who had left in controversial circumstances, Geers said he had never met Malan, but thought he had done a good job.

Van der Westhuizen said acting town clerk S van Rensburg, who had held the position since Malan left, would become deputy town clerk.

Cohen meets Tutu and four Ministers

CAPE TOWN — Visiting US Assistant Secretary of State Herman Cohen had a 45-minute meeting with Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu yesterday.

A US embassy spokesman said Cohen had, earlier in the day, met four Cabinet ministers — Law and Order Minister Adriaan Vlok, Defence Minister Magnus Malan, Administration and Privatisation Minister Dawie de Villiers and Information Minister Stoffel van der Merwe.

He was scheduled to have a working dinner last night with Foreign Affairs Minister Pik Botha.

Cohen declined to comment on his talks with Tutu.

Tutu told reporters their exchange of views had been an update on a meeting they had in Washington last year.

He said although there were several hiccoughs in the SA political process it did appear the country was on the threshold of interesting developments.

"And we (he and the US Government) don't disagree for once."

Cohen is to have a Press conference in Johannesburg today before flying to Angola. — Sapa.

DATE has not been resolved

A new door opening on Soweto

Star 30/1/79

From a town which proudly carries the name of apartheid architect Dr Hendrik Verwoerd to a township which has come to symbolise resistance to apartheid — that will be the story of 54-year-old Mr Petrus Jacobus Geers, come March 1 this year

The affable Mr Geers, town clerk of Verwoerdburg, was last week appointed town clerk of Soweto. He will take over from Mr J van Rensburg, who has been acting town clerk since Mr Nico Malan resigned about a year ago.

Politically, Verwoerdburg and Soweto are as far apart as the north and the south poles and at a social level the differences are as pronounced.

Living in Verwoerdburg are mainly supporters of the Government of the day and parties to its right.

Soweto, home of anti-apartheid activists, bustles with people mostly opposed to the status quo.

In an interview, Mr Geers said he believed strongly that the transition would not be turbulent and was confident he would do a good job for Soweto.

"Soweto and Verwoerdburg are different communities and I cannot expect to bring to Soweto the same schemes and designs I had for Verwoerdburg."

"I believe my academic background and my experience with local government will stand me

Soweto town clerk-designate Mr P J Geers is under no illusions about his new job, but is determined to make a success of it. **KAIZER NYATSUMBA** spoke to him.

in good stead, and I think I will be able to work out a model which will suit Soweto as a whole," said Mr Geers.

He said that when he came to Verwoerdburg, a town near Pretoria with a total population of 80 000 of which 95 percent are white collar workers, as town clerk in 1974 it was not as developed as it is now.

Reaching out

The overwhelming majority of property owners in the town were government employees. That has changed now.

Mr Geers said that in his new job as town clerk of Soweto he would look into the possible creation of a central business district "to bring the people's buying power back to Soweto."

A former president of the Transvaal Society of Municipal Evaluators, Mr Geers said "To change Soweto's image of a dormitory township needs wider planning."

Describing himself as a man "who did not like working behind closed doors", Mr Geers said his first task in Soweto would be to create avenues and

I have no illusions about job, says Geers

26/1/79

means of reaching out to, and informing, the people about developments embarked upon by the town council.

"I believe in open administration and, most of all, I believe in communicating with the media, which are the voice of the people."

"I believe in planning with the people and not for them."

Mr Geers appealed to the members of the press never to hesitate to contact him at any time whenever they needed any information.

"I believe that closing doors on the media creates a lot of mistrust, and I would not like that to happen."

Mr Geers said it was imperative that the Soweto Council evaluated itself to find out what services it would be able to provide for Soweto residents, just as it was necessary for the residents themselves to indicate which services they deemed important and which ones they could do without.

"If residents cannot afford certain services, then either al-

ternative means of financing them will have to be found or they will have to go without those services," he said.

Asked how he would deal with the Soweto rent boycott, Mr Geers said he had not yet studied the situation and would therefore be unable to comment on the matter.

Mr Geers has worked as a town clerk since 1966 when he joined Germiston City Council.

He has worked for Bedfordview Town Council and, in August 1974, he joined Verwoerdburg Town Council's staff.

Mr Geers will assume his duties in Soweto on March 1, but will attend Soweto Council meetings from February.

He holds a BA Honours degree in public administration from the University of Pretoria, and is presently registered for a Masters degree at the same university.

"I am happy that the Soweto Town Council itself invited me to take the job," Mr Geers said.

"I think we have a healthy mutual respect, and I believe we have an opportunity to make Soweto a place people can be proud of."

"I ask the people to accept me as I am. I can't change myself (to be what I am not). I will, however, make my expertise and expertise available to the people."

Mr Geers is married and has two daughters.

Laws fortify emergency

LESS than 5 percent of the estimated 3000 political prisoners currently in jail would appear to be eligible for release following the legalisation of more than 30 organisations last week, according to the Human Rights Commission (HRC).

All "unrest" political prisoners were excluded as were probably three quarters of the "security" political prisoners because of convictions of violence. *Sowetan 9/2/90*

In an update on repression in South Africa released yesterday, the HRC noted that although organisations such as the UDF and Cosatu had been legalised, both Nusas and the UDF remained affected in terms of the Affected Organisations Act, and the UDF was still legally prohibited from receiving foreign funds.

Three youths had died in detention recently.

With the withdrawal of the media and education emergency regulations, the definition of "subversive" statements had fallen away. However, the wide powers of the Internal Security

SOWETAN Correspondent

Act still existed which "placed a question mark over what political actions such as boycotts, campaigns and creation of alternative structures will be permitted".

The blanket ban on all outdoor political gatherings without permission continued.

"Powers under the state of emergency and the Internal Security Act to break up such gatherings continue to be exercised on an almost daily basis, frequently involving a high level of force. Funeral restrictions in over 70 townships are still in effect," the HRC said.

They added that 67 people were currently being held under the emergency regulations, 63 of them in Natal.

Although the media regulations had been scrapped - except for publication or broadcasting of visual material of unrest situations - restrictions on the media continued under the Internal Security Act, the Police Act, the Prisons Acts and many others.

Liaison officer for Soweto Police Captain Joseph Ngobeni confirmed that police conducted a search on Tuesday.

"Divers have not been to the scene since then but have promised to continue with the search today. An inquest docket has been opened," he said.

RSC's finance

The East Rand Regional Services Council has spent about R282 million in the past three years to upgrade services in the area. (26/1A)

The chairman of the ERRSC, Mr Leon Ferreira, said the money was spent on 176 projects including the planning, design and construction of community projects.

He was speaking at the official opening of the Wattville Day Care Centre for the Aged.

Sowetan 9/2/90

Probe into Tokoza and Tembisa councils

Pretoria Correspondent

19/2/90
(26/2/90)
in two weeks

A public investigation into the local councils of Tokoza and Tembisa has been announced by the MEC responsible for local government in Transvaal, Mr Olaus van Zyl

Mr van Zyl said a report concerning tariffs and municipal accounts of the Tokoza council must be submitted to the executive committee of the Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) with-

In a second phase, charges concerning alleged irregular activities in the administration by councillors and officials will be investigated

The Tokoza investigation will be led by Mr Faan Schutte, director (financial administration) of the TPA, with evidence and representations from the council heard at the Tokoza municipal offices on February 26 and 27

Soweto can't pay debt (2619)

The Soweto City Council had been unable to pay back any part of a R464 619 244 four-year bridging loan made by the Transvaal Provincial Administration, the Minister of Planning and Provincial Affairs, Mr Hernus Kriel, said yesterday.

Replying to a question by Mr Pieter de la Rey (CP Maraisburg), he said the TPA had made this amount available since July 1986.

All bridging loans were made available against a debt obligation which made provision for the loans to be repaid interest-free, over a period of five years.

As a result of its present financial situation, the Soweto City Council said it had not yet been possible to pay back any instalments.

Townships to get R165m

26/11/90

BY MZIKAYISE EDM

THE Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council has granted about R165 million for the development of four black townships on the West-Rand

At its monthly meeting held on Tuesday the CWRSC gave Soweto R88,5 million, Alexandra township R27,9 million, Diepmeadow R39,4 million and Dobsonville R8,8 million

Sowetan 22/2/90

The money will be used as follows

Soweto - Construction of six communal ablution blocks at the Dlamini and Naledi emergency camps, construction of stormwater drainage in Emdeni Spruit, and the improvement of sports facilities

Diepmeadow - Construction of three roads, improvement of the water supply, installation of an electrical meter test bench, restoration of the Meadowlands swimming pool and the erection of eight volleyball and 10 netball courts

Dobsonville - Construction of soccer fields, a club house and a tennis court

The council also announced that a swimming pool will be constructed in Noordgesig. In Lenasia, a recreation centre, including a hall and a secondary games hall, will be erected and a link sewer is planned for Ennerdale

Three swimming pools, a community hall, cultural centre will also be provided

Resident wins case against Alex council

By Cathy Stagg

Residents of Alexandra sang and toy-toyed outside the Rand Supreme Court yesterday after a judge overruled a decision by the Alexandra City Council in what amounted to a victory for squatters.

Mr Samuel Mothoa approached the Rand Supreme Court for assistance after he had spent "at least R12 000" improving his rented home only to have it "sold from under his feet" to someone who intended increasing the rent by 700 percent.

Mr Mothoa, who lives at 28, 3rd Avenue, brought an application against the City Council of Alexandra and Mrs Patricia Jass.

By consent between the parties, Mr Justice L F Weyers granted an order which states the City Council's decision to sell Erf 62 situated at 28 Third Avenue, is set aside, the deed of sale entered into between the council and Mrs Jass is null and void, Mr Mothoa is entitled to occupy the erf and pay R21,50 a month rent to the council and does not have to pay rent or service charges to Mrs Jass.

According to Mr Mothoa's affidavit, he was born in Alexandra and has lived there all his life. In 1978 he was allocated a room and a garage and granted a resident's permit, which has never been cancelled.

Mrs Jass and her family also rented a home from the council on the same stand.

In 1983 Mr Mothoa was granted permission to improve his home.

In March 1988 he was told the council was going to sell the land in its area to the people living there. He completed an application form and later visited several officials. In December 1988 his wife, Mrs Onica Mothoa, was told to bring the deposit on January 9 but when she returned on that date she was told the property had been sold three days previously. A request to see the documents was refused by council official Mr Leshe Magoro.

In April last year Mrs Jass told Mrs Mothoa the rent would be R180 a month. When Mrs Mothoa pointed out the improvements had been made at their own expense, Mrs Jass said rent would be R150. Mr Mothoa refused to pay it.

By SOPHIE TEMA

DIEPMEADOW, City Council has started phasing out single men's hostels to house families who are desperate for accommodation.

This week the council announced it had been allocated R39,4-million by the Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council (CWRSC) and the larger part of the money would be used to upgrade the hostel.

Early this year the council started converting the hostel and almost 200 families have already been housed in what used to be single men's units.

The people to be accommodated are families whose men have come to the city as migrant workers. Provision will also be

R39-m allocated to council for upgrading hostel

made for those living in shacks in the Meadowlands area and the council has told them to demolish their shacks once they move into the hostel.

Diepmeadow mayor MJ Khumalo said: "The council started with this move because it is no longer prepared to put up with the appalling living conditions and the criminal elements which are characteristic of all hostels."

A decade ago hundreds of families were moved from Kiptown after their homes were flooded from

heavy summer rains and resettled at the Meadowlands men's hostel to wait for better houses. The 13 long years of waiting have seen a community grow out of filth, squalor and hardship.

Because the hostel was originally designed for single men the communal toilets and ablution blocks were not fit for use by families.

The area was also badly lit and the crime level had become unacceptable. A committee had been set up for this purpose and would meet regularly.

This week Khumalo, councillors, the mayor and members of the Meadowlands Hostel Committee inspected the area.

Smells from the sun-dried-for and blocked toilet blocks and damaged ablution blocks mingle with those from rotten food remnants strewn around. In contrast, the area in which families live has been laid out with beautiful vegetable and flower gardens and lawns.

Said Khumalo: "In order to improve the situation, the council has appointed a consultant to investigate, in conjunction with the community, ways of improving the living conditions of all people in the hostel."

A committee had been set up for this purpose and would meet regularly.

Diepmeadow mayor MJ Khumalo... consultant appointed.



Corruption probe launched

Sta 26/2140 (261A)
The TPA has appointed a commission of inquiry to probe alleged irregularities and corruption in Tokoza Town Council.

Members of the commission who will hear evidence from residents are Mr F Schutte, director of financial administration of the TPA, and Mr H A Roux, a senior accountant at the offices of the TPA in Germiston.

Mr Roux said evidence from

residents dissatisfied with the running of the affairs of the Tokoza council will be heard at the Tshabalala Hall on Wednesday and Thursday from 9 am.

People who want to give evidence *in camera* can telephone him at (011) 825-3235

Evidence collected by the commission will be forwarded to the Administrator and to the executive committee of the TPA — East Rand Bureau

Kagiso council workers strike for better pay packages

Kagiso council workers stopped work on Friday, demanding that their union be recognised and asking for salary increases and housing and fringe benefits.

They have also called for the resignation of the town clerk, Mr H A van Rensburg.

A spokesman for the National Union of Public Service Workers said the workers had approached the council on several occasions.

In October last year, he said, they were promised a hearing, but the council failed to meet them.

"We then wrote the council a letter demanding an urgent meeting within seven days, failing which we would resort to industrial action. Our letter was ignored and we had no alternative but to down tools."

Mr van Rensburg refused to comment.

Tembisa water, electricity tariff rises deferred to July

Star 17/3/90

East Rand Bureau

261A

Water and electricity tariff increases which were to come into effect in Tembisa today have been deferred to July to enable the council to inform residents about the increases.

The executive committee of the council recommended at a council meeting last week that the metered water supply be increased from 73c per kilolitre to 75c per kilolitre and unmetered water supply from R19,84 per month to R20,38 per month from the beginning of March this year.

The executive further recommended that electricity tariffs be increased from 11c to 13c per unit for domestic consumers and from 16c to 18c per unit for business consumers. It was also resolved that where Eskom and the Rand Water Board increase their tariff charges payable by the council, tariffs for consumers will be adjusted by the same percentage.

Radical black councils strategy 'is senseless'

By Norman Chandler,
Pretoria Bureau

Radicals were planning to establish alternative municipal councils in black communities, the Transvaal Provincial Administration claimed yesterday.

The Administrator, Mr Dame Hough, told West Rand and Vereeniging black town councillors that the move was senseless and went against the spirit of what President de Klerk was trying to do.

He would be prepared to contact what he termed the extra-Establishment groups to negotiate and prevent violence.

The TPA knew that "alternative structures" were being created — "apparently to establish an alternative government for our black communities (and) that extreme pressure was being brought to bear on councillors to resign their positions in local government in order to join the radical Establishment.

"These actions conflict flagrantly with the spirit of conciliation engendered by the State

President's momentous initiatives. They are senseless and serve no purpose, save to confuse the people and cause unnecessary conflict."

Mr Hough added that councillors who were forced to resign could appeal to the police for help.

He said that in the new South Africa it was essential that opposing views and approaches be reconciled. "This can only be done through communication and negotiation. We should see the challenge posed by these opponents as a golden opportunity to take the initiative in bringing about reconciliation."

Suggesting immediate contact with other groups, Mr Hough said councillors should be sensitive to the demands being made.

The TPA had an open-door policy and was prepared to negotiate with community leaders "who do not formally participate in official structures."

But no talks would take place without the presence of the local governments concerned.

Reef mayor
refuses to
give evidence

East Rand Bureau

Tokoza mayor Mr E C Matsoso yesterday "withdrew" from giving evidence before the commission of inquiry investigating municipal tariff increases, the administration of the town council and other irregularities.

When Mr Matsoso's name was called, he told the investigating officer, Mr S P Schutte, he was withdrawing from giving evidence but gave no reasons.

In evidence before the commission, Tokoza Taxi Organisation chairman Moses Tsotetsi said he gave Mr Matsoso R3 000 to secure a garage site in 1986.

Mr Matsoso asked him to give him the money, and not to pay it at the office as he would pay it in himself and give him (Mr Tsotetsi) a receipt. The site was, however, given to someone else and he never got his cash back.

Mr M A Mzizi, who quit the council with Mr Tsotetsi, said council officials were claiming exorbitant travel allowances.

Town wants council out

Daveyton residents call for resignation of mayor Tom Boya

By LULAMA LUTI

BARELY three months after flamboyant and charismatic civic leader Tom Boya was elected mayor of Daveyton by an overwhelming majority, residents are calling for the dissolution of his council.

More than 50 000 Daveyton residents this week heeded a call not to go to work or school and businesses were closed as the township went on a march with calls for Boya to step down as mayor.

In the heat of the day, they took to the streets and demanded that the Transvaal Provincial Administration dissolve Boya's entire town council.

The march was organised by the newly formed Daveyton People's Delegation (DPD), which came into being after the merging of the four local civic associations.

A delegation of DPD members and local churchmen headed by the Rev SK Mbande were due to meet TPA officials at the council chambers, but were met by empty offices and the delegation then chose representatives to submit the memorandum to the TPA offices in Germiston.

TPA regional director PJV du Toit confirmed the receipt of the memorandum and said it would be handed to the director of local government in Pretoria and the TPA had been given two weeks to respond to the demands.

Hoisting ANC and trade union flags and singing freedom songs, the crowds resolved not to pay the rent and called for Boya to resign with immediate effect.

Speaking at a Press briefing after the march, DPD chairman James Ngubo said among other demands was the establishment of a "One Town under One Municipality" for all Benoni residents, white or black.

He said the Daveyton council was charging exorbitant rent payments while the provision of health and other services was poor.

He added there was infighting among councillors waged at the expense of the residents.

Also attending the march was Alexandra Civic Association chairman Moses Mayekiso.



Daveyton residents march to the council offices to present their demands to the TPA.



Flamboyant mayor Tom Boya out of favour.

C/Press

4/3/90

261A

3 councillors may quit NP

Star 12/1/90
Municipal Reporter

Dissident National Party members in the Johannesburg City Council were this morning meeting behind closed doors to decide whether or not to resign from the party and become independent councillors.

The Star has learnt that the three NP councillors involved were considering handing in their resignations only hours before the induction of the mayor of Johannesburg this evening.

Certain members of the ruling NP caucus in the city council are upset over what they see as interference in the management of Johannesburg by Pretoria.

The three councillors considering resigning would stay on in the council as independents if they cannot come to some sort of agreement with the NP.

● See Page 2.

Blacks in local govt no problem

The mayor of the East Rand township of Daveyton and president of the United Municipalities of South Africa (Umsa), Mr Tom Boya, strongly rejected the notion that councillors serving in black local government represent a stumbling block to future non-racial local government at the weekend.

Addressing an Umsa meeting at Daveyton, Mr Boya said that since its inception the organisation had always rejected racialism and domination.

He contended that the Government created black local government structures "to curtail the inefficient and arrogant Development Boards", which previously ruled all aspects of life in the townships — Sapa

RSC FOCUS

CENTRAL WITWATERSRAND REGIONAL SERVICES COUNCIL



What makes up the RSC

Sowetan 9/3/90

26/4

THE Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council consists of 20 councillors representing 14 local authorities.

This number excludes the chairman, John Griffiths, who was appointed by the Transvaal Provincial Administration in January last year.

Mr L de Wet and Mr N Botha are the chief executive officer and deputy chief executive officer of the RSC respectively.

The 20 councillors are elected by their respective councils and representatives may be replaced at any time by a council.

The voting power in any RSC is determined in relation to the financial contribution of municipalities and local bodies in respect of regional services rendered by the RSC in that particular area.

The voting strength of each local body represented on the council is determined by reference to the proportion of the amount paid by the relevant body for regional services, expressed as a percentage of the total amount obtained by the council for the provision of such services.

Members

In the case of the CWRSC, these services are water, electricity and sewage. Excluded from the calculation is the amount paid for regional services in the central business districts or industrial areas.

Local bodies are entitled to appoint one member for each 10 percent or part of the total votes on the council that they are entitled to exercise. No local body may have more than five members on the council.

It is specifically provided that each local body may nominate one member.

The structure of the CWRSC is as follows: chairman Mr J M Griffiths, deputy chairman Mr J S J Burger (who represents the Johannesburg City Council), chief executive officer Mr L de Wet and deputy chief executive officer Mr N Botha.

The rest are Mr H Kruger, Professor H G Rudolph, Mr C A Long, Mr E C Fabé for Johannesburg, Mr O Maseko and Miss F Buthelezi for Soweto, Mr T J Vilakazi for Alexandra, Mr C M J Mapson for Davidsonville/Fleurhof, Mr M J Khumalo for Diepmeadow, Mr Z G Zembe for Dobsonville, Mr A G Abader for Ennerdale, Miss G M Seefort for South Western (Riverlea, Eldorado Park and Noordegesig), Mr K Thambi for Lenasia, Mr T C Chetty for Lenasia South, Mr Y M Makda for Marboro Gardens, Mr F C Lourens for Randburg, Mr D B Treleven and Mr HF Tjaard for Roodepoort and Mr A J M van Niekerk for Sandton.

The voting power of local bodies is determined by the amount they pay for services rendered by the RSC.

Council boss is optimistic

Sowetan 9/3/90

26/4

THE Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council was one of the first to be formed in the Transvaal in July 1987.

In the Transvaal, 12 RSCs have been instituted to date. RSCs have not yet been established in all the provinces as Natal has not yet introduced such councils.

Why were RSCs formed?

Have they done anything to improve the standard of living in the country, especially in the black townships?

Mr John Griffiths, chairman of the CWRSC, answers these questions in this article.

The idea

He said: "Yes, there was a need for such structures to be formed. They are working and to prove this, one has only to drive around a black township and look at the present state of affairs and the ongoing upgrading of the services infrastructure compared to what it was three or four years ago.

"The RSCs have played a major role in improving the standard of living in our areas. There is no doubt

about this. I would say that although their formation was belated, given another five years, they would achieve their goals," Griffiths said.

At the time the idea of the RSCs was mooted by the Government (the Department of Constitutional Development and Planning), Griffiths was a MEC of the Transvaal Provincial Administration. One of his tasks was to deal with the affairs of the Black local authorities.

In an exclusive interview with *Sowetan* this week, Griffiths revealed that the RSCs could have been established earlier than 1986.

It was hard at first because people were antagonistic towards the regional councils. Today, however, the picture has changed. People have accepted that there is a need for such structures.

Priorities

Maybe this has been caused by the fact that the RSCs are doing a magnificent job in their areas and that these projects have the support of the community.

Griffiths explained that



Mr John Griffiths, chairman of the Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council.

the RSCs were formed with the main purpose of providing bulk services and upgrading essential services in the various towns, mainly in the underdeveloped townships.

Their main priorities are to provide infrastructure, water, supply of electricity, sewerage systems, roads, clinics, libraries and recreational facilities.

They also provide infrastructure for housing. Although the provision of houses, creches, old age

homes and day care centres are not part of their function, the RSCs can help with providing the infrastructure for such facilities.

Griffiths said the other purpose of the RSCs was to redistribute wealth to the underdeveloped areas.

"I must say that most RSCs have succeeded in this," he said.

The RSCs get their funds from a 0,01 and a 0,25 percent in the rand in respect of the services and establishment levies that are paid by businessmen and also from interest of money invested.

Low interest

They meet with councils they serve, discuss their needs and provide funds for projects, subject to priorities and the availability of funds.

In some cases, the RSCs give loans to councils, which are paid back at very low interest rates.

In most cases financial assistance has been given to constituent local bodies in the form of grants by the RSCs. Consequently the local authorities and their residents have benefited in that they have not been burdened by the costs of building or upgrading infrastructure.

Advertising feature: RSCs

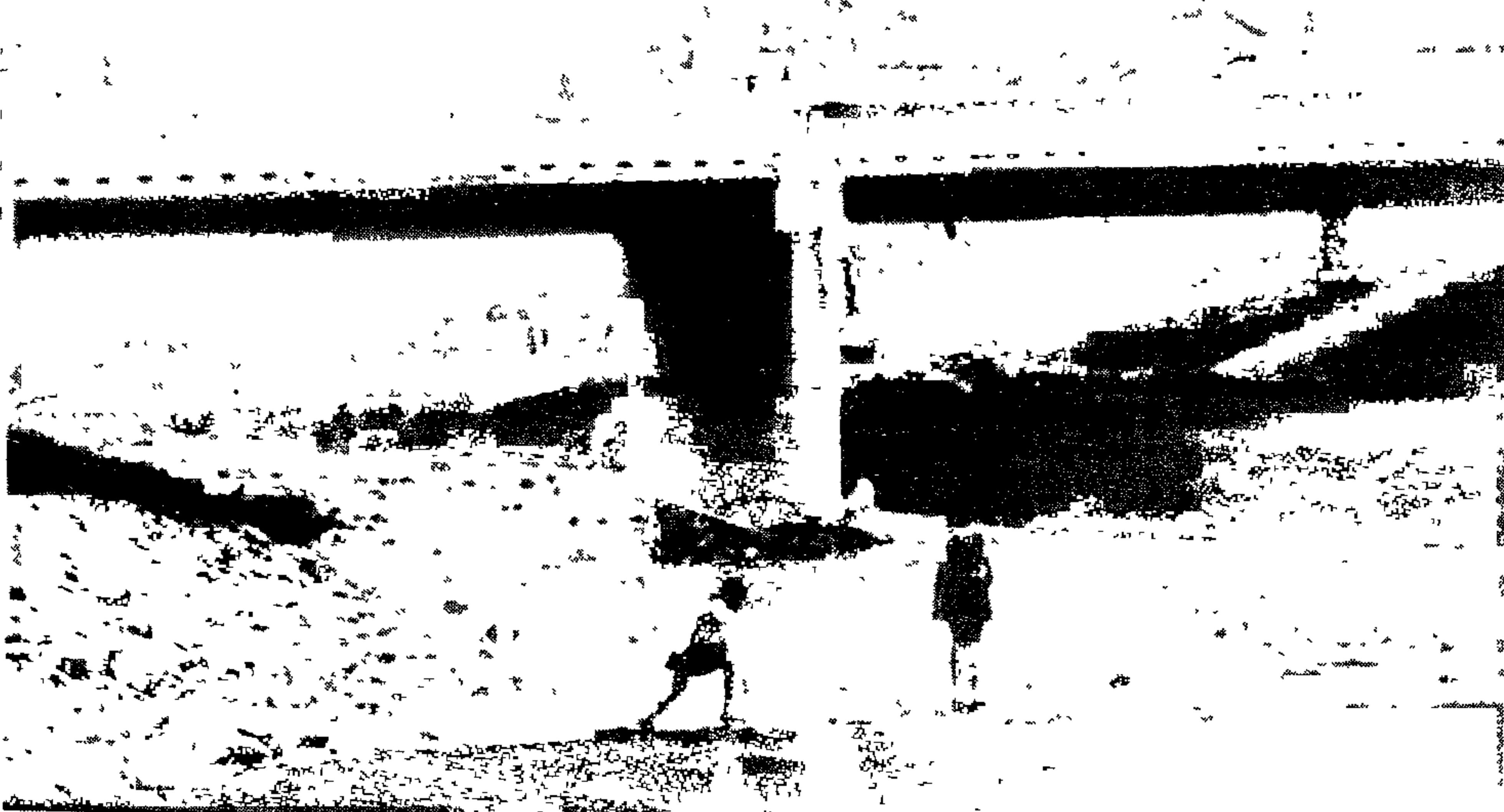


4 years needed to revamp townships

Some projects sponsored

GRANTS MADE BY THE CWRSC:

* Soweto	R291,4 million
* Diepmeadow	R 97,2 million
* Alexandra	R 52,0 million
* Dobsonville	R 28,2 million
* Davidsonville/ Fleurhof	R 3,7 million
* Ennerdale	R 11,4 million
* Riverlea, Eldorado Park and Noordgesigt	R 15,4 million
* Lenasia	R 10,8 million
* Lenasia South East	R 4,5 million
* Johannesburg	R 48,6 million
* Randburg	R 11,8 million
* Roodepoort	R 16,8 million
* Sandton	R 11,1 million
* Marlboro Gardens	R762 000



A new road being constructed by the Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council in Alexandra township.



The CWRSC granted funds towards this library in Alexandra township.

THE Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council has allocated about R624 million to develop 14 black and white areas since its formation three years ago.

According to the chairman of the council, Mr John Griffiths, R469 million of this money is being used to upgrade Alexandra, Diepmeadow, Dobsonville and Soweto.

The table above shows the grants that were made.

Another R19 million was used to improve the sewerage system in these areas. For the month ended February 1990, R170 million was allocated, most of it for projects.

The CWRSC will use approximately R200 million during the 1990/91 financial year to upgrade services in towns under its jurisdiction. According to the allocations, four black townships on the West Rand will receive R165 million.

For Soweto it will be R88,5 million, Alexandra township R27,9 million, Diepmeadow R39,4 million and Dobsonville R8,8 million.

Here is an example of projects approved during February 1990:

Soweto - construction of six communal ablution blocks at the Naledi and Dlamini emergency camps.

Construction of stormwater drainage, Emdeni Spruit and the improvement of sports facilities.

Diepmeadow - construction of three roads, converting the Meadowlands Men's Hostel into family units. Improving the water supply, installation of an electrical meter test bench, restoration of the Meadowlands swimming pool and the erection of eight volleyball and netball courts.

Dobsonville - construction of soccer fields, a club house and a tennis court.

To dispose of the backlog of providing essential services in the towns, especially in the black townships, Griffiths said the CWRSC needed about R800 million to do this.

He said: "It will take us at least four years to complete upgrading services in these areas to an acceptable standard. At the rate we are presently doing this, we will achieve this goal."

Though some of the businessmen defaulted with their levy payments, the CWRSC still received enough cash to continue with their projects. The council is taking steps to recover the outstanding monies.

Advertising feature: RSCs

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We could do more with more money - Griffiths

All about the pioneer

CHAIRMAN of the CWRSC Mr John Griffiths (63) is widely regarded as the father of RSCs in the Transvaal.

Griffiths took over as chairman from Mr Gerrit Borman in January last year.

He is the man who, as MEC for Local Government and Regional Services Councils, pioneered the concept from 1984 until they were established in 1987.

An acknowledged expert in local government affairs, Griffiths has served on numerous municipal and Government structures.

Before joining civic and national politics, he was a director of companies within the Tiger Oats Group in Randfontein, where he stayed.

President

He served in the Randfontein Town Council as a councillor, mayor and chairman of the management committee between 1962 and 1982.

He also served on the executive committee of the Transvaal Municipal Association and in 1975/76, he became its president.

Griffiths also

served in the following bodies:

* He was a member of the Randfontein Old Age Home and served as its chairman.

* He was elected Member of the Provincial Council between 1970 and 1986.

* He served as a Member of the Executive Committee in the Transvaal Provincial Administration between 1981 and 1986.

* Between 1986 and 1988, he was appointed to the new multi-racial executive committee.

Thereafter he was

appointed to prepare a white paper on horseracing in the Transvaal.

* He was appointed chairman of the CWRSC in January last year

Problems

Griffiths believes that the RSCs have a great role to play in developing the townships.

He said general problems were the same in most municipalities and the RSCs were formed, apart from the provision of bulk services, to assist with developing local authorities' structures.

Griffiths said: "This has been proven by what we have achieved in the three years we have been established. The road ahead is challenging, and as long as we continue to generate more funds, we will achieve our goals."

"But we can only achieve this if municipalities and especially the community, give us their support. We need it."

"When these structures were formed, some people were sceptical about them, but in the long-run they have proved to be justified," he said.

THE chairman of the Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council would like to see the regional councils doing more than they are at present, but there are certain constraints.

"If we, for instance, embark on massive construction projects, without taking the disruption of people's daily activities into account, we are not doing anyone a favour," said Mr John Griffiths.

"That is why we tackle construction activities in phases. This approach also means that we do not overload the engineering contractors beyond their capabilities. In other words, the money we have available determines to what extent the most pressing needs can be met," explained Griffiths.

According to the Regional Services Councils Act, the RSC's can only spend money on certain services. There is a list of about 22 normal municipal services which have been determined as regional services. In the case of the CWRSC, these services are electricity, water and sewage.

Municipal functions

Remember, the CWRSC buys these services in bulk and then resells them to the local municipalities, without taking a profit.

Apart from regional services, the funds of the RSC can also be used to finance the normal municipal functions of the various municipalities represented on the CWRSC.

To fulfil this task, the CWRSC has decided to give priority to projects related to water supply, sewage, road construction, storm water drainage and refuse removal, while funds have also been made available for recreational and community projects.

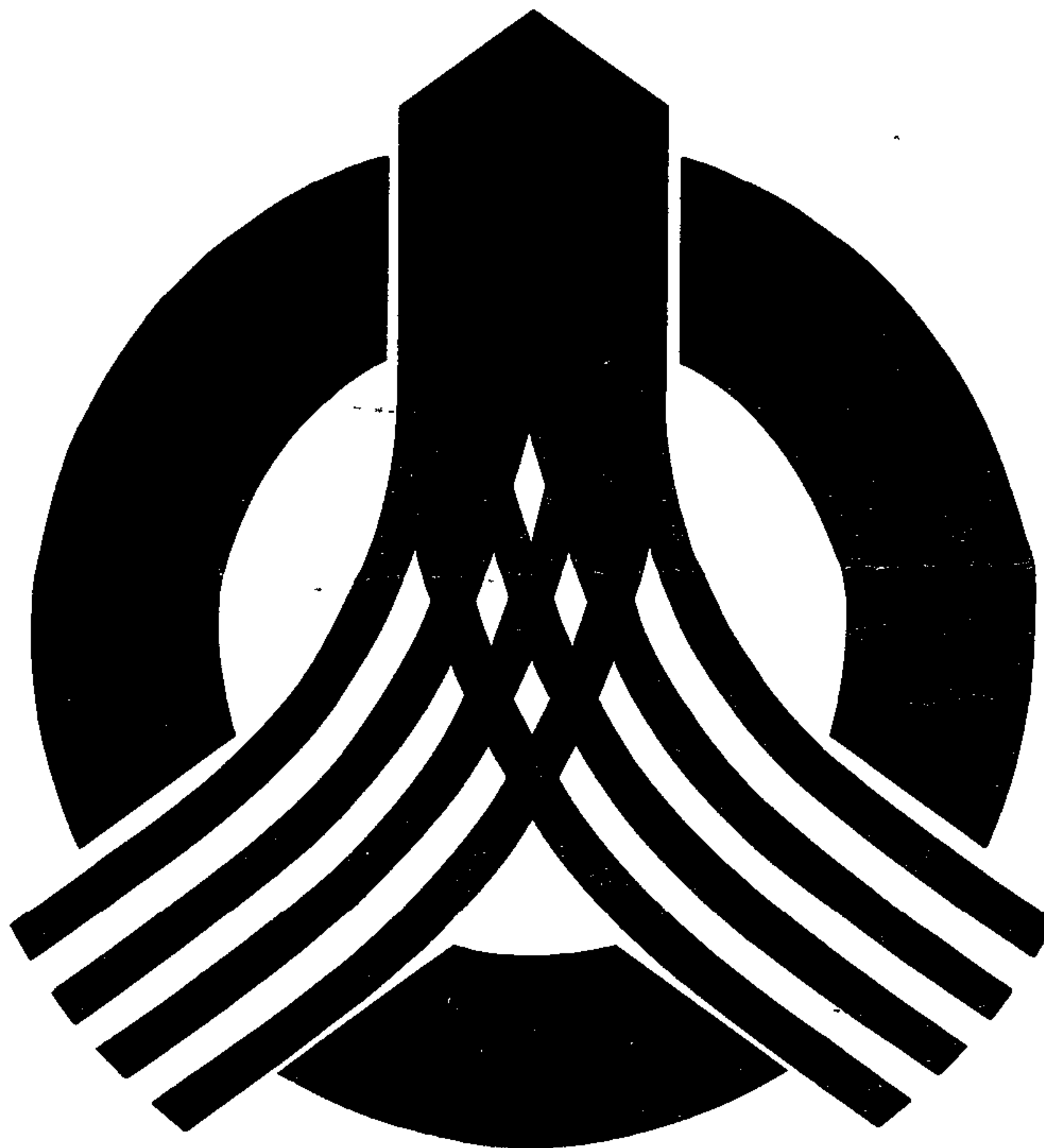
The RSC normally provides for creches, old age homes and day care centres, by providing infrastructure (like water supply, electricity, sewage and roads) for such projects.

Sub-station sabotage

Up to this stage the CWRSC has made money available in the form of grants to local authorities and in some exceptional cases has offered financial assistance by way of soft loans.

Griffiths indicated that the only setback in respect of provision of facilities was when two electricity sub-stations were blown up and damaged in Soweto last year. The CWRSC would have to spend about R10 million in repairing these sub-stations, he said.

"Though some people were against the introduction of the RSCs, I think they are now generally accepting them because of the results that have been produced in just three years of their existence and we are grateful for the community's response," Griffiths said.



SDR RSC

Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council

Assisting those with the greatest need

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Cotswold
Voorbereiding x
Cunningham x
Dagbreek x
Dame du Toit x
Diaz x
Dr Viljoen x

* Science laboratories are not provided at primary schools

** Primary schools do not offer Home Economics

Advisory Committee for Education Personnel-report

50 Mr R M BURROWS asked the Minister of Education and Culture

- (1) Whether the Advisory Committee for Education Personnel reported on pupil density in January 1988, if so, (a) what was the composition of the committee and (b) what recommendations did it make,
- (2) whether this committee considered personnel implications of alterations from the present b values nearer to a b value of 1, if so, (a) what is the current b value for the Republic of South Africa and (b) what is the personnel implication of moving to a b value of 1,
- (3) whether he will make a statement on the matter?

13/3/90 B399E

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE

- (1) and (2) The Department has 17 advisory committees which advise the Committee of Heads of Education (CHE) on a confidential basis on a variety of matters concerning education. This advice is taken into account by the CHE when it in turn advises the Minister and/or the Superintendent-General. Because the recommendations in regard to which the enquiry has been made, can at best be regarded as an internal input for consideration, information on this matter is not available,
- (3) no

13/3/90

ommendations in regard to which the enquiry has been made, can at best be regarded as an internal input for consideration, information on this matter is not available, 13/3/90

Advisory Committee for Education Personnel-b value

51 Mr R M BURROWS asked the Minister of Education and Culture

- (1) Whether the Advisory Committee for Education Personnel considered the financial implications of a change in the b value, if not, why not, if so, what were these implications,
- (2) whether this committee made any representations concerning an alteration in the b value phases, if so, (a) what recommendation was made and (b) what are the financial implications of this step,
- (3) whether he will make a statement on the matter?

13/3/90 B400E

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE

- (1) and (2) The Department has 17 advisory committees which advise the Committee of Heads of Education (CHE) on a confidential basis on a variety of matters concerning education. This advice is taken into account by the CHE when it in turn advises the Minister and/or the Superintendent-General. Because the recommendations in regard to which the enquiry has been made, can at best be regarded as an internal input for consideration, information on this matter is not available,
- (3) no

HOUSE OF DELEGATES

INTERPELLATIONS

The sign * indicates a translation. The sign †, used subsequently in the same interpellation, indicates the original language.

Own Affairs

Regional Services Councils, persons nominated
Mr M RAJAB asked the Minister of Local Government and Agriculture

Whether his Department has nominated any persons to any Regional Services Councils in the Transvaal, if so, what are the relevant details?

13/3/90 D62E INT
The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND AGRICULTURE Mr Chairman, the interpellation before this House in the name of the hon member for Springfield is as follows: Whether his department has nominated any persons to any regional services councils in the Transvaal and if so, what are the relevant details?

The interpellant merely poses a question. The answer to his question is obviously No. A cursory glance at the Regional Services Councils Act would have provided the hon member with this simple answer.

It is inconceivable that the hon member, who is academically qualified in the legal field and has served in this institution for over five years, is not au fait with the fundamental provisions of the Regional Services Councils Act. I trust that in future he will make the necessary preliminary investigation before subjecting this House to an unnecessary expenditure of time in an exercise in futility.

I reiterate that the answer to the question posed by his interpellation is no. That is what I have to say for the time being.

Mr M RAJAB Mr Chairman, I have noted the sarcasm in the hon the Minister's reply. May I just remind the hon the Minister that in terms of the Regional Services Councils Act provision is made, after consultation with the various Ministers of Local Government, for the appointment

of chairmen of regional services councils. My thought was that the hon the Minister would in fact have been consulted before such chairmen were appointed. However, it seems to me that the hon the Minister was not consulted.

Be that as it may, I would have thought that the hon the Minister, now that he is serving in the majority party in this House, would again have taken the trouble—as he did in 1987—to tell us about his abhorrence of this particular Act. I trust that in the time allocated to him in this interpellation he will do so.

May I just remind that hon Minister of what he said. He said, and I quote from the *Stanger Mail*:

The RSC Bill creates general and own affairs at local government level. The endorsement of this Bill is in direct contradiction of the undertakings given to the electorate that the tricameral system will be used to dismantle apartheid.

I repeat—"to dismantle apartheid". He goes on

The NPP has now entrenched the system of apartheid at local government level and used its majority to push the Bill through.

The question that I would like to pose to the hon the Minister—he does not have to reply to that in an academic manner, but should give us a plain and simple answer—is whether, now that he has assumed the position of Minister of Local Government and Agriculture—I must not forget that—he is still going to apply the provisions of the Regional Services Councils Act, whether his opposition to that Act is as strong as it was in 1987 or whether it is political expediency on his part that will now compel him to say absolutely nothing about this Act, which he called obnoxious. 13/3/90

May I also remind the hon the Minister that he gave publicity to his views on this particular Act not only in the *Stanger Mail*, but also in *The Herald* of 12 July 1987. He contributed a very substantial article on this particular Act. To my mind the very important statement included there was that the Government should send this legislation to the political scrapheap.

The question I would like to ask the hon the Minister is whether he still believes that statement of his or whether political expediency has

again changed his attitude towards this particular Bill [Time expired]

THE LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION Mr Chairman, the hon the Minister of Local Government and Agriculture in this House really does not have a local government Act to administer. However, fortunately for the hon the Minister of Local Government and Agriculture, he has certain powers in terms of the Regional Services Councils Act. I do not want to deal with the appointment of chairmen, in regard to which a Minister of Local Government plays an important role, because he virtually has a power of veto in the House. Although appointments are made by the hon the Minister of Constitutional Development, these have to be done in full consultation.

In terms of this Act, there are certain other powers which a Minister of Local Government has. According to the hon member for Springfield, the hon the Minister of Local Government and Agriculture has been consistent in his viewpoint that this Act should go to the scrapheap. If there is any complaint from a constituent member or affiliate of a regional services council, an appeal is lodged with higher authorities. A Minister of Local Government will then become part of that appeal board.

I know that the hon the Minister of Local Government and Agriculture has adopted a very hardline attitude towards RSCs. That is his right, of course. The hon the Minister is very strongly opposed to regional services councils in principle, and he has been placed in a position where he has to administer provisions of that Act. Now, what is going to be more important in this day and age? This House is entitled to know whether the hon the Minister is going to exercise those powers, or whether he is going to refuse to exercise those powers because of the very strong principle he holds. The House wants to know. We are not attacking the hon the Minister, but the Chief Whip in this House supports the RSCs. We want to know whether the present hon Minister of Local Government and Agriculture [Time expired]

Mr M F CASSIM Mr Chairman, the hon member for Springfield raises one question to solicit an answer to another question. As far as I

HOUSE OF DELEGATES

am concerned, the question before this House is whether this department has nominated any person to the regional services council [Interjections] The hon member for Springfield might have asked whether the hon the Minister had contemplated nominating someone to that post. Maybe then the debate would have followed a different line.

As far as I am concerned, the interpellant has raised an issue this afternoon relating to the phantom or conjured up nomination of a person or persons to some non-existent regional services council in the Transvaal by the hon the Minister of Local Government and Agriculture. I believe that all hon members in this House are being sent upon a fool's errand in this instance. Is the hon member for Springfield referring to something which is a figment of his imagination, something he saw in a dream or something of which he has conclusive proof? Certainly one can fool some of the people some of the time, but as he knows, one cannot fool all of the people all of the time [Interjections] In any case, busy people do not gladly suffer fools or their folly. The hon the Minister of Local Government and Agriculture

Mr M Y BAIG Mr Chairman, on a point of order. Is the hon nominated member Mr Cassim implying that the hon member for Springfield is attempting to fool all hon members in this House?

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE Order! Did the hon nominated member Mr Cassim imply that?

Mr M F CASSIM Mr Chairman, that was merely figurative speech. I hope it is understood as such. Sir, the hon the Minister of Local Government and Agriculture has categorically dismissed the entire issue which was to have been debated in this House today. Moreover, he read out the procedure that had been enacted. In doing so, he left not a shadow of doubt in respect of the question [Time expired]

Mr M RAJAB Mr Chairman, the hon nominated member Mr Cassim knows the procedure regarding nominations very well.

Mr M F CASSIM Yes, I do! [Interjections]

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Mr M RAJAB Nominations generally follow a certain principle. Unfortunately, that hon member has not understood it. Be that as it may, it is not my intention to afford him any great importance in this House.

I would, however, like to ask the hon the Minister again whether he understood

An HON MEMBER Raise a point of order!

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE Order! What is the point of order?

Mr T L GOUNDEN Mr Chairman, would the hon member for Springfield take a question?

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE Order! That is not a point of order. The hon member for Springfield may proceed.

Mr M RAJAB Mr Chairman, I would again like to raise the following point with the hon the Minister. Would he please tell this House whether he still believes that because of the weighted disadvantage of Black local authorities on RSCs, they should legitimately use RSCs or not? Would he tell us now, while this debate is before this House—I would also remind the hon nominated member Mr Cassim that the purpose [Time expired]

Mr K CHETTY Mr Chairman, I just want to refresh the hon member for Springfield's memory and say that he also wanted a nominated seat in this Chamber. The hon member wanted us to nominate one of his members that he brought to Cape Town so I do not think he should attack the hon nominated member Mr Cassim.

As far as I am concerned an interpellation is a snap debate. The issue raised by the hon member for Springfield could have been dealt with satisfactorily by the hon the Minister of Local Government and Agriculture and on the same issue.

Mr M RAJAB Mr Chairman, on a point of order. An interpellation is not a snap debate [Interjections]

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE Order! The hon member for Chatsworth Central may proceed.

Mr K CHETTY The hon the Minister disposed of the debate by simply negating the whole question. The hon the Minister did not nominate any persons to the regional services councils so what is there left to be debated now? I would like to know this from the hon member for Springfield. I am certain that the DP caucus would not have been able to give him a mandate to put a question of that type in this House.

We have debated certain aspects of the regional services councils.

Mr M Y BAIG Mr Chairman, may I ask the hon member a question?

Mr K CHETTY The hon member is wasting my time. The question of regional services councils.

Mr M Y BAIG Mr Chairman, on a point of order. I stand on this point of order with respect. It is not my intention to waste the hon member's time. Common decency demands that hon members sit when I speak [Interjections]

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE Order! The hon member for Chatsworth Central may proceed.

Mr K CHETTY Once the hon the Minister has negated the question there remains no skeleton on which to put any flesh. I believe it is a sheer waste of time and I am sure the DP could have used some of its resources to put a decent question in this House [Time expired]

THE MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND AGRICULTURE Mr Chairman, I took the liberty of reading the interpellation when I replied and I did that deliberately to ensure that hon members focused on what the question before the House was in this interpellation. I see that liberties have been taken in this regard. I request hon members who want to know what my policy is to wait until I make my policy statement. Today is not the occasion for me to read my policy statement, but I will make my policy statement—much to the surprise of the hon member—and I will deal with him in due course.

After hearing the hon members it is obvious to me that the interpellant is merely using the rules of interpellation to promote his self-centered and

HOUSE OF DELEGATES

inflated ego Neither his comments, nor his questions promote the image of this House. The hon member would be well advised to utilise the opportunity of interpellation to make a positive contribution to the debate on issues of national importance

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION Mr Chairman, may I ask the hon the Minister a question?

The MINISTER Mr Chairman, I am not taking any questions. It is ironic that while the DP members in the House of Assembly attempt to address national issues the hon DP member for Springfield persists in exhibiting his synthetic characteristics. The so-called sophistication displayed is merely a facade for garnishing his ignorance and inadequacies in respect of regional services councils and other issues [Interjections]

Hon members are at liberty to contact my office if they wish to acquaint themselves with the issue that was raised. This will avoid an unnecessary waste of valuable time in Parliament. Moreover, for those who are honestly interested in expanding their knowledge a quick reference to section 6 of the Regional Services Councils Act will explain the appointment of members and how the appointment of a chairman is different. In section 6 it is clear how members are appointed and I recommend that hon members read this.

Mr M RAJAB You tell us!

The MINISTER I do not have to tell the hon member, he must find out for himself.

Mr M RAJAB Who wrote that for you?

The MINISTER I will tell the hon member. Those hon members who have difficulty in [Interjections]

The CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE Order!

The MINISTER interpreting and comprehending the said section are welcome to

The CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE Order! I regret to inform the hon Minister that his time has expired.

HOUSE OF DELEGATES

Before we move on to the next item on the Order Paper I would like to make an appeal to hon members, in particular the hon members for Camperdown and Moorcross. The idea of an interpellation is to focus on a particular issue in the form of short speeches. I think it is inappropriate and not in good taste to raise frivolous points of order or to rise purporting to ask questions, thereby wasting hon members' very limited time. I want to appeal to hon members please to use their discretion in this particular regard.

QUESTIONS

†Indicates translated version

For oral reply

Own Affairs

House of Delegates: public relations officers

*1 Mr M RAJAB asked the Minister of the Budget and Auxiliary Services

(1) Whether public relations officers were appointed for each Minister of the House of Delegates, if not, (a) for which Ministers were such officers not appointed and (b) why,

(2) whether these posts were advertised, if not, why not, if so, (a) in what publications (b) what qualifications were required and (c) what salary scale was offered?

D35E

The MINISTER OF THE BUDGET AND AUXILIARY SERVICES

(1) No

(a) Minister of the Budget and Auxiliary Services

(b) It is not considered prudent at this point in time as the total communications strategy is being revised

(2) No

Public Relations Officers are appointed to assist Ministers and are accordingly se

lected by the relevant Ministers from pre-selected candidates
(a), (b) and (c) fall away

Mr M RAJAB Mr Chairman, arising out of the hon the Minister's reply, will he tell this House, in all honesty, why it is not prudent to disclose that information to this House?

The MINISTER Mr Chairman, I am sorry, but I am not clear as to what the hon member is trying to convey.

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION Prudent means wise

The MINISTER Yes, I understand what "prudent" means. What does the hon member want to know?

Mr M RAJAB Mr Chairman, I shall rephrase my question. If I understood the hon the Minister correctly, he said that it was not prudent to advertise the posts, and in fact the posts were not advertised. Could the hon the Minister tell us why it was considered not prudent to advertise these posts when in fact this is what is required?

The MINISTER Mr Chairman, for the benefit of the hon member for Springfield, this was a Cabinet decision. Following the Cabinet decision, hon Ministers are allowed seven units of staff, that is, private secretary, assistant private secretary, administrative secretary, public relations officer, typist, registry clerk and a SAP driver. These can be drawn from any source provided they comply with hon Ministers' requirements.

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION Mr Chairman, further arising out of the hon the Minister's reply, he made reference to a preselection. Can he explain how this preselection took place and from which list this preselection was made?

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND AGRICULTURE [Inaudible]

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION Mr Chairman, I wish to advise the hon the Minister of Local Government and Agriculture not to advise the hon the Minister to say that

The CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE Order! The hon the Minister may proceed [Interjections]

The MINISTER Mr Chairman, I explained a little earlier to the hon member for Springfield that in terms of a Cabinet decision hon Ministers are entitled to select their own PROs or any other officials [Interjections]. This is left to the discretion of the hon Minister concerned and is his choice.

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION Mr Chairman, further arising out of the hon the Minister's answer regarding the Cabinet decision, is it not correct that these people are appointed in terms of rules laid down by the Commission for Administration? Are these rules adhered to?

The MINISTER Mr Chairman, will the hon the Leader of the Official Opposition just repeat that question?

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION Mr Chairman, are these personnel not appointed in terms of rules laid down by the Commission for Administration—yes or no? Were these rules adhered to? Thirdly, was anybody called for an interview without having applied?

The MINISTER Mr Chairman, I think the answer to that is really very simple. The hon the Leader of the Official Opposition, as a previous Minister, knows the position [Interjections]

The CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE Order!

The MINISTER Mr Chairman, I did say earlier that this is done in accordance with a Cabinet decision. We only have to inform the Commission for Administration. We do not need their approval.

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION When was this Cabinet decision reached? What date? Which meeting?

The MINISTER Mr Chairman, I am quite prepared to give the hon the Leader of the Official Opposition that information if he puts it in writing. He has been doing this all the time [Interjections]. If the hon the Leader of the Official Opposition would like those answers, I

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again changed his attitude towards this particular Bill [Time expired]

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I know that the hon the Minister of Local Government and Agriculture has adopted a very hardline attitude towards RSCs. That is his right, of course. The hon the Minister is very strongly opposed to regional services councils in principle, and he has been placed in a position where he has to administer provisions of that Act. Now, what is going to be more important in this day and age? This House is entitled to know whether the hon the Minister is going to exercise those powers, or whether he is going to refuse to exercise those powers because of the very strong principle he holds. The House wants to know.

We are not attacking the hon the Minister, but the Chief Whip in this House supports the RSCs. We want to know whether the present hon Minister of Local Government and Agriculture [Time expired]

Mr M F CASSIM Mr Chairman, the hon member for Springfield raises one question to solicit an answer to another question. As far as I

HOUSE OF DELEGATES

am concerned, the question before this House is whether this department has nominated any person to the regional services council [Interjections] The hon member for Springfield might have asked whether the hon the Minister had contemplated nominating someone to that post. Maybe then the debate would have followed a different line.

As far as I am concerned, the interpellant has raised an issue this afternoon relating to the phantom or conjured up nomination of a person or persons to some non-existent regional services council in the Transvaal by the hon the Minister of Local Government and Agriculture. I believe that all hon members in this House are being sent upon a fool's errand in this instance. Is the hon member for Springfield referring to something which is a figment of his imagination, something he saw in a dream or something of which he has conclusive proof? Certainly one can fool some of the people some of the time, but as he knows, one cannot fool all of the people all of the time [Interjections] In any case, busy people do not gladly suffer fools or their folly. The hon the Minister of Local Government and Agriculture.

Mr M Y BAIG Mr Chairman, on a point of order. Is the hon nominated member Mr Cassim implying that the hon member for Springfield is attempting to fool all hon members in this House?

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE Order! Did the hon nominated member Mr Cassim imply that?

Mr M F CASSIM Mr Chairman, that was merely figurative speech. I hope it is understood as such. Sir, the hon the Minister of Local Government and Agriculture has categorically dismissed the entire issue which was to have been debated in this House today. Moreover, he read out the procedure that had been enacted. In doing so, he left not a shadow of doubt in respect of the question [Time expired]

Mr M RAJAB Mr Chairman, the hon nominated member Mr Cassim knows the procedure regarding nominations very well.

Mr M F CASSIM Yes, I do! [Interjections]

Mr M RAJAB Nominations generally follow a certain principle. Unfortunately, that hon member has not understood it. Be that as it may, it is not my intention to afford him any great importance in this House.

I would, however, like to ask the hon the Minister again whether he understood.

An HON MEMBER Raise a point of order!

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE Order! What is the point of order?

Mr T L GONDEN Mr Chairman, would the hon member for Springfield take a question?

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE Order! That is not a point of order. The hon member for Springfield may proceed.

Mr M RAJAB Mr Chairman, I would again like to raise the following point with the hon the Minister. Would he please tell this House whether he still believes that because of the weighted disadvantage of Black local authorities on RSCs, they should legitimately use RSCs or not? Would he tell us now, while this debate is before this House—I would also remind the hon nominated member Mr Cassim that the purpose [Time expired]

Mr K CHETTY Mr Chairman, I just want to refresh the hon member for Springfield's memory and say that he also wanted a nominated seat in this Chamber. The hon member wanted us to nominate one of his members that he brought to Cape Town so I do not think he should attack the hon nominated member Mr Cassim.

As far as I am concerned an interpellation is a snap debate. The issue raised by the hon member for Springfield could have been dealt with satisfactorily by the hon the Minister of Local Government and Agriculture and on the same issue.

Mr M RAJAB Mr Chairman, on a point of order. An interpellation is not a snap debate [Interjections]

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE Order! The hon member for Chatsworth Central may proceed.

Mr K CHETTY The hon the Minister disposed of the debate by simply negating the whole question. The hon the Minister did not nominate any persons to the regional services councils so what is there left to be debated now? I would like to know this from the hon member for Springfield. I am certain that the DP caucus would not have been able to give him a mandate to put a question of that type in this House.

We have debated certain aspects of the regional services councils.

Mr M Y BAIG Mr Chairman, may I ask the hon member a question?

Mr K CHETTY The hon member is wasting my time. The question of regional services councils.

Mr M Y BAIG Mr Chairman, on a point of order. I stand on this point of order with respect. It is not my intention to waste the hon member's time. Common decency demands that hon members sit when I speak [Interjections]

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE Order! The hon member for Chatsworth Central may proceed.

Mr K CHETTY Once the hon the Minister has negated the question there remains no skeleton on which to put any flesh. I believe it is a sheer waste of time and I am sure the DP could have used some of its resources to put a decent question in this House [Time expired]

THE MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND AGRICULTURE Mr Chairman, I took the liberty of reading the interpellation when I replied and I did that deliberately to ensure that hon members focused on what the question before the House was in this interpellation. I see that liberties have been taken in this regard. I request hon members who want to know what my policy is to wait until I make my policy statement. Today is not the occasion for me to read my policy statement, but I will make my policy statement—much to the surprise of the hon member—and I will deal with him in due course.

After hearing the hon members it is obvious to me that the interpellant is merely using the rules of interpellation to promote his self-centered and

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inflated ego. Neither his comments, nor his questions promote the image of this House. The hon member would be well advised to utilise the opportunity of interpellation to make a positive contribution to the debate on issues of national importance.

THE LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION Mr Chairman, may I ask the hon the Minister a question?

THE MINISTER Mr Chairman, I am not taking any questions. It is ironic that while the DP members in the House of Assembly attempt to address national issues the hon DP member for Springfield persists in exhibiting his synthetic characteristics. The so-called sophistication displayed is merely a facade for garmishing his ignorance and inadequacies in respect of regional services councils and other issues [Interjections]

Hon members are at liberty to contact my office if they wish to acquaint themselves with the issue that was raised. This will avoid an unnecessary waste of valuable time in Parliament. Moreover, for those who are honestly interested in expanding their knowledge a quick reference to section 6 of the Regional Services Councils Act will explain the appointment of members and how the appointment of a chairman is different. In section 6 it is clear how members are appointed and I recommend that hon members read this.

Mr M RAJAB You tell us!

THE MINISTER I do not have to tell the hon member, he must find out for himself.

Mr M RAJAB Who wrote that for you?

THE MINISTER I will tell the hon member. Those hon members who have difficulty in [Interjections]

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE Order!

THE MINISTER interpreting and comprehending the said section are welcome to.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE Order! I regret to inform the hon Minister that his time has expired.

HOUSE OF DELEGATES

Before we move on to the next item on the Order Paper I would like to make an appeal to hon members, in particular the hon members for Camperdown and Moorcross. The idea of an interpellation is to focus on a particular issue in the form of short speeches. I think it is inappropriate and not in good taste to raise frivolous points of order or to rise purporting to ask questions, thereby wasting hon members' very limited time. I want to appeal to hon members please to use their discretion in this particular regard.

QUESTIONS

†Indicates translated version

For oral reply

Own Affairs

House of Delegates: public relations officers

*1 Mr M RAJAB asked the Minister of the Budget and Auxiliary Services

- (1) Whether public relations officers were appointed for each Minister of the House of Delegates, if not, (a) for which Ministers were such officers not appointed and (b) why,
- (2) whether these posts were advertised, if not, why not, if so, (a) in what publications, (b) what qualifications were required and (c) what salary scale was offered?

Hansard 13/3/90

D35E

THE MINISTER OF THE BUDGET AND AUXILIARY SERVICES

- (1) No
 - (a) Minister of the Budget and Auxiliary Services
 - (b) It is not considered prudent at this point in time as the total communications strategy is being revised
- (2) No

Public Relations Officers are appointed to assist Ministers and are accordingly se

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lected by the relevant Ministers from pre-selected candidates

(a), (b) and (c) fall away

Mr M RAJAB Mr Chairman, arising out of the hon the Minister's reply, will he tell this House, in all honesty, why it is not prudent to disclose that information to this House?

THE MINISTER Mr Chairman, I am sorry, but I am not clear as to what the hon member is trying to convey.

THE LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION Prudent means wise.

THE MINISTER Yes, I understand what "prudent" means. What does the hon member want to know?

Mr M RAJAB Mr Chairman, I shall rephrase my question. If I understood the hon the Minister correctly, he said that it was not prudent to advertise the posts, and in fact the posts were not advertised. Could the hon the Minister tell us why it was considered not prudent to advertise these posts when in fact this is what is required?

THE MINISTER Mr Chairman, for the benefit of the hon member for Springfield, this was a Cabinet decision. Following the Cabinet decision, hon Ministers are allowed seven units of staff, that is, private secretary, assistant private secretary, administrative secretary, public relations officer, typist, registry clerk and a SAP driver. These can be drawn from any source provided they comply with hon Ministers' requirements.

THE LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION Mr Chairman further arising out of the hon the Minister's reply he made reference to a preselection. Can he explain how this preselection took place and from which list this preselection was made?

THE MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND AGRICULTURE [Inaudible]

THE LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION Mr Chairman, I wish to advise the hon the Minister of Local Government and Agriculture not to advise the hon the Minister to say that

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE Order! The hon the Minister may proceed [Interjections]

THE MINISTER Mr Chairman, I explained a little earlier to the hon member for Springfield that in terms of a Cabinet decision hon Ministers are entitled to select their own PROs or any other officials [Interjections]. This is left to the discretion of the hon Minister concerned and is his choice.

THE LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION Mr Chairman, further arising out of the hon the Minister's answer regarding the Cabinet decision, is it not correct that these people are appointed in terms of rules laid down by the Commission for Administration? Are these rules adhered to?

THE MINISTER Mr Chairman, will the hon the Leader of the Official Opposition just repeat that question?

THE LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION Mr Chairman, are these personnel not appointed in terms of rules laid down by the Commission for Administration—yes or no? Were these rules adhered to? Thirdly, was anybody called for an interview without having applied?

THE MINISTER Mr Chairman, I think the answer to that is really very simple. The hon the Leader of the Official Opposition, as a previous Minister, knows the position [Interjections]

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE Order!

THE MINISTER Mr Chairman, I did say earlier that this is done in accordance with a Cabinet decision. We only have to inform the Commission for Administration. We do not need their approval.

THE LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION When was this Cabinet decision reached? What date? Which meeting?

THE MINISTER Mr Chairman, I am quite prepared to give the hon the Leader of the Official Opposition that information if he puts it in writing. He has been doing this all the time [Interjections]. If the hon the Leader of the Official Opposition would like those answers, I

HOUSE OF DELEGATES

Funeral marchers attracted interest

Minister is sued for shooting of boy (14)

By Shehnaaz Bulbulia

A summons will be served on the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, and the Soweto City Council this week after police allegedly shot and seriously injured a 14-year-old youth, a lawyer revealed at the weekend.

The lawyer said the mother of the minor, Mrs Paulina Monamodi of Soweto, claimed in an affidavit that on September 16 1989 police allegedly assaulted and shot mourners during a funeral procession. Her son, David Monamodi, was injured while walking alongside the mourners "out of interest".

A claim of R50 000 was being sought for David, the lawyer said.

"On September 16 1989 at about 2 pm in Jabulani, Soweto, members of the South African Police (alternatively municipal police of the Soweto City Council) arrived at a scene where mourners were marching.

"Both black and white policemen allegedly confiscated a flag that was being flown by the mourners and assaulted people in the crowd. Some of the white policemen allegedly shot at the crowd with what seemed like police service pistols," the affidavit claims.

According to the affidavit, one of the bullets allegedly fired by police hit David in his back.

He was treated at Baragwanath Hospital and later underwent further and more extensive treatment at the hospital from September 21 to October 5 1989.

"David complained of an inability to walk and talk and he complained of severe pain in the right leg. The doctor informed us that permanent damage may have been caused," the lawyer said.

Spinal cord injury

According to the medical report there was stiff paralysis of the left leg, flaccid paralysis of the right leg and no sensation to pain or touch on the left leg. The chest x-ray revealed an opaque small foreign body on the right side compatible with a bullet.

"A clinical diagnosis of a gunshot injury to the spinal cord was made. On discharge David was limping severely," according to the medical report.

A spokesman for police headquarters in Pretoria said "We cannot comment because a summons will be served."

A spokesman for the Soweto City Council, Mr Jabu Mnguni, refused to comment.

Provincial Administration of Natal

- (1) 38 964
(2) (a) and (b)

	White	Coloured	Indian	Black
(i)	1	0	0	0
(ii)	0	0	0	0
(iii)	3	0	0	0
(iv)	12	0	1	0
(v)	98	1	39	3
(vi)	381	12	217	16
(vii)	482	8	173	27
(viii)	1 110	58	297	325

Provincial Administration of the Orange Free State

- (1) 21 655
(2) (a) and (b)

	White	Coloured	Indian	Black
(i)	1	0	0	0
(ii)	0	0	0	0
(iii)	3	0	0	0
(iv)	36	0	0	0
(v)	71	0	0	0
(vi)	249	0	0	0
(vii)	363	0	0	4
(viii)	932	20	0	147

Transvaal Provincial Administration

- (1) 90 601
(2) (a) and (b)

	White	Coloured	Indian	Black
(i)	1	0	0	0
(ii)	0	0	0	0
(iii)	6	0	0	0
(iv)	87	0	0	1
(v)	292	2	2	9
(vi)	1 240	8	86	53
(vii)	1 161	7	54	48
(viii)	4 124	26	61	400

Buro for Information

- (1) 539
(2) (a) and (b)

	White	Coloured	Indian	Black
(i)	0	0	0	0
(ii)	0	0	0	0
(iii)	1	0	0	0
(iv)	3	0	0	0
(v)	12	0	0	0
(vi)	34	0	0	0
(vii)	50	0	1	0
(viii)	68	3	1	2

Regional services councils constituted

29 Mr W C MALAN asked the Minister of Planning and Provincial Affairs

(a) How many regional services councils had been constituted as at 31 December 1989 and (b) (i) in respect of what regions and (ii) when were they constituted in each case? B65E

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND PROVINCIAL AFFAIRS *Answered 14/3/90*

(a) and (b)

16 Regional services councils were constituted by 31 December 1988 and I draw the honourable member's attention to the written reply which was furnished last year to question no 509

During 1989 21 regional services councils were constituted on the following dates

Orange Free State

Gold Field 1 June 1989
Northern Free State 1 June 1989
Eastern Free State 1 June 1989

Cape Province

Amatola 31 March 1989
Benede-Oranjerivier 31 March 1989
Bo-Karoo 31 March 1989
Breerivier 31 March 1989
Diamantveld 31 March 1989
Drakensberg 31 March 1989
Kamdeboo 31 March 1989
Klein Karoo 31 March 1989
Kalahari 31 March 1989
Midland 31 March 1989
Namaqualand 31 March 1989

North West	31 March 1989
Overberg	31 March 1989
Sentraal Karoo	31 March 1989
Stellaland	31 March 1989
Stormberg	31 March 1989
South Cape	31 March 1989
West Coast	31 March 1989

Coloured/Indian management committees constituted *Answered 14/3/90*

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(1) Whether any new (a) Coloured and (b) Indian management committees were established in 1989, if so, (i) why, (ii) by whom or what authorities, (iii) in respect of which areas and (iv) how were these committees constituted.

(2) whether it is the intention to establish more (a) Coloured and (b) Indian management committees, if so, (i) why, (ii) in respect of which areas and (iii) how are these committees to be constituted? B67E

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND PROVINCIAL AFFAIRS *Answered 14/3/90*

Transvaal

(1) (a) No
(b) Yes

(i) The local Indian community requested that a management committee be established for the Indian group area

(ii) By the Administrator with the consent of the Minister of Planning and Provincial Affairs after consultation with the Own Affairs Minister of the Minister's Council House of Delegates

(iii) Wolmaransstad (Noorpark)
(iv) Five appointed members

(2) (a) Yes, if such a request is received from a particular Coloured community

(b) Yes, such a request is currently under consideration

(i) The local Indian community requested that a management committee be instituted for the Indian group area

(ii) Amersfoort
(iii) The first committee will consist of five appointed members

Natal
(1) (a) No
(b) Yes *Answered 14/3/90*

(i) The Local Indian Advisory committee requested that an advisory committee be established for the Indian Group Area

(ii) By the Administrator with the consent of the Minister of Planning and Provincial Affairs after consultation with the Own Affairs Minister of the Minister's Council House of Delegates

(iii) The Duff's Road Development Area

(iv) In terms of section 306(1)(a) of the Local Authorities Ordinance, 1974 (Ordinance 25 of 1974) Members of the committee have been appointed by the Administrator, in consultation with the Administration House of Delegates

(2) (a) Yes
(b) Yes

(i) For the promotion of sound local government in the relevant areas and to provide for direct representation of the areas on the proposed Joint Services Boards, if and when the Boards are established

(ii) The Coloured proclaimed areas in Richards Bay and the Indian proclaimed area in Harding

(iii) By the Administrator in terms of section 306(1)(a) of the Local Authorities Ordinance, 1974 (Ordinance 25 of 1974) in consultation with the Administration House of Representatives and Administration House of Delegates

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The MINISTER OF PLANNING AND PROVINCIAL AFFAIRS answered 14/3/90

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(iii) Wolmaransstad (Noorpark)

(iv) Five appointed members

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Crowd jubilant after residents win by-law case against town council

By MARTIN
NTSOELENGOE

MORE than 200 jubilant Mohlakeng residents brought traffic to a halt after winning a Rand Supreme Court case against the town council.

There was rejoicing in front of the court as the crowd danced and sang in the city streets. Most of their songs were directed at Mohlakeng mayor Alfred Tekwane, who they blamed for high rent and electricity charges.

The residents had taken the council to court to fight increases in electricity charges.

Judge Levy ruled that the Mohlakeng Council by-laws were null and void and were misleading.

The judge also agreed with the residents' lawyer, Paul Kennedy, that the by-laws did not comply with the law as promulgated by the Minister concerned.

Kennedy submitted that residents should be given direct involvement in the making of by-laws.

"There is a good practical reason why by-laws should be made in scrupulous observance of the requirements



Mohlakeng mayor Alfred Tekwane
... gets the blame.

of the law with regard to the time they must be stated in newspapers."

He said the process which was laid down for the making of a by-law included direct participation by local residents.

"Their objections and comments constitute an important input in this process. This is for consideration by the Minister when he decides whether to approve, amend, vary or reject the draft by-laws proposed by the local authority," said Kennedy.

He also argued that an advertisement was placed in newspapers by the Local Authority, so as to make residents aware of their rights.

The judge also said the council failed to comply with the requirements for advising residents of a proposed by-law. As a result it did not give residents the right to lodge objections or comments in time.

This, the judge said, would result in the frustration of an important object underlying the legislation.

This week's case was the second the residents won against Mohlakeng Town Council. The first was over rent increases.

Tiny spark could plunge Maokeng into violence, warns UDF

By SANDILE MEMELA

RUMBLES of discontent surfaced in Maokeng township near Kroonstad this week and threaten to plunge the area into an explosion of violence.

Residents entered their third week of a consumer boycott to force the Kroonstad municipality to address the township's incorporation.

Other demands include the dissolution of the Maokeng Council and the reinstatement of workers dismissed by the Kroonstad and Maokeng municipalities.

A spokesman for the Maokeng Civic Association told *City Press* there had been a stayaway throughout the week to demand the release of detained leaders of the Maokeng Democratic Crisis Committee.

"The situation is quite tense and can be ignited by a tiny spark. Unless immediate steps are taken to address the grievances, we fear the worst," said a spokesman.

Leaders Dennis Bloem, Thami Phadiso, Stoffel Mofokeng and George Daniel were detained two weeks after leading a march to the Kroonstad municipality offices demanding the reinstatement of dismissed workers.

The workers were sacked after the municipality refused to recognise their union, the South African Municipal Workers' Union.

Youths in the township are living in fear of detention after 35 youths were allegedly detained this week.

The UDF has called for the transfer of the administration of the township to the Kroonstad municipality to avoid possible outbreaks of violence.

The MCA called for the resignation of Maokeng councillors and demanded they be replaced by democratically-elected officials from the community.

Residents have alleged rampant corruption, maladministration and inadequate provision of services by the council.

But mayor Caswell Koekoe said the trouble in Maokeng was a reflection of the situation in South Africa.

"The trouble is not confined to Maokeng. Obviously there are elements from outside whose mission is to see us out of office.

"These elements hide behind political discontent when in fact they are plain jealous. Their targets are successful black men," he said.

Last month the the Free State provincial administration investigated the council and found the following:

- There was no proper financial administration;
- Strained relations existed among staff in the treasury department;
- Records of expenditure were not kept; and
- There was rampant embezzlement of funds by councillors.

UDF publicity secretary Terror Lekota has warned that unless immediate steps are taken to address the grievances there could be an outbreak of violence.

"Little doubt exists that the goings-on in the council provoke riots.

"The mismanagement of the area has infuriated the community and we fear that this may lead to an uncontrollable situation unless the grievances are urgently addressed.

"The accountability of the leadership is a prerequisite for peace to return in the area. The rule by opportunists who want to line their pockets is unacceptable," he said.

Computerised billing system is planned for black councils

EDYTH BULBRING

THE Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council (CWRSC) is funding a computerised billing system for the four black municipalities within its area at an estimated capital cost of R3,5m.

It was hoped that by using this system the collection of rent and service charges, which had been a major problem for these councils in the past, would be more efficient, CWRSC CEO Len de Wet said at the weekend.

The four councils are Soweto, Alexandra, Dobsonville and Diepmeadow. *810 am 19/3/90*

Operating and maintenance costs estimated at R2,2m annually would also be borne by the CWRSC, De Wet said.

Although a start was being made with computerised billing only, phase 2 would make provision for budgetary expenditure, register creditors, voters rolls and other administrative functions.

The implementation of the new system in Diepmeadow was imminent, but some delays were being experienced in Dobsonville. In Alexandra, the system had already been introduced for the new East Bank area where reports indicated a general acceptance of the system by residents, De Wet said.

In Soweto, it was hoped the system would be brought into use on April 1 simultaneously with the introduction of the new flat rate tariffs for residential properties.

The CWRSC will report back on the functioning of the system at tomorrow's monthly meeting.

Siemens Unix hardware and software with advanced networking capabilities were being supplied by Information Technology Systems.

Reef councillor to go abroad

Sowetan
24/3/90

By MZIKAYISE EDOM

26/11

THE East Rand Regional Services Council is sending a councillor abroad to attend the 44th annual international conference of the International Institute of Municipal Clerks in May - with all expenses paid including a daily allowance of 250 US dollars (about (R500) a day

The conference, to be held between May 20-24, will be held in Little Rock, Arkansas, in the US.

The ERRSC had initially chosen former mayor of KwaThema, Mrs Muntu Motlhaping, to represent it there but after she was kicked out of the ERRSC by her council, she has been replaced by Mr V Penning.

Mayor of KwaThema, Mr Ezra Radebe, has replaced Motlhaping in the ERRSC.

The ERRSC will pay all travelling (based on business class rates) and registration expenses.

Star 21/3/90

261A

Typhoid breaks out in PE's black townships

PORT ELIZABETH — Typhoid has broken out in Port Elizabeth's black townships where garbage and nightsoil have not been collected for a week because of a strike by municipal workers.

Ten cases have been reported and urgent warnings have been issued by local authorities.

Six of the notified cases are in the Ibhayi area, four in Motherwell. They were confirmed by Dr A Brazdley of the Port Elizabeth Municipal Health Office yesterday.

"We will be going out now to visit the homes of these people to see whether the non-removal of sanitation and refuse has anything to do with this," he said.

Meanwhile, the Ibhayi City Council has warned strikers that if they fail to report for duty today an interdict against them will be sought from the Industrial Court. If they fail to heed the warning they will further be liable to disciplinary procedures, which might include dismissal.

— Sapa.

Upgraded water supply for Soweto

By MZIKAYISE EDOM

THE Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council is upgrading Soweto's mains water supply at a cost of R4,4 million. *Sowetan 23/3/90*

At the same time, the CWRSC will be spending R3,5 million on a computerised combined billing system for Soweto, Diepmeadow, Dobsonville and Alexandra townships. All hardware has been installed and commissioned.

A further R1,6 million will be allocated to put up an eight megalitre reservoir in Soweto.

"The installation represents a major step towards creating an efficient collection system," the CWRSC said in a statement.

In Alexandra, the system has already been introduced for the new East Bank section and in Soweto, it will be introduced on April 1.

In Diepmeadow, the live implementation is imminent and some delays are being experienced in Dobsonville.

Councils left without quorums after unrest

See 24/3/90 (261A)
ABOUT 30 of the 680 black town councillors in the Transvaal have tendered their resignations after the spate of unrest in black townships, the Transvaal MEC responsible for local government

Mr Olaus van Zyl said. In an interview Mr van Zyl said several councillors had also lost property through arson.

The resignations had resulted in five councils being unable to form quorums.

Mr van Zyl said in the light of that, the Administrator had two options, either to advise the affected councils to call for by-elections or to appoint an administrator.

Mr van Zyl said civic associations who were forcing councillors to resign forgot the fact they were needed for essential services — Sapa

● See "Rent boycott verges on violence" Page 7.

Now civic bodies are talking to the govt

C/PRESS 25/3/90 261A

By PATRICK MAFARO

PRESIDENT FW de Klerk's initiatives have brought about a new pragmatism among the most vocal of black civic associations - including the UDF

For the benefit of local communities, previously unheard-of negotiations with government structures such as black councils are taking place.

First in this regard are various community groups affiliated to the UDF

In Kagiso two UDF stalwarts, Lawrence Ntlokwa and Hector Moeketsi, are planning an estimated R30 million multi-purpose centre to cater for a community of close to 250 000 peo-

ple. This will include not only Kagiso, but Munsieville and Randfontein on the West Rand

The centre will include conference, cinema and theatre facilities, a cricket pitch, a gym, a large swimming pool, an ice rink, resident medical and social workers and possibly a school of performing arts based on the TV series *Fame*.

Ntlokwa sees his concept as a much needed micro-level approach to address bread-and-butter issues in black communities. He said, however, this did not mean that civic associations were moving away from the UDF's stated goal of

addressing macro concerns brought about by the apartheid system

"Ours is a micro approach which makes up the bits and pieces which add up to the UDF's stated aims."

Ntlokwa says the centre will also cater for maths and science classes, and include the required laboratories. Such is the enthusiasm for his scheme from the UDF leadership that he claims another UDF stalwart, Sister Bernard Ncube, has taken the initial sketches of the scheme to the United States to raise funding.

Ntlokwa says he will not rely only on Ncube, he plans to have the cen-

tre financed along the lines of the Market Theatre. The centre will be divided into various sections which will be adopted by various companies who buy naming rights.

A site of 10 000 square metres has been identified for the project next to a planned new shopping complex to be called Kagiso Plaza. Ntlokwa and his colleagues plan to hold discussions with Deon Meyer, chairman of the shopping centre development company Quantum, which is a major developer in black townships.



Soweto Civic Association leader Isaac Mogase addresses crowds before marching to Jabulani council chambers yesterday to demand councillors' resignations. Pic: EVANS MBOWENI

Scores injured during march

By LULAMA LUTI

C/press 25/3/90

MORE than 100 people sustained injuries when police fired on marchers calling for the dissolution of Soweto City Council yesterday. But police denied knowledge of anyone being injured.

A girl in a South African Health Workers' Congress T-shirt and mayor Sam Mkhwanazi emerged as heroes as they helped defuse a potentially explosive situation.

With tears streaming down her face, the girl, who declined to be named, confronted a senior police officer and pleaded with him to stop policemen provoking the crowd as it became uncontrollable. Mkhwanazi intervened when police teargassed marchers who had gathered at the entrance to council chambers in Jabulani.

A doctor at the scene said three ambulances were called in to transport people who suffered fractures and asthma attacks to Baragwanath Hospital and Lesedi clinic.

The 10 000-strong march, organised by Soweto Civic Association (SCA), started at Elkah Stadium in Rockville an hour behind schedule and was to proceed to council offices in Jabulani. But police confronted the marchers over crowd control.

Later attempts to restrain the crowd drew a blank as most marchers surged forward, defying police warnings.

Police said permission had been granted for only 100 people to march.

Hoisting ANC flags and chanting slogans, the marchers took an alterna-

tive route along Vundla Drive, but were met by police who opened fire and teargassed them. Amid appeals from marshals to go back, the crowd decided to run up Mashiane Street in Molapo to the council chambers.

At noon a delegation led by SCA president Isaac Mogase was escorted to council chambers to present a memorandum to Mkhwanazi.

An obviously emotional Mkhwanazi

said he had no objections to resigning, as "I have done my work, but we want to discuss the matter with the people who elected us".

The memorandum raised dissatisfaction with the shortage of housing in Soweto and privatisation of certain township services. It also called for unification of the Johannesburg and Soweto councils.

ANC still under control

C/press 25/3/90

THE recent wave of violence and lawlessness had led people to say the ANC was unable to control its supporters, ANC deputy president Nelson Mandela said at a rally in Nelspruit yesterday.

"This is not true, but that remains to be demonstrated through our discipline.

"We must persuade people to join us by setting a good example. We have never supported coercion, nor will we tolerate it now, no matter who employs it," he said.

The uprisings were a tragic indication of the political reality that, although a process of change was beginning, as yet nothing truly fundamental had altered.

Equally disturbing were continuing reports of security forces' "destabilisation activities" in Mozambique.

He called on President FW de Klerk to institute a commission of inquiry into the activities of alleged secret Renamo bases inside South Africa as a matter of urgency.

The ANC would set up local offices in "every area" in the coming weeks to make sure that every assault, every rape, and every case of child labour was reported so that these "evil practices are stopped".

He condemned the exploitation and lack of legal protection for farm workers and demanded that they be allowed full trade union rights.

Mandela said he recognised that the homelands system lay at the root of exploitation of workers.

The homelands were "dying" and the ANC was ready to work with homeland leaders who identified with the ANC struggle, but would not take on discredited leaders against the people's wishes.

He called on all Transvaal municipal authorities to contribute towards creating a conflict-free South Africa by opening amenities to all without delay. - Sapa.

Selli
is a
busy

By ELIAS M

A CHURCH Transvaal nurse has a "factory" from which emerge alive

The clinic Bushbuckridge treats various diseases, cancer, and also paraplegics, supervising them.

The Nazareth clinic is owned by a traditional healer, 66, who also sells coffee.

Although at the clinic

Silinda clinic has supernatural powers with a million members.

Among his supermarket filling station the Acornhoek

The forgotten township

By SAMKELO KUMALO

THE Eastern Transvaal township of Leandra has had nothing going for it since it was established 86 years ago, with residents living in unsatisfactory housing under the constant threat of removal.

And for the past 10 years residents have been plagued with vigilante killings, misery and sorrow.

Their only ray of hope arose when their leader, Chief Ample Mayisa, attracted around him a group of men as dedicated as himself to improving conditions for everyone, and they fought bitterly for the rights of the people.

Then on January 10, 1986, Mayisa was bludgeoned, stoned and burnt to death by vigilantes.

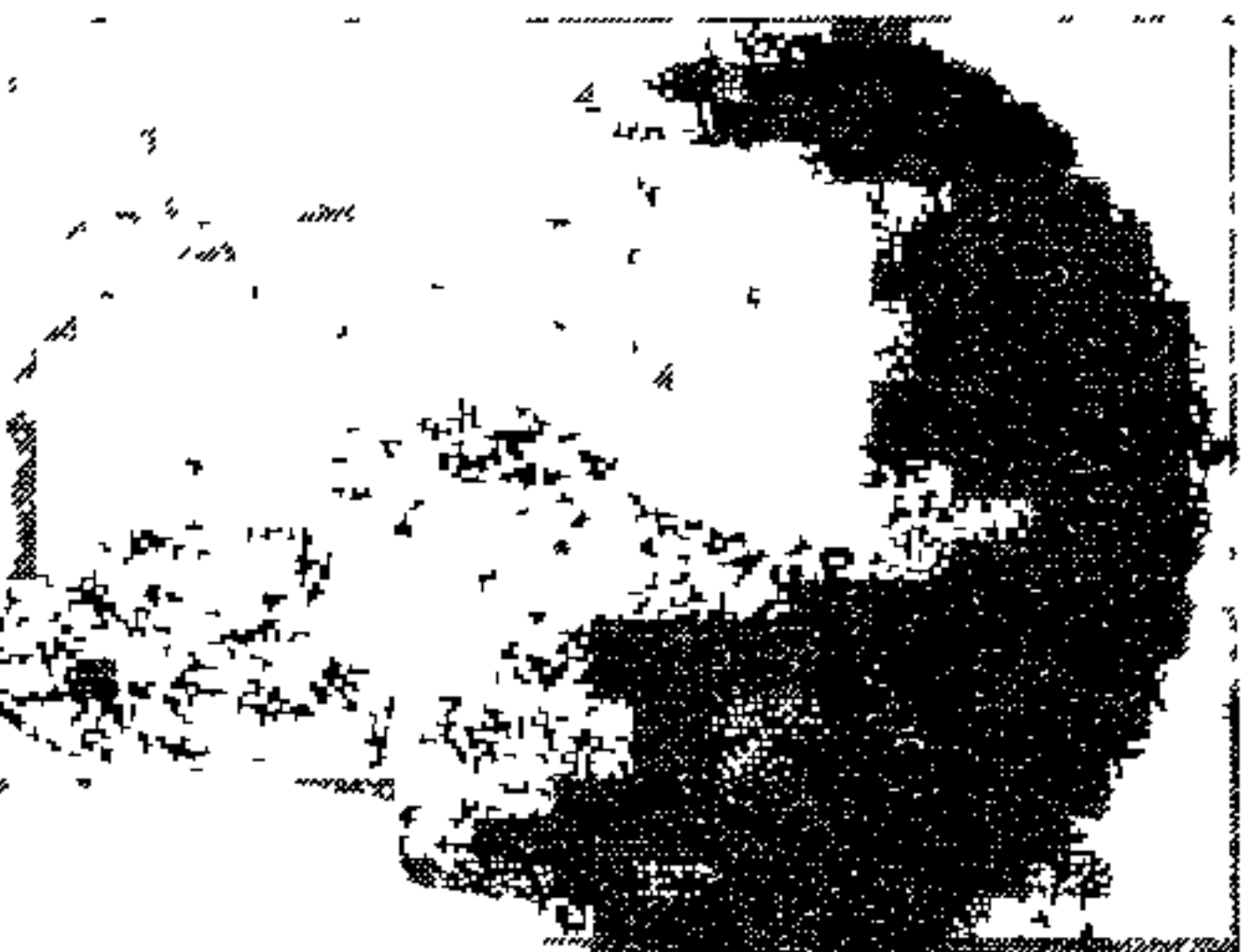
Residents are still bitter that 16 men arrested for his death were all acquitted.

The people had come to rely on Mayisa for protection and help in their daily lives.

People respected him for his immediate response to grassroots issues such as residence permits, unemployment and the threat of removals.

In his lifetime Mayisa, who moved about the township with a slow, slightly limping gait, brought about political awareness among the residents and taught them self-respect and to know their rights.

Above all, Mayisa, who categorically rejected the township's incorporation into KwaNdebele and took responsibility for representing every



Chief Zakehele Mayisa ... he left a legacy of courage.

grievance of the people, especially farmworkers, left his people a will to fight and to survive.

Although Leandra is small in terms of size and population compared to other Rand townships, it stood up to be counted during the mid-1980s.

Now that courageous spirit aroused by Mayisa, which has all but disappeared since his death, is rising again.

A fortnight ago residents demanded the resignation of their councillors, who agreed to their demands.

The township spreads over a few morgen of flat land surrounded by large farms whose owners apparently hurriedly left the area during the unrest.

Leandra is a typical urbanised rural township whose labour was needed to feed both the agricultural sector and industry.

Most of its residents, however, work in Springs and Secunda on the East Rand or the far southern Transvaal. Others are employed on nearby farms.

Looking over the township from the nearby bridge, one is struck by the monotonous corrugated houses. From afar one would think the residents came as recently as other shack-dwellers in townships like Soweto and Crossroads. It is hard to believe they have been there since 1904 or earlier.

In the background, a modern secondary school is a symbol of hope for the future. On the western side of the shacks, next to the railway line that connects the Reef and Bardon, two water tanks for the residents stand above houses.

The alternative name for the township is Lebogang (thank you) but there is little to be grateful about in this place.

What was once the only tarred street has also become dusty and dangerous for small vehicles through neglect.

Chief's legacy of courage and will to survive brings

hope for a better future

Stagnant water runs along what was once its gutters and pavements. None of the streets seems to have a name. And if the streets do have names, they are known only to the residents.

As in any shanty town there is no sewerage system - except at the newly built secondary school at the western end of the shacks.

Shebeen kings and queens lighten the load of frustration over the conditions. Here and there one comes across a tavern, but it is doubtful if they are licensed for they seem to be well below standard.

Residents of this incredibly depressed area are now clinging to the hope that the Transvaal Provincial Administration will pump in enough money to build them houses to rent.

No one entertains the idea of buying a house because of high unemployment and even those who are lucky enough to have jobs cannot afford the high prices - between R40 000 and R60 000.

Hidden behind the shacks one comes across modern concrete houses built by the council about 1984. They house only 712 families - a fraction of the shack dwellers.

They are a source of envy to the shack-dwellers, who had hoped that previous councils would build them similar houses with an option to rent or buy.

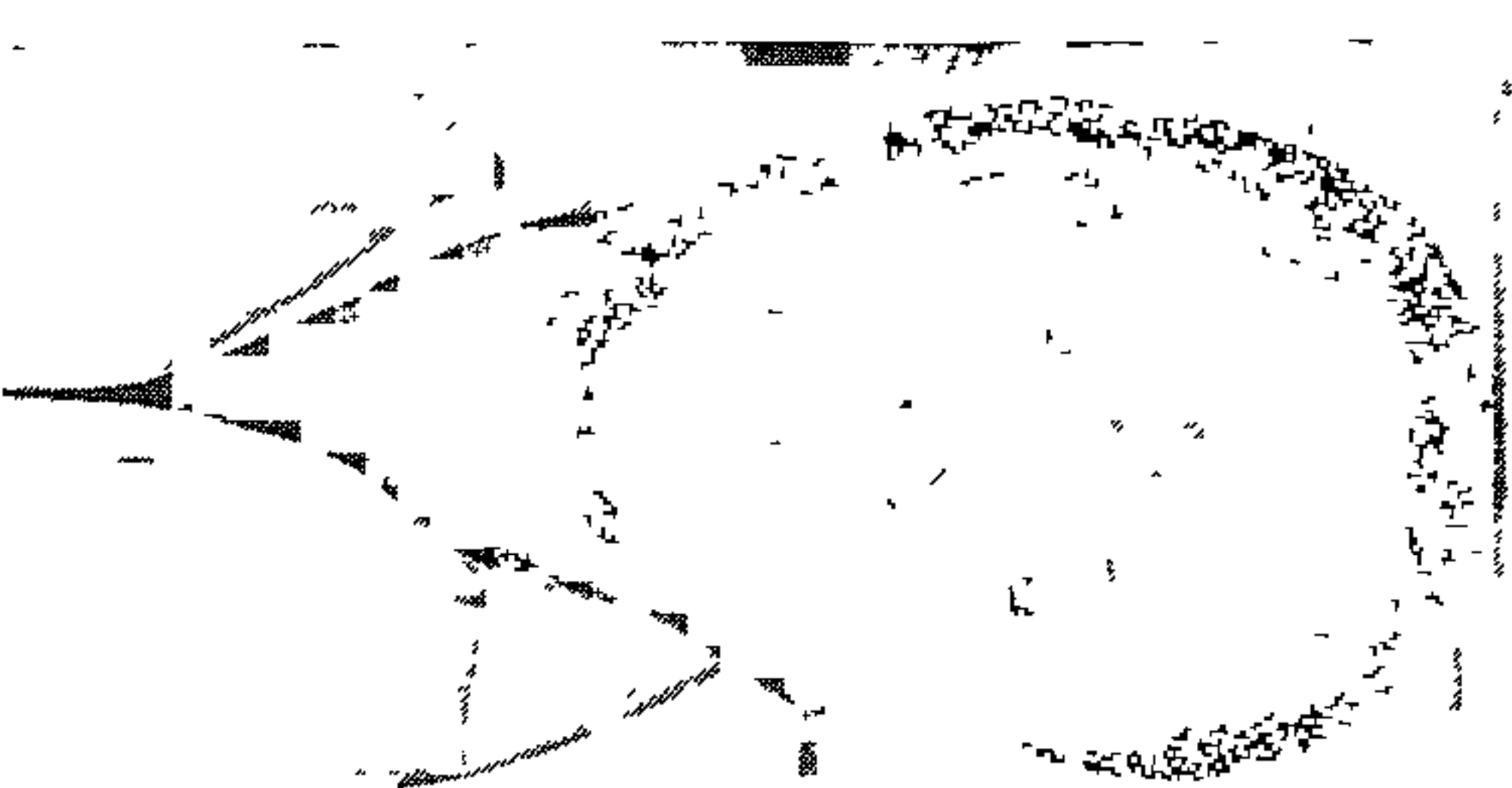
On the other end of the shacks there are more beautiful houses, some of which have been standing empty because no one has been able to afford them.

They were built by one white construction company which has sold the project to another company that hopes to do better. But people living in the area do not seem interested.

They want to know what happened to the R6,8-million from the TPA which was meant to build more simple houses for the shack-dwellers, according to secretary-general of the newly formed Leandra Peoples' Delegation, Abe Nkabinde.

Residents expressed frustration at last Sunday's meeting when they told the township's six councillors to resign within a week. Five of them, led by Mayor Johannes Tugwana, resigned on Monday while the last, David Mahlangu, resigned the next day.

Meanwhile, the Leandra Peo-



David Mahlangu ... the last councillor to resign.

ple's Delegation was formed. Tugwana was co-opted onto it and will be a member of the delegation which will meet Transvaal administrator Danie Hough.

Hough will be asked to appoint an administrator for the township, as the residents are tired of councillors, says Nkabinde.

A meeting today, to be attended by former councillors, will draw up points to be discussed with Hough.

Rockets fired in Soweto

By Craig Kotze

(261A)
Suspected insurgents using RPG-7 rocket launchers attacked the Soweto Council offices last night. Star 26/3/90

Only an hour later, three limpet mine blasts damaged the Langlaagte power station in Johannesburg

No one was hurt in any of the blasts

Soweto police spokesman Lieutenant-Colonel Tienie Halgryn confirmed today the blasts at the Soweto offices were caused by rocket-propelled grenades fired from Soviet-made RPG-7 rockets

Police sources have linked the attacks to ANC armed wing commander Mr Chris Hani's weekend call that a ceasefire be negotiated with the South African Defence Force

The attacks could be a "show of force", they said

A massive police investigation is under way in Soweto. It is feared that targets such as police Casspirs, other vehicles and SAP installations could now be attacked with greater ease than before

Colonel Halgryn said one of the rockets fired at the Soweto Council offices hit a house, causing some damage

The other rocket hit the east side of the office complex

In Langlaagte, the bombers cut through a fence surrounding the power station before planting the mines. They went off at about 9 30 pm.

Three transformers were badly damaged at the Link Road facility

Pamphlets warn against boycott

82-281310 Staff Reporter (261A)

Pamphlets with the letterhead of the kwaThema City Council yesterday warned residents of the Springs township that council services would be cut if a call for a rent boycott in the township was heeded.

The pamphlets were distributed throughout the township.

They urged residents not to fear propaganda or intimidation but to pay rent.

They thanked those who had continued to pay "your dues" and for the "sacrifice" those tenants had made in

trying to keep their accounts up to date.

The pamphlets referred to a rent boycott which was being propagated by "a very small group of people who do not really have your interests at heart."

They warned of the discontinuation of services by Eskom and the Rand Water Board if the boycott call was heeded and said there would be no refuse removal, no sewerage maintenance, no burial services, no further provision of accommodation, no library and health services.

RSC levies could rise, ^{29/3/90} says Mandy

By Shirley Woodgate ^{261A}

Regional Services Council levies are likely to increase because the Government will expect them to provide much of the funds needed to run black towns, urban affairs consultant Mr Nigel Mandy has warned.

Addressing an East Rand RSC seminar yesterday, he said RSC levies would have to be multiplied several times, with a large surcharge on electricity sales, if the councils also had to handle municipal operating finances and transport subsidies.

This would be disastrous for the economy. He said renewed representations could be made for portions of the fuel levy and general sales tax to be allocated for regional purposes.

Mr Mandy said RSCs represented a significant constitutional advance in local government.

But three enormous problems remained: the cost of normal operation of black municipal areas, provision of sub-economic housing and the handling of transport subsidies.

Unlike white local authorities, which had rates and profits from electricity sales to balance budgets, black townships had no rates on fixed property.

261A

30/3/90

'42 councillors forced to quit'

At least 42 members of black local authorities have resigned since the beginning of this month because of intimidation and violence, said the MEC for local government in the Transvaal, Mr Olaus van Zyl

At a meeting in Pretoria attended by the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, and members of local authorities from the East and West Rand, Mr van Zyl said six local authorities were without a quorum as a result of the resignations — Sapa.

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Tvl RSCs outline spending

By PATRICK MAFAFO

261A

1/4/90
Press

OVER the past two years, the Regional Services Council (RSC) has spent more than R240 million on 155 projects for the provision of infrastructure in undeveloped communities

These include Indian, coloured and black local government structures

Speaking at an RSC symposium this week, Olaus Van Zyl, member of the TPA entrusted with RSC matters, said for the 1989/90 financial year, R147,45 million for capital develop-

ment had been provided for areas falling under the East Rand RSC.

Of this, he says, more than 85% was set aside for undeveloped local governments

The total levy income of the 12 Transvaal RSCs increased in the past year from R353 million to R467 million. For the 1989/90 financial year, the Transvaal RSCs provided R674 million for infrastructure

Of this amount more than 60% had been set aside for local government.

April 2 1990

NEI

Tvl black councils face a bleak future

Star 2/4/90 261A

Political Reporter

Black local authorities have been plunged into a crisis following the resignation of almost 10 percent of the Transvaal's 962 councillors last month.

And United Municipalities of South Africa president Mr Tom Boya revealed on Friday that plans were in the pipeline to discuss with the ANC the continued existence of black local authorities.

He had also called a special meeting of Transvaal councillors to decide whether "we should continue in the present political climate"

Intimidation

The ANC's unbanning on February 2 has given new impetus to extra-parliamentary organisations' protracted campaign against unrepresentative apartheid structures, particularly local authorities and homeland governments

Transvaal MEC for local government Mr Olaus van Zyl confirmed on Friday that 61 black councillors had resigned in March as the result of severe intimidation, violence and pressure

He denied, however, that the system of black local authorities was crumbling, saying a relatively small number of councillors had resigned.

Tokoza (East Rand), Tsakane (Brakpan), Botleng (Delmas), Leboang (Leandra), kwaGuqa (Witbank) and Bela-Bela (Warmbaths) had no quorums. In addition, Mr van Zyl said, two townships — near Waterval Boven and Hendrina — had been functioning without councils since the 1988 municipal elections. Two others — Munsieville (Krugersdorp) and Wadela (Carletonville) — were being administered by appointed councillors.

United Democratic Front assistant publicity secretary Mr Murphy Morobe said the system was "heading for the conclusion of its crumbling" and had been destined to fall since its inception.

"With the new political direction, it's about time the remaining black councils crumbled"

Reacting to Mr van Zyl's call for the use of political avenues, and not intimidation, to voice opposition, Mr Morobe said "That's nonsense Mr van Zyl knows only too well how deep the resentment goes. The people have all along voiced their opposition through political channels, as demonstrated by the low percentage polls in elections"

Town councillors to hold crisis meeting

Political Reporter

Star 2/4/90

261A

The crisis in black local authorities will be discussed at a special meeting of all Transvaal councillors on April 7

The president of the United Municipalities of South Africa (UMSA), Mr Tom Boya, said he would invite all councillors, regardless of whether they were affiliated to UMSA, to the meeting to decide whether "we should continue in the present political climate"

Stressing that he could not take a decision on behalf of UMSA's members, Mr Boya said "I will be the happiest man if they decide to tell Presi-

dent de Klerk "Take your local government".

He said the decision to participate in local government structures — ridiculed by many as unrepresentative puppet structures — had been "a matter of pragmatism, our hearts have never been there"

He lashed out at the Government for addressing national political questions but ignoring the related question of local government

Said Mr Boya "But not only the Government has confused us The ANC has acknowledged the role of existing black political structures such as homeland government But the message has not gone down to local levels, where councillors are constantly being threatened and harassed"

2 3/4/90

NEWS

Tembisa town clerk Harmse resigns (261A)

By Abel Mabelane,
East Rand Bureau

Tembisa town clerk Mr P L Harmse resigned unexpectedly yesterday, and the commission of inquiry investigating the affairs of the Tembisa Council recommended that the treasurer, Mr W R le Roux, be suspended pending criminal investigations against him.

Commission chairman Mr J J van der Walt announced before the proceedings started that Mr Harmse had resigned. There had been no incriminating evidence against him, he added.

Mr van der Walt ordered that the council convene a special meeting tonight to suspend Mr le Roux, pending disciplinary proceedings against him and criminal charges which are to be laid with the police.

Mr van der Walt told The Star that Mr le Roux had taken out an insurance policy in December 1988 which was payable within 27 years, in the council's name.

Mr van der Walt said it would cost the council about R8 000 to cancel the policy, adding that the TPA had informed the council it was no longer allowed to invest with insurance companies.

He said Mr le Roux also acted against council regulations when he took a blank cheque to buy a vehicle for the council at an auction sale.

Councillor Mrs Gladys Moatlhodi, a former chairman of the executive, told the commission that the mayor, Mr Solomon More, had given three councillors R2 000 each after entertaining them at a hotel to help him remove her and two of her colleagues from the executive in August 1989. She named the three as Mr P R Mashabela, Mr M S Phasoana and Mr K D Buthelezi.

The hearing continues.

Soweto council needs ombudsman — inquiry

By Montshiwa Moroke

The Malan Commission of Inquiry into allegations of possible corruption and irregularities in the Soweto Council has recommended the appointment of an ombudsman following widespread complaints about house allocations.

Such an appointment would be made in order to dispel suggestions of injustice, the commission found.

The commission also recommended that some of the numerous cases showing irregularities, including the allocation of sites and the acceptance of bribes by former councillors, be referred to the police for investigation.

Ethical code

Following evidence on the allocation of houses to home seekers and land to developers, the commission found the weakness of the system was that councillors were seen as being entitled to dispose of council property.

The commission found the impression was sometimes created that it was not possible to obtain an allocation without councillor involvement — often improper involvement.

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This perception should be corrected and raises the whole question of an ethical code for councillors.

Introducing the post of ombudsman by legislation was preferable, but the council could, by appropriate resolution, make considerable progress in this regard.

The idea of the appointment of an ombudsman was recommended by the commission because procedures applied to evictions appeared to be "a constant cause for complaint".

Different causes for discontent appeared to be the uncertainty surrounding the transfer of tenancy on the death of a tenant.

"The root cause of all the discontent is, of course, the shortage of available homes".

The commission sat for eight days between August and November last year. The commission's report, which covered a five-year period beginning in 1984, was accepted by the Soweto Council at its monthly meeting last Thursday.

A spokesman for the Soweto Council yesterday said details of the report would be discussed at a special council meeting "sometime in the future".

The commission could not come to definite findings on many of the disputed matters because its lack of authority meant that none of the interested parties could be compelled to appear.

Cracks show in council ranks

They live behind barbed wire. Their cars are petrol-bombed, their houses stoned. Some have suffered gruesome deaths at the hands of angry mobs.

For many black councillors who chose to participate in government structures, scorned by their communities as illegitimate puppet structures, the price is becoming too high.

They are quitting in droves — 61 since March in the Transvaal alone.

The reason, the Government's acknowledgement that apartheid has failed and that new structures, accommodating all South Africa's people, have to be negotiated.

Now-legal organisations such as the African National Congress and the United Democratic Front are stepping up campaigns for the abolition of unrepresentative structures.

Mr Mark Swilling, researcher at the Centre for Policy Studies at the University of the Witwatersrand, believes the system of black local authorities could collapse within six months.

"Given the new political climate where moderate political platforms are becoming increasingly unviable, it is easier to resign now than during the time when the Government praised and supported these structures."

"By acknowledging that extra-parliamentary organisations have majority support, the Government is admitting that black local authorities are 'frauds'."

Almost 10 percent of the Transvaal's black councillors have already resigned under pressure from extra-parliamentary organisations which demand the abolition of all apartheid structures. Political Reporter **ESMARE VAN DER MERWE** examines the consequences of a collapse in black local authorities.

What would happen if the system collapses?

In terms of the Black Local Authorities Act of 1982, the Administrator can either call new elections, appoint councillors or appoint an administrator to run an area's affairs. The latter option is usually exercised.

Mr Tom Boya, president of the United Municipalities of South Africa (Umsa), believes this solution is unworkable.

"The problems remain the same. Administrators normally don't have a feel for our problems. Ironically, our people have demanded to run their own affairs. Now they can, but they demand the resignation of elected councillors. We end up with a situation where an administrator, usually a white person, again calls the shots."

He added: "When a council collapses, the community suffers. There is no one to take decisions, and projects come to a standstill."

Mr Boya favours the scrapping of black local authorities and the creation of non-racial municipalities — "geographic units based on the availability of funds" — run by councillors

who are elected on the basis of one man, one vote.

Mr Philip Nhlapo, president of the Urban Councils Association of South Africa (Ucasa), says if the present system has to go, a new system will have to take its place.

"Someone must represent the people. Someone must provide water and electricity and services. How do you do this without councils?"

He believes a non-racial system has to be negotiated by political leaders.

Pressure

But he is highly critical of the ANC, who "wants to put thousands of people out of jobs by calling for the abolition of black local authorities".

Says Mr Nhlapo: "The ANC is controlled by the exiles who have done nothing for this country. How can you build a new South Africa on ruins?"

Mr Swilling predicts that pressure on councillors would be stepped up over the next six months — particularly in the Transvaal and the Eastern Cape — and that there is "a very good chance" that the system of local authorities would collapse.

If administrators are then appointed,

comments Mr Swilling. "The political consequence will be to confirm that local administrations are extensions of the illegitimate white regime. While the Government has attempted to maintain the facade of elected democracy, communities are revealing this reality."

"As far as the rendering of services is concerned, the collapse of the system won't have much effect because councillors have very little to do with these services."

"The irony is that, with councillors out of the way, there is a good chance that civic organisations may feel more comfortable negotiating with the provincial administration directly than with councillors who claim to have a mandate."

"In the wake of the collapse of black local authorities, local and representative community structures could emerge to negotiate with white councils and the provincial authority to establish non-racial local government forms. This strategy was formally accepted at the Conference for a Democratic Future last year and endorsed by Cosatu this year."

Mr Swilling said this system had already been implemented in a number of areas, including Johannesburg/Soweto, Sandton/Alexandra, Cape Town, Maritzburg, East London, Oudshoorn, Port Elizabeth and Benoni/Watville.

Tembisa report-back planned

Staff Reporter (261A)

The Tembisa Residents' Association (TRA) has applied for permission to hold an open air meeting on Friday to report back on the town council's response to the community's grievances.

A TRA spokesman, Mr Amon Msane, said yesterday the council had finally responded to demands made more than a month ago.

The council responded to the rent issue, high electricity bills and the call on the council to resign.

Filling vacancies caused by unrest

8/10 4/4/90 (261A)
Administrators of black local authorities would be appointed to fill vacancies resulting from the rash of resignations during the spate of unrest, the Transvaal Provincial Administration announced yesterday.

In a statement, a member of the executive committee for Local Government and Regional Services Councils, Mr Olaus van Zyl, said so many councillors had resigned from some black local authorities during the past few weeks that these bodies now lacked a quorum.

The TPA's executive committee had come to the conclusion that by-elections to fill the vacancies would "not be appropriate right now", and administrators should be appointed until by-elections could be held.

Mr van Zyl said administrators had been appointed to fill the position of chairman of the Committee of Administrators in kwaGuqa near Witbank, Tokoza near Alberton and Botleng near Delmas.

Those appointed were former mayor Mr S Niba for kwaGuqa,

Mr G. Muller, "an expert in the field of local government", for Tokoza, and Mr M van Wyk, a former mayor of Bronkhorstspuit, for Botleng. Administrators would also be appointed soon to Belo-Bela near Warmbaths, Lebohang near Leandra and Tsakane near Brakpan.

Mr van Zyl promised elections would be held as soon as possible in all towns affected.

The appointments were valid until March 31 1991, or until by-elections were held — Sapa.

● See Page 17.

TPA to spend R1-bn on black upliftment

5/4/90
By Claire Robertson,
Pretoria Bureau

The Transvaal Provincial Administration plans to spend more than R1 billion this year on "uplifting black communities".

This represents more than a quarter of the province's proposed R4,37 billion budget, in which hospitals and roads are left at a virtual standstill.

The community development funds are additional to the province's share of the R3 billion set aside for this purpose by the central Government in the main Budget this year.

The Transvaal fund will be used for services, new facilities and to bail out local authorities in need of finance following the rent boycotts.

The Administrator, Mr Danie Hough, told the Extended Public Committee on Provincial Affairs in Pretoria yesterday that R1,242 billion was to be requested for community development in 1990-91 — 21 percent more than last year.

The entire provincial budget of R4,37 billion is subject to the approval of Parliament.

In his opening address, Mr Hough said "To the Transvaal provincial government it is certainly one of its major tasks to eliminate the backlog that has built up over the years in respect of our black fellow-countrymen by means of a comprehensive process of community development."

He identified the most important community development priority as the effect of urbanisation

on community life, the need to promote the "social mobility" of newcomers to cities, and the possible subsidisation of services where people could not afford them.

The shortage of black housing in the Transvaal is nearly 445 000 units. Development is planned north of Evaton and west of Soweto.

A decrease of R27 million for the construction of roads meant only the highest priorities would be addressed, Mr Hough said.

1 pc for hospitals

If the budget is approved, hospitals are to receive less than 1 percent more than last year.

"It (will) unfortunately not be possible to replace obsolete expensive equipment with new sophisticated equipment for specialised treatment. Attempts will still be made to render an acceptable service to the community through improved management techniques," Mr Hough said.

Library and Museum Services has been allocated R20,4 million, 30 percent more than last year.

The Works Vote shows a decrease of R1,6 million. This was, however, due to a rollover of funds from the previous financial year.

The General Administration Vote has been increased by 5,7 percent — R10,2 million.

Nature and Environment Conservation has been voted R27 million, a 6,8 percent increase.

Sowetans can own land before end of the year

FREEHOLD ownership will be granted to all Soweto residents by the end of the year.

This week, Soweto mayor Sam Mkhwanazi said the City Council was also prepared to give away all old stock houses once negotiations with the Transvaal Provincial Administration have been completed.

The council envisages that by the end of this year all Soweto townships will be ready for registration and residents will be able to own and obtain title deeds for the land on which their houses have been built.

Mkhwanazi said people who bought their houses under the 30-year and 99-year leasehold schemes would be able to convert to freehold. Conversion fees would be minimal.

The following townships were completed by the end of April: Mofolo North, Moletsane, Tladi, Zola, Zola Extension 1, Naledi Ext 1, Naledi Ext 2, Emdeni Ext 2.

Between 27 000 and 30 000 houses were involved in these sections of Soweto.

The following areas will be finalised and ready for registration by the end of April: Naledi proper, Klipspruit, Pimville and Orlando East.

Subject to the finalisation of incorporation of land in McDonald's Farm and Racecourse areas into Soweto, the remaining areas will be completed by the end of December.

In 1983 the "grand sale" of government-owned houses was announced.

Initially, only Indian, coloured and white housing was sold under freehold.

In 1986 freehold property rights were extended to blacks but because townships had not been adequately surveyed most black houses could not be sold under freehold.

In March this year the government announced home ownership for Africans was to get a massive boost with the completion of a survey of about 45 000 erven throughout the country.

The survey was believed to have been carried out over two years at a cost of R30 million in addition to a survey of 100 000 erven carried out in Soweto.



Soweto mayor Sam Mkhwanazi.

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The big Soweto council rumpus



Black local authorities are standing dangerously close to the precipice. Allegations of corruption and irregularities, mass resignations by mayors and councillors and calls on the government to dismantle local authorities based on colour are edging the councils as we know them to a final fall. SOPHIE TEMA reports on recent crises facing black local government

Cops called in as allegations of bribery and corruption rattle SA's biggest township

The commission heard that it was council policy to sell houses only to the "registered tenant" - the person who held a residential permit in terms of the now repealed regulation 7 of GN 1036 of June 14, 1968.

That regulation was repealed by the conversion of certain rights through the Leasehold Act, 81 of 1988, which came into operation in January 1, 1989.

In terms of the Leasehold Act, permits were no longer required, although certain rights were given to permit holders. Much confusion and many difficulties had arisen because of this and the commission recommended the council launch an education programme to ensure the success of its selling effort.

Ward councillors also played an important role in allocating houses for rental, the commission heard. Bester said it was not possible to administer a black city without councillors' involvement in housing.

What voters expected from their councillors was a solution to their housing problems. However, several cases had been brought to the commission's attention which showed the exercise of these executive functions by councillors could lead to improper conduct.

This matter was regarded as very serious and the commission made a special recommendation in this regard.

Housing Commission in Land ownership in Soweto vests in the Transvaal Provincial Administration, the council, private owners and others. This part of the report concentrated on those houses rented by the council and the procedures followed in allocating houses.

Land ownership in Soweto vests in the Transvaal Provincial Administration, the council, private owners and others. This part of the report concentrated on those houses rented by the council and the procedures followed in allocating houses.

acting as honest brokers. To reduce corruption and to ensure a proper return on land for the local authority as well as to encourage developers to come forward with innovative ideas, he suggested:

- The land be put out to public tender, and
- The tender documents should be specific in regard to the requirements of the authority calling for tenders. Ideally, no restrictions should be imposed on the developer who would be dictated to by the market forces in the formulation of his proposals.

Information on irregularities in the lease of council houses was based on evidence given by director of housing Estelle Bester and assistant director of property, sales and valuation, WHIP Loois.

Both said the council had control as landlord over the vast majority of houses in Soweto and most of these houses were financed by the National

positions were often involved in cases concerning the lease of council homes and the allocation of land for development use.

Various witnesses gave evidence on alleged irregularities concerning land availability agreements entered into by the Council.

Council resolved on March 14, 1986, to adopt proposals presented by IBM, and endorsed by the City Engineers Department, subject to ministerial approval.

However by a resolution taken on April 24, 1986 the development was allocated to Bester Homes for "housing development".

Mitchell said the land was developed by Bester Homes not for low-cost housing but for housing at higher prices.

He said this incident illustrated how the council disregarded the advice of its professional employees.

Guide

Council assistant director of urban development and planning RB Mitchell gave evidence of several developments in the Soweto area which raised doubts in his mind about the soundness of decisions of the previous council.

He said there were no proper guidelines, such as tender provisions in the regulations for the allocation of land.

Mitchell said decisions were arrived at by the council on an ad hoc basis and without tenders being called for (although there were advertisements in some cases) and that professional officials of the council were often bypassed when decisions were taken.

Consent

Although the commission was unable to make any findings on corruption or bribery, it proposed and recommended that a councilors' code of conduct be introduced and that councillor involvement in allocating resources be stopped.

The commission's report indicated that because it did not have power to subpoena witnesses, it could therefore not come to findings of fact.

It also said its lack of authority meant it could not call all the essential witnesses and those who

Witnesses

Several witnesses who represented the private sector - and, in some cases, land developers - criticised the manner in which land was allocated by means of land availability agreements, said the commission.



The big Soweto

ALLEGATIONS of irregularities by several former Soweto councillors are to be referred to the police for investigations. The move is a result of recommendations by a Commission of Inquiry into allegations of corruption in Soweto City Council. The commission started on August 23 and concluded hearing evidence on November 6 last year.

The present council appointed Profs FR Malan, MW Prinsloo and IM Rautenbach as a commission to investigate and advise on:

- Possible corruption and irregularities in allocating land in Soweto over the past five years;
- Possible corruption and irregularities involving the use of council vehicles and other council property;
- The basis of the future allocation of land to avoid corruption and irregularities; and
- The basis upon which official vehicles might be made available in future to councillors and officials for official duties and the circumstances under which this might take place.

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The commission's report indicated that because it did not have power to subpoena witnesses, it could therefore not come to findings of fact.

It also said its lack of authority meant it could not call all the essential witnesses and those who did appear could only be cross-examined with their consent.

The implication is that

the commission could not come to definite findings of fact on many of the disputed matters.

However, the commission was able to identify certain areas of misconduct and made recommendations to prevent their recurrence.

The council announced this week it would call a special meeting to discuss some of the commission's recommendations but would not interfere with those that warranted police attention.

The commission found councillors in executive positions were often involved in cases concerning the lease of council homes and the allocation of land for development use.

Various witnesses gave evidence on alleged irregularities concerning land availability agreements entered into by the Council.

Guide

Council assistant director of urban development and planning RB Mitchell gave evidence of several developments in the Soweto area which raised doubts in his mind about the soundness of decisions of the previous council.

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Mitchell said decisions were arrived at by the council on an ad hoc basis and without tenders being called for (although there were advertisements in some cases) and that professional officials of the council were often bypassed when decisions were taken.

One of the cases Mitchell referred to was that of the Pimville Eastern Buffer. On September 24, 1985, the council resolved to give an option on this property for three months to the IBM Projects Fund on condition that during



this period it prepared "an acceptable layout plan for development primarily as a residential area at no cost to the Council".

This plan, which provided for low-cost housing, was duly presented to the council.

Council resolved on March 14, 1986, to adopt proposals presented by IBM, and endorsed by the City Engineers Department, subject to ministerial approval.

However by a resolution taken on April 24, 1986 the development was allocated to Bester Homes for "housing development".

Mitchell said the land was developed by Bester Homes not for low-cost housing but for housing at higher prices.

He said this incident illustrated how the council disregarded the advice of its professional employees.

Witnesses

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National Association of Home Builders executive director W Grotius said most developers thought

Black local authorities are standing dangerously close to the precipice. Allegations of corruption and irregularities, mass resignations by mayors and councillors and calls on the government to dismantle local authorities based on colour are edging the councils as we know them to a final fall. SOPHIE TEMA reports on recent crises facing black local government.

corruption and other irregularities in the allocation of land did occur and the procedure followed should be revised.

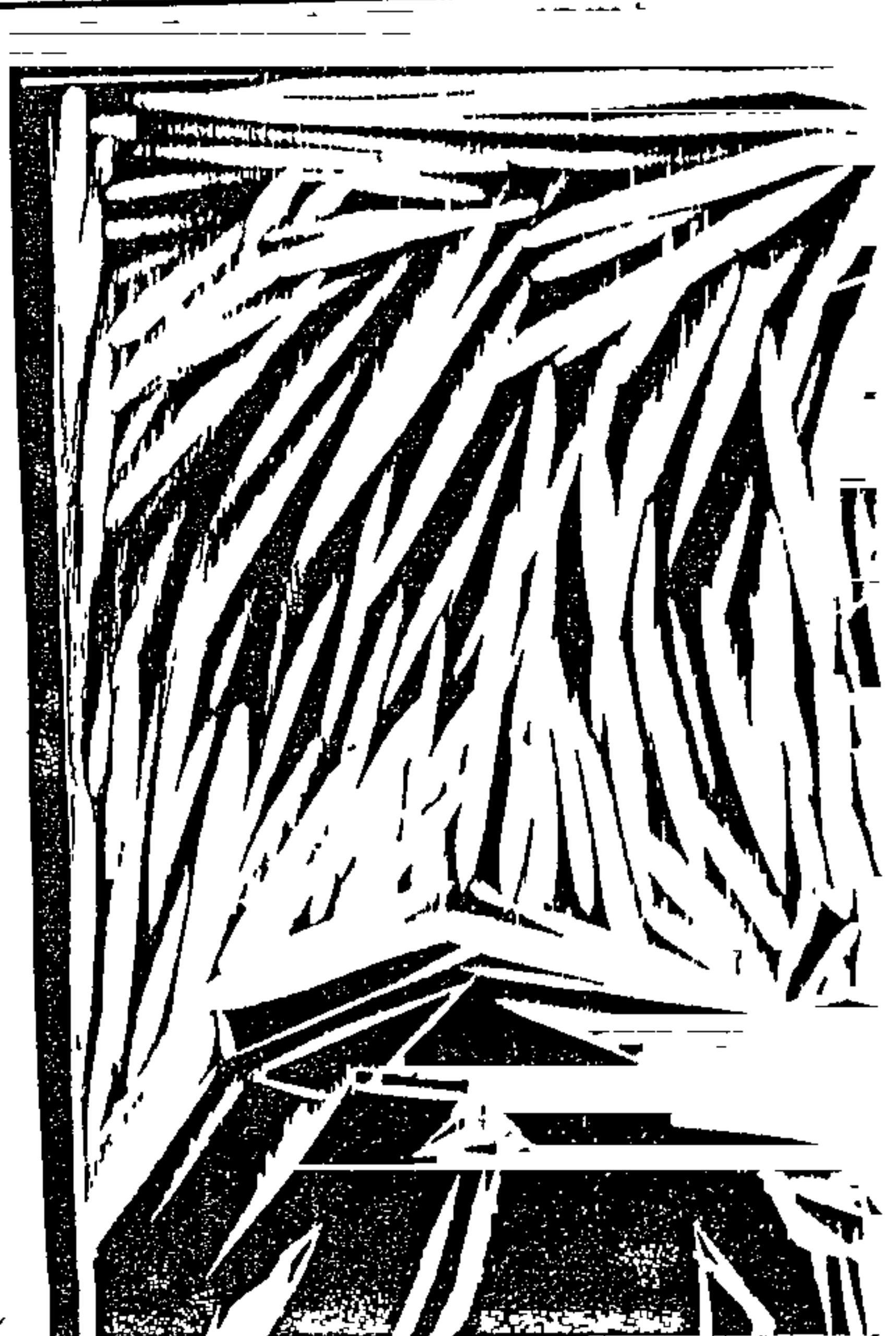
Although he could give no evidence of specific instances of corruption he confirmed political figures were prominent and that the role they played went further than merely

acting as honest brokers.

To reduce corruption and to ensure a proper return on land for the local authority as well as to encourage developers to come forward with innovative ideas, he suggested:

- The land be put out to public tender, and
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Umsa insists govt scraps authorities based on colour

THE United Municipalities of South Africa (Umsa) has called on the government to dismantle local authorities based on colour

The government, ANC, UDF, Cosatu and other political bodies have been informed by Umsa of its stand on the present local authority system.

The problems, which include inefficient local authorities, lack of proper infrastructure, serviced land and proximity of the poor to their places of work are viewed by Umsa as constituting the major elements of urban violence.

Umsa president Tom Silumko Boya, said the government should reconstitute single local authorities based on acceptable criteria such as economic housing and the efficient delivery of services

"Umsa believes that its prime area of concern is the effective and efficient rendering of essential services at local level which should result in the improvement of the quality of life.

"Effective and efficient provision of services cannot be carried out while clinging to apartheid structures as they tend to duplicate and sometimes, triplicate the cost of rendering them

"Because of pragmatism Umsa had to accept serving on the RSCs and accept funds to the affiliated local authorities in order to improve the lot of their residents.



Umsa president Tom Silumko Boya.

"Umsa has also rejected the National Forum that was established to become the mouthpiece of urban blacks in order to further divide them.

"After Umsa's due consideration on the issue of separate local authorities and administration which inter alia entails an in-depth socio-economic analysis and a very close look at the political developments in the country - the organisation questions the establishment and maintenance of parallel towns and cities according to colour"

261A

Press

8/4/90

Councils take a tumble

(261A)



Lekoa councillor Esau Mahlati... urged residents to pay their rents.

LOCAL governments in black townships are beginning to tumble

The recent resignation of 19 Lekoa councillors, who resigned following a call by the MDM and residents to disband, appears to bear evidence to this fact.

ANC deputy president Nelson Mandela had a meeting recently with the Soweto Council behind closed doors. This is thought to be a prelude to the possible dismantling of the council.

Mandela said he would first have to consult his colleagues, the Soweto People's Delegation (SPD) and the Soweto Civic Association (SCA) to inform them about the issues raised by council members.

Now, even the United Municipalities of South Africa (Umsa) has joined the call for the dismantling of local government and their replacement by

a metropolitan type of government

Groups in some areas have called on the government to appoint administrators to replace the councils, while others want it to revert to the method whereby Soweto and other townships were controlled by white municipalities such as the Johannesburg City Council.

Some people who served on local councils were attacked by elements opposed to their involvement in government bodies.

Several had their homes destroyed by petrol bombs while others lost their lives.

In an attempt to deal with residents' grievances, the government embarked on the upgrading of several programmes in many urban townships to provide services, jobs and houses. However, this upgrading strategy did not gain fa-

A whole new ball game as officials respond to MDM call

your with the residents and political organisations who argued the time for upgrading certain projects was overdue.

Rent boycotts involving the non-payment of rent and service charges, which began in 1984, spread to 55 black townships countrywide, and although local authorities attempted to use a variety of strategies during 1988 to collect all arrears on rent and service charges they were generally unsuccessful.

In its 1988/89 survey report, the South African

Institute of Race Relations pointed out that by the end of 1988, negotiations between black local authorities and township residents in the Transvaal indicated the boycott might be resolved in 1989.

According to the survey report the then Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning, Chris Heunis, had told Parliament that by December 31, 1987, arrears in rent and service charges owed to black local authorities amounted to R387 million.

In August, the Bureau for Information said the amount in arrears stood at R475 million, of which R361 million was owing on the Witwatersrand alone, and the townships which had the largest arrears were Soweto (Johannesburg), Diepsdorp (Johannesburg), Lekoa (Vaal), Mamelodi (Pretoria) and Tembisa (East Rand).

Scores of families were also evicted from their homes in townships all over Soweto and other areas including the Vaal for non-payment of rent and service charges.

The rent crisis show-

down came in February 1987 when 1 000 residents of White City Jabavu marched to the local municipal offices to protest against the evictions of 28 families in their area.

A few months later the council adopted a new strategy to break the rent boycott and ordered that the doors be removed from the houses of evicted tenants to stop them from moving back into the houses.

Later residents of the Vaal Triangle townships held a meeting in Sharpeville at which it was proposed that tenants pay R30 a month for rent and service charges to the Lekoa Town Council. The meeting also called



ANC deputy president Nelson Mandela... met the Soweto City Council recently.

on the council to write off the rent arrears that had accumulated since September 1984, which were reported to be no less than R50 million.

But the council, that was headed by Esau Mahlati, rejected the offer and urged residents to pay the full amount of R67,32 for rent and service charges.

Requests by different political and community organisations including the SPD, to have the entire arrears of all townships affected by the rent boycott written off, were turned down by the Transvaal Provincial Administration.

The ball is now in the government's court - to decide whether these local governments should be dismantled or whether they should continue existing much against the wishes of the people.

Group plans to bring back 'people's courts'

Staff Reporters

"People's courts" — which were controversial at the height of the 1984-86 unrest — will be re-introduced in Tembisa soon, the Tembisa Youth Congress (Teyco) revealed yesterday.

At a press conference attended by the entire Teyco executive in Johannesburg, Teyco president Mr Sam Semetse announced that included in the congress's programme of action for the year was the re-introduction of "people's courts", to be manned by "disciplined regiments," in an attempt to combat crime in Tembisa.

He said "We intend to combat crime (by) forming regiments in our different sections (in Tembisa) Regiments (will) be accountable to the people and be protectors of the people."

Police reacted sharply to the announcement yesterday and said "people's courts" would be smashed.

A Law and Order Ministry spokesman said "people's courts" were illegal and were associated with the barbaric necklacings of 1985/86 and other cruel punishments meted out.

These "kangaroo courts" allowed no appeal for sentences.

"Any alternative structures are illegal and we will act against them wherever they are found. If so-called 'people's courts' are found, they will be smashed."

The Teyco executive said at yesterday's press

conference that "people's courts" would be revived in a sincere effort to combat crime, and that strict discipline and a code of conduct for the people involved in the planned "regiments" would be enforced.

'Graffiti squads'

"We will continue with the people's courts in a very disciplined way and strictly within regiments. There will be a code of conduct for people in the regiments," said Teyco treasurer Ms Debora Marakalala.

The organisation's secretary-general, Mr Philemon Nzimande, said Teyco regarded crime as one of the evil results of apartheid. Consequently, apart from the soon-to-be-revived "people's courts", anti-crime rallies would be held to teach people about the iniquities of crime.

Tasks the Teyco executive has set for itself include:

- Putting more pressure on town councillors to resign and be replaced by "organs of people's power"

- The formation of "graffiti

squads which will continue with the work of popularising our organisations and our leaders, so as to declare our township as an ANC (territory)"

- To embark on educational programmes "to prepare and guide the youth in order to grasp the progressive ideas of our revolution".

- To support the "motherbody", the South African Youth Congress, and participate in all its activities.

- To set up an intensive campaign to call for the release of Tembisa-based political prisoners such as Andrew Maphethi, Obed Madonsela, Chris Khumalo, Vusi Mngomezulu and Paul Mathole, including those on death row such as Joseph Chidi and Boxer Molefe.

The Teyco executive told of repressive measures and police harassment they had to endure under the state of emergency since Teyco's formation in 1986, resulting in the organisation's inability to hold an annual congress before the only one held three weeks ago.

On the road to black

De Klerk loses out as local and homeland leaders look t

PATRICK LAURENCE

THE challenge facing South Africa's white Government is to capture the support of a 'substantial number' of black people, Edward Feit observes in his analysis of black resistance in South Africa.

Feit's observation, made nearly a quarter of a century ago in his study of the African National Congress, is still pertinent today. President de Klerk needs black allies at the negotiating table, in the political arena and, if necessary, on the battlefield.

Mr De Klerk's problem is that his black auxiliaries are deserting in droves, either to seek the peaceful anonymity of neutrality or — worse still from Mr De Klerk's perspective — to join the burgeoning political legions of the ANC or the rival Pan Africanist Congress.

Taking a broad view it is clear that the Government's attempt to win black auxiliaries has taken two broad forms:

- It established tribal governments in the black "homelands", assuming that — in Hendrik Verwoerd's words — "tribal authority is the natural ally of government".

- It created fledgling or, more cynically, quasi municipal councils in the black townships, in the belief or hope that "responsible" or "moderate" leaders would serve in the them.

The past six weeks have seen the spectacular changes in the "homeland" system. Instead of buttressing Mr De Klerk against Mr Nelson Mandela and the ANC, "homeland leaders" appear to be joining the ANC.

Four of the six leaders who were meant to hold pre-negotiations talks with Mr De Klerk last week cancelled their appointments at the eleventh hour. It transpired that all four had met Mr Mandela the day before.

Mr Mandela, who is spearheading a "unity drive" to form a broad anti-apartheid front, denied that he or the ANC had intimidated them. They endorsed his denial.

Mr Mandela may, however, have used his considerable authority to persuade them, in their own interests and those of the black community, to link arms in a concerted drive to a non-racial South Africa.

If the "homeland system" is crashing noisily to the ground —

'The past six weeks have seen the spectacular changes in the homeland system. Instead of buttressing Mr De Klerk against Mr Nelson Mandela and the ANC, homeland leaders appear to be crossing to join the ANC'

army coups in the nominally independent "homelands" Ciskei and Venda have ensured that the collapse has not occurred discreetly — a similar, if less tumultuous process is occurring in black local government.

In the Transvaal there are more than 100 vacant seats in black town councils, caused primarily by the resignation of town councillors or, as in Leandra recently, of the whole town council.

The vacant seats constitute more than a seventh of the total number of black town council seats in the Transvaal or, to quote the exact figure, 103 out of 692.

In no less than 10 township councils there are not enough councillors left to form a quorum and the Transvaal Provincial Administration has either appointed — or is in the process of appointing — administrators to run these townships.

In these townships, all pretence that local government is in the hands of the popularly elected councillors has been abandoned.

Mr Olaus van Zyl, Transvaal's MEC for local government, denies that black local government is in "crisis" or even that it is "crumbling". The Transvaal Provincial Administration or TPA prefers to focus on

the "positive" side: the 72 township councils which are still functioning normally.

A TPA spokesman notes hopefully that only six township councillors have resigned in April so far. Against that, however, 61 councillors resigned in March, suggesting that the discomfort of councillors is increasing in the face of popular demands for them to resign.

The failure of the TPA to organise by-elections — or, where whole town councils have quit, new elections — speaks volumes, it suggests strongly that the TPA fears that the elections will be boycotted.

Mark Swilling, of the Centre for Policy Studies, minces no words: the appointment of administrators confirms the popular perception of township councils as extensions of the illegitimate white regime.

The disintegration of black local authorities is likely to accelerate in the months ahead, if — as seems likely — the cry for black councillors to resign grows louder.

Black town councils are built on sand rather than rock, they



SPEARHEADING UNITY DRIVE Mr Nelson Mandela met four homeland leaders the day before pre-negotiation talks with Mr De Klerk — all four cancelled their appointments at the eleventh hour. The ANC leader may be using his considerable authority to persuade black leaders, it is in their own interests and those of the black community, to link arms with him.

are not equipped to stand against the storms brewing in the townships. They have never won popular acceptance and, to a large extent, remain institutions imposed on black communities by white overlords. The 1988 local government elections in black townships illustrate the point.

They were held under special provisions designed to fulfil a dual purpose: to make it unlawful to urge voters to boycott the elections and, conversely, to encourage voters to go to the polls.

It was an offence under emergency regulations to organise a boycott. Against that, a special law was passed to enable any voter to cast his or her vote before polling day.

The stakes were high. The Government was desperately anxious for a credible turnout. Under its plan for a constitutional indaba at the time, township councillors would form an electoral college to elect nine members to the proposed national forum.

In a bid to bolster the percentage poll, the Government spent nearly R5-million on a propaganda campaign exhorting township residents to vote.

The official percentage poll was just over 25 percent. Dr David Welsh, of the University of Cape Town, however, calculated that only 14 percent of registered voters went to the polls and 11 percent of those who were eligible.

In 126 wards elections were not held because no candidates

were nominated. Tested wards may be the discrepancy between the official figure and Dr Welsh's broad pattern.

As the South African Relations Commission's previous township 1983 about 80 percent can be eligible to vote do so. The 1988 show a greater

In Soweto the 1988 was just over compared to just cent in 1983, ably that township not achieved greater in the intervening

Looking at in greater provides further council's shows that it is not cent development.

Changes of function have not greater credibility, past 15 years. It has been known as the Urban Bantu Council, the Soweto Community Council and the Soweto Town Council, each change in name marking a growth in the power of the council.

During the 1977-78 township revolt, the Soweto Urban Bantu Council (UBC) collapsed after black students visited the councillors and demanded their resignation. Student contempt for councillors was reflected in the Useless Boys C

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Star 14/4/90

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road to black unity

out as local and homeland leaders look to the ANC

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The official percentage poll was just over 25 percent. Dr David Welsh, of the University of Cape Town, however, calculated that only 14 percent of registered voters went to the polls and 11 percent of those who were eligible.

In 126 wards elections were not held because no candidates

were nominated. These uncontested wards may account for the discrepancy between the official figure and Dr Welsh's. The broad pattern, however, is clear.

As the South African Institute of Race Relations put it: "In previous township elections, in 1983, about 80 percent of Africans eligible to vote declined to do so. The 1988 elections did not show a greater turnout."

In Soweto the official poll in 1988 was just over 11 percent, compared to just under 11 percent in 1983, indicating indisputably that township councils had not achieved greater acceptability in the intervening five years.

Looking at polling in Soweto in greater chronological depth, provides further evidence of the council's unacceptability and shows that it is not merely a recent development.

Changes of nomenclature and function have not helped it gain greater credibility, during the past 15 years it has been known as the

Urban Bantu Council, the Soweto Community Council and the Soweto Town Council, each change in name marking a growth in the power of the council.

During the 1977-78 township revolt, the Soweto Urban Bantu Council (UBC) collapsed after black students visited the councillors and demanded their resignation.

Student contempt for the councillors was reflected in their description of the Soweto UBC as the Useless Boys Club.

In 1978, the authorities, determined to revive the system of local government and to win new allies to help in the governance of South Africa, tried to establish a Soweto Community Council under the new Community Councils Act. The results were disastrous from the Government's point of view.

In the first poll, held in February 1978, there were only enough qualified candidates for 11 of the 30 seats. Nine candidates were returned unopposed. Contests were held in the two wards the poll was 5,6 percent. Nineteen wards were vacant.

By-elections were held in between April and June of that year in the 19 vacant seats. The poll was low again, barely topping 6 percent. Most candidates failed to attract more than 100 votes.

One of the successful candidates was Mr David Thebehali, a former member of the discredited UBC. He received 97 votes. He was later elected chairman

of the Soweto Council.

Later, after Mr Thebehali was defeated in the 1983 Soweto Council election, he resurfaced, in January 1988 he was appointed by the TPA as administrator of Diepmeadow in Greater Soweto after the council there was dissolved.

Since 1983, when the Soweto Council was elected under the new Black Local Authorities Act, the council has been faced with recurring crises and has several times teetered on the brink of collapse.

The most severe of these was the rent boycott, organised in protest against the state of emergency and in support of demands for the dissolution of the council. Unable to raise sufficient revenue to meet its needs even under optimum conditions, the rent boycott accelerated the council's descent into debt. Last year independent researchers at Planact put the accumulative debt at more than R700-million.

'If the homeland system is crashing noisily to the ground, then a similar thing is happening in local black government, as all pretence that local government is in the hands of popularly elected councillors is abandoned.'

Attempts to break the rent boycott by evicting tenants only compounded the crisis, it led to bloodshed without breaking the boycott and increased the unpopularity of the council. During 1986 most of them had to leave Soweto to live in a compound protected by razor wire and armed guards.

It is under even greater pressure today as the campaign for a non-racial South Africa gathers momentum.

One cornerstone of the envisaged new South Africa is the concept of non-racial municipalities and, as a sine qua non, the scrapping of segregated town councils.

The findings of a commission of inquiry into the Soweto Council, commissioned by the council itself, have not helped.

They are encapsulated in a City Press headline: "Cops called in as allegations of bribery and corruption rattle South Africa's biggest township."

Mr Mandela, now referred to reverentially by the Soweto Council, as the "Father of Soweto," has had confidential discussions with the Council.

Judging from his conversations with "homeland" leaders, they presage dramatic developments.

One way or another it does not require great powers of prescience to predict that the collapse of the Soweto Council as a prop of white hegemony is imminent.

Daveyton civic leader evades death twice

CHERS 15/4/90 261A

By LULAMA LUTI

CHAIRMAN of the Daveyton Civic Association James Ngubo narrowly escaped death last week after gunmen made two attempts on his life

The first was on Thursday last week

"At about 7pm, minutes after I got out of my car at my home, a man approached and pulled out a gun

"When I realised what he was about to do, I rolled on the ground

"He fired, but luckily, he missed."

Having missed Ngubo the first time, his assailants - their faces concealed behind balaclavas - tried again early the following morning, when they

fired shots at Ngubo's house, sending his family scuttling for cover.

Anonymous callers have also threatened him with death if he does not resign from the association

One caller said "The gun we used was not fully loaded, but next time we won't miss"

Ngubo said he was not sure, but thought the threats to his life were linked to his organisation's demands that the Daveyton Town Council resign.

Though he was concerned about his family's safety, he said, nothing would stop him from serving the community of Daveyton.

"What I am doing is for the good of my

community," he said

He reiterated his call to the Daveyton council to resign

"The issue here is not whether the councils are efficient

"The Black Local Authorities' Act is an apartheid structure which has not benefited anyone

"The councillors do not represent the people of Daveyton and they must resign

"We still maintain that there should be one municipality for all the people of Benoni"

Councillor killed in house grenade attack

By Abel Mabelane,
East Rand Bureau

261A

The councillor for Shongweni and Motloung sections in Katlehong, Mr Dan Mlangeni, was found dead at his Shongweni house on Sunday night after a grenade attack on his home.

Katlehong mayor Mr Gideon Molotsi said municipal police who were to take up guard duty at 10 pm at Mr Mlangeni's house found the front door wide open.

Houses of Katlehong councillors were usually guarded around the clock by municipal policemen.

"I was called to the house immediately and when I got there I found Mr Mlangeni lying in a pool of blood next to his bed. The right side of his face was blown away completely. I have never witnessed such a horrible sight," Mr Molotsi said.

Mr Molotsi said Mr Mlangeni was alone at home when the incident took place. His wife was in Durban and his children were on holiday. Mr Mlangeni had never mentioned being intimidated.

Smashed camera led police to body of councillor's son

Staff Reporters 26/6/84
The 17-year-old son of Johannesburg Democratic Party councillor Judith Briggs fell about 30 m into a mountain pool, according to a police spokesman.

Police divers recovered Philip Briggs's body on Sunday afternoon. On Saturday, police found Philip's smashed camera on a ledge above the pool, but bad weather forced them to discontinue the search.

Philip, a matric pupil at Hilton College in Natal, had joined his mother and father, Mr Peter Briggs of Sturdee Avenue, Rosebank, last week for a holiday in the Grabouw area.

On Friday, Philip and a friend, Roy Dunlop, separated from his parents and a family friend during a hike in the vicinity of the Riviersonderend Canyon in the Hottentotsholland Mountains at about 3 pm. They followed a mountain stream until they could go no further, said Major Jan Calitz, police liaison chief for the Western Cape, last night.

They then returned to Philip's parents using different paths. A search involving Mountain Club members in the area was started after Philip failed to turn up," said Major Calitz.

Police joined the search on Saturday in rainy, overcast conditions. A police helicopter and Metro emergency services personnel from Cape Town assisted during the search.

Police could not dive on Saturday because the water was flowing too fast and the pool was murky, said Major Calitz.

Khutsong council collapses as five key men resign

C/Press 22/4/90
By DAN DHLAMINI

THE Khutsong Town Council has collapsed, following the resignation of five of the eight councillors this week.

Councillors David Mofube, Johannes Baard, Vicky Nxumalo, Joseph Tshukudu and William Bezu said they resigned due to pressure from residents and because they were disillusioned.

The remaining councillors are Reuben Mosiane, Johannes Skosana and Lazarus Mosenogi.

"We are disillusioned because we cannot deliver the goods as expected by residents who elected us. The town clerk is the main stumbling block to the progress of Khutsong and he is practising apartheid in the council offices," said former mayor Baard.

He and his colleagues accused town clerk WA Cronk of barring black staff from using the same toilet as white council staff.

Cronk is also alleged to have re-

designed the council offices, forcing residents to pay rent through a window while standing outside the building.

They also claim he misused public funds to pay white pensioners, he employed without council consent.

Cronk was not available for comment, but sources close to the council said Baard was disqualified because he owed rent and the four councillors resigned in solidarity with him.

The resignation of the five was hailed as a positive step by residents.

"Their move is long overdue. They have not been serving the interests of the community and now they claim they were bullied by their town clerk."

"They should have disciplined him while they were his bosses," said resident Reuben Zakalala.

Fears are now rife that even if the council collapses because they cannot form a quorum, Mosiane will be appointed administrator and things could get worse.

Khutsong mayor Johannes Baard resigned from the town council this week.

Councillor's shop under siege

By DESMOND BLOW

THE AGONY that is present-day South Africa is reflected in the face of a man who has not slept for more than a week as he patrols outside his store in Rammolutsi township outside Viljoenskroon, a pistol at his hip.

Jacob Thooe, 53, is protecting his business and his family. His R61 000 luxury home and a minibus in this poverty-stricken township have already been burnt by angry comrades.

His crime: he has been a councillor for 12 months and has not delivered the 45 000 residents from the poverty and squalor induced by apartheid.

He is also accused of exploiting the poor by renting 40 tin "sheds", to homeless families, crowded on an unhygienic one-acre plot, at R25 a month.

But, claims Thooe, this is a humanitarian act. Where else would these people live?, he asks.

Thooe believes he is a hero in the struggle against the apartheid system. "I have paid my price for freedom," he says, "In 1986 my son Leshaba, 19, who was a comrade - and I supported his views - was shot dead by the police, and I was detained by the Security Police for a year."

Thooe said he was mainly responsible a year ago for the ousting of the old council of seven members who had been in office for 15 years and had done nothing for the residents, and their replacement with seven new members, himself included, who promised to fight to have things changed.

But apartheid entrenched for 40 years is impossible to eradicate within 12 months, he says. The people were

expecting the impossible when on April 11 they gave the council three days to come up with solutions.

Among the demands were that rents should be lowered, that a sewerage system should be installed and that the people living in sheds like those he rents out should be given proper housing.

He and other councillors received very little protection from the police.

"People are being forced to boycott my shop and all the extra supplies I procured for the Easter weekend are either lying in my deep-freeze or have gone rotten."

When his house was gutted two of his daughters, Pinky, 21, and Lorraine, 12, fled with Pinky's seven-month-old daughter Penelope, and are now all living in the shop.

"But unless the unrest comes to an end how long can I protect my shop before it, too, goes up in flames?" said Thooe.

Rammolutsi on fire!

Mob burns houses and businesses as police shoot five

By DESMOND BLOW

ANGRY youths rampaged through the Free State township of Rammolutsi outside Viljoenskroon on Friday after police had killed four youths and a fifth later died in hospital.

They set up blazing barriers in the streets but police in a Hippo patrolled around the barriers firing rubber bullets.

On one occasion police teargassed a crowd of about 400 who were stoning the home of a township councillor and trying to set it alight.

The crowd also approached the home of a black policeman who, they allege, fired the first shots on Thursday that started the fusillade from four others that killed the children, but his son fired shots and the youths fled.

Eye-witnesses claim comrades were holding a peaceful protest against the local council on Thursday morning when police opened fire on them with rubber bullets, pellets and live ammunition.

Among the dead were Abiel Tsotetsotso, 17, who lived at 578 Rammolutsi, and Freddie Ndzeke.

The Commissioner of Police has ordered an inquiry into the shooting.

City Press spoke to Raymond Moletsane, 15, one of the six injured who were admitted to Botumelo Hospital at Kroonstad after the shooting. One of the youngsters, James Radebe, 22, died and another was discharged from hospital yesterday morning.

Said Moletsane, "I was on my way to school when I was shot in the street outside the school."

He was shot in the arm and the thigh. "I was suddenly hit and fell down. When I climbed to my feet I was shot again."

One of the protest organisers told City Press the

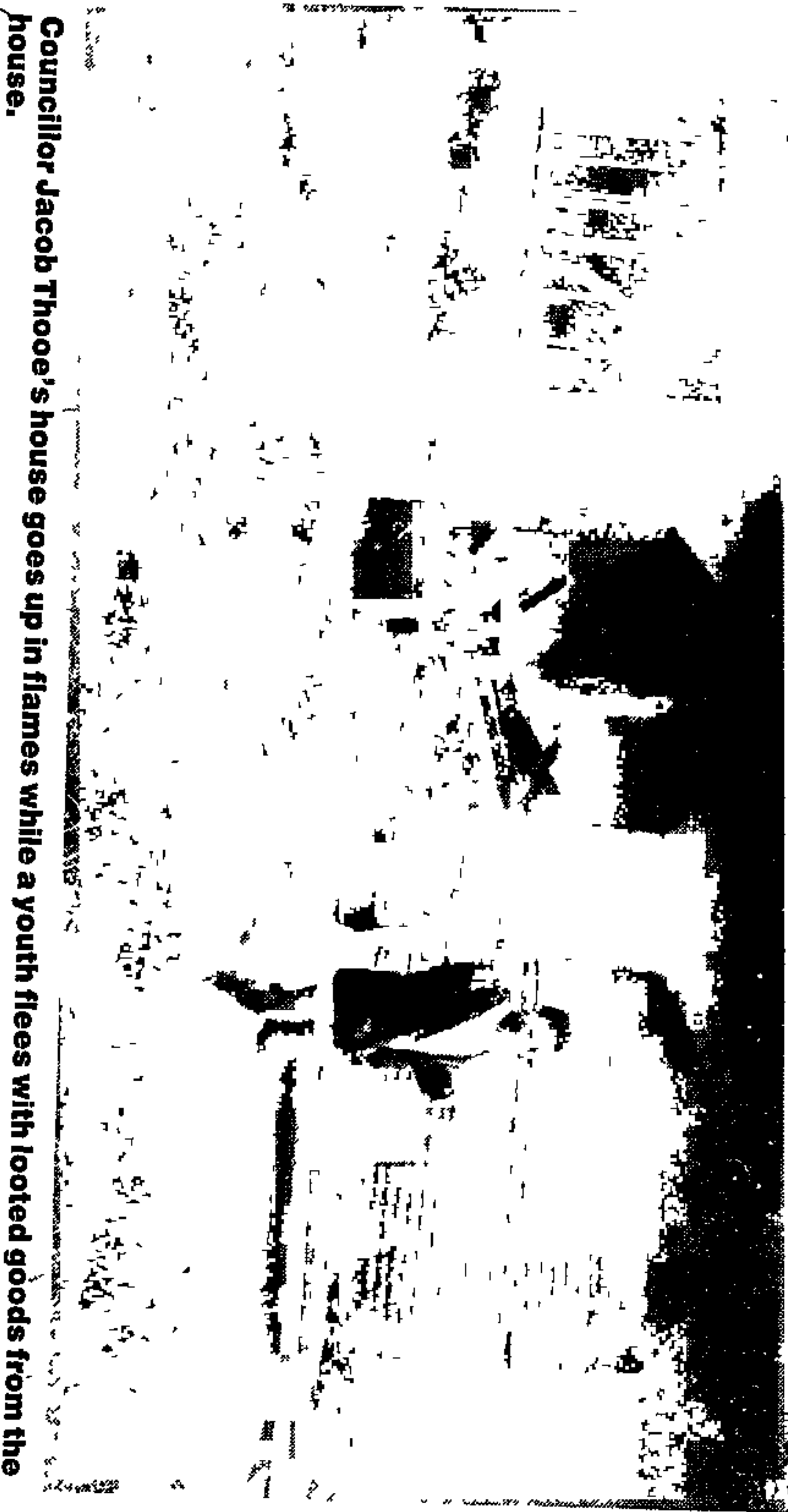
Jacob Thooe thinks he is a hero - others don't.

people had handed a petition to the council on March 17 calling on it to implement various reforms immediately or resign.

By April 6, when there had been no response, they had given the council three days in which to reply. "When they did not do so we boycotted their businesses and three taxis the mayor owned. If people used the taxis we would force them out."

However, he used the police to protect the taxis and this made the people angry. We felt the police should not be involved. On Thursday the people protested and were toy-toying when the police suddenly opened fire."

He said as a result the youths had attacked and burnt councillors' houses and businesses, including a funeral parlour where they had removed coffins and burnt them at barriers in the streets.



Councillor Jacob Thooe's house goes up in flames while a youth flees with looted goods from the house.

■ Pic: TLADI KHUELE



Council vows to make amends

By Mckeed Kotlolo,
Pretoria Bureau

The Atteridgeville City Council has failed to make public the findings of the Kriel Commission into allegations of corruption within the council, but has promised to act positively on them.

In its latest newsletter, the council announced that it had decided "to give immediate attention to the findings" in spite of the report still being kept secret from the public.

The report was forwarded to the council's offices on January 4 this

year

The council expressed its concern at the state of its financial affairs and said it had approached the Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) for expertise and advice in that regard.

It also promised to "strive to enforce and observe the relevant regulations to ensure proper financial administration" and to keep the public informed as to its income and expenditure.

It said it had already instructed its senior officials to investigate and report irregularities concern-

ing travelling expenses of officials. It had also ordered an independent job evaluation study to address overstaffing and undue overtime problems.

The council further promised to take steps to improve productivity and punctuality of staff and expressed ignorance of the fact that money was demanded from the public before the allocation of houses.

In its attempt to prevent malpractices, the council appealed to township residents to report any irregularities to the council.

261A 24/4/90

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NEWS

Ennerdale group 'was barred from hall'

By Guy Jepson

A row is brewing in Ennerdale, south of Johannesburg, following a decision by local officials to prevent members of a youth group holding a meeting in the community hall to protest against water and electricity tariffs.

The meeting was organised by Ennerdale Youth Unity (EYU) and was to be held last Wednesday. One of the proposed speakers was activist poet Mr Don Mattera

The chairman of the youth group, Mr Kenneth Herman, said the council had initially agreed to make the hall available. Last Tuesday, management committee member Mr John Friesling informed members of the group that they had to pay a R300 deposit.

"We attempted to pay the money on Wednesday but were told that we



Mr Don Mattera.

could not use the premises after all. Quite a few people arrived at the hall on Wednesday night and were very upset when we had to turn them away.

"Members of the security police had been called in. It is disgusting that we pay rates and taxes but we aren't allowed to use our own hall despite going through the proper channels."

He said local residents planned to march on the council offices on May 1 to protest against the decision and against high water and electricity tariffs in Ennerdale.

A council official, Mr James Oliver, said: "They arrived with the R300 deposit, required in terms of our regulations when the hall is used for the purposes of a public meeting, after 1 pm on Wednesday. Unfortunately our treasury closes at noon on Wednesdays and we couldn't accept the money," he said.

He said council officials had notified the police after members of the group threatened to "take over" the hall.

Political pressure forces crisis in black councils

Star 25/4/90 Political Reporter (2b17)

Resignations by black town councillors have reached crisis proportions with an increasing number of councils unable to operate as a result of sustained political pressure from extra-parliamentary groups

Figures obtained from the four provincial administrations show that 299 wards are vacant countrywide.

The Transvaal and the Eastern Cape are the hardest hit, with several councils unable to operate. Some do not have a quorum, while administrators have been appointed in others.

In the Transvaal, 107 out of 692 wards are vacant. Ten of 82 town councils do not function normally

Star 25/4/90 (261A)

Councillor commits suicide

A 75-year-old councillor in Oxisweni near Newcastle shot and killed himself after comrades surrounded his house and stoned the building, police said.

The man's body was then dragged out of the house and torched, along with a motorcycle, two cars, two minibuses and a gar-

age. Shops owned by the councillor were plundered.

The councillor fired shots at the youths before killing himself, police said. The incident was one of many attacks reported by police recently on black town councillors — Crime Reporter

● See Page 8.

Councillor commits suicide after body is found

By ELIAS MALULEKE

WEALTHY businessman and councillor John Gatite, 75, shot and killed himself as a 2 000-strong crowd attacked his house in Osizweni, Newcastle, following the discovery of the mutilated body of his daughter-in-law.

The attack on Gatite, in which he was stoned and his house set alight — follows the unearthing early this month of the dismembered remains of his daughter-in-law, Thembeke, 30, in a trunk under the bedroom floor of the house.

Her private parts had been removed, her breasts cut off and her teeth extracted. The body was then hacked into pieces with a saw and stuffed into the trunk.

Thembeke's husband, Vusi Gatite, 40, was arrested in connection with the murder and appeared briefly in the Madadeni magistrate's court. No charges were made and he was referred for mental observation.

The mob burnt down John Gatite's property, including a house, a bottle store and beer lounge, general dealer, hardware store and eight vehicles.

KwaZulu police liaison officer, Col ML Khanyile confirmed the events leading to John Gatite's death.

Gatite's other children and four grandchildren are staying with relatives.

According to Nokuthula Gatite, Thembeke — a school teacher and mother of a two-year-old child — came home early on March 15, because of unrest at her school. She was last seen alive at noon that day.

Her husband reported to the police the following day that Thembeke was missing and asked his family to look after their four children — three from another marriage.

Thembeke's family became suspicious and called in an inyanga who "smelled" out the body, family sources said. They notified the police, who searched the house.

Under the carpet in the bedroom, police found a freshly plastered patch. They dug in the area and found the trunk.

When the news of the bizarre ritual murder spread throughout the township, an enraged mob — allegedly including several children from the primary school where Thembeke taught — set the house alight.

Meanwhile, City Press heard from

To Page 2

Mayor bails out 'comrades'

By ELIAS MALULEKE

A BLACK mayor paid bail amounting to over R4 000 for 12 "comrades" and secured the release of six minors charged with unrest-related actions in his township.

The money did not come from his council's funds, says Mayor Philip Lakaje, 39, of Vuku-Zakhe township in Volksrust, near the Transvaal-Natal border.

The youths appeared in court on April 9 after allegedly stoning the house and butchery of a local businessman.

The youths stoned police when they tried to

disperse them and one of the attackers was fatally shot.

The attackers believed the businessman had locked two children in his butchery fridge for muti purposes — allegations since refuted by police and the businessman.

After the shooting, violence increased and youths set up barricades and stoned police.

The mayor's action has stunned the white establishment and divided the conservative town, but Lakaje has the support of his Town Clerk, James Michael Hains.

Hains said if the granting of bail would bring

calm in the township, after the sudden upsurge of unrest, which claimed its first victim since the township was established in 1947, he believe it was in a good cause.

Residents said they asked Lakaje for help after a court refused bail for the accused, whose ages range from 14 to 24.

"Life is almost back to normal since bail was granted and we hope it has taught us a lesson in communication. No good can come out of the use of force from either side," he said.

■ See Page 5



Philip Lakaje.

cf/ress
29/4/90

(26/1A)

Firemen warned

South 315-91570
FIREMEN at four Cape fire stations who have been working to rule since last week have received letters of warning from the Regional Services Council (RSC).

The industrial action is in support of the demand for a 56-hour week, instead of the present 72 hour week.

The fire stations involved in the dispute are Ottery, Melkbos, Atlantis and Constantia (261A).

The RSC has not responded to a request for comment.

Africa (Start here in Cape Town so that he does not have to start in Christiana [Interjections]) Give the DP the tools, and we will do the job [Interjections] Give us the franchise that we need to get on with it [Interjections]

Work actively with us, not against us Work with us instead of dragging your heels and not looking at the problem Make use of our expertise and help us and the people of Cape Town to give the moral lead that is needed

Above all, the Government must give us back the open city which it took away from us in the fifties [Time expired]

*THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND PROVINCIAL AFFAIRS Mr Speaker, may I refer to the hon member for Losberg? I want to tell the hon member for Losberg that we accept that they are opposed to free settlement areas We accept that But to come here every time with the question of a mandate is nonsense This Free Settlement Areas Act was passed before the last election The CP went from platform to platform to cast suspicion on this free-settlement idea among the voters, and even so they lost the election Look at where the hon members of the CP are today The CP must not think that they are governing the country, when in fact they lost the election [Interjections]

May I refer briefly to the hon member for Claremont? He said we had known one another since the days of the provincial councils, and that my reading was deteriorating That is true We are both going downhill, because since then his speeches have deteriorated [Interjections]

*MR SPEAKER Order! Too many debates are in progress at the moment The hon the Minister may proceed

*THE MINISTER Let me tell hon members with reference to third-tier government that there is a Vote under which I intend to deal with the third tier Hon members will realise that it is simply not possible to do justice to it in an interpellation of two or three minutes [Interjections] I want to conclude and say what I have said on several occasions We shall have to take a look at the sources of revenue and the distribution of staff, because if we want third-tier government to succeed, we must give it a valid base, and there must be proper administration [Time expired]

Debate concluded

QUESTIONS

+Indicates translated version

For oral reply

General Affairs

Question standing over from Tuesday, 24 April 1990

Free train transport for protesters

*11 Mr J VAN ECK asked the Minister of Law and Order 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

(1) Whether the police officer referred to in his reply to Question No 17 on 6 March 1990 told any members of Parliament or other individuals present on the third-class concourse of the Cape Town railway station on 31 January 1990 that people who had attended the protest march in Cape Town on that day should not be allowed to make use of the trains home free of charge, if so, to whom did he say this,

(2) whether this officer informed any members of Parliament or other individuals present on the third-class concourse or on any of the platforms of the Cape Town railway station on 31 January 1990 that the South African Transport Services had just announced that the protesters would be allowed to use the trains without having to buy tickets; if so, (a) to whom did he say this and (b) how had this information been communicated to him? B799E

*THE MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER

(1) No He informed the hon member for Claremont that officials of SATS will allow persons onto the platforms once they have paid their fares

(2) (a) and (b)

No previous arrangements had been made with SATS for additional or free trains to transport protesters Only after it became apparent that a congregation of people was taking place, it was decided to waive the fare The officer concerned was then informed by radio of the decision, and he informed the hon member for Claremont accordingly

New questions

Natal: regional services councils

*1 Adv C H PIENAR asked the Minister of Planning and Provincial Affairs +

(1) Whether any regional services councils have been established for the Province of Natal, if so, (a) what regional services councils and (b) when, in each case, if not, why not, (2) whether the Government intends establishing regional services councils for this Province, if not, why not, if so, (a) for which regions and (b) when, in each case? B804E

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND PROVINCIAL AFFAIRS

(1) No Draft legislation enabling the introduction of Joint Services Boards to carry out the provision of services on a regional basis is at present under consideration by Parliament

(a) and (b) fall away

(2) (a) and (b) When the bill referred to above has been approved by Parliament and assented to by the State President the hearing can commence to delimit the regions and ultimately establish boards to cover the entire Province of Natal and KwaZulu

Mandela, talks in prison

*2 Mr L F STOFBERG asked the Minister of Justice +

(1) Whether he, in his talks with Mr Nelson Mandela during his detention in prison, raised elements of the constitutional affairs of South Africa, if so, what elements of these constitutional affairs

(2) whether he will make a statement on the matter? B805E

*THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF JUSTICE

(1) and (2) The hon member is referred to the first interpellations of 20 and 27 March 1990 as well as my replies of 17 April 1990 on questions for oral reply numbers 27 and 28 in which this matter has been dealt with in detail

Teachers, disciplinary measures

*3 Mr A GERBER asked the Minister of Education +

(1) Whether his Department recently took disciplinary measures against teachers who were absent from service for more than 14 days without leave, if not, (a) why not and (b) on the strength of what empowering provisions was no action taken against them,

(2) whether he will make a statement on the matter? B844E

*THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION

(1) No (a), (b) and

(2) It is general knowledge that, despite several remedial measures instituted over the past number of years, inequalities still exist between the provision of education and educational facilities for Black people and those provided for other population groups

The Black community interprets these inequalities as discriminatory This naturally leads to frustration and dissatisfaction, feelings which could easily be exploited for political gain

The recent unrest in education led to protest marches and strikes by teachers

It was impossible to identify individual teachers who participated in the protest marches Principals and their senior staff were in many cases intimidated to such an extent that no reliable information in connection with the absence of staff could be obtained It was also impossible to determine which teachers took part in such marches willingly and which under duress

Large-scale intimidation was the order of the day A real danger therefore existed that innocent staff would suffer should drastic action be taken

Consequently, I decided not to take summary action against the teachers concerned, but began negotiations with a number of groups and bodies in an attempt to defuse a very explosive situation

RSC levy revenue to grow at slower rate than before

6/10/1990

GERALD REILLY

(26/11/90)

PRETORIA — Regional Services Councils' levy revenue is likely to grow at a lower rate than before, Pretoria RSC chairman Piet Delpont has said.

In his 1990/91 budget overview, he said this could result in a gap widening between available revenue and the needs of participating bodies in Pretoria.

In new year projections, Delpont said consumer spending, which last year increased by more than 2%, might rise by only 1%.

It was also expected sales of durable goods would decline to nearly 10% lower than in 1989.

Consumer spending was likely to enter a new growth phase in the second quarter of 1991.

Delpont said total domestic spending measured in gross domestic spending should decline about 2% this year, compared with an increase of 0.5% in 1989.

It was expected the GDP would be only half of last year's growth of 2%. However, inflation should decline and could reach a level of 13% by December and an average of less than 14% for the year.

Wages and salaries increased by an average of 17.8% last year and were likely to slow down to 10% this year.

It appeared an accumulated deficit of about R29m would be carried over into the 1990/91 financial year, he said.

35 councils told to act on rent arrears

The Transvaal Provincial Administration has ordered 35 black councils to take action against rent defaulters.

The councils, hit by rent boycotts, were this week told to "take definite and drastic steps" against people owing rent.

Olaus van Zyl, the MEC in charge of local government and regional services councils, said in a statement the province had limited funds for helping local authorities with bridging finance.

He said the boycott was closely linked to consumers being intimidated into not paying rent and service charges. Councillors were also being pressured to resign.

"We have about R30 million a month to bridge financing but at present we have to pay between R50 million and R60 million a month to make good any deficits of local authorities," he said.

It was the councils' duty to take steps to charge current levies and not to shirk their duties in this regard.

Councillors of the affected areas were called to a meeting in Pretoria on Wednesday by the TPA to discuss the boycott. Last week the TPA's executive committee dismissed the entire Lekoa Town Council for failing to rectify the "unhealthy state of its financial affairs".

Residents in the townships under the Lekoa council owe about R147 million in rent arrears dating from the start of the boycott in 1984.

Stz 14/5/90

24A

Rent boycott group teargassed on East Rand

Teargas was fired — allegedly by policemen — into a crowd gathered yesterday at the Tokoza stadium on the East Rand where civic association leaders reaffirmed their commitment to a rent boycott in the township.

A police spokesman, Colonel Jac de Vries, said last night police knew nothing about this incident.

The teargas was fired from outside the stadium.

No reports of injury following the attack were received. The meeting continued.

Several thousand Tokoza residents gathered illegally for a report-back meeting on the rent boycott, and to hear about the latest developments on a commission of inquiry into alleged maladministration and corruption in the Tokoza Town Council.

Boycott continues

Tokoza Civic Association executive member Cassel Khanyile said:

"Tokoza residents want to know what has happened to the money — about R1,6 million — that has been misappropriated. The boycott continues until we get answers."

The approximately 4 000 people who gathered at the stadium were told that negotiations were under way for Tokoza to be able to buy electricity directly from Eskom, as opposed to the Alberton municipality.

The ANC's internal leader for the Vaal Triangle, Greg Malebo, said the ANC had become involved in talks about talks in response to President de Klerk's meeting of some of the organisation's demands.

"He (De Klerk) is struggling some-

where in the Rubicon. The ANC in turn has to do something and move the situation on to a moral high ground and we will continue to do so with or without the PAC," he said.

The Democratic Party's Dr Etienne le Roux from nearby Alberton received overwhelming applause when he told the gathering:

"I am here to tell you that even in Alberton there are non-racial democrats who are on your side. Let us build a new country we can all be proud of."

Tokoza Civic Association leaders warned at the meeting that the "talks about talks" between Government and the ANC could be jeopardised unless the Government ordered the Transvaal Provincial Administration to disband "illegitimate" town councils.

Speaking at the meeting, TCA executive member Sam Ntuli said community leaders wanted Government and local government officials to know talks would not continue unless the TPA-appointed administrators of the township resigned.

Government officials

"We are not prepared to talk to you (government officials) unless you tell the TPA and those people it supports to resign," Mr Ntuli said.

He called on residents to join and support the ANC, which he described as the political party of the TCA.

The crowd was told that a TCA delegation had been involved in talks with the newly appointed administrator of Tokoza, Gert Muller, who runs the township with a number of former Tokoza councillors after the recent collapse of the town council. — Sapa.

Kruger National Park. by-products

328 Mr R J LORIMER asked the Minister of Environment Affairs

(1) What was the total value of the products produced by the by-products depot in the Kruger National Park in the 1989-90 financial year,

(2) what was the profit or loss shown by the depot at the end of this financial year?

Hansard 1415190 B818E

The MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AFFAIRS

(1) R4 327 530

(2) A total profit of R2 533 244

Kruger National Park: culling

329 Mr R J LORIMER asked the Minister of Environment Affairs

Whether any animals were culled in the Kruger National Park in 1989, if so, how many head of each species?

B819E

The MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AFFAIRS

Yes

Elephants

248

Buffalo

2 366

Regional Services Councils. overseas delegations

333 Mr P G SOAL asked the Minister of Planning and Provincial Affairs

(1) (a) How many regional services councils sent delegations overseas during the past 18 months, (b) (i) to which countries, and (ii) for what purposes, were they sent in each case, (c) on whose authority did these overseas visits take place and (d) what was the (i) cost and (ii) composition of each of these delegations, *261A*

(2) whether any regional services-councils plan to send delegations overseas in the next 12 months, if so, (a) which regional services councils and (b) (i) at what cost, and (ii) for what purpose, in each case,

(3) in respect of what date is this information furnished?

B823E

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Hansard

East Rand Regional Services Council

nance 17 of 1939) from the Administrator of the Transvaal to send a delegation abroad

(d) (i) Pretoria Regional Services Council — R50 000

West Rand Regional Services Council — R96 377,72

(ii) Pretoria Regional Services Council

Mr P Delpoit (Chairman)

Mr H J Tshungu (Member of Executive Committee)

West Rand Regional Services Council

Mr F Mulder (Chief Executive Officer)

Mr K Nel (Deputy chairman)

Mr H Jacobs (Chairman Management Committee, Weston-

area)

Mr J Baard (Mayor of Khutsong)

(2) Yes

(a) Pretoria Regional Services Council

West Rand Regional Services Council

East Rand Regional Services Council

(b) (i) Pretoria Regional Services Council — R32 500

West Rand Regional Services Council — R233 000

East Rand Regional Services Council — R172 500

(ii) The objectives of the visits are as follows.

(1) (a) None The rest falls away

(2) No The rest falls away

(3) 25 April 1990

Pretoria Regional Services Council

(a) Attending the International Institute of Town Clerks' Congress and International Parks Congress

(b) Participation in "Citizen Ambassador Programme Of People To People International"

(c) Two day visit to London to inspect a light rail transport system (GEC Traction Company) with a view to the regional transport function

Advocates: Latin qualification

337 Mr D J DALLING asked the Minister of Justice

Hansard 1415190

Whether he intends to introduce legislation in 1990 to abolish the requirement of a qualification in Latin for admission as an advocate in the Supreme Court, if so, when, if not, why not?

B827E

The MINISTER OF JUSTICE

No

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Louis Trichardt council to meet Tshikota boycotters

Sta 16/5/90 24A 30

By Abel Mushi

As the consumer boycott aimed at white businesses in Louis Trichardt draws to a close, a spokesman for the town's Consumer Boycott Committee (CBC) announced yesterday that committee members would meet town council officials tomorrow to discuss the issue.

CBC spokesman Jerry Ndou told The Star his organisation had decided to meet the town council after press reports that the council was willing to address some of its demands.

He said these included the redevelopment of Tshikota township, about 5 km from Louis Trichardt. Most of the township's residents had been moved to Vleifontein, about 25 km away, and eventually would be "incorporated into Venda against their will".

The council would also address the opening of Louis Trichardt's amenities to all, he said. Town council spokesmen were not available for comment yesterday.

Mr Ndou accused Venda's new leader, Colonel Gabriel Ramushwana, of sending his security forces to Louis Trichardt in an effort to combat the two-month boycott, which is due to run until June 1.

Mr Ndou said security forces in Venda had issued pamphlets some weeks ago condemning the boycott and assuring shoppers they would be protected by the Venda security forces.

"Strong action is to be taken against any intimidators. People are urged to report intimidators to the security forces so that effective action can be taken against them," the pamphlet said.

Mr Ndou said Colonel Ramushwana, whom he described as "another bantustan leader," was sending members of his security forces to do their shopping in the town in their civilian clothes in a bid to encourage people to buy as well as to identify activists monitoring the boycott.

A spokesman for Venda's Council for National Unity confirmed the pamphlet had been issued. But he said Colonel Ramushwana issued another statement after it had been realised that "people did not interpret it in the way it was intended".

He said he was not aware of Venda's security force members being sent to Louis Trichardt to do shopping in their civilian clothes.

"Our security forces do not operate in Louis Trichardt as it does not fall under our jurisdiction," he said.

Can-7/15 17/5/90

(26/17)

RSC hits firms with 13% rise

By PETER DENNEHY

ONE of the two Regional Service Council levies on businesses is to be increased by 13% from July 1, finance committee chairman Mr Richard Friedlander announced in his RSC budget speech yesterday.

The regional establishment levy — a levy on the turnover of businesses — will increase from R1,15 per R1 000 of turnover to R1,30 per R1 000.

This amounts to a 13% increase, which will bring in an estimated R12 million extra into RSC coffers. Last year's increase was 15%.

The other levy on businesses,

the regional services levy, remains unchanged at R1 per R400 of a business' total salary and wage expenditure.

This levy has not been increased since the RSC was formed in 1987. Income it had generated had been "unexpectedly high" due to high growth in salaries, Mr Friedlander said.

RSC chairman Mr Piet Loubser said the number of levy payers had grown from 36 906 to 39 028 in the past year. Summonses had been issued against 198 of them who were in arrears.

Mr Friedlander said an estimated R98m out of the forthcoming year's budget would be available for improvements to the infrastructure of the region, slightly less than the R109m in

the current year.

Of this, R76m was immediately set aside for "capital infrastructure projects", with a possibility of further grants later in the year.

Gross income to the RSC from levies, interest and "other revenue" would amount to R170m in the forthcoming year.

Administrative costs and money spent on those functions which fall under the RSC or are about to be allocated to it — such as traffic, fire services, libraries, and sewage — amounted to R72m.

The difference between income and expenditure was available for upgrading those areas that needed it most. Mr Loubser said the RSC was handing over funds for this purpose at a rate of R9m to R10m a month.

RSC allocates R76m for upgrading

Cape Times 17/5/90 (261A)
Municipal Reporter

THE Western Cape Regional Services Council made an amount of R76 million available in its budget yesterday for upgrading roads, drains, sewers, and street lighting in poor areas.

RSCs do not charge rates, and much of their income is generated through levies. Major features of the budget were:

● The Regional Establishment Levy, on the turnover of businesses, rises 13% from 0,115c per rand to 0,130c per rand.

● Water tariffs rise from 40c to 52c a kilolitre for the first 50kℓ, from 58c to 76c for the next 100kℓ, and from 70c to 90c for more than 150kℓ.

● The Regional Services Levy, on businesses' salary and wage expenditures, remains unchanged at

0,25c per rand.

● Electricity tariffs will not rise unless Eskom raises its tariffs later in the year.

● The tariff for the removal of garden refuse in the RSC areas of Cape Town (Constantia, Tokai, Grassy Park, Hout Bay) rises from R7,50 to R8,50 per cubic metre.

● RSC expenditure on electricity and water for the coming year — to be recovered from consumers via tariffs — will amount to R75,5m, 42% above last year's R53m.

● The total budget, including money from the government for functions the RSC performs "on an agency basis" for various departments, amounts to R79,5m, split into R44,2m on operating and R35,3m on capital expenditure.

Province sacks Lekoa council

The Executive Committee of the Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) has dismissed the Lekoa Council for failing to rectify the "unhealthy state of its financial affairs" **261A** Star 18/5/90

The MEC in charge of local government, Olaus van Zyl, said last night that the committee had instructed the council last October to rectify its affairs.

'Women power' wins the day

4/1/90 20/5/90 (26/1A)

By DAN DHLAMINI

MOTHER'S Day took on new meaning last Sunday when a group of angry and homeless Ikageng mothers erected shacks on a piece of serviced land and dared the council to evict them.

Even Ikageng mayor Johannes Mangwejane seemed to have broken under the strain of women power this week when he ordered policemen who had allegedly been threatening squatters with eviction to leave the squatter camp.

Last week an angry mob petrol-bombed his house and gutted his parents' house before abducting his child for a few hours.

Mangwejane told City Press the land on which the women had erected shacks belonged to private developers.

However, he said the council had earmarked land near the present squatter area where registered people who had been issued numbers, would be allocated permanent sites.

But squatters who were told they would only pay R5 for water while the council devised an ablution block, were suspicious of the council's sudden change of heart.

Residents hailed the latest council move as a victory for the Ikageng Civic Association (ICA), which last week organised a march to council offices to hand over a memorandum demanding the resignation of councillors. A number of ICA leaders were detained on the eve of the march.

The memorandum also announced the launch of a campaign for the repossession of sites sold to private companies.

ICA chairman Daniel Sebongogo said he doubted the sincerity of the council in issuing numbers to squatters.

He said the councillors were genuinely concerned about the housing problem they would have acted long before being pressured.



Mandela village mushroomed on Mother's Day in Ikageng. These people built shacks and then dared the council to evict them.

Ikageng mayor tells police to clear out

"They have records of people on the waiting list, but they only responded when sites were repossessed which had been allocated to companies - which sell the same sites back to us at an exorbitant price."

"It is a right, not a privilege, for Ikageng residents to own a house."

He said ICA committee members would meet today to decide whether people should move to the new sites allocated by the council or remain on the "unannexed land" pending an inquiry by ICA's lawyers into the matter.

Residents who spoke to City Press said they had

been on a waiting list for many years and were told there were no sites - yet white companies who had not been on the waiting list were granted sites without delay.

Martha Moremogolo said she has lived in backyards for more than 15 years while searching for accommodation.

This week the situation was still tense despite the temporary truce between squatters and the council.

With the sound of gunfire in the background, police patrolled in hippos and youths barricaded the streets with burning tyres and stones.

Some Ikageng families

claimed white policemen harassed them.

Loretta Makgoana said a group of armed white policemen forced their way into her home by kicking down an expensive door.

"They just kicked down the door and told me they had learnt comrades held meetings in my house - but there was no one except my children. They kept on calling us 'kaffirs' and when I confronted them about the damage to my door, one of them said I must claim from the police."

A police spokesman said they had been unable to trace any policemen

who had knowledge of people being called "kaffirs".

In another incident, Virginia Makhetha claimed armed policemen stormed her home and broke down the door. She said they ransacked the house and left without saying a word.

Makhetha said when she reported the matter at the Ikageng police station a white policeman told her to file a claim against the police through her lawyers.

A police spokesman said they were investigating a charge of malicious damage to property, allegedly by police, from Abyss Makhoana of 3239 Ikageng, but had no record of a complaint made by Virginia Makhetha.

They said she was free to lay a charge with the police.

Parts of the city to escape rise in price of electricity

Municipal Reporter

SOME parts of Cape Town which fall within the Regional Services Council (RSC) area will escape a rise in electricity bills this year

In these areas — such as Blue Downs, Bloubergstrand, Melkbosstrand, part of Melton Rose and part of Belhar — the RSC is the bulk supplier of electricity on an agency basis and no electricity tariff increases will be required yet, unless Eskom increased its charges.

The last time electricity tariffs increased in these areas was at the beginning of the year

The areas which will have to pay the Cape Town City Council's 14% rise from October 1 are those which receive their electricity through the council. Suburbs in this category included Grassy Park, Constantia, Hout Bay, Kommetjie, Ocean View, Scarborough, Zeekoevlei, Wetton and Ottery East.

Rates increases

Some RSC areas, such as Scottsdene, Ruyterwacht, part of Melton Rose and part of Belhar, fall directly under Eskom and tariffs there will go up whenever Eskom raises them. The last rise — of 14% — was in January

- Residents in the RSC area of jurisdiction would have their property rates increased later this year, even though the RSC itself did not levy rates, treasurer Mr Arthur Kleynhans said yesterday

He explained that whatever rates were paid by people living in RSC areas were levied by "own affairs ministers in the various Houses of Parliament".

The various ministers had not yet fixed the rates for this year but were obliged to do so before the end of June, Mr Kleynhans added.

Soweto Council No. 1 to R48m

THE Soweto Council has returned R48 million allocated to it by the Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council for the upgrading of the area - although the township has a critical housing shortage and poor infrastructure.

The money was part of R113 million granted to the council during the 1989/90 financial year. The council used only R65 million.

Soweto council spokeswoman Miss Felicia Buthelezi yesterday said many projects had to be suspended after a dispute between councillors and white council officials.

A total of R95 million, which was granted to some of the 14 councils falling under the CWRSC, has been returned by councils which did not use the money.

Plans

Buthelezi said, "This delayed our plans and we were forced to return the money because its allocation is about to expire."

Addressing a Press conference in Johannesburg yesterday, CWRSC chairman Mr John Griffiths said the council has allocated R334 million to local authorities for the 1990/91 financial year which starts on July 1.

He said, "R327 million of this will be utilised for projects to improve infra-

By MZIKAYISE EDM

structure and services in the region, with the balance of only R7 million being required for operating costs

Griffiths also said that levies, which generate the council's funds, would be increased by 10 percent from July 1. This will net an additional R19.5 million

In an interview with the *Sowetan* after the conference, Griffiths said the Soweto council had problems like getting plans ready on time and finding "reasonable" tenders to implement certain projects in the township.

* The new (1990/91) allocations are Soweto (R116 million), Diepsmeadow (R34 million), Alexandra (R22 million), Dobsonville (R17 million), Emmertdale (R7 million), South Western Management Committee (R6 million), Lenasia (R4 million), Lenasia South East (R4 million), Davidsonville/Fleurhof (R2 million), Marlboro Gardens (R1 million), Johannesburg (R14 million), Roodepoort (R7 million), Randburg (R5 million) and Sandton (R5 million).

Sowetan 23/5/90

261A

Soweto gives back cash despite lack of housing



CHARLIE PARKERS

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Soweto's R116-m

THE Soweto Council will spend all the R116 million grant from the Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council for the upgrading of the area during the 1990/91 financial year, a council spokesperson said yesterday. The council has returned R48 million allocated to it by the CWRSC for the upgrading of the area. The money was part of R113 million granted to it during the 1989/90 financial year.

Fired councillors fight back

Members of the dissolved Lekoa City Council last week lodged an application in the supreme court to have the council reinstated after it was dismissed earlier this month by the Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) for failure to administer its financial matters efficiently.

Chairman of the dissolved council's management committee, Esau Mahlatsi, said they held a meeting on Friday after residents had demanded information on what had led to their dismissal.

He said residents had reiterated a call made by the president of the United Municipalities of SA (Umsa) for the resignation of Olaus van Zyl, MEC in

charge of local government.

Mr Mahlatsi accused Mr van Zyl of "instilling fear" in the councillors by making them take decisions that would make them unpopular in the township.

Although the council was instructed last year by the TPA's executive committee to rectify its affairs, its finances had been in a worse position this year than they had been last year, Mr van Zyl is reported to have said.

Some of the mandates the council allegedly failed to obey included its failure to suspend electricity supplies to consumers who had not paid their accounts and their not having taken legal action regarding the matter.

261A

She

23/5/10

Police and marching youths clash

By Therese Anders
and Montshiwa Moroke

MIDDELBURG — Police used stun grenades, rubber bullets and teargas to break up an illegal march during a day of violence in Middelburg's Mhluzi township yesterday.

On several occasions police fired at crowds of hundreds of youths who refused to disperse. For most of the morning a pall of smoke hung over the township from street barricades of burning tyres.

A spokesman for the Mhluzi Residents' Organisation (MRO) said the purpose of the march was to present a list of grievances to the Mhluzi Town Council. These included land and housing problems as well as a demand for "one Middelburg under a non-racial council".

The spokesman said the petition was handed over to the deputy mayor later in the day. The deputy mayor then accompan-

ied MRO leaders to the local police station where police agreed to release those arrested in the morning.

Few Mhluzi workers arrived at work as township residents heeded the MRO's call for a stayaway to coincide with the march. Middelburg's largest industry, Middelburg Steel and Alloys, reported a total stayaway by its black staff, although it said production was unaffected.

Police liaison officer Lieutenant Nina Barkhuizen said 32 arrested youths had been released by 2 pm and the situation had quietened by late afternoon.

● At least two pupils were shot and wounded, one seriously, after clashes in Mamahabane near Ventersburg in the Free State yesterday.

Police said the incidents took place after a white man was stoned and a black policeman's house was set alight at about 9 am.

Reports from the area said the situation was tense last night after "many" youths had been arrested in streets and homes. Others had gone into hiding.

A police spokesman in Pretoria said the first incident took place at about 8 30 am when a group attacked a white motorist with stones.

"The man fired four rounds with a 9 mm pistol. A 14-year-old female was shot in the upper arm and has been admitted in hospital.

"About 8 40 am a house belonging to a member of the police force was attacked with stones, and set alight. He fired four rounds from a 9 mm pistol. An 18-year-old man was shot in the stomach and he is quite serious in hospital."

A township resident said the incident took place as pupils from two schools were on their way to the local stadium to attend a meeting.

The source said a vehicle carrying a black policeman and a white municipal official had driven their vehicle into the crowd. The policeman began taking pictures and the crowd protested.

A person in the crowd had then stoned the vehicle. Shots had been fired from the vehicle and the crowd had dispersed. A girl had been shot and about 10 minutes later a youth had been shot.

● Fighting is reported to have broken out in Maokeng near Kroonstad between Black Consciousness Movement and Maokeng Democratic Crisis Committee members. Several people were taken to hospital.

It is understood hostilities began after a member of the Azanian People's Organisation was stabbed at the night vigil on Friday for the funeral of Ntsie Isaiah Tau, shot dead by police in the township about a fortnight ago.

25/9/90

STW 29/5/90

261A

NEWS

Row over dismissal of 44 Lekoa councillors

By Stan Hlophe

Controversy surrounds the dismissal of 44 Lekoa councillors by the Transvaal Provincial Administration for allegedly failing to rectify the council's unhealthy state of financial affairs

The mayor, Kate Ngwenya, said yesterday that she and her fellow councillors had not been informed of a decision by TPA MEC, Olaus Van Zyl, to dismiss them for failing to handle the council financial affairs, nor had she been informed by the chief executive officer, Nicholas Louw.

This followed a decision by the TPA to dismiss the councillors for allegedly failing to heed instructions to put their

house in order

Instead the council's financial state had worsened, Mr van Zyl said.

Ms Ngwenya says:

"I was not officially informed about the decision and was surprised to find on Friday morning a report that we had been dismissed.

"This came as a shock to me and my fellow councillors. What is even worse is that my chief executive officer did not bother to inform me of TPA's decision.

"Van Zyl did the same thing last year when he gave my council and the Soweto city council an ultimatum

— through the media — to put our house in order or face the consequences.

"We were only informed two days later of what had already been made known to the whole world. This proves that some of the white officials are not yet geared for change at a time when the State President is moving forward

"Van Zyl is expecting us to enforce the unpopular and sensitive laws during this era of new development

"I want to make it clear to him that we have been elected by the people and we will only be removed from office by the people who put us there. We know the people's needs and we have com-

mitted ourselves to serve them"

Mr Louw says:

"I received a call from Mr van Zyl at 4 pm on Thursday informing me about the TPA's decision. I later referred the call to Easu Mahlati who refused to take it.

"I could not contact the mayor as she does not have a telephone. I took it for granted that she and other councillors would know about the news on the box.

"On Friday morning, I did not see Ms Ngwenya. I still have to receive a formal letter and then I will be able to inform the full council at their monthly meeting on Wednesday."

Star 30/5/90

Lekoa council's case withdrawn

2619

An urgent application by the former mayor and town council of Lekoa for a review of the Transvaal Administrator's decision to remove them from office for not collecting rent arrears and other charges did not go ahead as expected yesterday.

By consent between the parties, the Rand Supreme Court application was withdrawn. The matter is expected to

return to court as an opposed motion after further papers have been filed.

The application was brought by former mayor Kate Ngwenya and 21 former city councillors, all of whom were dismissed on May 18 after they decided it would be "tactically wrong" to take action against rent defaulters in the present political climate — Court Reporter

VS/ PARLIAMENT

CP adds twist to transport row

For 30/5/90 2614
The ANC did not recognise black local authorities and was trying to bring about their downfall, Joseph Chole (CP, Pretoria West) told Parliament yesterday.

Speaking in the debate on the Urban Transport Amendment Bill, he said the National Party's three-tier system of government would also hasten the fall of these authorities.

"Consensus means taking from the whites to give to the blacks."

The ANC was busy destabilising the national states, and the NP was trying to get the Zulus on its side.

Mr. Anthony Reeves (LP, Klipspruit West) said the Bill was directed against minibus taxis, because the Government wanted to limit them to operating on the outskirts of metropolitan areas.

PUBLIC SECTOR - R. S. C.

1990

JUNE - DEC.

Katlehong probes 'racism' claim

By Abel Mabelane

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.

No consensus on Natal-Kwazulu 'consensus' bill

9/1-7/11/90 7/6/90 26/11
THE KwaZulu and Natal Joint Services Bill was a good example of how consensus could be reached through talks for the benefit of the people of Natal, the Minister of Planning and Provincial Affairs, Mr Hernus Kriel, said yesterday.

Introducing the second reading debate, he said it provided for the establishment of joint services boards for Natal and KwaZulu and gave attention to the provision of joint services.

The Regional Services Councils Act would therefore not apply in Natal.

The Conservative Party and Democratic Party opposed the bill — but for opposite reasons.

While the CP saw it as the start of integrated local authorities and the end of white control over own affairs, the DP said it was just another version of the racially orientated regional services measure.

"Here we stand at the outset of talks about a new constitution for South Africa with cabinet ministers rejecting discrimination, and the government introduces a measure with racial definitions based on the Population Registration Act," said Mr Roger Burrows, the DP's main spokesman.

The CP's Dr Willie Snyman and others said once joint services had been created, facilities in their areas would have to be open to all races, including groups which had not contributed a cent to their establishment.

It would result in Zulu domination of Natal without protection for minorities and down-grading of standards for whites — Sapa and Political Staff

How many residents of each of the (a) self-governing territories and (b) independent Black states were employed in the Republic by the South African Government in 1989?
Answer 13/6/90 B1079E

THE MINISTER FOR ADMINISTRATION AND ECONOMIC CO-ORDINATION

The required information is not available. In order to answer this question, the address details of more than 277 000 Black employees will have to be scrutinised.

Policemen killed/seriously injured

468 Mr S S VAN DER MERWE asked the Minister of Law and Order

How many policemen, excluding policemen killed or injured in vehicle accidents or outside the Republic, were (a) killed and (b) seriously injured in the execution of their duties in 1989?
Answer 13/6/90 B1089E

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER

(a) 36
(b) 164

Imbali township murders

489 Mr P C CRONJÉ asked the Minister of Law and Order

(1) How many murders of persons in Imbali Township were reported to the Plessislaer police station from 1 January 1990 up to the latest specified date for which information is available,
Answer 13/6/90

(2) (a) How many (i) arrests have been made as a result of such reports and (ii) suspects so arrested have been refused bail and (b) in respect of what date is this information furnished?
B1134E

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER

(1) 166

(2) (a) (i) 33

(ii) 11

(b) 31 May 1990

Pietermaritzburg unrest complaints against SAP/SADF

490 Mr P C CRONJÉ asked the Minister of Law and Order

(1) How many complaints were laid against members of the (a) South African Police and (b) South African Defence Force in connection with unrest in the Pietermaritzburg district from 1 January 1990 up to the latest specified date for which information is available,

(2) whether any charges have been laid or other steps have been taken as a result of such complaints, if not, why not; if so, (a) what charges or steps, (b) for what reasons, (c) against whom and (d) in respect of what date is this information furnished?
Answer 13/6/90 B1135E

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER

(1) (a) 13

(b) None

(2) Yes

(a) 4 charges of murder,
3 charges of attempted murder,
2 charges of kidnapping,
1 charge of damage to property,
2 charges of assault,
1 charge of arson

(b) and (c) I do not consider it advisable to furnish this information because it may possibly prejudice the investigation and anticipate the legal process

(d) 1 January 1990 until 31 May 1990

Thefts from cars

498 Mr H H SCHWARZ asked the Minister of Law and Order

(a) How many thefts from cars were reported in 1989 and (b) in how many cases were recoveries made?
Answer 13/6/90 B1152E

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER

(a) 122 385 instances

(b) Statistics in this regard are not kept

Unrest unit: damage to vehicles/equipment

504 Adv J J S PRINSLOO asked the Minister of Law and Order †

(1) What is the amount of the damage caused to (a) (i) vehicles and (ii) other equipment of each specified unrest unit of the South African Police in unrest incidents in the Republic in 1990 and (b) how many Police vehicles have to be replaced as a result of having been damaged in such incidents,

(2) in respect of what date in 1990 is this information furnished?
Answer 13/6/90 B1167E

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER

(1) (a) (i) Natal R155 815,00

Northern

Transvaal R 5 300,00

Far Northern

Transvaal R 6 810,81

Eastern Transvaal R 3 637,08

Witwatersrand R 84 919,00

Orange Free State R 64 915,00

Eastern Cape R 24 319,59

Soweto R 1 010,00

Western Cape R 23 781,00

Northern Cape R 8 700,00

Western Transvaal R 62 538,00

Witwatersrand R 3 840,00

Orange Free State R 1 600,00

(b) None

(2) 1 January 1990 until 31 May 1990

Own Affairs

Rural councils

26/1/90

123 Mr A A B BRUWER asked the Minister of the Budget and Local Government †

(1) (a) How are rural councils to be administered and (b) what are the functions of these councils?
Answer 13/6/90

(2) whether rural areas will have to pay rates levied by rural councils, if so, on what basis, if not, from what sources will the funds for such councils be obtained?
Answer 13/6/90 B1052E

THE MINISTER OF THE BUDGET AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

(1) (a) Rural councils are administered by officials of the Department of Local Government, Housing and Works. Where the Department cannot manage the administration on its own, officials of the Local Government Affairs Council or the regional services councils are used on an agency basis, as the case may be.

(b) Rural councils should —

(i) identify the needs of their communities and determine such needs in order of priority,

(ii) state the needs of their communities at meetings of the regional services councils by means of their representatives and negotiate funds, and

(iii) advise the Minister regarding powers which should, in terms of section 12A(6) of the Regional Services Councils Act, No 109 of 1985, be assigned to rural councils

No powers have so far been assigned

(2) No Section 12A(6) of the Regional Services Councils Act, No 109 of 1985, forbids it. The expenditure regarding the administration of a rural council shall be defrayed from funds appropriated by Parliament for such purpose which appears on the budget item of the Minister of the Budget and Local Government.

Melton takes stand against higher tariffs

By PETER DENNEHY
Municipal Reporter

THE Management Committee (Mancom) for Melton Rose, which adjoins Blue Downs, decided yesterday to provisionally suspend all its activities out of disillusionment with the government.

Mr Nevie Baartman, the chairman, said yesterday that on May 23 the chairmen of all the management committees in the Western Cape Regional Services Council (RSC) area had decided not to approve increases in rates and in water tariffs.

Melton Rose Mancom secretary Mr S J Maart said this would have resulted in a total shortfall of about R33million. The deficit for Melton Rose alone would have been R3,1m.

Mr Baartman said the Minister of Local Government and Agriculture, the Rev Andrew Julies, was to have been approached to stand in for the shortfall.

However, no meeting with him could be arranged before he approved the budgets for the various management committee areas at the end of May.

In the case of Melton Rose, the budget had included rates and water tariff increases of 15% each, due to come into effect on July 1.

The management committee had not consented to these increases. Instead, it had wished to investigate areas in which savings might be made, but had not been able to do so, and the RSC had not reported back to it on discussions with Mr Julies, Mr Baartman said.

Mr Julies could not be reached for comment yesterday.

● A spokeswoman from the Kleinville Advice Office reported yesterday that 39 households in Kleinville, near Melton Rose, and 17 other households in neighbouring suburbs had their water supplies cut off on Monday after not paying their bills.

Demolitions: Alex civic body challenges DP

Star

16/6/90

SUE OLSWANG

261A

THE Alexandra Civic Organisation (ACO) has condemned the demolition of shacks by the Johannesburg City Council and demanded that the DP-controlled Johannesburg and Sandton councils clarify their policies regarding informal and alternative accommodation built by homeless people in their jurisdictions.

"ACO was angered by the demolition and burning of shacks at Far East Bank, in Alexandra, by the DP-controlled Johannesburg City Council without consultation with the shack dwellers or the community organisation," said Moses Mayekiso, chairperson of the ACO.

"This happened while NP-controlled councils are refraining from destroying shacks, accepting that people do not build shacks because they like to but because there is a shortage of housing ACO expects DP-controlled councils to be more progressive, understanding and lenient than the NP ones."

Mr Mayekiso said the ACO was also angered to learn that the Sandton management committee had met the Alexandra City Council "on their own" to discuss the demolitions and the possibility of a merger between Alex council administration and the Sandton Town Council.

Anger over meetings

He said a meeting between the ACO and the Sandton management committee to explore the possibility of non-racial municipalities was scheduled for Thursday this week but it had been cancelled and "postponed indefinitely".

"ACO is angry to hear that the Sandton management committee has been conducting these meetings with Alex Town Council and negotiating the fate of the people of Alex with the Alexandra Town Council, which has no support in the community, while people are demanding its resignation because it is racial, undemocratic and not accountable to the people of Alex."

Mr Mayekiso said the ACO demands that the DP-controlled councils of Johannesburg and Sandton clarify

- Their stand and policy regarding black local authorities and local apartheid.
- Their stand regarding informal and alternative accommodation — including shacks — built by homeless people in their jurisdictions
- Their stand regarding non-racial municipalities

He said the ACO reiterates its stand that negotiations and activities must be handled democratically "through the community organisation on behalf of the people of Alexandra"

Bruce Stewart, deputy chairman of the Sandton management committee, said the Sandton council accepted squatting as a fact of life, but would prefer to see informal settlements being planned in "the proper way". He said the Sandton management committee was "definitely not" involved in negotiations regarding a merger with the Alex council.

Commenting on the cancellation and indefinite postponement of the scheduled meeting between the Sandton management committee and the ACO, Mr Stewart said Mr Mayekiso had not arrived for the meeting despite the Sandton management committee's willingness to hold discussions.

TV man's home stoned

261A

Star

8/6/90

Youths waving ANC flags stoned and slightly damaged the house of TV personality Justus Tshungu, Atteridgeville's deputy mayor, soon after commemoration services in the township on Saturday.

A spokesman for the Tshungu family said nobody was injured.

"A large group of people, mostly youths, swore at the family and hurled stones, some of which damaged a glass door," he said. — Own Correspondent.

Terror trial told of blasts

Star 20/6/90

Own Correspondent

A municipal policeman told a Johannesburg regional court yesterday of four explosions at the home of a Soweto City Councillor, Violet Phetjalema, in February 1987 while he was on duty guarding the house.

The policeman, Thulane Mangele, was giving evidence in the trial of two Soweto men Samuel Padi (20) and Bhekani Myeza (24). They pleaded not guilty to terrorism, four counts of attempted murder and six of illegal possession of explosives, firearms, and ammunition.

Padi and Myeza are accused of attempting to murder 21 people in four grenade attacks on houses in Soweto between December 1986 and February 1987.

Mangele said on the third night he was guarding the councillor's house with another policeman when the house was rocked by four explosions.

A woman, who said she was 15 at the time of the explosions, said she was injured on the thigh, arms and back.

The hearing continues

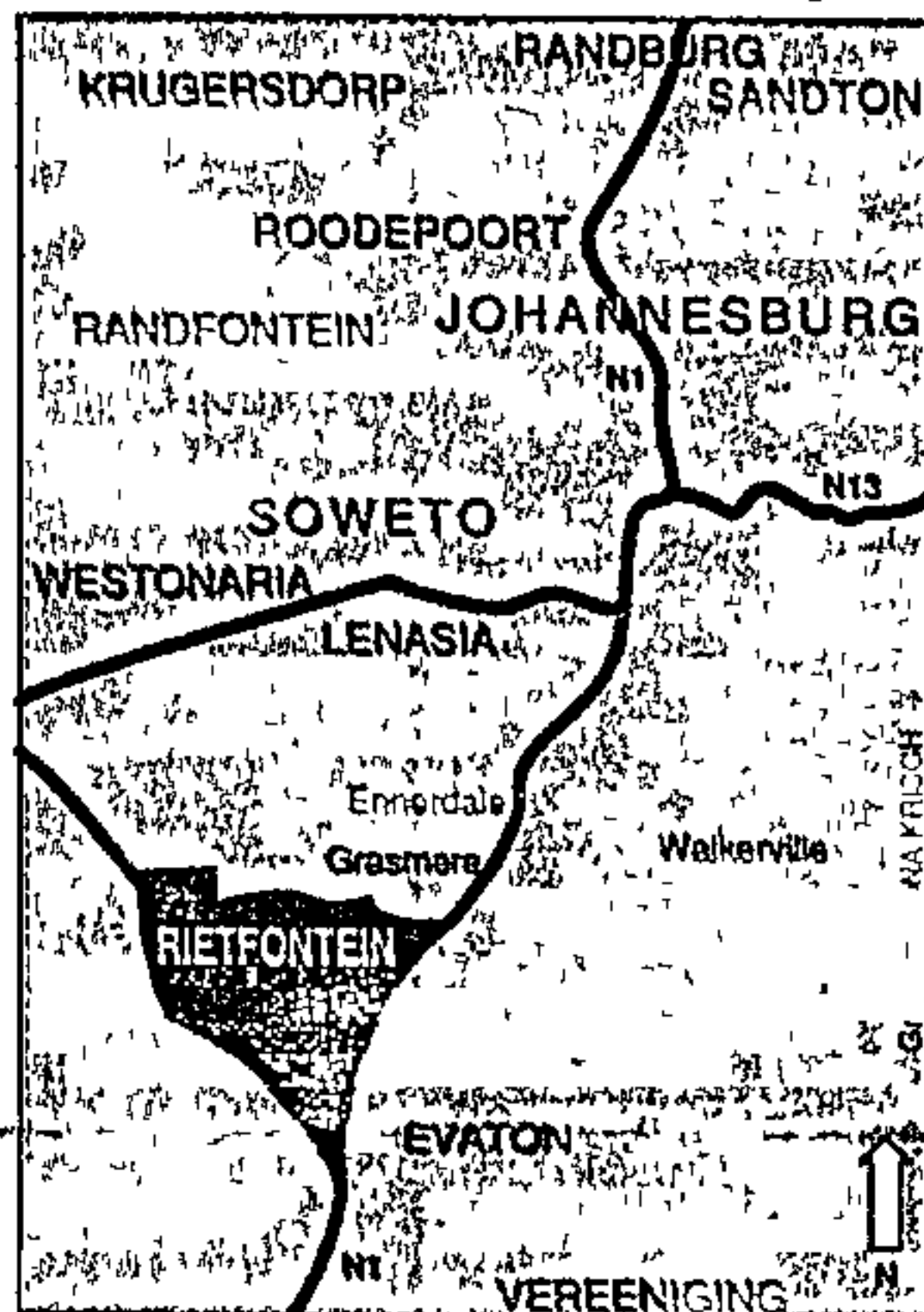
Housing for 600 000 people

Go-ahead for new town near Jo'burg

PLANS for a multi-billion-rand town to be located south of Johannesburg have been approved, the Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council said yesterday.

While most residents are likely to be black, there is no racial zoning and the emphasis is on "people" and income groups, not race groups.

The Regional Services Council expects



EDYTH BULBRING

the plans to be passed by the Transvaal Administrator without major alterations.

Low cost housing totalling 90 000 units, to accommodate 600 000 people, is planned for the new town, to be called Rietfontein. It will take up 8 900ha of land south of Ennerdale, north-west of Evaton and west of the N1. Land and services alone will cost the council R1,2bn.

A string of industrial and commercial areas is planned along the N1, which separates the Rietfontein area from Stretford, a planned black area which will house an additional 600 000 people.

Regional Services Council CEO Len de Wet said yesterday the province administration needed early planning to provide 24 000ha for housing for more than 3-million people in the PWV area by 2000.

"The great majority of these people would be blacks in the lower income group," De Wet said.

He did not rule out the possibility that Rietfontein and Stretford could merge into one city, separated by the N1.

De Wet emphasised that while in practice the need for low cost housing was greatest among blacks, Rietfontein would not be developed as a black township.

And unlike Soweto, the planning of Rietfontein made provision for an industrial and commercial base. This would be situated along the motorway and a proposed

□ To Page 2

New town

railway line would run through Rietfontein and link with the existing network.

Of the Rietfontein area, 4 800ha will be used for urban development and the rest for "green" and industrial use, De Wet said.

The area will be developed by the council, private enterprise and the provincial authorities. The SA Housing Trust and JCI are likely to be involved, De Wet said.

The installation of bulk services would dictate the development of the area, which De Wet expected to begin within two years.

The planning of Rietfontein is based on a study of the south-western sector of the Witwatersrand, which makes proposals for accommodating 3-million people by 2000. The Transvaal Provincial Administra-

tion would take serious note of the proposals for this south-western area when approving plans for land development in the PWV area, a TPA source said.

The study has been approved in principle by the Regional Services Council and it identifies large tracts of land suitable for development that will cater for this housing need. The land lies between Soweto, Vanderbijlpark, Vereeniging and Alberton and could accommodate over 3-million people.

The study proposes that housing should be planned around the existing employment and transport facilities, but infrastructure for industry in the new areas should be created at an early stage.

□ From Page 1

DP calls for Jo'burg, Soweto to become one

By Louise Burgers,
Municipal Reporter

Black local government structures were crumbling and it was just a matter of time before Johannesburg and Soweto became one city and one municipality, Democratic Party councillor Sias Reyneke said during the budget debate last night.

"The planning must start now. Johannesburg and Soweto will be-

come one — we have to accept that reality and begin training people now for one local authority.

"It is clear that the local black government structures are crumbling and this crisis may force central government and everyone else involved, to enforce the incorporation of black councils with white local authorities so that the provision of services can continue," Mr Reyneke said.

"If we accept Johannesburg

and Soweto as one, there will be a doubling of the population and land area. We will sit with a new Johannesburg, of which a major part will be totally under-developed."

NP councillor Hein Kruger agreed that closer co-operation between Johannesburg and Soweto was inevitable. One municipality in the form of a metropolitan government or "super-municipality" needed to be investigated.

Economic suicide

"The two (cities) are interdependent and cannot exist without the other. Where Soweto is the main reservoir of human resources for Johannesburg and the broader region of which the two form the core, Johannesburg is the engine room where the human resources of the region come together and create the wealth of the region," Mr Kruger said.

To exclude either Soweto or Johannesburg when the city boundaries were redrawn would be economic suicide for both, he said.

served in Angola.

His father, Louis Bre-

agreement with the
SADF.

Mildred Bredenkamp.

Military Police and could
not comment.

country, said Breden-
kamp.

MP to evict 150 from his land

By S'BU MNGADI

THE KwaZulu MP for Umlazi, Winnington Sabelo, is poised to evict about 150 local residents from a piece of land allocated to him in 1986 by Umlazi Town Council.

Sabelo, accompanied by members of the KwaZulu police, last Friday served eviction notices in which he gave residents seven days in which to vacate the 1164 square metres of land.

The notices headed "Kwa-Zulu government" and signed by Sabelo, warn: "If you fail to move, I will have no other alternative but to get a bulldozer and have you moved forcibly."

Black Sash Urbanisation researcher Ansuya Chetty said the residents reported that on March 7 people were called together and told they should move by "next week".

Residents had already seen bulldozers at work, levelling the ground near their shacks, Chetty told *City Press*

She said they spoke to AN Wilson of the property developers, who told Black Sash that six sites were being developed on the land and that R11 000 had already been spent on each site

According to Wilson, Chetty said, his company was simply managing the project, which was funded by the KwaZulu Finance and Investment Corporation

"With regard to the ownership of the land, Wilson said the leasehold certificate was originally in the name of Winnington Sabelo. The property was subsequently transferred to Arthur Nxumalo, a property developer. The site is at present registered in his name"

Sabelo, fellow KwaZulu MPs, Umlazi town councillors and

property developers were reported in *City Press* in 1987 as having allocated almost every piece of land in the township among themselves

Then, there were about 5 000 people on the town council's waiting list for sites. Black Sash says by November last year the number had increased to 6 554.

The Kwazulu's Department of the Interior subsequently appointed a commission of inquiry to investigate corruption in the council, but the commission's findings have so far not been made public.

When residents first asked Black Sash for help in March, 11 families were affected. Now there are 31 families - more than 150 people

Umlazi, established in 1962, has in the past four years seen a gradual emergence of Imjondolo (shacks)

Black Sash estimated there were 6 700 shacks distributed in nine sections of the township

The most serious problem facing shackdwellers is lack of security of tenure

Black Sash said that between January and September 1989 there were more than 200 arrests under the Trespass Act (6) of 1959. In the same period, shackdwellers in the adjoining section D, belonging to the University of Zululand's extra-mural division, received several eviction notices from the University

Peter Rutsch of Durban's Legal Resources Centre and two members of Lawyers for Human Rights defended 30 cases of trespassing between May and December 1989 in which all but three defendants were acquitted.

Lack of water is the second major problem facing shackdwellers

6 hurt in Soweto grenade blast

Six people — including two young girls — were seriously injured in a grenade blast at a Soweto house where a councillor used to live, police said.

The Meadowlands blast caused damage estimated at R5 000. The injured, including a two-year-old and a seven-year-old girl, were in the house when the grenade was thrown at 7 pm. They were taken to Baragwanath Hospital.

The apparent owner of the house is Victor Genya (38). The names of the injured have not been released.

This was one of two grenade attacks in Reef townships last night.

A second grenade was hurled at a councillor's home in Munsieville, near Krugersdorp, at 10 30 pm. Windows were shattered but no one was hurt —
Crime Reporter

Segregated role of RSCs becoming blurred ^(26/1A) report

REGIONAL services councils (RSCs) could provide the momentum for a move away from racially segregated local authorities against the will of their architects, says a booklet by the SAIRR.

Writing in the recently released *From Town to Township*, Mauritz Moolman reports RSCs are planning in the short-term because of uncertainty about their future. He says that although RSCs were designed to entrench the division between own and general affairs, this distinction is becoming increasingly blurred in practice. RSCs are providing services previously the responsibility of own affairs authorities, according to Moolman, but he says this does not mean decisions previously taken by whites only are being taken by elected black and white representatives

Compliant

While decisions are being taken by white officials, Moolman finds that a number of other white organisations, including organised agriculture and the Joint Management Centres of the State Security Council, exert an important but informal influence. On none of the 17 RSCs do black local authorities have a one-third vote to effectively influence RSC decisions. However, black councillors are remarkably compliant about their inability to influence RSC decisions, believing that if they do not rock the boat, they will get a majority of funds because of the legal stipulation that RSCs allocate funds in the area of "greatest need".

Black local authorities have been overruled in the determination of development

3109 26/6/90
PETER DELMAR

priorities in their own areas. While Soweto's council identified roads as the most urgent need, the Central Wits RSC (CWRSC) decided water was more important.

According to Moolman, RSCs will have to raise levies or service tariffs if they are to meet the backlogs in townships. Soweto needs R800m to cover its debts.

At current levy rates, RSCs will not have the funds to meet infrastructure needs. According to constitutional planners, the rate in some areas might have to rise five or six times if RSCs are to achieve a reasonable degree of parity between white and black areas. The amount will increase substantially if RSCs assume responsibility for passenger transport subsidies.

Raising levies is not the only option RSCs are considering. At present the CWRSC supplies bulk services bought from utilities and resold to municipalities at cost. But it could be forced to place a surcharge on services to raise more funds. The problem would then arise that black municipalities would be unable to afford the higher tariffs and would have to be subsidised. To raise standards in black areas, white households would have to pay significantly higher tariffs.

It seems highly unlikely that RSCs will be able to eliminate backlogs in the townships. Already, RSCs are looking at raising income by lifting levies, tariffs.

This, Moolman says, will place a greater burden on business. And if white residents have to subsidise black areas, the result could be a conservative backlash.

Councils hit by boycotts could owe R1-bn TPA

THE 47 black town councils hit by rent boycotts could owe a total of R1 billion, according to a Transvaal Provincial Administration spokesman.

And the councils face another crisis — they owe the TPA R388 million in loans provided during 1989 and 1990.

The TPA's deputy director of community development, Len Dekker, warned the 47 councils last week that bridging finance would be cut from July 1 because there were no longer funds to continue providing this service.

The TPA urged councils to make drastic improvements in the collection of rents and service charges in the townships, failing which they may be faced with electricity and water cuts from the suppliers.

In a statement, the TPA emphasised that the collection of rents referred to were for current accounts starting from June 1.

"It does not relate to the recovery of arrears. It means that the performance of the particular communities will be assessed in respect of all debits levied as from June 1990."

261A

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261A 261B

NEW

Boycotted councillor quits seat

By McKeed Kotlolo,
Pretoria Bureau

A town councillor and businessman from Mhluzi, Middelburg, has resigned from the council shortly after being elected, because his businesses were being boycotted.

Ezekiel Sobengwayo Mahlangu won the poorly attended Ward 6 by-election on June 4 this year.

Mr Mahlangu said that immediately after his election, the local people began a boycott of his businesses.

"I decided to resign from the council and submitted my resignation to the town clerk's office on June 18," he said.

According to Mr Mahlangu, residents boycotted the by-election in the area.

"Only about 90 people voted", he said.

The town treasure, J Meintjies, and other officials confirmed the receipt of Mr Mahlangu's resignation. They said the council had not yet met to discuss it.

Star 4/7/90 (2611) 355

NEWS

Council 'did not collect workers' salaries'

By Abel Mabelane,
East Rand Bureau

The Katlehong City Council failed to pay its 700 workers their June salaries on time, because they could not produce proof to the satisfaction of the TPA that their bulk services, such as water and electricity, had been paid, said a TPA official who did not want to be identified.

The official said the TPA was not responsible for the delay in the payment of salaries because it made the payment of employees its first priority as long as funds for bridging finance were available.

He said the conditions attached to the granting of bridging finance were that the council must first produce evidence that its bulk services had been paid.

Mistake

The official said the town clerk of Katlehong was supposed to have collected the salary cheques last week, but did not show up. He said if there was a mistake or delay in the payment of employee's salaries, it was not the fault of the TPA. He refused to comment further.

The mayor of Katlehong, Gideon Molotsi, said the delay in the payment of salaries was caused by the TPA which sent the salary cheques late. He said employees would be paid their salaries today, by noon at the latest.

He said he knew nothing about the producing of evidence for the payment of bulk services before bridging finance could become available. He said all he knew was that the council had to produce proof to the TPA that it had no funds, and show proof of its financial obligations.

Shacks demolished: even more erected by night

By Montshiwa Moroke

Municipal police demolished several shacks yesterday after the Dobsonville Town Council was granted an order in the Rand Supreme Court on Monday night allowing it to remove squatters.

But no sooner had the police left when more squatters came and erected more shacks, said to number about 50 last night, nearly double the number there in the morning.

A showdown was looming this morning between the council on the one hand, and the defiant squatters and the Soweto Civic Association (SCA) on the other hand.

The publicity secretary of the SCA, Pat Lephunya, said yesterday that lawyers were being briefed with the aim of obtaining a court interdict restraining the council from taking further action.

The mayor of Dobson-

ville, Steve Nkatlo, said municipal police had gone to the area with the court order to physically remove the shack dwellers. He said that at least four of the 23 shacks were demolished.

Mr Nkatlo added that the police stopped when the shack dwellers pleaded that they be allowed to dismantle the structures themselves.

"But I learn that as soon as the police left they put up more shacks," he said.

"We have given them 24 hours in which to leave and if they are still there tomorrow, we are going to remove them."

● The siting of a squatter camp on Kaalfontein farm alongside expensive Midrand homes, had established a precedent affecting all Transvaal property owners. John Lambson, Support the Police Action Group publicity officer, has claimed in a letter to President de Klerk.

● Picture by Ken Oosterbroek.

CP will be 'swept away', says Boya

East Rand Bureau

There was no way the tide of reform could be turned and the CP would be swept away in the process, United Municipalities of SA president Tom Boya said yesterday.

Reacting to statements by several Conservative Party-controlled municipalities in the Transvaal that they would not open public facilities to all, Mr Boya said it was a pity that while President de Klerk was busy ridding the country of apartheid, there were people who put obstacles in the way of the reform process.

CP Transvaal municipal chairman Pikkie Coetzee made it clear on Tuesday that many councils, especially in the plateland, would defy the scrapping of the Separate Amenities Act in October and would continue to segregate public amenities in their towns.

Mr Boya said the CP should take note that ever since the beaches, trains, buses and even some mini-bus taxes were opened to all there had been no racial friction.

"The CP's belief that apartheid can be for ever retained is a fallacy for which there is no room in South Africa.

"We called for a complete abolition of apartheid and we are pleased that the State President is now addressing the issue," he said.

President of the Witwatersrand Council of Churches, IE Tlholoe, said blacks would not give in to CP demands.

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Inquiry to be held into activist's killing

A judicial inquiry is to be launched into the fatal shooting of a young political activist in Alexandra Township on Saturday.

This comes after claims that police were in collusion with township councillors to "wipe out troublemakers".

Intimidation

At a press conference in Johannesburg yesterday, ANC member Moses Mayekiso, president of the Alexandra Civic Organisation, said the shot man was Meshack Kunehe.

Sapa has obtained photostats of a meeting of the Alexandra Advisory Committee on April 11 in which a policeman at Alexandra, Lieutenant-Colonel G F N Ruthven mentioned that there had been a lot of intimidation of councillors.

"The councillors want

the police to wipe out these troublemakers without any formal charge being laid," Colonel Ruthven said in the recorded minutes.

"We regard the shooting of Meshack Kunehe as a violation of the Groote Schuur Minute," said Mr Mayekiso.

He added that it was this kind of police action which would force political activists underground again.

'Nothing wrong'

Brigadier Leon Mellet, liaison officer for Minister of Law and Order Adriaan Vlok, said in a telephone interview that he saw nothing wrong with the statement attributed to Colonel Ruthven.

"This was a meeting which took place in April while the state of emergency was still in force."

— Sapa.

Gates unlocked after protest march to RSC



PROTEST MARCH . . . Residents of Mountain View march to present a list of grievances to the rent offices at Ocean View.

CAP. TRIBS 12/7/70 (24A)

LAST Wednesday about 400 people marched from Mountain View to the rent offices at Ocean View to present a long list of grievances about living conditions in the settlement which has been home to 108 families since 1988.

Issues on the list pre-

sented to a Western Cape RSC official included the lack of drainage, inadequate toilet facilities, poor building structures without ceilings or floors, inadequate water points and bathing areas and no electricity.

A recent rent increase

was also a point of contention and, according to Miss Martha Brown of the Ocean View Children's Committee, local residents supported the Mountain View people in their objection to paying increased rents for poor facilities.

The RSC representative who received the protesters' requests for better conditions indicated that the authorities would take action.

"The march was peaceful and went well. It gave the people back their dignity because

they felt they were doing something about their situation and their first victory was getting the gates to Mountain View opened, which were previously always locked."

A Mountain View committee has been formed which will meet this week to decide what the next move will be if the RSC does not address grievances.

The committee has approached squatters in the Noordhoek and Ocean View areas to coordinate efforts to improve their living conditions.

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Black local authorities award contracts to Afsure Insurance

By Jabulani Sikhakhane
Afsure Insurance Brokers, which is a brainchild of the Foundation for African Business and Consumer Services, has been awarded insurance contracts worth R1,3 million by the Daveyton City Council and the Dobsonville Town Council

Afsure managing director Khehla Mthembu said yesterday that Afsure was the first black-owned insurance broking firm to be awarded such contracts

by black local authorities.

"We are encouraged by the bold display of faith in the professionalism of black companies by these local authorities."

The insurance contract for all black local authorities in the Transvaal is worth R30 million a year.

The mayor of Daveyton, Tom Boya said at a media conference that Afsure was awarded the contract because it offered the best quote at the time

"The assets of the Daveyton Council are worth R200 million."

"To insure the council properties (street lights, houses, etc) and the lives of its councillors costs the council about R800 000 a year in premiums," Mr Boya said.

Afsure also has a R25 million-a-year account from the Southern Africa Black Taxi Association (Sabta) and R510 000 from the National Soccer League's third division

Atteridgeville council bans groups from using facilities

Own Correspondent

The Atteridgeville Town Council, which has already lost R4 million in revenue since the rent boycott started four months ago, has temporarily banned political and civic organisations from using its facilities

Acting town clerk Daan Mouton said yesterday the ban would be reviewed as soon as the rent boycott has been resolved

Political and civic organisations have been barred from using the football grounds and halls.

The Atteridgeville/Saulsville Residents' Organisation, which called for the rent boycott and the resignation of councillors at a public meeting at the Super Stadium on April 1, yesterday threatened to file an urgent application in the Pretoria Supreme Court to challenge the council's decision

Witbank council may cut power to thousands

By Therese Anders,
Highveld Bureau

Two of the eastern Transvaal's biggest black townships have frozen rent arrears in an attempt to avert an electricity switch-off to tens of thousands of residents within the next three weeks.

Apart from the arrears freeze, Witbank's KwaGuqa Council has also brought in a flat rate for rent and services.

KwaGuqa town clerk Adam Engelbrecht said yesterday: "We implore residents to pay, or else our supplier will cut our power at the end of the month."

The Witbank Town Council

has already cut the power supply to the Schoongezicht coloured township, where a rent boycott has been in effect since March.

The KwaGuqa electricity account each month is between R500 000 and R600 000.

The council's offer to the residents was to freeze all arrears, to charge pensioners a flat rate of R30 a month for all services, and to charge other householders a flat rate of R100.

Mr Engelbrecht said the flat rate would mean a saving of about R25 a month for ordinary householders and R60 to pensioners.

TPA should pay councils' R730-m debt, says Boya

By Claire Robertson, 261A
Pretoria Bureau

The Transvaal Provincial Administration's "carrot and stick" approach to the cash crisis facing black townships has drawn predictions of chaos and demands that the TPA assume the R730 million debt facing black local authorities.

The TPA is to curtail bridging finance to local authorities from

the end of this month. It is also considering freezing rent and service arrears to encourage residents to pay current charges.

If it goes ahead with this plan, the province must assume the black local authority debt, says United Municipalities of South Africa head Tom Boya.

Mr Boya yesterday welcomed the TPA's "clean slate" plans

However, he said, councils would be left with no way of paying debts.

He said the money was owed not only to the TPA, but also to private financial institutions and companies.

He predicted chaos in black townships next month if the TPA cut bridging finance to councils, which used the money to provide essential services.

"This is a very big stick," said Mr Boya. "This could jeopardise good relations."

● The Minister of Planning and Provincial Affairs has undertaken to investigate urgently allegations by the Urban Councils Association of South Africa concerning the intimidation of councillors and residents by civic associations, Sapa reports.

Power cut is on the cards

CAPE TOWN — The Lingeletu-West Town Council in Cape Town has given 600 families in Khayelitsha until the end of July to pay their electricity bills or have their supply disconnected.

The families have stopped paying their monthly bills, citing shortcomings in their electricity supply. The Khayelitsha People's Delegation said residents could not use all their household appliances simultaneously because the voltages were low.

The chief executive officer for the Lingeletu-West council said in three areas alone the arrears had risen to R300 000 in three months. — Sapa

Star
7/7/76
26/1/77

Council's offer on arrears rejected

The Witbank Interim Civic Association has rejected the kwaGuqa town council's offer of a freeze on rent arrears and a R100 flat rate for rent and services for each householder.

The association demanded that in future the TPA and the kwaGuqa town council should make decisions in consultation with the "popularly elected leaders of the people".

The association called for the following flat rates for rent and services

- Squatters on improved sites — R5, pensioners, no charge
- Houses with electricity R30 — and houses without R10 — Highveld Bureau

'Indaba' to defuse tension

19/7/90

By Stan Hlophe

The Tembisa Town Council has invited interested bodies to an "indaba" at the local council chambers on Saturday in a bid to defuse tensions in the area.

Among those invited are the civic association, traders, educationists, and members of youth organisations.

The meeting will address lack of housing, inadequate facilities and services, inappropriate rentals and service charges, and "insensitive town planning".

A rent and services boycott has been staged since April.

The mayor, Solomon More, has been informed that if the council was unable to pay its debts by the of this week,

Eskom would be forced to cut off electricity to the township.

The council is owed R17,3 million for electricity and sewage and refuse removal. Rent payments have dropped from a monthly average of R4 million to R1 million during June.

Mr More said the council had acknowledged political forces in an effort to address the problems affecting the community.

"It is therefore in this spirit that we as organisations and individuals of Tembisa affected by the issues should sit together to discuss strategies to resolve them."

"In this spirit even the most opposing political ideologies should heed reason and co-operate," Mr More said.

Soweto council bracing itself for financial crisis

THE Soweto City Council (SCC) is bracing itself for financial difficulties expected when, for the first time, it will have to pay for water and electricity without bridging finance.

The Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA), is to stop providing local authorities hit by rent boycotts with financial subsidies from the end of this month.

It had earlier warned that the "collection of rent and service charges was poor, and must be improved". This resulted in the TPA having to restrict its budget mainly to the administration

Advice

Asked how his council would overcome the pending hard times, SCC's public relations officer, Dr Johan van der Westhuizen said: "We are working together with the Development Bank of South Africa, and they are advising us on the financial adjustment programme".

Soweto mayor Sam Mkwanazi added: "If that happens, I will call a meeting with the concerned parties and I'm sure a solution will be found".

Dr van der Westhuizen said that 42 percent of residents were paying

current electricity and service charges. He added that 66 000 families living in the four-roomed houses were paying R22,50 in service charges.

"This includes water, sanitation, refuse removal and general services provided by the council," he said.

To encourage residents to pay, SCC had "promulgated the flat-rate system". According to this system, residents would pay R50 for electricity but pensioners would pay R30.

Dr van der Westhuizen said he hoped that by the end of the year, the whole of Soweto would be ready for "freehold title deed", whereby the right of ownership of the houses would be transferred to the families.

Said Mr Mkwanazi: "The council wishes to transfer old stock houses to owners". All those who purchased houses under the 99-year lease, he said, would have to bring their documents forward for conversion to freehold.

He also revealed that under the "Unemployed Relief Fund", his council was to build 500 houses at Chiawelo, for the "low income group".

ABBEY MAKOE

Daveyton probe on the rocks

By LULAMA LUTI

THE collapse last week of the commission of inquiry into maladministration and corruption in the Daveyton City Council has left a cloud of uncertainty hanging over the township.

The commission lasted for three days and no evidence was led.

It came to a sudden halt after members of the Daveyton People's Delegation (DPD) refused to take part in the proceedings.

The commission was appointed after a march earlier this year in which residents accused the council of corruption.

DPD chairman James Ngubo said the commission – appointed by Daveyton town council – was not constituted in terms of the Commission of Inquiries Act and therefore had no power to subpoena witnesses, some of whom had already resigned.

He cited the example of an officer in charge of the transport department – which had a R3,5 million deficit – who resigned two weeks before the start of the commission.

Ngubo said in the light of the stalemate, DPD had resolved to approach Transvaal administrator Danie Hough to appoint a proper commission.

Long agenda beats debaters

BLOEMFONTEIN — The annual conference of the Urban Councils Association of SA (Ucasa) was adjourned at the weekend before delegates had a chance to discuss some of the more controversial items on the agenda

The meeting was attended by 220 of the country's 250 black local authorities

An amended constitution allowing only members who had paid their membership fees to vote was accepted on Saturday

But it was claimed yesterday that delegations said to still owe fees had, in fact, paid

Ucasa president Phillip Nhlapo ruled that the conference resume on December 8 — Sapa.

'ET' in court again

24/9/90 By Celeste Louw

A former Soweto mayor, Ephraim "ET" Tshabalala, briefly appeared in the Johannesburg Magistrate's Court yesterday after he had failed to attend court last week on a charge of unlawfully collecting money from squatters.

An inquiry into why Mr Tshabalala failed to return to court last week after being granted time to consult his attorney will be held on September 17.

A warrant for his arrest had been issued but he undertook to appear yesterday.

He is to stand trial on 87 charges of selling and letting stands in Soweto unlawfully.

Consumer boycotts around the country have resulted largely because of disputes between black township residents and town councils.

The most politically charged consumer boycott in force is in the Eastern Transvaal town of Bronkhorstspuit, where demands from black civic associations have not been met.

Demands include the opening of all public amenities, including hotels, sports facilities and swimming pools, to all races, the abolition of separate consultation rooms at surgeries in town, the withdrawal of charges against the arrested members of the Zithobeni residents' organisation, the immediate resignation of the Zithobeni town council, the scrapping of the Black Local Authorities Act and the declaration of the town of Bronkhorstspuit as a free settlement area.

In the Vaal Triangle towns of Vereeniging, Vanderbijlpark and Sasolburg, boycott action followed the refusal by the Vereeniging Town Council to allow protest marches.

In Alberton on the East Rand, a consumer boycott was launched because township residents alleged the Alberton Town Council was not prepared to discuss the issue of the council's control of electricity to Tokoza.

Other grievances which they say have gone unaddressed include the town council's refusal to recognise the Tokoza Civic Association and the council's unwillingness to address housing problems in Tokoza.

In the Orange Free State towns of Bothaville and Viljoenskroon, the causes of the consumer boycotts are local.

In Bothaville, the boycott was sparked by a strike for higher wages at a local factory while in Viljoenskroon residents said the council was not addressing poor living conditions in Rummulot-si.

In the small farming community of Burgersdorp in the northern Cape, reasons given for the consumer boycott were that fruitless attempts were made to call for one council for all races and that demands that the black town council be dissolved went unheeded.

By Helen Grange

Disputes at centre of boycotts

NEWS

44 25/11/90

2617

Businessman's home attacked

26/1/90 East Rand Bureau 26/1

The house of prosperous Vosloorus businessman Justice Radabe, whose businesses were at one stage boycotted because he allegedly associated with councillors, was stoned and petrol bombed on Sunday causing damage estimated at R60 000.

Mr Radabe said on Friday that his truck was also stoned and petrol bombed and the driver narrowly escaped death when his jacket caught fire.

"When the attack took place, my wife was alone in the house watching television. She heard a loud bang at about 10 30 pm and then realised that the house had been petrol bombed

"She escaped through the back door and screamed for help. While outside she saw a car leave the house at high speed

"While my wife was trying to extinguish the fire in the front with the neighbours, there was another attack at the back of the house"

ET on soliciting charges

c/fren 29/11/90 (2611) (2611)
By BERENG MTIMKULU

FORMER Soweto Mayor Ephraim Butana Tshabalala made a brief appearance in the Johannesburg Regional Court this week on charges of unlawful soliciting involving more than R15 000.

Tshabalala, 81, of Mofolo appeared before H Verhoef and was not asked to plead on 87 counts.

Allegations against Tshabalala are that between 1984 and 1989 he unlaw-

fully allowed 35 families to erect shacks at stand 1130 in Mofolo. The "tenants" together allegedly paid in excess of R2 422 monthly rent to him.

It was further alleged that he violated a Supreme Court order restricting him from allowing anybody to "squat" at the Mshenguville stands.

An inquiry into Tshabalala's earlier failure to appear in court will be held when the case resumes on September 17.

512x 50/7190

261A

New bid to resolve Soweto boycott

By Stan Hlophe

Three key organisations have agreed to form a technical committee in an effort to resolve the four-year rent boycott in Soweto

Transvaal Administrator Dannie Hough, his executive committee, the Soweto City Council and the Soweto People's Delegation (SPD) agreed to form the committee after a closed meeting on Friday.

All three bodies will be represented on the committee

Upgrading

The committee will look specifically into the writing-off of R570 million in arrears, the upgrading of municipal services in Soweto, affordable tariffs for municipal services, the transfer of rented housing, and a common fiscal base for Soweto and Johannesburg

The first meeting of the committee is to take place tomorrow and is expected to report back to the three bodies on August 9 with firm proposals.

The committee has also been sanctioned to co-opt the Development Bank, Johannesburg City Council and other concerned local government bodies.

Both SPD spokesman Isaac Mogase and Transvaal Provincial Administration spokesman Piet Wilken said the discussions were held in a positive spirit.

Budgeted

After the meeting, a TPA spokesman expressed concern about the insufficient funds available for bridging finance for 49 Transvaal councils

Of the R428 million budgeted for 1990/91, only R99 million was available. The TPA had paid R213,6 million during the past four months.

The total amount owed by the 49 councils is R1,1 billion and Soweto alone owes R570 million.

The spokesman said it "was up to the people" to help ensure that sufficient funds were available

RSC chief concedes alternatives are costly

CMT 743 3/17/90
Municipal Reporter

OVERBERG Regional Services Council chief executive officer Mr Sas Maree said yesterday that he did not see how the Buffels River dam could be enlarged.

He had been asked to comment on a statement by Mr Charl du Plessis, chairman of the Rooi Els Local Council, that certain disputed land in the Buffels River catchment area was needed for eventual expansion of the dam.

Armscor subsidiary Somchem has leased the disputed 400ha of land around the dam for ten years, and hopes to buy it.

Mr Maree said he had not seen the Rooi Els statement but conceded that the alternative future water source for towns in the area was the Palmiet River which was so far away that it would make water very expensive.

A Somchem spokesman said his company was busy formulating a response to Mr Du Plessis's statement.

RSC under fire for night-soil 'stench'

Cape Times 31/7/90 (2614)

By CHRIS BATEMAN

A STENCH yesterday permeated the violence-hit Khayelitsha squatter suburbs of Green Point and Silvertown as the Regional Services Council (RSC) again failed to remove overflowing buckets of night soil, aggravating health conditions.

Police say the area has been "totally peaceful" since Sunday.

Police denied outright an RSC claim that they had warned the night-soil truck driver against entering the area yesterday.

Residents said they were discarding night soil in the nearby bushy vleis, or "just going to the toilet in the bushes".

Khayelitsha's Town Clerk, Mr Graham Lawrence, yesterday again voiced deep concern at the growing health threat.

While RSC Medical Officer of Health Dr Stewart Fisher said his engineers reported having collected night soil on Thursday and Saturday, police records showed widespread

violence in the area on both days.

RSC engineer Mr Rory Gilmore said drivers were under strict instructions to avoid strife-torn areas and to "listen to police".

He confirmed that no soil removals took place yesterday.

Interviewed after a Cape Times tour of the sprawling slum yesterday, Mr Lawrence said it was "imperative" that collections resume to avoid a major health hazard.

His administration was totally reliant on the RSC for night-soil removals.

When Dr Fisher was told by the Cape Times of the overbearing stench, overflowing toilet buckets and residents' complaints, he admitted that "even under normal circumstances" the RSC was unable to meet demands.

He said an RSC health inspector had reported no faecal matter in the vleis yesterday. However, "there obviously is a health problem and a more senior inspector will go back and check again and see Mr Lawrence".

Health services at risk

8/8/90 2619
If the rent boycott in Tokoza, Alberton, continues, health services provided by the Alberton municipality could be cut off, according to Gert Muller, chairman of the Tokoza Administrators.

Mr Muller said Tokoza depended on the municipality for the provision of health facilities at clinics. "If we don't pay them for the services, they are likely to stop providing health facilities to our residents."

The cutting-off of health facilities would be tragic, especially because the new Tokoza clinic, built at a cost of about R400 000, would be completed within the next three months, he added.

If the TPA halted bridging finance at the end of the month, electricity supply provided by the municipality could also be cut off — East Rand Bureau

ATLANTIS F/M 10/8/90

Staking a claim (261A)

The Western Cape Regional Services Council has started an aggressive marketing campaign to sell industrial land at Atlantis, 40 km north-west of Cape Town. Piet Burger, the council's land sales coordinator at Atlantis, says prices are up to five times lower than industrial land in Cape

F/M 10/8/90

Town. Moreover, he says, in five or six years Atlantis is likely to be the only town offering undeveloped industrial land in the region.

Fully serviced land sells for R12/m². If it is on a railway siding the price is R14,50/m². Apart from a high profile advertising and PR campaign, the council is offering estate agents a 3% introducers' commission on all successful transactions with Atlantis Development Advisory Committee. (261A)

Commission incentive

Council CE Chris Mocke believes the deal is one of the best being offered on industrial land. The commission incentive for estate agents is aimed at getting them to encourage clients to weigh up the benefits of buying at Atlantis against locating nearer Cape Town.

Burger says easy access from Cape Town to Atlantis means it's usually quicker to get there during peak hours than it is to travel from many Cape Town suburbs to the city's traditional industrial areas.

Atlantis was established as an industrial decentralisation point in 1975. The first phase of the development plan provides for 675 ha, of which about 60% has been sold and developed, says Burger.

"There are, however, three other industrial areas in the master plan making provision for another 2 000-3 000 ha," he says.

There are now 130 industries located in Atlantis — including Atlantis Diesel Engines (ADE), Tedelex, Sun Packaging, Sear-

del, Grapnel Silencers and Arwa. The town has a population of about 65 000 and is expected to grow to a city of 500 000 when development is complete.

Burger concedes government's decision to suspend the industrial decentralisation incentive scheme until the end of March is a setback to marketing plans but believes the area still offers excellent value in the longer term.

Industrial land sales at Atlantis last year totalled R1,3m and employment in the area increased by 15%. The council says six new industries are due to move to the town "in the near future" to create another 1 000 jobs. ■

Meeting offers promise of end to rent boycott

Staff Reporters

A meeting yesterday between the Transvaal Provincial Administration and two Soweto delegations could signal an end to the four-year rent boycott in Soweto.

Cyril Ramaphosa of the Soweto People's Delegation said he was optimistic that if his organisation's demands were met the boycott could be called off.

Soweto City Council chairman Mbutana Tshabalala said the council was hopeful that an agreement would soon be reached.

The TPA's MEC for housing, Olaus van Zyl, said the three parties had made progress.

It was agreed that Diepmeadow and Dobsonville councils would be included in the negotiations which resume on Tuesday.

The meeting will focus on:
● Writing-off an outstanding amount of R570-million

- Upgrading municipal services
- Affordable tariffs for services
- The transfer of rented houses
- A common fiscal tax base for Soweto and Johannesburg.

According to the TPA, of the R428-million budgeted for 1990/1, only R99-million is left.

It has launched a massive advertising campaign. In a series of four advertisements in The Star today, the TPA sends this message:

"It's no bluff, it's no threat, it's no joke. There is no more money. There can be no more services."

Regional govt probe to start

CAPE TIMES 11/8/90 (261A)

PRETORIA. — Issues relating to regional government are to be examined, President FW de Klerk announced yesterday.

He said it had been decided at a meeting with senior representatives of second-tier government to set up a working group which would undertake the probe.

Mr De Klerk told a press conference the meeting had also decided a group should explore steps to be undertaken should a substitute for the existing second-tier constitutional structures be instituted.

The meeting was chaired by Mr De Klerk and attended by the

chief ministers of the six self-governing territories or their representatives, as well as by the four administrators and senior representatives from the coloured and Indian Houses of Parliament.

Mr De Klerk said regional government structures were common in other parts of the world and the meeting had decided to look at the possible implementation of such federal structures in South Africa.

He said there had been a common belief at the meeting that the self-governing territories, as they were presently constituted, were "not good enough" and that fun-

damental restructuring was needed.

The talks had been held in a cordial and frank atmosphere

In a statement after the meeting, participants said they had primarily addressed questions relating to the future of regional government, ways of participation in the future negotiation process and the "unacceptable" level of violence in the country.

There had been consensus that orderly government should proceed within the existing structures until they were replaced in a constitutional manner by negotiated new structures. — Sapa

Future of regional govt to come under spotlight

(261A) Business Day Reporter

GOVERNMENT is to set up a working group to investigate the future of regional government, particularly in the homelands, President F W de Klerk said at a media conference at the weekend.

The status of the homelands and TBVC states was the focus of a joint ANC/UDF meeting at the weekend which followed a meeting between six homeland leaders and De Klerk in Pretoria on Friday.

A joint statement released after the De Klerk meeting said the regional government working group would explore concepts of regional government, the devolution of power to regional government and the composition of a negotiating forum at regional level.

The National Party has indicated it would favour homelands being treated as provinces, each with regional government powers in a new SA.

In addition to homeland leaders, the meeting with De Klerk was attended by the four provincial administrators and senior representatives from the coloured and Indian Houses of Parliament.

The UDF/ANC meeting was opened by ANC national executive member Govan Mbeki, but was not attended by other NEC members.

MUSICA (AFRICA)

Warning to Hout Bay residents

CAPE TOWN'S 14/8/90. 26/11
Staff Reporters

HOUT BAY residents who refuse to pay their rates until the squatter problem in their suburb is solved will be "cutting off their nose to spite their face," Mr Jimmy Otto, ministerial representative for the south-western Cape (Department of Local Government), said yesterday.

Services to Hout Bay would suffer, Mr Otto said in reaction to the non-payment resolution by about 350 residents at a Hout Bay Property Rights Association meeting on Friday.

"They (Property Rights Association members) have been complaining about the squatters' ability to maintain standards," Mr Otto said "To me it (this latest statement) seems a little bit silly."

He had been surprised to hear of the strong reaction from the association, especially as there had been no indication of

this at a meeting he had held earlier on Friday

"It's a pity that we get an outburst like this," he said "It amazes me."

No decision had yet been taken on the allocation of land to squatters in Hout Bay, he said. The issue had been discussed, as he was "playing open cards with the groups in Hout Bay", informing them of everything before decisions were taken.

He said much progress had been made already in Hout Bay, where "fairly good control over numbers (of squatters)" had been established.

About 13 or 15 new shacks had gone up, but this compared well with Kraaifontein, where numbers had doubled or trebled in the same period.

"There has been a strong reaction from some of the white residents in Hout Bay," he said. "Many of them are complaining about the fact that we want to place squatters in Hout Bay at all."

Mr Hernus Kriel, the Minister of Planning and Provincial Affairs, had said squatters should be accommodated acceptably within the community, and this had been put to all groups' leaders, who would then inform their communities.

The authorities would not interfere in the pending court action initiated by private owners, he said.

He hoped an agreement that would satisfy most of the people could yet be reached.

Mr Clive Derby-Lewis, Conservative Party President's Councillor, said yesterday that Hout Bay's squatters were "nothing but land thieves" and the Conservative Party would support local property owners' efforts to have them removed.

He will address a public meeting on the squatter issue at the Hout Bay Hotel tomorrow night.

Transportation, land use to be centralised under Wits RSC

PRETORIA — Land use and transportation have been centralised under the Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council (CWRSC) instead of on a fragmented basis as before, council CEO Len de Wet confirmed yesterday.

Additional

De Wet said this function, entrusted to the CWRSC by the Transvaal Administrator in the latest provincial gazette, meant that the existing boundaries would be changed to coincide with the CWRSC boundaries.

The CWRSC would negotiate with Johannesburg, as core city, to continue its functions on an agency basis but the overall responsibility for regional planning would stop with the CWRSC.

By Day 14/8/90

EDYTH BULBRING

De Wet said this function would entail additional cost to the CWRSC, but he could not say how much at this stage.

He said the planning for transportation and land use would be co-ordinated on a regional basis.

The CWRSC would not interfere with the detailed planning by the individual local authorities and would continue using the principles and arrangements endorsed by the separate local authorities where practical.

The provincial gazette also stated that the responsibility for sewage purification works and main sewage disposal pipelines and land use and transportation planning would be entrusted to the West Rand Regional Services Council.

August 15 1990

Mixed councils on the cards

Sta- 15/8/90 2617

By Peter Fabricius,
Political Correspondent

Legislation enabling town councils to go multiracial would be introduced in Parliament next year, according to parliamentary sources.

Conservative Vryburg, in the northern Cape, will be the unlikely town leading South Africa into the new era of mixed local authorities.

A draft-enabling Bill to give local communities the choice of several local government models was being drawn up by the Government and would probably be tabled in Parliament next year, said House of Representatives nominated MP Desmond Lockey.

Mr Lockey, who lives in Vryburg, said representatives of all population groups in the town — including ANC and SA Communist Party members — met last Friday and decided to establish a mixed council.

Represented at the meeting were the white Vryburg town council, the council of the black town, Huhudi, the Colridge coloured community's management committee, the Kismet Park Indian community's management community and the Stellaland regional service council.

National Party MP for Vryburg Johan Scheepers convened the meeting

Mr Lockey also attended the meeting, as did a delegation from the Vryburg Civic Association, including two members of the ANC and a member of the SACP.

Mr Lockey said the people of Vryburg had decided to start preparations for a mixed council right away.

This meant they they would be ready to implement it as soon as the enabling legislation had been passed.

"We have decided on the integrated option but we will still have to decide if we go for a simple majority or whether we build in checks and balances — such as a two-thirds majority vote on some decisions — to protect people"

Mr Lockey said the Vryburg population consisted of 19 000 blacks, 8 000 whites, 5 000 coloureds and 1 000 Indians

Asked why Vryburg was leading the field, Mr Lockey said: "Well, it has to start somewhere."

Mr Scheepers acknowledged that it was not going to be easy to persuade the whites of the district to opt for a multiracial council

Although the Vryburg town council was National Party-controlled, Mr Lockey noted that Mr Scheepers had beaten the Conservative Party by only about 600 votes in last September's general election.

Lekoa council to cut Sta 15/8/90 (261A) ~~261A~~ non-payers' power

By Melody McDougall
Vereeniging Bureau

The Lekoa Town Council will start cutting off the electricity supply to all black townships under its jurisdiction in the Vaal triangle area next week.

Lekoa town clerk Klasie Louw said on Monday that the council was waiting for computer lists to identify those residents who had not been paying their monthly bills for water, electricity and other services.

The lists are expected to be completed by Friday.

The council would then start cutting off the electricity supply individually to non-payers as from next Monday.

The affected townships include Sebokeng, Boipatong and Bophelong.

According to Mr Louw, only about 15 per cent of the area's 350 000 townships residents had paid their bills during the six-year-long rent boycott.

He said this has resulted in their presently being in arrears of about R120 million.

● Meanwhile, the Vereeniging Town Council's management committee met on Monday night to decide whether the electricity supply to Sharpeville, which receives its supply from the town council, would be cut off on Friday as was initially planned.

The management committee decided at the meeting to allow a proposed 30 000-strong peaceful protest march by townships residents through Vereeniging this Saturday.

18/8/90

261A

No water or electricity in parts of Soweto — residents

JOVIAL RANTAO

The Soweto City Council has, for the past month or so, switched off water and electricity supplies at certain times in some parts of the township, according to residents.

People living in Naledi, Tladi and Moletsane — which form the western core of Soweto — told Saturday Star they first thought maintenance work was being done.

They said they became suspicious when the cuts continued unabated, without any explanation from the Soweto City Council. They added that they felt the cuts were related to the rent boycott.

Housewives told how they had to wake up in the mornings to fill drums and buckets with water for the day's use.

Ignored

Residents said they felt sold out by the council, which had "ignored" negotiations going on between the Soweto Peoples Delegation and the Transvaal Provincial Administration in connection with the rent boycott.

Mrs Johanna Mokoena, of Naledi said "Since about a month ago, my neighbours and I have had to wake up at about 7 am to fill buckets with water which we will use during the day. We do this because our water supply is cut and no explanation has been forthcoming from the council."

She was supported by her neighbour, Mrs Elsie Tshabalala: "How can we live in a healthy environment without adequate water supply?"

Mr Joshua Ramantsi said if the council wanted to cut water and electricity supplies in Soweto, it should do so in general and not leave out certain parts of the township.

In its response the Soweto City Council denied that the electricity in the western part of Soweto had been cut.

Dr Johan van der Westhuizen, of the council's public relations department, said "Electricity problems arise sometimes because of overload, especially during the times mentioned by the residents. Residents are advised to switch off appliances such as geysers, heaters and stoves which are not in use during the evening."

"As far as water cuts are concerned, the water branch has explained that a big development is being done in the Naledi area and that may be the cause. We want to point out that as far as water

reticulation is concerned, there is no truth in rumours about deliberate cuts."

He said the council believed strongly that negotiations now taking place would solve problems on the paying of service charges.

Hostel will be family units

Sowetan 22/8/90 *261A*

THE Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council plans to assist in converting Meadowlands Hostel at a cost of R28 million over three years into family dwelling units housing 20 000 people

About R3 million of the total amount, which excludes escalation, was expected to be recommended at yesterday's CWRSC meeting for phase one of the project

Units varying in size from 46 to 85 square metres will consist of three or four rooms each, it was revealed in a report to be presented today

The CWRSC also plans to streamline levy collection by installing an on-line computerised system at an estimated cost of more than R2 million

Justifying the expense, acting chief executive Nantes Botha said in a report which was to be presented to the CWRSC yesterday that the current batch-orientated system resulted in lengthy and costly month-end runs, slow and clumsy data capture and verification procedures

A progress report tabled at yesterday's meeting revealed 2 354 projects were in hand, the total amount budgetted for 1993 was R991 million and funds actually voted for approved projects amounted to R373 million, of which R211 million had been spent to date

Sowetan Correspondent

Govt warned of electricity cut-off threat during violence

By Therese Anders,
Highveld Bureau

As violence continues through the Reef, a new flashpoint looms the August 31 rent boycott deadline when millions of township residents face the possibility of having their electricity cut off.

The Government announced in July that bridging finance for the payment of bulk supply services would be "curtailed" at the end of this month to local authorities where payments were late.

But yesterday the Black Sash's Transvaal region chairman, Judith Hawarden, warned that the deadline for the 50 boycotting townships in the Transvaal was coming at an extremely volatile time.

"The Black Sash is deeply concerned about the killings in the townships and any action which could exacerbate the situation

"We urge Government authorities to take advice on this matter from the Soweto People's Delegation (SPD) and civic associations," she said

Transvaal Provincial Administration spokesman, Piet Wilken said a delegation would meet the Soweto People's Delegation and the three local authorities of greater Soweto in an attempt to reach agreement.

Agreement

In return for a commitment to start paying rent again, the SPD has demanded that the TPA write off the R516 million arrears, transfer houses to the people of Soweto, upgrade services, introduce an affordable service charge, and create a single tax base for Johannesburg and Soweto.

It is widely believed that if an agreement is reached between the TPA and the SPD, other

boycotting communities will accept similar settlements

According to the TPA, of the R428 million budgeted for bridging finance for 1990/91, only R99 million is left

The total amount owed in rent and services arrears by the 50 local authorities in the affected areas is R800 million

Asked if the TPA would be responsible for instructing local authorities to switch off township electricity, Mr Wilken said this was not the TPA's task.

"This responsibility will lie with the local authorities."

● Schoongezicht coloured township at Witbank, which was plunged into darkness during a three-month rent and services boycott, has had its electricity switched on again. A council spokesman said it had agreed to restore power to residents who had paid arrears or promised to pay them off.

'Deaf' council hit by rent boycott

C/Press 26/8/90 (26) (2614) (2618)

By DAN DHLAMINI

KANANA township, which is R900 000 in the red due to rent arrears, has been hit by a massive rent boycott.

Despite numerous advertisements in newspapers, and on television and radio by the Transvaal Provincial Administration calling on township residents to pay rent, residents of Kanana, near Orkney in the Western Transvaal this week resolved to not pay rent until their demands were met.

Kanana People's Delegation spokesman Mpho Mentoer said residents began the rent boycott after councillors failed to address their grievances.

Mentoer said residents had asked the council to stabilise fluctuating rent and service charges, but the request fell on deaf ears.

Other demands included:

- That all rent arrears be waived because nobody could afford to pay the high amounts;
- That the council stop handing rent defaulters to lawyers in town;
- That pensioners and the disabled be exempted from paying rent;
- That the R42 rent and the R250 for sites at Mandela Park were too high; and

■ That bad roads be repaired.

Kanana Town Council spokesman Steve Cornelius said arrears could not be cancelled.

Cornelius said the Klerksdorp Town Council was already R900 000 in the red and should the rent boycott by the 40 000 residents continue for two months, everything would grind to a halt.

He said the council was, however, prepared to talk to boycott organisers in a bid to resolve the matter.

"If people do not pay, then their water and electricity supply will be cut and refuse removal will be stopped."

Mentoer said the Kanana People's Delegation would no longer talk to the council because it was inefficient, but would liaise directly with the TPA.

Meanwhile the Ipelengeng Town Council near Schweizer-Reneke, a Conservative Party-controlled town in the Western Transvaal, has given squatters until August 28 to leave council land on which they have erected shacks.

Ipelengeng Civic Association chairman Jerry Maine told *City Press* that squatters would not move.

He said police had earlier demolished some of the shacks, which was denied by Western Transvaal police spokesman Maj Ben van Heerden.

Public sector talks to begin

THE Cabinet has instructed the Commission for Administration and the National Education Department to begin negotiations with "representative parties" on new arrangements for collective bargaining in the public sector.

The move — which followed talks on the Labour Relations Act between Saccola, Cosatu, Nactu and the Manpower Department — was disclosed in a statement issued jointly yesterday by Manpower Minister Eli Louw, Home Affairs and National Education Minister Gene Louw and Administration and Economic Co-ordination Minister Wim de Villiers.

The two union federations have demanded — in addition to translation into law of changes to the Act agreed with Saccola — immediate basic organising rights for public sector unions and the eventual inclusion of public sector employees under the Act.

261
ALLAN FINE

Government has argued that Cosatu and Nactu's public sector unions represent a small proportion of the public service and that broader consultation is necessary.

The unions have threatened a work stayaway during October if their demands are not met. Spokesmen could not be reached for comment yesterday on the latest development.

The three Ministers said government endorsed in principle the basic rights of employers and employees in all sectors and especially the basic rights of freedom of association and collective bargaining.

They said the state as an employer would continue its commitment to fair and just conduct towards its employees while ensuring public service departments were still able to render an efficient service.

Day 29/8/90

Consultants plan future for Mamelodi

261A
Sowetan 3/11/90

THE Regional Services Councils has appointed an independent company to devise a plan which will address the needs of the Mamelodi community.

The firm will consult with community organisations, including the African National Congress and the Pan Africanist Congress.

The plan, which is aimed at "leading Mamelodi into the year 2000", was announced by Mr Johan Walters, director of the company conducting the survey, at the Mamelodi City Council monthly meeting yesterday.

Housing

He said issues such as education, housing, land, infrastructure and job creation opportunities and many others were being looked into to get a clear indication of what the people's needs were.

Walters told the meeting that 28 organisations were to be consulted in this regard.

By ALINAH DUBE

These will include self help groups, associations involving church ministers, squatters, youth, taxis, traders, educationists and the liberation movement.

"We have to consult with these people and explain to them what our objective is because we need both their support and participation."

"We feel that the needs of a community can only be addressed fully by bringing all concerned parties around the table to discuss and decide jointly," said Walters.

A "perspective report" on the survey will be submitted to the council for consideration in preparation for a development summit which is scheduled to be held next year, he said.

Mr Simon Mokone, the local mayor, welcomed the move and said it was a step in the right direction.

It's over! Soweto rent boycott is now history

THE scrapping of the massive Soweto rent debt represents one of the most important breakthroughs in the quest for a new South Africa

The R516-million debt was written off this week after lengthy meetings among the Soweto People's Delegation (SPD), officials of the Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) and the Soweto Council.

Parties at the meetings said the agreement would only be applicable to the greater Soweto townships, but could be persuasive in other areas

It was agreed that each household in greater Soweto will pay R55 tomorrow to cover September's bills and thereafter R23 a month plus 12c a unit for electricity.

During the debate, delegates agreed that residents will pay an extra R5 from January 1991 as a levy towards the Greater Soweto People's Fund - to be established for community development and assistance. The fund will be controlled by an independent board of trustees and nominees from all principal bodies will serve on it.

A similar levy on businesses in greater Soweto is being considered.

The board is to establish a Metropolitan Chamber for the Central Witwatersrand to serve as an interim forum with the primary function of investigating and formulating regional, non-racial and democratic policies.

A sixth principal body

State Reports

the Johannesburg City Council - will be invited to participate

A table of electricity discounts was also formulated at the meetings. They are:

- 33,3 percent for the first 250 units
- 25 percent from 251 to 350 units
- 20 percent from 351 to 450 units.
- 15 percent from 451 to

550 units.

■ 10 percent from 551 to 650 units

■ For non-metered consumption (such as meters out of order) the charge will be based on 400 units.

Soweto Civic Association (SCA) president Isaac Mogase, who attended the meetings, said yesterday he had been inundated with congratulatory calls from residents.

He said: "They ex-

pressed their jubilation at the announcement and we would also like to express our gratitude to them for their support and co-operation throughout the marathon negotiations."

Mogase said the SCA would embark on an information campaign to explain clearly to all residents the terms of the agreement.

Charles Khuluse, a father of three, said elimination of rent arrears was a welcome gesture from the authorities, but that the whole thing needed to be explained clearly.

"Residents want to know exactly the amount they are required to pay.

"If the amount is not stated clearly, they may later change their minds and make us pay exorbitant amounts, as before"

Thalitha Matsoporo, a disabled pensioner from Naledi in Soweto, said people were prepared to pay, but let it be the right amount.

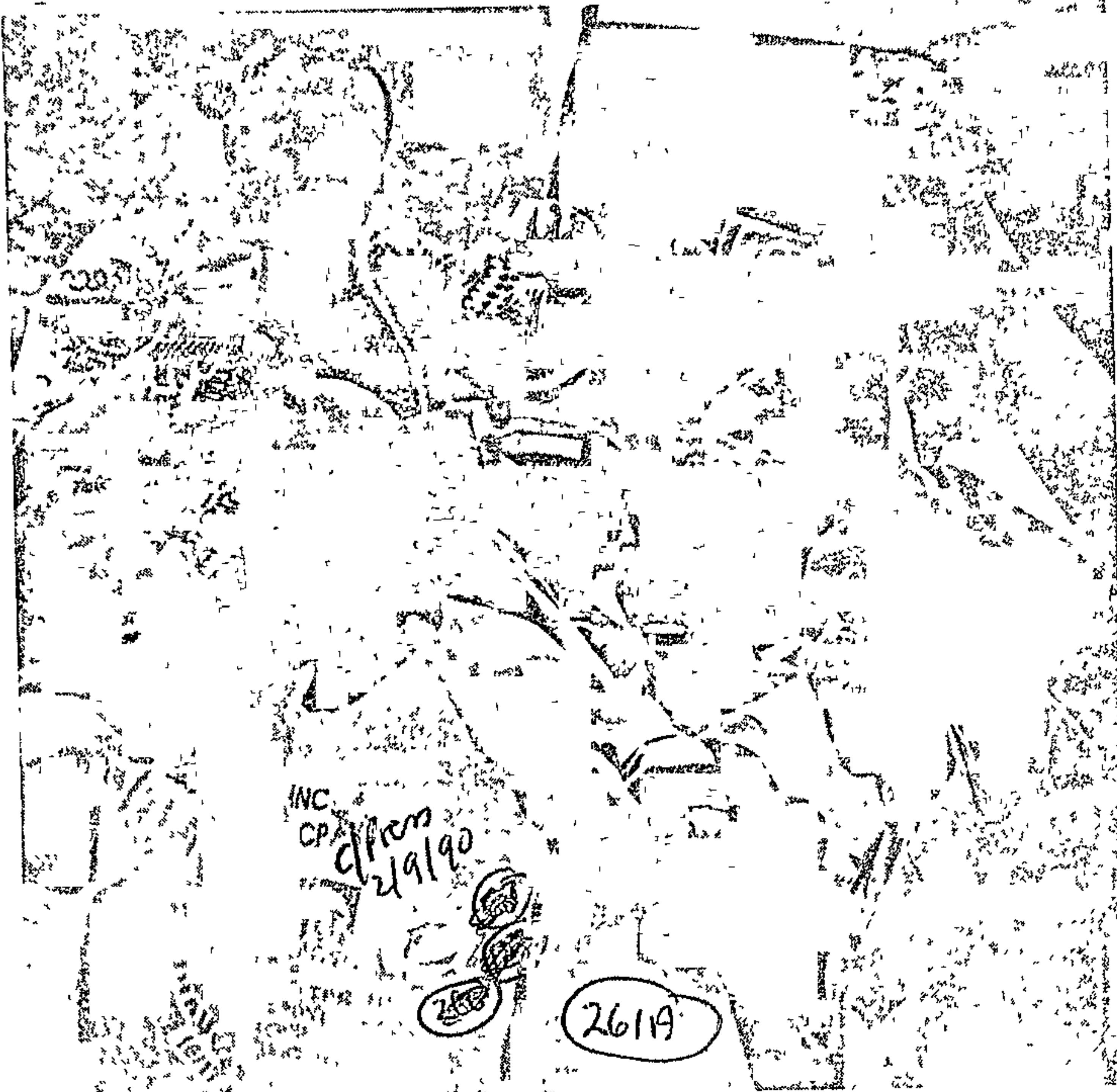
Welcoming the move, Matsoporo also said these measures should apply countrywide.

"We only hope the write-off won't mean overcharging residents again," she said.

John Khambule of Zola in Soweto was pessimistic, saying authorities haven't done enough.

He said: "Before they started removing us from our old freehold areas they promised that after 20 years the house becomes yours. This has not happened"

Political comment and newsbills - K Sibiyi, headlines and sub by K Nakdoo, both of 2 Herb Street, New Doornfontein, Johannesburg



On a high ... Soweto Civic Association president Isaac Mogase (above), who has announced an information campaign to help explain the rent breakthrough.

Bridging finance: RSCs asked to help

EDYTH BULBRING

PRETORIA — Regional Services Councils have been asked to contribute millions to the shortfall in bridging finance to black local authorities brought about by boycotts of rent and services.

At an informal media briefing in Pretoria yesterday, Transvaal Provincial Administration MEC for local government Olaus van Zyl said he had asked all the RSC chairmen for assistance with bridging finance. *610am 6/9/90*

This money would come from the budgets for projects intended in those black local authorities in need of bridging finance, Van Zyl said.

Of the R313m budgeted by the TPA to cover between 30% and 40% of local authority budget shortfalls, only R74m remained until the end of March next year.

Province had budgeted at the beginning of the financial year to provide R26m a month. However, the boycotts had pushed this amount up to as much as R70m in some months.

Settlements ending the boycotts in 18 eastern Transvaal townships and in greater Soweto last week resulted in a short-term demand for more bridging finance.

However, the TPA was assured that the situation would improve once the communities started paying their bills.

RSC money provided would be used from the budgets for projects in those black local authorities and would not jeop-

□ To Page 2

RSCs *610am 6/9/90*

parade white local authorities' projects. Van Zyl said the RSCs were willing to consider his request, but this would be decided by the local authorities making up the RSCs.

LINDEN BIRNS reports that in a statement last night, the Benoni Town Council — which faces a R3,4m lawsuit from Eskom — said it would ask the Supreme Court to order the East Rand Regional Services Council to honour its obligations to arrear electricity accounts in Daveyton and Wattville townships.

(261A) □ From Page 1
The council said it preferred to take this course of action before resorting to any drastic steps such as cutting off the power supply to Benoni's satellite townships.

Eskom has apparently based its claim on the fact that Benoni Town Council has been the bulk purchaser and distributor of electricity for Daveyton and Wattville.

The town council said it had legal opinion that the East Rand RSC appeared to be the responsible bulk distributor in the region.

Bid to end rent boycott in Vaal

THE Vaal Civic Association and the Vaal African Chamber of Commerce will meet the Lekoa City Council this week in a bid to resolve the rent-and-service-charges boycott.

The council announced it would attempt to persuade the Vereeniging Town Council and Eskom not to disconnect the electricity supply to Sharpeville and other townships within the council's jurisdiction.

This week the TPA said steps to cut off water and electricity supplies would be taken by the Black Local Authorities — which are autonomous bodies over which the TPA has no say and thus cannot prohibit or order to cut off bulk supplies.

Town council collapses

By DAN DHLAMINI

THE western Transvaal's Boitumelong Town Council has collapsed following the resignation of all councillors.

Transvaal Provincial Administration spokesman A N Pelser confirmed all five councillors, including mayor Mary Mpho Moremi, resigned two weeks ago due to pressure from residents in the Bloemhof area.

Moremi, who is now in hiding, told *City Press* she and the councillors resigned because of the political situation.

Residents said Moremi, a school principal, fled her home because her school had been burnt down and she had received death threats.

Pelser said 11 councillors from Orkney, Potchefstroom, Bloemhof, Stilfontein, Schweizer-Reneke and Christiana

had resigned.

Ikageng councillor Isaac Pheto, who has resigned, said he lost about R50 000 when his coal yard and truck were set alight.

Several councillors in the western Transvaal had their homes gutted but they have not resigned.

Pheto blamed government's red tape for the unrest, saying funds to improve townships had not arrived.

23 municipalities owe money to Eskom

Highveld Bureau

Twenty-three Transvaal municipalities are now in arrears with Eskom since the Government stopped bridging finance two weeks ago to townships boycotting rent and service payments

Eskom refuses to divulge how much it is now owed, but it

is believed to run to several million rand

Communication manager Johan du Plessis said Eskom was confident of being repaid the outstanding millions, which were accruing interest from the day of default

"We feel (the situation) is under control at present, but there is cause for concern

where some white local authorities are cutting off supplies to townships"

He said each defaulting local authority would be given 60 days to meet its payment, after which legal action would be taken

However, he stressed that Eskom's policy was to negotiate with townships

the station yesterday.

Soweto's mayor
willing to mediate

ABBEY MAKOE

SOWETO mayor Sam Mkhwanazi last night demanded that ANC deputy president Nelson Mandela and Inkatha leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi meet to end township violence.

He said he wanted them to shake hands in public and said he would be prepared to mediate in any move aimed at ending the carnage.

The Five Freedoms Forum (FFF) has added its voice to the growing call for an end to the violence, saying that President de Klerk, Mr Mandela and Chief Buthelezi should commit themselves to action for peace.

FFF press officer Gael Neke said. "We are extremely concerned at the lack of urgency demonstrated by the three leaders who should be most concerned by the violence. They should at this time be demonstrating 'on the ground' involvement and intervention."

© Photograph: Sean Woods.

Train drivers fear attacks in townships

SHAREEN SINGH

TRAIN drivers are reconsidering servicing townships after the spate of attacks on trains travelling to and from Reef townships.

Mr Abraham Koekemoer of the South African Footplate Staff Association said drivers are in constant fear for their lives.

There is no real protection for drivers servicing the townships. The issue has been raised with Spoornet management, but no concrete steps have been taken, he said. The association was planning to meet management next week to address the situation.

Attacked

Several train drivers have been attacked and one seriously injured during the past few weeks while walking from one end of the train to the other, Mr Koekemoer said.

A spokesman for Spoornet, Transnet's rail division, said train safety was a broad transport issue and not just the responsibility of Spoornet.

Spoornet is a subcontractor to the state-owned South African Commuter Corporation.

He said the Minister of Transport and Public Works, Mr George Bartlett, was meeting the South African Police to discuss the issue.

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● Photograph: Sean Woods.

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Evaton mayor flees after attacks

By CHARLES MOGALE

EVATON mayor Sam Rabotapi has apparently fled the township following the gutting of his home, motor vehicles and garage.

Rabotapi's property has been the target of several attacks since the outbreak of township violence on September 3, 1984, which led to widespread rent boycotts.

On that day, his home in Craddock Road, Evaton, was looted by a mob and razed. His deputy in the council, Dutch Leburu Diphoko, was killed by a mob which tried unsuccessfully to burn down his Adams Road home.

Residents went on the rampage, killing another two councillors in the Vaal when an anti-rent-increase march went out of control. They were

Caesar Motjeane and Le-koa deputy mayor Jacob Dlamini. The then Lekoa mayor, Esau Mahlatsi, had a narrow escape when he fled his home for the Sebokeng police station. Businesses were attacked indiscriminately, but most affected were those belonging to councillors.

Since then, Rabotapi's garage in Adams Road has been stoned and burnt at least three times. Last week the remaining house on his plot was burnt down along with his garage in Zone 14, Sebokeng.

Attempts to reach the mayor were unsuccessful this week. There was nobody at his plot, and young urchins were playing in the shell that was his garage Council office staff said. Rabotapi was out.

Neighbours who re-

All the property of Evaton mayor Sam Rabotapi has been destroyed.

fused to identify themselves said the mayor had fled the township.

"For the sake of his safety, he should rather step down before something serious happens to him or his family. I have never seen anyone being targeted so often," said a neighbour.

Residents flock to pay service charges

By Therese Anders
and Abel Mabelane

WITBANK — KwaGuqa residents yesterday streamed to municipal offices to make their first services payment in more than six months.

In terms of an agreement on Friday between the Transvaal Provincial Administration, the Witbank Civic Association and the KwaGuqa Town Council, residents are to pay a flat rate for this month only.

The rate for houses with electricity is R30; those without electricity R10, and squatters and hostel dwellers R5.

Witbank Civic Association publicity secretary Dominic Mdluli said the electricity payment would not be enough to meet the township's September account with the Witbank Town Council. The balance would be provided as bridging finance from the TPA.

Mr Mdluli hailed the agreement as a major victory.

"The people in the township are very happy," he said.

From next month the tariff for squatters will be between R15 and R20, down from the pre-boycott rate of R45.

Pensioners will now pay only for electricity, and will no longer pay rent or service charges.

Residents in permanent houses will, from October, pay R21 a month for township services and 8,66c a unit for electricity. A resident from each zone will accompany meter readers to check the readings

Economical

In another development, the Alberton Industrialists Association has paid the Alberton City Council R100 000 to keep the power supply in Tokoza going while an economical rental is being worked out, Tokoza administrator Gert Muller said at the weekend.

Power was cut by the Alber-

ton municipality on Thursday as a result of the rent boycott by the residents.

Mr Muller said the R100 000 was paid on Friday and the TPA had agreed to pay the difference if there was a shortfall.

He said it was agreed at a meeting held between the civic association, the council, the TPA and industrialists that residents had to start paying R70 a month to the Alberton council.

Mr Muller said the TPA had appointed Nigel Mandy to serve as mediator between the Tokoza council and the local civic association.

He said it was agreed that residents must start paying the R70 during September and October. Between now and the end of next month, the parties would negotiate an economical rent for the township.

Mr Muller said the civic association had been told to inform Tokoza residents to start paying the R70 before or by Friday this week.

Figures show govt's capital expenditure 'is tapering off'

CHARLOTTE MATHEWS

GOVERNMENT expenditure on capital investments is tapering off with no big projects in the pipeline, say the Reserve Bank and a civil engineering industry source.

Bank figures for the second quarter of 1990 were due at the end of September. The first quarter reflected expenditure of R1,2bn at constant 1985 prices for public authorities against R1,4bn in the first quarter of 1989. For public corporations expenditure rose to R1bn from R902m.

Public corporations included Eskom, the Rand Water Board, Mossgas, Mossref, Transnet and Posts & Telecommunications while public authorities included central government, municipalities and some Regional Service Council (RSC) budgets.

A Reserve Bank spokesman said the trend of expenditure quarter-on-quarter for the last two years was downwards with the exception of Mossgas and one or two other public bodies.

He said Transnet and Posts & Telecommunications undertook some investment in 1989 which had since tapered off. RSC expenditure had risen.

The Central Statistical Service (CSS) report on actual and expected capital expenditure of the public sector for 1988 to 1991 said total expenditure in 1990 was expected to be higher than in 1989 but would fall again in 1991.

Total public sector expenditure in 1989 was estimated — at 1989 prices — to be around R16,9bn against R20bn in 1990 and R17,6bn in 1991.

The CSS stipulates that these estimates are based on availability of funds.

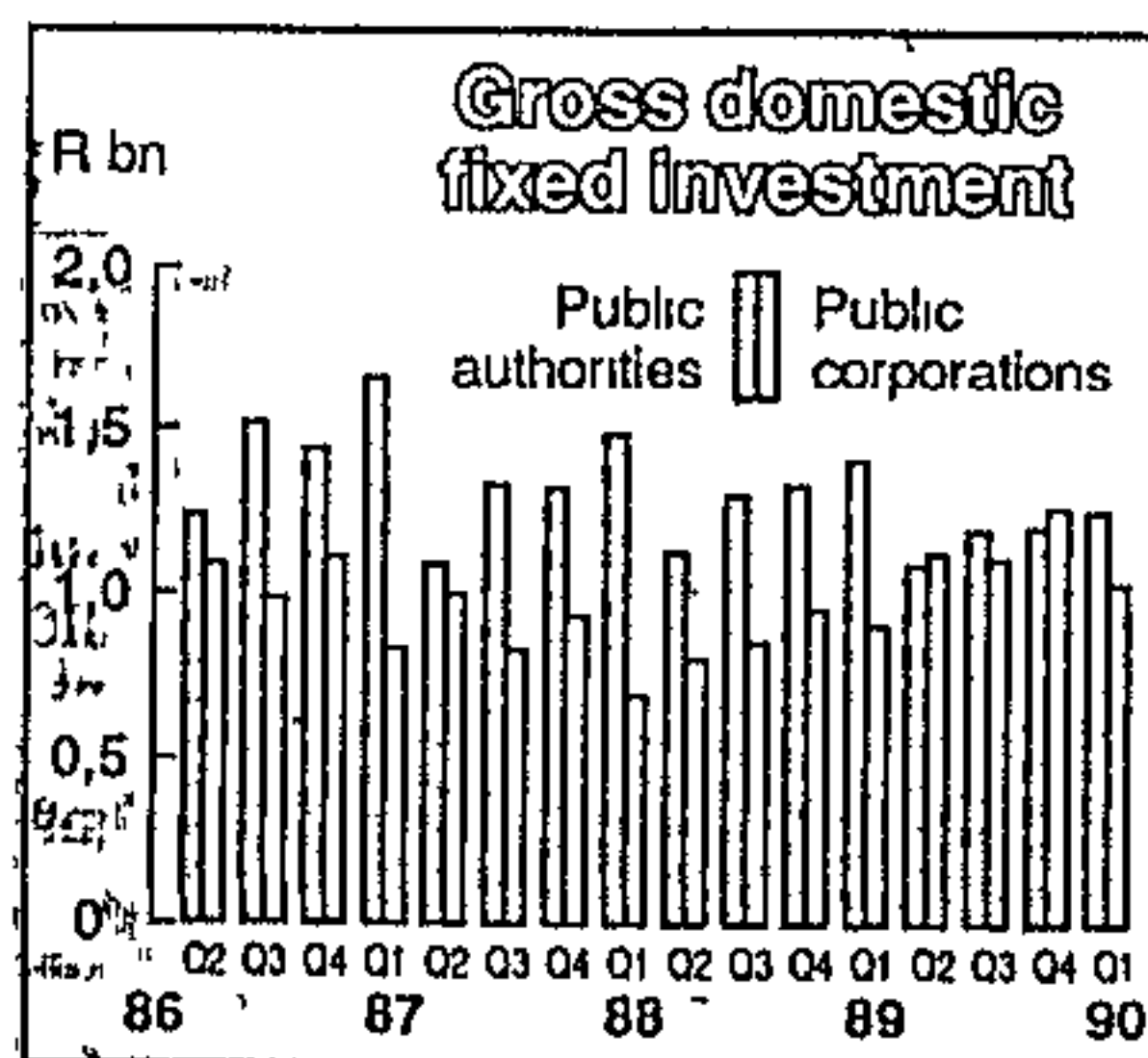
SA Federation of Civil Engineering Contractors (Safcec) executive director Kees Lagaay said it appeared municipalities and RSCs had adequate budgets for 1990. The allocation to the municipalities appeared to be for upgrading of black townships.

The state was cutting back on construction and maintenance of major roads. It appeared the combined RSC-state budget was down monetarily, he said.

Expenditure by Eskom was shrinking as it had surplus capacity for generating and distributing electricity.

Eskom was not planning any new power stations for the next five to eight years and little expenditure was planned for railways, harbours and aerodromes.

Mossgas's mechanical operations would continue but civil engineering work would start tapering off soon.



Graphic: FIONA KRISCH Source: SA RESERVE BANK

Millions for black councils

Star 19/9/90 261A

By Louise Burgers,
Municipal Reporter

The Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council (CWRSC) decided in principle last night to provide bridging finance to assist black local authorities with operating expenses.

CWRSC chairman John Griffiths described the decision as most important.

"It involves our addressing one of the most pressing problems of black local authorities — an inadequate economic base."

Representatives of councils of Johannesburg, Soweto, Randburg, Sandton, Roodepoort, Diepmeadow, Dobsonville, Lenasia South, Marlboro Gardens, Ennerdale, Alexandra and the south-western areas serve on the CWRSC.

It was decided the CWRSC would negotiate with the Transvaal Provincial Administration and local authorities to reach agreement on a financial plan.

Mr Griffiths warned that the council would only step in if local communities began contributing towards

the services.

"We will reschedule our budget and postpone projects in blacks areas to provide the bridging finance," he said.

The council reached its decision last night after heated debate behind closed doors. One proposal was that Soweto, for example, could be allocated R11 million a month towards its R30 million monthly budget.

About 85 percent of the CWRSC levies are paid by business in Johannesburg.

The TPA, the three Soweto councils, and the Soweto People's Delegation are to sign an agreement on Monday, officially writing off rent arrears and reinstating payments for services by residents.

But payments will not be enough to cover operating costs.

Mr Griffiths said Eskom and the Development Bank of Southern Africa would also be involved. White municipalities could be asked to assist as well, with, for example, the administration of the proposed financial plan.

RSC funding role mooted

PRETORIA — Regional Services Councils (RSCs) could become permanently involved in providing funds towards the running costs of some white and black local authorities, Transvaal MEC for local government Olaus van Zyl said yesterday.

Van Zyl told a news conference there was a possibility this financial contribution could become a permanent fixture despite the ending of boycotts and the provision of more bridging finance for black local authorities in the next financial year.

RSC financial assistance could also be extended to economically unviable white local authorities, he said.

Based on a worst case scenario, an estimated R155m would be needed from the RSCs to fund the black local authorities until the end of March, Van Zyl said.

EDYTH BULBRING

The involvement by RSCs in subsidising black local authorities had arisen following the rent and services boycotts.

Boycotts had depleted the Transvaal Provincial Administration's bridging finance from R313m to R77m for the rest of the financial year. Van Zyl hoped the boycotts in the remaining Transvaal local authorities would be broken within weeks.

The RSCs would also consider applications for financial assistance by boycotting black local authorities, but would not provide them with funding for electricity.

Van Zyl said he did not know how much would be allocated in bridging finance in next year's budget.

□ To Page 2

RSCs

DP spokesman on local government affairs Tony Leon said this move could indicate the substantial raising of RSC levies to finance this extra cost.

It could also fundamentally change the character of RSCs, which were intended to finance long-term capital projects.

Meanwhile, Sapa reports that Pretoria management committee chairman James

Leach said yesterday the councils of Atteridgeville and Mamelodi had been warned their electricity supply from Pretoria might be terminated without warning from next Monday unless they paid their overdue bills. Their respective arrear amounts are R1,7m and R3m.

Leach said the supply would not be cut if electricity consumers in the townships made arrangements to pay the accounts.

□ From Page 1

Councils try to head off power cuts

Star 24/9/90

Mamelodi City Council, which has until today to pay the R3.5 million it owes Pretoria City Council, has urged local residents to pay their rent and service charges promptly to avoid power cuts.

In Daveyton, the town council said yesterday it would accept a service charge of R70 per household per month in an effort to recover more than R3 million owed to Benoni Town Council for electricity.

A statement issued by the Daveyton council said agreement had been reached with about 10 000 residents who attended a meeting yesterday

their current monthly accounts. The local council and the Mamelodi People's Delegation (MPD) reached an agreement two weeks ago to freeze rent and service charges arrears on condition that the defaulters paid their current accounts.

"The council is optimistic that the residents will realise the gravity of the matter and make an earnest attempt to settle their accounts."

Daveyton council said about 10 000 residents met yesterday to discuss threats by Benoni Town Council to cut the black area's power unless the debt was settled.

The flat rate of R70 per month for services was an interim rate, the statement said. Daveyton mayor Tom Boya pleaded with residents at the meeting to pay more than the agreed amount if possible to help prevent a switch-off.

Residents of Daveyton's lower-income area of Ekwatwa are excluded from the R70 charge. They will only have to pay R50 per month for services.

The agreement represents a compromise on the part of the Daveyton council. It entered the meeting with the demand that some residents, like those living in the township's new extensions, pay R130 per month for services — Pretoria Bureau-Sapa.

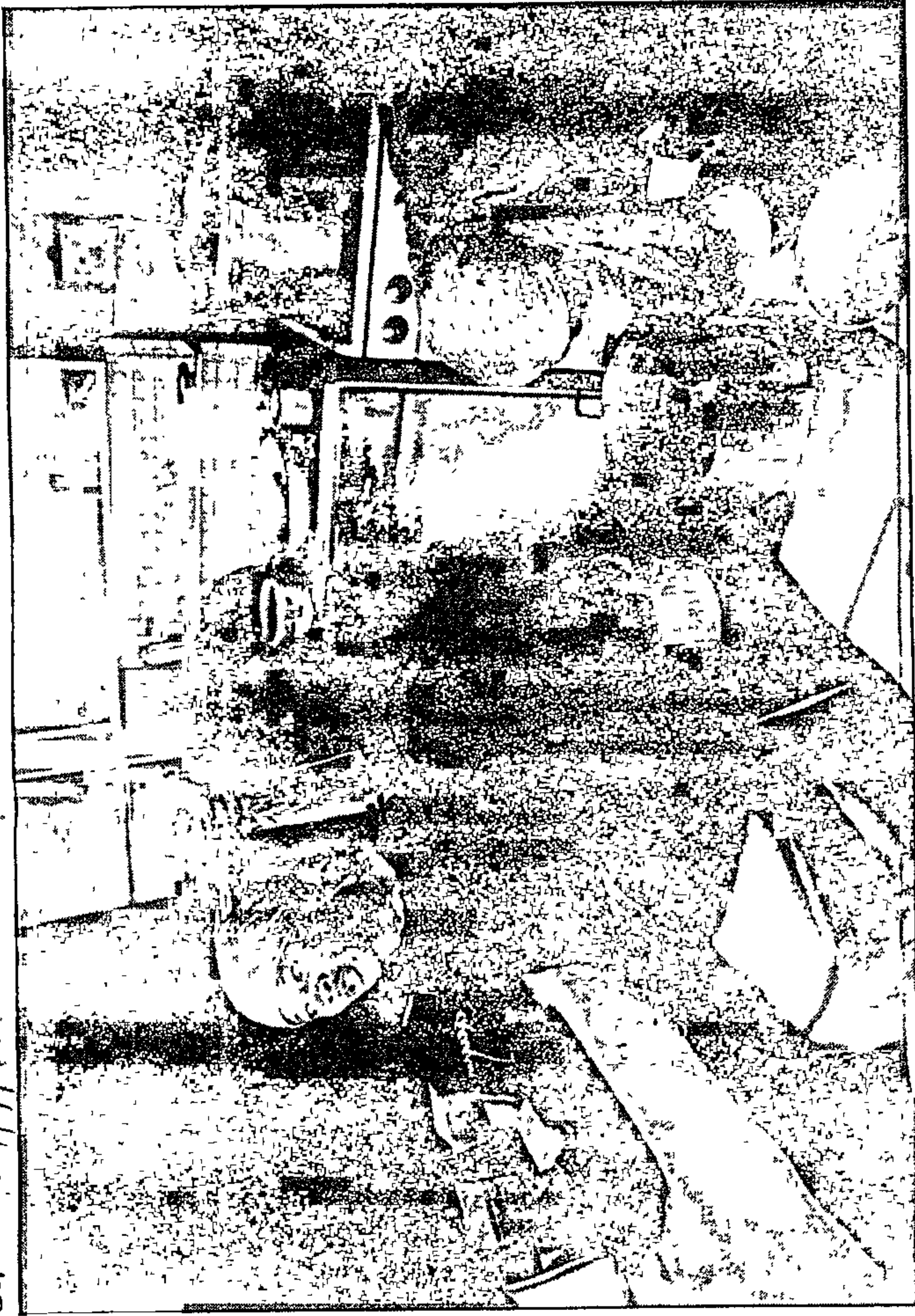
Battling without power

By Thabo Leshilo

"It's surprising how we take things for granted, but miss them immediately we stop having them. Then their importance dawns on you like never before."

were warm

A few kilometres away, in Xubem section, The Star team met a mother of three, Linah Ndubam, returning from Oakmore station where she had gone to collect water in a



Life goes on . Anndh Soko uses three pressure cookers to cope with her chores after electricity was cut in Tembisa.

Picture by Alf Kumalo.

Official trips abroad to be queried

By Louise Burgers,
Municipal Reporter

Questions will be asked at the Johannesburg City Council's monthly meeting tomorrow about its planned spending of

accompanied by two secretaries — at a total cost of R110 000. Every Johannesburg mayor has the opportunity to travel abroad when in office and can choose between Eu-

involved with housing problems to attend the conference to find out how other countries coped with their problems.

Management committee chairman Ian Davidson, city

Mr Davidson said criticism of the trips was unjustified — officials travelled business class to save money, and the budget for overseas trips by council officials had been cut to

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Notices

Pretoria City Council has issued notices to both Mamelodi and Atteridgeville councils giving them until today to pay their electricity accounts or face a blackout.

Mamelodi and Atteridgeville owe Pretoria about R3,5 million and R1,7 million respectively.

Mamelodi council revealed that rent and service charge arrears by local residents amounted to R22 million. It warned residents that they could find themselves without vital services in the months ahead unless they paid at least

their current monthly accounts.

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Battling without power

By Thabo Leshilo

"It's surprising how we take things for granted, but miss them immediately we stop having them. Then their importance dawns on you like never before."

This was Anna Soko's reaction to the "big switch-off" after parts of Tembisa on the East Rand were plunged into darkness when the town council cut off electricity.

The council also cut off the water supply elsewhere in the township.

Mrs Soko (37), mother of five and spaza shop owner, said the power cut had disrupted her family's life.

When The Star visited her home she was cooking potatoes on a paraffin stove before going to sell food at local schools.

"I now have to wake up at 3 am — two hours earlier — to be able to cook the food that I sell, before boiling water for the children's bath and breakfast," she said.

Mrs Soko said electricity in her section had been cut off without notice on Friday.

She was losing income because perishable food got spoilt and customers were not buying her cooldrinks because they

were warm.

A few kilometres away, in Xubeni section, The Star team met a mother of three, Linah Ndubani, returning from Oakmore station where she had gone to collect water in a 20 litre container. She was unable to get the water because the queue was too long.

Ms Ndubani (31) had her youngest child on her back and was carrying a parcel of clothing she intended to wash at a house near the station.

"It's tough in Tembisa," she remarked.

She said the water supply had been cut off last Monday.

"I don't know why they trouble us like this."

Asked how she had coped since Monday, she replied that her only option was to wake up and go and collect water at the station about 1 km away.

"I go to the station in the morning and at 2 pm. Sometimes, like today, I return with nothing because of the long queues."

When approached, town clerk Anton Relihan refused to comment and referred The Star to the township mayor. The mayor could not be reached at the time of going to press.

Tvl black councils collapse

A quarter of the Transvaal's 82 black councils has collapsed and 133 councillors have resigned since the beginning of the year.

In the 23 townships unable to form quorums, administrators have taken their place.

The councils without quorums include large urban townships such as Tsakane, Tokoza and KwaGuqa.

Many councillors cited intimidation as the reason for their resignations.

Provincial Administration director of liaison services Piet Wilken has denied that the black local authority system was collapsing.

He said by-elections would continue, except where violence prevented them — Highveld Bureau.

Soweto payments 'picked up'

SOME Soweto residents have begun making payments for electricity and municipal services, but it is still too early for the Soweto Council to give any indication of how many.

Piet Geers, town clerk of South Africa's largest township, said payments have "picked up" in various areas over the past two weeks.

"A number of people have paid, but we will not be able to properly assess the situation for some time."

"We will be in a position to supply more specific details about two weeks or so after the formal agreement between the three local authorities of Greater Soweto (Dobsonville, Diepkloof and Soweto), the Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) and the Soweto People's Delegation (SPD)," said Mr Geers.

The signing of the formal agreement on Monday came after the August 30 agreement, in principle, to end the township's four-year rent and services boycott.

Uniform tariff

The agreement was reached after a 15-hour meeting between the TPA, SPD and Greater Soweto Councils, when it was decided that township residents will pay a uniform tariff for services and electricity for September.

From October 1, Monday, there will be an interim charge for services, plus charges for electricity on a metered consumption rate.

Soweto residents who have boycotted rent and service payments for four years — are being charged a uniform tariff of R55 for September (for services and electricity), but from Monday they will be paying an interim service charge of R22.50 per household, plus electricity on a metered consumption rate of 12 c per unit.

The R22.50 is a flat rate charge for water, sewerage, refuse removal and "general administration." Sandton, Alberton and Johannesburg residents, by comparison, pay metered rates for their use of water.

New rates start on Monday

SUE OLSWANG
and JOVIAL RANTAO

Mr Geers said from Monday Soweto residents will receive accounts with two entries one for electricity, which will "reflect the true meter reading but where an excess of R50 will not be shown", and one for services, with the R22.50 amount covering the provision of water, sewerage, refuse removal and "general administration."

He said residents will pay less than R50 for electricity if their consumption is below that amount.

"There will be a three-month 'phasing in' of electricity to assist residents in determining how they can curb their use of electricity," he said.

The situation would then be reassessed. Soweto's residents will be paying more than Alberton residents and almost as much as Johannesburg and Sandton residents when they start paying for electricity on a metered consumption rate.

Higher rate

Soweto's metered consumption rate of 12 c per unit for electricity is higher than the rate charged by the Alberton municipality and very close to the rates charged by the Johannesburg and Sandton municipalities.

Below are the rates supplied to Saturday Star by the Johannesburg, Sandton and Alberton municipalities.

Johannesburg Water is charged at a rate of 111.5 c per kilolitre for domestic use and 189.0 c for business use.

A service charge of 46.16 c per day is made for electricity, plus 12.3 c per unit for domestic use and 20.80 c per unit for business use.

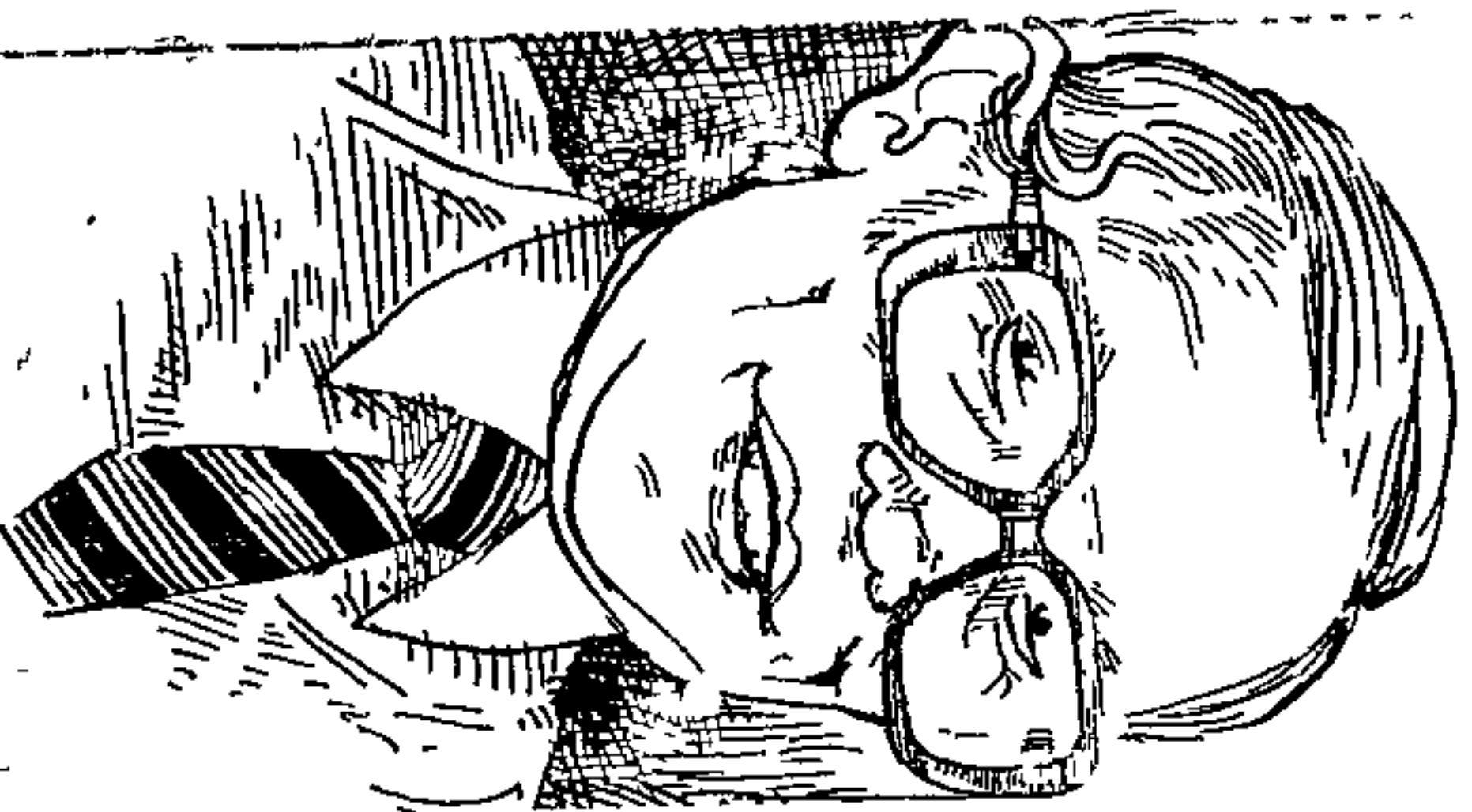
Sandton Water is charged at a rate of 77.75 c per kilolitre for domestic use and 117.75 c for business use.

Electricity is charged at a rate of 12.04 c per unit for both domestic and business use.

Alberton Water is charged at a rate of 78.95 c per kilolitre for the first 30 kilolitres (domestic and business use). The next 30 kilolitres are charged at a rate of 90.52 c per kilolitre and the rest at 96.33 c per kilolitre (domestic and business use).

A service fee of R15 is levied for electricity, with an additional charge of 9.7 c per unit for domestic use and 16.53 c per unit for business use.

Diplomacy is key for man behind historic accord



GREAT INNOVATOR, Workaholic MEC Olaus van Zyl.

THE signing of the Greater Soweto Accord this week was the culmination of intense negotiation and effort by many prominent people

But if anyone could be singled out as having played a key role in what might well result in the most ambitious innovation in the country's local government history, that person would be Olaus Albin Werner van Zyl, Transvaal provincial MEC responsible for local government and Regional Services Councils

With the ink barely dry on the historic accord, Mr van Zyl has already looked beyond the implications it will have for Transvaal metropolitan areas "I believe that the signing of the accord has not only set an example for other regions in the country to follow, but it has demonstrated that the process of negotiation does work and does work well"

A qualified civil engineer and master's degree holder in transport engineering from the Univer-

sity of California, Mr van Zyl has mixed feelings about his involvement in local government affairs — particularly at a time when black local government is experiencing more turmoil than ever before in the country's history

"No one in his right mind would consider it an easy job right now but, on the other hand, I enjoy local government and the challenge it offers"

He does not believe in simply laying down the law. The problems facing black townships and other local government bodies needed to be solved by the people involved. His job, he said, was to help them achieve solutions and not to force those solutions upon them

Undoubtedly a tough negotiator, is Mr van Zyl not also perhaps a tough administrator using an iron fist in a velvet glove? After all, it was Mr van Zyl, for example, who ordered a number of town councils to put their houses in order or face cuts in

Personality

OLAUS VAN ZYL

**Interviewed by:
CHRIS MOERDYK**

bridging finance with the subsequent disruption of electricity supplies, and so on

No, he said, that was not so much the waving of an intractable iron fist as making the councils concerned face reality. And the reality was that the Transvaal Provincial Administration simply did not have any more money to continue supporting councils that were becoming impoverished through rent boycotts. Certainly Mr van Zyl is tough — he would not have been appointed to his present position if he had not had this attribute —

but he is a man who prefers not to take a tough line. Instead he opts whenever possible to use diplomacy, guile and his obvious pragmatic negotiating power to solve problems

Mr van Zyl clearly enjoys being a TPA executive committee member, but there is no doubt that the great love of his life is civil engineering

There is little doubt too, that should Mr van Zyl ever decide to embark on a career in public relations he would excel at that as well

During his year as Randburg mayor he attended no fewer than 250 civic functions — promoting his town and rarely letting an opportunity pass to place Randburg firmly in the limelight as an ideal residential area, retirement area or business centre

He has enormous stamina, born out by the fact that it took Saturday Star three days to catch up with him and even then the subsequent interview was conducted in his motor car while he was on

route to his umpteenth meeting of the week

Olaus Van Zyl was born in Worcester in the Cape on June 17 1944 and went to school in Pretoria. After passing out of the Naval Gymnasium he enrolled for a B Sc Civil Engineering degree at Pretoria University after which he obtained his master's degree in the United States

In 1967 he joined consulting engineers Brunette, Kruger & Stoffberg Inc and was a director of the firm from 1978 to 1988

Between 1977 and 1988 he served as a member of the Randburg town council where, between 1977 and 1980 he was chairman of the management committee — a position he held once again in 1984.

In 1981 he was elected Mayor of Randburg

He was also president of the Transvaal Municipal Association

From 1984 to 1988 Mr van Zyl was a member of the President's Council

Former mayor pleads for peace after being mob target

By CHARLES MOGALE

FORMER Lekoa mayor Esau Mahlatsi has appealed to his "invisible enemies" to bury the hatchet and talk.

Mahlatsi has been a regular target of angry mobs since September 3, 1984, when he chaired the council which sparked off the countrywide rent boycotts by announcing rent increases in the area.

An anti-rent march which led to several deaths and millions of rands in damages, was followed by similar actions throughout the country.

Mahlatsi said he is baffled at the regularity with which his property gets attacked "every time there is fighting".

His house was razed in 1984, and since then his garage in Sebokeng Zone 14 was burnt down twice when violent clashes erupted in the township.

"I am not a member of Inkatha, the ANC, the SAP or the SADF. There has never been even the slightest suggestion that I could be a member of these organisations. So it amazes me that whenever there are clashes between these parties, I have to be attacked."

"I certainly do not think the ANC or Inkatha are involved in these attacks. My feeling now is that other businessmen driven by petty jealousy could be behind it, exploiting situations to strike against me."

He sleeps peacefully, he said, and prays every night. He also drives alone around the town-



Esau Mahlatsi ... property a target of "invisible enemies".

ship, and needs no guard. When we pointed to a revolver on top of the TV a few paces from him, he chuckled: "That is why I am not even carrying it on me."

"I am a Christian, and I know I have harmed nobody. However, if anybody thinks I have done something that upset them, I invite them to come and talk to me."

Did he have any regrets about increasing the rents in 1984, and thus setting a countrywide precedent of rent boycotts?

"No. There was not even a rent increase in the Vaal. We had merely suggested it, and we were waiting for input from other people. Those who took action did so on a supposition of something that had not happened."

"Even then, I believe we could have talked it out, although now I think we should let bygones be bygones. Some people think I am a tough person, but I am basically an easy-going guy. I take time to make decisions, but when I do, I stick to them," he said.

"I would appreciate it if people could forget the past. Even to my enemies, I am appealing to them to come forward and let us talk things out."

Councillor dies after shooting

A Dobsonville town councillor, who was shot and wounded by unknown gunmen in Soweto on Friday, has died in hospital.

Don Mmesi died in the Lera-tong Hospital near Krugers-dorp on Saturday, a day after three gunmen shot him outside his shop.

A police spokesman, Lieutenant G Mariemuthoo, said Mr Mmesi's wife, who was also wounded in the attack, was in a stable condition.

No motive has been established for the attack and no suspects have been arrested.

First joint RSC to be set up between Natal, KwaZulu

THE first joint regional services council (RSC) is to be established between Natal and KwaZulu early next year, Planning and Provincial Affairs Minister Harnus Kriel said yesterday.

Speaking at the second annual conference of the Association of RSCs in Port Elizabeth, Kriel said he believed the joint attempt would be successful.

In future, SA would have to move away from local government systems based on race and colour.

New structures, which in a non-discriminatory way provided for power sharing and recognised self-determination of communities within a democratic dispensation, would have to be

MIKE ROBERTSON

negotiated.

RSCs would remain a form of local authority in the new dispensation, he said.

"The idea of metropolitan government is a possibility which will have to be investigated.

"In this case, it might prove necessary to distinguish between rural and urban areas."

Kriel said black local authorities' overhead capital requirements in most cases far exceeded their income.

He appealed to the association to support black local authorities in maintaining, upgrading and fully utilising existing structures.

SAW
3/10/90
2614

Council must pay R2-m to attorneys

Own Correspondent

The Diepmeadow council's attempt to recover rent arrears by hiring a firm of attorneys backfired when it was presented with a R2 million legal bill

The council hired attorneys in July to collect more than R37 million rent owed by Diepmeadow residents

This was after black local authorities had been warned by Transvaal authorities that services would be cut off if they failed to pay

The firm of attorneys sent several letters of demand to residents in July warning them to pay their arrears

The impression given to the council at the time was that the legal costs would be borne by the residents

However, the plan to take the residents to court was halted when the Diepmeadow Civic Association intervened on behalf of the residents, and the council was left to foot the bill

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BACKGROUND

Civic associations flex muscles

While the ANC is battling to come to grips with the realities of national negotiations and reconstruction, well-trenched community structures have taken the initiative in grassroots negotiations which could affect township residents most directly — in their neighbourhood ways of life

Civic associations — country-wide community structures which fall under the umbrella of the United Democratic Front — are now emerging as a significant and separate power bloc which could control negotiations at the level of local government.

While national negotiations move ahead falteringly, local initiatives between the provincial authorities and about 30 civic associations are proceeding on rent boycotts, service provision and other issues.

Last month, 38 "civics" came together to form the Civic Associations of Southern Transvaal (Cast) under the leadership of Alexandra activist and trade unionist Moses Mayekiso.

Plans are afoot to form a national civic body by March.

Mr Mayekiso said civics would remain independent from political organisations, al-

though they would be in alliance with the ANC. Even in a new dispensation, civics would still act as "watchdogs" over local government structures. Civics thus do not regard themselves as councils-in-waiting, but envisage a role similar to that of ratepayer associations in "white" municipalities — although they would push for more powers.

Battle

Mr Mayekiso's remarks on "civic independence" were interpreted by one activist as "the firing of the first salvos in the battle for independence from the ANC".

However, civics, in the main dominated by ANC supporters, would at most constitute a loyal opposition to the ANC.

There could be several motives behind the formation of regional, and eventually national, civic association bodies.

● It could be an attempt by the ANC, which supports the move to consolidate civics, to ensure and extend control over grassroots structures. Civics could become important recruiting arm for the ANC — both among non-affiliated residents and civic members who

Civic associations, which carried the anti apartheid torch while political organisations were banned, are emerging as a massive power bloc in the phase of transition. The consequences are examined by Political Reporter ESMARE VAN DER MERWE.

support other political organisations like Azapo and the PAC. ● The consolidation of the considerable power of civics could also be a bid for power by internal leaders whose status has been eroded since the return of the exiled leadership. If they could prove they represent a significant constituency, they might strengthen their chances to be elected to office at the ANC's congress in December.

Significantly, many of Cast's leadership are trade unionists, some of them with strong SACP ties. At least two office bearers, Mr Mayekiso and Cast treasurer and Cosatu vice-president Chris Dlamini, are SACP central committee members.

This could mean that the SACP, whose marriage with the ANC is being subjected to some strain, is focusing on civics to establish a separate power base in working-class structures. ● There is growing concern

among ANC supporters that an ANC government would not necessarily "deliver the goods" to ordinary township residents. According to Cast assistant general secretary Cas Coovadia "There is certainly no confrontation between civics and the ANC. But one doesn't know what will happen in a post-apartheid South Africa.

Upliftment

"Civics are beginning to consolidate. Up to now we have played a political role. But because of the unbanning of political organisations, we can now resume our most important role — to facilitate socio-economic upliftment, development and reconstruction.

"Civic members belong to more than one political organisation. The political affiliation of a particular civic will be determined by the members. We therefore cannot link up with

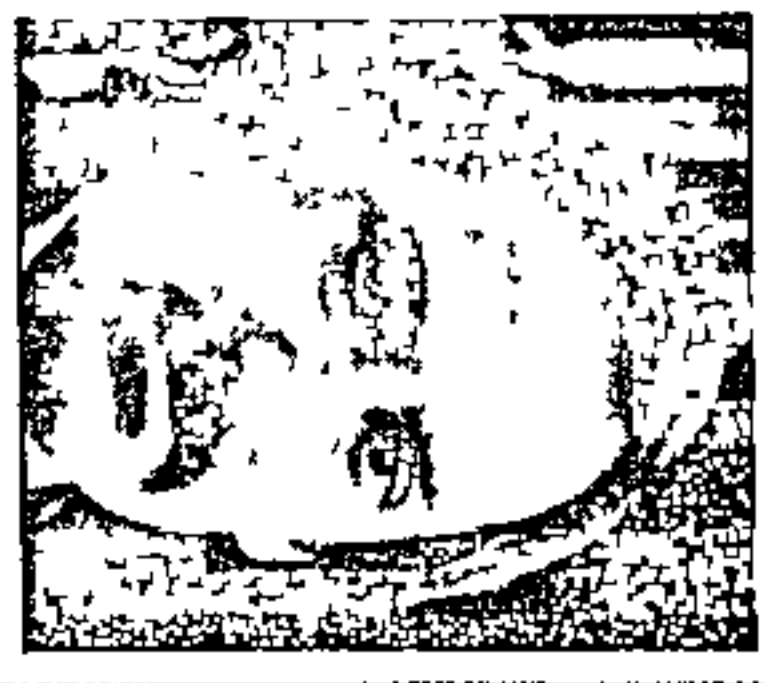
only one political group. "We will retain a separate identity, but in many instances we might decide to do things differently from the political leadership."

Cast was formed shortly before the first ANC-convened consultative conference on local government last weekend to thrash out a policy on local government.

Details on the policy are still scarce. However, the aim is to elect nonracial interim local government structures in one person, one vote nationwide elections. These elections, the ANC says, should take place after the abolition of all apartheid laws but before a new constitution comes into being. Cast supports these principles.

Confusion still seems to exist on a number of issues.

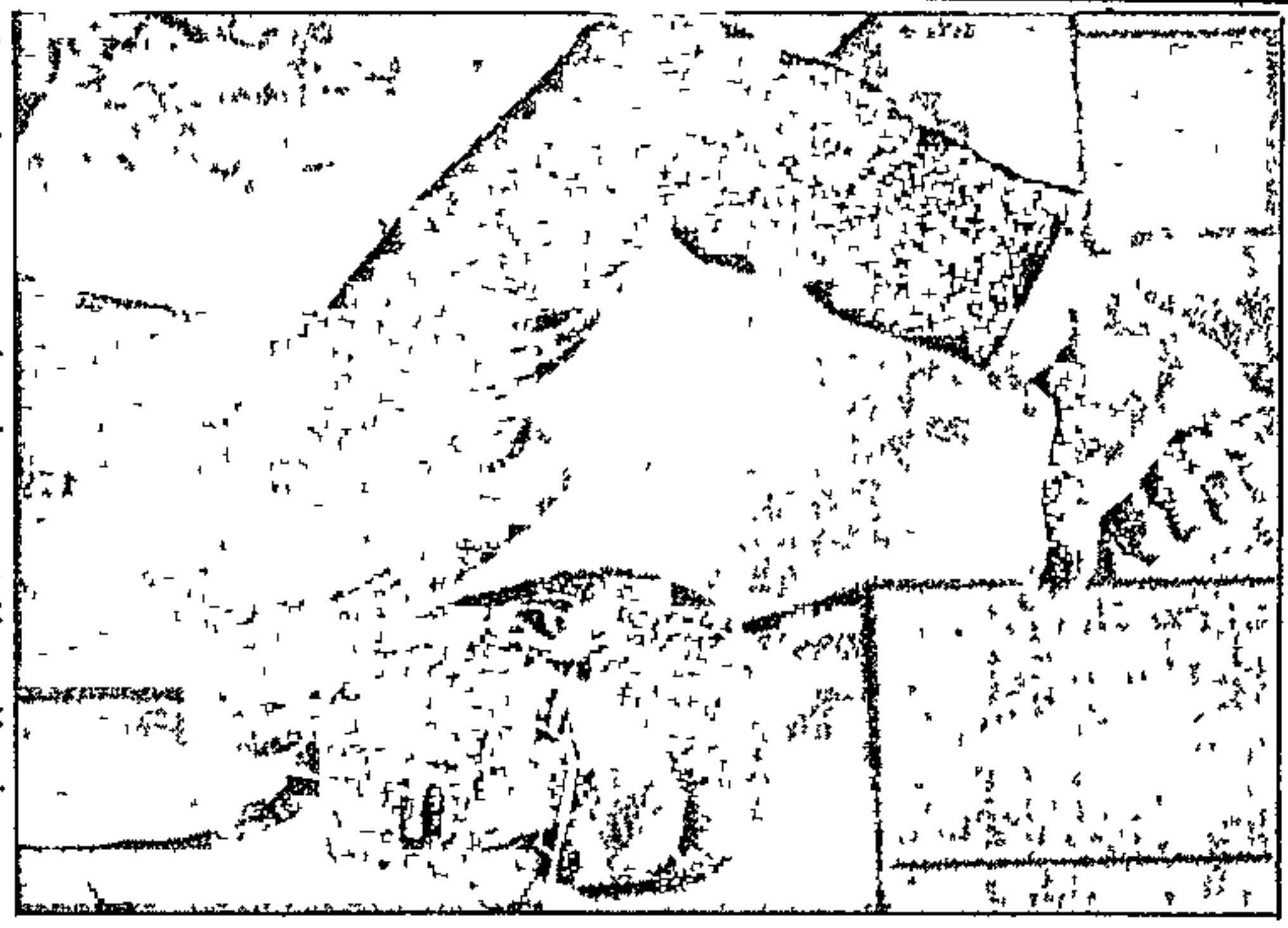
● How can nonracial elections take place in terms of the current Constitution? ● Who will be responsible for the decarcation of constituencies? ● Will the Government go along with the ANC's proposal that the elections should be funded by the State? ● Will political parties put up candidates for election? ● The ANC believes these in-



Cas Coovadia assistant general secretary of Cast

term structures should make proposals on a new local government policy to a national constituent assembly, a body which has been proposed to draw up a new constitution. However, the Government has rejected the principle of a constituent assembly.

● In view of the civics' decision not to merge with local government structures, will the current civic leaders remain in the civics or stand for election on to councils? ● Would a system of nonracial councils and civics not duplicate activities, and how would the powers of these separate entities be defined?



Alexandra activist and trade unionist Moses Mayekiso leader of the newly formed Civic Associations of Southern Transvaal, an association of 38 civic bodies

MIKE ROBERTSON

EXISTING systems of provincial and homeland government would be scrapped in a new SA, President F W de Klerk said yesterday. *5/10/90 BIDAM*

To replace them government envisaged a system of strong, autonomous regional government, De Klerk said in a speech prepared for delivery at the Administrators' Conference in Maritzburg.

Outlining details of the decentralised system of government in a new SA envisaged by the NP, he said a Committee of Inquiry into Inter-governmental Fiscal Relations had indicated local government spending as a percentage of total state spending could grow from 10% to 46%.

New regional govt plan is outlined

Regional spending could grow from 16% to 23%, while central government spending would decline dramatically from its present 67% to 31%. *(261A)*

De Klerk said expanding powers of local and regional government would militate against any group monopolising power at central government level. *(261A)*

The President said that it would have to be decided during negotiations whether a unitary or federal system would best suit the development of strong regional gov-

□ To Page 2

Govt plan

ernment

Financial viability would be of critical importance in deciding the delimitation of regions which could not be drawn up to satisfy political ideologies and aspirations.

De Klerk said government strongly believed there would be an important role for a system of autonomous regional government in a new SA.

Devolution of power would play an important role in protecting minorities.

Strong regional government would bring decision making closer to voters and create greater opportunities for participation.

De Klerk told the Administrators the time had arrived to implement action plans that dealt with squatting.

Urgent attention had to be given to the identification, purchase and development of land.

He announced that he had asked the

President Council to update government's strategy on urbanisation. The idea was to have broad plan which dealt with both urbanisation and housing.

It would have to be accepted that new areas with rudimentary standards of housing and services would develop.

Where local authorities were reluctant to lower standards and accept elementary housing structure, Administrators would have to intervene to remove obstacles. SA could no longer afford the application of unnecessarily high standards.

Sapa reported that De Klerk announced a R50m injection for the financially strapped health services in Natal and KwaZulu and called on those involved to meet Health Minister Rina Venter next week to discuss how best the money could be spent.

□ From Page 1



Picking up the pieces . . . women and children near the razed squatter camp. ■ Pic: TLADI KHUELE

Alex council leaves 600 in lurch

By SOPHIE TEMA

THE Alexandra Town Council has done nothing to help the 600 squatters who lost everything when a fire destroyed more than 100 shacks in the area this week.

Town Clerk William Khumalo says this is because squatters have not made a formal request for help from the council.

But the squatters are not organised, and have no leader to make a formal request.

Khumalo told *City Press* the squatters did not have rights as residents, but the council would assist shack-dwellers who want to be relocated.

"Those who are willing to go voluntarily will be resettled at Ivory Park near Rabie Ridge and all arrangements to acquire sites for them and to get them

moved to the area will be the responsibility of the council," he said.

Meanwhile, Operation Hunger has donated food and clothes and Women for Peace has distributed blankets.

Nocawe Sajeni is one of the survivors who managed to save herself and her three children – one of them a three-week-old baby.

"I battled to get the two eldest children out of the burning shack. Then I had to fight through the flames to get to my baby.

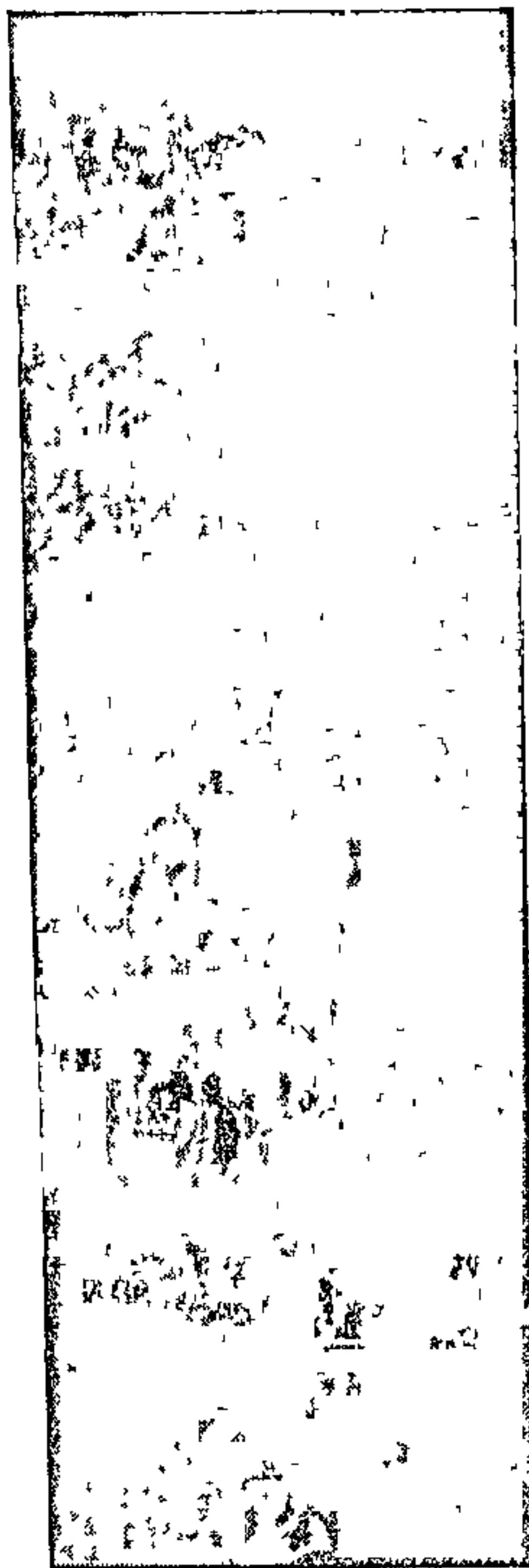
"As I braved the flames I said a silent prayer I reached my baby and rushed out of the shack to safety.

"All my money, personal belongings and my children's clothing was destroyed," she said.

Alexandra Civic Organisation secretary Richard Mdakane appealed for help from civic and charity organisations.



the bloodstained body of a
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r and Associated Press.

Blacks aim to wreck local govt

By Esmaré van der Merwe,
Political Reporter

Civic associations in the Transvaal are to organise campaigns to bring about the collapse of the (black) local government system, the Civic Associations of the Southern Transvaal (CAST) said yesterday.

CAST, formed last month as an umbrella for 38 civic associations, announced at a press conference in Johannesburg that "mass grassroots struggles and campaigns would be intensified" to force the resignation of councillors and the adoption of a new non-racial municipal dispensation.

CAST president Moses Mayekiso said civic associations would determine the nature of protest actions within the next few weeks.

CAST announced several decisions which had been taken at a one-day meeting in Johannesburg on Sunday. These included

- Racial local government structures should be disbanded and replaced with a system of single tax-bases in townships and cities
- One person, one vote elections for non-racial municipalities

'Written off'

- All service charge arrears must be written off and houses should be transferred to "those who had paid for them".
- CAST would establish community trust funds to contribute towards the building of new houses
- CAST would campaign for the conversion of hostels into family units and the development of shacks into formal housing

Mr Mayekiso said "People are angry with the State for undermining their organisations and are committed to intensifying the struggle."

CAST said yesterday guidelines on negotiations between civic associations and provincial authorities would soon be drawn up to ensure that "weaker civics" were not pressured into signing unfavourable agreements to end rent boycotts.

These guidelines would ensure uniformity in agreements reached through negotiations between the Transvaal Provincial Administration and about 30 civic associations, the organisation said.

PRESIDENTS of Meloding near Virginia, whose water supply had been cut from October 4 to October 9, are up in arms after their councillors resigned on Friday.

This week irate residents told City Press the seven left them in a lurch and should have cleared up their "mess" before resigning.

Those who resigned are Meloding mayor Mokebe Finger, his deputy Thabiso Modise and councillors Seabata Moletsane, Mokoalese, Sello Tau, Mitholele Makoko and Ida Finer.

Meloding Civic Association chairman George Moahlodi said residents had vowed not to pay rent arrears which had been caused by councillors.

He said nobody had campaigned for a rent boycott and those who refused to pay did so because councillors had increased service charges and they could not afford to pay.

"Those who had been paying, unaware of the council's 'maladministration', were surprised this year to learn the council owes about R2-million."

"Councillors must know what happened to that money."

Meloding up in arms as council quits

"We therefore call for a commission of inquiry to probe the Meloding Council coffers," Moahlodi said.

He further alleged councillors had entered into an agreement with the Goldfields Water Board (GWB) to pay R10 000 a week to cover the R134 000 water debt.

In an interview with City Press on Friday, GWB chairman R Vermaak confirmed there was an agreement between Meloding Council and his board, but declined to divulge the contents of the agreement.

Vermaak, a National Party member who is also deputy chairman of the Goldfields Regional Services Council, said the water supply was resumed on Tuesday following their agreement.

Meloding Women's League chairman Elisa Lunda said councillors were elected by the people, but they did not even have the decency to call a public meeting to announce their resignation.

"We first received short written messages from individual councillors at the water taps, stating they were resigning - before it appeared in the Press."

"We also found notices at the Mandela Squatter Camp saying shack dwellers must pay R10 a week to the council to make up for the huge amount owed," Lunda said.

The Black Local Authorities (BLA) system had failed dismally and needed to be scrapped outright, she added.

In a statement the seven coun-

cillors said they had quit because the Orange Free State Provincial Administration (OPA) refused to assist the township financially, despite the fact Meloding did not have a tax base and had been hit by a rent boycott initiated in March this year.

Responding to the incidents in Meloding, Goldfields' Democratic Party chairman, Dr R Kahn, said it was surprising the OPA could not write off the R34-million owed by the whole of the OFS, when the Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) waived over R500 million owed by the Soweto Council.

"Why pick on Meloding? Is it a test case for the government to check if the rent boycott could be ended, or is it because they know Meloding people cannot resist like the Sowetans?" Kahn asked.

Talking about water problems in Meloding and Mamahabane, Kahn said he tried in vain to convince the authorities to be more lenient.

Referring to Section 20 (5) (a) of the Health Act No. 63, of 1977, Kahn pointed out it was the responsibility of the Department of National Health to supply water intended for human use to the people of South Africa.

Old-timers face the sack

By CHARLES MOGALE

THE Soweto Council is on the brink of a major workers' crisis following alleged threats to retrench workers in a bid to save money.

Discontent swept through the council's offices this week as workers threatened to take "major steps" should the council retrench workers.

A spokesman for the workers, who asked to remain anonymous for fear of reprisals, said heads of different departments had unofficially told old staffers they would have to take early pension, or be dismissed - to save running costs.

In another swift move, the council withdrew telephone lines from employees, making it impossible for them to make outside calls.

The spokesman said: "Strange that the council should be hiring thousands of so-called information officers, who are nothing but informers. These people

draw a salary, but they do nothing but roam around. This gives credence to our belief these officers were promised jobs if they voted the Sofasonke Party into power."

He also questioned the "locomotion" allowance paid to white staff, believed to be R2 000 each.

"These gentlemen are paid that massive amount just for using their cars to drive to work. Why not fire them?"

"Why not give houses in Soweto to the residents, which would inevitably lead to improvement in the township - and make it unnecessary to have township managers roaming around looking for leaking roofs and burst pipes?" he said.

Attempts to reach mayor Sam Mkhwanazi and town clerk N Geers were unsuccessful. The two were said to be in different meetings and could not be reached at their homes.

Negotiate, councils told

2614 15/10/90

Intransigent white municipalities will have to enter into negotiations with black communities over new models of local government or else be excluded from agreements and face protest action, local government experts warn.

The Greater Soweto Accord ending Soweto's rent boycott formed the basis for discussions in other Transvaal communities between the Transvaal Provincial Administration, civic associations and white local authorities.

Benefit

One of the most important provisos of the accord was the establishment of a metropolitan chamber to promote negotiation for new nonracial local government structures, according to an expert in local government.

A research officer for the University of the Witwatersrand Centre for Policy Studies, Khetha Shubane, said it would benefit both white local authorities and the country if they got involved right away in negotiations for new systems of democratic local government.

"If this process succeeds, it is likely to usher the country into

Negotiations between civic associations and provincial authorities on new nonracial systems of local government could affect talks for a new constitution, reports LOUISE BURGERS

a specific form of local government which could stay with us for a long time."

Transvaal MEC for local government Olaus van Zyl said the present system of local government had to continue until replaced by a negotiated, acceptable system.

"Hopefully that will be soon, but we cannot say whether the national negotiation forum will indicate that a new local government system must be implemented with a new constitution. It depends on the negotiation chamber's timetable."

Mr van Zyl said the constitutional future of the country could not be decided by the Government alone and had to be worked out around the negotiating table.

"But what do we do in the meantime? We can set up the

forums for discussion and get more people involved in local government.

"I believe one of the major achievements in this process is that the civics have become involved."

The local government expert warned that white local authorities which refused to become involved in the negotiation process could face protest action, forcing them to capitulate.

"Local-level negotiations are going to continue irrespective of what happens, and it is only a question of whether local authorities give in or face consumer boycotts, stayaways and marches to make their point."

Break away

Mr Shubane urged all interested groups, including white ratepayers' associations, to become involved in the negotiation process.

He said some white local authorities had already taken steps to find a more effective form of administration. In Kimberley, a common administrative base had recently been formed between the town and Galeshewe township.

Pro-reform municipalities within the controversial Conservative Party-dominated Transvaal Municipal Association (TMA) have threatened to break away after the TMA decided to ignore the Thornhill Commission's new models of nonracial local government structures.

At a recent conference, the majority of delegates also blocked attempts to open the association to all races.

"This is a time to include people rather than exclude them. If we are going to be the voice of local authority in the Transvaal, we should represent

all local authorities," Sandton management committee chairman Percy Oertel said.

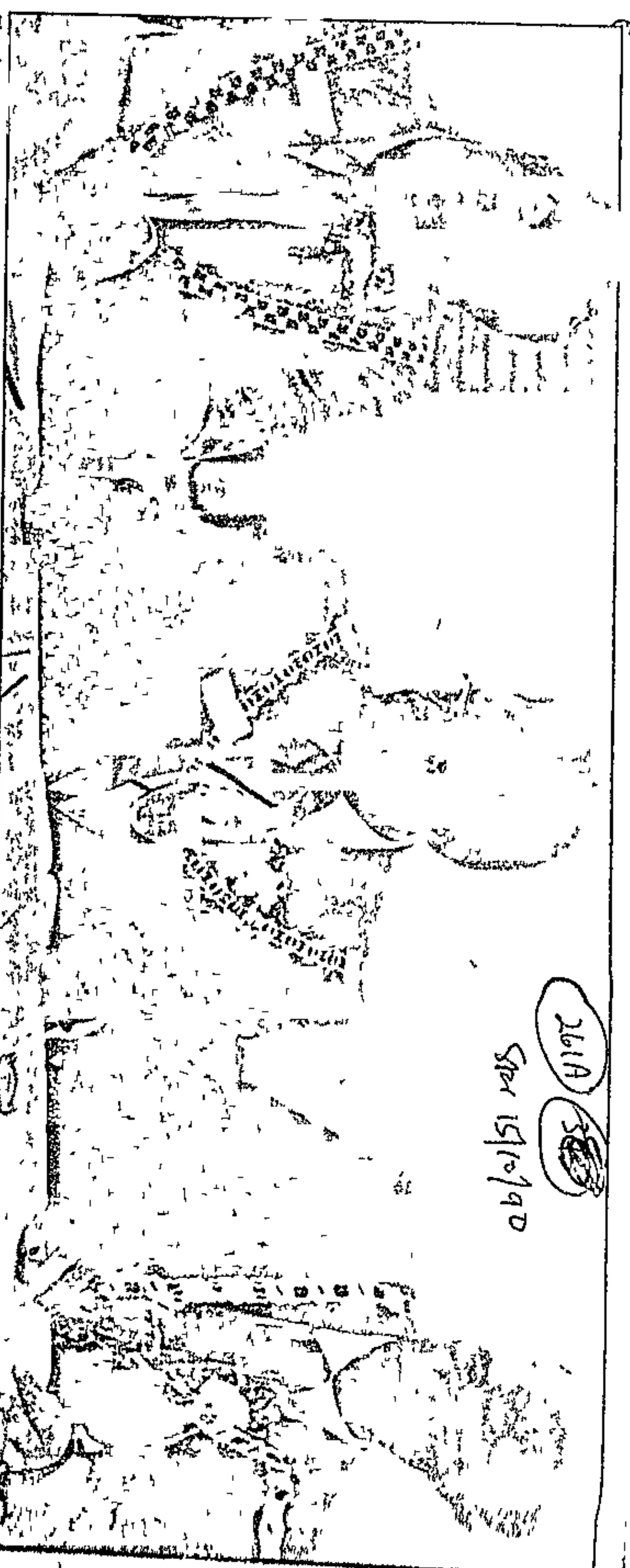
He described the CP action in the TMA as a "totally unrealistic, blinkered attitude" posed to the CP viewpoint, mostly on the Reef, have

formed a pressure group and decided to actively support an investigation of Thornhill's new models for local government.

Johannesburg management committee member Cecil Bass believes the time might have come for urban municipalities to seriously reconsider their

membership of the TMA, as the association had become an obstacle to reform.

Mr Bass said the issue was serious as the TMA was a major player in the United Municipal Executive, which represents all white municipalities in South Africa.



The historic signing of the Soweto Accord last month by Soweto mayor Sam Mkhwanazi (left), Diepsmedow mayor Joseph Khumalo and Dobsonville mayor Steve Nkomo along with the Transvaal Provincial Administration and the Soweto Civic Association.

Picture by Stephen Davenport

2614 15/10/90

E Transvaal tense as services are cut

Star 17/10/90 261A

By Therese Anders
Highveld Bureau

An explosive situation was developing in several Eastern Transvaal industrial townships last night after the cutting of essential services, including electricity, water and sewerage, by Conservative Party-controlled councils.

In Ermelo's Wesselson township, where water was cut at noon, a large crowd of angry residents was reported to be marching to the township council offices last night.

The local civic association has labelled the CP council's actions inhumane and barbaric.

The affected townships are in arrears to the white local authority supplying bulk services for amounts of up to R1 million.

And the ANC has urged the Government to use its legal powers to "call these disruptive CP elements to order before the situation gets out of hand".

The ANC's Eastern Transvaal region secretary Joe Nkuna said he believed the CP councils were cutting services to retaliate for the scrapping of the Separate Amenities Act.

"This is a political, not economic, decision. The CP is desperately trying to prove to its followers that it is still able to control things."

Yesterday Bethal's CP town council severed all services to Emzini's 30 000 residents, and Ermelo suspended the water and sewerage service to Wesselson's 45 000 inhabitants.

Influence

Electricity has also been cut in Middelburg's Mhluzi township (population 70 000) and Carolina's tiny Silobela black residential area.

The chairman of the regional Joint Co-ordinating Committee, Paul Broodryk, has charged that the ANC and the civic associations did not keep their

side of the agreement.

"They agreed to get their people paying, but they didn't."

"It is doubtful that they have influence with their people."

● Negotiations between authorities and civic associations are in danger of being derailed.

The talks were under threat yesterday when it emerged that a letter sent to black councils instructed them to use funds collected from residents to pay council salaries before paying electricity debts.

However, after a meeting, Transvaal MEC for local government Olaus van Zyl gave the assurance that councillors' salaries were paid with bridging finance, not residents'.

● A pamphlet blitz has been mounted in Atteridgeville by the SADF urging calm as "Operation Switchoff" began.

The pamphlets said: "The SADF has been requested to maintain law and order and prevent violence and intimidation in Atteridgeville."

Call for action against obstructionist councils

By Shirley Woodgate

Civic associations across the country are being urged by Actstop to take action against Conservative Party councils that refuse to heed the scrapping of the Reservation of Separate Amenities Act.

Actstop spokesman Mohammed Dangor said yesterday people should force recalcitrant councils to implement the law, by way of organised protest, marches and court action.

Demand

Threatening that CP councillors and CP municipalities could be tied up in litigation for the next 20 years, Actstop further urged Lawyers for Human Rights, the National Association for Democratic Lawyers and the Black Lawyers' Association to assist any individual or civic association which had to go to court.

"It is the start of the Martin

Luther King era of the 1950s in South Africa. People who are blocked will go in their thousands to the front doors of previously segregated amenities to demand entry," said Mr Dangor.

"Their weapons will be exposure and embarrassment," he said.

Mr Dangor said Actstop had urged the powerful umbrella body, Civic Associations of the Southern Transvaal (Cast), representing all civic associations in the area, to adopt this form of protest.

"To the CP councils who defy the law, we say if you want to retain your apartheid signs, then you must also put up the 'whites only' signs outside your businesses.

"You cannot have it both ways. You cannot choose to take your residents' money but refuse them entry," Mr Dangor said.

● Exorbitant entrance fees

— Page 6.

UPGRADING

(261A)

THE Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council's budget for 1990/91 is approximately R200-m for upgrading in its area, according to the *Update*

Of this total, Soweto, Alexandra, Diepsmeadow and Dobsonville will receive R165-m (83 percent). The chairman of the CWRSC, J Griffiths, has said R800-m is

Soweto residents tell council:

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By SOPHIE TEMA

ABOUT 21 Soweto families are refusing to move to make way for the new road to Roodepoort.

The families – all residents of Mofolo North – were earlier promised homes in a new area to enable the reconstruction of the road.

All the families but one previously agreed to be relocated to new homes in Zondi. They then undertook to move as soon as the houses and premises were completed.

But the families claim the Soweto City Council has not honoured its promises.

Most of the families say they had their original houses either renovated, extended or reconstructed and the council promised to build them similar houses.

They claim the sites on which their new houses are to be built are smaller than their present ones, therefore the new houses will be too small for them.



Mayor Mkhwanazi ... the council is looking into the complaints.

The foundations of the houses have been dug, but the families expressed their dissatisfaction and have told the council they would only move when the council honours the agreement.

Soweto mayor Sam Mkhwanazi said this week: "The council is looking into the complaints and will not force them to move if they are dissatisfied with the new offers."

"If they refuse to move, then the construction of the road will be hindered and new plans will have to be drawn up."

Mkhwanazi, however, said the council was prepared to help the families wherever possible.

The families are to be moved to an area opposite the Zondi shops, and a notice served on them warns that failure to move when required to do so, or to accept compensation, may constitute a breach of the undertaking.

According to a notice that was served on the residents, all would be obliged to move when required to do so by the council, or accept compensation.

George Sipho Mngomezulu and other residents were served with notices in January this year, informing them about the intended move.

Mngomezulu, said he immediately opted for compensation with the intention of buying a place of his own.

"Evaluators were sent to my house and I was told it was worth R84 000. While waiting for the transaction to be finalised, I was informed to first settle my debt with the council and pay up all arrears on my house loan, rent, water and electricity.

"It all came to R4 400 which I paid up," he said.

Mngomezulu then expected the council to pay him out, "but instead I was asked if I could remain in the house until further notice".

He said he has still not been paid, and had heard nothing further from the council.

Councillors urged to remain at their posts

By Peter Fabricius
and Julienne du Toit

The Government is insisting on the retention of the black local government system — at least for the present — in the face of a move by prominent local authority leader Tom Boya to cause its collapse.

Mr Boya, long-standing mayor of Daveyton on the East Rand and president of the United Municipalities of South Africa (Umsa), resigned from all his positions in local government yesterday and called on other black councillors to do the same.

Transvaal MEC for local government Olaus van Zyl said today he was sorry Mr Boya had resigned.

"He most definitely played an important role in local government," Mr van Zyl said.

Responding to Mr Boya's complaint that he had resigned because the "Government had refused to heed his advice to dissolve black local authorities," Mr van Zyl said the Government was "firm" in its view that the present system of local government could not be abolished until a new one had been

negotiated. This meant that black local councillors should also remain at their posts until a new system was negotiated.

Mr van Zyl said this view did not mean the Government was closing its eyes to the problems of the existing system.

The Government was not only negotiating on boycotts, but was trying to create a continuous forum between civic associations and other interested parties to provide input into important items on the agenda of local governments.

These interim measures indicated that Government recognised the need for change.

Follow

Government sources said they were unsure what effect Mr Boya's resignation would have on other councillors. Although he had considerable personal influence, probably only other Umsa councillors were likely to follow his example.

Mr Boya made his announcement at a meeting at the Daveyton Stadium on the East Rand. In an interview afterwards, he said he had been disillusioned with the lack of funding for black townships, the cessation of bridging finances and

"never being able to operate anything because of lack of money".

He also said he was resigning because councillors had failed to meet township residents' demands and because the Government had apparently refused to heed his advice to dissolve the black local authorities.

"I cannot be partisan any longer."

"We were unable to satisfy residents," he said.

Mr Boya has resigned as Daveyton councillor of 12 years' standing, as mayor, a post he held for 10 years, and as president of the Umsa.

"I was the kingpin of black local authorities."

"It had to come to an end," he said.

The final straw, he said, came two months ago when he tried to contact President de Klerk for bridging finance.

"He ignored me," said Mr Boya.

"I feel now as if a great stone has been lifted from my back."

"People saw me as a sell-out before," he said.

He said he planned to join the ANC or PAC — "I have not yet decided which one" — and to become involved in grassroots structures in Daveyton.



United in song. Musicians and more than 20 choirs took part in a choir festival at the Standard Bank Arena in Johannesburg yesterday. After performing individually, the choirs joined together to show their support in song for the Sovetan's "Nation Building" drive. Picture: Aft Kurniao.

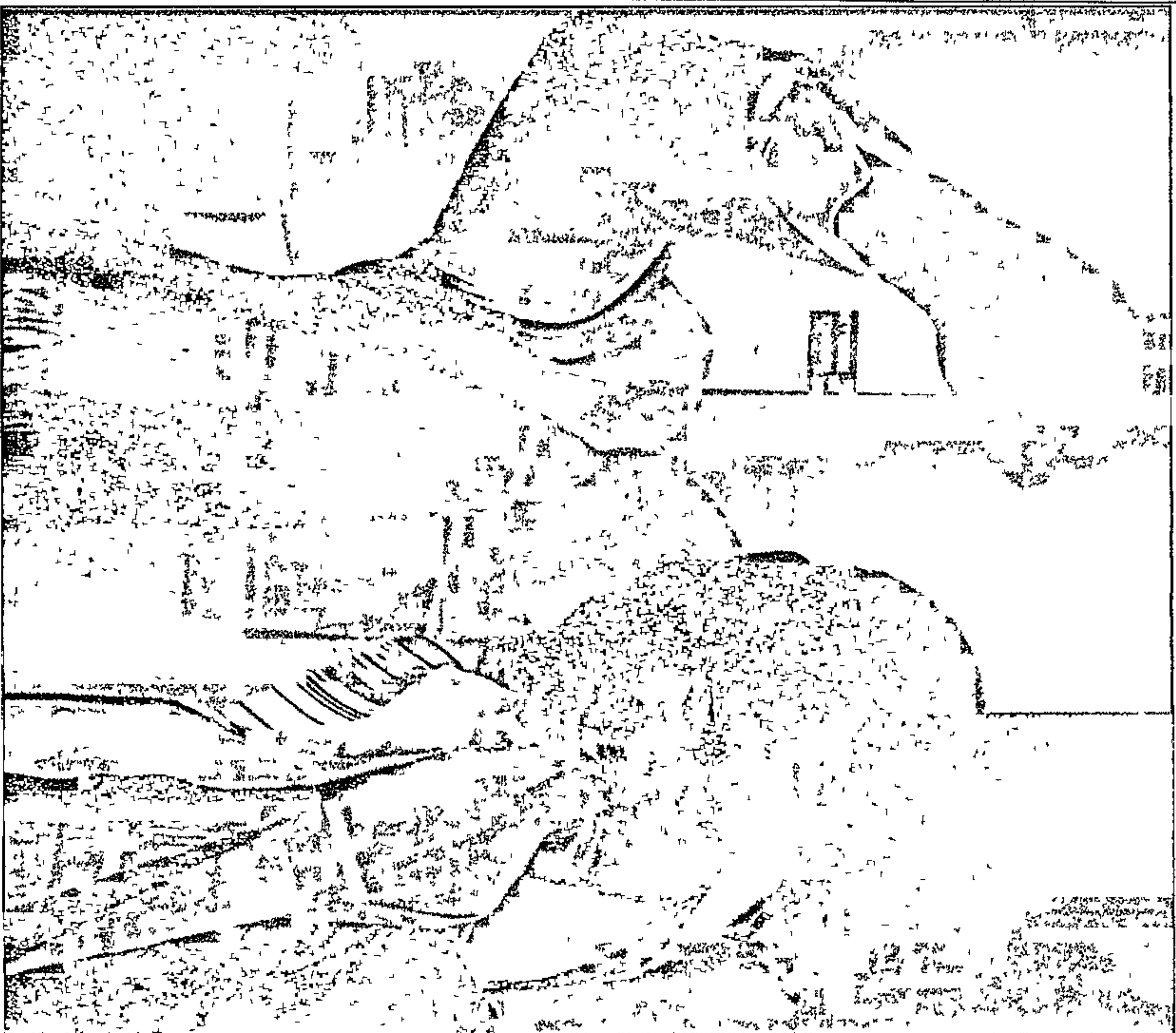
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New blow as councillor quits

Black local government suffered another setback yesterday with the announcement by Urban Councils Association of South Africa president Phillip Nhlapo that he was to resign as Mhluzi

town councillor. Mr Nhlapo, a former mayor of the Middelburg township, did not resign from Ucasa or as leader of the National Forum.

● Black councils on Death Row — Page 21



Tom Boya... his decision to quit could trigger further nations by beleaguered black councillors.

Black Councils

2619 (90) (10)

On Death Row

LACK local authorities are on the verge of collapse, with councillors resigning in droves and communities simply refusing to foot the astronomical bill of racially segregated local government structures.

Almost a third of the Transvaal's 82 black councils have collapsed since the beginning of the year, most in the past few months. And in the past month more than 100 councillors have resigned, leaving 235 of the 692 council seats vacant.

The Transvaal Provincial Administration attributes most of the resignations to severe intimidation. Anti-apartheid activists believe community opposition, as indicated by protracted rent and services boycotts, have brought about the collapse of the system.

This week, the outspoken chairman of the United Municipalities of South Africa and Daveyton mayor, Tom Boya, resigned, a move which could signal further resignations.

And the chairman of the rival Urban Councils Association of South Africa, Philip Nhlapo, indicated that he was going to resign from the Mhlaba council, of which he was mayor for many years.

Mr Boya cited Government refusal to dissolve black local authorities as the main reason for his resignation, but insiders say his resignation was prompted by a negotiated settlement in terms of which residents' services fees would be paid to wards a massive outstanding electricity bill — leaving virtually no money for the pay-

The collapse of the racial local government system seems imminent following the resignation of more than a hundred black councillors in the last month. ESMARE van der MERWE and THERESE ANDERS report

ment of council officials' salaries, which amount to R1 million per month.

Commented a local government expert who cannot be named for professional reasons: "The system is collapsing as a result of the contradictions of apartheid, namely a large duplicated administration that costs millions of rands to run."

"Across the length and breadth of the Transvaal, councillors are resigning because they are coming around to agree with the position of civic associations that there should be one administration per town. "If the state wants to keep black local authorities alive, it must pay Communities will no longer foot the bill. That is the bottom line."

He believed the government should immediately scrap the Black Local Authorities Act by presidential decree.

"The sooner the Act is suspended, the lower the chances of a mass escalation of conflict. (White) councils's decision to cut water and electricity supplies have turned the townships into major flashpoints."

"We are witnessing a serious breakdown on a scale never seen before. Particularly significant is the conflict between

Conservative Party-controlled town councils and radical civic associations."

He suggested that the State either appoint administrators from white councils "to force the integration" of adjacent white and black areas, or "continue to squander what little resources there are trying to prop up what is left."

The 26 councils no longer able to form a quorum include large urban townships such as Daveyton (Benoni), Lekoa (Vanderbijlpark), Tsakane (Brahap), Tokosa (Alberton) and KwaGuguta (Willem). However, most of the non-functioning councils are situated in the Eastern Transvaal, the heart of CP territory.

The Transvaal Provincial Administration's director of housing services, Piet Wilken, said administrators had so far been appointed to run 19 of the townships which no longer had functioning councils.

Despite the virtual collapse of BLAs, the TPA remains adamant that black councillors remain in their posts until a new system has been negotiated.

Transvaal MEC for local government Olaus van Zyl said this week this view did not mean

that the Government was closing its eyes to the problems of the existing system, but was trying to create a continuous forum between civic associations and other interested parties to provide input into important items on the agenda of local governments.

The recent formation of the Civic Associations of Southern Transvaal (Cast), and plans to form a national civic body early next year, could simplify negotiations with provincial government.

Commented the local government expert, "Cast has taken over the mantle of radical grassroots actions against apartheid. Coupled with the sophisticated local level negotiations in some 40 areas in the Transvaal, Cast has rapidly become one of the major players at local level. With the collapse of Umtsa and Umtsa, it will replace those bodies as the State's only negotiating partner on local level."

"Local negotiations are an integral part of the overall negotiation process. However, the extra-parliamentary movement is stronger on local level — it has better negotiators and the grassroots structures are directly involved."

"But while the national negotiation process is being driven forward from below, it is obvious that non-racial cities cannot be created under apartheid. For the local processes to nationalise in reconstruction, a national constitutional settlement will be a precondition." D.

Soweto, Alex to get R154m bailout

TANIA LEVY

THE Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council (CWRSC) is to bail Soweto and Alexandra out of their dire financial straits with assistance of R154m.

At the request of Finance Minister Bar-end du Plessis, the CWRSC will reschedule capital projects aimed at improving infrastructure. It will also provide additional financial assistance to help Alexandra and the three Greater Soweto councils meet essential operating costs.

The financial position of the four councils was critical, CWRSC chairman John Griffiths said yesterday. Available bridg-

ing finance from the Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) was seriously depleted.

At its monthly meeting yesterday the CWRSC resolved to reschedule R68m worth of infrastructural projects and allocate a further R8m from income to the four councils.

In addition the CWRSC agreed to underwrite the interest and redemption responsibilities on R60m of short-term loans to be

□ To Page 2

Soweto

raised by the councils, probably from the Development Bank of SA.

From the loans R27,4m would be used to finance street and high-mast lighting, water and sewage pumping, traffic control and municipal lighting, which consumed a third of power supplied to the councils.

Griffiths said the CWRSC would finance this portion of electricity supplies until March because Eskom could not afford to continue supplying electricity without payment. Soweto, Dobsonville and Diepsmeadow's arrears amounted to about R37m at the end of September and were expected to increase to R50m this month.

Cutting services dependent on electricity would create serious health and safety hazards and lead to chaos in communities. It would be ironic for power supplies to be cut just at the point when consumers were starting to pay, he said.

The CWRSC would finance this part of

councils' electricity bills on condition consumers paid the minimum amounts for electricity they used, based on rates agreed to in the Greater Soweto Accord.

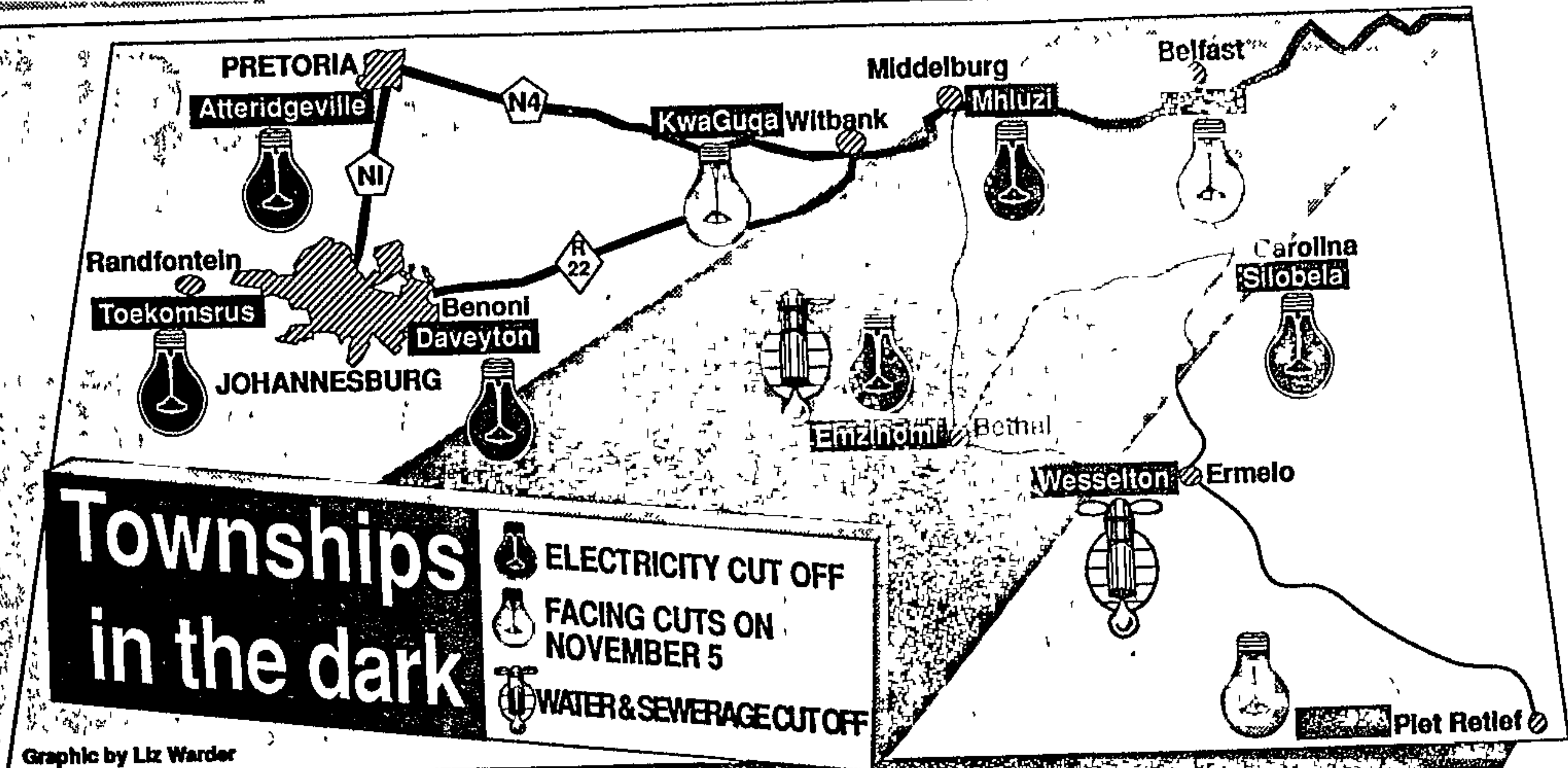
Eskom would decide at what point to cut supply if residents and other consumers failed to pay their electricity accounts.

Griffiths said the CWRSC's income would increase to R240m in the 1991/92 financial year. An amount of R134m required for operating costs by the four councils would represent 56% of the income from levies.

This was way beyond the 20% to 25% proposed by Local Government and Regional Services Councils MEC Olaus van Zyl as RSC's commitment to member councils' operating costs, he said.

Every possible effort had to be made to increase black local authorities' income and the state should accept a greater responsibility in assisting them to meet their shortfalls.

□ From Page 1



Civic bodies warn of fresh boycotts over services cuts

By Louise Burgers
Municipal Reporter

Civic associations have demanded that the Government intervene and halt cuts in essential services at Transvaal townships or face a total breakdown of local negotiations and a resumption of rent boycotts.

United Democratic Front national civic co-ordinator Pat Lephunya and representatives from the Civic Associations of Southern Transvaal said swift action was needed by the Government to prevent an increase in conflict and protest action.

Eroded

The attitude of Conservative Party-controlled towns was a declaration of war against black people, Mr Lephunya said.

About 100 000 people are without water in two eastern Transvaal townships and thousands more are in the dark in five towns

Mr Lephunya said: "The attitude of the authorities has resulted in the climate for negotiation being seriously eroded."

"The switching-off of the electricity supply to numerous townships has led to a situation where negotiations at local level have become untenable."

He said negotiations were close to collapse and he did not rule out the resumption of the rent boycott. He stressed that the civic associations were committed to negotiation.

On Tuesday, Bethal's Conservative Party town council severed all services to Emzini's 30 000 residents, and Ermelo suspended water and sewerage services to Wesselton's 45 000 inhabitants.

Electricity has been cut to the 70 000 residents of Middelburg's Mhluzi township, and Carolina's tiny Silobela residential area is also without power.

Electricity to Daveyton on the East Rand was cut by the Benoni Town Council at mid-

night on Tuesday.

The Atteridgeville Town Council cut power earlier this week and Randfontein cut off electricity in Toekomsrus yesterday.

In total, the affected townships owe more than R12 million for services to the various white local authorities and Eskom.

Offensive

In a statement, the ANC said: "It is clear the decision to cut services is a political one. It is contradictory that at the very time a solution is being achieved regarding the boycotts, and people are beginning to pay rent as per agreements, services are being cut in an offensive against our people."

The ANC said the switch-off was part of the resistance by pro-apartheid groups in an effort to retain apartheid.

It demanded that water and electricity supplies be restored immediately.

Residents report chaos as council cuts water, power

By Stan Hlophe

Taps, taps everywhere, but not a drop to drink. That's how things are in Emzini, near Bethal.

Emzini, with a population of 30 000, is one of the Eastern Transvaal townships in which water and electricity supplies were cut off by the CP town councils on Tuesday night.

When The Star visited the area yesterday, children were pushing wheelbarrows and go-carts full of water containers.

Businesses were at a standstill. Schoolchildren were sent home earlier than usual as the situation was described as chaotic by one principal.

A resident said: "Our houses are buzzing with flies, and an unbearable smell is everywhere. The toilets are not working and there is no running water."

The Emzini Town Council held a meeting with its CP counterpart last night.

to pay Mhluzi's R370 000 electricity debt to had decided that the council should resign by

Township residents paying bills

26/11 THEO RAWANA

RESIDENTS were honouring their Greater Soweto Accord commitment and payments for rent and service charges were picking up, Soweto Town Clerk Piet Geers said yesterday

He was reacting to a R154m financial assistance package from the Central Witwatersrand RSC to Greater Soweto and Alexandra. This was as additional financial assistance to meet essential operating costs until March 31 1991.

The three Greater Soweto councils of Dobsonville, Diepmeadow and Soweto were bound by the accord — signed with the Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) and the Soweto People's Delegation — to negotiate with the RSC for interim finance. The accord effectively ended the rent boycott and wrote off Soweto's R516m debt. 25/10/90

The RSC grant, announced at the council's meeting on Tuesday, was made on the understanding that Soweto residents would keep up payments, which would average about R56,80 a month

Geers said yesterday payments were "picking up", but figures would be available only next week

The RSC decided a new agreement would be necessary after March 31

R154-m grant for electricity in Soweto

THE Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council has approved a grant of R154 million to ensure the continued supply of essential services such as electricity to the Greater Soweto and Alexandra townships.

CWRSC chairman Mr John Griffiths said yesterday R27,4 million would be used to finance the supply of electricity until March next year on condition consumers paid the minimum rates stipulated in "the Soweto Accord".

Griffiths said Eskom had agreed to continue supplying electricity to these areas and would de-

By DON SEOKANE

cide when the supply would be stopped if residents and other electricity users did not pay their bills

According to the financing agreement, the four councils should:

- * Effectively provide services, increase income, reduce expenditure and co-operate with neighbouring white local authorities,

- * Develop an economic tariff structure to replace the interim service charges of R23 a month and the metered electricity charge of 12c a unit,

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Eskom to sue 13

councils for arrears

By Therese Anders
Highveld Bureau

Eskom is in the process of summoning 13 defaulting black town councils for multimillion-rand arrears

In all, 27 local authorities now owe the electricity giant R70 million

This amount is growing daily, says Eskom distribution and marketing deputy general manager Allen Morgan

Some townships are

three months behind in their power payments.

Mr Morgan said Eskom could be forced to cut off supply to some of these townships "if all else fails".

Pleaded

He would not name any township in immediate danger of having its service suspended.

He stressed that Eskom's policy was to negotiate with township authorities before legal action was taken

Adam Engelbrecht,

town clerk of KwaGuqa, near Witbank, has pleaded with the township's residents to pay their accounts before Tuesday

If R833 000 has not been paid to the Witbank Town Council by Tuesday, the township faces a blackout.

At Wesselson, where water was restored on Wednesday after a nine-day suspension, the township's acting town clerk, Hannalie du Bruyn, said residents had until November 15 to pay the next water account

S10- 26/10/90

Vosloorus relents after pleas from residents

By Montshiwa Moroke

Electricity was restored to Vosloorus on the East Rand yesterday after twice-daily cuts in the past three weeks

The switch-on came amid complaints that exam preparations had been disrupted and small and informal businesses were suffering

Electricity had been cut from 5 am to 8 am and again between 5 pm and 10 pm because of arrears in service charges

The mayor of Vosloorus, Morrison Sinokela, said the town council switched on after a residents' delegation had told it of the great hardship caused to pupils preparing for examinations and of an increase in crime.

Sapa reports from Queenstown the municipality cut off water to a Transkei town at noon yesterday, leaving 50 000 people with only a week's supply in its reservoirs

Arrears

It was the second time this month that Ezibeleni's water was cut because of account arrears

Ezibeleni residents were previously without water for three days because water and sewerage account arrears totalled R718 554

The water supply was restored on humanitarian grounds because the township's reservoirs were empty

Ezibeleni was given 14 days to settle the account, which was subsequently reduced to R500 000.

In a statement yesterday, Queenstown mayor Johnny Johnson said Ezibeleni bought water in bulk from his council

He said payment difficulties sometimes arose. Attempts to solve the problem included correspondence with Transkei local authorities and the military government, but no solution had been forthcoming

Principles for local govt set out

By Day 26/10/90

IN TERMS of the Thornhill report, any of the local government options chosen should conform to the basic principles of economic viability and nonracialism.

The report, drawn up by an investigating committee under the chairmanship of Planning and Provincial Affairs deputy director-general Chris Thornhill, says local communities may negotiate any other model, as long as they are in accordance with the general principles.

The constitutional options proposed are separate local authorities, local services councils, a simple majority model, and the government community model.

The separate local authorities option involves retaining present local councils but converting management and local affairs committees into autonomous local authorities.

However, the forthcoming repeal of the Group Areas Act means the "separate" local authorities will have to become "open".

Government sources say they do not believe this option would satisfy the political and financial requirements of the basic principles for local government.

The local services council model envisages a council with the functions of the regional services councils, comprising elected representatives from nonracial autonomous local authorities.

The local authorities would elect representatives according to their financial contribution, but each authority would have at least one representative, and no authority could designate more than half the mem-

A special report on a new local government system for SA has proposed four constitutional and three institutional models that would be negotiated at grassroots level by political, community and business leaders. **EDYTH BULBRING** reports from Pretoria.

bers on the council.

Matters could be decided on the basis of consensus, a simple majority or even a specified majority.

The local bodies would have full decision-making autonomy in their own areas over those functions that were not assigned to the local services council.

Local services councils would be funded from RSC levies where the RSCs had been replaced by the councils, or they could share in this income.

They could also share in the surpluses on commercial services in business and industrial districts, on a negotiated basis.

The local services council would administer the entire area. The administrations of the present racially separate local authorities would thus be rationalised.

The community government model envisages a joint local authority for a town or city, with an option for local communities to establish nonracial neighbourhood com-

mittees. These would take care of neighbourhood interests, including the maintenance of standards and the promotion of independent community life.

The joint local authority would have legislative and executive powers and would be responsible for municipal functions as well as functions devolved from central government.

The neighbourhood committees would be responsible for neighbourhood interests. Discrimination on the grounds of race, colour or creed would not be allowed.

Members of the neighbourhood committees could be elected either on a proportional or ward basis. The committee would be represented on the joint city council by its chairman or other designated members up to the number of city council wards situated in the area of the neighbourhood committees.

These would be demarcated according to the number of voters and/or financial criteria.

Decision-making in the joint council might take place on the basis of consensus, simple majority or a specified majority.

The joint local authority would be responsible for providing services for the whole area and would have its own tax base consisting of property rates on business and full or shared RSC levies.

Where its functions overlapped with the neighbourhood committees, the relevant funds would be voted to a separate neighbourhood committee budget.

These committees may share in rates on residential property and surpluses on com-

mercial services in their own areas, on a negotiated formula.

Central government functions devolved to the neighbourhood committees had to go hand in hand with the devolution of existing or new fiscal powers and sources, the report said.

The simple majority model involved the division into wards of the local government area.

The councillors would be directly elected by the residents of a ward, which would be divided according to the number of voters or on financial criteria.

Mayor

It would be possible to protect minority groups through applying constitutional mechanisms, such as proportional representation on the council or on the executive committee.

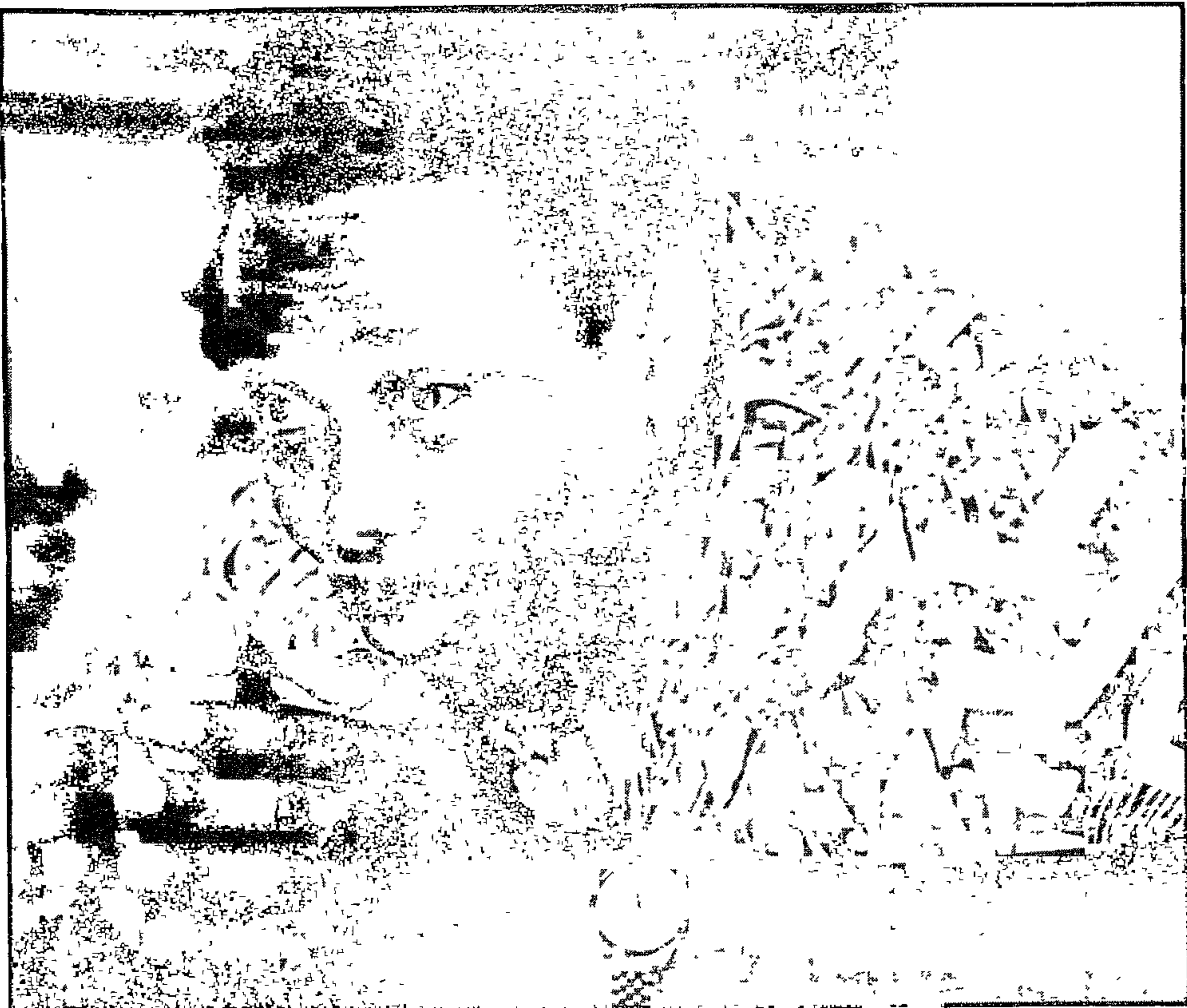
In addition to choosing one of these constitutional models, residents would have to pick one of three institutional models relating to the function of the mayor.

The first model favours the present system of a ceremonial mayor.

The second option provides for an indirectly elected mayor who chairs an existing management committee but also has the powers of a ceremonial mayor.

The third option provides for a mayor elected by the voters for a period of five years who is not a council member.

In addition to being the fulltime ceremonial head of the municipality, the mayor would also be the political head of the municipal authority.



END OF A LONG REIGN: former Daveyton mayor Tom Boya will now dedicate more time to his family and his business

Why Boya 'marched with the people'

A string of events, which occurred in a relatively short period of three days, led Tom Boya, former Mayor of Daveyton on the East Rand, to end what would go down as the longest reign by a black mayor in South Africa.

In an interview, Mr Boya told Saturday Star that one of the major reasons which made him quit was obviously the fading support the city councils had in the black townships.

The other reason, he said, was the ignorance and misunderstanding, on the part of the community, with regard to the role of black local authorities

Abrupt end

Mr Boya said he would now dedicate his time to his family and business. He owns a filling station in the township.

He would also work hand in hand with the Daveyton Interim Committee (DIC), and help local grassroots structures. He declined to say whether or not he would be joining any political organisation.

Mr Boya said his life as Daveyton mayor came to an abrupt end on Sunday when he and fellow councillors arrived at the Sinaba Stadium where two meetings, one called by his council and the other by the DIC, were to be held.

The meetings were scheduled to be held in two separate sections of the stadium.

"When I arrived with my councillors on

the side our meeting was supposed to be, there was no one. Across the field where the DIC held its meeting was a strong crowd of 80 000 residents.

Mr Boya promptly told his councillors "Let's go and join the people. We went across and were warmly welcomed by the executive of the DIC."

Then came the moment nobody, not even his fellow councillors, expected. Mr Boya stood up, approached the podium and took the microphone in his hands.

And, with these words "Ndi Vile I've had enough," he announced his resignation.

And the crowd, in reaction, applauded and lifted Boya shoulder-high before embarking on march to the council offices.

For the first time in 12 years, Tom Boya marched, and this time "I marched on the side of the people."

Mr Boya said the idea of resigning came to him while he was en-route from the United States to South Africa. He had been invited to Rio de Janeiro to deliver a paper on local governments.

"On that day, I called home and my chauffeur answered the phone. He told me that electricity had been cut off in Daveyton. I felt let down. I could feel blood draining out of my body because, before I left my council, the Benoni Town Council, the Transvaal Provincial Administration

(TPA) and the DIC, were on the verge of signing an agreement which would have averted a power cut-off," he said.

A father of five — three girls and two boys — the former furniture marketing executive said he was told that the agreement was not signed because the TPA had failed to provide enough bridging finance.

What was available was to be used to pay salaries of council employees.

The four-day power cut led to residents taking an unusual step of bringing legal action against the parties which were involved in the ill-fated talks.

Disappearing

The case was however postponed after Mr Boya had negotiated with Eskom to restore power.

Mr Boya said a day before the meeting at which he announced his resignation, he attended an United Municipalities of South Africa (Umsa)'s meeting in Barberton.

Only eight of the 60-member councils turned up for the meeting. "I was again forced to embark on serious soul-searching after realising that our support was disappearing. We had no constituencies."

Mr Boya said local authorities had played an important role during his time. He also emphasised that no future Government would succeed without the support of well-run local authorities.

JOVIAL RANTAO

Star
27/10/90

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Now I know how people feel when they say they are born again. A big weight is off my shoulders, and I feel like a brand new person. I sleep peacefully at night.

‘WHY I QUIT’

THE surprise resignation of Daveyton mayor Tom Boya last weekend was a direct result of the cutting of electricity to the township by the Benoni council.

Forty-year-old Boya, once South Africa's youngest mayor (at 29), told City Press this week he threw in the towel when the rival white Benoni council proceeded with the power cuts while negotiations to resolve the boycott problem were continuing.

"That really hit me. It added to previous problems, but the cut was the last straw which broke the camel's back," Boya said.

He got off a plane from London on October 16, only to be told by his driver that power supplies had been cut, in spite of ongoing negotiations with the TPA and Eskom.

Power cuts aside, the position of mayor was beginning to weight heavily on the conscience of Tom Boya. It started with President FW de Klerk's historic February 2 speech, he said.

"After that things changed dramatically. Our support in local government structures dwindled very badly. That got me thinking. Since that day, we were never able to deliver the goods. There was also the problem of lack of funds, and the rent boycotts made it

DAVETON mayor Tom Selumko Boya resigned in a shock move this week after serving for 12 years. His resignation, while being widely welcomed, is being seen as a blow to the credibility of black local authorities. Boya, who was also president of the Urban Municipalities of South Africa (Umsa), sees no future for the councils for as long as they are not based on "the will of the people".

CHARLES MOGALE reports.

worse," Boya said.

When the Benoni council threatened to cut off water supplies as well, Boya began having sleepless nights. At the same time, attempts to raise a loan from the TPA to pay Eskom had only drawn a promise of R200 000 — "which was a pittance".

Last Sunday, two residents' meetings — one by the council and the other by the local Interim Committee — were called in the township.

"Virtually everybody went to the Interim Committee meeting. That told me something. I took my fellow council-

Power cuts were the last straw, says Boya

lors and said we should join the people at the other meeting. We walked in there fearlessly and listened to other speakers presenting the people's grievances, which were very genuine," Boya said.

"After listening, I rose to speak. I felt the way I had never felt before. I spoke to the people and asked if they would accept my resignation there and then. The stadium roared with approval, and the next thing I was floating in the air, being welcomed back into the fold of my people," he said.

Four other councillors, DM Mthi-

munye, Joe Mokone, Reuben Madukane and Reuben Khumalo, also resigned.

"Now I know how people feel when they say they are born again. A big weight is off my shoulders, and I feel like a brand new person. I sleep peacefully at night," Boya said.

How does he see the future of black local authorities?

"In their present state, they are bound to fail, because they are not based on the will of the people. They might have some good intentions here and there, but the basic prerequisite for them to succeed is not there, and that is people's support. My advice to those councillors who are remaining is to act now, so that they should be on the right side of the negotiation table. When problems of the people's will have been addressed, every community needs a strong, well-oiled local authority to get anywhere," he said.

Would he run for office in the "new South Africa"?

"I have not made up my mind yet about my political future. However, I can say now that if my people need the expertise I have gained in my 12 years in civic politics, I am more than willing to make it available in whatever form."

Double blow for Daveyton



Shadrack Sinaba... in local politics since '57.

THE Daveyton council has received a double blow with the resignation of Shadrack Sinaba — just days after mayor Tom Boya and four other councillors quit.

Sinaba is the 236th councillor to resign since the spate of walkouts began countrywide.

He and Boya were fierce rivals for the position of mayor, and their disillusionment with the council system has further tarnished the image of the controversial local authorities.

Sinaba says the councils should be dissolved because they aren't financially viable. Also, the lack of funds and grievances could not be attended to.

Sinaba has been in civic politics since 1957, when he served on the Native Advisory Boards.

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Death of a council

By SOPHIE TEMA
and SAPA

261A

EIGHT of Welkom's Thabong township councillors, including the mayor, resigned their posts on Friday

The move was prompted by residents who called for their resignation two weeks ago.

Mwandile Kundulu, publicity secretary of the local civic organisation, said the councillors, including mayor Billy Mhlafu, had submitted signed letters to its offices, resigning immediately

Kundulu said: "A decision was taken at a rally on October 21 when residents gave the executive committee of the civic organisation a mandate to instruct all councillors to resign

"Letters were written to all the councillors informing them of the decision taken by the residents

"They were given until Friday "

Kundulu said five councillors had not submitted their resignations by Friday, but because there were not enough

officials to form a quorum, it meant the council no longer existed

The resignation of the councillors came only days after that of Daveyton mayor and Umsa president Tom Boya, followed by that of veteran civic leader and councillor Shadrack Sinaba and two other councillors.

The Free State Provincial Administration said in 34 local authorities, councillors had either resigned or did not form a quorum and could therefore not perform their functions as determined by law

Nineteen people have been appointed to carry out the functions of these councils. The process of appointing a person to administer a town where a council no longer exists takes about three weeks

Before such an appointment is made, the chief executive officer of a local authority remains in charge and the daily administration of a town is therefore not affected.

■ See Pages 12 and 13



Police tend to a man with gunshot wounds in Khayelitsha, but he died soon afterwards. Eight others died.

■ Pic: AP

Khayelitsha's trail of death

VIOLENCE flared in Khayelitsha this week when police prevented thousands from marching to the Lingeletu West Town Council's offices to demand the resignation of mayor Mali Hoza, town clerk Graham Lawrence and town councillors.

At least nine people died and many more were injured in the township, which is about 20km from Cape Town.

In an affidavit, Democratic Party MP for Claremont Jan van Eck said he saw police beating teargas canisters indiscriminately at groups of people who were "totally peaceful and absolutely no warning was given to them to disperse".

Those who did not make it to hospital were treated by Red Cross community workers and first aid volunteers who had been called in by the community.

Evelyn Mkona said "We treated patients with wounds inflicted by rubber bullets, live bullets and shotguns. But we don't ask who has shot them, we just dress wounds".

Two minibuses patrolled the area to find and take wounded people to first aid workers or the local hospital.

Allegations of indiscriminate police violence against, and intimidation of, Khayelitsha residents on Thursday were made in the Supreme Court on Friday night.

The allegations were made in affidavits accompanying an application for an urgent interdict restraining police from interfering and harassing people attending the funeral of Nomsa Mapongwana yesterday.

The application was brought by the executive committee of the Western Cape Civic Association and its chairman, Michael Mapongwana, against the Minister of Law and Order and the Lingeletu West Town Council.

The judge did not make a ruling but postponed the hearing until Friday to give the Minister of Law and Order and the Lingeletu West Town Council time to prepare answering affidavits.

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Town clerk resigns
The Soweto town clerk, Piet
Geers, announced his resig-
nation from the Soweto City
Council (SCC), with effect
from January 1991, yester-
day

261A

Star 29/10/90

'Comrades' switch on power

The mood in the Pretoria township of Atteridgeville was one of joyful revolution at the weekend as defiant youths mounted step ladders, reconnecting electricity cut off by the town council

Virtually every house was switched on by the "comrades" who carried out their work under the noses of passing police patrols

The hundreds of residents whose electricity was cut off following the township's rent boycott chanted slogans and sang freedom songs as the youths climbed the poles and switched on the lights

A police van drove past along Komane Street on Saturday afternoon as youths reconnected the electricity of a row of houses about 50 m from the council offices, but no action was taken

Members of the community provided vehicles, step ladders and tools towards the switch-on campaign that had attracted scores of activist youths

The campaign is in defiance of last week's electricity cuts following the township's rent boycott — Sapa

Sto 29/10/90
261A 242

Councillors stage mass resignation

By Kaizer Nyatumba
Political Staff

The town council of Thabong in the Free State had resigned, town clerk Willem du Plessis confirmed today

Mr du Plessis said Thabong town councillors had been under "severe pressure" to resign and it appeared they had finally succumbed

"I have been expecting this to happen for quite some time now," Mr du Plessis said. "The councillors have been under severe pressure from the public to resign."

Mr du Plessis said the resignations were not discussed during the town council's meeting on Friday

"I first heard about the resignations when I got home in the evening. I phoned the mayor, who then told me the council had resigned," Mr du Plessis said.

He sent the councillors had to fill in resignation forms, but none of them had done so by today

The mayor, Billy Mhlafu, was reported yesterday to have said his council had resigned because the system of black local government had failed

Star 31/10/90 (261A)

Soweto mayor, deputy ousted

Soweto mayor Samuel Mkhwanazi and deputy Esther Mkhabela were ousted from their posts at a special council meeting yesterday

Mr Oscar Maseko (46), who represents Moletsane, was elected in Mr Mkhwanazi's place. His deputy is Alfred Nyathi, a councillor for Orlando East and Power Park. Mr Mkhwanazi and Mrs Mkhabela, who served two-year terms, were voted out of office by 19 votes to 11 — Staff Reporter

OFS hardest hit as black local government faces total collapse

By Esmaré van der Merwe
Political Reporter

The local government crisis has reached massive proportions, with more than one-third of the country's black council seats vacant and nearly as many black local authorities not functioning.

Hardest hit is the Free State, where almost half of the black local authorities — 34 out of 70 — are not functioning and the rest are heading for collapse.

OFS director of local government Piet de Beer believes all the other councils will collapse within the next month.

He ascribes the mass resignations by councillors to severe pressure from progressive civic associations, but adds that verbal intimidation has not developed into physical attacks on councillors or their property.

In the OFS, 194 of the 436 council seats are vacant. Administrators have been appointed in 19 of the 24 non-functioning local authority areas.

In the Transvaal, 237 of the 692 council seats are vacant, while 24 of the 82 councils do not operate normally. Province-appointed administrators run 19 black local authorities.

A total of 232 out of 636 council seats are vacant in the Cape — 33 of 148 in the western Cape, 43 of 152 in the northern Cape and 156 of 336 in the eastern Cape. Of the Cape's 93 black local authorities, 28 are run by administrators, and three more do not have a quorum.

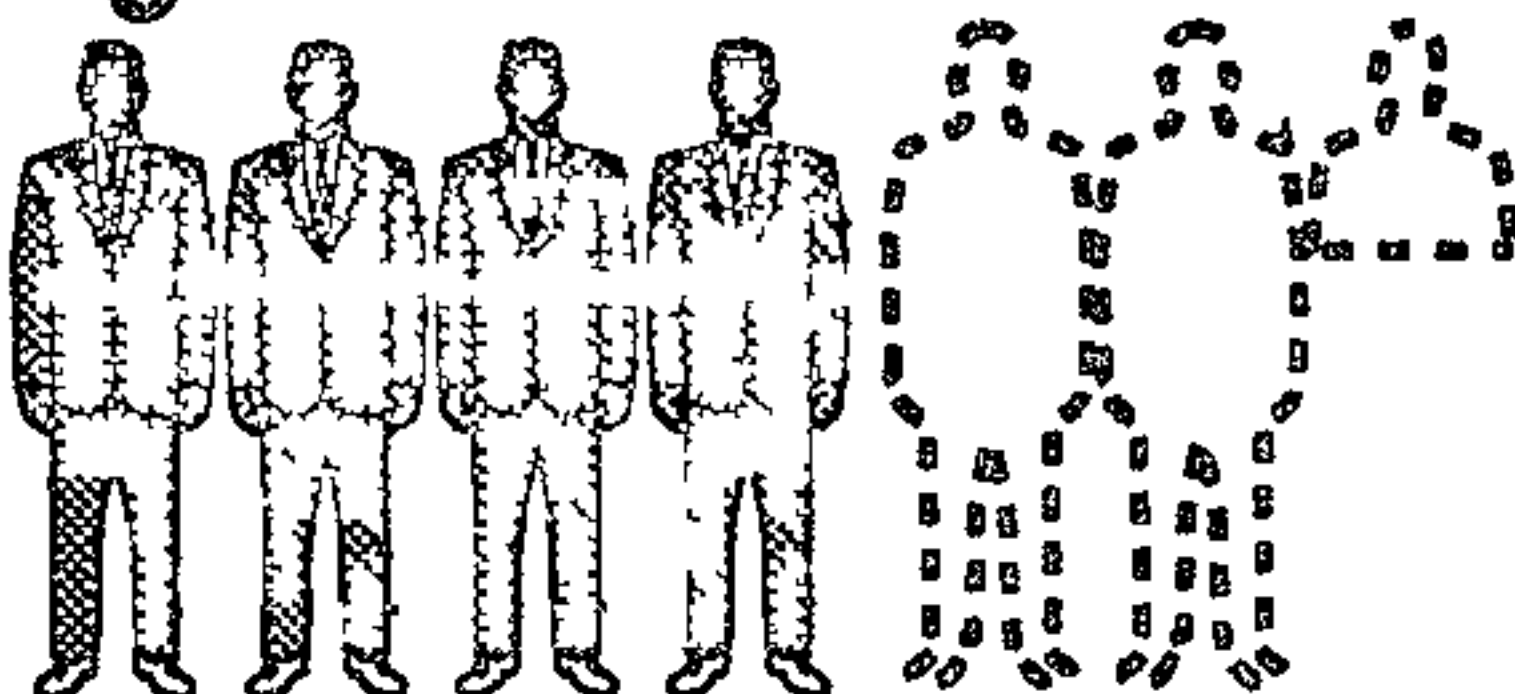
In Natal only 22 of the 103 wards are vacant. Of the 17 black local authorities, two are not functioning normally and one has an administrator.

The beleaguered black local authorities

CAPE

636

council posts



232

vacant seats

37%

NATAL

103

council posts



22

vacant posts

21%

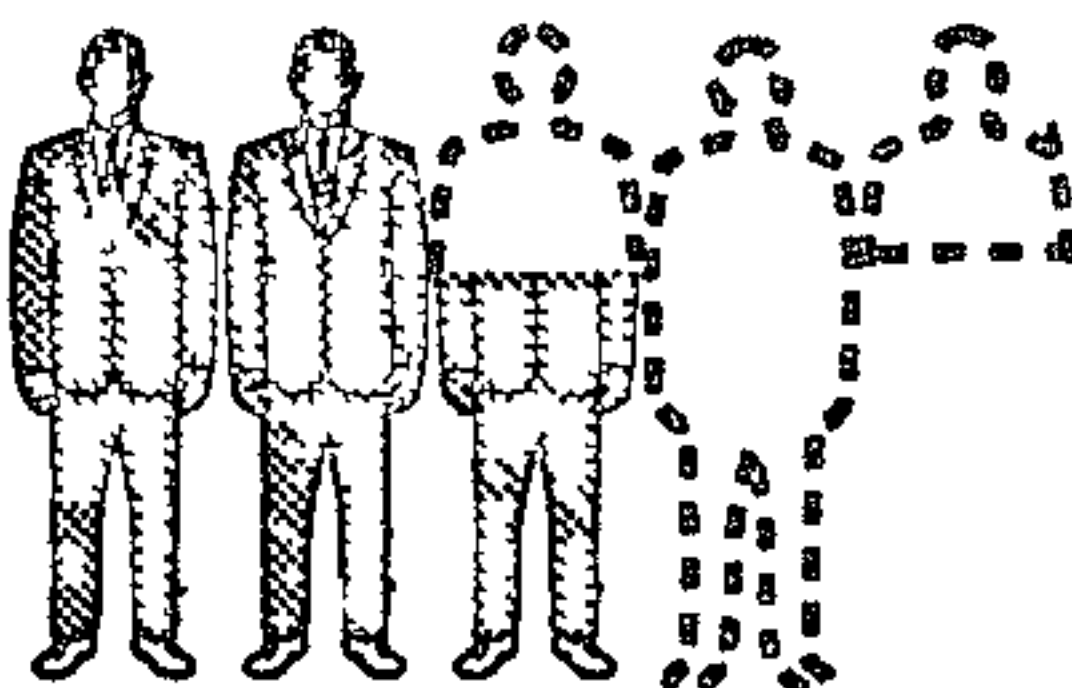


Each man
represents
100 posts

OFS

436

council posts



194

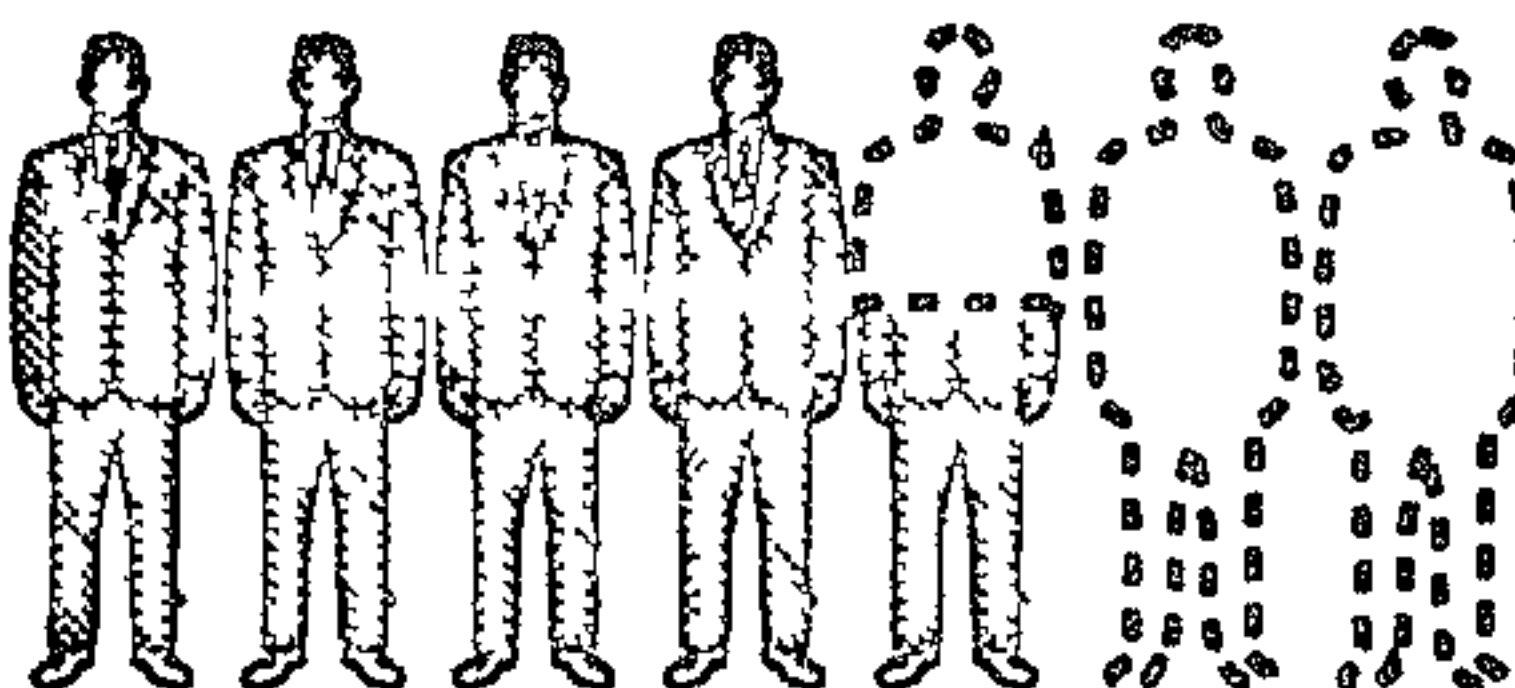
vacant seats

45%

TVL

692

council posts



237

vacant seats

34%

TOTAL:

1867

council posts.

685

vacant seats

37%

Graphic: GAIL IRWIN

Why do councils refuse to die?

CITY PRESS, November 4, 1990

PAGE 13

By SEKOLA SELLO
Political Editor

WHEN several members of Soweto's Urban Bantu Council were forced to resign by young radicals in 1976, it was believed this signalled the end of political representation for urban blacks.

It was reasoned that without anyone to serve on these structures, the government would be forced to replace the system with one that had more power and credibility.

The UBCs - or the Useless Boys Club as they were sarcastically referred to in Soweto - were indeed phased out as a result of community pressure.

They were replaced by Community and Village Councils which had slightly more power, but not enough.

The new bodies attracted the same sort of people who had served on the UBCs, so were seen as the same old product under a new label.

It did not take long before these new structures experienced the same crisis of credibility.

In fact, they came under far worse pressure.

In 1984 the Lekoa Town Council under Esau Mahlatsi decided to increase rent and service charges in spite

Because the going's too good for them!

of stiff opposition from the community. The intransigence of Mahlatsi eventually led to the eruption of violence in the Vaal triangle and the death of four councillors.

Rent boycotts later spread throughout the country with more councillors or their families being killed.

Homes and properties belonging to councillors were destroyed and they had to flee the townships.

It was generally felt the system of local government was about to collapse. Indeed, in some areas the townships were ungovernable. But the councils still refused to die.

Instead of expecting mass resignations from these discredited people many of them continued serving on the councils.

The recent resignation of Tom Boya as mayor of Daveyton and the mass resignation of the Tlhabong Town Council has once more led to speculation that the days of the councils are over.

More than 100 councillors in the Transvaal have resigned in two months. This means a third of Transvaal's 692 seats are now unoccupied.

The statistics show the councils are

facing serious problems, but it is too early to start writing their epitaphs.

The resignation of Boya, a loyal believer in these powerless structures for several years, is only a hiccup and may not necessarily spell their collapse.

Though Boya urged fellow councillors to resign, his plea was heeded by only five out of 15 councillors.

Even if the councils were to collapse, they will not necessarily be replaced by credible and popular structures.

But as long as there are blacks willing to serve on these structures, the system will not disappear. And as long as government's agenda about the future is unclear, this problem will remain.

Why are blacks prepared to serve on these councils - even at the risk of placing their lives and those of their families in danger? It cannot be because of their commitment to serve their communities, which is the excuse they always drag out.

Councillors know they have limited powers. They also know they have been rejected by those they claim they are serving as evidenced by low election polls.

The truth is simply that the material

benefits are too tempting. Most councillors are known to be earning more than they would if they entered industry.

Allegations of corruption, including taking bribes in the allocations of houses and business sites, are common. Councillors are also known to have allocated business sites to themselves and their relatives.

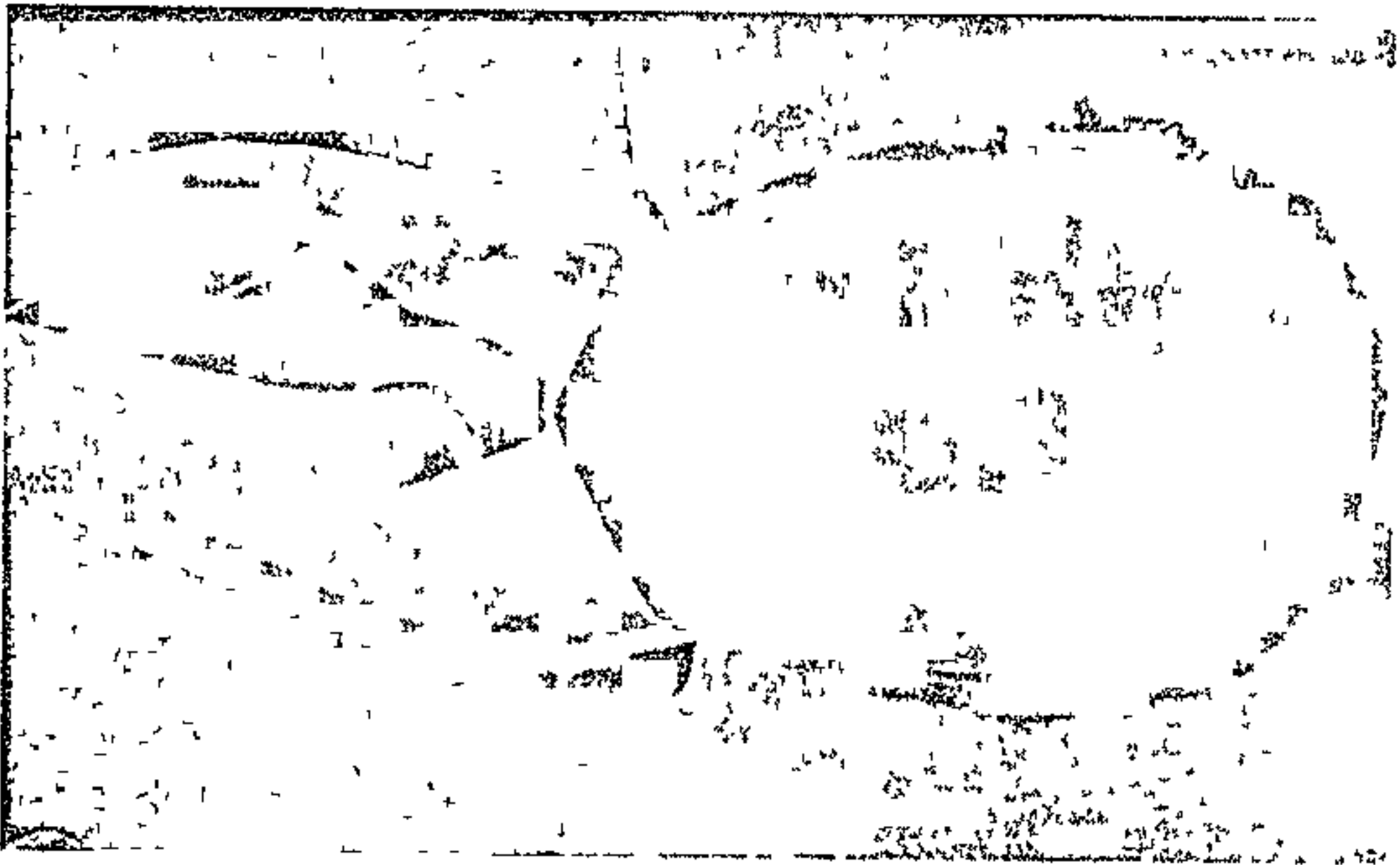
It is not in the government's interest to allow these structures to die. If they did, it is likely they would be replaced by ANC structures - something unthinkable from the government's point of view.

Government's commitment to the present system was given by the director of liaison services for the TPA, Piet Wilkens, who says the black local government system will remain in place until a new system has been negotiated.

The ANC has already started structures to replace the present local government bodies.

The Civic Association of the Southern Transvaal, which covers the entire PVV and several townships in the Western Transvaal, was launched two months ago and similar structures are to be launched countrywide.

The present black local authorities, which seem to have the proverbial nine lives of a cat, are destined to lurch from one crisis to another until a settlement at national level has been reached.



Former Daveyton mayor Tom Boya... loyal believer in the black local authorities.

Kanana Town Council quits

By DAN DHLAMINI 4/11/90

261A

WHEN the entire Kanana Town council resigned this week, it was the second Western Transvaal black council to collapse within two months.

First to tumble due to community pressure was the Botumelong Council near Bloemhof, when Mayor Mary Moremi and four other councillors resigned in September.

Former Kanana mayor, Teboho Mafohla, this week told *City Press* the council decided last Friday to heed the national call by progressive organisations for councillors to quit.

"We view our resignation as a last-resort contribution to the maintenance of peace and stability in Kanana. After all, whose interests will be served if we refuse to leave as requested by the very people who elected us?" said Mafohla.

The mayor of Leeudoringstad's Kgakala Town Council, JM Moremi, whose businesses were being boycotted, has also resigned.

A copy of Moremi's resignation letter was handed in at the ANC's regional office in Klerksdorp this week.

Kanana's resignation follows that of the Orange Free State's biggest black town council - Thabong, near Wilkom, this week.

So far, 19 administrators have been appointed in the OFS after black local authorities started crumbling this year.

Regarding his council's resignation, Thabong's former mayor Billy Mhlafu said it was now clear the local authority system was not favoured by the community.

Transvaal Provincial Administration spokesman AN Pelsier earlier confirmed that individual black councillors from Orkney, Stilfontein, Christiana, Bloemhof, Potchefstroom, Leeudoringstad and Schweizer-Reneke have been resigning due to pressure from residents.

■ See Pages 12, 13

LET THERE BE LIGHT: and a brief flicker there was!

By ELIAS MALULEKE

ANNAH Mahlalela of Atteridgeville township in Pretoria went to bed on Saturday night wishing she had electricity in her matchbox house so she could iron her church costume.

Mahlalela had no electricity for five days after the town council cut off the supplies due to an eight-month rent boycott, forcing her to resort to a pressure stove for cooking and candles for lighting.

"I did not know how long I would have to endure the hardship of living without electricity, because apart from being inconvenienced, my husband and kids were forever grumbling and our relationship was becoming strained," she said.

"Voila!" When she woke up the following day, her son's hi-fi set was blowing full blast, her fridge was buzzing and her lights were on.

"I thought I was dreaming," she said with a huge smile.

She was not the only ecstatic woman in Atteridgeville last Sunday. More than 7 000 women could be heard humming joyfully while sports-loving children crammed around TV sets.

Atteridgeville came back to life as the "young lions" roared from house to house to reconnect electricity. Residents joined "Operation Switch On" and supplied tools. Beer, too, flowed like the River of Babylon.

Police allegedly ignored "Operation Switch On" - a term nicked from the now famous "Operation Iron Fist" - as youths used make-shift stepladders and crawled on streetpoles in a flurry of activity.

Although the switch-on started late on Friday, it gained momen-

tum on Sunday when disillusioned township electricians offered their services for free.

A "comrade" told *City Press* that several electricians offered on Saturday night to put on the lights, but asked to be provided with "security".

"On Sunday at dawn they went to work assisted by the comrades. They worked for the whole day until 6pm when they called it off, saying 'we do not want to work overtime'," he said.

Police witnessed the switch-on, he said, but turned a blind eye. However, one youth who crawled on a pole was almost electrocuted, but miraculously survived.

More than 90 percent of the homes - for which the council paid a sub-contractor a fee of about R80 per house to unplug - were switched on by Tuesday. It is estimated that 10 000 houses were involved, and the council may have parted with close to R1-million to pay the contractor.

City Press visited several houses where electricity had been restored, but family members were still uncertain about the future and refused to be identified for fear of victimisation.

But they did not wait long to know what the future had in store.

On Thursday Judge Daniels ruled at the Pretoria Supreme Court that the council's action in disconnecting the power supply was sanctioned by its by-laws. He dismissed, with costs, an application brought by the Atteridgeville/Saulsville Residents Organisation (Asro) challenging the council's decision to cut off electricity.

A similar application by Daveyton residents was also dismissed with costs by Judge Van Dijkhorst

in the Rand Supreme Court the same day.

As a result of the ruling, the Atteridgeville council went back to switching off the lights - amid angry reactions from residents.

Shortly after the judgment, police escorted workers hired by the council as they disconnected electricity in the township, reports Sapa.

Pretoria police liaison officer, Lieutenant Burger van Rooyen, confirmed the police action.

Meanwhile the Atteridgeville branch of the ANC has warned that the resumed disconnection of electricity to township homes was "highly provocative", and could lead to violence.

Publicity secretary of the branch, Ronnie Mamoepa, called for an urgent meeting between the TPA and Asro, at which the ANC was prepared to act as mediator.

"We want the police to clarify what their role is in this situation.

"Our understanding is that they should be impartial in such matters, and we can therefore not understand why they are assisting in cutting off electricity."

Mamoepa denied the ANC branch in Atteridgeville had called on people to restore electricity to their homes.

"On the contrary, the ANC is prepared to mediate between Asro and the TPA."

The ANC has rejected a Law and Order ministry statement that the ANC should stop a campaign to reconnect electricity.

"We deny ever calling or being involved in such a campaign.

"We never called on people to do that."

By Esmaré van der Merwe
Political Reporter

In a statement, the ANC said it was significant that such "protection" units were being created at the same time as the Government had expressed opposition to self-defence units "created by and

"The introduction of a legalised vigilante force into this already explosive situation is an outrage. We hold the Gov-

The UDF would call a meeting of affiliates to explore the possibility of mass action, Mr Mafolo said.

Councils plan protests

Star 8/11/90 261A
By Kaizer Nyatumba
Political Staff

There will be a number of marches in the southern and western Transvaal next week to demand the dissolution of black local authorities and to protest against the switching off of electricity, Cas Coovadia, spokesman for the Civic Associations of Southern Transvaal (Cast), said yesterday.

The marches would be the beginning of mass action to mobilise people for effective change in their day-to-day lives, the statement said.

They were organised after a mandate given to Cast at a special conference about three weeks ago.

Mr Coovadia said organisers had applied for magisterial permission.

Cast, Mr Coovadia said, welcomed the recent resignations of black councillors, including former Daveyton mayor Tom Boya, and regarded this development as "a powerful vindication" of its position.

He called on all councillors to resign by the end of November, saying failure to do so would lead to their isolation in the communities.

SR- 26/11/90

Gravediggers are a luxury for Tokoza

By Abel Mabelane
East Rand Bureau

Tokoza Town Council has said it cannot afford gravediggers.

The administrator of Tokoza, Gert Müller, said it was expensive to dig just one grave with a machine. He said the area was rocky and graves could not be dug by hand.

Tokoza Civic Association (TCA) has made an about-turn on the payment of a flat rate rental by residents.

At a joint committee meeting this week, the TCA proposed a R40 a month tariff instead of the R60 previously agreed.

Chairman of TCA Sam Ntuli accused the Tokoza council of inconsistency regarding the monthly amount paid by the council to Eskom.

Stat 9/11/90 (261A)

Six councils summonsed by Eskom

By Stan Hlophe

Eskom has summonsed at least six Transvaal local authorities and is in the process of issuing 15 more summonses, while the Transvaal Provincial Administration is engaged in talks with several other councils in a bid to solve the rent crisis.

This follows non-payment of service and electricity charges

Eskom spokesman Johan du Plessis said legal action was to be taken to recover about R70 million for its bulk supply

He would not reveal the councils being summonsed. He said, however, that there were 30 in all and legal action was being considered regarding nine

Negotiations between the TPA, the Atteridgeville People's Party and Concerned Citizens of Atteridgeville will be resumed on Tuesday

Deadlock

In Vosloorus, a meeting ended in deadlock after the TPA and Vosloorus Civic Association were unable to agree on the introduction of a flat rate

Talks are scheduled for today between the TPA and KwaZan-ele, near Breyten, KwaGuqa, near Witbank, Mhluzi, near Middelburg, Wesselton, Silobela, Phola, near Ogies, Emzinoni, near Bethal, Siyathemba, near Balfour, Duduza, near Nigel, Wattville, near Benoni, and KwaThema, near Springs

Negotiations are also being held with civic associations at Alexandra, Evaton, Kanana, Munsieville and Jouberton

Electricity has been switched off in 10 Transvaal areas: Situbeni, near Bronkhorstspuit; Engwenya, Waterval Boven, Silobela, Carolina, KwaGuqa, Botumelong, near Bloemhof, Tswelelang, Wolmaransstad, Kgakala, Leeudoringstad, Jouberton, and Maokeng

Star 12/11/90 261A

Curfew follows shootings

Own Correspondent

Atteridgeville was yesterday declared an "unrest area" by Minister of Law and Order Adriaan Vlok after two youths were allegedly shot dead by police and three houses, including that of a town councillor, were petrol-bombed at the weekend.

Mr Vlok also announced that a 9 pm to 4 am curfew had been imposed in the township with effect from last night.

Two youths, Joseph Lucky Phatlane (19), a Form 3 pupil at the DH Peta High School, and Prince Makhuba (9), were allegedly shot dead by police on Saturday.

Anna Phatlane, Lucky's mother, said her son was killed while walking with his sister, Maphefo (2).

A spokesman for the Atteridgeville/Saulsville Residents Association said yesterday they had received information that Prince was shot by police in the yard at his home.

He said about 100 people, mainly youths, sustained birdshot wounds after being shot by policemen.

Reconnect

The shootings apparently occurred while the youths were trying to reconnect electricity supplies in the township.

The youths had allegedly been shot with a heavy-calibre firearm.

"Police in the area only use birdshot, rubber bullets and tearsmoke," a police spokesman said.

He also confirmed that the houses of councillor Piet Makwe, former town clerk Solly Rammala and ex-deputy mayor Jerry Phiri were damaged after being petrol-bombed on Saturday.

A business complex, Tshera-ma, owned by an Indian woman, was extensively damaged after being gutted by fire.

A truck was set alight at Thabang bottlestore which also belongs to the woman.

A post office was slightly damaged and a bus burnt out after being petrol-bombed.

Police used teargas to disperse youths who were involved in running battles with them.

Resist threats, urges Kriel

Star 16/11/90
Staff Reporter

261A

Black councillors should resist intimidation and get organised, Hernus Kriel, Minister of Planning, Provincial Affairs and National Housing, has urged

At a meeting with more than 200 black local government councillors in the Transvaal last night, Mr Kriel reacted to calls by the Civic Associations of the Southern Transvaal (Cast) and ANC leaders for councillors to resign before November 30

"What they (councillors) are doing is morally right, unlike the actions

of intimidators, who have done nothing for local government," he said

He called on Cast and the ANC not to embark on the road of confrontation and said his door was open for discussions with them.

Mr Kriel confirmed that a new system of local government would have to be established. It would be a product of the central negotiation process

"It is unnecessary for protest actions to be launched against the existing system. The door to negotiation is open and everyone should work together to get the negotiating process under way," he said.

Star 16/11/90

Atteridgeville council collapses

261A

By Mckeed Kotlolo
Pretoria Bureau

The Atteridgeville City Council has collapsed after an announcement by the remaining nine members yesterday that they had resigned.

Two of the three residents' associations involved in rent and service charges talks with the provincial administration have announced their withdrawal.

Intimidation by residents was given as the reason for the resignations and the withdrawal from talks.

The mayor, Velaphi Mathebula, and one of the longest-serving councillors, Henry Nchabeleng, submitted their resignation letters yesterday morning. Paulos Nangampe resigned on Wednesday.

Deputy mayor Justus Tshungu, whose house was twice attacked by residents, announced his resignation yesterday with those of the remaining five members.

Mr Tshungu said: "It is all over with the Atteridgeville City Council. We will meet tonight to release a joint statement."

Unconfirmed reports said town clerk Daan Mouton had also resigned.

A TPA spokesman declined to comment on the resignations and the possible appointment of an administrator.

He said the TPA was due to meet the council last night and a statement would be released after the meeting.

Atteridgeville Concerned Citizens' Organisation (Acco) and the Atteridgeville People's Party (APP) yesterday announced their withdrawal from the rent and service charge discussions with the TPA as a result of intimidation by residents.

Acco spokesman John Makuruntsi, whose house was petrol-bombed on Tuesday, said they could not continue with negotiations when they were intimidated.

LET THERE BE LIGHT

By ELIAS MALULEKE

ATTERIDGEVILLE residents yesterday relaunched "operation switch-on" in the township following the collapse of the council on Friday.

Defiant youths openly carried pliers and stepladders and reconnected wires in the street poles while others kept watch for police and SADF patrols.

The curfew imposed by the police has also been ignored since Sunday and life is going on as usual in the township.

However, ill-disciplined youths have been harassing residents and stopping taxis to enforce the consumer boycott which was called by Asro and the UDF to force the authorities to reconnect lights and enter into negotiations with the civic organisation.

The consumer boycott, which is showing signs of being a success, started on Monday in conjunction with a massive work stayaway in Pretoria, Rosslyn and GaRankuwa.

The boycott is also in force in Mamelodi, Soshanguve and Mabopane.

Although residents applauded the resignation of the Atteridgeville council this week, TPA local director JJ van der Walt said the councillors have been forced to resign by a concerted campaign of intimidation and terror.

He said 25 petrol bombs were thrown at the house of one councillor in one night.

Asro publicity secretary John Ramatsui hailed as a victory the resignation of councillors, who include mayor V Mathibua and his deputy J Tshungu.

Sapa reports the ANC's Atteridgeville branch invited the resigned councillors to join extra-parliamentary bodies.

Asked whether the TPA would now appoint an administrator to run Atteridgeville, the TPA's director of public relations, Piet Wilken, said: "That is what we normally do ... but wait for a full statement."

Atteridgeville youths switch on.

■ Pic: ELIAS MALULEKE

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261A

WELL OPEN FIRE, SAYS WINNIE

18/10/90

SUA

18/10/90

ANC commanders will listen for the order to open fire if the government misbehaves, ANC head of social welfare Winnie Mandela said yesterday.

Speaking in Atteridgeville, near Pretoria, she addressed several thousand people at a funeral service for youths who died during police action in recent unrest sparked by the disconnection of the township's electricity. The town council also collapsed last week.

Mandela said. "We still live in a country where the government thinks it is justifiable to kill people just because they allegedly reconnected electricity so they could eat and wash."

The ANC would not like to go back to the armed struggle, but that was up to the government.

"If they behave, peace will reign. If they misbehave, our commanders have dug the trenches. They are standing to attention at bases and they will listen for the next order to fire."

"Our patience is not endless and the government must take note."

Mandela said the PWV region of the ANC had asked her to remind residents to create defence strategies. The local ANC branch would supply details, she said.

"Any agency which enters your township under the pretext of bringing peace when they want to create war must meet with the full might of the people."

Police set up a roadblock at the main entrance to Atteridgeville yesterday, but access to the stadium, where the funeral service was held, was exclusively controlled by youths in ANC colours.

'Our patience' is not endless'

Mandela said Umkhonto weSizwe could not be disbanded because, in view of government's "brutal and dishonest record, how can we throw away our spears and shields, Umkhonto we Sizwe?"

She added: "If they continue with their provoked attacks such as the one I personally experienced here in Atteridgeville on Monday, we shall react."

"On Monday we were teargassed for no reason at all."

She said police denied this incident and were "chronic and compulsive liars."

"De Klerk and Malan tell us to stop mass action. The government cannot teach us how to fight against them and how to fight apartheid."

Turning to the detention of ANC members in Bophuthatswana she said

the ANC would crush President Lucas Mangope politically.

It was "absolute nonsense" that the ANC had planned to kill him.

"It is apartheid we want to kill, not Lucas Mangope. Or is Mangope the same thing as apartheid?"

The service was held for Lucky Phahlane and Prince Makhoba, plus George Tatane, who died in Lusaka - Sapa

Fiery orator... Winnie Mandela, who says ANC commanders are ready to spring into action.

necessary, and that negotiation for a new system of government should start as soon as possible

Reform local government — economist

GERALD REILLY

PRETORIA — Existing local government structures in SA were complex, uncoordinated, largely illegitimate and badly in need of reform, Natal University economist P J Corbett said here yesterday.

Speaking at an economics, business economics and manpower conference at the University of Pretoria, Corbett stressed whatever the economic structure of local government, it could not effectively achieve its aims and promote development if it lacked popular legitimacy.

He said apartheid had created distorted, economically inefficient cities.

Corbett said if post-apartheid governments were to achieve appropriate urban development, there would have to be an acceptance of demographic trends as irreversible.

Metropolitan growth would also have to be recognised as an opportunity for and not a threat to development.

He said in about 20 years time there would be about 15-million people in the PWV. *31 May 28/11/90*

Another speaker, Roukens de Lange of Stellenbosch University's Institute for Futures Research, said out of the country's 14.2-million economically active people this year, the formal economy only employed about 8-million.

Tackle black authorities now — plea

CAPE TOWN — Black authorities' financial malaise had to be taken seriously now, not when a new constitution had been negotiated, development economist Prof Wolfgang Thomas said at a seminar on local government yesterday.

Even if these authorities had more widely accepted leaders, their financial dilemmas would remain. It was physically impossible for many township residents to pay market-related prices for even the most basic services.

Steps had to be taken to get township administrations out of their debilitating financial constraints. At this stage such funds could only come from RSCs, provincial administrations, state departments or relatively better-off municipalities. *(26/11)*

"In the long run, one hopes that either a change in jurisdictional boundaries, a better rate basis or a new system of fiscal redistribution will solve this dilemma." *(28/11)*

The injection of efficient, skilled staff to strengthen the quantity and quality of township administrations might be a feasible first step to dealing with the problem. — Sapa. *(28/11)*

Cape Times 12/12/90

2617

R137m for Cape townships

Staff Reporter

THE Western Cape Regional Services Council is to spend nearly R140 million over the next two years to improve infrastructure and build stormwater drains in 40 Cape communities.

RSC chairman Mr P J Loubser said yesterday that the R137,5m would go towards 155 different projects.

Cape Town's black townships, including Nyanga, Guguletu, Crossroads and Khayelitsha, will benefit by more than R53m

Among the allocations are:

- Lingeletu West Town Council (including Khayelitsha): R29 834 500,
- Ikapa Town Council: R22 903 835;
- Crossroads: R1 739 500;
- Kayamandi (Stellenbosch): R5 948 190.

Political Correspondent Peter Fabricius looks at the new Regional Development portfolio

Edging towards a federation?

PRESIDENT de Klerk caused some surprise by creating a new Ministry of Regional Development under Arnie Venter when he shuffled his Cabinet last month.

This seemed a strange move in the new South Africa "Regional development" inevitably whiffs a little of the Verwoerdian dream of artificially developing regional areas to turn the tide of blacks away from "white" South Africa.

Furthermore, one of the chief policy tools of the new ministry will be industrial decentralisation incentives.

These were much discredited in the past, because they were used to attract industries to the borders of the homelands — in pursuit of grand apartheid and often regardless of the economic costs.

The old industrial decentralisation scheme was put on ice in July this year because of its many failings and because it simply ran out of money. Now a new, revised scheme is to be launched under the new ministry next year.

Are these signs of a revival of decentralisation policy in the service of a new National Party political ideology? Is it mere coinci-

dence that the new ministry has been created just as the NP is drawing draft plans for a federal system — with the nine economic development regions as second-tier states?

Confirming NP thinking, Deputy Planning and Provincial Affairs Minister Andre Fourie said in a speech this month that if the Government decided on a federal system, the most logical federal units would be the nine development regions.

If that is so, then the Government's constitutional plans could be served well by increasing the wealth, the population and thus the political clout of the nine regions.

Deputy director-general, planning, Coenie de Villiers, and chief director of development co-ordination, Meyer du Toit, in the new Office of Regional Development, deny the new office has been given any political brief.

But they cannot rule out the possibility that the Government may have had some constitutional goal at the back of its mind when it created the new ministry — although they regard this as "speculative".

They also agree it is possible that by promoting the development of the nine regions — their basic goal — they might also indirectly be pursuing another goal: laying the economic foundations of a political federation.

They are adamant, though, that one does not need a political motive to justify regional development. Mr de Villiers points out that there are gross imbalances among the different regions, in population and wealth.

The four main metropolitan areas accommodate 30 percent of the country's population, but create 62 percent of its wealth.

The secondary cities and larger towns contain 28 percent of the population and create 33 percent of the nation's wealth.

The "deep" rural areas accommodate 42 percent of the population and create only about 5 percent of wealth.

"We say we should try to take some development to those areas — without any bias to any political theory," Mr de Villiers says. "That is the basic motivation for regional development. The ideological thing is part of the past. The principle is not to prevent

people migrating to the cities. It is not a question of rural versus urban development. It's a question of developing the whole country to the advantage of all."

An area like the northern Cape has not been developed to its full potential and is "exporting" jobs and wealth. But the PWV area could also, in theory, receive development attention, through the provision of housing and shelter.

In fact, though, one of the main aims of regional development will be to create magnets to try to attract people to the secondary urban areas.

The aim will be to create alternative metropolises and prevent overcrowding in the present metropolises. The main "magnets" will not be a plethora of border "growth points" as in the apartheid past, but cities such as East London. This way industrialists will still be offered the advantages of economies of scale.

Both officials dismiss the popular idea that it is inherently cheaper to create a job in the metropolises than elsewhere, arguing there is no proof of this and some to the contrary.

They say development in the

metropolises has been artificially stimulated over the years by many "hidden incentives", such as transport subsidies. This means the market mechanism has not been operating freely — and part of the objective of Government intervention through measures such as decentralisation incentives will be to compensate for these historical imbalances.

They also believe the undervalued free market does not always regard the overall development picture.

For example, industrial growth in the western Cape is going to devour much more valuable farmland, unless development is deliberately re-routed up the west coast, says Mr du Toit.

Mr de Villiers says the new incentive scheme will not repeat the mistakes of the old scheme. It will have to meet these general conditions:

- It must aim for optimal urbanisation outside the metropolises — rather than creating scores of growth points, a major fault of the old scheme.
- Existing infra-structure must be used as far as possible — rather than creating new ones.

● The aid must be minimal. In the old scheme, companies got the full package of aid measures, even if they didn't need them.

● It must be cost-effective. Beneficiary companies must eventually become self-sufficient, so the scheme pays for itself in tax revenue. (Mr de Villiers says even in the discredited old scheme some 85 percent of beneficiaries became viable).

● It must promote productivity by providing incentives more on the output than input side.

● It must favour new investment such as re-location from overseas. It must primarily create new jobs rather than re-locating them.

● It must be easy to implement. Running the incentives scheme will be the main function of the Chief Directorate of Industrial Development in the new ministry. This chief directorate has been taken over from the Department of Trade and Industry.

There will be two other chief directorates, taken over from the Department of Planning and Provincial Affairs, the Chief Directorate of Regional Economic Planning and that of Development Co-ordination. □

Spur 14/12/90



261A



Khayelitsha gets R30m from RSC

By CHRIS BATEMAN

THE Western Cape Regional Services Council has set aside an unprecedented R29,8m for development in Khayelitsha

Delighted town clerk Mr Graham Lawrence said the amount was the single largest sum allocated to any municipality in the RSC area, and nearly 96% more than that allocated to his council by the RSC last year

The money would immediately be put to use in upgrading the sewerage system in Site C (R15,5m) and improving services, roads and stormwater drains in

Villages 3 and 4 of Town One (Site B) (R1m)

Other benefits would be the replacement of the bucket system in Site C with a water-borne sewerage system, developing the local cemetery, upgrading creches in Sites B and C and providing weather shelters for outpatients at clinics

'Great hope'

Further improvements would be the creation of satellite stations in the waste disposal system and the commissioning of a much-needed "master plan" for Khayelitsha's development, Mr Lawrence said

- "Existing services have degenerated to such an extent that this gives us great hope again," he added.

In terms of the financing needed to get the city (population over 300 000) on a sound administrative and infrastructural footing, the RSC allocation was a "mere drop in the ocean", he emphasised.

Mr Lawrence said he thought the unexpected RSC amount was the result of a extensive tour of the city by their priorities committee in June this year

● The RSC amount allocated to Khayelitsha is for the 1991 financial year

Company finds jobs for those retrenched

Art Tint 18/12/90

261A
Staff Reporter

THE management of Gant's Foods have found work in the Western Cape for about 1 000 workers it has retrenched from the company's Strand plant

Managing director Mr A J Robinson said yesterday the retrenchment programme had been completed by the time the factory closed for the Christmas holidays last week.

When the factory re-opens on January 9 next year, 400 people will be re-employed in the meat section of the factory, he said.

● Meanwhile, WP Local Authority Workers' Association organising secretary Mr Leonard Koza has criticised the Regional Services Council for not attempting to transfer more than 200 road workers it has retrenched to other jobs within the RSC.

An RSC spokesman said limited funds being made available by the provincial administration to the RSC lead to the retrenchment of 221 workers last Friday.

PUBLIC SECTOR - R.S.C.

1991

New scheme for local govt

EDYTH BULBRING

PRETORIA — A metropolitan chamber to negotiate a nonracial local government system with a single tax base, and consisting of all local authorities and extra-parliamentary groups in the central Witwatersrand region, will be formed on January 21.

All local authorities represented on the Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council (RSC) have agreed to take part along with civic organisations across the political spectrum, say informed sources.

The chamber will negotiate a new system of local government for the region, and will also serve as a formal chamber for negotiations on local issues.

The sources said that while the chamber would not be a statutory body, and would therefore have no legal standing, any decision reached in the chamber would be morally binding on its members.

For example, if the Soweto City Council and the Soweto People's Delegation (SPD)

reached agreement on an issue, it would morally bind the Soweto City Council to implement the decision, as it enjoyed the legal standing to do so. The chamber would not usurp the authority of local authorities.

Transvaal MEC for local government Olaus van Zyl said he would like to see such a body established before the end of the month *6/10/91*.

He said meetings at high level had been held over several months to iron out various issues.

Moves to establish the chamber stem from the Greater Soweto Accord signed on September 25 between the SPD, the three town councils in the greater Soweto area and the TPA to resolve the rent and services boycott.

The accord provided for the formation of a metropolitan chamber consisting of

□ To Page 2

Local govt *6/10/91*

the accord's five signatories, with the Johannesburg City Council being invited to join as a sixth member.

The chamber was to have several technical committees to investigate some of the issues not finally disposed of by the accord.

These included affordable tariffs, the improvement of infrastructural services, the transfer of rented housing stock and a common fiscal base within the metropolitan region.

These committees had not been operating because no metropolitan chamber had been formed. It was felt that other organisations and local authorities in the region

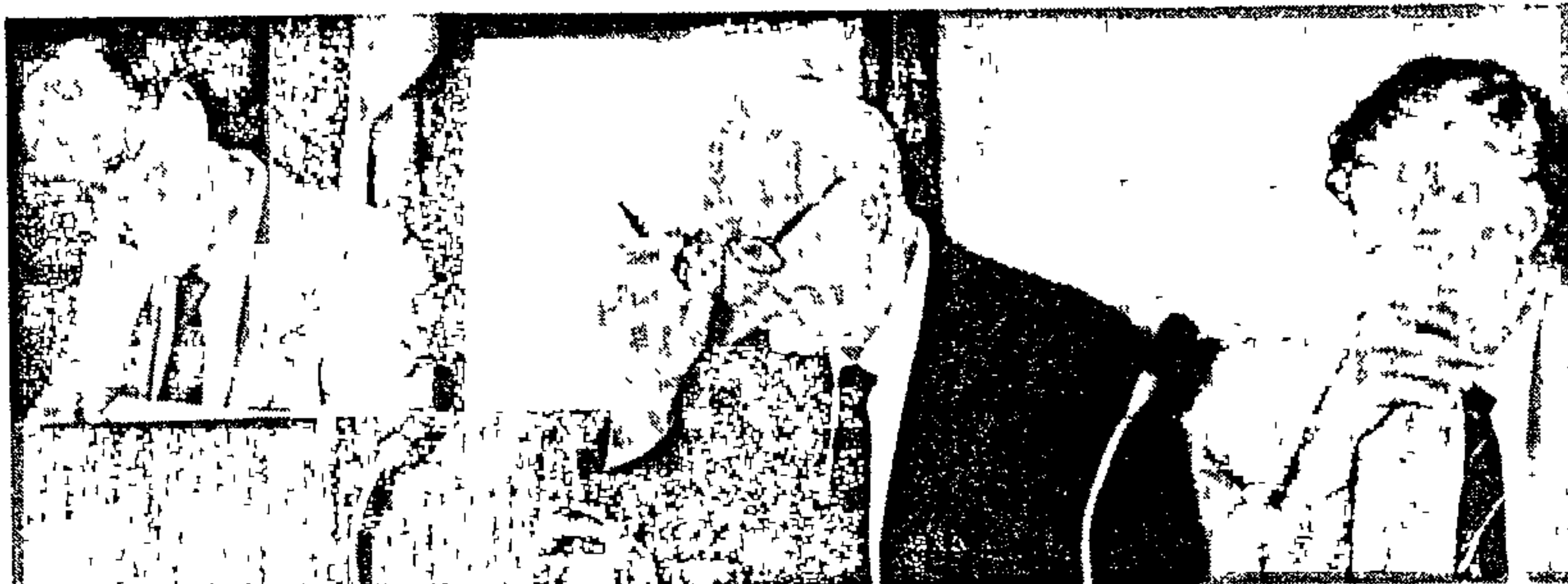
should join and form a larger chamber for the entire region, the source said.

The significance of forming a metropolitan chamber consisting of all local authorities in the region and historically antagonistic extra-parliamentary groupings lay in the existence of a forum that would be able to negotiate future nonracial government options for the region.

Its existence could also contribute to the resolution of conflict in the region, a source said.

He said government hoped establishment of a metropolitan chamber would be duplicated in other regions.

□ From Page 1



Central Witwatersrand RSC chairman John Griffiths is flanked by council vice-chairman Jan Burger, left, and CE Len de Wet at yesterday's meeting.

Picture CATHERINE ROSS

Bridging deal for Greater Soweto extended

THE Central Witwatersrand RSC and Eskom have agreed to extend their bridging finance arrangements for Greater Soweto by a further two months.

The council approved a motion at its monthly meeting yesterday that bridging finance arrangements for services and electricity in Soweto, Diepmeadow and Dobsonville be agreed to despite the fact that the payment performance standards set after the signing of the Greater Soweto Accord in September had not been met.

The RSC had granted the three councils R154m bridging finance and they were expected to show a counter performance in their payments after the accord, which ended a five-year

THEO RAWANA

boycott and wrote off R516m in rent and service payment arrears.

Wits RSC chairman John Griffiths said. "Payments received do show a marked improvement and willingness to pay, and the late delivery of accounts for October and November did contribute to the problem."

"Bearing in mind the encouraging tendency reflected in the payments, it is considered advisable to extend the period of attainment of the performance standards on which the RSC and Eskom have made their voluntary assistance conditional."

Urban affairs consultant Nigel Mandy said payments remained low in Alexandra, which was not party to

the accord.

"There, some organisations are applying pressure on consumers to continue the boycott. Nevertheless, because current negotiations in Alexandra are promising, it has been decided to extend the period of the bridging finance arrangements there as well," said Mandy.

The council also approved the upgrading of the computerised billing system for the Greater Soweto and Alexandra councils at a capital cost of R1,2m.

A further R20 364 a month would be used for operating and maintenance expenses. Computer company ITS would be appointed to install and supervise the additional computer equipment.

We miss blacks, says RSC boss

8/27 14/2/91
By Esmaré van der Merwe
Political Reporter

26/11

The resignation of black town councillors has virtually reduced some regional services councils in the Transvaal to white-only administrations

First introduced in 1987, RSCs were created by the Government as the first racially integrated regional administrations to facilitate joint decision-making on the allocation of funds and the upgrading of underdeveloped areas.

White administrators, who have been appointed by the provincial authority to run the affairs of black towns where councils have collapsed, have also taken the place of black

representatives on RSCs

Worst affected by the mass resignations of black councillors is the Oosvaal RSC, the second biggest in the country, where only about seven of the 21 black representatives still serve on the 64-person body

"Through boycott and intimidation actions, black people have been deprived of the opportunity to make an input, said Oosvaal RSC chairman Gert Gouws.

"At first, we had this hotch-potch of races on our RSC. Now you only see the odd black face. We miss them. The administrators perform the duties well, but it was better when black local authorities were represented by elected people who

had the backing of their political constituencies

"The entire idea of racially integrated administrations is not being realised," said Mr Gouws.

Other affected RSCs include Highveld, where six of the eight black members have resigned, Pretoria, where only two of the four black towns in the area still have black representation, and Vaal Triangle, where only one of the four black members still serves on the RSC.

The Central Witwatersrand RSC still has all five of its black members.

Spokesmen for the RSCs emphasised that the functions of these bodies had not been affected by the presence of administrators.

Services aid to continue into March

Staff Reporter

8/av 20/2/91

Bridging finance for black local authorities in the Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council (CWRSC) will be continued until the end of next month, despite disappointingly low levels of payments by residents, the council said last night.

Townships affected by the decision are Diepmeadow, Dobsonville, Soweto and Alexandra.

Of the three councils which are party to the Greater Soweto Accord, Dobsonville had the best payment record of 103,21 percent payments by residents for service charges, and 103,53 percent payment for electricity in December. However, these figures fell to 55,04 percent and 58,89 percent respectively last month.

Alexandra's payments were particularly low — 50,83 percent for services and 14,75 percent for electricity in December, and 38,50 percent and 17,12 percent respectively last month. The CWRSC pointed out that a separate formal agreement for Alexandra had not yet been concluded.

Disappointing

The CWRSC said extensive financial assistance for the operating expenses of black local authorities had been made available, provided certain minimum percentages of residents paid the agreed interim charges.

The payments had not met the required level, and it was particularly disappointing that January payments were generally lower than December's.

Despite this, the CWRSC had resolved to continue financial assistance until the end of March.

CWRSC chairman John Griffiths said it had become clear from meetings with the local authorities and the Transvaal Provincial Administration that the State would need to accept a greater responsibility to assist and meet the shortfalls of the black local authorities.

The CWRSC resolved to request that these authorities make every effort to improve the payment levels for rentals, services and electricity to avoid disruption and deterioration of essential services.

Councils get last reprieve

261A
so wefan 21/2/91
By DON SEOKANE

THE Central
Witwatersrand Regional
Services Council will
continue to supply bridg-
ing finance to township
councils for one more
month despite
"disappointing payments
from residents".

CWRSC chairman Mr
John Griffiths said that
after March 31 bridging
finance to the councils in
its region would be
stopped until new agree-
ments were negotiated.

The CWRSC has
threatened to cut off funds
to townships because resi-
dents do not pay their
council bills.

Of the three Greater
Soweto Councils which
are party to the Soweto
Accord, Dobsonville was
the "best performer"
regarding payments.
Alexandra was also a
poor payer, he said.

Despite this, the
CWRSC has decided to
allocate R1,9 million to
the Diepmeadow Council
for an intensive cleaning
campaign.

Griffiths said success-
ful contractors would be
required to use labourers
living in the area to
relieve unemployment.

More than R190 000
has been budgeted to pro-
mote health and cleansing
services in Alexandra,
where an intensive three-
month cleaning
campaign, using local
labour to remove rubble,
would be implemented.

Another R422 500
would be used to provide
temporary toilets and
water stand pipes to
squatters in Alexandra.

Local authorities: State urged to assist shortfalls

Municipal Reporter 2611

The State would have to accept a greater responsibility to assist and meet the cash shortfalls of black local authorities, Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council (CWRSC) chairman John Griffiths has warned.

The CWRSC has resolved to discontinue financial assistance to black local authorities in its region after March 31 until new agreements have been met.

It also decided to ask black local authorities to make every effort to improve the payment levels for services to avoid their deterioration in the near future.

The council has decided it will continue with financial assistance to Soweto, Diepmeadow, Dobsonville and Alexandra until the end of March.

Mr Griffiths said it was clear from meetings held with the local authorities and the Transvaal Provincial Administration, that the State would need to accept a greater responsibility in meeting the shortfalls of black local authorities.

The TPA had indicated that funds could be available to assist these authorities from April 1, but the amounts to be provided had not yet been determined.

Extensive financial assistance has been provided for the operating expenses of black local authorities within the central Witwatersrand.

R40m earmarked for upliftment schemes

(261A) (812)
THE Far Northern Transvaal Regional Services Council (RSC) is spending about R40m on upliftment projects in rural and urban areas north of Potgietersrus. B.O am 22/2/91

CE Tertius Theron says the money was allocated to projects going towards upgrading infrastructural services and providing community facilities in the region.

"The agricultural or rural sector has received about R7m, while the balance was allocated to the urban areas," Theron says.

The money is spread over about 90 projects, 30 of them in the rural areas.

When the RSC began working in the area, it met stiff opposition from the white rural sectors.

"We had a few political problems with conservative farmers who felt the RSCs could not contribute anything meaningful to the community, but we have since proved them wrong," says Theron.

The RSC is involved in subsidising training for black labourers in rural areas and is also helping to finance a water research programme.

"Water is a serious issue here. It's important we know what type of problems we are dealing with and how we can resolve them or find ways around them."

Pay up or services will suffer – RSC

Municipal Reporter

(26/1A)

The Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council has warned black communities that if they do not pay the minimum charges negotiated in rent agreements, they will be back to square one with mounting arrears and deteriorating services.

CWRSC chairman John Griffiths said he was disappointed that many township residents were not even meeting the interim charges for services as stipulated in the Soweto Accord and other rent agreements in the region.

According to an agreement negotiated in October, the CWRSC agreed to step in and provide bridging finance to Soweto, Diepmeadow, Dobsonville and Alexandra.

"On March 31 we will withdraw as we will have fulfilled our side of the agreement," Mr Griffiths said.

"We don't have funds freely available — we have had to take loans of up to R60 million to enable us to meet our commitments.

"One of the conditions we set was that interim charges would have to be addressed and realistic tariffs determined.

"The situation is most disappointing, especially where electricity is concerned. The CWRSC agreed to fund one-third of the unit cost of electricity during the interim period, while residents are only paying 25 percent of the total bill.

"This obviously leads to a situation where cut-offs have to take place — and must for those people who are not paying."

Mr Griffiths said rent talks had not been in vain.

"There is a response, but it is not good enough. The quality of services will deteriorate and that will lead to cuts and then the same conditions will prevail as before. It is going to be up to the communities."

RSC Bill designed to 'block CP disruption'

ster
8/3/91
261A

The concept of Regional Services Councils had turned out a success despite the negative publicity they had received initially, Minister of Planning, Provincial Affairs and National Housing Hennis Kriel said in Parliament yesterday.

Speaking during the second-reading debate on the Regional Services Amendment Bill, Mr Kriel said the RSCs were still developing and further changes would take place.

Representation on the RSCs is currently racially based.

"We will have to find other ways and means of determining representation on RSCs," Mr Kriel said.

Joseph Chiole (CP, Pretoria West) said the Government intended to misuse RSCs as a rubber-stamp to pave the way for racially mixed local authorities.

He said that where the CP controlled more than the necessary one-third of the vote on an RSC, it would block all deci-

Parliament

1991



sions that were of advantage to the ANC/Government alliance.

An amendment allowing the Administrator to decide on a matter when the RSC was unable to come to a decision had been drawn up because, with the collapse of black local authorities, their voting power in RSCs was falling, making it difficult to push through decisions advantageous to blacks only.

Amended

Mr Kriel said the Bill was being amended precisely to prevent the CP from making RSCs unworkable.

P J Groenewald (CP Stiffontein) said the Bill allowed for RSCs to appoint committees to investigate certain functions

and aspects such as the supply of water and electricity, sewerage, health services, libraries, monuments and other local government functions. What would happen if all these functions were taken away from local government?

The supply of water and electricity provided the biggest source of income to local government.

Where was the voters' control over the functions of the RSCs?

"The Minister must tell us what they plan to do with RSCs and what they plan to do with local government and management," Mr Groen said.

Eddie Trent (DP PE Central) said that while the Democratic Party supported the Bill, it maintained the Regional Services Councils Act of 1985 was undemocratic and needed to be amended drastically.

The DP did not support the basic principles of this Act.

They had little or no legitimacy, he said — Sapa

Black boycotts: RSCs levied

TRANSVAAL regional regional services councils (RSCs) have been asked to hand over 15% of their budgets to compensate for rent and service payment boycotts in black townships.

The move by the TPA will drain much needed funds from development projects and put added pressure on RSCs to increase levies on businesses in their areas.

The request was made in a letter to the RSCs late last month which said the Greater Soweto area and Alexandra township alone would receive grants of up to R131,8m from central government through the TPA this year.

Between September last year and the end of this month, the Central Witwatersrand RSC passed on R170m of its approximately R400m budget as bridging finance to crippled black local authorities.

The RSC decided yesterday to defer a decision on whether to raise loans to finance the bridging finance or whether it would increase levies.

Earlier this week the East Rand RSC decided on a 21% increase in tariffs. Chair-

PATRICK BULGER

man Leon Ferreira said the TPA wanted R22,63m for bridging finance, but that there was no link between the levy hike and the amount paid as bridging finance.

In terms of an earlier agreement with the TPA, the Central Wits RSC was to have paid bridging finance only until the end of this month. "Such funds were intended to compensate for the non-viability of black towns," the TPA said in its letter.

It cited government's previous policy of not accepting the permanence of urban blacks, limited income from rent and service fees, rapid urbanisation, low incomes, unemployment and intimidation as reasons for the councils' non-viability.

The TPA said the minimum contribution of 15% was "unavoidable".

The Central Wits RSC will consider the matter further after a meeting with provincial officials and Finance Minister Bar-end du Plessis.

● Picture Page 3
● See Page 4

26/11

15/12/91
20/3/91
10/1/91

Govt township grants not enough, says RSC

By Louise Burgers
Municipal Reporter

2013/14

Insufficient funds have been provided by Government to assist with the provision of services in four Witwatersrand townships and residents face legal action, cut-offs and mounting debt unless service payments are made.

The Government has decided to grant R131,8 million, through the Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) to the Soweto, Dobsonville, Diepenadow and Alexandra councils this year.

This is far from enough, warned Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council (CWRSC) chairman John Griffiths last night.

With effect from April 1, financial assistance from the province to black local authorities will be provided by means of inter-authority grants based

on a formula by which fixed amounts have been allocated to each council for the next financial year.

The new figures were tabled at the monthly CWRSC meeting last night.

The CWRSC has refused to administer the R131,8 million and Mr Griffiths said it was of "serious concern" to the RSC that the amounts would not be sufficient to last the year.

Alexandra will receive R10,1 million, Soweto R90 million, Dobsonville R6,6 million and Diepenadow R25 million.

Last year these councils received R155,6 million in bridging finance from the Province and R154 million from the CWRSC which was forced to divert funds from projects in black townships to fund the provision of services.

This resulted in a deterioration of infrastructure. Mr Griffiths said there was

no guarantee that black local authorities would not find themselves this year in the same situation as last year.

"The bottom line is that people who do not pay, will not receive the services. They will face legal action and discontinuation of services," he said.

The CWRSC has until June to decide to what extent it will provide finance to the four black local authorities over and above the Government grants.

Government has asked RSCs to contribute a minimum of 15 percent of their income for operating expenses for essential services.

"We have to decide to what extent we will assist and what we will achieve. If by assisting, people feel they do not have to pay for services, then we will have to reassess the situation," Mr Griffiths said.

With the province's R131,8 million from Govern-

ment and the 15 percent requested from the RSCs, and with the present (poor to fair) level of payments, there is no way services can be maintained on a continuous basis.

"By October/November, we could be in a similar situation as last year."

Mr Griffiths expressed the hope that payments would improve.

"We hope that within three months the situation would have normalised and payments increased so we can increase tariff payments," Mr Griffiths said.

● The CWRSC also decided to assist the Alexandra Town Council with R2,5 million to enable it to meet March payments for salaries, essential operating expenses, creditors and bulk purchases.

Projects totalling R1,8 million for Alexandra were re-scheduled.

PATRICK BULGER

THE East Rand Regional Services Council has applied for a 21% increase in levy rates

This would boost the council's income by R26,19m and was almost certain to be approved by Finance Minister Barend du Plessis, a council spokesman said

RSC chairman Leon Ferreira told an RSC meeting earlier this week increases had become inevitable

The services levy — which is a tax on salaries — will be increased from 0,275% of salaries paid to 0,333%, the establishment levy — a tax on turnover — will go up from 0,11% to 0,133%.

Ferreira said the increase was the minimum amount needed to reconcile income with projected expenditure, and would help meet the backlog of

RSC requests a R26m increase

R1,088bn the council had set as its ultimate target

The increase is likely to meet opposition from the 33 000 East Rand employers. The council is preparing a brochure for distribution to businesses to defuse criticism and to show what projects are being completed with their money

The R26,19m increase is roughly in line with the R22,63m the TPA has asked the RSC to set aside as bridging finance to make up for current expense backlogs caused by township residents' non-payment of services

Ferreira said no final decision had been taken on the bridging finance. The increase in levy rates was to

make up for backlogs and was not linked to the bridging finance

Last September the council agreed to make R27m available as bridging finance

It went towards paying water and sewage costs as well as the partial removal of waste

The TPA is likely to ask the council to put more money aside at the end of the month when council assistance with township running costs officially ends, the source said

Certain capital projects were shelved to pay for the running costs

The council's budget is R157,89m for 1991/2.

Concern over Vaal Triangle air

WILSON ZWANE

AIR pollution in the Vaal Triangle could be linked to health disorders including bronchitis, chronic coughs and other chest illnesses, a survey of 10 000 children has shown

The survey, conducted by the Medical Research Council (MRC), said concentrations of ozone and particle matter in the area were cause for concern

In a statement released yesterday, the MRC said the first results of its research indicated the Vaal Triangle was a "potential problematic" environment because of its varied and complex sources of air pollution. These included major industries, burning coal and pollen

A pilot study involving 31 teenagers in Vanderbijlpark showed that in 51% of the measurements taken, exposure to "particulate matter" was higher than US air pollution health standards

"Among other things, cigarette smoke, industry and motor vehicles contributed."

They believed the extremely high levels of pollen and fungal spores in the Vaal Triangle put the allergic population of the area at risk

Possible health effects caused by air particles included chronic coughs, bronchitis and other chest illnesses

The Vaal Triangle Air Pollution Health Study was commissioned by the National Health and Population Development Department last year to investigate the effects of air pollution on health in the area. The study is funded by, among other groups, the MRC, Eskom, Iscor, Sasol 1 and the National Health and Population Development Ministry

Researchers will attempt to identify and quantify problems so that recommendations can be made to National Health and Population Development Minister Dr Rina Venter to improve the situation

RSCs willing to share state's transport load

PATRICK BULGER

CENTRAL Witwatersrand Regional Services Council chairman John Griffiths said yesterday RSCs would have no objection to taking over part of the state's transport subsidies

He was reacting to Finance Minister Barend du Plessis's Budget announcement that RSCs should help shoulder the subsidy burden from July 1 next year

The state spent almost R600m in transport subsidies in the 1988/89 financial year.

Du Plessis said to ensure cost-effective transport subsidies, an integrated strategy was being developed by state departments to co-ordinate subsidy expenditure involving land use, housing, job opportunities and other factors that impacted on the demand for transport.

Responsibility for transport subsidies should be allocated on a regional basis, so that each regional authority would accept responsibility for subsidisation of commuters in its region

Griffiths said if funds were available, the RSCs should be able to make a contribution. At present, however, RSCs did not have the funds to subsidise transport due in part to their commitment to allocating bridging finance to black local authorities

Gerrit Viljoen tells how borders will fade away

CAPE TOWN — Boundaries of provinces, self-governing territories and Regional Services Councils may all fade away in the new SA, says Constitutional Development Minister Gerrit Viljoen.

Viljoen delivered the keynote address at the opening of the 60th annual meeting of the United Municipal Executive, a body representing white municipalities nationwide.

He outlined a possible scenario

Own Correspondent

in which the provinces would be replaced by regional units. Each of these units would have a large measure of autonomy and its own tax base.

He believed the "development regions" could serve as a point of departure for defining new regional boundaries.

Regional boundaries could "replace and rationalise the present

diversity of overlapping territories: provincial, self-governing, development and RSC areas".

In line with government's policy of effective devolution of power, it was necessary to consider a new system of "autonomous regional government", the Minister said.

This would be effective only if the various regional authorities were endowed with effective functions "and independent fiscal sources" and powers.

Public servant 'purge' might occur

GERALD REILLY

PRETORIA — Public servants who attempted to wreck a new SA would have to be rooted out, Unisa professor of constitutional and public international law Marinus Wiechers said yesterday.

Wiechers told a conference on the civil service in a new SA that public servants who could not adapt to the challenges of change or who set out to sabotage the processes of change would have to be dealt with. *B 1 Day 28/3/91*

"These are deeply worrying questions, but they have to be faced squarely and honestly," he said.

Public servants who had carried out apartheid policies would be expected to abolish these and uproot the system.

This would demand almost super-human effort and dedication.

Wiechers said he did not believe the legal position of public servants would be

affected by fundamental changes.

Wiechers said it was almost inevitable that public services in self-governing territories and the TBVC states would be abolished and be integrated into the central or regional administration.

Separate administrations for the so-called "own affairs" under the present tricameral system were also bound to disappear. *(26/1A)*

Existing provincial administrations could become even more integrated into the central administration or be dispersed among new regional structures.

Local government administrations would be expanded. *(26/1A)*

New administrations would also have to be established to cater for urgent socio-economic needs, he said.



The Associated Manganese Mines of SA Ltd

Reg No 050734306

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the relevant transfer books and register of members of the Company will be closed from 16 April 1991 to 22 April 1991, both days inclusive, to determine the members entitled to attend the annual general meeting of members to be held at Anglovaal House, 56 Main Street, Johannesburg on Monday, 22 April 1991 at 10 00

Johannesburg, 28 March 1991

(NW) 61627

Atteridgeville set to expand

So wetan 28/3/91 *(261A)*

THE housing shortage in Atteridgeville is to be alleviated with the building of more than 10 000 houses in an area west of the township

Plans for the development of the area were unveiled by the township's Administrator, Dr Ernie Jacobson, at a sod-turning ceremony at Ga-Mothakga Resort on Tuesday

Jacobson said the westward expansion would see 13 000 houses being built, of which 6 100 would be completed during the first phase

Jacobson said this was

a joint effort because land was donated by the Defence Force, Iscor and Habicon

The bulk water and sewerage system will be provided by Cycad Construction while Ferrolin Power lines and Frog Electrical will instal electricity

"We are therefore glad that the Regional Services Council (RSC) have voted the money for supplying the services"

Jacobson said the RSC might be the ideal model on which future local governments may develop because it had proved that

a tax base could be broadened and different councils could co-operate in developing and servicing a region like Pretoria and its environments.

"We also appreciate the involvement of the Pretoria City Council in supplying bulk services as well as administrative aid to Atteridgeville."

Jacobson said he foresaw the new development would be the first in a new a free society with the spirit of trust in South Africa where everybody will contribute to the well-being of the country.
- Own Correspondent

RSCs 'best starting point'

By Jacqueline Myburgh

Regional Services Councils could provide a starting point for bridging initiatives in establishing joint local government bodies, said the chairman of the Witwatersrand RSC, John Griffiths.

He was addressing a conference on "Greater Johannesburg in Transition" hosted by the SA Property Owners Association.

Despite the fact that RSCs were skewed in their representation, and subject to the same criticisms as those levelled at other local government structures, they were already multi-racial — and removing their "objectionable conditions" was preferable to introducing new metropolitan structures.

"Experience has shown that all solutions proposed by Government are scorned on the grounds that they are imposed from the people at the top."

He said one large forum for the negotiation of a new system of local government, such as the Metropolitan chamber proposed in the Greater Soweto Accord, was inherently unwieldy.



John Griffiths RSCs can be modified and built upon to the community's advantage

He proposed instead the establishment of four forums, based on geographical lines, to negotiate for amendments to the RSC Act.

Mr Griffiths felt the RSC could adequately accommodate all regional requirements during the transitional phase.

The negotiation process should be undertaken by the participants suggested for the

proposed Metropolitan Chamber or Alexandra Forum, but he did not advise involving political parties since this could result in delays.

Addressing the same conference, Khehla Shubane, of the Soweto Civic Association, said it had been accepted that townships on their own could not overcome years of unequal allocation of resources.

"In democratising city politics, however, it is not merely extending a municipal franchise to all on a non-racial basis that must be the sole purpose."

This should be the first step towards building and supporting existing groups and institutions which could enhance the quality of that democracy.

Mr Shubane said development, allowing people to do things for themselves was essential since South African cities would grow well beyond their capacities.

"Nothing will convince prospective entrants to the city that there are insufficient facilities, and they have to try to improve things for themselves wherever they may be."

Grant for local authorities 'ludicrous'

PRETORIA — The R410,9m allocated for "bridging finance" or "inter-governmental grants" to black local authorities in the Transvaal for the 1991/92 financial year has been condemned by civic associations as ludicrous in light of black communities' financial backlogs (266) (267)

Cas Coovadia of the Civic Associations of the Southern Transvaal (Cast) said in an interview the need for finance had grown tremendously

The R410,9m grant is almost R18m less than the previous financial year

"Bridging finance should have been increased and communities should have been consulted before a figure was reached," said Coovadia

Transvaal MEC in charge of Local Government and Regional Services Olaus van Zyl maintains there was no

reduction in the funds as the Regional Services Councils in the Transvaal had formally agreed to assist the Transvaal Provincial Administration by donating a minimum of 15% of their budgets 8/02-74/4/91

The shortage of bridging finance had forced the TPA to approach the RSCs with a view to freezing capital projects of certain towns, where rent and services payment boycotts had been experienced, and to reschedule such funds for the maintenance of essential services

The money was not meant to finance payment boycotts, he said

From this month the RSCs will receive the amounts made available for financial assistance by the TPA as inter-governmental grants

Van Zyl said the grants now would be based on a formula which took into

account services provided and the number of people to whom the services would be provided

"The previous formula to bridging finance subsidised unproductivity. The worse a local community did, the more funds they received"

Coovadia rejected the new formula, saying the amount of money provided to a local authority now depended on the money brought in by the community

Communities boycotting rent and services payments would thus suffer

"The boycotts are a result of apartheid and are held in opposition to it. It is now up to government to now finance the process of addressing the problem"

Bridging finance was effectively financing the negotiation process and should continue, he said — Sapa

assume that South Africa and question the cor in the

192 members stood

terms of Prisons Regulation 53 of the Prisons Act, 1959 (Act 8 of 1959) on counts of assault on prisoners. Of these, 121 members were found not guilty whilst 71 members were found guilty and were sentenced in terms of s 53(2) of the Prisons Act

During 1990, 239 members stood trial in terms of Prisons Regulation 71(1)(hh) read together with section 53 of the Prisons Act, 1959 (Act 8 of 1959) on counts of assault on prisoners. Of these, 182 members were found not guilty whilst 57 members were found guilty and were sentenced in terms of section 53(2) of the Prisons Act

In respect of 1 929 of the total number of complaints, no substance could be found after thorough investigation to lay charges against any member of the Department. Furthermore, the Attorney-General refused to prosecute in 477 cases. On 31 December 1990, the remaining cases were still being dealt with

- (2) (b) Inquiries in terms of the stipulations of Prisons Regulation 77(1) to determine the suitability of members to remain in service, inter alia led to the dismissal of respectively one (1989) and two (1990) members against whom offences of assault on prisoners were recorded
- (c) Besides sentences imposed in terms of section 53 of the Prisons Act, 1959 (Act 8 of 1959) during departmental

members were seriously warned against such actions and were made aware of the implications thereof on their careers. Furthermore, such inadmissible conduct as duly considered in the competence evaluation of such members

Medunsa psychiatric hospital

206 Mr M J ELLIS asked the Minister of National Health

Whether a psychiatric hospital has been built at the Medical University of Southern Africa, if not, what is being planned in this regard, if so, (a) (i) when and (ii) at what cost was it completed, (b) what is the average bed occupancy rate and (c) what are the future plans for this hospital?

B551E

The MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH

Yes,

- (a) (i) a sixty-bed psychiatric unit was completed on 26 October 1989 and

(ii) R3 954 881,04,

- (b) the unit is temporarily used as an exchange ward whilst upgrading of various wards in Ga-Rankuwa Hospital are being carried out and

- (c) Branch Health Services of the Provincial Administration of the Transvaal proposes to commission this unit as soon as funds become available

Ratio of beds per medical student

207 Mr M J ELLIS asked the Minister of National Health

What is the ratio of beds per medical student doing clinical training (a) at the academic hospital complexes attached to the medical faculties in South Africa and (b) at each such hospital complex?

B554E

The MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH

BEDS PER STUDENT

- (a) Provincial Administration of the Cape of Good Hope

3,12

6,60

- (b) Provincial Administration of the Cape of Good Hope
- Groote Schuur
- Tygerberg

BEDS PER STUDENT

6,29

5,27 and

3,38

2,88

Provincial Administration of the Transvaal

University of the Witwatersrand

University of Pretoria

Medical University of Southern Africa

Provincial Administration of Natal

King Edward VIII

Provincial Administration of the Orange Free State

Bloemfontein

8,80

4,30

6,60

6,29

5,27

Algoa Regional Services Council investigation

223 Mr E W TRENT asked the Minister of Planning, Provincial Affairs and National Housing

- (1) Whether the Finance and Administration Committee of the Algoa Regional Services Council instituted an investigation into the disbursement of funds in 1989 or 1990, if so, when,

- (2) whether any members of staff are alleged to be implicated in any irregularities, if so, (a) in what irregularities and (b) what measures have been taken as a result?

B588E

The MINISTER OF PLANNING, PROVINCIAL AFFAIRS AND NATIONAL HOUSING

- (1) No

- (2) Yes

- (a) A member of staff was involved in irregularities in connection with council funds

- (b) Legal steps were taken against the official involved. He was found guilty, convicted and discharged from the service of the Regional Services Council. Stricter control measures were introduced in that auditing of the financial books of the Council is done regularly on a monthly basis

Military hospitals: bed capacity/occupancy rate

233 Mr R R HULLEY asked the Minister of Defence

What was the (a) total bed capacity and (b) bed occupancy rate, expressed as a percentage, of military hospitals as at the latest specified date for which figures are available?

B551E

The MINISTER OF DEFENCE

The information, as at 20 March 1991, is as follows

	(a)	(b)
1 Military Hospital	623	47%
2 Military Hospital	293	46%
3 Military Hospital	173	56%

Afforestation applications

254 Mr M J ELLIS asked the Minister of Water Affairs and Forestry

- (a) How many afforestation applications were received by his Department in each province in 1990, (b) (i) how many of these applications were approved and (ii) for which areas were they approved in each case and (c) (i) how many applications were refused and (ii) for what reason was each application refused?

B673E

1075 *House 16/4/91* TUESDAY, 16 APRIL 1991

1076

Voorreker Hospital	0	0
Warmbad Hospital	36	4
Waterl Boven Hospital	0	0
Willem Cruywagen Hospital	0	0

Great Trek commemoration: amount donated

62 Mr H D K VAN DER MERWE asked the Minister of Education and Culture †

(1) Whether, with reference to his reply to Question No 48 on 22 March 1991, the FAK has reported to his Department on how the amount of R690 000 donated to it

in respect of the commemoration of the Great Trek in 1988 was spent, if not, why not, if so,

(2) whether he will furnish details of the spending of this amount to the House, if not, why not, if so, what are the details?

House 16/4/91 B779E
The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE

(1) Yes,

(2) no, audited financial reports are, however, available for inspection at my office

1077

House 16/4/91 TUESDAY, 16 APRIL 1991

1078

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Merveille community centre

*2 Mr A ESSOP asked the Minister of Housing †

QUESTIONS

†Indicates translated version

For oral reply

Own Affairs

(1)

Whether his Department has rejected the establishment of a community centre at Merveille, if not, what are the relevant details, if so, for what reasons,

(2)

whether he will make a statement on the matter?

Matjesfontein: funds budgeted

C60E

*1 Mr A ESSOP asked the Minister of Housing †

The MINISTER OF HOUSING

(1)

Whether funds were budgeted in the 1986-87 financial year for the upgrading of Matjesfontein, if not, in what financial year were funds last budgeted for this purpose, if so,

(2)

whether any delay is being experienced in the upgrading of Matjesfontein, if so, for what reasons,

(3)

whether he will make a statement on the matter?

C59E

†The MINISTER OF HOUSING

(1) No

1989/90

(2) Yes

The principal reason for the delay in the upgrading of Matjesfontein is that a suitable water supply must first be found

(3) No

(2) No

The Central Karoo Regional Services Council, as the agent of the local authority does not see its way clear to negotiate a Housing loan to finance a community centre as they are convinced that the community will not be able to redeem such loan. The Development Board has already decided, in principle, to render assistance to smaller communities by giving consideration to the provision of a first and second phase of a basic community centre, dependant on the availability of funds, on condition that adequate contributions from other sources, to complete the facility for use, be available. The concerned local authority has meanwhile requested my Department to prepare cost estimates of the various phases of a community centre and only when these are available will the local authority decide if they will be in a financial position to proceed with such project

B11224 13/4/89

RSC lacks funds for infrastructure

TANIA LEVY

26/1A

THE East Rand Regional Services Council will need almost eight times its entire budget to provide the infrastructure needed in the region, says chairman Leon Ferreira.

While the RSC this week approved a R186m budget, Ferreira said it would cost R1bn for the council to provide the total infrastructure actually needed in the area.

This was double the amount estimated in 1988/89. The increased backlog could be attributed mainly to the decline in service provision by local authorities, who were short of maintenance funds, and to the re-allocation of RSC funds originally set aside for upgrading to bridging finance for essential services.

Planning

Ferreira said nearly R80m would be spent this year upgrading and providing new infrastructural services such as water, sewerage, roads, electricity and stormwater drainage.

A total of R145m would go to development aid, including community projects, construction, waste water purification works and planning and design.

About R33,5m would be spent on regional waste disposal management and waste water treatment. The RSC's operational expenses would come to R7,5m.

Concern over expected fall in govt capex

SHARON WOOD

GOVERNMENT'S public sector capital expenditure is expected to rise strongly until 1993, but local authorities' capex will fall steadily, says a survey by the Central Statistical Service. Total capital expenditure by the public sector as a whole is expected to rise by only 0,9% year-on-year in 1991, and then fall by 8,8% in 1992.

This fall in public sector capex is of some concern, economists say.

Bankorp economist Emile van Zyl says SA has a good infrastructure and with slowing capex growth it is possible the maintenance of this infrastructure could be neglected.

While it is not necessary to expand the infrastructure in urban areas, it is important that the existing structures are not degraded, he says.

Capital expenditure by central government will rise by 2,1% in 1991 year-on-year, by 15,0% in 1992 and 32,3% in 1993. This contrasts with annual growth of 11,3% in 1991 and a fall of 5,5% in 1992 in capital expenditure by local authorities.

Regional Services Councils (RSCs) capital expenditure, it is predicted, will fall by 1,5% in 1991 and by 34,6% in 1992.

The projected fall in RSCs' capex could be a result of a planned scaling down in their activities, Van Zyl says, with some of their functions taken over by the Independent Development Trust and the Development Bank.

B1Dccy 8/5791

ARNOLD VAN HUYSSTEEN

2614

Urban centres call for state aid to spur growth

WITH government's new regional development policy due to be announced by Minister Arnie Venter today, SA's major urban centres are now also asking for "special state assistance" to create more jobs and to encourage industrialisation and economic growth in metropolitan areas.

This is a sea change from the past, when urban industrialists, business lobbies and economists united vociferously to protest against government's discrimination in favour of regional industrial development in outlying, rural areas, including the homelands.

Major reasons why urban centres are now also asking for State assistance are the increasing levels of urbanisation and unemployment, as well as the fact that industrialisation is being widely accepted as the best route to job creation and economic growth. The decline of the gold mining industry has also helped to concentrate many minds on the need for industrial growth.

Top spokesmen for the PWV region, greater Cape Town and the so-called Durban Functional Region

are united in the view that rapid urbanisation and mass unemployment have placed an onus on government to support growth in these areas.

Outgoing Johannesburg Chamber of Commerce and Industries president Jonny Frankel says the private sector should be encouraged, by means of tax concessions, to provide housing, health and educational infrastructure for workers.

"This is essential, in view of the tremendous socio-economic needs sparked off by the rapid urbanisation now taking place. It is estimated that by the year 2000 more than 25% of SA's total population (about 12-million people) will be living in the PWV region. By then, only 2% of SA's land area will produce over 50% of the GDP," says Frankel.

As the PWV area already contained 40% of the nation's industrial capacity, government should encourage the strong expansion of the region's industrial power base. "With the gold mining industry rapidly shedding jobs there is an urgent need to create employment," says Frankel. "Managing urban concentra-

tion" is the new catchphrase, he adds.

Wesgro executive director David Bridgeman agrees. "Wesgro, representing about 200 private sector groups in the Western Cape area, has successfully launched a campaign to attract growth and investment. State support would mean that we could broaden our role and also coordinate our initiatives with government policy for the area," he says.

Urban regions, faced with enormous socio-economic challenges, therefore need their own "development corporations" to promote growth. Matching grants could be made by the state, while groups like the Development Bank could also play a funding role, as it has already done in the PWV region.

Director of Durban's regional development advice committee, Chris Proctor, says his committee fully supports the role of metropolitan

areas in economic development. "Industrial development strategies must harmonise with the potential of these urban areas which provide the much needed job opportunities."

Pretor chairman Terry Rosenberg, who also chairs Durban's Operation Jumpstart, a joint initiative by private and public sector bodies in the Durban Functional Region to promote economic growth and job creation, agrees that institutions and authorities in the area should co-operate to promote growth.

"We are fortunate that representatives from the ANC, Inkatha, the KwaZulu Development Corporation, local and provincial authorities, as well as the private sector, now co-operate in finding and creating jobs. Should the population in the Durban area keep on growing at a rate of 4.5% a year, we will have about 2-million unemployed people by the year 2000 — even with an economic growth rate of 1%-3%," says Rosenberg.

In view of the urgency of the problem, Operation Jumpstart has

launched several initiatives. These include promotion of tourism, creating an export processing zone in the area, removing impediments to land use, co-operating with the Urban Foundation and the Independent Housing Trust to improve housing facilities and launching special development projects.

Johannesburg-based urban affairs consultant Nigel Mandy adds that local government bodies like the Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council now participate in the planning and financing of new residential and industrial property node developments in areas such as Rietfontein, south of Johannesburg.

"Government bodies have to help with the creation of infrastructure. And, with a township like Rietfontein planned to accommodate 600 000 residents, industrial development in the area would be essential in order to create jobs. Fortunately, indications are that government may soon abandon the 1986 guide plan for the central Witwatersrand, which set out to keep industrial land 'scarce' in this area," says Mandy.

LOW-COST HOUSING FM 17/5/91
261A

PAVING THE WAY

The Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council has met World Bank officials twice in the past few weeks to discuss issues such as low-cost housing, urbanisation and the role of RSCs

RSC chairman John Griffiths stresses, however, that the bank did not offer any advice on how SA could solve its housing problem. Nor did it give any indication that financial assistance would be forthcoming.

Nevertheless, the RSC hopes that between R1bn and R2bn could be made available to fund bulk services and low cost-housing once SA's international standing is normal.

Says Griffiths "The bank has interests in certain fields and the purpose of our discussions was to see what type of money could be available for investment in development, particularly in low-cost housing. The bank officials also asked us many questions about certain developments and trends."

Griffiths is reluctant to reveal too many details of the discussions at this stage but says the talks focused on issues such as providing more easily accessible, higher density accommodation as an alternative to developing more outlying areas. "In other words, looking at filling in open spaces and increasing densities."

The availability of land was also discussed. Griffiths says he pointed out that, though the RSC is involved in outlying areas — such as more than 10 000 ha at Rietfontein that is being prepared for development — most vacant properties close to urban areas belong to the private sector. "The cost of developing this land would make it prohibitive for low-cost housing, except on a very large scale" ■

education Acts, namely the National Education Policy Act and the Education Affairs Act [Interjections] Those two Acts determine that education under the Department of Education and Culture, Administration House of Assembly is for Whites only [Interjections]

The hon member for Pinetown referred to the House of Representatives and the House of Delegates and he argued that my saying that this was based on the Constitution, was not true. The hon member should just be slightly more clever than he thinks he is. If he would go and read paragraph 14 of Schedule 1 of the Constitution which contains the service principle, in conjunction with section 16 [Interjections]

Wait a minute. He will then see that any Minister responsible for education in a specific House has the right to provide service after specific agreements with other Ministers and with the approval of the State President [Time expired]

*Mr J H HOON Mr Chairman, the hon the Minister recently said in this Chamber that parents who adopted model B could utilise the admission measures to keep their school a White school. In its propaganda the NP adopted the principle of open schools and persuaded parents to accept model B. It was stated that if a Black majority government should ultimately come about in South Africa, parents would then retain the right to admit only White children to those particular schools under those circumstances. The hon the Minister destroyed that hope in his reply which he gave to these NP parents today [Interjections] NP parents accepted model B under this pretext with the intention of reserving their school for White children only. Many schools did that.

The NP has now opened its membership to people of colour, who can now buy houses in White residential areas and live there, they can even belong to the same NP branch as hon members [Interjections] The Population Registration Act is now being repealed. The references to Whites, Coloured and Asian and Black are now being removed from South Africa's legislation, because they are racist and discriminatory in terms of the NP standpoint.

I now want to ask whether there is any way in which separate schools for Whites can be maintained in the new South Africa, except by means

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

of the unaffordably expensive option of a private school [Interjections]

The hon the Minister gave the answer to that. He said no, even in Kuruuman where the control boards consist of conservative people who want to keep their school White, the Government will ultimately force parents to throw open their school to members of their party [Time expired]

*Mr A GERBER Mr Chairman, I will try to simplify it even further for the hon the Minister [Interjections] Neither the Constitution, nor the National Education Policy Act, nor the Education Affairs Act determine who is White and who is not White.

If a pupil were therefore to arrive at a school and he had not been classified and he applied to be admitted to a White school, then we want to know on what grounds such a child could be refused, even if he were Black. That is the question to which the hon the Minister has given no answer this afternoon. That is the simple question to which we want an answer [Interjections] He can give it to us now [Interjections]

*The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE Mr Chairman, allow me first of all to reply to the hon member for Kuruuman about his model B.

*Mr J H HOON It is your model B [Interjections]

*The MINISTER The Government's model B, which is an excellent additional model [Interjections] Yes, we proudly take responsibility for it. The fact is, when a school community decides to choose model B, they have the right to determine the admission requirements within the larger requirements of the law. Such a management board could therefore decide under the present system either to admit children of colour or not. It is their right to do so, and there is no problem with that.

However, I have often said in public that I did not understand how a school community could decide to choose model B if they wanted to do so to reserve the school for Whites, because according to the status quo, Government schools are for Whites only.

The hon member asked about the future. I want to say again categorically that in the future, in the new dispensation, race and colour will not play a

role. It will definitely be true that schools will not be able to remain exclusively White on the grounds of colour, but they will be able to practise their own type of education on the grounds of equal values. These values are, for example, mother tongue, Christianity, culture and so on. It would therefore be practically as well as theoretically possible for a school in a specific community where there are only Whites to consist of only Whites. However, this would not be on the grounds of the fact that their colour was White. We must accept that in the new dispensation, that is the way it will be [Time expired]

Debate concluded

QUESTIONS

†Indicates translated version

For oral reply

Own Affairs

Whites: State housing assistance

*1 Mr P G SOAL asked the Minister of Welfare, Housing and Works

What amount was spent by the State in respect of housing assistance to the White population group in the latest specified financial year for which figures are available?

B1013E

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE (for the Minister of Welfare, Housing and Works)

An amount of R86 080 544 was spent by the Development and Housing Board during the 1990/91 financial year in respect of housing assistance

Aged Whites' accommodation: State assistance

*2 Mr P G SOAL asked the Minister of Welfare, Housing and Works

How many accommodation units for aged White persons were built in the Johannesburg municipal area with financial assistance from the State in 1990?

B1015E

†The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE (for the Minister of Welfare, Housing and Works)

One project was built during 1990, namely Deweshof consisting of 86 single and 15 double flats for Category A aged persons.

The loan amount approved by the Development and Housing Board for this project, amounts to R5 100 213.

For written reply

General Affairs

Regional Services Council, chairmen/pensions

321 Mr W J BOTHA asked the Minister of Planning, Provincial Affairs and National Housing †

(1) (a) How many serving chairmen of regional services councils (i) receive a pension for service previously rendered in a government body and (ii) do not receive such a pension and (b) in respect of what date is this information furnished,

(2) whether a chairman of a regional services council who receives a pension from a government body and has rendered only one day's service and dies, qualifies for a pension, if so, in terms of what statutory provisions and/or regulations,

(3) what requirements must a chairman of a regional services council satisfy in order to qualify for a pension?

B835E

The MINISTER OF PLANNING, PROVINCIAL AFFAIRS AND NATIONAL HOUSING

Cape Province

(1) (a) (i) Four

(ii) Seventeen

(b) 25 April 1991

(2) No

(3) The remuneration package of regional services council chairmen does not provide for pension benefits

Orange Free State

(1) (a) (i) Three

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

- (u) One *(26/11)*
(b) 24 April 1991
- (2) No
- (3) The remuneration package of regional services council chairmen does not provide for pension benefits

Transvaal

- (1) (a) (i) Four
(ii) Eight
(b) 30 April 1991

- (2) No
- (3) The remuneration package of regional services council chairmen does not provide for pension benefits

Natal

- (1) (a) There are no regional services councils in Natal, but with regard to joint services boards, which were instituted in terms of the KwaZulu and Natal Joint Services Act, 1990, the position is as follows
- (i) The Chairman of the Zululand Joint Services Board is in receipt of a pension from the KwaZulu Government
- (ii) The Chairman of the Natal Midlands and Thukela Joint Services

Boards both receive Parliamentary pensions The Port Natal-Ebhowe Joint Services Board Chairman receives a pension from the Natal Joint Municipal Pension Fund

- (b) 29 April 1991
- (2) There is no pension scheme for chairmen of joint services boards
- (3) Falls away

Dr Nelson R Mandela High School

323 Mr J VAN ECK asked the Minister of Education and Training

- (1) Whether, as at 8 April 1991, the Dr Nelson R Mandela High School in Crossroads had any (a) word processors and printers, (b) photocopiers, (c) roneo machines, (d) overhead projectors, (e) overhead projector screens, (f) computers, (g) sport equipment, (h) desks, (i) typewriters and (j) chairs, if so, how many of each,
- (2) whether, as at the above date, this school needed more of any of the items referred to above, if so, (a) how many of each and (b) what is the cost or estimated cost of the items needed?

B841E

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING

- (1) (a) No
(b) One (1)
(c) One (1)
(d) No
(e) Four (4)
(f) No
(g) Soccer
Netball
Athletics
- (b) 483 double tables
(i) No
(j) 1 020 (laboratory chairs not included)
(2) (a) Overhead projectors
- Volley Ball
- Ball
Ball
High jump apparatus
Javelins
Shot put
Discus
Starter's pistol
Tape measure
Ball
Standards and net
- (1) (1)
(1) (1)
(1) (1 set)
(1) (1 ball)
(1) (1 disc)
(1) (1)
(2) (2)
(1) (1)
(1 set)
- (5)

Sports equipment

Rugby	Balls	(2)
Cricket	Wickets	(2 sets)
	Balls	(4)
	Bats	(10)
Table Tennis	Table top	(1)
	Balls	(6)
	Rackets	(6)
	Balls	(2)
	Ball	(1)
Athletics	Foam rubber for landing	(2)
	(high jump)	(1)
	Javelins	(1 ball)
	Shot put	(300 double tables)
		(70)
		(600)

Furniture
Typewriters
Chairs
(b) ± R80 500,00

Self-governing territories' citizenship certificates

334 Mr P G SOAL asked the Minister of Home Affairs

How many citizenship certificates (a) (i) had been issued and (ii) remained to be issued as at 31 December 1990, and (b) were issued in 1990, to citizens of each self-governing territory?

B892E

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS

KwaZulu	(a) (i)	(a) (ii)	(b)
Lebowa	1 611 231	1 573 229	457
Owaqwa	278 321	1 164 343	0
Gazankulu	171 822	866 064	2 065
KaNggwane	98 444	416 522	0
KwaNdebele	4 574	536 663	0
	47 190	324 082	5 714

The figures furnished under (a) (ii) are projections based on the 1985 census figures as supplied by the Central Statistical Service. The figures will be adjusted pending the results of the census survey presently being undertaken

Pretoria: telephones/private post boxes

335 Mr P G SOAL asked the Minister for Economic Co-ordination and Public Enterprises

Whether any applications for (a) telephone services and (b) private post boxes were outstanding in the Pretoria area as at the latest specified date for which figures are available, if so, (i) how many and (ii) when is it anticipated that the backlog will be eliminated?

B893E

THE MINISTER FOR ECONOMIC CO-ORDINATION AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES

- (a) Yes,
- (i) 4 853 as at 30 April 1991, and
- (ii) approximately 3 503 of the waiting applicants will be provided with telephone service during the current financial year. It is at this stage not possible to indicate when the requirements of the remaining applicants, whose applications are being deferred due to insufficient capacity in certain exchanges, will be met

- (b) Yes,
- (i) 1 631 as at 30 April 1991 (Alkantrant 23, Groenkloof 305, Brooklyn 150, Pretoria North 70, Onderstepoort 6, Rosslyn 500, Silverton 200, Valhalla 30, Villieria 150, Lynn East 50, Verwoerdburg 35, Olifantsfontein 32 and Hennopsmeer 80)

- (ii) Alkantrant—Negotiations are in progress for the erection of a mail collection point to serve the residents of Newlands and Erasmuskloof which will relieve the demand for private boxes at Alkantrant. The anticipated completion date is not yet available

Call to replace RSC ^(26/11) levies ^{at 22/5/11}

Municipal Reporter

A HIGH rates increase, coupled with sharp cut-backs in the level of services, shows that Cape Town urgently has to address its fundamental problems, according to Chamber of Commerce president Mr Kenneth Marcus.

"Staffing, which represents the main cost of administering public services, is becoming increasingly expensive," Mr Marcus said.

Another problem was that the state was steadily withdrawing its financial support for local services.

The city needed to work towards the establishment of a metropolitan authority. This could achieve greater efficiency in the provision of services, and a broader tax base for necessary social expenditure.

Mr Marcus also recommended that the council sell off its superfluous properties.

"Finally, the city needs to seek the support of other local authorities in mounting a campaign to ensure that the state accepts responsibility for the basic costs of essential services."

Mr Marcus also said he would like the "inefficient" RSC levies to be replaced by "a piggy-back on VAT".

RSC letters of demand anger businessmen 261A

By Louise Burgers
Municipal Reporter

Star
22/5/91

Thousands of Witwatersrand businessmen have received lawyers' letters from the Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council instructing them to pay their RSC levies or face summonses — after many had paid.

The law firm that sent out the letters, and CWRSC offices, have since been inundated with complaints and inquiries.

Two accountants, representing several clients, said they had tried in vain to contact the lawyers and the council to inform them that their clients had paid their levies on time.

Bookkeeper Gina Cohan said: "When I got through to the council offices I was told by someone who answered the telephone to ignore the letter of demand if I had paid because there had been a big *faux pas* and 41 000 letters had been sent out by mistake."

A chartered accountant said he was told by a receptionist at CWRSC offices that no one knew what was going on and that they were all confused.

"I represent several small clients who have been paying their levies obediently and sud-

denly this month they receive a stupid letter like this. Who is responsible? Who is going to pay the lawyers' fees for their mistakes?" the accountant asked.

CWRSC spokesman Nigel Mandy said only 18 000 lawyers' letters had been sent out. Of the 52 000 accounts due for March, 30 000 had not been paid by April 20.

An RSC official said lawyers' letters were still being sent to those in arrears.

Mr Mandy said the council has resorted to lawyers' letters in an attempt to clean up the large amount of slow payers before the end of the financial year next month.

He said computer errors could have resulted in some mistakes. CWRSC chairman John Griffiths had also asked that the demand period of May 20 be extended to June 5.

"To those parties who might have been inconvenienced or annoyed by the demand, the CWRSC offers its sincere apologies," Mr Mandy said.

Ms Cohan remarked: "Each letter of demand asks that costs of R7,75 be paid. If many others received letters by mistake, who is going to foot the bill for all the charges? The RSC has caused endless trouble."

tion (a subject about which the SA Defence Force and I feel strongly) and nature conservation. In addition to my commitments, my wife addresses ladies' associations in the vicinity during such visits, occasionally addressing a

- any addressing a number of group per day. Vhembe possesses excellent facilities to achieve these aims. In the matter under discussion, the target group was a group of young people who travelled to and fro with my wife and I. They were briefed on security, infiltration over the border, the environment and specifically on the archaeological excavations in the area. Briefings are of an educational and motivational nature and assist in inspiring young people for national service.

B995E

- (d) Military air and road transport

- (e) I carried the private cost of the visit. This includes accommodation and all refreshments. Full authorisation exists to use military transport, within prescribed guidelines, for such a visit.

- (2) Yes
- (3) Yes, but subject to my approval and guidance
- (4) (a) and (b) Orally by the person concerned and at my request, as contact had already existed
- (5) (a) to (c) Military transport was provided to transport guests Firearms were also provided, as part of the exposure, for training and target practice
- (d) and (e) Refreshments, for which I carried the cost, were supplied
- Bloem Area RSC: revenue/expenditure
- 370 Mr J J WALSH asked the Minister of Planning, Provincial Affairs and National Housing +
- What were the (a) revenue and (b) expenditure of the Bloem Area Regional Services Council for each financial year since the establishment of this council?
- 261A

Bloem Area RSC: revenue/expenditure

370 Mr J J WALSH asked the Minister of Planning, Provincial Affairs and National Housing†

What were the (a) revenue and (b) expenditure of the Bloem Area Regional Services Council for each financial year since the establishment of this council?

Thesis

B1000E

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING, PROVINCIAL AFFAIRS AND NATIONAL HOUSING

(a)	1 July 1987—30 June 1988	R5 916 536
	1 July 1988—30 June 1989	R9 856 089
	1 July 1989—30 June 1990	R12 475 898

(b)	1 July 1987—30 June 1988	R858 414
	1 July 1988—30 June 1989	R4 780 311
(2617)	1 July 1989—30 June 1990	R6 618 738

R858 414
R4 780 311
R6 618 738

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

RSC budgets R130m for black councils

TANIA LEVY

26/1/91

CENTRAL Witwatersrand Regional Services Council (RSC) members will be asked to approve the spending of about R130m on black councils' operating and maintenance expenses this year.

This means about half the RSC's budgeted income from levies will go to the councils of Soweto, Alexandra, Diepsmeadow and Dobsonville to keep them running.

However, levies are expected to remain unchanged after today's budget meeting.

The RSC had to bale out these councils to the tune of nearly R150m between September 1990 and March this year. As a result some R56m worth of scheduled infrastructural projects were postponed.

This year about 18% of income will be spent on new projects.

At last month's meeting RSC chairman John Griffiths warned the financial position of black authorities was worse this year and that the four black local authorities would be short of about R250m in running costs. *By day 4/6/91*

The Transvaal Provincial Administration has requested all RSCs to make 15% of their levy income available to black local authorities. However, the Central Wits RSC will make available more than this.

In addition, it will help cover some of the black councils' electricity bills, technical service costs and loan repayments.

This month the RSC takes over responsibility for electricity supply in Alexandra and may do the same for Greater Soweto.

Total budgeted expenditure for the new financial year is more than R300m.

● See Page 3

● Picture Page 4

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Bloem Area RSC: income

QUESTIONS

†Indicates translated version

For written reply

General Affairs

Bloem Area RSC: expenditure

389 Mr J J WALSH asked the Minister of Planning, Provincial Affairs and National Housing †

What was the expenditure of the Bloem Area Regional Services Council in the 1989-90 financial year on (a)(i) administrative and staff matters, (ii) electricity infrastructure establishment and (iii) sewerage infrastructure in (aa) Mangaung, (bb) other Black townships, (cc) Brown residential areas and (dd) farms and (b) bridging finance per local authority owing to a shortage of revenue from their own sources? B1024E

The MINISTER OF PLANNING, PROVINCIAL AFFAIRS AND NATIONAL HOUSING

(a) (i) Administrative and staff matters

(aa) Mangaung—Nil

(bb) Other Black townships—Nil

(cc) Brown residential areas—Nil

(dd) Farms—Nil

(ii) Electricity infrastructure establishment

(aa) Mangaung—R478 257,36

(bb) Other Black townships—Nil

(cc) Brown residential areas—R4 252,00

(dd) Farms—R875 000,00

(iii) Sewerage infrastructure

(aa) Mangaung—R2 643 647,96

(bb) Other Black townships—Nil

(cc) Brown residential areas—Nil

(dd) Farms—Nil

(b) None

404 Mr J J WALSH asked the Minister of Planning, Provincial Affairs and National Housing †

What was the income of the Bloem Area Regional Services Council in the 1989-90 financial year from (a) government services, (b) industries, (c) trade, (d) agriculture, (e) professional services, (f) Transnet, (g) Eskom and (h) other specified sources?

B1067E

The MINISTER OF PLANNING, PROVINCIAL AFFAIRS AND NATIONAL HOUSING

(a) — (e) and (h) — R9 610 133,00

It is unfortunately not possible to provide separate figures for the various income categories

(f) R509 621,47

(g) R155 068,82

Own Affairs

Myburgh Park Phase 2, Langebaan

78 Mr J VAN ECK asked the Minister of Local Government

(1) Whether, with reference to his reply to Question No 5 on 23 April 1991, the proposed amendments to Plan 1 069 for the development of Myburgh Park Phase 2, Langebaan, (a) were, in terms of section 42 of the Land Use Planning Ordinance, Ordinance No 15 of 1985, advertised in any newspapers and (b) mailed, delivered and/or circulated to any or all of the property owners living in the immediate vicinity, if so, (i) (aa) in which newspapers and (bb) on what dates were these amendments advertised and (ii) (aa) to what owners and (bb) on what dates were they so mailed, delivered and/or circulated, if not, why not in each case,

(2) whether the development of Phase 2 in terms of the amended version of Plan 1 069 has been or will be allowed to continue, if so, why, if not,

RSCs get R265-m boost

THE four black councils in the Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council are to be allocated a total of R265 million during the 1991/92 financial year.

The councils are Alexandra, Diepsmeadow, Dobsonville and Soweto.

They received grants of R155,6 million from the CWRSC during the 1990/91 financial year. In 1989/90 they were allocated R260 million.

Presenting the budget yesterday, CWRSC chairman Mr John Griffiths said of the R264,7 million allocated, R18,7 million was approved for regional projects, including planning for the new Rietfontein town which is expected to accommodate

By DON SEOKANE

600 000 people

Also included in the budget is R9,5 million which the councils are to use for vehicles and equipment.

The councils were also allocated R131,9 million for operating and maintenance costs.

Other projects included in the budget are infrastructure (R43,3 million) and upgrading expenses (R61,3 million).

Griffiths said the CWRSC had accepted that the distribution and maintenance of electricity supplies to the townships was an essential service that should not be inter-

rupted.

He said the existing tariffs did not adequately cover the costs and that tariff adjustments would have to be made as soon as possible.

"About one third of electricity consumed is used for municipal purposes such as street lighting, pumps, offices and public buildings as well as losses in the distributive system.

"An additional amount of R41 million has been made for these purposes and a further amount of R75 million will be provided subject to performance criteria determined by the council," said Griffiths.

R132-m from RSC to help townships

By Louise Burgers
Municipal Reporter

(261A)

The Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council is to spend R132 million — more than half its income from levies — on keeping black councils afloat.

At the fifth annual CWRSC budget, which was approved last night, chairman John Griffiths warned that the financial position of black local authorities was even worse off this year.

He said that despite CWRSC aid and funds from the TPA, there would still be a shortfall of R250 million in Soweto, Dobsonville, Diepsmeadow and Alexandra.

In total, R264,7 million will be spent in assistance to black local authorities for operating and maintenance costs, urban upgrading projects, infrastructure, and equipment and regional projects, including the planning of the new town of Rietfontein.

There will, however, be performance criteria attached to the provision of funds, and communities

which pay for services received will get more of the CWRSC grants

Levies will remain unchanged to ease the burden of VAT, which will be introduced on September 30.

The CWRSC also approved the underwriting of the interest and redemption responsibility of the black councils on Development Bank loans for specific projects to meet operating shortfalls.

Mr Griffiths said the importance of the establishment of the Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber and the Joint Negotiating Forum for Alexandra could not be underestimated, as extremely vital and sensitive issues were being addressed.

An urgent investigation is also under way into a request by the Metropolitan Chamber that the CWRSC take over responsibility for the provision of electricity in Greater Soweto, as it is already doing in Alexandra.

● More Vaal townships blacked out — Page 3

Councils will crash, warns RSC chief

Star 6/6/91
By Louise Burgers
and Esmaré van der Merwe

Some of South Africa's biggest townships would not be able to pay their workers within two months unless drastic steps were taken to save black local authorities from bankruptcy.

Black local government has hit its biggest crisis yet, with at least three councils — Tembisa, Kagiso and Alexandra — not being able to pay employees.

Reports that Tembisa council workers had gone on strike could not be confirmed.

Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council (CWRSC) chairman John Griffiths warned yesterday that the Greater Soweto councils of Soweto, Dobsonville and Diepsmeadow would not have funds to pay wages by the end of July unless the Government and the Transvaal Provincial Administration acted.

Funds

"If something is not done soon, essential services in these towns will collapse within two months — and I am not exaggerating," Mr Griffiths said.

"They won't have funds to pay for salaries and wages and services, and that can only mean a total collapse."

The CWRSC, which has been funding the daily running costs of the boycott-stricken black councils in the region, provided bridging finance until March.

Although the CWRSC on

Tuesday approved R132 million to keep the councils afloat, that money becomes available only in August.

The growing crisis is the result of protracted rent and services boycotts, particularly in the Transvaal where 54 out of the 82 black municipalities have virtually been crippled due to the non-payment of accounts.

Residents in Transvaal townships owe their councils more than R1 billion in rent and services payments, says the TPA.

The situation is so serious that about R410 million intended by central Government to maintain infrastructure is being used mainly to pay salaries.

TPA spokesman Magda du Toit said that if money were left over from the salary bill, councils could use the money to pay, in order, water bills, sewerage, refuse and only then electricity accounts.

Mrs du Toit stressed, however, that the inter-governmental loans, allocated to councils on a fixed monthly rate determined by their needs, were not granted to "finance boycotts, but to keep the system going."

Recently, electricity supplies to 12 townships were cut.

The Civic Associations of Southern Transvaal (CAST) will meet the TPA today to discuss the cut-offs.

Local government experts warned yesterday that RSCs — which have been footing large portions of townships' bills — could not continue to do so for much longer.

RSCs had been established to finance infrastructure and development.

RSC budget of R757-million

VAT will be decided on later

By CLIVE SAWYER
Municipal Reporter

WESTERN Cape Regional Services Council levies are unchanged in terms of its R757 105 511 operating budget for 1991/92

The unemployment crisis was behind the decision not to increase levies, to reduce the burden on employers, said RSC chairman Mr Pietie Loubser

While levies are unchanged at 0,25 cents a rand, regional establishment levies are to rise from September from 0,13 cents in the rand to 0,15 cents in the rand

Value-added tax was not included in budget calculations because a government investigation into whether to charge VAT on regional levies was pending, Mr Loubser said

The operating budget, unanimously approved yesterday, is a 16,2 percent increase over last year's budget

Of the R84,5 million allocated to new projects, R20 million is for upgrading stormwater drainage while R64,5 million is available for other projects

Funds available for grants-in-aid are to be increased from R100 000 to R250 000

Part of this will go to local authorities for operational costs of nature reserves because of central government subsidy cuts

There were legal proceedings against 908 levy-payers because of arrears in the past year, Mr Loubser said

About 75 percent of cases were successfully concluded, while R86 346,47 was written off as irrecoverable debt because of liquidated enterprises.

About 3 000 final notices were sent to levy-payers recently, and "necessary action" would be taken to collect these amounts, Mr Loubser said

Expenditure on entrusted functions was estimated at R73 783 975, including R7 339 901 for public resorts which the Provincial Administration was expected to entrust to the RSC.

A further R34 930 000 was provided for developing rural infrastructures, mostly capital spending on regional stormwater projects

Expenditure on operating costs for fire, traffic, sewage disposal and library services for areas which do not provide their own, is to be R13 886 729.

Administrative expenditure was set at R11 278 937. The cost of collecting regional levies was 4,8 percent of levy income, Mr Loubser said

Cape Times, Thursday, June 27 1991 7

Municipal Reporter

R84,5 MILLION is to be made available by the Western Cape Regional Services Council in the coming year to upgrade infrastructure — such as streets and drainage — where it is most needed

This brings the total allocation which the RSC has made for this purpose in the four years of its existence to R394m, RSC chairman Mr Piet Loubser said in his budget speech yesterday

The money to be spent on the infrastructure comes from RSC levies on businesses

In the past financial year the RSC made R116,5m available to communities in the Western Cape for infrastructural projects

Mr Chris Mocke, chief executive officer, said yesterday that this year's R84,5m was smaller than last year's R116,5m because allowance had to be made for new tasks that the RSC anticipated would be entrusted to it

In the past year, no new functions were given to the RSC, except for a few "minor activities in the rural areas"

Complete budget figures were not

RSC gives R84,5m for upgrading

26/1A 26/1A CT27/6/91

available by yesterday. One source said the amount budgeted for councillor allowances had risen by 100% or more

When asked about this, Mr Mocke said there was "no increase in the allowance determined by the Administrator for the 1991/92 financial year"

The amount budgeted for councillor allowances for the coming year was higher because not enough money had been budgeted last year

Also, several members representing newly formed local councils and rural councils had to be provided for in the 1991/92 financial year

● The RSC yesterday resolved to make a further R8m available to the operating costs of "indigent local authorities or communities", in addition to an amount of R17m already allocated for this purpose

15% hike in RSC Establishment levy

26/11 Municipal Reporter

209 CT 27/6/91

ONE of the Western Cape Regional Services Council's (RSC's) two levies on businesses is to be increased by 15% from September 1 this year.

This was announced yesterday by Mr Piet Loubser, the RSC chairman, in his annual budget speech at the beginning of the RSC's fifth year of existence.

He said the Regional Establishment Levy would be increased from 13 cents in the rand of a business's turnover to 15 cents.

But the Regional Services Levy will remain unchanged at 25 cents per rand of a business's total wage and salary bill.

Mr Loubser said it would not be desirable to increase the second levy as well at a time of so much unemployment.

Levy income from the 40 000 payers in this region had improved, and it was expected to bring in an estimated R168 million this year. Last year there were 39 000 registered levypayers.

No decision has yet been taken on whether RSC levies will have VAT due on them from the end of September, and this hindered officials who drew up the budget.

THE FACTS

THE RSC levy increase was incorrectly reported in yesterday's paper because of an editing error. The report originally said that the regional establishment levy was to rise from the present 0,13 cents (not 13c) per rand of a business's turnover to 0,15 c/R (not 15c), while the regional services levy would remain unchanged at 0,25 cents (not 25c) per rand of a business's total wage and salary bill.

28/6/91 (26/1)

Soweto asks Wits council for power

261A By DON SEOKANE

THE Soweto City Council has agreed that the Witwatersrand Regional Services Council should supply electricity to the township on its behalf.

Spokesman for council, Mr Mojalefa Moseki, said the decision was passed by the full council meeting after an "exhaustive debate during which all implications of the resolution were thoroughly considered."

"Several conditions were attached with the agreement and they are meant to safeguard the interests of Soweto residents who own the R350 million electricity infrastructure." *Sowetan 217191*

The conditions include, that the duration of the contract should be clearly specific, including its resumption, there should be a procedure which the council can terminate the agreement if it feels that the CWRSC is not fulfilling its part of the contract.

Councils tackle power problem

261A THEO RAWANA 261

A TEAM of representatives from the three greater Soweto councils would draw up a plan in terms of which the Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council (RSC) would run their electricity supplies, electrical consultant Gordon Sibiya said at the weekend.

The city councils of Diepmeadow, Dobsonville and Soweto last week agreed that the RSC should be mandated to administer their townships' electricity supply.

Sibiya said Soweto City Council, in accepting a Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber proposal that it consider handing over the running of electricity to the Central Wits RSC, had rejected the terms under which Alexandra's town council recently signed a similar agreement with the RSC.

Soweto council's conditions of agreement were that:

- ☐ There be no move to take possession of the council's R350m electrical infrastructure;
- ☐ Decisions taken by the RSC on the supply of electricity be approved by the council;
- ☐ That a procedure through which the Soweto council could terminate the contract should be provided; and 8/04/91
- ☐ The final draft of the agreement be approved by the full council.

Wits RSC gets R77m loan for townships

5/24/91 9/7/91
AN AMOUNT of R77m had been raised from the Development Bank of Southern Africa by the Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council for urban infrastructural development in Alexandra, Diepmeadow, Dobsonville and Soweto, the council said yesterday.

The loan provided for the upgrading and extension of 17 infrastructural projects in these areas.

26/11
Group manager of urban development at the bank, Div Botha, said some local authorities had come under pressure concerning their legitimacy and ability to reflect community needs, as well as facing financial and organisational constraints.

While these aspects need to be addressed, it was imperative that the development programmes' momentum be maintained — Sapa

THE Greater Soweto and Alexandra councils were this week given a R77 million boost

The loan was raised by the Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council and provided by Development Bank of South Africa. It will be used to upgrade and extend 17 projects in the four council's jurisdiction.

Earlier last month the four councils, Soweto, Diepmeadow, Dobsonville and Alexandra, budgeted R264,7 million for 1991/92. Of that R61,3 million was for upgrading and R43,3 million for infrastruc-

R77-m boost for 4 councils

ture. The bank's urban development manager, Mr Div Botha, said the loan to CWRSC follows the increasing problems which the bank experienced in supporting local authorities to carry out development programmes effectively.

"Some of the local authorities have been under severe pressure concerning their legitimacy and ability to reflect community needs, as well as facing financial and organisational constraints

"While these aspects need to be addressed and resolved in future constitutional negotiations, it is imperative to maintain the momentum of development programmes," Botha said

The loan agreement was signed by CWRSC chairman Mr John Griffiths and DBSA chief executive Dr Simon Brand

26/11/91

Sowetan 12/7/91

tion from attack by hostel inmates

Many Alexandra residents had lost their homes to Inkatha supporters. Local residents had been forced to flee if they did not

stabbed to death at Gamalakhe. At Nyan-
dezulu unidentified men had hijacked a
bus, before setting it alight. Two men on
the bus were killed

'Electricity cards' opposed

31 day
12/7/97
THE Atteridgeville/Sauls-
ville Residents' Organisa-
tion has vowed to block a
R9,5m "smart card" elec-
tricity meter project
planned by the Pretoria
RSC

The budget economy con-
trol system, announced by
the RSC yesterday, would
enable 11 467 Atteridgeville
households to pay in ad-
vance and would save
administration fees, Atter-
idgeville administrator Er-
nie Jacobson said.

Credit available would
be registered on a plastic
card to be inserted in me-
ters in township homes and
businesses.

Publicity secretary John
Ramatsui said yesterday
the residents' organisation
objected to the meters be-
cause they were a waste of
money which should have

been spent on other ser-
vices such as housing,
health and sewage

"What's more, the coun-
cil did not consult us before
deciding to install this new
system. These meters will
give the authorities power
to increase tariffs when-
ever they feel like it.

"We will oppose this. We
will stop the contractor
from installing the meters,
until the system is negotiat-
ed with us," he added.

The Atteridgeville coun-
cil owes Pretoria R800 000
as a result of a rent and
service boycott in the town-
ship of 200 000 people.

Jacobson said the card
would be phased in over the
next 16 months. "The card
enables people who work
on a cash basis, to pay in

advance, either weekly or
monthly, and there are six
points of renewal."

Meanwhile the three
greater Soweto councils'
decision to mandate the
Central Wits RSC to admin-
ister electricity supply
would come up for endorse-
ment at a Witwatersrand
Metropolitan Chamber
meeting before the end of
the month, the councils'
spokesman Mojalefa Mo-
seki, said yesterday.

PEANUTS

HOW CAN YOU TEACH
SOMEONE WHO THINKS
THE GREAT GATSBY WAS
IN THE OLD TESTAMENT?



I HE
HIM O
WHAT



RSC pays R400 000 to 'intimidated' road constructors

THEO RAWANA

THE East Rand Regional Services Council said yesterday it had paid out nearly R400 000 in compensation to a construction company working on road projects in Vosloorus and Katlehong after intimidation and assaults.

Vandals had damaged vehicles and equipment, terrorised workers and were threatening road upgrading projects worth R9,5m in the East Rand townships, the RSC said.

The RSC had already paid construction company Focon Civil nearly R400 000 in claims for "standing time" because teams, intimidated and assaulted by local youths, could not work, RSC CEO Gerrie Swart said.

Youths were burning trucks and equipment and it was difficult to complete the R5,5m road upgrading project in Katlehong, said Focon Civil's Johan Fourie.

"They do not realise that we are only trying to improve their lives, to provide services.

"What they are doing is costing the client more money — while they are getting only about 60% of the services we could give them," he added.

The contractor managed to finish the R4m project in Vosloorus this week and the R5,5m contract in Katlehong would "hopefully, under the circumstances" be completed by the end of the month, Fourie said.

The RSC had had to pay the contractor R107 590 for "standing time" in Katlehong and R217 840 for the Vosloorus contract, Swart said.

There was another claim for R70 000 that was being discussed, he added.

R23-m grant to pay township services

AN amount of R23,64 million has been made available by the East Rand Regional Services Council to 10 township councils to help them pay for water, waste water treatment and refuse removal.

But unless the township authorities themselves can provide at least 50 percent of the budgeted

Political Staff

costs for these services, payments from the RSC grant will be halved as from January

In a statement announcing the funding, the RSC explained that the intention was "to overcome possible health dangers and to avoid the total col-

lapse of services"

The first payments will be backdated to July 1/26/89

The councils to benefit are Tokoza, Katlehong, Vosloorus, Tembisa, Daveyton, Wattville, KwaThema, Ratanda, Tsakane and Duduza

For councils to raise 50 percent of costs upon

which receiving the full grant will depend, residents' payments will have to increase considerably

RSC chairman Mr Leon Ferreira stressed that funds would not be made available to pay for the supply of electricity to the 10 townships.

Anti-VAT campaign launch

MORE than 17 black organisations will meet at the Johannesburg Hotel today to protest against Value Added Tax.

Ms Lisa Seftel of Cosatu said the National Campaigns Committee had instructed Cosatu to launch a campaign of factory demonstrations, protest actions and notifying employers that workers will demand an immediate five percent increase if VAT was implemented

"Our demand for the suspension of VAT is non-

By IKE MOTSAPI

negotiable We urge Barend du Plessis to reconsider

"If he does not he will actually be saying the Government wants VAT and 'damn the consequences'," she said. Sowetan 22/8/91

Among organisations attending are the ANC, World Vision, National Black Consumer Council, Johannesburg Child Welfare and the Consumer Council.

Council is 'abdicating its duties'

251A
28/8/91

By PETER DENNEHY
Municipal Reporter

TWO senior councillors differed sharply yesterday on whether agreements reached with "community organisations" on a weekend away in Caledon amounted to an abdication of responsibilities by Cape Town City Council.

Mr Clive Keegan, who attended the weekend discussions in his capacity as a Regional Services Council member, explained that the event had been organised by consultants Zille Shandler Associates as an opportunity for planners to get together with community organisations to secure their involvement in four projects.

One was related to metropolitan transport; another was a Wesgro inquiry into development possibilities; the third concerned the municipality's own growth strategy and structure plan, and the fourth pertained to the Regional Services Council's structure plan for its entire region.

Among the organisations participating in the weekend discussions were the Western Cape Civics Association, the United Squatters' Association, the

Hostel Dwellers' Association, Cosatu, the National Council of Trade Unions and the Development Action Group.

These took part under an umbrella body called the Progressive Development Forum which has been formed to deal with development issues.

Mr Richard Friedlander, chairman of the council's executive committee, found he could not agree that community-based organisations should be involved in deliberations on the privatisation "of local services", nor that "the PDF should be consulted in this regard".

"Outside bodies could interfere with our relationship with our trade unions," he said.

Mr Keegan said the old-fashioned habit of clinging on to control of everything "must start going". Issues like privatisation had to be sensitively negotiated so that the country was not torn apart.

"We should be grateful that the PDF has come into being, and that we have secured its commitment to participation in planning processes," Mr Keegan said.

Mr Friedlander said he was afraid that at times the council was inclined to abdicate its responsibilities.

Conflict over RSC's 'more jobs' tenders

By PETER DENNEHY.

A CONTROVERSIAL system of giving preference to tenders which have high labour content has been accepted in principle by the Western Cape Regional Services Council.

Admiral E M Kramer, of Simon's Town, said at yesterday's monthly RSC meeting that he was unhappy with the proposed "weighting system" for projects paid for by the RSC.

(261a) CT 29/8/91
The idea came from the priorities committee, of which Mrs Eulalie Stott is chairman.

A sliding scale was tabled at yesterday's meeting, but at this stage it has merely been noted, not adopted. According to this, where the labour cost is no more than 5% of a total contract price, a one per cent preference would be allowed. Where it is over 80% a 10% preference would be allowed.

Admiral Kramer said the RSC was supposed to provide cost-effective services, but it could no longer do this if it had to favour labour-intensive contracts over others.

Mrs Stott replied that there were between five million and seven million unemployed adults in this country. Either they had to be given handouts, or constructive work had to be found for them.

R3,5-m to be spent

on Soweto

Star 29/8/91
Louise Burgers
Municipal Reporter

The Central Witwaters-
rand Regional Services
Council is to provide
R3,5 million to the
Soweto Town Council
for the extension of its
contract development
programme

Roads, stormwater
reticulation and kerbing
will be built

No money will be
paid out to builders
until the work is com-
pleted and the services
are in use

The CWRSC also
voted R1,4 million to en-
able the Diepmeadow
Town Council to provide
proper registers of all
properties in that area

Administrative costs
incurred by Randburg
and Sandton Town
Councils in providing
aid to the Alexandra
Town Council will be
financed by the CWRSC.

Soweto crisis: parties lack common ground

27/8/91 THEO RAWANA

A SOLUTION to the financial crisis facing Greater Soweto appeared to drift further away this week as signatories to the Greater Soweto Accord failed to agree on their approaches to the issue

The councils of Diepmeadow, Dobsonville and Soweto were reported earlier this month to be facing a collapse of essential services as they had no money to run these

A meeting of the Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber was told by chairman Van Zyl Slabbert that there was no more money to pay for essential services

On one side of the signatories to the accord is the negotiating wing of the Soweto Civic Association (SCA) and the Soweto People's Delegation (SPD), which has proposed to the Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber that the provision of services be taken over by the Central Wits RSC, the Rand Water Board and the municipalities of Johannesburg and Roodepoort

Quorum

The four other principals, the TPA and councils of Diepmeadow, Dobsonville and Soweto, went ahead with a meeting on Monday to work out a new tariff system

They said afterwards they intended to proceed "to consider appropriate action to be taken in the best interests of the residents" without the SCA/SPD

SCA general secretary Pat Lephunya said yesterday the Metropolitan Chamber's Joint Technical Committee had decided last Thursday that there was no point in going ahead with Monday's meeting since the issue being discussed was a problem for the chamber

"The other parties could not have formed a quorum at the meeting," Lephunya said. As far as the SCA was concerned the Soweto Accord still held firm. Slabbert was not available for comment

Bull not killed especially for ad

ADVERTISING agency D'Arcy Masius Benton & Bowles has denied aspects of a Business Day report yesterday about the bull which was reluctant to break up a china shop for a TV commercial

The report said the bull, Bossiekop, had trotted casually around the mock-up display twice without touching anything. Even the use of an electric prod had not helped

It was reported that the head and shoulders of a freshly killed bull — Bossiekop's grandfather — were then mounted on a mechanised trolley to complete the film

DMB & B creative director Willie Sonnenberg hastened to correct misapprehensions yesterday that a bull might have been killed especially so that its head could be used in the filming. A stuffed bull's head had been used for some close-up shots, and the skin of another dead bull was used to supplement these shots, Sonnenberg said

Electric prods were not used to goad the live bull into action, but only to "move the animal onto location"

The report was based on an account provided by the film company. Business Day regrets any incorrect or unfair inferences readers might have drawn about the advertising agency's animal husbandry

Local authorities face new threat

Sowetan 9/9/91

26/9

THE transfer of essential services to white municipalities is the latest weapon civic organisations are using against black local authorities.

Among resolutions adopted at the Civics Association of Southern Transvaal's first policy conference at the weekend, the civics decided white municipalities should take over the supply of essential services and administration of townships.

Civic bodies have been involved in running battles with councils and have been striving to render them ineffective.

It now appears that they have found the right strategy.

The Soweto Civic Association started the ball rolling when it proposed that the Soweto council should be relieved of its right to supply electricity to the estimated two million residents in the townships.

Hot in pursuit was the Daveyton Interim Committee, which held a public meeting to discuss the transfer of electricity from the local council to the Benoni council.

The Alexandra council has also been relieved of its right to supply electricity and, since July 1, power has been supplied directly by Eskom.

But all was not smooth sailing for the civic bodies. The Greater Soweto councils, composed of Diepmeadow, Dobsonville and Soweto, were initially reluctant of transferring what they termed "their responsibility to the people of Soweto" to another organisation.

Diepmeadow council had a

heated meeting and chairman of their management committee, Mr Frederick Phiri, told councillors that the Greater Soweto councils "vowed not to relinquish responsibility to the people".

The councils, however, later agreed in principle that the Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council should be entrusted with the responsibility of supplying power to the people.

The SCA maintained all along that the council was unable to administer electricity and therefore it should be transferred to the CWRSC.

In Alexandra the council did not even contest the transfer of power to the CWRSC. The mayor, Mr Prince Mokoena, accused Alexandra Civic Organisation of being unable to get people to pay their tariffs and service charges.

In response ACO's president, Mr Moses Mayekiso, said there were number of issues which led to people not paying.

The council has been unable to send electricity bills to residents and the number of payment points was insufficient to cater for residents to pay their bills.

The battle also took a new turn when councils and civic bodies engaged in negotiations and signed

accords which were effectively meant to end the rent boycott.

After months of intense negotiations, the Soweto Peoples Delegation and Soweto City Council signed an accord which called for, among other things, the payment of services, the transfer of rented houses to the residents and writing off of rent arrears.

Alexandra council and the ACO,

led by Mayekiso, also signed an accord which effectively ended rent boycotts and called for the writing off of arrears and the transfer of rented houses.

The Alexandra Accord led to the formation of a joint negotiation forum, which is composed of the Randburg, Sandton, Alexandra councils

The civics' umbrella body, Cast, during its conference on housing and local government, promised to intensify the campaign to oust councillors and management committee members of the Indian and Coloured townships.

Mr Sam Ntuli, secretary-general of Cast, said the conference resolved to finally "eradicate" black local authorities and management committees.

"The civics and communities should generally intensify the campaign by isolating councillors in all spheres of life and political activities including boycott of their businesses and other suitable measures to pressure them to resign," Ntuli said.

Ntuli said the resolution does not give recognition to white municipalities but was adopted because the WLAs have access to resources, viable fiscal bases and efficient administrative capabilities that can provide services to the deprived black areas.

"White municipalities also have to take the blame for the deteriorating services in the black communities."

However, Alexandra's mayor and national organiser for Ucas, Mokoena, shot down Cast's vision of "eradicating" councils.

"When these people talk about pressuring councillors to resign they actually mean petrol bombs. If they had control of their masses, there would not be councillors around."

"Civics should divert their energies into pressuring the people to pay for the services which are rendered to them. It is a pity that they put their trust in a white man to do the job."

Focus



By DON SEOKANE

and ACO

For the East Rand, Benoni council will take over the administrative functions of supplying electricity and services to the two townships of Wattville and Daveyton as from September 1.

According to a joint statement from the parties involved in reaching the decision, the account of a typical Daveyton resident, based on metered consumption of 466 kilowatt units and 15 kilolitres of water, including sewage and refuse removal, would be an estimated R97 a month.

Commission divided over Wage Act for domestics

THE National Manpower Commission is divided on whether to recommend inclusion of domestic workers under the Wage Act

Recommendations to extend labour legislation to domestic workers are contained in a 19-page report to be published in the Government Gazette today. The report has been handed to Manpower Minister Eh Louw for consideration.

Main recommendations are that domestic workers be covered immediately by the Basic Conditions of Employment Act and the Labour Relations Act. The Workmen's Compensation Act and the Unemployment Insurance Act should also be extended to domestic workers.

Although it was recommended that domestic workers be included under the main labour laws, specific amendments had to be made to provide for the special circumstances.

Members who felt that domestic workers should not be included under the Wage Act — which determines

minimum wages for employees not covered by negotiated wage agreements — recommended instead that there should be wage guidelines.

These should be non-binding and drafted by the Wage Board or similar institution. Wages could be recommended according to area, worker competence and training and employers' financial ability.

Members who recommended that domestics should be included under the Wage Act, said that the Wage Board was a forum for debate, argument and the presentation of evidence on whether there should be minimum conditions of employment, including a minimum wage.

Inclusion under the Wage Act would allow the Wage Board to investigate wages and other conditions of employment in the domestic sector.

The board would take account of relevant factors and could recommend minimum wages for different areas. Manpower Minister Eh Louw

would, however, retain a discretion as to whether to give effect to the recommendations by making a determination.

The commission was also split on a contract of employment for domestic workers. One group supported the view that provision should be made in the Basic Conditions of Employment Act that no domestic workers may be employed for longer than three months without a written contract. The contract should be signed by both parties, be available for inspection, and both employer and domestic worker should have a copy.

Other commission members felt that no statutory compulsion should exist.

It was recommended that domestic workers be entitled to 12 weeks maternity leave, as provided by the Basic Conditions of Employment Act.

The commission decided to investigate whether female employees in all sectors should be guaranteed their jobs back after pregnancy.

AIDS drive to get R5m

NATIONAL Health and Welfare Minister Rina Venter announced yesterday the allocation of R5m to a six-month AIDS communication campaign and a further R1.5m to a children's lifestyle training programme.

The allocation of more resources was "essential" because over 300 people a day were becoming HIV-infected.

AIDS Unit head Dr Manda Holmshaw said the campaign would feature an African approach.

'Explosive' township crisis warning

PRETORIA — An explosive financial crisis was developing in black townships despite spending by regional services councils, Central Witwatersrand RSC chairman John Griffiths said yesterday.

Griffiths told a public administration conference at the Human Sciences Research Council the growing crisis could lead to a total breakdown of services and could contribute to problems with health services.

He warned that SA could enter an era of potentially uncontrollable inflation, a "suspect" balance of payments and an even more bloated public sector if the authorities went for quick-fix solutions to buy political goodwill.

Griffiths said accelerated urbanisation had placed extreme pressure on infrastructure and services. Part of the interim

solutions required the involvement of white local authorities in providing administration and technical assistance for the joint provision of services.

Joint administrations would be even better, he said.

In the PWV area, 40 000 to 50 000 hectares would be needed for housing by the year 2000. About half of this would be needed to meet the current backlog.

It was accepted SA had to provide housing for more than 200 000 families a year between now and the end of the century.

Griffiths said identification of land was being hampered by statutory and inflexible policy and planning documents.

He said the plethora of bodies involved in urbanisation should be rationalised into one department.

RSC LEVIES (261A) FM
Attorneys' victory 13/9/91

An important Appellate Division decision last month has released attorneys from the obligation to pay Regional Service Council (RSC) levies on four classes of disbursements. The Law Society of the Transvaal applied for a declaratory order against the Minister of Constitutional Development, the Minister of Finance and 12 RSCs. The appeal, now decided, upheld a 1989 decision of the Transvaal Provincial Division (TPD) in favour of the Law Society.

The four classes of disbursements are

- ☐ Counsels' fees,
- ☐ Fees of attorneys acting as agents for other attorneys ("correspondents"),
- ☐ Fees of expert witnesses employed on behalf of a client, and
- ☐ Charges made by deputy sheriffs of Supreme and Magistrates Courts who serve processes during litigation.

Cyril Jaffe, attorney and past president of the Law Society, explains that attorneys — by custom — have either disbursed these fees from funds held in trust on behalf of clients or paid them from their own funds.

FM 13/9/91 (261A) **ECONOMY & FINANCE**

and sought recovery at a later stage. Government interpreted the RSC legislation as requiring that the levy (which varies from district to district but is broadly just over 0,01%) be charged on the disbursement, whatever the source of the funds. This interpretation was regarded as unsound by the Law Society, since attorneys don't "mark up" these fees. Hence, they argued, the recoveries in question cannot be construed as a form of remuneration.

The TPD ruled in favour of the Law Society, ordering government to pay costs and refusing leave to appeal. However, an application to the Chief Justice for leave to appeal succeeded, which opened the door to the appeal which has now been refused. The Law Society was represented throughout by Werksmans.

The decision, technically favours only attorneys in the Transvaal, but Jaffe expects the precedent will extend nationwide. ■

Eskom sues 20 black councils over arrears

Star 16/9/91. (261A) ~~1/2~~
By Louise Burgers

Eskom has obtained judgments against 20 black local authorities for the R285 million it is owed for electricity in the Transvaal and OFS, but will not ask the councils to pay up while negotiations are in progress.

On Thursday, Eskom began proceedings to sue Soweto City Council for the R131 million it owes in electricity arrears.

For several months, the Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council (CWRSC) and the TPA have warned that the Soweto, Diepmeadow and Dobsonville town

councils were on the verge of financial collapse as funds were exhausted because people were not paying.

Eskom PWV distributor manager John Bradbury said people had to realise Eskom was in a difficult position.

"We have an obligation to our stakeholders, as a creditor, to secure our position. We have issued summonses and will get a judgment against the Soweto Council."

The CWRSC said the summons against the Soweto council would not affect its bid to take over bulk supply of electricity to Greater Soweto.

Helping hand offered for money crisis

THE JOHANNESBURG City

Council management committee took the bull by the horns in the chandelier-lit arena of the council chamber on Wednesday last week, spelling out its vision of a non-racial interim government for the central Witwatersrand metropolitan region.

The loudest applause for management committee chairman Ian Davidson came from Cyril Ramaphosa of the Soweto Civic Association (SCA), who saw in it as the first considered answer to repeated demands that an authority be set up with the resources and expertise to run and repair South Africa's biggest township Soweto.

That the SCA differed with Johannesburg on details of the plan was of small account, insisted Mr Ramaphosa.

They agreed on fundamental principles, and Johannesburg had acted in the firm belief that structural change was the key to resolving the financial crisis in Soweto.

He welcomed Mr Davidson's observation that "any step forward requires a holistic approach".

This implies that all issues are linked and a workable, acceptable solution has to address all issues simultaneously.

Johannesburg's proposal has three main elements.

- The establishment of a metropolitan services corporation or board to provide certain trading services on a metropolitan basis, such as electricity and public transportation
- The involvement of Johannes-



Ian Davidson... new vision.

burg, Randburg, Sandton and Roodepoort in Greater Soweto and Alexandra through these structures

This would give the new body the credibility, power and financial clout of the Regional Services Council, Mr Davidson said. Without funds and legislative powers, the chamber remained a talk shop.

In practice, it would mean that the proposed interim metropolitan authority would take over all the powers, functions, resources, and obligations of the RSC, while the metropolitan chamber would become the decision-making assembly of the interim body.

The decision-making arrangements of the chamber would stay in place. The day-to-day RSC tasks could be executed by an interim executive.

Mr Davidson said, "We cannot allow structural change to towards a new metropolitan and local government system for the region to proceed in a hap-

261A

Drastic but historic steps were taken by Johannesburg last week in a plan to try to resolve the financial crisis in the region, report JO-ANNE COLLINGE and LOUISE BURGERS.



Cyril Ramaphosa... praise.

hazard or fragmented fashion. It must be a balanced package. And we must be prepared to accept the constitutional implications involved.

"However, the situation on the ground demands that we take a drastic step. Our region is vital to the economy of our country, and we cannot allow, nor afford, the collapse of local government and the services it provides."

Until Wednesday, various parties in the Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber were deadlocked on how to overcome Soweto's financial problems.

The township councils and the province believed that higher service tariffs and higher levels of payment by residents were an absolute priority and could not wait for structural change.

The civics, on the other hand, argued that unless apartheid municipal structures were demolished, it was futile to expect

residents to pay up — putting money into the hands of inefficient and bankrupt councils with no hope of seeing any improvement in living conditions.

But, said Mr Ramaphosa, the core of the Johannesburg proposal — stable provision and payment for services; better provision of services; streamlined regional decision-making, and restructuring into metropolitan and local bodies — offered the chamber "a beacon that we can all start working towards".

The other civic bodies in the chamber were obviously content to have the SCA speak for them. The other white municipalities — Randburg, Roodepoort and Sandton — were sympathetic, but made it clear that they were not about to be hustled into immediate support.

Perry Oertel of Sandton pointed out that they might repent at leisure if they bound themselves to the principles of the plan, then found there were

significant differences of interpretation.

Mr Davidson emphasised that his proposal was only an outline and there were many details which had to be studied. The plan had, however, been presented to a number of prominent people and organisations across the political spectrum, and reaction had been favourable.

Mr Davidson said communities had to accept equal responsibility for the collection and payment of rates and charges. Johannesburg would not subsidise people who were not prepared to pay for services.

"Consequently, any step involving structural change is contingent on adequately resolving issues such as the ending of boycotts, the setting of economic tariffs, and the normalisation of payments for services in Greater Soweto and Alexandra."

The second part of Johannesburg's proposal dealt with the creation of a metropolitan services corporation to provide certain services.

The corporation could include Eskom and the Rand Water Board.

Greater Soweto and Alexandra would then have to request that the developed (white) councils take over their administration on a contract basis.

Any interim proposal would also have to address elements such as

- Direct financial assistance by the Transvaal Provincial Administration and Government.
- The contributions of Eskom and the Rand Water Board

'Cash crisis' 26/11/74 in townships

PRETORIA — An explosive financial crisis was developing in black townships, despite spending by regional services councils, Central Witwatersrand RSC chairman Mr John Griffiths warned yesterday.

Mr Griffiths told a public administration conference at the Human Sciences Research Council that the growing crisis could eventually lead to a total breakdown of services and could contribute to problems with health services.

Neighbours help run Alexandra's affairs

By Day 2/10/77 TANIA LEVY

26/A

SANDTON and Randburg yesterday formally took over the running of certain technical and financial services in Alexandra which the Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council (RSC) will finance to the tune of R800 000 in the next 10 months.

Randburg assumed responsibility for Alexandra's financial administration, including rent collection, while Sandton started providing refuse removal, technical assistance, fire and ambulance services and training for personnel.

This follows Sandton's approval this week of the contents of an agreement which allows the two white councils and the RSC to bale out the beleaguered Alexandra Town Council for at least the next 10 months.

Sandton management committee chairman Bruce Stewart said the agreement had arisen out of the Joint Negotiating Forum on which the Alexandra council and the Alexandra Civic Organisation were central players.

Randburg approved the agreement last month.

Its management committee chairman André Jacobs said the agreement would have to be formally enacted by Transvaal Administrator Danie Hough, but the councils' assistance had formally started yesterday.

He said Randburg would employ an extra eight or 10 people to help run Alexandra's financial administration and their salaries would be paid by the RSC.

The agreement had become possible with the passing of the Interim Measures for Local Government Act, which made it legally possible to merge local authorities and their service provision.

Jacobs said he hoped the agreement would set a precedent for partnerships between other white councils and their black counterparts.

VE OF (RSC) L2F CAC
ssociate company

PRIVATE CEMETERIES

One foot in the grave (261A)

FM 18/10/91

In a country where cemeteries are often dreary places run by government, privately owned Park Acres Memorial Parks certainly promised something different when it kicked off two years ago

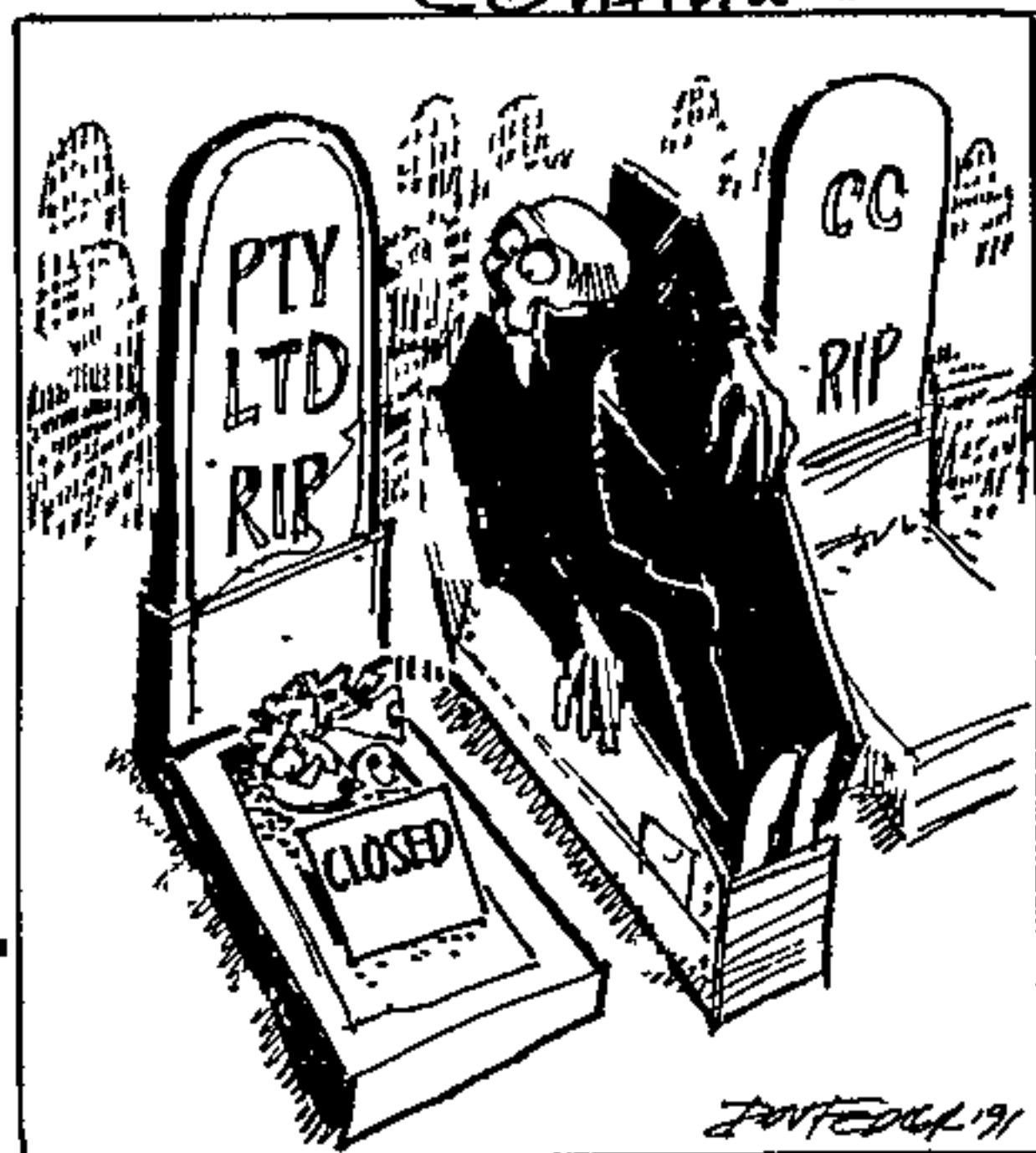
Would-be buyers of burial stands were wooed with pictures of rolling lawns, landscaped gardens, fountains and lakes, while investors were lured by eye-catching returns of at least 38% a year "The Parks," extolled the ads, could be used for weddings and christenings and would stand as a symbol of the new SA — non-denominational, multi-racial and privately owned.

But this week these plans were all but dead and buried as provisional judicial managers prepared to declare Plandev Memorial Parks Ltd — the unlisted public company offering stands in Lanseria and the Strand — insolvent "Currently, there appears to be no source of finance available to the judicial managers and people are wary of investing because the company is under judicial management," says Barry McLoughlin, an accountant involved in the judicial management of the company

People also may have got the creeps at the whole idea of picking out a stand and paying for it ahead of time, though it's the norm in other countries There, private developers run newspaper ads and solicit business by pushing location, perpetual care and "peace of mind"

Park Acres' obituary — before anyone was buried — is bad news for a lot of people. Some 3 500 stands were sold — at R2 500 apiece — and the two sites are bonded for at least R3m with Volkskas and First National Bank The project is also a footnote to the

CONTINUE - D



BUSINESS & TECHNOLOGY

(261A) Masterbond fiasco Masterbond was Park Acres' biggest wholesale purchaser, while the Pretoria Bank, also involved in the Masterbond affair, financed the sales of stands

As with many businesses that go under, the project's epitaph should read, "Failed for lack of capital" Memorial Parks Marketing MD Mike Jennings, whose operation is independent of Plandev, says funds being generated by sales covered only the interest on acquisitions and not development "Plandev MD Johannes van Wyk was undercapitalised to start with We could promote only what was there physically People want to see development" FM 18/10/91

But South Africans' hopes of being buried in style could yet be resurrected This month, the Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council started advertising for proposals on how to operate a new regional cemetery, to be located on 130 ha at Eikenhof, south of Johannesburg

Says CE Len de Wet "We envisage maintaining a measure of control, but the emphasis is on private-sector involvement in development, maintenance and operation"

Says Jennings, "Letting RSCs run cemeteries makes good business sense It's difficult for individual municipal cemeteries to make a profit because the mortality rate just isn't high enough"

Can the dead produce profits? Jennings insists that private memorial parks, like those profitably run in the US, Australia and parts of Europe, are the answer Experience also has shown that they are popular with financial institutions, who resell membership rights, and employers, who offer these rights to employees

Soweto council rejects RSC takeover

THE Soweto City Council, which is facing legal action over its R131m debt to Eskom, has rejected a plan for the Central Witwatersrand RSC to take over electricity supply from itself and the other two greater Soweto municipalities.

The rejection follows the RSC's acceptance this week of a Central Wits Metropolitan Chamber proposal that assumes, on an interim basis, the service from the cash-strapped councils of Diepmeadow, Dobsonville and Soweto.

The two other councils, which get their electricity supply through Soweto, have accepted the takeover proposal.

The RSC had appointed Eskom as

THEO RAWANA

sub-agent to render the service on its behalf

The three councils were recently reported to be in such a bad financial state that they faced a collapse of essential services.

Eskom has summonsed Soweto for unpaid debts of R131m, and the utility's distribution and marketing deputy GM Allan Morgan said it had until today to lodge a defending affidavit.

Soweto council spokesman Moja-lefa Moseki said yesterday his council had rejected the arrangement because Eskom was going ahead with legal action against it, while at the same time talking to the RSC.

24/10/91.
"We have less chance of handling this in a sober manner if we are under such pressure. Eskom could withdraw the summons while discussions are going on. We can't be good partners if we go on like that," he said.

Moseki said that when the council accepted the principle of having its power supply taken over, it had the RSC and other organisations in mind as potential suppliers.

He said the two other councils which had agreed to the arrangement could not get anywhere because they were supplied by Soweto.

RSC chairman John Griffiths said the RSC might have to go ahead with the takeover without the Soweto council's consent.

different investors may not be pooled to arrive at this figure.
"In addition, banks have to endorse the

will soon discuss practical implications of the new rules, such as investment status, tax, documentation and dealership arrangements

regarded as a predominantly mainframe company, now gets only 25% of its revenue from this source.

RSC millions a mystery

REGIONAL services councils (RSCs) received R768-million in 1990 from levy income, but it is impossible to discover how they spent it.

The main function of RSCs is to provide infrastructure, mainly in areas administered by black local authorities.

Tenders

South African Federation of Civil Engineering Contractors (Safcec) president Peter Clogg says RSCs seem to be spending a lot, but little is on infrastructure.

Safcec believes that in the first six months of 1991 RSCs advertised tenders valued at only R22-million. Black local authorities called for tenders worth only R66-million.

Mr Clogg says black local authorities are presumably funded by RSCs.

In the six months employers paid R500-million in levies.

Mr Clogg is concerned be-

cause only 17,6% of levy income is being used to finance infrastructural development, the rest apparently being absorbed by RSC overheads.

Another industry spokesman says the levies are being collected under false pretences and RSCs are not fulfilling the purpose for which they were set up.

The Department of Finance, which is responsible for monitoring RSC spending, is also in the dark.

Chief director of inter-governmental relations Deon Brand cannot say how much RSCs have spent on infrastructure.

Central Statistical Service figures for 1990 show that 55% of the R768-million RSC levy income went to local authorities for infrastructure.

But this figure includes an undetermined amount to cover the authorities' unpaid electricity and water

accounts. It was said at their inception that RSCs were to operate with minimum staff and overheads. But according to CSS, salaries and other overheads account for about half their income.

Untenable

Part of the reason is that Cape RSCs have taken on the staff and structure of the old divisional councils. These employees do much of the work that would otherwise have been contracted out to the private sector.

Dr Brand says although divisional councils were ineffi-

cient, it would be difficult to retrench the staff.

Mr Clogg says "It is untenable that taxpayers have to subsidise the swollen public service. It would be better to pay them their salaries and let them stay at home because if they come to work they spend more money."

CSS figures show that RSCs received interest income of R147-million from banks in 1990. They had hundreds of millions on deposit instead of spending the money on badly-needed projects.

Dr Brand says the figure is high because funds are allocated to projects, but paid only on completion.

□ From Page 1
S/Times (BUS) 27/10/91
have suffered the worst - at its peak, the price was 160c.

Mr Korsten says the other banks have agreed to extend their facilities of R461-million and to provide fresh debt funding of R200-million to Rusfurn for four years.

Rusfurn

So Rusfurn returns to the Sankorp fold it left two years ago. Sankorp has 90% of Senbank parent Bankorp and until a week ago controlled Tradegro, which sold Rusfurn in 1989.

R500m in RSC levies collected

261A

cr 6/11/91

By PETER DENNEHY

NEARLY R500 million in levies from businesses has been collected by the Western Cape Regional Services Council in the four years of its existence, and most of the money has been used to build infrastructures in poor areas

RSC chairman Mr P J Loubser says in his annual review for 1990/91 that the total levy income from mid-1987 to mid-1991 was R478m. During this same period a total amount of R443m was allocated for improving infrastructures like roads and stormwater drainage.

The rest of the money was used for the maintenance of various services for which the RSC is responsible.

Levies, on turnover and staff remuneration, are collected from about 40 000 businesses. Mr Loubser says the main function of the RSC is to collect the levies and distribute the funds to communities with the greatest need.

In the financial year under review,

some R133m in levies was collected. This represents a 25% increase over the figure for the previous year. The amount then allocated for "infrastructural improvement" was R98m.

The RSC's housing-construction unit was completely disbanded during the year under review through lack of state funds for sub-economic and other housing.

Other items of interest in the annual report are:

- During 1990 Western Cape RSC health authorities were notified of 6 045 new cases of tuberculosis, a 7% increase over the previous year.

- Far more learner drivers failed than passed: 7 977 as against 4 937.

- Library membership increased 7,6% to 67 311, and annual book circulation rose 20% to 1,5m books.

- By the end of this calendar year, the RSC expects it will have the computer capacity to send out consolidated accounts to all its 100 000 debtors. The implementation of the system is proceeding "most satisfactorily", it says.

Eskom to act against council

ESKOM would not suspend legal action against the Soweto City Council for unpaid debts of R131m, Eskom distribution and marketing deputy GM Allan Morgan said yesterday. *31 Day 7/11/91*

Morgan was responding to a statement by Soweto Council spokesman Mojalefa Moseki that Soweto had rejected plans for the Central Witwatersrand RSC to take over electricity supply from itself. This was because Eskom was going ahead with legal action against the council while at the same time talking to the RSC.

"We have less chance of handling this in a sober manner if we are under such pressure," Moseki said.

Eskom could withdraw while discussions were going on, he said.

Morgan said Eskom had no intention of suspending the legal action against Soweto because it was the utility's policy to "secure its rights as a creditor" by taking legal action against debtor authorities.

"We have taken legal action against 22 local authorities. Summonses served on the Soweto City Council for unpaid debts of R131m still stand," he said.

The RSC accepted a central Wits Metropolitan Chamber proposal last month that it should assume, on an interim basis, the service from the cash-strapped councils of

WILSON ZWANE

Soweto, Diepmeadow and Dobsonville.

The RSC had appointed Eskom as a sub-agent to render the service on its behalf.

The three councils were recently reported to be in such a bad financial state that they faced a collapse of essential services.

RSC deputy CE Nantes Botha said his council had asked Soweto to come forward with proposals on what "the takeover contract should look like".

"We have not yet received any response," he said.

□ Sapa reports that rent defaulters in Soweto shanguve, outside Pretoria, will have their fate decided today at a crucial meeting between the Department of Development Aid and the local civic association.

The residents, who were allowed to pay an interim monthly flat rate of R50 for the past three months while the two parties negotiated an increased rent and service tariff, had until last Friday to pay up.

Department of Development Aid liaison officer Thys Human said only 32% of residents had paid their rents for October. However, no action against the defaulters had been planned.

A decision would be taken at today's meeting, he confirmed.

31 Day

Will this proposal solve the 7-year impasse?

By SOPHIE TEMA

WILL proposals by the Regional Services Councils to take over essential services from insolvent black local authorities solve the seven-year boycott impasse? (26/11/91)

The Civic Associations of Southern Transvaal (Cast) has resolved that essential services be transferred to white municipalities.

But the question is if the RSCs or the white municipalities become the bosses of the townships, will they be able to get the residents to pay the townships' electricity debts - which total billions of rands? (26/11/91)

Bankruptcy

By not paying rent, residents have caused several local authorities serious financial problems and many are on the verge of bankruptcy as the government has curtailed bridging finance to the ailing councils.

Soweto alone is believed to owe Eskom R131-million and the debt is gradually increasing as less than 50 percent of Soweto residents are paying for their water and electricity (10/11/91)

Recently government warned that if consumers continued to avoid paying for services, local authorities would no longer be able to provide those services.

Soweto Civic Association spokesman Patrick Lephunya has gone on record as saying: "A new deal needs to be negotiated by community bodies because residents did not object to paying service charges, but refused to deal with councils which they regarded as corrupt and non-representative."

Council adamant

But the Soweto City Council is adamant and will not easily agree to hand over the services supply to the RSC, Eskom or the Johannesburg City Council.

This was made clear by Soweto's newly elected mayor, Alfred Nyathi, and his deputy, Oscar Maseko.

Maseko said: "Unless the RSC is prepared to explain how it intends running the supply of these services to the community and whether it will take over the employees of the departments concerned - particularly the electricity department - then there is no way the council will agree to the handing over."

RSC to take over Soweto electricity supply

L van der Walt 133881

THEO RAWANA

8/10 am 14/11/91
THE Soweto City Council had finally agreed to the takeover of electricity supply by the Central Wits RSC, the Central Wits Metropolitan Chamber's monthly meeting was told in Johannesburg last night

The proposal came from the chamber four months ago when it was disclosed that the finances of the three greater Soweto councils — Diepmeadow, Dobsonville and Soweto — were in a state of crisis and essential services were on the point of collapse

Soweto was the only council that was still objecting to the takeover, the others having consented to it last month. The Soweto council, a bulk-buyer from Eskom which in turn supplied the other two councils, was re-

ported recently to be facing court action from the utility because it owed it R131m

Metchamber CE Vic Milne said last night Soweto had agreed to the handover of the running of electricity, on condition that the RSC took over all its electrical department employees

Milne said after the meeting that a meeting of the Greater Soweto Principal Parties would meet "soon" on the question of the RSC absorbing Soweto employees

About 30 placard-carrying residents of Ennerdale coloured township caused a stir when they walked

into the chamber while the meeting was in progress yesterday.

The members of the Ennerdale and Surrounding Civic Association, who are engaged in a dispute with the Johannesburg City Council over the "poor state of the houses" in their township, requested to read a statement to the meeting

Metchamber chairman Van Zyl Slabbert refused to let them do so, saying the meeting was not a Johannesburg council meeting

He allowed the protesters to leave their memorandum with chamber officials and they left quietly

The memo requested the chamber to mediate on Ennerdale's behalf and get the Johannesburg council to meet its residents within 48 hours

Power cut warning to authorities

26/11
Municipal Reporter

Financial aid to black local authorities to keep essential services running would be cut off after March if communities did not act responsibly and pay their electricity bills, Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council chairman John Griffiths said last night.

The four black local authorities of Soweto,

Dobsonville, Diepmeadow and Alexandra will owe the RSC and the Johannesburg City Council a total of R106 million for bulk services by June 30.

20/11/91
Last night, the city council asked the RSC to act against the four councils to force them to pay R25 million owed to the council for the provision of certain services and assistance.

"This will now be the

last chance for people to act responsibly. If the residents of the areas are not prepared to pay for services, then at the end of March, we will re-evaluate the situation," Mr Griffiths said.

"These are harsh words, I know, but once and for all, we have to face up to it and steps will be taken."

The RSC agreed last night to reschedule projects to enable some of the debt to be paid.

Joint effort to combat city crime

By Louise Burgers
Municipal Reporter

A major conference to address urban decay and crime in Johannesburg and to create a structure to deal with central city problems, gets under way on Sunday.

Business leaders, community representatives, civic associations and the Johannesburg City Council will participate.

The main issues to be dealt with by delegates include plans for Johannesburg 2000, economic and social strategies, determining who is responsible for what, a look at future resources and addressing immediate problems such as security.

To make sure things run smoothly at the conference which is a first of its kind, a facilitator from the United States, Richard Bradley, has been brought in for the two days.

Mr Bradley heads the International Downtown Association based in

Washington DC, of which the Johannesburg Central Business District Association is a member.

Mr Bradley, who has visited Johannesburg before, said the city was large by international standards. "It must accommodate and serve as the centre for Johannesburg, but at the same time it is in competition with 'edge' cities (Midrand, Randburg and Sandton)," he said.

The conference will be opened by community leader Dr Nthato Motlana on Sunday and the closing address will be delivered by Dr Frederick Van Zyl Slabbert, Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber chairman, on Monday.

Other papers will be delivered by consultant Nigel Mandy, Actstop chairman Mohammed Dangor, Professor Michael Katz, Mr Bradley, Anglo's Gerald Leissner, Johannesburg management committee chairman Ian Davidson, civic spokesman Cas Coovadia and the Mayor of Johannesburg, Elliot Kretzmer.

Call for power to all Rand

Star 21/11/91
By Louise Burgers
Municipal Reporter

A task group to formulate strategies for the creation of a regional electricity supply system on the Witwatersrand should be formed as soon as possible, according to a report tabled at the Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council on Tuesday.

The investigation into the provision of services on a regional basis was commissioned by the RSC, which last night called for comment on the report from the relevant local authorities, Eskom and the Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber by January 31.

The present fragmented electricity supply within the Central Witwatersrand RSC's region had created numerous problems regarding the standard and maintenance of the service, especially in the black communities, due to a lack of expertise, manpower and capital.

The reorganisation of the electricity supply within the region could lead to major savings and the effective utilisation of available financial, human and other resources.

RSC spending is strictly administered

S/Times 1/12/91 26/A

AS DULY legislated local government institutions, RSCs are subject to strict financial administration and it is grossly inaccurate to state, as Terry Betty did (Business Times, October 27), that it is impossible to discover how they have spent the levy income.

Various other claims and statements made in the article cannot be substantiated by facts.

It would be fair to state that RSCs, in general, strive to enhance the quality of life of their residents by co-ordinating and providing regional services and creating infrastructure on local government level. This is done by means of joint decision-making by the participating bodies, with regard to the cost-efficient application of levy funds to ensure a better life for the inhabitants of a specific region.

To illustrate the above I would like to refer to the recently published report by the Pretoria Regional Services Council. Having

inherited former divisional council functions the Cape RSCs operate somewhat differently but in broad terms the following data from this report would also be applicable to other RSCs. The report states:

- Since its inception in 1987 the Pretoria Regional Services Council has allocated, on a non-refundable basis, an amount of approximately R433-million to 399 projects in the region.

- Allocation of funds on capital projects over the period 1987/88-1991/92 is electricity 35,6%, road construction 17,7%, water 16,4%, sewerage 15,4%, community services 14,8%,

- Annual overheads have been kept to as little as 4% of levy income,

- It has a proud record of approximately 90% expenditure on capital projects,

- Its levy rate has not been increased over the past three years.

It is an unhealthy state of affairs if any member of the public is ill informed about the functioning of a government institution.

The situation is best rectified by direct and ongoing contact. RSCs endeavour to establish and maintain contact with all relevant organisations — H COETZEE, Director, Association of Regional Services Councils of SA, Pretoria.

Reef cities, townships Seek unity

THE NEXT budget of the Johannesburg City Council is bound to be formulated as much in response to the demands and needs of the people of Soweto as to the wants of suburban rate-payers who voted the council into power.

In 1992, nonracial local government on the Witwatersrand will step firmly beyond the realm of talking across racial barriers and into the world of joint action — the nuts and bolts, and raids and cents of finding township and city.

This is the meaning of the revised plan for interim local government tabled at the Central Chamber in Johannesburg last night. Individual parties to the chamber must still approve the plan, but all have had a hand in drafting it.

From early next year, the chamber has proposed that consultations on the budget for the country's richest and largest city will take place in a "joint negotiating forum" where the main players will be the Johan-

nesburg Council and the Soweto Civic Association, bolstered by smaller civic bodies.

Similar budgetary talks will be going on between the Alexandra Civic Organisation and the councils of Randburg and Sandton, and between Roodeport Council and civic associations for Dobsonville, Fleurhof and Davidsonville, and among the far-south residential areas (like Emmerdale and Lenasia) and the TPA.

By council budget season, in June/July, tangible steps will have been taken to spread the revenue generated in the business heart of South Africa to the crisis-riddled townships which surround it. It might not be what the civic movement meant by a single tax base, but it is an unprecedented concession in that direction.

All parties to the chamber — that is, four white municipalities, various black local authorities, management committees, civic associations and the province — see the establishment of nonracial interim government at metropolitan and

local levels as a phased process.

STAGE one, which begins early next year, is based on the idea that "appropriate existing structures will largely remain intact." It will last for about six months, its life-span being "linked to the budgetary process of the local authorities and the regional services council."

In this and all other stages, parallel change will go on at the local and regional levels. Until the final model is agreed to, at both levels, there will be non-racial negotiating bodies which will remain one step removed from actual government but will determine broad policy, and administrative/service structures, which will become increasingly integrated.

The players. At the crucial local level, joint negotiating forums will be consolidated or established where they do not yet exist. These forums will link a particular white municipality to the council(s) and civic association(s) of the satellite townships, drawing participants

Plans for nonracial local government on the Reef are outstripping the national negotiating process. Civic associations will soon help shape Johannesburg's budget, and a multi-constituent assembly could be sitting by 1993. JO-ANNE COLLINGE reports

into debate about development of their locality as a single economic entity.

In stage one, the administration and servicing will remain vested in the segregated councils, except where special service contracts are negotiated, for instance with Eskom.

At the regional level, the RSC will continue to co-ordinate and help finance bulk services. The chamber in its present form will continue to negotiate medium and long-term dispensations, and will gain a special budgetary committee which will be crucial to this process.

Their tasks: Both local forums and the chamber have the major task of gaining con-

sensus on a new budgeting formula in the RSC and in individual councils. Their task is to find viable financing for new nonracial forms of government which will have the capacity to upgrade township services and command returns for these services. None of the parties wishes to see the new structures doomed to failure by inadequate financing, but the white councils have the difficult task of maintaining the confidence of their electorate.

The chamber will also negotiate a new governing structure within the RSC, and local forums will press towards integrated administration of town and township.

STAGE two will see structural

change and the implementation of new budgets. Negotiations within the chamber on a final two-tier model of metro and local government will continue and "logistical preparations" will be made for the election of a nonracial chamber, transforming a body of elected white representatives and non-elected black representatives into a fully representative body.

The players. These will be essentially the same, but with new names in some cases and new responsibilities and resources. The RSC will be transformed into an interim metropolitan authority (IMA), its structure changed in accordance with decisions taken in the chamber. The chamber will make broad policy decisions, and a contract with the IMA will ensure implementation and enforcement. The amalgamation of local administrations will proceed, at different paces as local conditions dictate, with single administrations the ultimate goal. Although the blue-

print does not specify this it is believed in some quarters that the black councils will be dissolved.

Their tasks. The models planned in stage one will have to be formalised, given legal status and force. Newly consolidated administrations operating (as far as the townships are concerned) with greater resources will begin to make meaningful improvements to the levels of service in the townships and, it is hoped, the proportion of residents paying their tariffs and paying at steadily increased rates will mean that "viability" is no longer a foreign word in these areas.

STAGE three is the point at which the first elected metropolitan chamber comes into being. Its turning depends on how quickly structures consolidate under stage two, on progress on the national negotiating front and the attitudes of major national political players to the Reef local initiative.

The players. The proposal

presented yesterday leaves the question open. It is not clear whether the elected chamber will be a multi-constituent assembly (that is, still a negotiating forum) or the new local government in either case, it is possible that civic associations might depart from the scene at this stage — since they see themselves in the mould of residents' associations rather than political parties — and the parties contesting the election might come to include the ANC, PAC, IFP and Azapo.

There can be no doubt that agreements to deracialise government in and around Johannesburg have been crisis driven. The spectre of a chaotic collapse of Soweto's essential services has been the unseen force at the table.

Although parties have repeatedly stated that their solutions are dependent on national constitutional initiatives, the possibility of conflict between the paths of change might well have been underestimated. □

Pta service debt crisis is now R47-m

Sowetan

13/12/91

Sowetan Correspondent

THE debt crisis flowing from arrear service fees in Pretoria's black townships has reached alarming proportions, with Mamelodi and Atteridgeville owing the Pretoria City Council and the Pretoria Regional Services Council a total of R47,46-million.

Results are that residents will be asked to pay higher service fees - with expected increases of as much as 35 percent - and that the RSC had "frozen" some projects planned in the two areas, as money budgeted for projects could be held back to repay loans.

A Pretoria City Council spokesman disclosed that Mamelodi owed the council R13,33-million for nine months of electricity supply, R2,92-million for five months of water supply and R3,13-million for nine months of sewerage service.

The spokesman said Atteridgeville owed the council R7,18-million for nine months of electricity supply, R1,73-million for six months of water supply and R1,77-million for 11 months of sewerage service.

In addition, the Pretoria RSC is owed R11-million by Mamelodi and R6,4-million by Atteridgeville for loans that paid arrear service fees to the Pretoria City Council in October last year, saving the two townships from bulk power

cuts at the time.

RSC chairman Mr Piet Delpoit said neither Mamelodi nor Atteridgeville had paid their first repayment instalments of R4,2-million and R2,4-million respectively, which were due on October 31.

Representatives from Atteridgeville have been asked to agree to new "economic" service charges by yesterday. If this did not happen, the RSC said it would "seriously consider" whether to renew a guarantee for the payment of service fees to Pretoria after today.

Guarantee

Should the guarantee not be renewed, another cut in the bulk power supply to Atteridgeville could follow.

The RSC - who said the present "flat rate" of R75 a month was insufficient to pay for services - suggested Atteridgeville residents pay the same charges as residents of Pretoria, which would amount to a monthly average of R134,06 per household, if power and water are used sparingly.

A spokesman - who did not indicate what the tariffs would be - said residents had until today to submit objections in this regard.

PUBLIC SECTOR - REGIONAL SERVICE
COUNCILS

1992

By Thoraya Pandy

A UNION official and his members have accused the Regional Services Council (RSC) of racism after it failed to deal effectively with assaults by white senior officials.

Mr Leonard Koza, organising secretary of the Western Province Local Authorities Workers Association (WPLAWA), claimed charges of assault against four white officers of the RSC's Law Enforcement section have been buried in the council's bureaucracy.

Koza also claimed a black employee, under investigation by the RSC for perjury, had attempted to commit suicide while being interrogated by white officials.

He said black employees regularly

Union charges RSC with racism

South 13/2 - 19/2/92

Koza said union members had laid charges of assault against four white officials who allegedly assaulted four black employees between September and December last year.

One of the officials accused of assault, WPLAWA members allege, was heading the Law Enforcement's internal investigation into the incidents.

"They are quick to charge black officials while whites, who constantly abuse non-white employees physically and verbally, get away with it," said a union member who refused to

be identified as he feared he would lose his job

"One of the employees who laid the assault charges, Mr Peter Beyers, was issued with a termination of employment letter on Tuesday because he was found guilty of insubordination by an all-white disciplinary board."

Koza said while Beyers was found guilty within weeks, it took months before so-called investigations were launched into white officials' transgressions.

The employee who had attempted to commit suicide was interrogated while bleeding profusely. He had cut his wrists while he was being questioned.

Koza alleged the man had only been taken to the hospital by WPLAWA members much later.

In another incident, an employee based at the Monwabisi holiday resort informed the council of theft and the abuse of the council's vehicle by the senior RSC official at the resort, but no investigation was launched into the claims and no charges brought against the employee, Koza claimed.

The employee who brought the matter to the council's attention was however charged with using an RSC vehicle unlawfully and could be dismissed if found guilty, Koza said. "These officials will do anything and

everything to make the lives of non-whites unbearable — even protecting one another when serious crimes are committed.

"There are endless examples of blatant racism and deliberate attempts to make the working environment of non-whites insufferable.

"They bring false charges against workers and force others to make statements corroborating their so-called evidence."

"We also hope to bring this to the attention of higher authorities who seem to be unaware of all these malpractices taking place.

RSC chief executive officer, Mr Chris Mocke, was out of town and was not available to comment on Koza's allegations. Two other RSC senior officials empowered to speak to the press were also not available.

CRIMINAL charges have been laid by four Western Cape Regional Services Council officials who allege they have been assaulted by racist white colleagues.

The Ottery headquarters of the RSC's Law Enforcement Section was seething with racial tension this week amid claims that white officials, some allegedly Afrikaner Weerstandsbeweging supporters, were engaged in a vendetta against "progressive" black colleagues.

In the latest incident, law enforcement officer Mr M D Solomons tried to cut his wrists while being "interrogated" by an RSC investigating officer last Wednesday. Mr Solomons was admitted later to a clinic for psychiatric treatment.

Mr Leonard Kosa, spokesman for the Western Province Local Authorities Workers Association (WPLAWA), said four union members had reported being assaulted by colleagues between September and December.

"Charges have been laid with the police and RSC. No action has been taken against any of the alleged offenders."

Charges have been laid by Mr F Cloete, Mr P Beyers, Mr Wellington Makaula and Mr K B Robyn.

Mr Robyn's jaw was reportedly broken by white officers, who have been named as RSC investigating officer Mr Japie Campher, Mr C Armstrong, Mr M Kuhn and Mr J Kitshoff.

Allegations of a conspiracy against one of the victims, law enforcement officer Mr Cloete, also emerged this week.

False

According to a report to the union by WPLAWA members, Mr Cloete was brought before a disciplinary hearing on allegedly trumped-up charges of fraud and theft. The charges were an alleged attempt by a white officer, Mr Armstrong, to "get rid of" Mr Cloete, the report said.

It read "Mr Cloete was found not guilty and although Mr Armstrong had infringed his service conditions by making a false declaration against a fellow colleague, no steps were taken against him."

In a report to the union, one of the alleged assault victims said he had been abused after taking a day's sick leave.

A white officer had accused him of having had a hangover, allegedly swore at him and said "Don't think I'm scared of you and your ANC. You got your homelands but you weren't satisfied with that. You and your kind can forget about running South Africa. Nelson

By KURT SWART

Mandela will never rule this country."

The WPLAWA sent a letter this week to RSC chief executive officer Mr C H Mocke protesting against Mr Solomons's "severe interrogation" and suicide attempt.

The union claimed Mr Solomons had been victimised because he had admitted at Mr Cloete's disciplinary hearing that he had made a false statement as part of Mr Armstrong's plot to get Mr Cloete sacked. Because of Mr Solomons's testimony, Mr Cloete was acquitted of the charges against him.

Said Mr Kosa "Union members said the RSC investigating team repeatedly threatened to make sure Mr Solomons lost his job by 'framing' a fraud charge against him."

Mr Kosa said he and a fellow union official had found Mr Solomons bleeding.

"When we asked the chief of the law enforcement section why Mr Solomons had cut his wrists, he replied 'Because he's got a guilty conscience'."

Target

"Union members have told of being threatened with losing their houses, subsidies and jobs. Mr Solomons was a soft target for treatment like this."

An RSC spokesman, Mr J J Gerber, would not comment on the alleged assaults, saying they were "sub judice."

He said there appeared to be "an orchestrated effort to discredit" the RSC.

Police spokesman Colonel Tony Dewhurst said he could not confirm charges had been laid until he had been given the case numbers. He believed all the cases had been investigated.

White RSC staff beat us up, say fellow officers

STimes 16/2/92

Three clerks fired after probe into pension receipts

261A

ARG 18/2/92

CLIVE SAWYER
Municipal Reporter

THREE Western Cape Regional Services Council clerks have been dismissed from the Elsie River cash office because of alleged irregularities.

A former RSC social worker alleged there had been irregularities involving the issue of receipts to pensioners. The RSC confirmed the dismissals but said the matter was "sub judice because of threatened litigation".

The former social worker said this was one of two incidents allegedly involving social workers profiting from irregularities in proxy payments to pensioners.

The second incident was when a social worker left after an inquiry concerning irregularities in the handling of pensions.

The RSC said its policy was not to comment publicly on staff matters.

The cash office staff were dismissed in December follow-

ing an internal investigation, according to the former social worker.

Asked if it was normal to allow RSC social workers to collect payments on behalf of pensioners, the spokesman said it was not a normal function "because of the amount of unproductive time" it took.

Steps had been taken over the past year to phase out the collection and administration of pensions by social workers wherever possible.

Responsibility for proxy collections was being transferred to outside welfare and church bodies.

"The practice was introduced by the former Divisional Council of the Cape many years ago as a service to the aged in the community who, for numerous reasons, were unable to administer their own affairs, including pension collection," he said.

Collection was done "at the specific request" of the pensioners concerned.

According to a list made by the former social worker and shown to The Argus, some of

the victims of alleged irregularities were in their seventies, and the sum involved totalled more than R3 000.

Asked under what circumstances RSC social workers were entitled to collect pensions, the spokesman said the collection and administration of pensions was authorised by the Department of Health Services and Welfare, in this case the House of Representatives.

This was done at the request of the pensioner and was usually because of physical disability, lack of mobility, illness or illiteracy.

When the disability was temporary, a pensioner could apply to the Post Office for another person to draw the pension.

The spokesman said "strict accounting procedures and regular auditing" were used to ensure irregularities did not take place.

No investigation was in progress within the RSC about the administration of pensions by social workers, nor had the matter been discussed with the police, the spokesman said.

B/Dag 21/2/92

Comment invited (Q61A)

THE Regional Development and Land Affairs Department has made available to the public for comment its draft spatial development framework for the PWV complex. In the meantime, Deputy Regional Development Minister Andre Fourie said yesterday consideration was being given to the establishment of a planning committee to prepare a regional development plan for the PWV Complex Development Region H

Business slams RSCs for misusing levies

ARC 29/2/92
261A

Council is indirectly taxing consumers

HENRI du PLESSIS
Weekend Argus Reporter

BUSINESSMEN are accusing the Regional Services Council of the Western Cape of misusing levies and have slammed the institution for failing to produce financial statements

The attack has come from the Tygerberg Chamber of Commerce, which has become increasingly agitated because the RSC has not published audited statements since its inception in 1987

Individual businessmen expressed their concern at what appeared to be misuse of the levies they pay on turnover and wages, claiming about 65 percent of the RSC's levy income had been spent on remunerating a staff complement of 7 400

This was denied by the RSC's deputy chief director of financial services, Mr Philip Schenck

"We have about 6 500 people working for us, including those people employed in the projects we do on an agency basis for other government departments," he said.

"We had an income from levies of R133 million this year, of which we spent about R100 million on projects in under-developed areas. The remainder was spent on administrative costs and our own functions, such as the running of cemeteries

"We have also had to cover running costs of R12,2 million

"Our total income, including the funding provided by departments for whom we act as agents, came to R570 mil-

lion. Of this, seven percent covered administrative costs and 40 percent of that seven percent covered salaries and wages"

At a regional conference of the South African Chambers of Business in September last year, the Tygerberg Chamber of Commerce forwarded a motion in which the RSC was asked to publish their financial statements and improve their accountability to the people who paid the levies

The motion called on the government to authorise the Institute of Chartered Accountants to research the information requirements of RSCs, authorise the institute to review current accounting systems and to change RSC legislation to give statutory effect to recommendations aimed at providing sufficient and timely financial disclosure

The pressure put on the RSC by SACOB's Western Cape Region and the Tygerberg Chamber of Commerce specifically led to an RSC undertaking to publish statements by November last year

This had not happened, said chamber general manager Mr Tommie Brand

"It is almost March already and we have only recently been informed that the financial statements were at the Government Printers. To our dismay, however, we found out those were only the statements for the 1989 financial year," he said.

The financial state of the RSC has a direct bearing on the consumer, as the levies paid by business could be incorporated in the price of goods and services as a hidden

cost. This meant that the consumer were indirectly bankrolling the RSC by paying a form of hidden tax

According to the Regional Services Council Act 109 of 1985, promulgated on July 31 of that year, the accounts of a RSC had to be audited by the Auditor-General

The Companies Act insisted on financial statements on an annual basis, accounting methods of a generally accepted accounting standard and a certain minimum amount of disclosure, said Mr Brand

The Regional Services Council Act had no such form or structure

The Tygerberg Chamber of Commerce agreed it was to the credit of the RSC that figures indicating receipts in respect of the Establishment Levy and also the Services Levy were regularly published

On occasion details of certain projects on which money was spent were disclosed

But this was not enough, said the chamber's president, Mr Willem Opperman

"How is it possible that a local authority of the magnitude of the RSC can operate without properly audited statements," he asked

"How can norms be set, comparisons made and proper future planning be affected? How can it be expected of the business community to continually finance such an exercise?"

"Should we as private enterprise conduct our financial affairs in a similar fashion, we might end up being financially embarrassed or, at the least, in a

serious discussion with the Receiver of Revenue."

Mr Opperman said the chamber also feared that the current performance by the RSC might be repeated by the local authorities that might evolve out of negotiations towards a new constitution for the country

Mr Louwtje Rothman, deputy chairman of the RSC, said however he could not see what the problem was with the lack of audited statements

"The RSC has certainly been one of the most successful forms of local government," he said

"Initially, the bordering areas of Stellenbosch and Paarl were reluctant to form one RSC with the Western Cape, but since, many millions more have been spent on their areas than what had been paid in levies from those areas"

Mr Rothman said the RSC had looked at cropping staff and had done so in the fields of road building and housing.

"We are no longer building roads ourselves and there are no funds available for housing," he said

According to Mr Schenck, the financial statements until 1989 were at the Government Printers, while those for 1990 have been prepared, but still had to be given to the auditors

"Each area — the former divisional areas of Stellenbosch, Paarl and the Cape — does its own accounting and each has its own accounting system. We are experiencing problems putting it all together"

ARC 4/3/92

'Discrimination' in reserve jobs

261A

JOHN YELD
Staff Reporter

A FORMER ranger at the Cape of Good Hope nature reserve at Cape Point has appealed to President De Klerk to investigate alleged irregularities in staff appointments at the reserve.

The fynbos reserve, one of the Cape Peninsula's "big three" tourist attractions, is controlled by the Western Cape Regional Services Council (RSC), which has denied the ranger's charges.

Mr Philip Stewart, who subsequently resigned, also alleged "rampant racial discrimination" within the RSC. He said he believed the reserve was too valuable to be entrusted to the RSC and that it should be transferred to the National Parks Board.

Mr Stewart said in his letter to Mr De Klerk he had been employed by the RSC for 5½

years, and that during the past two years he had seen "irregular staff appointments".

"Employees with standard eight and matric are appointed into very senior positions within council, where a national diploma or relevant bachelor's degree is called for. Employees with the correct qualifications are not considered."

Mr Stewart said he was not writing as a "disgruntled" employee who had failed to win promotion, but as a "concerned" South African citizen.

"I write to you not for myself but for all qualified people of South Africa. The Regional Services Council appoints 'friends' into positions in council and does not 'take the right man for the job'."

He could provide documentation to substantiate his allegations.

Mr Stewart, a founder member of the Seal Action Group (he subsequently resigned after

a difference of opinion), has also written to the ministers of National Education and Environment Affairs (Mr Louis Pienaar), and of Planning and Provincial Affairs to complain about RSC appointments.

Asked to respond, RSC chief executive Mr Chris Mocke said it was not council policy to comment publicly in detail on personnel-related matters.

"It suffices to say that council refutes any suggestion of unfair discrimination in its dealings with its staff. However, should Mr Stewart be able to provide me with documentation to substantiate his allegations of unfair practices, the matter will be pursued through the correct channels."

Mr Mocke said their commitment to sound environmental management in the reserve was "beyond question", and that former Cape nature conservation chief Dr Douglas Hey had recently praised the reserve's managers highly.

HOUSE OF DELEGATES

QUESTIONS

†Indicates translated version

For written reply

General Affairs

(2611)

much of this amount was paid to each of the Regional Services Councils and (b) what percentage of this amount was spent on (i) salaries and overheads, (ii) the provision of infrastructure, (iii) the provision of services and (iv) any other specified items?

D22E

Regional Services Council levies: total amount

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND NATIONAL HOUSING

4 Mr M RAJAB asked the Minister of Local Government and National Housing

- (1) What total amount was collected by his Department in Regional Services Council levies in 1990 and 1991, respectively,
- (2) in respect of each of these years, (a) how

- (1) None The Department of Local Government and National Housing receives no Regional Services Council levies. Levies are collected by Regional Services Councils themselves
- (2) Falls away

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

QUESTIONS

†Indicates translated version

For written reply

General Affairs

Trade unions vicariously liable

102 Mr L FUCHS asked the Minister of Manpower

- (1) Whether it is envisaged to introduce legislation to make trade unions vicariously liable for the acts of their members, if not, why not, if so, when,
- (2) whether it is envisaged that the rules of the Industrial Court will be amended so as to allow costs orders to be given in certain circumstances, if not, why not, if so, when?

B262E

The MINISTER OF MANPOWER

- (1) No The common law situation applies as supplemented by section 79(2) of the Labour Relations Act, Act 28 of 1956
- (2) No The powers of the Industrial Court to grant cost orders in specific circumstances are governed by sections 17(12)(a) and 43(4)(c) of the Labour Relations Act, 1956

Own Affairs see reply p 495

Rent-controlled premises. Sea Point

36 Mr C W EGLIN asked the Minister of Housing and Works

- (1) How many rent-controlled premises were there in the Sea Point constituency as at 31 December 1991,
- (2) (a) how many such premises were decontrolled in 1991 and (b) what is the (i) address and (ii) description of each of the properties concerned?

B324E

The MINISTER OF HOUSING AND WORKS

- (1) On 31 December 1991 there were still 401 units which have already been conditionally exempted from rent control and which are occupied by tenants who qualify for continued protection for as long as such tenants comply with the prescribed requirements for continued protection
- (2) (a) 6 units comprising of 1 dwelling and 5 flats, were in 1991 conditionally exempted from rent control subject to the granting of continued protection to the tenants thereof if and for as long as such tenants comply with the prescribed requirements for continued protection

(b)

(i) Address	(ii) Description of properties
Flat 2, Kayuga	
Flats, Camberwell Road, Sea Point	Erf 45 Cape Town Sea Point
Flats GF 1, GF 2, 104 and 105 Stanmar, Marais Road, Sea Point Cape Town	Erf 802 Cape Town Sea Point
46 Upper-Rhine Road, Sea Point Cape Town	Erf 264 Cape Town Sea Point

Council spent ^{261A} R86-m

Sowetan
Correspondent

THE East Rand Regional Services Council has spent about R86 million since its inception on upgrading roads and stormwater drainage in its region between April 1987 to June 1991. *Sowetan*

^{11/3/92}
The council said the conditions of roads in the black local authority areas had deteriorated dramatically during the last few months due to the discontinuation of all maintenance work to roads and stormwater drainage in these areas.

"It is proposed that R1,25 million of the R2 million provided in the revised estimates for the normalisation of infrastructural services, be utilised for essential maintenance work to roads and stormwater drainage in the black local authority areas."

Funds approved for Alex housing, services

By Shirley Woodgate

A massive injection of funds for the development of strife-torn Alexandra's 238 ha far East Bank has been approved by the Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council (CWRSC).

Last night the CWRSC voted R3 million for the provision of bulk and link services, assisted by an additional loan of R5,8 million from the Development Bank of Southern Africa.

Bridging finance amounting to R7,5 million has already been approved and a further R5 million will be advanced free of interest to the Transvaal Provincial Administration to assist with the development of the area, according to a report tabled at the monthly meeting.

A recent survey of squatter shacks and informal housing units in the township adjoining Sandton found there were about 19 000 family units in Alexandra.

It is necessary to provide about 7 000 stands

for low-income people on the far East Bank to relieve the over-crowding, the report said.

The first phase of the upgrading project will comprise 1 714 stands and Phase 2, involving the development of 2 139 stands at an estimated cost of R33 million, will get off the ground early next month with the help of the Independent Development Trust, the report stated.

Budget

● The CWRSC voted R50 000 to assist the Soweto, Diepsmeadow and Dobsonville councils to probe issues involved in the transfer of rented houses to the lessees.

Two single quarter hostels in Davidsonville are to be upgraded and converted into 50 sq m and 64 sq m two and three-bedroomed family flats with the help of the CWRSC.

● Melody McDougall of The Star's Vereeniging Bureau reports that the Vaal Triangle Regional Services Council (VRSC) last night approved a budget of just over R28,6 million, excluding

bulk services, for the coming year.

The 1992/1993 budget — the VRSC's sixth annual budget — is slightly less than last year.

In his budget speech, VRSC chairman Gustav du Toit said the current economic situation had also had its effect on the income of the Regional Services Council.

He said this was reflected in the fact that the council was budgeting for about the same amount as last year.

He added that of the estimated revenue of R28 619 282 for the 1992/1993 year, the sum of R26 million was in respect of levy income.

Almost no increase in revenue from levies was expected during the coming year, he said.

An increase in levy income of only R739 000, or 2,9 percent, was being budgeted for.

This was due to a decline in the number of levy payers, the decrease in the leviable amount from Eskom and the decline in the economy.

The total estimated expenditure for the year is expected to amount to just over R31 million.

RSC may scrap projects to pay for switch-off

By Mkeed Kotlolo
Pretoria Bureau

(261A)

(costing R32 million) but all other RSC projects in the township

It would then use the money to keep the local municipal administration going

A spokesman for the RSC said only about 58 percent of residents paid their monthly service charges and the Atteridgeville City Council did not have the manpower to cut electricity supplies to individual households of defaulters

She said that, to avoid the bulk electricity switch-off by

the Pretoria City Council, the money from the RSC could assist the council to contract an outside company to switch off power to non-payers

At the same time it would protect those who were up to date with their payments as well as those residents with BEC meters

Contractors are expected to install 50 meters a day, but far fewer meters were installed as a result of the obstruction by the majority of residents

The spokesman said that

most of the residents did not know the advantages of having the meters installed and, in some cases, contractors were allegedly intimidated by the residents

A spokesman for the local civic body, the Atteridgeville-Saulsville Residents Organisation (Asro), said that it had encouraged residents to have the BEC meters installed because it was to their advantage

Earlier reports said eight of the nine committee members of Asro had had the meters installed in their own homes

Massive funds to improve Alex

Sowetan 26/3/92

26/11

Sowetan Correspondent

A MASSIVE injection of funds for the development of strife-torn Alexandra's 238ha far East Bank has been approved by the Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council

The CWRSC voted R3 million on Tuesday night for the provision of bulk and link services, assisted by an additional loan of R5,8 million from the Development Bank of Southern Africa.

Report tabled

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A recent survey of squatter shacks and informal housing units in the township found there were about 19 000 family units in Alexandra

It is necessary to provide about 7 000 stands for low-income people on the far East Bank to relieve the overcrowding, the report said.

Continued on page 2

RSC to act as agent for ambulance services

By Louise Burgers
Municipal Reporter

The first agreement between the Transvaal Provincial Administration and a regional services council for the provision of ambulance services on an agency basis was signed on Friday.

The agreement, signed between health services MEC Fanie Ferreira and Bushveld Regional Services Council chairman Eben Cuyler, means that the Bushveld RSC will act as chief agent for the TPA and deal with the regulation, organisation and co-ordination of ambulance services in the north-western Transvaal.

Certain local authorities will render the physical service as sub-agents of the RSC.

Since 1982, the TPA has concluded similar agreements with 60 municipalities.

Negotiations

"Due to sharply rising costs concerning the rendering of ambulance services, the health services branch of the TPA was compelled to inspect alternative methods with the view to rationalising the service," Mr Ferreira said.

Negotiations have been taking place over the past two years between the TPA and representatives of the Transvaal Municipal Association for the establishment of a new system for rendering ambulance services effectively.

"Out of these negotiations it has gradually become clear that the 12 regional services councils in the Transvaal can play an important role as co-ordinators of the services," Mr Ferreira said.

He said negotiations with the other 11 RSCs were in an advanced stage and similar agreements would be concluded in the near future.

"Where RSCs were not ready to sign agreements, the existing agreement with local authorities within the concerned area would be extended on a month-to-month basis," he said.

Electricity upgrading cancelled

PRETORIA — The financing of a R32m project to upgrade electricity in Atteridgeville township, outside Pretoria, was cancelled with effect from yesterday, the area's regional services council has announced.

A joint statement was issued in Pretoria by RSC chairman Piet Delpont and township administrator Martiens Nel.

Delpont said "Because of the withdrawal of finances the Atteridgeville council had no other option but to cancel its contract with the project contractors, as Atteridgeville had no money to pay them."

Measures to upgrade electricity in the township included the installation of Budget Energy Control (BEC) meters in every household. Now the 800 already in place would have to be removed, Delpont said.

The statement said before cancelling the project, the Atteridgeville administrator had tried to find finance elsewhere, but without success.

Delpont said the decision to halt financing was taken because of Atteridgeville residents' opposition to the BEC meters.

Earlier the RSC said BECs would have enabled residents to control their electricity bills — Sapa

RSC to spend R3.5-bn

STAR 23/4/92

By Abel Mabelane
East Rand Bureau

261A

The East Rand Regional Services Council (ERRSC) will spend more than R3.5 billion on development in its region within the next 20 years.

In a statement, the council said the biggest portion thereof, some R1.3 billion (38 percent) would be spent on the upgrading of the existing infrastructure and the provision of new infrastructure.

“Priority is also given

to co-ordination of regional services,” it said. Central Government, local authorities and pressure groups were increasingly competing for RSC revenues. Almost daily uncontrollable urbanisation and the economic recession increased the need for services and infrastructure.

These among other factors “made it inevitable for the ERRSC to pay urgent attention to future developments and economic growth in the region,” the statement said.



R200-m boost for East Rand

Sowetan 30/4/92

26/1A

By TSALE MAKAM

THE East Rand Regional Services Council has approved a record R200 million budget

The council's public relations officer, Mr Wanda Henning, said yesterday the new budget should contribute towards easing the R1 425 million backlog in the region and improve residents quality of life

He said the council had also decided not to increase its levies because of unemployment, high interest rates and the predicted low growth rate

Regional development aid amounted to about R154 million, which included construction and community projects to address the most urgent needs in the region, Henning said

The council was in the process of taking over the treatment and conveyance of waste water. More than R19 million had been allocated for this

Grasping the nettle of

STAR 15/5/92

26/1A

THE African National Congress's draft policy guidelines are conspicuously silent on the question of regional government

Forthright on proposals for central and local government, the guidelines make just one direct reference to regional government, treating it like a very insubstantial filling to the constitutional sandwich

This single sentence reads "Strong local government will be complemented by regional government whose primary tasks will be to ensure integrated and co-ordinated local development planning, the provision of appropriate regional services and to provide support to those local authorities which lack resources, particularly in the rural areas"

Curt and curious, especially as the ANC is going to face a major challenge from its political opponents on the question of federalism and the devolution of powers to the region

question document on the regional question not long ago

Do the omissions in the policy guidelines — which will be debated and adopted as policy at the ANC's policy conference at the end of May — signal a retreat from the earlier document?

The ANC's discussion document on regional government, entitled "Ten proposed regions for a united South Africa", considered regional powers within a unitary state. It argued devolution of power is not an all-or-nothing affair. Even within a unitary state considerable power can, and should, be vested in lower tiers of government

The discussion paper assumed the reincorporation of the TBVC states and it included them in its 10-region proposal, which is a modification of the nine development regions delineated by the Government

"The idea is not to produce good-looking maps but to establish regions that will function well, be acceptable to the people in them and help solve the problems of our country," the document stated

The ANC showed no signs of allergy to the idea that smaller units of government, closer to the people, may have the edge in terms of accountability

"Lively regional government is indeed one of the pre-conditions for vibrant democracy in the country as a whole," asserted the paper

But it also placed very firm limits on regional powers and argued them graphically

Firstly, the position was taken that a Bill of Rights rules and it rules equally everywhere "We cannot have the sort of situation such as applied for many years in the United States where the doctrine of State rights was used to ban the teaching of evolution in the state of Tennessee and to maintain race segregation in Alabama."

Secondly, that regional armies and police forces would not be allowed to proliferate "In a democratic South Africa we will need a single integrated defence force that is looked up to by the whole country, a single police force sub-

ject to a single set of principles and a single discipline that is respected by all

"We cannot afford a fractured and armed public power accountable to a multitude of local political warlords and a plethora of ethnic demagogues, where tanks have swastikas on them in some regions and are called cultural weapons in others"

Thirdly, there was the notion of equity in relation to development "Our right to go to school or be seen by a doctor or to give birth in safe conditions should not depend on which part of the country we live in or what suburb of the city"

If population and productivity statistics in various regions are juxtaposed, it becomes clear why the ANC is preoccupied with ensuring that a regional approach does not serve to entrench grossly uneven distribution of resources

The ANC calculated, for instance, that the PWV region accommodates only 23 percent of the country's population, but accounts for close to 39 percent of the gross domestic product. The Border region, in a stark reversal of fortune, has 10.6 percent of the

people, but only 1.9 percent of production — a pattern echoed in the Northern Transvaal, where the figures are 11.5 and 3 percent

In the face of the over-arching need for redistribution, the ANC constitutional committee still opted in the discussion paper for entrenching the powers and the role of regional government in the constitution

It acknowledged that the question of revenue was perhaps even more critical than formal powers "The development of South Africa is going to be dependent on sensible and functional systems of raising and spending funds. Many countries have found that regional equalisation funds have played a vital role in overcoming regional disparities," the paper read

If the discussion paper failed to develop this critical question, the policy guidelines seem to suggest an actual retreat from regional power on the fiscal front. They assert that regional inequalities "will require the transfer of resources from higher to local levels of government". A cautionary note is sounded "new institutions" will be necessary to ensure that financing by inter-governmental transfers does not interfere with the autonomy of each level of government

But the cursory warning is not enough. Until it embarks on serious discussion of the fiscal powers of various tiers of government, the ANC has hardly begun to engage in the great devolutionary debate

Nowhere in either ANC documents is the link between funding and the public accountability of elected institutions examined. While some attention is paid in the earlier paper to the constitutional entrenchment of the formal powers of regional governments, exploration of the relationship between these formal constitutional powers, the real capacity to plan and execute policy and the marshalling of finance is entirely missing

If the tensions between devolution and redistribution, equity and autonomy are not thrashed out at the ANC's policy conference, what mandate will the organisation draw on when the federal gauntlet is cast before it at the negotiating table? □

devolution

RSC explains its auditing

JEAN LE MAY, Weekend Argus Reporter

FINANCIAL statements of the Western Cape Regional Services Council for the years ending June 30 1987, 1988 and 1989 were finally approved by the Auditor-General in February 1992, says Mr Piet Loubser, chairman of the council.

The 1990 statements had been completed, while those for 1991 would be finalised within a week or two, said Mr Loubser in a letter to Weekend Argus.

Mr Loubser was referring to a recent report in Weekend Argus in which Mr Tommie Brand, chairman of the Tygerberg Chamber of Commerce, was quoted as saying there had been "no response to our frequent requests for audited statements. We are now considering other ways in which we can tackle what appears to us to be the withholding of information to which we are entitled."

The chamber earlier complained that, in the five years of its existence until 1991, the RSC had not produced an audited financial statement.

Commenting on Mr Loubser's remarks, Mr

Brand said, "We eagerly await similar reports for the periods 1989/90 and 1990/91 and hope that an audited statement for the 1991/92 period will not be subject to similar delays."

The issue would be discussed at a meeting with the RSC on Tuesday, he added.

Mr Loubser said that it was "strange" to him that reference was made by Weekend Argus to a South African Chamber of Business (Sacob) delegation that met the administrator and Mr Pieter Schoeman MEC, "without giving me any chance to provide information."

"I find it peculiar that neither the administrator nor Mr Schoeman have made any inquiries to date," he said.

In fact, Weekend Argus made repeated attempts to reach Mr Loubser, his deputy, Mr Louwrijke Rothman, and his officials, all of which were unsuccessful.

Weekend Argus succeeded in getting through to Mr Schoeman's home, but although we were told he was there, the child answering the telephone delivered a message to the effect that he should be telephoned at his office the following Monday.

Loubser replies to report in Weekend Argus

"Preparing these financial statements is no mean task because of their complexity and extent," said Mr Loubser.

In his statement yesterday, he said this was because of the wide variety of agency services rendered for more than 40 local bodies and local areas, and because of the workload it entailed for staff, over and above their daily jobs.

Mr Loubser said that following representations made on behalf of the Tygerberg Chamber of Commerce he had written to the regional manager of the South African Chamber of Business on March 12 1992, giving a detailed explanation of the RSC's accounting system.

Mr Brand said yesterday the letter had been passed on to the Tygerberg Chamber of Commerce and was in his files.

The letter pointed out that RSCs were not, like other government institutions, required by law to publish financial statements, but that the finances of RSCs, in fact, were subject to closer and more critical review than any other state institution.

Estimates and levies were subject to approval by the Minister of Finance, while the accounts and the accounting system of the Western Cape RSC were subject to a continuous audit by the auditor-general, who had an audit complement on the premises of the RSC 12 months a year.

Mr Loubser said the detailed statements for the years 1987 to 1990 had been audited and would be submitted in condensed form to the Joint Committee for Public Accounts.

"The audited financial statements, together with the report, will be made available to my council only after submission to the joint committee," said Mr Loubser.

"However, the unaudited, condensed statements for 1990 will be made available to interested parties."

Mr Loubser said the Tygerberg Chamber of Commerce had put out a Press release, "which clearly did not take full cognisance of information provided by my council, nor was full use made of the channels provided to obtain information on the activities of the council."

He regretted that the Press release gave rise to "an image of the WCRCSC as an institution that is a liability to the community, collecting funds from the public and spending them recklessly and without accounting for them."

"This is not only untrue, but also undeservedly reflects on the council as such, on its members individually, as well as on its officials."

He pointed out that the WCRCSC had made available R442 million for 469 infrastructural projects to "improve the quality of life of thousands of the region's inhabitants" and was considering allocating a further R140 million.

He said the WCRCSC would spend only 4,75 per cent of its income on its own administration.

Mr Loubser has complained to the Media Council about the Weekend Argus reports.

Council rebels

NAT

RSC budget to focus on upgrading

(261A)

A record Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council (CWRSC) budget is expected today with more than 70 percent of expenditure going to upgrading of undeveloped areas.

It is expected that more than R100 million alone will be allocated towards the operating costs of the non-viable aspects of black local authorities.

Regional services councils were this year instructed by the Minister of Finance to make

15 percent of their income in the 1992/93 financial year available to fund the operating costs of black local authorities and to provide for transport subsidies.

The Department of Transport has said passenger transport would be devolved to regional authorities such as the RSCs by next year.

Retiring CWRSC chairman John Griffiths will deliver his last budget address today. His successor will be announced soon. — Municipal Reporter



John Griffiths set to deliver last budget speech today.

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EAST LONDON - 05-12-92



Sharp rises in levies expected

SHARP increases in company turnover- and payroll-based levies are expected to be announced today as part of the 1992/93 Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council (RSC) budget.

A 20% rise was proposed last month by the Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber, although the figure is more likely to be between 16% and 18%.

Turnover-based establishment levy is expected to rise to about 0,13% from 0,11%, while the payroll-related services levy could increase to 0,32% from 0,275%.

First payments for the levies will be required on the July returns, to be submitted in August. *610 am 27/8/92*

Facing increasing demands for improving infrastructure and services in disadvantaged areas, together with an anticipated transport subsidy burden, the RSC's levy income requirements were expected to rise from R243m to nearly R310m in the coming financial year, the chamber said.

The establishment of an urban development fund was also proposed by the cham-

(261A) ADRIAN HADLAND

ber last month. It was suggested that 15%, or R50m, of the RSC's levy income would pass into the fund, which would finance housing and other amenities for low-income people.

The amount granted to the fund would be used, with suitable gearing, to secure loans of up to R250m, the chamber said in its proposed amendments to the RSC budget.

The proposals suggested the provision of the amenities be conducted "in a manner which fosters the economic development of the region by the use of labour-intensive methods".

The RSC's budget is expected to make provision for the establishment of the fund, though not at 15% of levy income.

As the De Loor report on housing had not been submitted at the finalisation of the RSC budget, it was unclear what role the council would be asked to play in a future SA housing strategy.

CWRSC budget goes up

Sowetan 29/5/92
CENTRAL Witwatersrand Regional Services Council chairman Mr John Griffiths on Wednesday tabled a budget of more than R1,4 billion for the 1992/93 financial year

The budget represented a 20 percent increase on the previous year's budget.

In his presentation to a full sitting of the council in Johannesburg, Griffiths disclosed that more than R490 million would be spent in the 1992/93

financial year on regional projects, assistance to local authorities and bodies, and repayment of loans taken out by the CWRSC.

"Of this R1,4 billion, bulk services (the sale of electricity and water and sewerage fees) provided by the council at cost thus making no profit and suffering no loss, amount to R928,2 million

"The balance of R490,6 million represents expenditure which is under the

council's control" (26/11)

Giving a breakdown of how the council would use the outstanding balance after bulk services have been accounted for, Griffiths said operational expenditure is estimated to increase by 15,4 percent to R11,4 million

Assistance to local authorities amounts to more than R356 million, made up of funding of projects, consultancy fees, loans and operating and research ex-

penses of the Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber

Black local authorities were to receive R125,7 million of that amount

Regional projects will receive more than R69 million, while payments on loans will amount to about R25 million, Griffiths said

Loans from various sources would also bring in a further R99,2 million

Levy rates would have to be increased - Sapa

Record R1,4-bn RSC budget tabled

By Louise Burgers (261A)
Municipal Reporter

A record budget of R1,4 billion was tabled by the Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council yesterday, with R125,7 million going to black local authorities for operating and maintenance expenditure.

More than R490 million will be spent in the 1992/93 financial year on regional projects, assistance to disadvantaged local authorities and the repayment of loans.

The balance of R928,2 million will go towards the provision of bulk services such as electricity, water and sewerage.

CWRSC levies will increase by 16 percent on July 1 1992 to boost income to meet expenditure. The last increase was in 1990.

Regional services councils were requested by the Minister of Finance to make at least

15 percent of their income available for financial assistance to black local authorities.

CWRSC chairman John Griffiths said the most sensitive issue was the high level of assistance to black local authorities. He believed that opposition from business to levy payments could occur if it was thought free handouts were being given.

"We are not funding boycotts or giving free grants," he said.

"The operating and maintenance contributions thus provided have proved to be insufficient because payments of service charges by residents of Greater Soweto and Alexandra had not been received at the levels anticipated.

"The council's efforts are thus increasingly being frustrated by the need to spend money in disadvantaged areas on consumer services, rather than on the upgrading and creation of good, new facilities.

"Neither the State nor the RSC can be expected to continue contributions for failure on the part of consumers to pay

for services rendered, and this will have to be considered urgently in the light of further boycott action that has now been reinstated (in Soweto)," Mr Griffiths said.

He said, however, that there was a light at the end of the tunnel in that white local authorities were getting involved in the administration and provision of services in black local authorities.

For the first time, the RSC budget has made provision for an amount of R18 million for passenger transport subsidies. Mr Griffiths said it was quite clear that this function would be devolved on RSCs from January 1993.

After a request from the Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber, the CWRSC agreed to assist with the provision of infrastructure and essential services to meet the increasing demands of urbanisation by providing an amount of R34,1 million. This could enable the chamber to borrow funds for the provision of housing.

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Second 5-year term for RSC chairman

East Rand Regional Services
Council chairman Leon Fer-
reira has been reappointed by
Transvaal Administrator
Danie Hough for a second
five-year term

Mr Ferreira was town clerk
of Boksburg from 1972 to 1988
and town clerk of Queens-
burgh from 1959 to 1960.

He was elected in 1984 to
the co-ordinating council for
local government investigat-
ing the economic viability of
new local authorities. — East
Rand Bureau

261A

STAR 29/5/92

RSC spending to go up by 23,6%

261A

CLIVE SAWYER,
Municipal Reporter

Star 25/6/92

SPENDING by the Western Cape Regional Services Council is to go up by 23,6 percent compared to last year, partly because of a R10,3 million subsidy for bus services and R43,4 million aid for crisis-hit black local authorities.

RSC chairman Mr Piet Loubser said the subsidy for buses was given "reluctantly" but was needed to avoid the economic and social trouble which cutbacks would cause.

Approval was given at a special budget meeting yesterday for total operating expenditure, including spending for agency services provided by the RSC, of R730 711 611.

RSC finance committee chairman Mr Dick Friedlander expressed "deep concern" at the grant to the bus services, and its likely impact on the council's ability to provide infrastructural services.

Mr Friedlander said the cash given for operational costs on non-viable local authorities was too little, but would go some way to improving the lot of poor residents of the areas.

He said the RSC was created to

provide relief to needy communities.

Mr Loubser acknowledged that Mr Friedlander and land usage committee chairman Mr Clive Keegan had asked that an official statement on the subsidy be changed to say it was given under protest.

Mr Loubser said the subsidy was given on condition it would be "one-off", subject to certain controls.

Further subsidies would be given only if the RSC and the State could negotiate a new source for funding them.

● A Wesgro project to draw overseas investment to the Western Cape is to get R1,5million from the RSC.

● The RSC is to give R3,2 million for operating costs of fire, traffic, sewage disposal, library and health services in areas which, while not part of the council, lack money to fund these services for themselves.

Nature reserves are to get R280 000 to help compensate for provincial subsidies which are being phased out.

● Monwabisi beach resort is to get R3 164 101, the Cape of Good Hope nature reserve R5 322 424, Millers Point R474 561 and Rondevlei bird sanctuary R614 066.

New man at helm for changing times

STAR 25/6/92

26A

THE appointment of Len de Wet, the CWRSC's chief executive officer, as chairman, effective from July 1, was announced by retiring CWRSC chairman John Griffiths on Tuesday.

Mr Griffiths said Mr de Wet would retain his portfolio of CEO and would take over as chairman for a minimum period of six months to oversee the transition of the CWRSC into a metropolitan body.

All the local authorities on the RSC and members of the Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber have accepted that a new structure, comprising the chamber and the RSC, should be in place by the new year, depending on the progress of local negotiations.

The Metropolitan Chamber's constitutional committee is working out the guidelines, and members have, since November, been investigating the establishment of a common voters roll.

Mr de Wet, a former town clerk, took over as CWRSC chief executive in January 1990. His career in local government extends over a period of 35 years.

He holds a BA degree with Majors in psychology and sociology and a B Juris degree with Majors in Roman Dutch law and commercial law from Pretoria University.

In 1988, he attained his Masters degree in public administration (cum laude) at the University

A new chairman for the Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council (CWRSC) has been appointed, writes Municipal Reporter LOUISE BURGERS.

of Durban-Westville and in 1972 was awarded the President's Prize for achievement in municipal administration.

He is a member of a number of local government and public administration bodies such as the Institute of Town Clerks and the SA Institute of Public Administration.

Mr Griffiths, who retired as Transvaal MEC for local government in 1986, and then acted as consultant to the Admin-

istrator, will continue with his consultancy business after retiring as CWRSC chairman.

In his farewell speech, Mr Griffiths called on all involved in the negotiations process at local government level to put all their efforts into forming new, acceptable structures for local authorities.

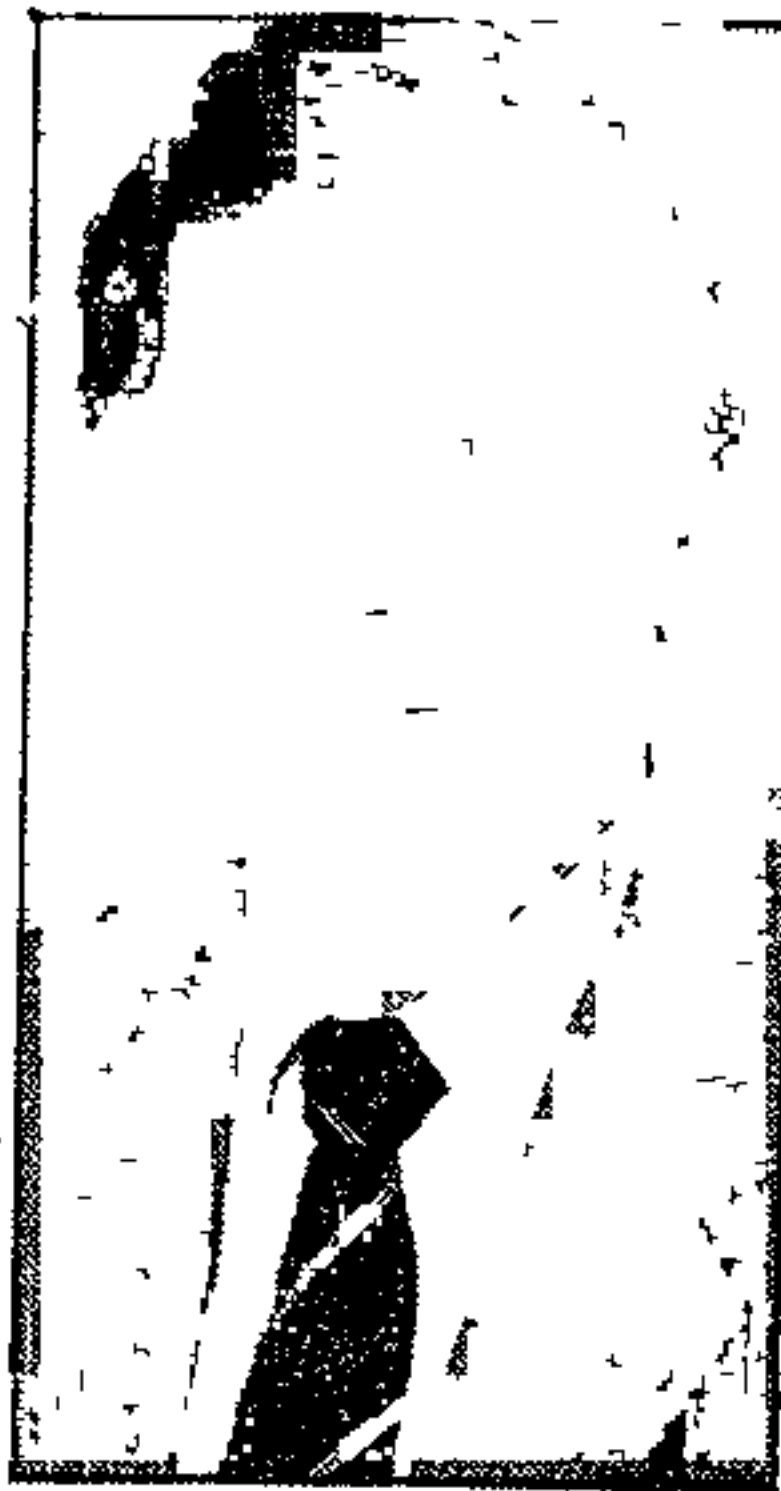
Addressing councillors briefly on Tuesday, Mr de Wet said his appointment was an honour and he realised that he had a formidable task ahead of him.

He was lauded by CWRSC councillors as a fair and capable man who deserved the appointment.

In his farewell speech, Mr Griffiths said Mr de Wet was a highly qualified and able chief executive on whose advice he could always rely and of whom the council could be proud.

Mr Griffiths stressed the importance of regional services councils in the transition process to new democratic structures in local government and said the CWRSC had, in the four years of its existence, been able to step in to improve the quality of life in the townships in its region.

Immediate problems facing Mr de Wet in his new position are the critical stage of the negotiations process and its effect on local government talks, as well as payments for electricity and services accounts. □



Formidable task for Len de Wet

A new chairman for Wits Regional Services Council

A NEW chairman for the Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council has been appointed to wind down the affairs of the council.

The appointment of Mr Len de Wet, the CWRSC's chief executive officer as chairman, effective from July 1, was announced by retiring CWRSC chairman Mr Johan Griffiths on Tuesday.

Griffiths said De Wet would retain his portfolio of CEO and would take over as chairman for a minimum of six months, to oversee the transition of the CWRSC into a metropolitan body.

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tan Chamber have accepted that a new structure, comprising the Chamber and the RSC should be in place by the new year, depending on the progress of local negotiations.

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Sowetan Correspondent

Sowetan 25/6/92

26/1A

RSC business levy to rise

261A

CT.25/6/92

By PETER DENNEHY

ONE of the two Regional Services Council levies in the Western Cape is to be increased by 13,33% from September 1, while the other remains unchanged

The Regional Establishment Levy will increase from 0,15 cents per rand of a business's turnover to 0,17 cents per rand. The Regional Services Levy of a quarter of a cent per rand of a business' remuneration package remains unaltered

Western Cape RSC chairman Mr Piet Loubser presented a budget of R973 million yesterday

He said in his annual budget speech that the estimated income from levies in the coming year would be R201 million, roughly R12m more than the current year's levy income

Total operational expenditure for 1992/3, including money spent on agency services performed by

the RSC, is estimated at R730 million. Anticipated capital expenditure amounts to R243 million, but just R42m of this relates to the RSC's own functions. The rest relates to capital expenditure on behalf of local authority bodies represented on the RSC

RSCs do not charge rates, but local authorities under them do. Money collected in rates and various charges by small local authorities is used to pay the RSC, which provides municipal-type services to these bodies "on an agency basis"

Bus subsidy

Notable features of the RSC budget presented yesterday include

● A "once-off" R10,4-million subsidy for bus commuters. The government used to pay this subsidy but it will no longer do so. The bus company had indicated it would cut back its services significantly unless the subsidy was paid

● An amount of R43,4 million will be the RSC's contribution "towards the operational costs of non-viable communities"

Several black local authorities are not financially viable, partly because their rates-base is so overwhelmingly residential rather than a mixture of industrial, commercial and residential

● Over R296 million has been allocated for new projects for the establishment of infrastructure such as roads and drainage in needy areas, but not all the money comes out of this year's budget

Levy income in future years will provide R108 million of this R296m, Mr Loubser said

Thus an amount equivalent to over 90% of the coming year's levy income (R188m out of R201m) is earmarked for expenditure on upgrading areas in need of better infrastructure. Last year just R84,5m was made available for upgrading

1487

Hanusca

FRIDAY, 19 JUNE 1992

Hanusca 1488

- (3) (a) what was the value of the electronic equipment concerned and (b) what are the further particulars surrounding this matter?

B759E

The STATE PRESIDENT

- (1) No
(2) and (3) Fall away

Security information removed from SADF computers

303 Mr W A BOTHA asked the Minister of Defence +

Whether he will furnish information on whether security information gathered in connection with communist bodies and persons was recently removed and/or is at present being removed from computers of the South African Defence Force, if not, why not, if so, what are the relevant details?

B760E

The MINISTER OF DEFENCE

Intelligence records are updated on a continuous basis by including new or removing obsolete information. With the limited information supplied by the Honourable Member, it is thus not possible to reply to the question

Total expenditure Bloemfontein Regional Services Council

304 Mr W U NEL asked the Minister of Local Government and National Housing (26/11)

- (1) What was the total expenditure of the Bloemfontein Regional Services Council on (a) internal (i) administrative and (ii) staff matters, (b) electricity infrastructure and (c) sewerage infrastructure for the 1990-91 and 1991-92 financial years, respectively,

- (2) what was the total amount in bridging finance received per local authority in the Bloemfontein area owing to a shortage in revenue from their own sources by (a) Mangaung, (b) other Black townships and (c) Coloured residential areas for each of the above two financial years?

B761E

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND NATIONAL HOUSING

1990-91 1991-92

(1) (a)	(i)	R696 182,00	R1 375 900,00
	(ii)	392 651,00	551 953,00
(b)		263 826,00	905 500,00
(c)		4 096 823,00	3 876 000,00

- (2) (a) None
(b) None
(c) None

(26/11)

Amounts received by Bloemfontein Regional Services Council

305 Mr W U NEL asked the Minister of Local Government and National Housing

What amounts did the Bloemfontein Regional Services Council receive from (a) Government services, (b) industries, (c) trade, (d) agriculture, (e) professional services, (f) Transnet, (g) Eskom and (h) other sources in the 1990-91 and 1991-92 financial years, respectively?

B762E

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND NATIONAL HOUSING

- (a)-(h)

As the accounting system of the Bloemfontein Regional Services Council does not make provision to identify income separately in respect of Government services, industries, trade, agriculture, professional services, Transnet, Eskom and other sources, the information cannot be supplied

Financial statements: Black local authorities

310 Mr A E DE WET asked the Minister of Local Government and National Housing

- (1) Whether Black local authorities in the Orange Free State submitted financial statements that could be effectively audited in respect of the 1986-87, 1987-88, 1988-89, 1989-90 and 1990-91 financial years, respectively,

- (2) whether he has taken steps to improve financial administration and control in this regard, if not, why not, if so, (a) what steps and (b) what has been the effect of such steps,

1489

Hanusca

FRIDAY, 19 JUNE 1992

Hanusca 1490

- (3) what was the accumulated debt burden of the local authorities of (a) Mangaung, (b) Thabong, (c) Meloding and (d) Maokeng at the end of the 1991-92 financial year?

B771E

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND NATIONAL HOUSING

- (1) 1986-87 Yes
1987-88 Yes
1988-89 Yes
1989-90 Yes
1990-91 No

- (2) Yes

- (a) Firms of chartered accountants were appointed on behalf of Black local authorities to draw up the financial statements for the different financial years

The Orange Free State Provincial Administration renders auxiliary treasury services to the majority of Black local authorities

Investigations in terms of the relevant legislation are continuously conducted to improve orderly financial administration. Rectification measures arising from these reports are instituted

Orderly training by chartered accountant firms are further provided to Black local authorities to improve their financial administration

- (b) The financial administration of Black local authorities is improving as a result of the continuous training and action taken against councils

- (3) The information is supplied as at 30 April 1992

(a) Mangaung	R11 725 957,00
(b) Thabong	9 523 982,00
(c) Meloding	5 746 450,00
(d) Maokeng	4 667 572,00

Number of males sentenced to corporal punishment

312 Mr D J DALLING asked the Minister of Justice

- (1) How many males (a) under the age of 18

- years, (b) aged 18 to 21 years and (c) aged 21 years and over in each race group were sentenced to corporal punishment (i) in 1991 and (ii) during the period 1 January 1992 up to the latest specified date for which information is available,

- (2) how many strokes were inflicted in respect of each category of persons during each of the above periods?

B775E

The MINISTER OF JUSTICE

- (1) The required information is not readily available. In an effort to be of assistance to the Honourable Member, the following statistics for the period July 1990 until June 1991 were obtained from the Central Statistical Services

Total number of persons sentenced to corporal punishment only 32 689

Total number of persons sentenced to corporal punishment and imprisonment 5 511

- (2) The required information is not readily available

Total cost of building KwaMhlanga

314 Mr P G SOAL asked the Minister of Regional and Land Affairs

- (1) (a) What was the total cost to the former Department of Development Aid of building the town of KwaMhlanga in KwaNdebele and (b) (i) what was the nature of each of the projects developed in this town and (ii) what did each such project cost the said Department,

- (2) whether similar facilities existed in Sibuswa at the time, if so, for what reasons were they being duplicated in KwaMhlanga?

B779E

The MINISTER OF REGIONAL AND LAND AFFAIRS

- (1) (a) The total cost for the former Department of Development Aid of building the town of KwaMhlanga in KwaNdebele, was R53 926 000

Mayor wants to quit RSC role

CLIVE SAWYER,
Municipal Reporter

261A ~~261A~~
ARG 26/6/92

MAYOR of Cape Town Frank van der Velde, angered by the Western Cape Regional Services Council agreeing to pay a R10 million subsidy to the bus service, is to hold urgent talks with fellow city councillors on withdrawing from the RSC.

He might, depending on the outcome of the talks, table a motion at next Tuesday's monthly city council meeting that Cape Town pull out from the controversial body.

With huge cutbacks in Department of Transport subsidies, the RSC grant was adding insult to injury, he said.

Mr Van der Velde told The Argus today: "This demonstrates once again how absolutely unaccountable the RSC is to the people it was meant to serve."

The city council is a major contributor to RSC funding.

It has four representatives on the RSC, who chair all the most significant committees, apart from the executive committee.

Mr Van der Velde did not believe Cape Town or the region should pay the subsidy, and blamed government planning for high transport costs because workers lived so far from the city.

The government recently turned down city council appeals for funding for critical transport problems such as the Vanguard Drive/Voortrekker Road interchange.

Mr Van der Velde opposed city council participation in the RSC when it was set up in 1986.

"Now my personal view is that we should withdraw, and on Tuesday I shall either put a motion on the order paper (the council agenda) or councillors will debate the matter when we discuss the RSC report-back," he said.

He warned that a precedent could be set for local government to subsidise rail passenger transport as well.

■ The Western Cape Regional Services Council seems to be straying from its original brief with grants to bus services and black local authorities, made at government behest. Now, adding to its woes, Cape Town's Mayor Mr Frank van der Velde is lobbying for the city council to pull out.

CLIVE SAWYER
Municipal Reporter

PROPOSING the adoption of a budget does not have to mean you agree with it.

Western Cape Regional Services Council finance committee chairman Mr Dick Friedlander demonstrated this when he said there was "deep concern" about how a R10 385 735 grant to bus services would affect the RSC's ability to do its job.

That job was to provide infrastructural services

"RSCs were created to provide relief to needy communities," Mr Friedlander said this week.

Typical infrastructure projects include "pipes and pavements" spending and funding dams, reservoirs, sewers, streetlights and bridges.

Observers remember that the controversial bodies were set up as part of the tricameral system in the P W Botha era — to widespread suspicion.

They are structured on racial lines, voting power is allocated according to services, in a body meant to channel funds to wherever they are most needed in a region

Since the setting up of the Western Cape RSC, infrastructural projects totalling R701 million have been approved of which R593 million has been allocated.

In his budget speech, chairman Mr Piet Loubser said some local authorities had submitted applications for projects for which planning was not completed, creating a backlog.

He announced too that the RSC was to get tough with those eligible to pay levies by

setting up a new inspectorate to track down defaulters

Plunging this week's R730 711 611 operating budget into controversy were two items of spending — a R10 million bus subsidy and R17 million to prop up beleaguered black local authorities, themselves a tricameral creation

Indications are that there could be further controversy over attempts to get local government to shoulder the bus burden

MEC Mr P J Schoeman called a meeting on June 18 of the executive committee of the Association of Regional Services Councils to discuss "possible entrustment of the bus passenger function or some aspects thereof to RSCs".

A task group was set up after the meeting to probe the idea

Mr Friedlander and land usage and transport planning committee chairman Mr Clive Keegan pressed Mr Loubser to say in an official statement that the bus subsidy was given under protest.

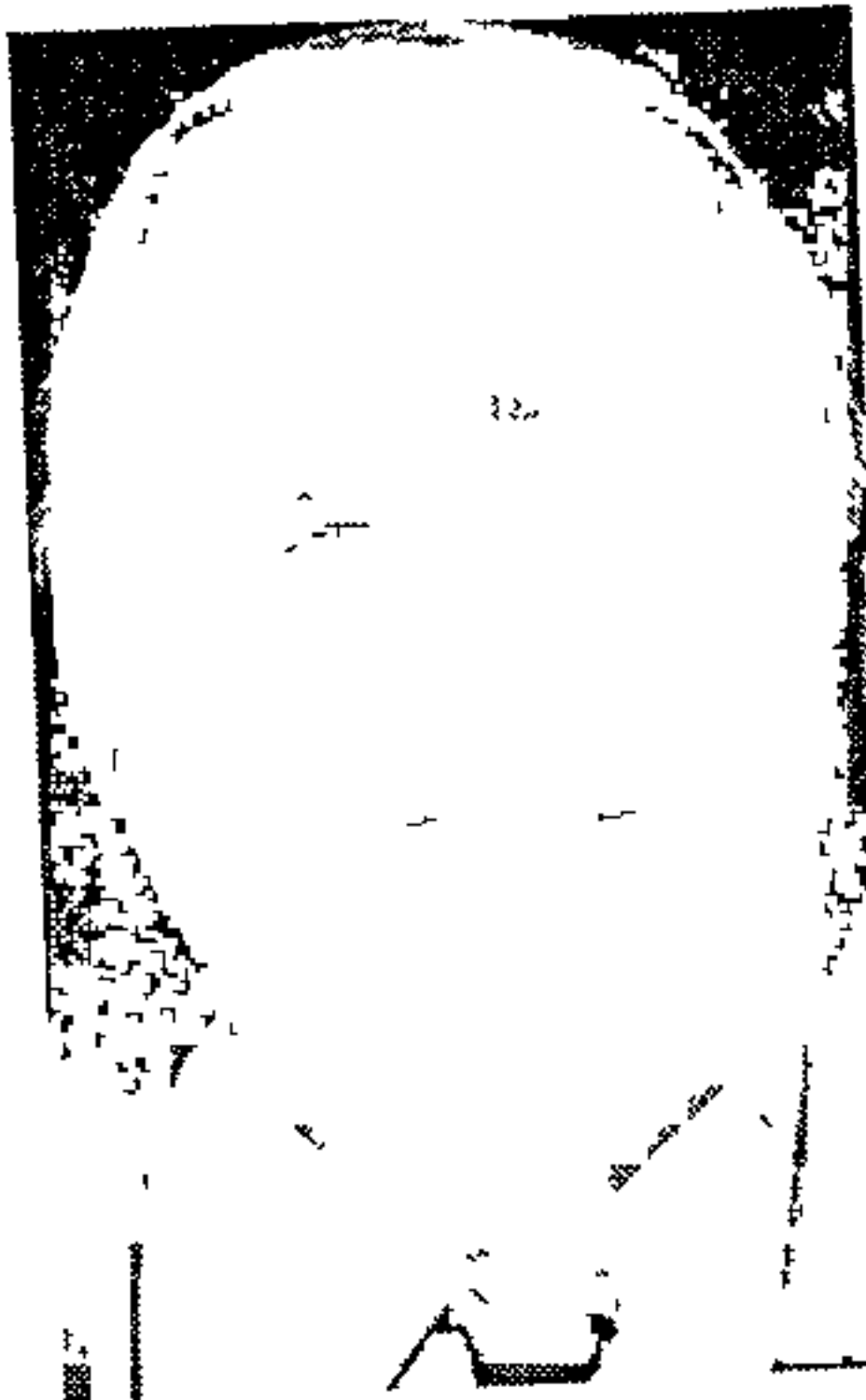
Turning this down, Mr Loubser said he thought saying it was given "reluctantly" was more appropriate

The subsidy sparked Mr Van der Velde's fury

In an interview, the mayor said he was "absolutely appalled" that the RSC had agreed to give the money when the government had created the problem of high transport costs — and had let down the region by cutting subsidies for transport

Mr Van der Velde said the city council should pull out of the RSC

Action on the matter could come as soon as Tuesday's



Mr Dick Friedlander

monthly city council meeting, either through a motion or debate on the RSC report-back.

If Cape Town pulls out of the RSC, it will deal the body a massive blow.

Mr Van der Velde slammed its "lack of accountability" to the people it was meant to serve

"The people of Cape Town, particularly the business people, contribute considerable sums to the RSC," he said

He accused the RSC of building up a "power empire".

Mr Van der Velde said the granting of the subsidy was partly the result of a government appointee, Mr Loubser, chairing the RSC

Mr Loubser said the subsidy was given reluctantly, as a one-off grant

The RSC had called for national transport policy to be formulated urgently, he said

Further "subventions" would be considered only if new sources of income could be found, Mr Loubser said

● The city council has four representatives on the RSC who chair all the most significant committees apart from the executive committee.

They are Mr Dick Friedlander (finance), Mr Louis Kreiner (works, amenities and services), Mr Clive Keegan (land usage and transport planning) and Mrs Eulalie Stott (priorities)

R10-m bus grant not their ticket

261A

261A

MR 27/6/92

Elsies River death brings RSC to talks about rent

By Justin Pearce

26/11

IT HAS TAKEN the death of Mr David de Bruyn to force the Regional Services Council (RSC) of the Western Cape to negotiate the unaffordable rents and inadequate services in Clark's Estate.

De Bruyn was shot dead by security guards during a protest at the Adnanse Housing Office in Elsie's River last Thursday.

The civic wants rents to be reduced, arrears written off and an end to evictions.

Mr Richard Martin of the Elsies River Civic Association said most Clark's Estate residents were unemployed.

Threats to evict residents unable to pay rent prompted a sit-in at the RSC Housing Office on June 8, at which 20 people were arrested.

At a second sit-in last Thursday, security guards opened fire on the crowd, killing De Bruyn and wounding Mr William Davids and Mr Marius Hoffman.

Martin said residents had been promised a meeting with a Mr Carpenter of the RSC to discuss the crisis. But on arrival at the Adnanse Housing Office at 2pm they were told Carpenter would not be coming and they would have to deal with a local official, a Mr October.

The 100 residents decided to continue their protest until Carpenter arrived. At 4pm policemen arrived and went to the back of the office to speak to October. Later Martin and two others went to seek an assurance from October that the police and security guards would not act against the residents.

"At that point the guards arrived

with shotguns, batons, teargas and dogs. October said the matter was out of his hands.

"By the time October got to the door the guards had set the dogs on the crowd without warning, and they then baton-charged the crowd. "They shot De Bruyn in the back when he was 15 metres from the door," Martin said.

He said residents also demanded that the housing office be renamed after De Bruyn.

Mr S Ebrahim, chairperson of the RSC's Committee for Local Areas, blamed the protests and the shooting on the RSC's "exorbitant" service charges and the council's failure to take a realistic view of the rent crisis.

In a letter to Mr C Mocke, chief executive officer of the RSC, Ebrahim said Mocke was "fully

aware of the fact that all management committees have lodged strong objections against the proposed estimates, and it is my view that should your department persist in implementing these costs regardless, one can expect more frequent and violent protests against the system."

Mocke confirmed the shooting was under investigation.

Mocke added that a number of houses would be provided in Elsie's River from the R67 million made available for low-cost housing in the Western Cape.

Mr John Neels, Western Cape deputy chairperson of the South African National Congress (Sanco) rejected claims that the RSC security officials had been forced to shoot after they were stoned by the crowd.

R26 000 culvert fee raises a storm

1992-06-27 16:14

■ The Western Cape Regional Services Council is being taken to task by the Constantia Valley Local Council for having landed it with a hefty consultants' fee.

JEAN LE MAY
Weekend Argus Reporter

THE Western Cape Regional Services Council is locked in dispute with the Local Council of Constantia Valley about a R26 000 consultants' fee for a preliminary report on a culvert under Klein Constantia Road.

The report, compiled by consultants who were chosen by the RSC from a list of approved firms, has been described by a Cape Town city councillor as "comprehensive, unnecessary and expensive".

The focus of the row is a nine-page

report from consulting engineers Jeffares and Green, which together with photographs, preliminary drawings and maps was presented to the council with a bill for R26 000.

Constantia Valley council was told originally by RSC engineers that rebuilding the culvert would cost about R25 000.

But it now transpired that the work would cost about R182 000, including the consultants' fee, Constantia Valley council chairman Mr Andrew Ross-Munro told Weekend Argus.

The costs now facing the council amounted to R156 000 even without the consultants' fee, he said. It was made up of R60 000 for the actual construction, R30 000 for the cost of moving water mains, sewage pipes and electric cables, and R66 000 for engineers' fees.

But the valley council jibbed at paying the R26 000 consultant's fees, he said, adding that the valley council had appointed a committee under his

chairmanship to investigate the matter.

"The consultants billed their work at R141 an hour and the committee will investigate this aspect very carefully indeed," he said.

All consultants were tied to a statutory fee scale, as were all professionals, he added.

In a heated debate at a Constantia Valley council meeting this week, Cape Town city councillor Mr André Badenhorst said he felt the valley council should not pay the fee.

"At no time" he said, "did the council ever hear any mention of such a comprehensive, expansive and unnecessary report." The consultants were appointed in June 1991 and there was still no progress with the culvert which flooded badly during heavy rain, he added.

"It's mind-boggling," said Mr Badenhorst, "that a culvert which it was first thought would cost about R25 000 might end up costing six times more." RSC director of engineering services

Mr Roy Mee told the meeting that the original estimate of R25 000 had not taken into account previous work on the culvert which made it much more complicated, as well as the cost of moving telephone cables, power cables and a sewer.

A June 1991 figure of R25 000 for the work had been merely a "ballpark guesstimate," made by an RSC official at a Valley Council meeting, he said.

Mr Mee refused to comment to Weekend Argus, saying he was not allowed to talk to the Press.

Mrs Joan Hemming said that when the engineers found that the project was more complicated than was originally believed they should have immediately reported back to the council.

Mr Rory Gilmore, head of the RSC's engineering services, told Weekend Argus that the appointment of the consultant was definitely approved by the valley council and that the RSC had selected the firm they considered best for the job.

Audit report on RSC

JEAN LE MAY

Weekend Argus Reporter

261A

ARG 27/6/92

THE long-awaited Auditor-General's report on the accounts of the Western Cape Regional Services Council for January 1987 to June 1989 has been published.

Mr Tommy Brand, chairman of the Tygerberg Chamber of Commerce, which has several times complained of the lack of audited reports since the council was established in 1987, welcomed the publication.

The chamber's accountant was making a detailed study of the report, said Mr Brand, adding that he hoped audited reports for 1990 and 1991 would follow soon.

The Auditor-General, Mr Peter Wronsley, said annual financial statements which appeared in the report were "a fair representation of the financial position" as at June 30 1987, 1988 and 1989 respectively and of the results of the council's operations during the period.

ARG 4/19/72

City stands to lose an RSC representative

261A

CLIVE SAWYER, Municipal Reporter

A RECALCULATION of voting power because three new councils have joined the Western Cape Regional Services Council could mean Cape Town City Council loses one of its four RSC representatives

And there is no way for the city council to appeal against the decision, the provincial administration said

Voting power is based on the use of certain services, and each member gets one representative for every 10 percent share of the vote

Cape Town, the only one of 67 RSC members to have more than representative, has just over 30 percent of the vote

The other members — with one representative each — are Bellville City Council, about 17 town councils, and a variety of management committees, town committees and local councils

The new members of the RSC are the Atlantis Industrial Council, and the local councils of Scarborough and Llandudno

A city council executive committee spokesman said they would await official notification of the recalculation before deciding on action.

A provincial administration spokesman said information was still being collected to enable Administrator Mr Kobus Meiring to recalculate the share of the votes

"Any conclusions at this stage will be premature," the spokesman said

But it is reliably understood that preliminary calculations by the RSC showed that Cape Town would lose one representative

At present, Cape Town is represented by Mr Dick Friedlander, chairman of the finance committee, Mr Clive Keegan, chairman of the land usage and transport planning committee, Mr Louis Kreiner, chairman of the works, amenities and services committee, and Mrs Eulalie Stott, who chairs the priorities committee.

If Cape Town lost a representative, it would have to rescind its election of the existing members and hold a new election

City may lose a seat on RSC

Plea to Administrator

■ The admission of three new councils to the Western Cape Regional Services Council could mean Cape Town losing one of its four representatives — but top RSC officials have appealed to the Administrator to keep the status quo.

CLIVE SAWYER
Municipal Reporter

ACCORDING to Western Cape Regional Services Council calculations, one of Cape Town's four representatives will have to leave the RSC's ranks

Voting power in the RSC is based on how much each of its present 67 members pays for services, calculated as a percentage

For each 10 percent, a member council is allowed to send a representative — giving Cape Town four, against one for each other member, a motley collection of town councils, town committees, local councils and management committees

With the advent of councils for Atlantis Industria, Scarborough and Llandudno, Cape Town will lose a fraction of a percent — and one of its representatives will have to go

Whatever the RSC calculations, the Cape Provincial Administration has the final say

A CPA spokesman confirmed that a circular had been sent out asking RSC members for details of spending on services, and said results could be expected about the end of this month

It would be premature to speculate on the outcome, the spokesman said

But informed sources expected it would be a simple matter of arithmetic — the result of which would be Cape Town losing the chairmanship of one of the crucial RSC committees

Cape Town is represented by Mr Dick Friedlander, finance committee chairman, Mr Clive Keegan, land usage and transport chairman, Mr Louis Kreiner, works, amenities and services chairman, and Mrs Eulalie Stott, who chairs the priorities committee

In spite of political differences with other members, who represent conservative towns or management committees, the four are widely respected in RSC ranks for their leadership of these committees

Mrs Stott said she would wait and see what happened when results of the voting percentage calculations were released

"I would not like to speculate on what that outcome will be," she said

But she valued her role as chairman of the committee which did the work for which the RSC was designed — distributing RSC funds to needy areas where upgrading of infrastructure was badly needed

Mr Keegan said he knew that the calculations were being done

He said he would like to stay on as chairman of his committee — "a job I believe I have been doing fairly well"

If the number of Cape Town representatives was cut, the council would have to hold mini-elections to choose a new set

But this day might never come, according to a senior source who said representations had been made by the RSC to the Administrator to allow Cape Town to keep its four representatives

It was felt Cape Town should not have to sacrifice one of its representatives for a fraction of a percent

Whatever the Administrator's decision, Cape Town will have to live with it. There was no mechanism for appeal against decisions about voting powers, a CPA spokesman said

Regional airport in the pipeline

26/1/92

ADRIAN HADLAND

A NEW regional airport will be established near Olifantsvlei, south of Johannesburg, if the Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council (RSC) gives the go-ahead today.

The airport will be for general aviation purposes, serving private pilots and aircraft owners, small corporate aircraft operations and registered charter operations for domestic and regional flights.

The land on which the runway will be laid out is described as "very flat and therefore lending itself to an airport development". It is 15km from Johannesburg's CBD, between Eikenhof and Olifantsvlei.

A rezoning application for the airport, changing the land use on a portion of the farm Misgund 322 from agricultural to business, commercial and light industrial, has already been agreed to by the RSC's executive committee.

In its approval of the project, the committee noted that a new regional airport had been recommended in the Vaal River Complex plan of 1982.

The RSC will rule today on whether to grant a certificate of compatibility for the proposed use of the property for the establishment of a regional airport.

In a report submitted to the RSC by

the current owners of the land, it was stated that the airport would operate 24 hours a day, would include a flying school for both fixed-wing aircraft and helicopters and would possess a control tower equipped with state-of-the-art electronic facilities.

"It is hoped that customs and immigration services will be available for the benefit of the tourist industry," the report said.

A six month provisional licence for evaluation and development purposes concerning the airport had been issued by the Commissioner for Civil Aviation last month.

The airport plan has also been approved by the Johannesburg City Council's metropolitan planning directorate.

Johannesburg's metropolitan planning director Graham Pirie said however, that the granting of a compatibility certificate did not rule out the acquisition of further relevant planning and construction permits.

"The utilisation of the airport is expected to last well into the 21st century, with logical phase-step development, for the benefit of civil aviation and the small aircraft owner," the report said.

(261A)
**Upgradings
spell RSC
pay boosts**
NRG 24/9/92

Municipal Reporter

GRADINGS of 13 regional services councils in the Cape and Free State have been increased — spelling pay boosts for each of their chief executives and possibly other staff.

Municipalities and regional services councils are graded from one to 15 in terms of the Remuneration of Town Clerks Act, and their chief executives or town clerks are paid accordingly.

It is estimated that in most cases pay increases will be between five and 10 percent.

The increases in grading took effect on June 1, according to a remuneration board circular.

It is usual for officials' pay to be calculated as a percentage of the chief executive's salary.

Algoa RSC, the largest of the affected bodies, moves up from grade 11 to grade 12.

Western Cape RSC stays at grade 14.

● The annual salary of a grade 15 town clerk was increased from July this year to R179 572.

Cape Town is one of the major cities which is a grade 15 municipality.

Salaries paid to heads of department are about 92 percent of the town clerk's salary.

Cape Flats residents won't pay RSC rates

261A By JESSICA BEZUIDENHOUT
MORE than R100 000 has been paid into a special fund by members of the Lotus River, Ottery and Grassy Park Ratepayers Association (Logra) who are refusing to pay rates to the Regional Services Council.

Logra spokesman Mr Philip Bam said this week that about 400 residents in the area were withholding their rates until November 31 unless the RSC "makes an effort" to meet several "non-negotiable" demands.

These include the resignation of the local Management Committee and recognition of Logra as the community's only democratic representative body, completion and repair of all roads in the area by December 1993 and scrapping of a recent 8.2 percent rates increase.

Peaceful

Mr Bam said the residents had not launched a rates boycott, but were merely refusing to pay the RSC. Instead, they were paying the money into an "ever-growing" special rates account administered by Logra.

The money would be held back until Logra received a "satisfactory" response from the RSC, he said. The organisation believed withholding rates was its only peaceful means of protest to force the RSC to consult with residents.

An RSC spokesman said this week that the management committee was the only legally elected body for municipal and civic matters and until a new dispensation for local government was in place the RSC was "bound" to deal directly with it.

Clear attempts were being made to address the question of roads in the area within current financial constraints — but it was impossible to expect completion of the roads by December 1993, he said.

The RSC was not in a position to meet Logra's demands and they had been referred to the relevant minister.

City's seats on regional council safe

26/11

Municipal Reporter

11/29/10/92

A LOSS of voting power on Western Cape Regional Services Council will not mean Cape Town City Council losing one of its representatives

Cape Town has 30,4 percent of the votes on the RSC and four representatives

Its voting percentage will drop to less than 30 if proposals to include the local councils of Atlantis Industrial Area, Llandudno and Scarborough are implemented.

The city council's representatives were nominated in November 1988 and will hold office for five years

The city administrator, Mr Gys Hofmeyr, said there was no requirement for an RSC member to step down before the five-year term expired.

NEWS East Rand summit gives urgent attention to development

Speed up, RSC told

Sowetan 30/10/92 26/17
R3,45 billion plan for housing, urbanisation must get going.

THE East Rand Regional Services Council has been urged to investigate the economic development strategies that will speed up urbanisation and housing in the area.

meant to review a R3,45 billion redevelopment plan over the next 20 years

The call was made this week by the East Rand RSC executive manager for urban development, Mr Johan Vorster, when addressing the council strategic summit

on upgrading the infrastructure in the region was hindering the progress of the East Rand RSC in developing urbanisation and housing

25/10/92
RSCs here to stay — Delport

Own Correspondent
PORT ELIZABETH. — Regional Services Councils are here to stay, newly-appointed Local Government Minister Dr Tertius Delport told delegates on the first day of the 5th Annual Congress of the Association of RSC's yesterday. (26/10)

Dr Delport, who takes on his new position from December 1, said RSC policies went beyond colour and ethnic differences, and their development was important.

Union talks

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RSC voting inconclusive

Municipal Reporter

ELECTIONS for the chairmanship of two crucial Regional Services Council committees — finance and land use and transport planning — ended inconclusively yesterday as the required two-thirds majorities were not attained. *CT 3/11/92*

Members of the new RSC executive are Mr M G Swart, Mr G M Basson, Mr Yusuf Chotia, Mr D R Ngo, Mr Louis Kreiner and one other still to be elected

Rates boycott is to continue

261A
CT25/11/92

Staff Reporters

ABOUT 500 southern suburbs residents have decided unanimously to continue their rates boycott for another three months.

Mr Philip Bam, media spokesman for the Lotus River, Grassy Park and Ottery Residents' Association (Logra), said they would withhold their rates from the Regional Services Council and continue paying them into a special account.

The decision had been taken at a meeting in the Grassy Park Civic Centre on Monday night.

At the meeting residents — and "notably senior property owners" — had shown their dissatisfaction and insisted that rates be withheld.

There had also been "very

R230 000 held back in account

strong calls for other forms of action if the RSC does not listen to our demands".

"We are withholding rates because our members believe they are paying too much for the quality of municipal services they are getting," Mr Bam said yesterday.

Residents had paid more than R230 000 in withheld rates into the special account opened for this purpose two months ago.

At a meeting on Monday morn-

ing with Mr Piet Schoeman, MEC in charge of local government, Logra had been told "the same old story" — that their problems could be addressed only through the House of Representatives and the management committees.

Logra had been told that as it was not an elected representative body, it had no standing.

"If they doubt that we represent people in the area, we challenge them to hold a referendum there," Mr Bam said.

The Cape Provincial Administration had warned the delegation that legal action could be taken against people who withheld their rates.

Legal action would be resisted, Mr Bam said.

A spokesman for the Administrator, Mr Frikkie Odendaal, declined to comment yesterday on Logra's boycott decision.

LEAPING flames, billowing smoke and smouldering veld are occupational hazards for any fireman

But for coloured firemen employed by the Western Cape Regional Services Council (RSC) there is another hazard the deep-rooted racism that they allege is prevalent in the RSC

Seven firemen interviewed by **SOUTH** claim they have been overlooked for promotion and that they earn lower salaries than white firemen with fewer qualifications and less experience

Other allegations made by the firemen include

- abuse of official transport and
- unnecessary spending of taxpayer's money

'Red-hot racism' claim

South 5/12-9/12/92
The firefighting service of the Regional Services Council is being accused of racism by coloured firemen, **Rehana Rossouw** reports

"We can't take what's happening here anymore. We've tried everything — approached our union, tried legal action and even had work stoppages — but nothing has changed," says a fireman with eight

years' service. In terms of their employment contract, the firemen cannot be named as they are prohibited from speaking to the press.

In 1988 an industrial council formulated a policy to govern promo-

tions in the firefighting services

A year later, a number of firemen resigned and the RSC employed 11 white firemen to replace them

"Only two of them were qualified and most had completed only standard eight," says the fireman

The RSC's fire service is structured on a quasi-military basis with ranks from cadet fireman, junior fireman, fireman, senior fireman to station officers and higher posts

The coloured firemen claim 13 men wrote external exams with the South African Fire Service Institute

and passed with high marks but were overlooked from promotion

"The white firemen skipped two ranks and were put on a fireman's salary while most of us are still paid a cadet fireman's salary," says a fireman with 11 years' experience

"We took the matter up with the RSC and were told that the white firemen had done a two-year call-up that was equivalent to passing the external exams

"We were then told that we should write another exam because we had the experience but needed more theory

"We wrote the exam and all passed with more than 80 percent. Two of the white firemen failed but they are still earning more than me," the fireman says

The firemen claim that they are losing between R300 and R1 000 a month because they receive lower wages and were not promoted when they deserved to be

They say all the higher ranks are filled by white men and there is only one coloured station officer in the entire service

Go slow

In the past two years, the firemen have appealed to the RSC and to their union, embarked on a go-slow, appealed to members of parliament and approached a lawyer to take legal action

"We are on the verge of exploding. We are convinced that the only reason why we are treated like this is because of the colour of our skin," says a fireman

The firemen also complain of unnecessary spending in the RSC fire service which they allege is a waste of taxpayer's money

They say every senior white officer gets free transport to and from work. In other fire services only people on call are allowed to use official transport, they say

Three vehicles purchased more than a year ago are allegedly standing idle at the Ottery Fire Station because they are not suitable for use

"This is all an unnecessary waste of taxpayers' money. Why are they wasting money like this when we have been crying out for more than three years for better salaries?" asked a fireman

A spokesperson for the RSC said the local authority prided itself on being an equal opportunities employer

"Religion, race and sex play no role in the employment or promotion of staff," the spokesperson said

"Their unsubstantiated allegations are rejected. Suffice to say that, quoting from your own report, even their own trade union, legal advisor and members of parliament saw through their charade," the RSC spokesperson said



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LINTAS CAPE 5897E

Conrad Berge questions the need for another tier of government

Palace of a new political elite?

Star 2/12/92

2614

LOCAL government means local government. For us it means a unit of administration over a 20-minute-ride sized piece of land which is controlled directly by its residents.

It means the town council as yet town and city councils as we know them are soon to go in their midst will rise a powerful bureaucracy called metropolitan government. It is the branchchild of the "Metropolitan Chamber", a think-tank for the central waterfront area.

The first step, next year, will be elections for a 100-seat council to run the presently non-elected Regional Services Council.

Regional services councils are statutorily equipped to take over

just about every function of municipalities. Proponents of metropolitan government argue that it makes sense, for example, to have only one "metropolitan engineer" to replace some 13 town and city engineers from Lenasia to Sandton. The benefit and economy of such "rationalisation", across the board, are seen as self evident.

Metropolitan government also provides the instrument, powered by a single tax base, "to achieve the complete social, economic, physical, financial, environmental and constitutional restructuring of the metropolitan region" (quoting the main goal of the Metropolitan Chamber).

Needless to say, metropolitan government will be the palace of

a new political elite, instantly transcending the diminutive realm of local government.

But a backlash is growing — certainly among white taxpayers. For nearly half a century they have funded the hellish aims of those who sought "complete social restructuring". They know the lie that centralised government is that efficient.

Black citizens are doubtless putting their faith in their leaders — and who can blame them for not imagining that these could be as self-seeking as white ones?

Yet is there some strong ethical case for metropolitan government? Do the undisputed needs to spread revenue more fairly within

a functional metropolis and to coordinate municipal services really demand a tier of government in addition to regional government — whose reconstitution is also undisputed?

Why cannot municipal boundaries not be redrawn to soften the chequerboard of the past but preserving the compactness essential to good local government?

The need for close co-operation within an urban region is already being addressed. Ironically it is the Metropolitan Chamber that is addressing it and there is no reason why this non-executive forum should not continue and improve its activities to strengthen the metropolitan family. □