

_THE DAILY NE

SIR, I would like to draw attention to the problems of buses, local government affiliation and ambulance services in Lamontville.

Port Natal Administration Board decided, without 'consultation, to throw the township to KwaZulu since the township was not accepting rent increase. ' , &

When the people of Lamontville requested what had been their right before Bantu Administration Boards were created I would like to be taken back by the Durban City Council I would like they were rebuked and the request rejected. ;

All the adjoining Durban townships are part of Durban City Council by right i.e. Lamontville, Chesterville, KwaMashu etc -
= Before the action was taken to boycott buses,
We had experienced three bus fare increases.

Residents of Lamontville tried different methods . of protest to indicate their unhappiness. There

was a silent protest when about 25 percent decided to walk to the station instead of taking buses,
= There was a bus petition which the residents
= drew and submitted to Mr Cuthbert of the DMTB.

WS, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4,

APATN 2=

Why Lamontville bus boycott drags on

But Mr Cuthbert refused to meet the residents, stating that he only recognised community Councillors, = = s g 4

The bus boycott has been going on for more than 18 months now and it looks like the authorities still will not understand. _

I have a big suspicion that the DMTB is waiting for the new administration to take over with the hope that when the community councillors

turn into KwaZulu Councillors, problems will solve themselves,
-Lamontville does not have a fast ambulance

. service. If an emergency occurs one has to go to the entrance of the township to fetch one. The ambulance people refuse to come unless they are escorted in to the township. I believe this is wrong, !

The authorities should realise that expediency

does not bear long term results. I believe the council should look after its neglected black community by giving it a voice in the city council.

E ~ SIPHIWE MADONDO
Lamontville @ :

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African Affajrs Correspondent

- BUSINESS leaders yesterday cautioned prospective black homeowners not to _cultivate unrealistic â\202¬xpectations that - vast sums of money were available for Fâ\200\230 financing housing in the self-governing

homelangs.

They were reacting to an announce- ment by Minister of Co-operation, De- . velopment and Education Gerrit vj].

finance housing in homelands,

The societies had sought 2 guarantee from the State that their investments would be protected should the areas in- 4 volved opt for independence.

1 Mr Barry Rainier, regional manager

1 for the S A Permanent Building Society

T Africa was in an economic downturn of

â\200\230horrific Proportionsâ\200\231, inflow of funds klgad dropped drastically.

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gainst high

â\200\234hopes for black home

Finance available for lending pur- Poses had beep greatly curtailed as a result.

While the society would continue to help people of all race groups to buijld their own homes, blacks living in home.- lands shoulq be under no illusions about the bresent position,

Mr Rainier sajg his society would not lend money for homes in rura) areas,

â\202¬rs complied with requirements,

Mr Piet Kruger, assistant general manager of the United Building Society, said the UBS was awaiting the fina] wording of the document agreed to by reÃ@presentatives of the building society movement and the Government.

Provision of finance for housing in
homelands woulq be governed by avail-
ability of funds, he said.

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The Natal Mercury, Thursday, October 4, 1984

" PRETORIAâ\200\224 3lack
urbanisation is â\200\230inevi-
. table and necessaryâ\200\231,
| Â@ays the Minister of
Co-operation, Devel-
opment and Educa-
tion, Dr Gerrit Vil-
- joen.

Addressing his first
Press meeting as Cabinet
minister in charge of the
new consolidated black
affairs department, Dr
Viljoen gave his views on
black education, influx
control and the consoli-

* dation of the homelands.

Dr Viljoen said that

. while some people con-
sidered black communi-
ties and black affairs as a

- problem, he saw South
Africaâ\200\231s black population
â\200\224 â\200\230with their abilities
and their talents and
their dynamic drive to-
wards progress and their
human qualityâ\200\231 â\200\224 as a
â\200\230tremendous assetâ\200\231.

Informal

He was committed to
expanding, with the co-
operation of formal and
informal black leaders
and the Government, the
opportunities of blacks to
improve their quality of
life. <

Referring to the politi-
- cal future of blacks, espe-
cially those outside the
_ homelands, Dr Viljoen
;said he would strive to
_ â\200\230work towards mutually
[acceptable structures

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and processes for ensur-

ing participation by the black communities in political decision-making which affect their interestsâ\200\231.

He added that political structures would be determined in negotiations with the Government, particularly the special Cabinet committee under Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning Chris Heunis, black local authorities, and as community leaders, both formal and informal.

Education

Asked â\200\230what he meant by â\200\230informalâ\200\231 leaders, Dr Viljoen said the â\200\230self-made leadersâ\200\231 of the black communities, or those created by the media.

He would even talk to leaders who were â\200\230strongly opposedâ\200\231 to the Government. However, these people had to be committed to peaceful, not violent, change.

As an indication of his preparedness to talk, Dr Viljoen added, he had last month held discussions with the South African Council of Churches, a body â\200\230highly critical -of the Governmentâ\200\231.

Upgrading the quality of black teachers and improving communication between schools and the

Government were the main priorities in black education at present.

Dr Viljoen said he realised there were many â\200\230problems and shortcomingsâ\200\231 in black education

â\200\230We will do everything in our power to rectify these deficienciesâ\200\231.

To maintain stability and order in South Af-

rica, further expansion of

black education had to remain a high priority. Asked about the situation in Atteridgeville, where numerous schools have been closed due to boycotts, Dr Viljoen said the Government was pre-

pared to reopen the insti- *

tutions once it had received a clear and reliable guarantee from parents and pupils that schools would be attended.

The Government wanted reasonably acceptable proposals.

At present the biggest problems in black education were the lack of qualifications held by teachers, insufficient communication between teachers and pupils and between schools and the department.

A communications package was being put together by his department, and would institute democratically elected pupils' councils, teachers' councils and amalga-

mated bodies where representatives from the pupils, teachers, parents and local authorities would have a forum where they can articulate their problems.

Furthermore, instead of a ministerially-appointed council of education and training, Dr Viljoen said the council should be elected by school and community representatives.

The minister said there was a lack of school-readiness among black pupils, which led to a waste of money when pupils took longer to finish school than was neces-

sary.

The introduction of a

pre-school year was being considered.

* He added that there should be greater orientation among black pupils towards technical skills, rather than theoretical training.

Housing :

Dr Viljoen also announced that building societies would be able to finance housing in self-governing homelands.

Until now the building societies would not finance housing in the homelands until the Government had made a guarantee regarding certain political risks.

These included the possibility of a change in a homeland's monetary sys-

tem or the possibility that

the legal machinery in

the territory became ineffective.

-With the red tape now removed the ball is in the building societies' court, Dr Viljoen said.

We will look with great anticipation to see the building societies' willingness and ability to help, he said, adding that their involvement would make a valuable contribution to alleviating the housing shortage among blacks. (Sapa)

@ See Editorial Opinion

