

FOCUS

YESTERDAY, two weeks after the White City shootings, leaders of Soyco and Sosco who are on the run gave their side of what happened. They also took the lid off the workings of their organisations.

After the shootings, which left 24 dead, which is the official figure (the unofficial figure is 29), Minister of Law and Order, Mr Louis le Grange blamed Soyco and Sosco for the tragedy.

Soyco stands for Soweto Youth Congress (made up of working and unemployed youth) while Sosco stands for Soweto Students Congress whose members are pupils.

Mr Rapu Molekane, Soyco's president, said there was no way in which Soyco or Sosco could be held responsible for the shootings.

He said that on the morning of August 26, seven families from White City were raided in the morning by council police and that six householders were taken to the Dube offices and told they would be evicted later that day unless they paid their rent arrears.

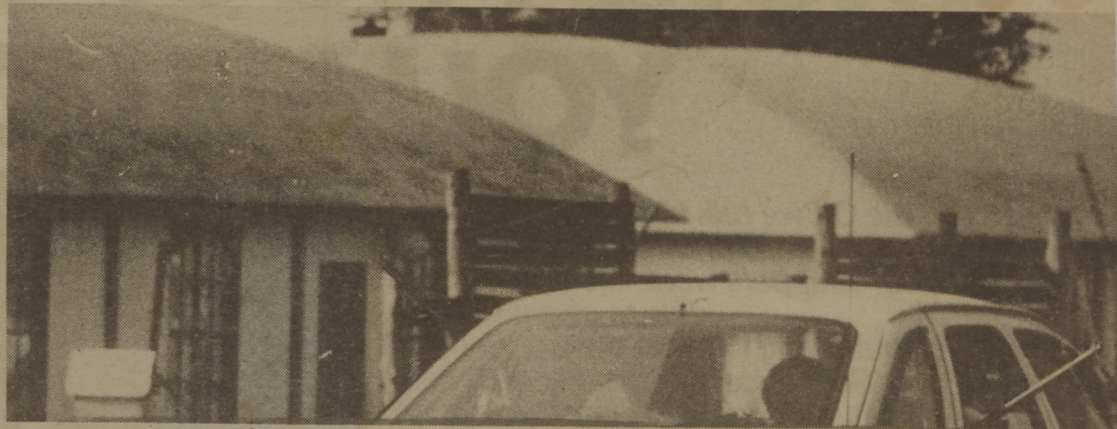
"A rumour started circulating that people were going to be evicted that day. The rumour seemed to be confirmed when council police started patrolling the streets in many cars.

Meeting

"Later in the day, the township's youth held a meeting to discuss the matter. After the meeting, which was at about 8pm, the students went out in groups to tell parents what had transpired at the meeting.

"They had no weapons at all and neither did they have stones. When the council police met a group of youths in the street they started shooting. This was when residents blew their whistles and prepared to defend themselves," Mr Molekane said.

He said that the incident when a handgrenade was hurled at some police vehicles hap-



WHITE City Jabavu . . . street committees.

SOYCO, SOSCO SPEAK

SOWETAN
11 SEPT. 1986

pened at about 10pm.

"It might have been a response from someone we do not know and over whom we have no control. We cannot be held responsible for what happened.

"Residents have genuine problems and grievances that need to be addressed and the Government seems reluctant to address itself to these problems.

"The people have organised themselves into organisations so as to solve the problems. It does not need Soyco or Sosco to tell the people that the rents are killing

By
**NAT
DISEKO**

them," Mr Molekane said.

Sosco's organiser, Mr Henry Zwane, said that his priority and that of his fellow activists was to avoid being detained so as to remain operative.

Adapted

"We have adapted to operating within the state of emergency. It is not quite like the last state of emergency, where our organisations were almost paralysed because most of the leadership was in detention," Mr Zwane said.

It came to light that Soyco and Sosco together with the civic associations, have divided the sprawling complex of Soweto into eight areas, each designated by an acronym.

There is: Momomoja, which comprises Moroka, Molapo, Mofolo and Jabavu.

Motlana: Moletsane, Tladi and Naledi.

Zojazem: Zondi, Jabulani, Zola and Em-deni.

Sephima-DC: Sena-aana, Phiri, Mapetla, Dlamini and Chiawelo.

Orlando West: Dube,

Phefeni, Phomolong and Mzimhlophe.

Meadowlands: Meadowlands and Dobsonville.

Diepkloof: Diepkloof and Orlando East.

Pimville: Klipspruit.

The nucleus of these areas or zones is a street committee. In many of

Soweto's townships, street committees have been formed, bringing together the youth and the parents to tackle local problems together.

This is the usual composition of a street committee, but it can be altered to suit a particular situation:

There are four parents, two men and two women, two youths, one schooling and one either working or unemployed. Two representatives from one street committee form a block committee. Representatives from the blocks form area committees.

Another Sosco executive member said the street committees meant that every household would be able to discuss local problems and to take part in decision-making.

"Workshops are held with the youth in a street before a committee is formed. The street committees will be able to restore order," he said.

Soyco's Mr Molekane said: "It is Soyco's role to give direction to the youth. There are many misdirected youths in the townships who take people's cars and collect monies in the name of our organisations. The street committees are there to deal with these problems.

"As Soyco and Sosco, we have never had a programme to hijack cars and neither do we encourage it. When there are occasions we

have to attend, this is done organisationally in an orderly manner by disciplined youths."

Mr Molekane added that Soyco and Sosco had played a big part in preventing people from being harassed or their houses burnt and their cars stolen.

"We have also been able to stem revenge killings to a large extent," Mr Molekane said.

He said Soyco and Sosco condemned neck-lacing and other forms of brutality.

Commenting on the schools situation, Sosco's Mr Zwane said: "As Sosco, we want to learn and we want education. But how can we learn under conditions that are not conducive to learning?"

"Added to that, the DET does not want to address students' demands. That is why you have sit-ins and boycotts. The students have also rejected the Department's ID system. It is not operating anywhere in Soweto," Mr Zwane said.

Mr Zwane added that Sosco and Soyco did not align themselves with the slogan "liberation now and education later."

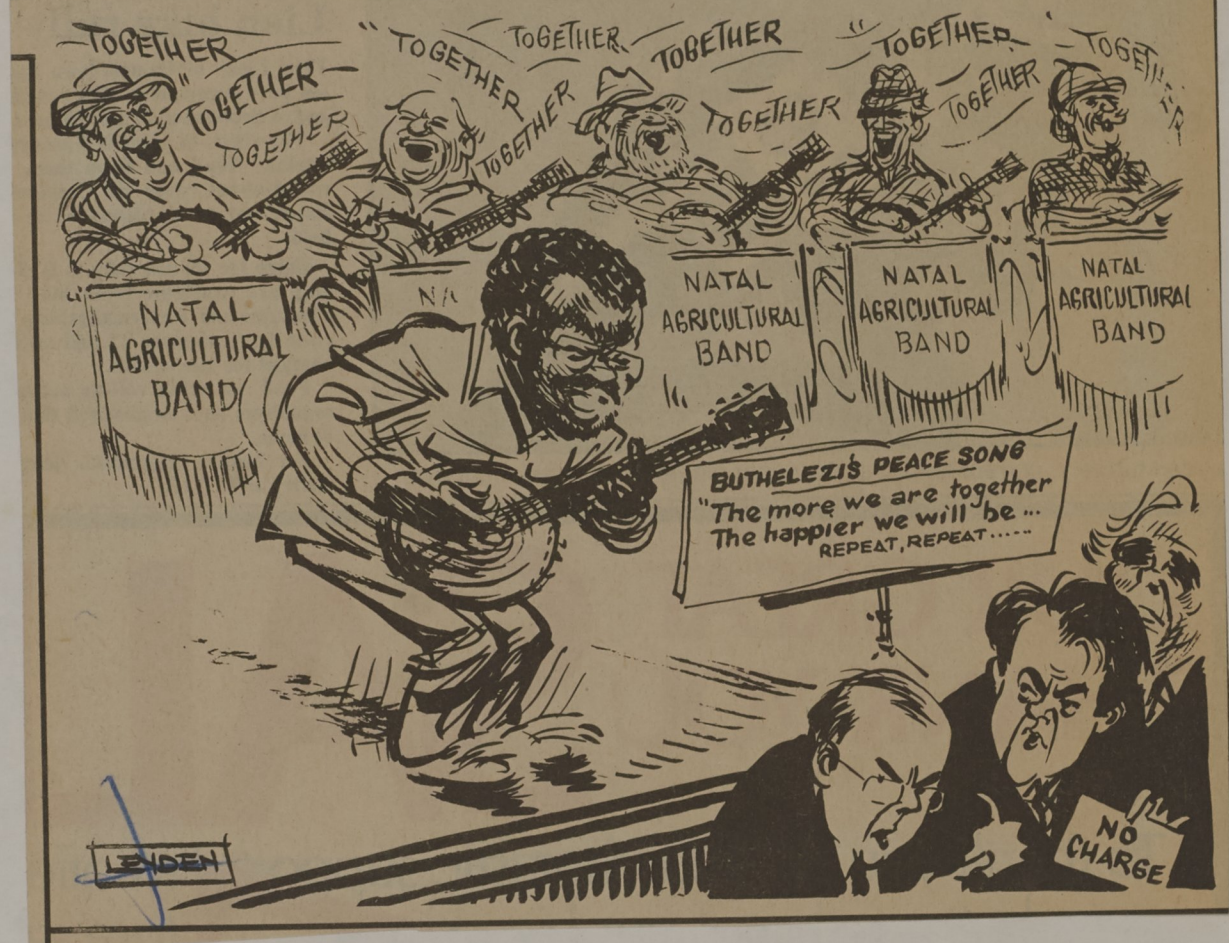
"Imagine having to cope with the problem of thousands of illiterates at the time of liberation. What type of liberation will that be? We have to acquire skills while fighting for liberation at the same time," he said.

He said the DET's decision to close schools could lead to confrontation.

Note: This article is in effect censored. On the advice of our lawyers, we had to delete certain parts of this article, which might be deemed to transgress the state of emergency regulations.

98/60/11

COMMENT



Black Africa *THE DAILY NEWS -* rejects the *11 SEPT 1986* white Africans

TEN DAYS of the Non-Aligned Movement summit was about as much as I could take, and I told a group at the Harare Sheraton bar that I could not wait to get home to Johannesburg.

"But that's impossible," an attractive Nigerian woman exclaimed with genuine surprise. "How can you possibly want to get back to a country in which there is so much repression, in which they murder innocent black children?"

Her remark, together with the conversation which followed, hammered home the levels of enmity which white rule in South Africa has generated in our African hinterland.

Obviously, Africa's perceptions of South Africa differ radically from those of the average white South African, as do perceptions about the levels of competence, prosperity, justice and democracy in black Africa.

But that's not the point.

Just as white South Africans deceive themselves into believing that theirs is a Christian, just society and that most blacks accept the current dispensation, so black Africa conveniently overlooks its own failures as it unites against the "racist regime" in Pretoria.

But that, too, is not the point.

The point is that, just as the South African Government is beginning to see itself as truly African, so African rejection of white South Africa and everything it currently stands for has become practically irreversible.

Ironically, of Africa's white settlers, it was the Afrikaners who initially perceived themselves as being not quite Euro-

JOHN D'OLIVEIRA
Daily News Africa Service

pean and who developed their own language, naming it after the continent in which they lived. Later they fought a bloody war to escape British colonialism.

Having lost the war, they won the peace and the new Republic of South Africa stood poised in the early sixties to play a leading role in Africa.

But the Afrikaner's short-sighted obsession with the survival of his own culture and the English-speakers' hardly-concealed contempt for black Africa, coupled with both sections' faith in the immortality of white rule, prevented this.

Then the whole of Southern Africa, from Angola in the west to Mozambique in the east, was under white rule and the winds of change were only just beginning to blow in the north.

Had Dr Hendrik Verwoerd then seen both the prospects and the dangers and had he then offered — as President P.W. Botha did at the Free State National Party congress earlier this month — to help build a new Africa on the ruins of five centuries of colonialism and exploitation, he might have found some takers.

But he saw neither the prospects nor the dangers and he went on to forge a policy which now hangs like the proverbial albatross round the neck of his reformist successor.

At Harare last week, Mr P.W. Botha's appeal to the non-aligned nations to turn their backs on the "exploitative" Eastern and Western powers, and to recognise South Africa's

leadership role in Africa, met with little more than contempt.

Most of the people I spoke to on the issue could not believe that the South African State President could be so out of touch with African sentiment that he could seriously suggest a leadership role for his country in a continent shaking off the last trappings of colonialism.

Not that many did not agree with Mr Botha's claim that Africa had been betrayed by the major powers, that the European powers had plundered the continent, that they had carved it into artificial states and exploited its people and its resources.

Some even agreed that the issues in Africa "had little to do with apartheid and had much to do with the survival of the continent".

And they agreed that South Africa had much to offer, that it could do a great deal to help solve the continent's problems.

But they made it clear that this could only happen after apartheid had been destroyed, and after a black Government ruled in Pretoria.

Nothing that I heard in private conversation, or that was said publicly during the week, contradicted this.

Whatever their own shortcomings may be, black African leaders obviously believe that both time and Western public opinion are on their side.

So while they expect South Africa will one day fulfil its African destiny, they are clearly prepared to wait until it does so under a black Government — or until the country's white Government makes a dramatic move in that direction.

Sowetan

11/09/1982

DET closes 20 schools until end of the year

The Department of Education and Training (DET) has announced that more than 20 schools in the Johannesburg area and in the Eastern Cape will remain closed for the rest of the year.

It had become "unavoidable" to close certain schools until December 31 this year, the director-general of the DET, Dr Braam Fourie, said in a statement yesterday.

The reasons given were:

- No pupils had registered at certain schools, therefore there was no demand for education at those institutions.

- Continued disruptions and poor attendance at some schools had led to a situation where no effective education could take place during the third term.

- Due to last year's disruptions, many schools used the first term to complete previous syllabuses and examinations and were only able to start with this year's work at the beginning of the second term.

It was no longer humanly possible to reach the scholastic standards set for this year.

The names of the schools would be released in due course.

CONDITIONS

Dr Fourie said the DET was doing everything possible to ensure that effective education could be resumed next year.

- Some schools where pupils registered at the beginning of the third term but where education was seriously disrupted during that term, may continue functioning subject to certain conditions, said a joint statement by the Deputy Minister of Education and Development Aid, Dr Sam de Beer, and Idamasa (Interdenominational African Ministers' Association).

The conditions state that pupils should return to school today and maintain a daily attendance rate of at least 80 percent. Should disruptions occur or attendance drop below 80 percent, the school would be excluded from the agreement.

Special programmes will help make up lost time and will include afternoon and Saturday classes.

The schools will not close on the normal date for the December holidays, but internal examinations must be completed by December 22.

The arrangements do not apply to schools where no pupils registered after the July holidays. These schools will be closed until the end of the year.

EXPERTS WARN OF MASS UNEMPLOYMENT

Soweto 11/09/86

By Claire Robertson

The growing crisis in black education will leave South Africa "cursed" with hundreds of thousands of virtually unemployable youngsters, educationists warned today.

Black schools reopened for the fourth term today, after two years of widespread boycotts in many parts of the country.

Yesterday the Department of Education and Training (DET) announced the "imminent closure" of more than 20 schools in the Eastern Cape and Johannesburg.

The closure of the schools has been labelled a "desperate act by desperate men".

Educationists approached by *The Star* called it an admission of failure.

Mr Ken Andrew, Progressive Federal Party spokesman on black

education, said: "Obviously there are complex problems needing to be resolved in black education, but the unilateral and heavy-handed tactics adopted by the DET since July have aggravated rather than alleviated these problems.

"Increasingly, one gets the impression that these are desperate acts by desperate men."

A leading educationist, who asked not to be named, said: "Closing a school is a very final step — and an admission that the situation is out of your hands. It is a signal that the DET has lost control".

No Johannesburg area schools have been closed yet, but it is likely that several will be this month, sources at the DET said. It is believed these will include the three high schools in Alexandra, where almost no classes have been held this year.

The National Education Crisis Committee (NECC) has called on the Government to hand over education to "the people" in the wake of the decision to close schools.

"The Government seems hell-bent on destroying what remains of our education," an NECC statement said. "It is clear the Government policy has failed totally. If our children are to have education, education must be in the hands of the people."

'Great resentment'

A lecturer at the University of the Witwatersrand and former headmaster of Orlando High School in Soweto, Mr T W Khambule, described the decision to close schools as "tragic for South Africa".

"We know the disastrous effects on children denied an education. This is building up great resentment, not only among children, but among parents.

"The Government is under a false illusion that the situation will right itself. The only solution is to talk to recognised black leaders, but the Government will not do this, because they somehow blame these leaders for the situation."

The move by the education authorities comes on the eve of the judgment in the case in which the NECC has challenged the restrictions imposed on schools earlier this year.

Pupils responded to the restrictions — which included compulsory re-registration in the third term and ID documents — with mass stayaways.

It is estimated that normal schooling in the past two years can be "measured in weeks rather than months," said Mr Andrew.

"South Africa will be cursed with hundreds of thousands of improperly educated and virtually unemployable young people, who are unlikely to contribute towards stability, peace and prosperity in this country."

COMMENT

King's choice

CORETTA SCOTT KING, the gentle American widow of the gentle American proponent of non-violent racial conciliation, seemed to arrive in SA with an open mind. She came for the enthronement of Archbishop Desmond Tutu but was prepared to meet both President Botha and Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi.

Within days, the more unforgiving victims of apartheid like the Rev Allan Boesak had persuaded her to snub both Botha and Buthelezi.

Americans who know and respect King are now asking how, if she cannot be permitted to talk to the white rulers or even to less-than-murderous opponents of the system like Buthelezi, white and black South Africans can ever be expected to sit down and talk to each other directly.

Perhaps now the Americans will begin to understand why the "necklace" was invented. Mrs King was subjected to "moral", or at least verbal, suasion: had she been South African she might well have been set on fire. Urban councillors who tried, whether mistakenly or from venality, to find some basis of co-operation within the system, have had their homes burned.

There was no reason — other than ignorance — why King should have thought she was immune to the demand of radicals to choose — either white or black, apartheid or liberation, capitalism or "people's democracy".

Buthelezi, one of the men she lacked the conviction to see, has often been threatened with death

for trying to find a peaceful way to resolve the racial conflict in SA. He has been systematically slandered, blamed for violence for which, on the evidence, he bore no responsibility, and vilified.

The Natal indaba which he helped to nurture has produced a Bill of Rights which meets any respectable, Western standard of democracy; it is condemned by opponents of "collaboration" because it contains the standard Western protections for minorities. Such civilised restrictions on unbridled power are seen these days as an obstacle to the "will of the majority" — to the dictatorship of the proletariat, if you like.

The Bill of Rights was a triumph of compromise, one which brought together blacks and Afrikaners with other minorities in a common endorsement of the equality of man, regardless of race. But as a compromise it is anathema to the people who also do not want King to meet Botha or Buthelezi.

The polarisation of SA is not in doubt, but as time passes it is less and less a polarisation of black and white. Both blacks and whites are to be found on either side of the great divide which now separates liberals from communists, capitalists from collectivists, conciliators from revolutionaries, peacemakers from the ideological warriors of the Left.

Indeed, choice is becoming inescapable, but it is not a choice that innocent survivors of the civil rights movement will find palatable.

DAILEY

Not everybody (especially in South Africa) recognises that freedom is indivisible and that if civil rights are to have any meaning all God's chillun gotta have them.

That is why those who value whatever liberty they may have are surely encouraged by the news from Natal, where the proposed bill of rights drafted by the indaba has evoked a huge response, with something like 100 000 members of the public asking for copies.

I don't expect the Government to share the enthusiasm, though they may in due course feel compelled to ratify the proposal. It was not so long ago that a Cabinet Minister opined that no bill of rights was needed because South Africa had enough laws to protect individual rights.

Really?

Ask the 10 000 or so people who have been detained for weeks and months without trial. They and their families might have a different view.

A glance at history is often instructive. Seven hundred and fifty years ago King John was forced to sign the Magna Carta, England's first bill of rights. The charter specified, inter alia, that "no freeman shall be imprisoned or outlawed or exiled or in anyway destroyed, except by the lawful judgment of his peers or by the law of the land".

OK, so it is argued that the state of emergency in South Africa is the (temporary) law of the land, even if it has the effect of suspending other laws. Four hundred and fifty years on from King John, and those persistent English were at it again, inscribing their rights in an Act of Parliament of 1689.

Having had a bad time with various kings, they went straight to the heart of the matter with a declaration that "the pretended Power of Suspending of Laws or the Execution of Laws by

NEWS 11/09/86

Encouraging response to the indaba's bill of rights

Regall Authoritie without Consent of Parlyament is illegall".

The declaration said further "that the Freedom of Speech and Debates in Parlyament ought not to be questioned in any Court or Place out of Parlyament; and that excessive Baile ought not to be required, nor excessive Fines imposed, nor cruell and unusuall Punishments inflicted".

The wording is a little vague but the message is loud and clear.

A hundred years on, and the United States Congress was approving the famous 10 amendments to the constitution drafted by James Madison. The first states that Congress can make no law abridging freedom of speech or of the Press or the right to assemble and petition for redress of grievances.

That was in 1791. Can we say as much in South Africa in 1986? For the present anyway, I think not.

□ □ □

DURING a recent trip to the Cape I found time to visit Fish Hoek. The railway runs almost alarmingly close to Jagger Walk, the delightful paved path along the rocks at the end of the beach, and as a train went past slowly I noticed that the first three coaches carried signs saying "Whites Only — Blankes Alleen".

It seems that, as was the case with Mark Twain, rumours of the death of apartheid have been greatly exaggerated.

THE Western Province Cricket Club is the fairly august establishment that owns the Newlands cricket ground. Its annual report (which comes to me because I have been a member of the club for about 35 years) lists various distinguished vice-presidents: old Springbok cricketers, including one (Tuppy Owen-Smith) who played in test matches 50 years ago; and other people by virtue of their official positions, the head of the army, the head of the navy, the Divisional Commissioner of Police — and the Archbishop of Cape Town, described in this year's report as the Most Rev P.W.R. Russell.

Will Archbishop Tutu sit in the members' pavilion this summer, sipping gin and tonic and listening to the whack of willow on leather? The club will presumably nominate him as a vice-president, so we shall see.

□ □ □

THERE are about 40 weddings every month in the chapel of St Peter-in-chains at the Old Fort in Durban, according to the newsletter of the Durban Light Infantry Regimental Comrades' Association.

A recent wedding was that of a great-grandson of Dick King. It was at the Old Fort that Dick King started his famous ride to Grahamstown in 1842 to summon assistance for a British garrison besieged by Boers.

THE CITIZEN COMMENT

11 SEPT. 1986

The snub

It is a sad state of affairs when someone who is to meet the State President does not have the grace to keep the appointment.

And it is sadder still when that person is Mrs Coretta Scott King, widow of the great civil rights leader, Dr Martin Luther King.

For Mrs King is committed to her husband's principles of non-violence, and it is only by discussion that non-violent solutions to this country's problems can be found.

Apologists for Mrs King will say, as she does, that she has been put under tremendous pressure here and abroad and that her talks with Mr Botha must take place at some other time.

But it is clear that the pressure was not so much from overseas but from Archbishop Desmond Tutu, Dr Allan Boesak and Mrs Winnie Mandela.

And all three stand condemned for misusing this most moderate and modest of women for their own political purposes.

Archbishop Tutu has had meetings with the State President and does not seem to have been tainted in any way by them.

But he denies Mrs King the same opportunity. When told that the meeting had been cancelled, he laughed and said "Wonderful".

If anything were needed to prove that Archbishop Tutu is a biased political priest, it is his intervention in this matter.

Dr Boesak, president of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches, who is known as much for the "unique experience" he had with a young woman as for his radical viewpoints, is a man who savagely condemns South Africa at every turn.

At the just-concluded conference of the Non-Aligned Movement in Harare, he spoke of "atrocities" and "gross violations of human rights", and warned the West that its massive investment in South Africa would "go up in flames" if it did not pull out of the country immediately.

Of Mrs King's projected meeting with Mr Botha, Dr Boesak said that groups opposed to apartheid wanted Mrs King "to be so clearly and without a shadow of doubt on our side, and that means not fraternising with people like PW".

He also told foreign Pressmen: "At a time like this when PW's hands are dripping with the blood of our children, she comes here, being who she is and what she represents, and talks with them as though nothing had happened."

Such hatred and anger ill-becomes a man of the cloth, but Dr Boesak is known for his intemperate language and political histrionics.

Mrs Mandela, who has expressed her support for the horrific necklacing method of killing township "collaborators", "informers" and others condemned to die by the "comrades", will no doubt refrain from speaking about such brutalities when she meets a woman of such sensitivity and non-violence as Mrs King.

Nor will she have discussed any peaceful solution to South Africa's problems, since the ANC, of which her jailed husband, Nelson Mandela, is a leader, will not abandon violence and engages in acts of ghastly terrorism, and its front organisations in South Africa are responsible for the unrest in the townships.

That Mrs Mandela should be able to induce Mrs King to cancel her meeting with Mr Botha is a tragedy in itself.

For if there is no dialogue, there can only be violence.

And if a woman of peace cannot talk to a man of reform without radicals putting up an iron curtain between them, what hope is there of reconciling the conflicting interests in South Africa itself?

Perhaps some good will come of the debacle, for moderates in America will see at last that the people who have been calling for sanctions, divestment and other punitive measures against South Africa are not people of reason, or reconciliation or peace.

SA COAL MAY FIND SECRET EXPORT
ROUTE 11/09/86

London

Communist Eastern Bloc countries could provide South Africa's coal industry with a secret passage to Western markets in the event of a European Community ban.

Bulgaria and Rumania are said to be among East European states willing to provide a backdoor route.

In Johannesburg, *The Star* financial staff report that a South African coal analyst said today he knew of one South African company which has sold more than 100 000 tons of low-grade coal at the high price of \$US27 (about R64) a ton to these two countries for their own use.

When Mr Steve Ellis, chairman of Trans-Natal Coal, was approached for his views, he said he was not aware of any company considering this route, but it was possible.

He added that at the moment coal companies were concentrating on protecting their markets by convincing customers it would be to their own detriment if sanctions were imposed, since world prices would almost rise.

British traders say South African coal is distinctive and would be easily identifiable, even in a blend of other coals, and discerning buyers who are wary of the political risks would be unlikely to buy supplies laundered through Eastern Europe.

One coal trader said: "It is quite easy to identify the origin of a coal. Each variety has a specific profile."

But traders agree that laundered stocks would reach the market through buyers who are unmoved by ethics and unconcerned about the risks — as long as the price suits them.

One trader said: "You couldn't disguise South African coal in a blend with coals from Eastern Europe, but if it was sold for the right price on the basis of no-questions-asked, there would be buyers."

Caution

"For us, it wouldn't be worth it. Most of the people we deal with have specifically stated that they do not want South African products. It would jeopardise our business."

"It's a question of whether you take something on board without asking too many questions, or whether you are doing an honest job and not supplying South African coal when it's made clear you should not be."

"We would adopt a cautious approach, and check all stocks to ensure we were not buying a blend which included South African coal."

Conduit

A delegation of South African mining executives toured Europe recently in a bid to persuade EC governments not to back a coal ban. It is not known if they established contact with Eastern Bloc traders.

Several major British companies in other sectors of commerce have also reported offers from East European businessmen to set up a conduit for British exports to South Africa.

The British Industry Committee on South Africa — a recently formed pressure group opposing sanctions — has warned Britain's all-party Foreign Affairs Committee earlier that sanctions will be ineffective because countries in the Far East and Eastern Europe are willing to open secret trade links between Britain and South Africa.

Teleletters

Mrs King 'snub': Boesak 'scared'

THE Coretta King case: disapproving comment came from several Teleletters callers.

Mr S Gaffoor, Kensington: "Why the pressure on Mrs King? Was Dr Boesak scared of what she would find out from President Botha? There are two sides to every story, and people should listen to both."

Mr R Schmidt, Bergvliet: "The King affair illustrates what democratic freedoms we would have in this country were the Boesaks, Mandelas and UDF supporters in power. We should have to seek permission to talk to one another — a carbon copy of the Soviet Union."

Mr M C Parker, Cravenby Estate: "I fully support Mrs Coretta King's decision not to see President Botha. He has a record of insulting visitors who are opposed to apartheid."

Mr R Fisher, Claremont: "Mrs King's behaviour is not surprising. The UDF is known for its ability to persuade people into disrespectful and destructive words and deeds."

Mr L P Smith, Muizenberg: "If, as reported, Archbishop Tutu was among those who persuaded Mrs King not to see President Botha, it negates all that the archbishop said in his enthronement speech about brotherly love and reconciliation."

Mrs D J Richies, Sea Point: "It's disgraceful how Mrs King has been used as a pawn against South Africa. I feel sorry for her. Perhaps she can take Archbishop Tutu and Dr Boesak back to America with her."

Miss Lorna Quinton, Ottery: "It's a pity that Bill Cosby didn't come to Archbishop Tutu's enthronement. His

comic presence would have fitted in well with the international circus."

Mrs J Steyn, Rondebosch: "South African accountants win five out of six prizes in a London-based exam written by nearly 7 000 competitors worldwide. This is surely something for the front page and not to be tucked away on page 10! Can't the Cape Times rejoice in any South African successes?"

Mr Roger Mulholland, Claremont: "Congratulations on the dynamic new look on the Cape Times front page. It's a classic and professional style, putting the main story where it belongs — at the top of the page under bold headlines. The whole page is a bright invitation to read every word."

Mr S Sklar, Highlands: "Mrs K Rawlins (Wednesday's Teleletters) rightly abhors violence, but appears to be bored by reports of it. Has she ever seen or experienced a bomb attack? It is not pleasant. People must be made aware of the horror and tragedy these attacks cause."

Mrs Joan Sacks, Kenilworth: "Surely Mrs Rawlins must realize that 'ostrich in the sand' attitudes like hers are the cause of the pathetic situation in South Africa today. We must be aware of what's going on, be it boring or harrowing."

Miss M T Smith, Rondebosch: "Auckland Park at its best! Tuesday night's Afrikaans television play was simulcast on the radio in — believe it or not — Afrikaans! Brilliant!"

● If you would like to comment on these or any other issues, contact Teleletters ☎ 24-2233 between 9am and noon.

King, Boesak kiss and make up

By ANTHONY JOHNSON
Political Correspondent

EMBATTLED Mrs Coretta Scott King yesterday met, kissed and made up with UDF patron Dr Allan Boesak who called her failure to keep an appointment with President P W Botha "a very wise and courageous decision".

And a meeting between Mrs Winnie Mandela and the UDF leadership in Johannesburg is expected following Mrs King's tactical decision to get "on sides" with the UDF.

After a lengthy telephone call and a half-hour meeting yesterday, Dr Boesak and Mrs King said

they were relieved that "misunderstandings and misperceptions" surrounding her trip had been cleared up.

Dr Boesak was pleased Mrs King would be "leaving this country with our (UDF) support".

Mrs King's delegation appeared anxious to put aside the controversy that has surrounded her trip and her secretary, Mr Ofield Dukes, yesterday disallowed reporters' questions on the cancelled meeting with President Botha.

It was "very likely" that she would be briefing United States

Secretary of State, Mr George Schulz, and members of Congress on her return — "and if the president is interested in seeing her, that's fine", Mr Dukes said.

● Meanwhile, Archbishop Desmond Tutu yesterday reportedly said that a meeting between Mrs King and President Botha would have detracted from the solidarity Mrs King had come to South Africa to demonstrate.

He also denied charges by President P W Botha that he had misled Mrs King on conditions in Crossroads and Khayelitsha.

● See Teleletters, page 7

SANCTIONS WON'T WORK SAYS HOWE

NATAL MERCURY 11/09/86

Simon Barber

WASHINGTON—British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe said yesterday sanctions against South Africa were unlikely to be effective because there was little hope of a co-ordinated U S-European policy.

After two hours of talks with Secretary of State George Shultz, Sir Geoffrey nonetheless predicted that European Community foreign ministers would approve the sanctions package worked out at The Hague last June when they meet in Brussels next week.

'At the informal meeting of ministers this last weekend, a majority were clearly in favour of implementing the package which Britain has said it will accept if that is the wish of its partners,' Sir Geoffrey said.

The Hague measures include import bans on South African coal, steel and iron, which are also part of the Senate sanctions Bill. President Reagan is threatening to veto. The furthest the White House thus far is prepared to go is a landing rights ban, which has been ruled out by the EC.

'Difficult'

Sir Geoffrey made it clear that arriving at a consensus on the Hague package had itself been so 'difficult' that there was no chance of its being renegotiated to suit United States needs.

He also suggested that the U S Administration's refusal to endorse the Hague package — even though it was under heavy pressure from Congress to take much stronger steps — was an argument against punitive economic sanctions.

'That is part of the case against sanctions because all history underlines how difficult it is to achieve completely watertight sanctions.

'Even if there was precise co-ordination between the EC, the U S and Japan, there would be other trading nations and individuals seeking to outwit them. Which is why a number of us are so sceptical.'

Meanwhile the House of Representatives was preparing to shelve efforts to bring the Senate Bill more in line with its total trade and investment embargo and accept the upper chamber's more moderate language as it stood.

'Reluctant'

This would give Mr Reagan 10 legislative days either to sign the Bill or cast a veto.

If, as is almost certain, he chooses the latter, he will have to expand his recently renewed executive order to win enough votes in the Senate to sustain the veto.

Sapa-Reuter reports that West Germany remains highly reluctant to take measures against South Africa and will try to limit the scope of proposed joint European Community sanctions, according to official and diplomatic sources in Bonn.

The sources, involved in discussions on EC moves against South Africa, said Bonn had replaced London as the chief opponent of sanctions within the community and was determined to restrict the planned EC package as far as possible.

'The Government accepts that it cannot stand alone if the other EC states decide to go ahead with sanctions, but we are in principle still against such measures and want to keep them within strict limits,' one official said.

The foreign ministers of the 12 EC states are due to co-ordinate their positions on economic sanctions at talks in Brussels on September 15 and 16 and diplomats say they have already agreed the framework for joint action.

The joint measures are expected to include a ban on imports of coal, iron, steel and gold coins worth about R4.3 billion a year from South Africa and possibly a bar on further investments here.

NATAL MERCURY 11 SEPTEMBER 1986

113 can move to white areas

Ormande Pollok
Political Correspondent

CAPE TOWN—The Government had approved 113 applications from members of other race groups to live in white group areas in the past year, Mr Chris Heunis, Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning, said yesterday.

Replying to a written question by the Opposition's chief spokesman on Home Affairs, Mr Tian van der Merwe, MP for Green Point, Mr Heunis said 119 applications had been refused and another 48 were still being considered.

In reply to a different question, by Mr Mahmoud Rajab, Solidarity MP for Springfield, Mr Heunis said 32 Indians had been given permission to live in white areas since January last year.

News of the exemptions comes amid strong speculation that the Group Areas Act may be radically changed after the President's Council reports on its investigations of the Act. There has also been a cutback on prosecutions under the Act.

Mr Heunis said in his two replies yesterday that the exemptions had been made in terms of Section 21 of the Act, which allows him to grant exemptions and set certain conditions if he believes refusal could cause undue hardship.

NATAL Mercury 11 September 1986

Whites split over vote

JOHANNESBURG—White urban adults are almost completely split down the middle as to whether a 'one man, one vote' system will be introduced in South Africa in the near future, according to a recent poll.

Results of the poll, conducted among 1000 urban white adults by Market Research Africa during March and released yesterday, show that 50% do not want one man, one vote, 47% do, and 3% are undecided.

The poll concluded that attitudes were strongly related to age —

56% of younger people between the ages of 16 and 24 wanted one man, one vote, as opposed to only 35% of those over 50.

In the 25-to-34 age group, 52% were in favour, while in the 25-to-49 group, 50% wanted the vote to be extended to all.

It was also noted that there was a slight difference in attitudes between English and Afrikaans speakers. Forty-six percent of Afrikaners envisaged one man, one vote, while the figure rose to 49% for English-speakers. — (Sapa)

DAILY News 11 SEPTEMBER 1982

Bearing political fruit

EFFORTS to promote better understanding between white and black on the Natal platteland bore remarkable fruit recently with the signing of the Ngotshe Accord at Louwsburg. The process was given a further shot in the arm at the annual congress of the Natal Agricultural Union when both Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi and the union's president, Mr Boet Fourie, emphasised the need for white farmers to take active steps to promote communication and contact with black farmers and farm-workers.

Labour-intensive farming is

one of the chief sources of employment in the country; it is also the source of the most basic of needs — food. The progress being made in race and industrial relations in this important sector of the economic life of the country — and one which has a tradition of political conservatism — is, therefore, extremely encouraging. Small wonder that Chief Buthelezi felt constrained to express his feeling in a melodic "Siyabonga". His appreciation will be echoed by all who hope for reconciliation and peaceful change.

Attack
Citizen
on Tutu,
11 SEPT.
Boesak
1986
censored

Citizen Reporter

THE South African Press Association's public relations wire service expunged a portion of a statement which it had been asked to distribute to newspapers by Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, Chief Minister of KwaZulu, relating to the cancellation of his meeting with Mrs Coretta Scott King.

The KwaZulu Government is a client of the service which is operated by Sapa.

The section of the statement expunged by Sapa was a blistering attack by Chief Buthelezi on Archbishop Desmond Tutu and Dr Allan Boesak for their alleged role in exerting pressure on Mrs King to cancel a meeting with himself and a meeting with the State President, Mr P W Botha.

Among other strongly worded statements, Chief Buthelezi described the actions of the two men as amounting to "political rape".

A spokesman for Sapa confirmed yesterday that a portion of Chief Buthelezi's statement had been deleted when it was transmitted to newspapers for reasons of possible libel.

However, a number of newspapers, including The Citizen, which obtained a copy of the full statement of Chief Buthelezi, quoted extensively from the section omitted in the Sapa transmission.

Mrs King was *THE CITIZEN* blackmailed *11 SEPT. 1986* — Louis Nel

By BRIAN STUART
ANDREW THOMSON
and Sapa

CAPE TOWN. — The pressures on visiting United States civil rights leader, Mrs Coretta King, had given her an insight into the "ruthlessness" of radicals in South Africa, Mr Louis Nel, Deputy Minister of Information, said yesterday.

"The crux of South Africa's security problem is intimidation. Mrs King was subjected to one form of it, namely public blackmail," Mr Nel told *The Citizen*.

"It must certainly have given her a strong insight into the ruthlessness of radicals."

Government sources indicated yesterday that they hoped the ANC and UDF pressures on Mrs King would be reflected by the overseas Press.

"Overseas correspondents have been following every move, and were aware of her intention to meet with the State President. They would also be aware of the reaction, say, in the United States if a visiting dignitary bowed to intimidation and left President Ronald Reagan waiting for a pre-arranged meeting."

"It is not the sort of thing tolerated in the treatment of any head of state, anywhere," the sources said.

In political circles it was pointed out that the State President Mr P W Botha

had been prepared to meet Mrs King, knowing her views and general outlook.

Earlier, the US Information Service in Cape Town effectively disowned Mrs King by dismissing as "a misconception" suggestions that the report she is preparing for President Reagan on her trip to South Africa will carry an official stamp.

A spokesman for the US Information Service in Cape Town stressed that Mrs King had not been given "a mandate or mission" by the US Government.

Mrs King, widow of the American civil rights leader Dr Martin Luther King, arrived in Johannesburg from Cape Town yesterday afternoon.

She refused to speak about the incident in which she failed to attend a meeting with the State President saying she would deal with it at a Press conference in Johannesburg later.

Mrs King and her party were whisked through the arrivals hall at Jan Smuts Airport into two buses and a luxury car and taken to a central Johannesburg hotel.

Mrs King's aide, Mr Ofield Dukes, said on his arrival at the hotel that Mrs Winnie Mandela, wife of jailed African National Congress leader Nelson Mandela, had contacted Mrs King about a meeting.

"The initiative is now up to Mrs Mandela," Mr Dukes said. "Mrs King would be receptive."

Mr Dukes said the general-secretary of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches, Dr Al-

lan Boesak, met Mrs King at her hotel in Cape Town shortly before she left for the airport.

"Dr Boesak said her (Mrs King's) cancelling of the meeting (with Mr Botha) was very courageous," Mr Dukes said.

Mr Dukes denied claims made by another advance Press aide, Miss Mamie Thompson, in Durban yesterday, that Mrs King had dropped a visit to Durban because of stress which had made her unwell.

Reacting to reports that Dr Boesak and Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu had put pressure on Mrs King to cancel the meeting with the State President, Mr Dukes said she had "made her own decision, based on her own judgment, in very unusual circumstances".

"We cleared up misunderstandings in terms of Mrs King's programme and certain perceptions," Dr Boesak said of his meeting.

Mrs King said in Cape Town she was very pleased the meeting with Dr Boesak had come about and "had time not been so tight we would have had more time to dialogue".

THE CITIZEN 11 SEPT. 1986 They go out of their way to attack Bishop

IT makes fascinating reading — the fears portrayed by some of your obviously White writers. They go out of their way to attack Bishop Desmond Npilo Tutu, a man of God, peace-loving and bold in spite of all else.

For years we have been forced to believe by White theologians that God was White, for Whites, and therefore, was supposed to be worshipped by the pink-faced race. Why aren't we allowed to worship with them in the Afrikaans churches? Is this not political? Is seeing Christ

through Black eyes political.

You have to look at the CPISA's appointments based on race, stipends based on race, etc, and when these evils are exposed you say politics are presented in the pulpit.

There's a prayer in the prayer book which is said at mass — praying for the political rulers of the land. Had they been God fearing, would they have treat His Creation in this fashion. Perhaps there are two Gods — one for pink-faces and one for Black faces.

P MABOPE

Nelspruit

LETTERS

The Citizen PO Box 7712
Johannesburg 2000

Forgotten facts on

Mandela recalled

SO Mrs Cosby of TV fame threatens to make a film on the life of Mrs Mandela, whom she will doubt-

less present as a fighter against White domination, whose innocent husband is languishing in prison because of anti-apartheid views.

Mrs Cosby will certainly be unaware of the fact that Nelson Mandela was one of a group of terrorists rounded up by the police in 1963 at a farm in Rivonia, Transvaal.

These Communist plotters were caught red-handed with plans showing targets to be sabotaged (such as power stations, police stations, houses of Black policemen, and all means of communication), together with an arsenal of 210 000 handgrenades, 48 000 land mines and 50 tons of explosives — sufficient to kill a quarter of a million people of all races and enough to wipe out Johannesburg.

At Mandela's trial further facts emerged that saboteur recruits were be-

ing trained in Ethiopia, Algeria and Tunisia, and a revolutionary Council of State organised to take control the moment the revolution succeeded in South Africa.

Mandela, who was a leader of the banned African National Congress (ANC), boasted that he and the Communist Party had planned violent revolution.

Along with other conspirators, he was sentenced to life imprisonment for the crime of High Treason.

At the present critical stage when hordes of individuals and organisations in South Africa and abroad are jumping onto the idiotic "Release Mandela" bandwagon, it is imperative that these forgotten facts about Nelson Mandela be given wide publicity, before the Mandela campaign gets quite out of hand.

"RELEASE ... THE FACTS"

Pretoria

Why has Board allowed 'sex' play

AS an interested member of the public, I would like to make a few comments on the play "Funny Peculiar" now showing at the Andre Huguenet Theatre.

The Star's write up on the play is to quote "full frontal nudity, coarse language and crass sexuality" which, as a Christian, goes against Christian convictions.

According to Act 42 of the Publications Act 1974, this should not be allowed and I would like to know why the Censor Board has allowed it or have they?

Also I would like to bring to the public's attention on September 4, The Citizen reported of a Kwa Mashu lady who was jailed after showering topless on a Durban beach, and yet we have Johannesburg Whites, for whom the norm is to be covered, stripping and simulating sex on stage.

How can we allow this immorality and injustice to be part of us as people who boast of having a Christian heritage?

We trust other interested people will likewise do something to rectify this situation.

C L KNAUT

Erasmia

Time Anglicans call halt to Tutu's activities

THE CITIZEN
11 SEPT. 1986

AS a non-Anglican churchgoer, I am sure I reflect the views of many others, when I say that the Anglican hierarchy owes the people of South Africa an explanation for the way in which they condone the anti-South African activities of Bishop Tutu.

This man has no authority outside his own church, but has taken it upon himself to travel worldwide, condemning South Africa at every turn. One wonders if he would have the same freedom to criticise the governments of the countries he visits.

Far from being con-

cerned with the spiritual welfare of his church, his aim seems to be to destroy this country, both politically and economically. He is constantly talking to South Africa's churches — it was he who invited Senator Kennedy to this country, that man who is one of the prime movers behind the sanctions against us. Tutu's latest contacts have been with the Chinese communists — this speaks for

itself.

One can only assume that the Anglican Church supports him in his campaign, since they have raised him to an even higher position.

It is time the ordinary South Africans, who are the chief target of this man's spiteful behaviour, demand that his church call a halt to his political activities.

J MASTERS

Pretoria

COMMENT

King's choice

CORETTA SCOTT KING, the gentle American widow of the gentle American proponent of non-violent racial conciliation, seemed to arrive in SA with an open mind. She came for the enthronement of Archbishop Desmond Tutu but was prepared to meet both President Botha and Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi.

Within days, the more unforgiving victims of apartheid like the Rev Allan Boesak had persuaded her to snub both Botha and Buthelezi.

Americans who know and respect King are now asking how, if she cannot be permitted to talk to the white rulers or even to less-than-murderous opponents of the system like Buthelezi, white and black South Africans can ever be expected to sit down and talk to each other directly.

Perhaps now the Americans will begin to understand why the "necklace" was invented. Mrs King was subjected to "moral", or at least verbal, suasion; had she been South African she might well have been set on fire. Urban councillors who tried, whether mistakenly or from venality, to find some basis of co-operation within the system, have had their homes burned.

There was no reason — other than ignorance — why King should have thought she was immune to the demand of radicals to choose — either white or black, apartheid or liberation, capitalism or "people's democracy".

Buthelezi, one of the men she lacked the conviction to see, has often been threatened with death

for trying to find a peaceful way to resolve the racial conflict in SA. He has been systematically slandered, blamed for violence for which, on the evidence, he bore no responsibility, and vilified.

The Natal indaba which he helped to nurture has produced a Bill of Rights which meets any respectable, Western standard of democracy; it is condemned by opponents of "collaboration" because it contains the standard Western protections for minorities. Such civilised restrictions on unbridled power are seen these days as an obstacle to the "will of the majority" — to the dictatorship of the proletariat, if you like.

The Bill of Rights was a triumph of compromise, one which brought together blacks and Afrikaners with other minorities in a common endorsement of the equality of man, regardless of race. But as a compromise it is anathema to the people who also do not want King to meet Botha or Buthelezi.

The polarisation of SA is not in doubt, but as time passes it is less and less a polarisation of black and white. Both blacks and whites are to be found on either side of the great divide which now separates liberals from communists, capitalists from collectivists, conciliators from revolutionaries, peacemakers from the ideological warriors of the Left.

Indeed, choice is becoming inescapable, but it is not a choice that innocent survivors of the civil rights movement will find palatable.

The Natal Mercury

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 1986

ACHIEVING WHAT?

THE MESSAGE that comes through loud and convincingly from the pressuring by Mrs Winnie Mandela and Dr Allan Boesak of Mrs Coretta King, widow of the American civil rights leader, Dr Martin Luther King, is that they are not interested in any story being told other than their own. Nor in anyone seeing anything, however short of perfection, of what could constitute an improvement in the lot of blacks, like the hundreds of Khayelitshas and far better about the country.

And that is tragic. Not because the other side of things might possibly show this Government in a better light, but because it establishes, pretty conclusively, that neither of these 'leaders' in the black community has much regard for the whole truth. More especially, however, does it question whether all they're interested in is not projecting extremes.

Like the earlier threats on BBC television by Mrs Mandela involving the 'necklacing' of any opposition; Tuesday's supposed justification for Mrs King not meeting with President Botha — that his hands 'dripped with the blood of our children'; like the reasoning of the ANC in exile that any 'talks' should be about the handing over of power, not how a new South Africa could be ordered.

And for Dr Boesak to adopt the supposedly high moralistic position that 'we do not want her

dignified presence in South Africa to be used for propaganda purposes by the South African Government' is pitiful.

The same bunch not having conducted either Mrs King or that mockery of a democrat, US Senator John Kennedy, around any black housing other than the cesspit that is Crossroads, exposes their propaganda manipulation of both and detracts from the dignity and impartiality of the very woman they claim to be so concerned about.

A further concern of moderates wishing others abroad to understand the complexities of this country is that this sort of 'skeletons-in-the-cupboard' tour orchestrated by those possessed of a martyr complex, while not unlike some of the Government's own 'guided tours', could well provoke the response from Pretoria that 'if we're going to be abused at home we might as well slam the door on all our detractors' — and more of the locals included.

How does any of it contribute to resolving problems? Does it reconcile anyone? Improve the lot of blacks? Or does it simply massage the egos of those who espouse the all-or-nothing, anything-justifies-the-end philosophies of the radicals and anarchists? They invite counter-violence, which is probably what some want — and a situation from which no one will emerge a winner.

Chilly breeze

THE WARNING that the Government's policy of privatisation could mean that the job security of the civil servant was fast disappearing no doubt sent a chill through the cosy ranks of the Public Servants' Association in Durban this week. And that probably, is a good and invigorating thing.

Let us make it clear that we are not indulging in civil-servant bashing. South Africa owes much to countless able and dedicated state employees doing essential jobs, and this newspaper has always championed competitive rates of pay for them.

Our quarrel is rather with the vast administrative empire that has been created over the years to serve the Government's failed policy of apartheid. It is also with the inherent vices of a bureaucratic system that has been allowed to grow until it employs about one in five of the country's workers, and double that number if one includes parastatal organisations. Among the shortcomings are slow decision-making, inhibition of individual

initiative, and lack of incentive and reward for outstanding performance.

Mr P W Botha's promise to rationalise and prune the public service when he took over as State President has amounted to little more than a game of musical chairs in which nobody loses.

Now an overburdened exchequer is looking for a way out — privatisation. In his address to the congress Mr Laurie Korsten, executive chairman of Volkskas Bank, described it as 'the fastest, easiest and most popular method to create a climate and environment in South Africa to give the economy a new meaning and make it easier to find political solutions for the country.'

Naturally there will be resistance from many who are paid to regulate our grossly over-governed society. But we believe that the best of them, those who are not mere time-servers on the gravy train that is taking them towards a fat pension, have nothing to fear and much to gain from a more efficient system.



Labour blueprint comes under fire

BRITAIN's opposition Labour Party, bidding for power in elections likely next year, is trying to persuade voters that it has a credible alternative to Prime Minister Mrs Margaret Thatcher's free-market economy.

Buoyed by a comfortable lead over the ruling Conservative Party in public opinion polls, Labour published plans this week to reassert State control over key sectors of the British economy denationalised by Mrs Thatcher.

pro-government Daily Mail.

'Labour still has to come to terms with changed attitudes towards public ownership... social ownership does not look likely to solve any of the economic problems which have plagued the nationalised industries.'

Alan Elsner LONDON

But by avoiding use of the term 'nationalisation' the socialist party sought something of a break with its past, implicitly recognising the difficulty of reversing all of the wide-ranging economic changes wrought by Mrs Thatcher.

Instead its blueprint for the British economy spoke of establishing 'social ownership' over industries in fields such as defence, oil, aerospace, shipbuilding, steel and information technologies.

The Labour Party trade and industry spokesman, Mr John Smith, talked of avoiding the 'over-manning, inefficiency and red tape that characterised nationalised industries in the past in favour of establishing 'industrial democracy and accountability'.

But his words failed to convince political commentators, who greeted the plan with a mixture of scepticism and hostility.

'A document of ineffable wooliness and tedium, embedded in which are the latest proposals for nationalisation, sorry, social ownership', wrote Mr Andrew Alexander in the

It will certainly not save the sector from bureaucratic or constrain political interference, the Financial Times commented in an editorial.

The reaction encapsulated the dangers for Labour inherent in its policy. Under Mrs Thatcher hundreds of thousands of people acquired shares in the stock exchange for the first time in the 1984 flotation of the State telephone company British Telecom (BT). Most reaped a handsome profit on their investments.

Labour's document included detailed proposals for the renationalisation of BT and of British Gas, which is due to be floated on the stock market later this year.

But in a new departure the party said BT's 1.7 million shareholders would be allowed to maintain a non-voting stake in the company in the form of interest-bearing bonds or securities tied to the value of the company.

Privatisation versus nationalisation is likely to be a central issue in the coming general election. Mrs Thatcher's bidding for a third term, on delay holding the poll until June 1988.

but she is expected to opt for the second half of next year.

Mrs Thatcher regards her denationalisation programme, which has already seen the sale of more than £8 billion (about R28 billion) of State assets to the public, as one of the centrepieces of her seven

re-auctions squandered public funds by mismanaging key parts of the economy. Against the Labour argues that privatisation of BT and other companies has not improved services to the public and has resulted only, as the policy document put, 'in the transfer of assets from all

BRITAIN TODAY

years in power.

The sale of British Gas at an estimated £6 billion (about R21 billion) will add considerably to that total as well as setting a record for the largest stock-market flotation. It is also expected to provide the Government with the means to finance potentially vote-winning tax cuts in advance of the election.

Conservative strategy is likely to play on public fears that Labour's proposals would herald a return to the 'bad old days' when massive, impersonal bu-

citizens to a select few, depriving the people of what is rightfully theirs.

Smith also touched on another theme which Labour successfully exploited in helping thwart the sale of the State-owned car company British Leyland to US giants Ford and General Motors earlier this year — that privatisation led to the take-over of key sectors of the economy by foreigners.

'We are the true patriots,' he declared. 'Thatcher is selling the country, its assets and its future.'

(Sapa-Reuter)

IN THE past few years the Progressive Federal Party has moved away from engaging exclusively in the 'tea and cakes' politics of wooing white voters and has become increasingly involved in trying to help resolve problems in the townships.

PFP's central regional director Mr Roy Ainslie said, 'The PFP's work in the townships has been going on for some time but has been intensified by the states of emergency last year and this year and the shock resignation from Parliament of Progressive Federal Party leader Dr Frederik van Zyl Slabbert and the charismatic Dr Alex Boraine earlier this year.'

Mr Ainslie said previously too many PFP members, including key officials, left too much work for Dr Slabbert and Dr Boraine but now individuals were trying to do more work in parliamentary and extra-parliamentary politics.

Participates

He said the PFP believed a negotiated political settlement in South Africa would come about through Parliament, which was why it was there.

'But to be effective in its parliamentary role the PFP can't cut itself off from the mainstream of the broad liberation movement.'

Mr Ainslie said that, particularly during the states of emergency, extra-parliamentary anti-apartheid activists and township residents who felt they were being harassed turned to the PFP for help.

'We employ the use of the parliamentary shield to protect the weak and expose injustice.'

Mr Ainslie said the extra-parliamentary work of the PFP had, to a certain extent, been a natural process where whites made friends in the townships and became involved in township issues and problems.

He did not want to give specific examples of the help the PFP had rendered but it is known that various members have helped organise visits to detainees by their families, intervened

ALL political comment in this issue is the responsibility of J O McMillan, headlines and contents bills; J Barker; cartoons by Paul Lessing — all of 12 Devonshire Place, Durban.

The Forum letters to the Editor

Federal system the only way

SIR — In your editorial comment on August 28 you say: 'Those reasonable men and women of all races who want peace should stir themselves and make their just demands heard.'

Standards being lowered?

SIR — With the increased attendance at our main universities of black students we appear to be faced with a problem of lowered standards.

In employing black graduates one finds in most cases that these people do not have better ability or education than one would normally find with the average white matriculant.

Although the educational authorities deny this one can only believe that the graduation standards have been lowered to accommodate these people. How else does one arrive at any understanding of why this should be.

While this letter is in no way intended to denigrate black students it must be faced that South Africa more than ever requires graduates of the highest standard. With the ever-increasing demands on our own human resources the answer is not to churn out graduates in sausage-machine style but to increase the standards to meet the high quality the country needs.

A graduation certificate should not be a piece of paper to say that a person has been to university but evidence that he/she has been educated to be useful to the needs of this harsh world.

EMPLOYER

TV blues

SIR — Having watched Network on Tuesday evening (September 2) I asked my husband if he would be prepared to sell the TV before the licence becomes due for payment at the month's end. 'Why try to sell it?' he replied. 'Just try to find someone mad enough to take it away free of charge.'

ENOUGH SAID?

PFP doing more

work in the

townships

Stuart Flitton

Political Reporter

in some instances of security force action and publicised vigilante violence.

He said the PFP saw itself in a mediating role by virtue of its ability to work with diverse groups such as the United Democratic Front and Inkatha.

'There has to come a time when people from diverse organisations learn to live and co-operate within some broad constitutional dispensation.'

'The time is long overdue that the people from various organisations started talking more and killing less — we are doing our bit to facilitate that.'

Mr Archie Gumede, UDF national president, said the PFP was doing more now than in the past to help with the process of change and seemed to be responding out of their belief in democracy.

Publicity

'The PFP has used its position in Parliament very much to assist people who have been the victims of the actions of vigilantes, Inkatha and the security forces.'

'This has been especially so in highlighting things which would not have received much publicity.'

'The PFP has been asking questions in Parliament and has insisted that the Soweto killings be debated in Parliament, and all this shows the PFP is genuinely concerned with the welfare of everybody in the country,' Mr Gumede said.

Mrs Mary Burton, Black Sash president, said the example of the late Mrs Molly Blackburn had spurred other PFP members to work in the townships.

Mrs Burton said the PFP's unrest monitoring committee in the Western Cape had been of great help to township residents.

'At times of heightened crisis in the townships the PFP has been able to go

Well, I consider myself to fall in this category, and in the circumstances would like to voice my opinion, as follows:

1) There should be absolutely no further decision-making by our present government.

2) The three separate Houses of Parliament should be abolished, and a single House created where whites, Indians, coloureds and blacks will sit together.

3) After adoption and implementation of 1 and 2 above, all future decisions can be made jointly.

The question may well arise: who will represent the blacks?

Very simple.

Since a start has to be made some time, I would suggest Chief Mangosuthu Buthe and all the leaders of the independent, or self-governing, homelands which in any case should be brought back to form part of South Africa. It is my considered opinion that some form of federal government will in the final analysis prove to be the only viable system of government for our country.

PRO PATRIA

Can't do better

SIR — When Natal ceases to be a province and achieves full autonomy as a sovereign state — or even semi-autonomy under a federal system — it will need a refurbished judicial system and a Bill of Rights.

With this in mind we can hardly improve on that which has been in existence in England since 1215 AD.

Let me quote some of the noblest phrases from Magna Carta:

'No man shall be seized or imprisoned or stripped of his rights or possessions, or outlawed or exiled, or deprived of his standing in any way, nor will we proceed with force against him, or send others to do so, except by lawful judgment of his equals or by the law of the land.'

'To no one will we sell, to no one deny or delay right or justice.'

Any country that does not subscribe to these principles cannot be called free.

NORMAN PARTINGTON Durban

Durban library

staff tops

SIR — It was with some surprise that we, and several other members, read Mrs Oxy's letter (Mercury, August 28) denigrating the staff of the Central Lending Library.

We have been coming to the library for a great many years, at least two or three times a week, and we are always given pleasant smiles, a few words, and attention to our books, even though queues may be long first thing in the morning.

Usually, too, when being stamped out, a cheerful remark or two, such as: 'Managed to find some nice books today?'

We have not often seen the girls just standing chit-chatting unless the counter happens to be idle — and why shouldn't they chatter together sometimes, if the public is not neglected? After all, they need to enjoy their work, which involves a lot of standing.

We have noticed that the two readers' advisers, too, respond instantly to queries and are very well-mannered, pleasant girls.

Many of us older people come to the library for an outing to meet friends, gossip and collect books.

So, as we remarked to Mrs Moran one morning some months ago, it is a pleasure to come to the library these days as she really has a nice staff.

She herself does her best to get us all the books she can with the money at her disposal.

Economic folly

SIR — It is a matter of great concern that certain Cabinet ministers, some with short-term service, receive enormous 'golden handshakes' plus a fat salary tax free, for the rest of their lives.

How long can this go on without a drastic impact on the economy, considering the large unemployment figures and people living below the breadline. It makes no sense. And what if many others of these officials also resigned to climb on the bandwagon?

J C LARKIN (MRS) Durban

AS a by-election is pending all letters of a political nature must bear the writer's name and street address (not box number) for publication. In terms of the Electoral Act noms-de-plume cannot be accepted.

From The Scriptures

GOD poured out the Holy Spirit abundantly on us through Jesus Christ our Saviour, so that by his grace we might be put right with God and come into possession of the eternal life we hope for. — (Titus 3:6,7)

Technics ORGAN



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THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA intends to purchase 200 000 tons of grain from South Africa over the next three years, according to Li Teh-hai, Minister of Economic Affairs, who said that the Taiwan Power Company would import coal from the RSA as well, and that both countries were discussing investment possibilities.

J J Nerbonne TAIPEI

The RoC would encourage its businessmen to go into diamond-mining joint ventures as well, Li revealed.

The Republic of China has reiterated its ban for national security reasons on any person from a communist country visiting, attending meetings or participating in sporting events.

Foreign Ministry spokesman J Y Chiu had to set the picture straight after a clamorous complaint against the authorities here for not allowing a few young 'Go' or 'Weichi' players from a European com-

munist country to participate in a competition in Taipei.

Chiu explained that in an attempt to allow Chinese sportsmen and women to take part in international sporting games the Government does not ban local residents from attending international sports competitions in communist countries if the players are invited by an international organisation. Chiu was trying to explain the somewhat unusual presence of the Chinese Taipei Women's basketball team which competed in Moscow in

mid-August.

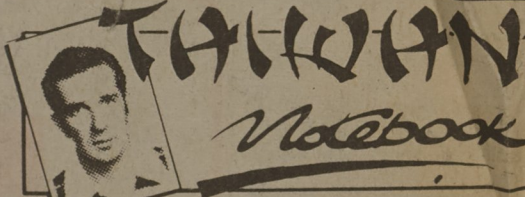
TAIPEI has already started preparing for the 1978 Lions Convention which will be the largest international meeting ever held in the Chinese capital. Some 30 000 Lions delegates plus another 10 000 family members are expected who will have to be quartered in over a score of hotels with headquarters apparently scheduled at the Howard Plaza Hotel.

Taipei was chosen as the Lions' convention venue for next year although Japan, Korea, Singapore and 10 cities in the USA were vying for the convention.

A THREE-MAN medical-research team here claims it has clinically proved that acupuncture treatment can cure the common cold and influenza.

Their study, begun four years ago, has shown that insertion of an acupuncture needle into the Hoku point, which is located between the thumb and index finger, stimulates an increase of interferon in the blood. Interferon is a protein substance produced by virus-invaded cells to prevent reproduction of the cold virus.

Lin Chao-keng, director of the Acupuncture Study Centre of the China Medical College, added that classical Chinese medical books had traditionally claimed acupuncture could cure colds and influenza but previously no study had been undertaken as to why



this was so. Other disorders long believed curable by the needle include headache, arthritis, convulsions and lethargy.

THE Taiwan Power Company has engaged lawyers to study the possibility of asking the General Electric Co of the United States for compensation for property and equipment losses incurred after a fire in the first generator of the third nuclear power plant, in the south of the country, last July.

They really don't have much hope because the accident happened after the warranty on the equipment had expired. GE sent specialists and provided some \$63 million dollars worth of equipment to repair the damaged generator, so the Taiwan Power Co can hardly claim GE has been unresponsive.

NO ONE would have believed it possible, but barely three years after MacDonald's Hamburger sold its first Big Mac here the city has become something of a fast-food jungle with no sign of saturation. Some 40 'convenience' food chains now vie for the youth market which appears to be the chief one influenced by the sale of the almighty hamburger.

Some new store or shop appears to open every week here, and a recent report claims that France, Canada and Japan now have, or are planning to have, franchise outlets in the RoC.



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LITTERS

ly highlight in its news focus on the movement that, apart from being a "thorn in government's flesh," it has also become a tragic pain in the neck to many unfortunate blacks. SA also needs to be reminded that nobody had heard of the obscene "necklace" until the formation of the UDF. Nobody had ever imagined the horrors of men, women and children being barbarically burned alive and kicked and

Dear Sir,
SO THE United Democratic Front
has celebrated its third birthday.
Business Day failed to sufficiently

stoned to death. A pseudonym is required in the interest of self-preservation.

SCARED OF THE UDF
Sending

B/Day 11/9/1986

□ □ □ □

Dear Sir,

I GET the impression that many of the so-called Christians in the Anglican Church, together with former members, consider themselves far too holy to sully their pure souls with political matters, such as the oppression of their black brothers under the apartheid

laws of SA.

Tutu-bashing appears to be the chief occupation of most of them and, indeed, of most white South Africans, including many newspaper editors. The evils of apartheid pale into insignificance when compared with those of a black bishop (who has the temerity to travel the world first class, no less) to rally support for what he considers the only peaceful method of forcing government to scrap apartheid. How dare he defy their idea of Christianity?

I admire Tutu for his guts. What a pity these nit-picking critics of his don't share his principles.

E L KEMPE
Bedfordview