

# Learn and Teach

NUMBER 6 1982

**20c**

excl. G.S.T.



**“Diana Ross” and her Mighty Queens  
Noise: a big danger to workers**

**“Kippie Moeketsi is not dead yet”**

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Cover picture: Cocky Two Bull

## What is the LEARN and TEACH organization?

The Learn and Teach organization helps adults learn to read and write. People learn in groups. Learn and Teach helps people start learning groups. We find a co-ordinator (teacher) for the group and we train the co-ordinator.

We also help groups after they start. We visit groups very often to help them. And we print books for groups to read.

In the groups people learn to read and write in their own language. People learn in Sotho, Xhosa, Zulu, Pedi, Venda, Tswana and Tsonga. When people can read and write in their own language, they learn to read and write in English.

We work with groups in many places. We work with groups in Soweto, Johannesburg, East Rand, Pretoria and Northern Transvaal. We also work with organizations that help learners in Durban and Cape Town.

Do you want to know more about learning groups?

Write to: Learn and Teach  
P.O. Box 11074  
Johannesburg  
2000

Or come to see us at: 9th Floor SARB House  
80 Commissioner Street  
(Cnr Simmonds Street)  
Johannesburg



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# **News about the SKIN LIGHTENING CREAM struggle**

**WELL DONE DRUM MAGAZINE!**

In the last Learn and Teach magazine we asked magazines and newspapers to stop advertising skin lightening creams. Drum magazine was the first to agree. They will stop advertising skin lightening creams. Learn and Teach thanks Drum. We hope other magazines and newspapers will do the same.

## **TOP SKIN DOCTOR GIVES ANOTHER WARNING**

Ban all skin lightening creams with hydroquinone - this message comes again from a top skin doctor in South Africa.

The skin doctor is Professor Findlay. He has warned people about skin lightening creams for many years. He gives his new warning in the latest American skin doctors' magazine.

Professor Findlay says the law the Health Department made in 1980 is no good. (In 1980 the Health Department said skin lightening creams must not have more than 2% hydroquinone). Professor Findlay says the law is no good because people will just use more skin lightening creams.

Another skin doctor told Learn and Teach, "I don't know why the Health Department doesn't listen to Professor Findlay. He is the best skin doctor in South Africa."

## **SCIENTIST ALSO GIVES WARNING**

"Skin lightening creams are dangerous. They damage peoples' skins," a scientist told Learn and Teach. The scientist works at a university in Pretoria.

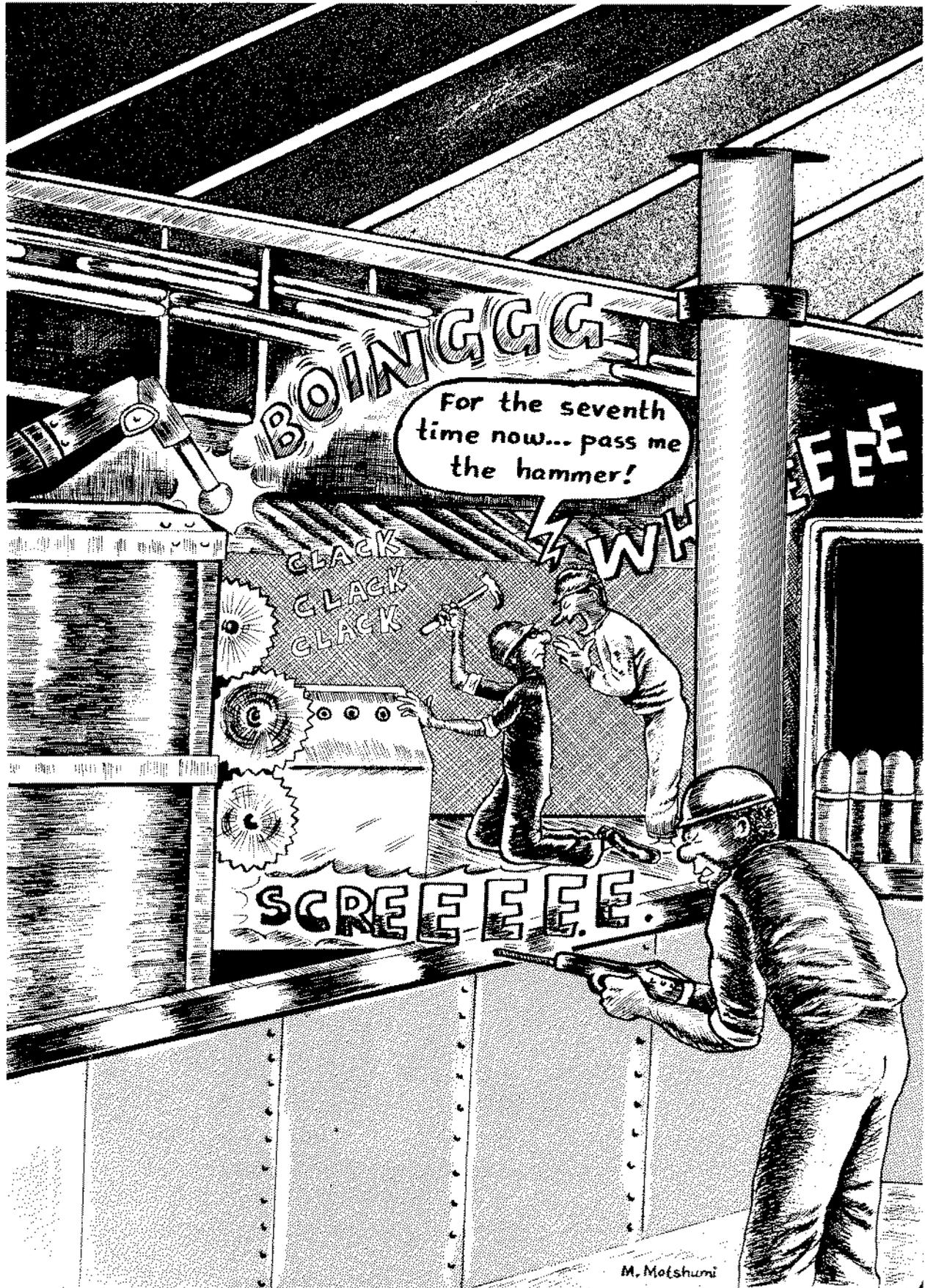
The scientist did tests with skin lightening creams last year. She tested creams that have hydroquinone. Most skin lightening creams are made with hydroquinone.

The scientist rubbed skin lightening creams onto guinea pigs. She rubbed the creams onto the guinea pigs every 24 hours. She did not give the guinea pigs a lot of cream - she gave the same amount people use.

After two weeks the guinea pigs's skins went hard. They got bleeding scabs. After six weeks their feet and noses turned black.

**THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT MUST BAN SKIN LIGHTENING CREAMS!**

LEARN AND TEACH



# **NOISE:** **a big danger to workers** **“We need a better law.”**

Are you going deaf? Do your ears “ring”? Are you sleeping badly? Do you feel tired? Are you losing your voice? Are you losing your balance? Do you feel sick when you eat? Do you feel nervous? Do you get headaches?

If you answer “yes” to one of these questions, you may have ear damage.

Over 250 thousand workers suffer ear damage in South Africa because they work in noisy places. The law does not look after these workers properly.

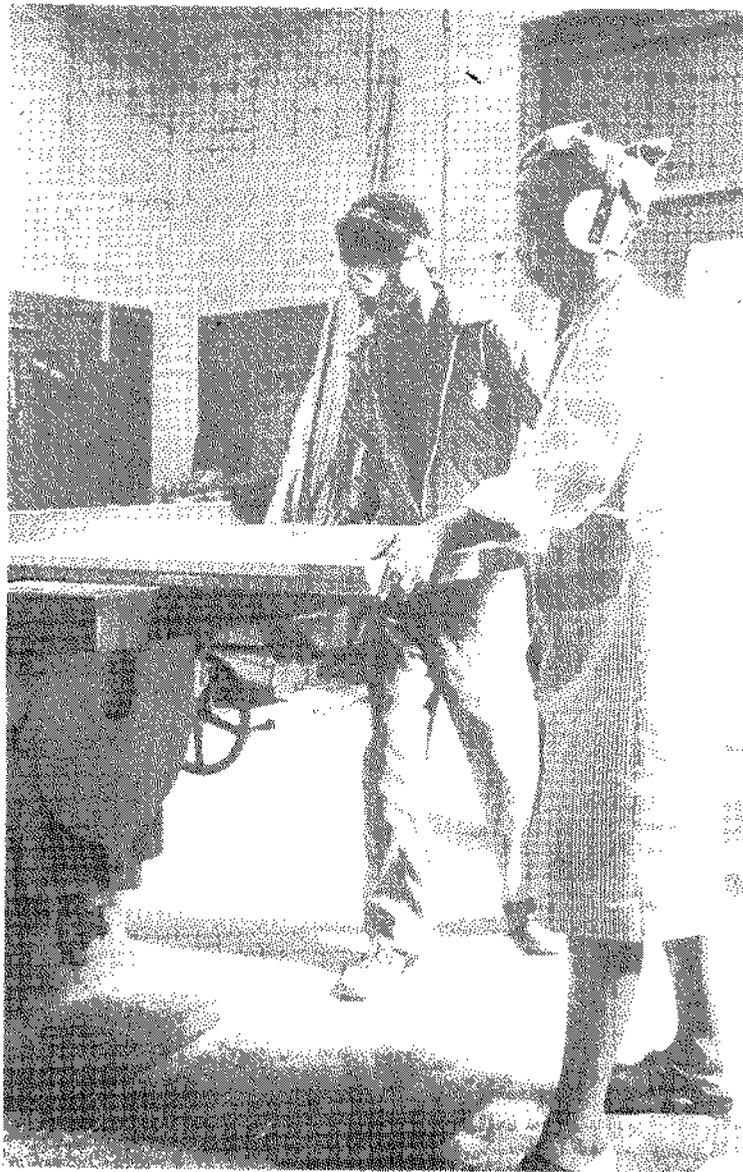
South Africa has only 32 factory inspectors for 30 thousand factories. The inspectors can only check a few factories. And factories only pay a small fine when they break the noise law. R200 is the biggest fine a company gets when they break the noise laws.

Learn and Teach heard about the noise problem from the Technical Advice Group (TAG) in Johannesburg. TAG is a group of engineers and scientists who help workers. They have made a study of noise.

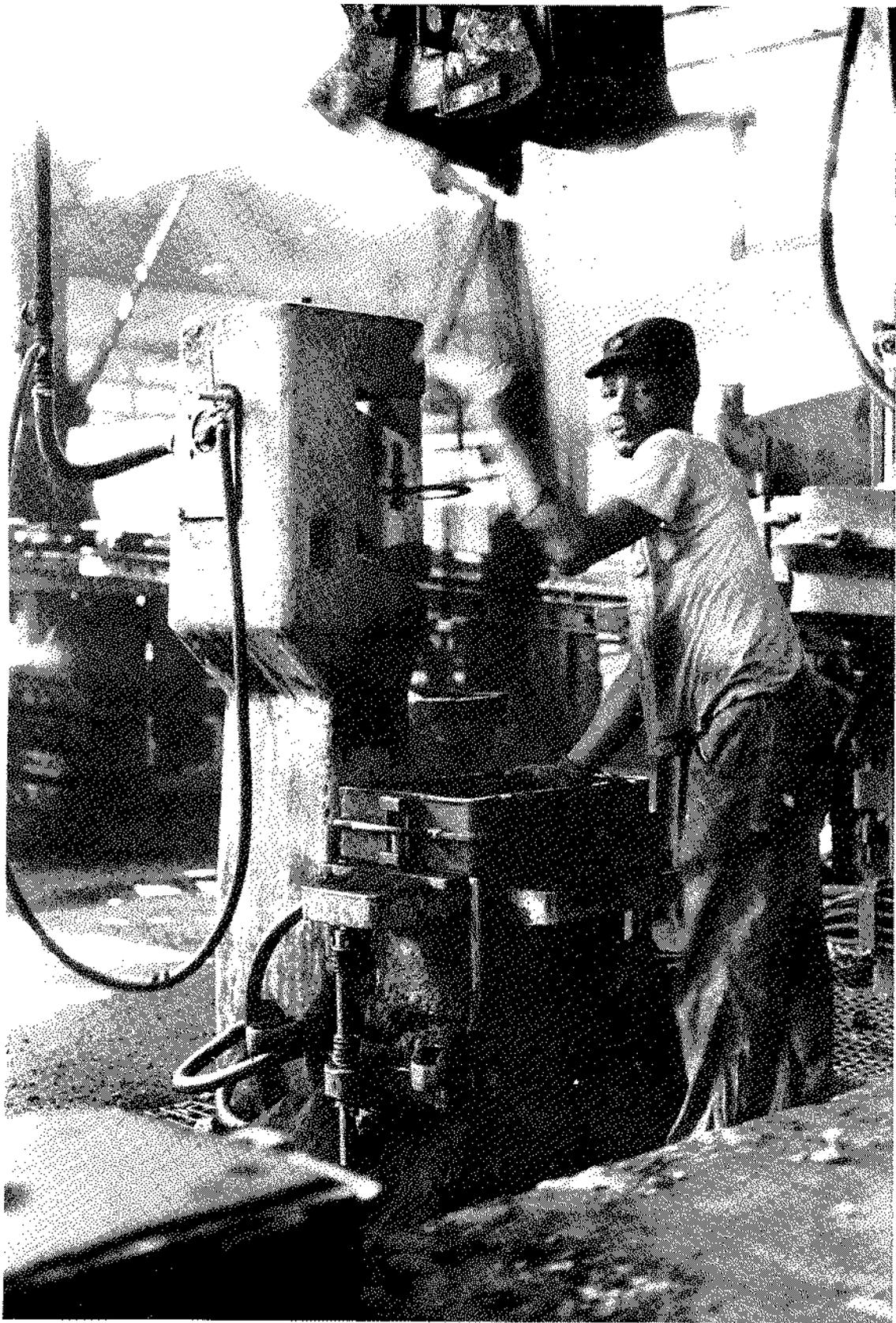
Most of the noise laws are in a law called the Factories Act. But the Factories Act is changing next year. So TAG thinks next year is a good time to change the noise laws.

TAG wants the government to make these changes:

- The government must make employers pay a bigger fine when they break the law. TAG says a R200 fine is not big enough. And the government must get more factory inspectors to check noise.
- The law now says that noise must not be over 85 decibels (A). Decibels (A) tell us how loud the noise is. TAG wants the law changed to 80 decibels (A). And TAG wants workers who work with noise over 80 decibels (A) to go to an ear doctor every year. The doctor must check the workers' ears.



- The law says that workers must wear earplugs when they work with noise over 85 decibels(A). But TAG says this law is not good enough. Most workers don't feel comfortable with earplugs. TAG wants employers to do more. Employers must share noisy work among many workers. Workers must not do noisy work all the time.
- Employers must build special rooms. The rooms must have special floors and ceilings. Then the noise won't harm other workers in the factory.
- Employers must look after machines properly. Many machines are noisy because employers don't look after them properly. And when employers buy new machines they must think about noise. They must try to buy machines that are not noisy - even when quieter machines are more expensive.
- Workers who work with noise must have quiet rest rooms for lunch and tea-breaks.



● Workmen's Compensation must pay much more money to workers who go deaf. Workers who go deaf get very little money from Workmen's Compensation. And deaf workers must get money more easily from Workmen's Compensation. Many deaf workers don't get money from Workmen's Compensation.



- Some workers work in noisy places but the law doesn't look after them. For example, the law does not look after road workers, building workers, brewery workers and mine workers. TAG says the law must look after all workers who work with noise.

But TAG says workers must not wait for the law to change. Workers must stand together to make their jobs safer. One worker alone can't make his job safer. But workers in a trade union are strong enough to fight for safer jobs.

TAG says workers can do things to make their jobs safer. Workers can:

- 1) **Measure the noise:** Workers can hire special machines to measure noise. This is the best way. But there is a simple test. Two workers must stand back to back. One worker must say 10 different words (example: cat, house, soccer, spade, table, shoe, bus, heaven, radio, pencil). If the other worker only understands half the words, the noise is dangerous. But remember, the worker must not shout the words. He must talk the words.
- 2) **Complain to the employer:** Tell your employer when you think the noise is dangerous. Ask your employer to get people to measure the noise. Ask your employer to make the factory quieter. Ask your employer to let workers share noisy jobs. And when the noise is over 85 decibels(A), tell your employer to send workers to a doctor for tests once a year.
- 3) **Get the inspectors to visit your factory:** If your employer does not listen, write to the Department of Manpower. Tell the Department to send inspectors to your factory. When the inspectors come to the factory, tell them about your problems.

If you need help or advice, write to TAG. They will try their best to help. Their address is: TAG

P.O. Box 44394  
LINDEN  
2104

# Books for workers

Unemployment and Unemployment Insurance Fund.

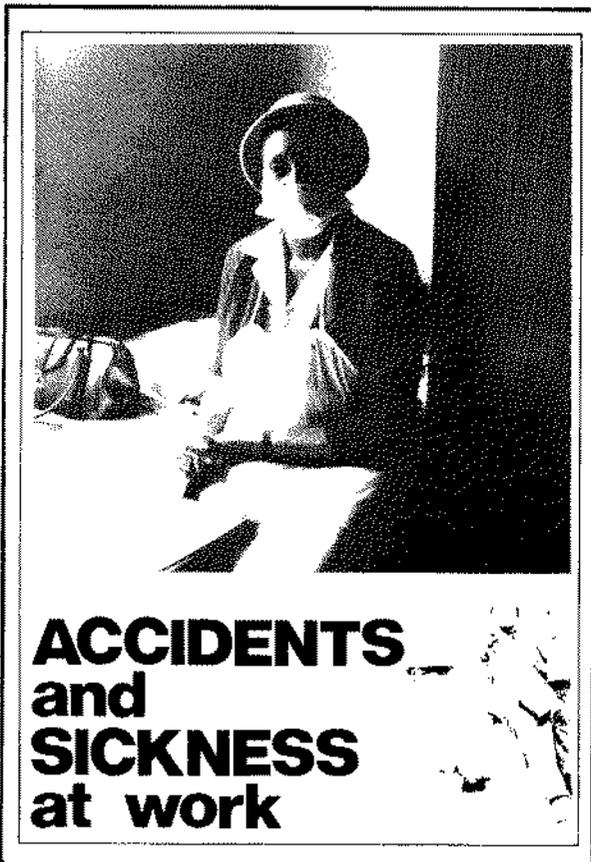
This book is about people who cannot find work. Many people in South Africa want to work, but they cannot get jobs.

If you want these books, fill in the form. You will find the form in the magazine. Or write to: **Learn and Teach**  
**P.O. Box 11074**  
**Johannesburg 2000**

**No work?**  
Can you get some money?



Unemployment and U.I.F.



Accidents and Sickness at work.

In South Africa, many workers get hurt in accidents at work. Many workers also get sick at work.

In this book you can read about accidents and sickness in the factory. You can read about why people get hurt or sick at work. And you can learn about what people can do when they get hurt or sick at work.



# “Kippie Moeketsi is not dead yet”

In the old days everybody knew Kippie Moeketsi. He was the best saxophone player around. He played with big bands like the Jazz Maniacs and the Harlem Swingsters. He played with Hugh Masekela and Dollar Brand. He played in big shows like King Kong.

Now Kippie's life is different. He cannot find work. He lost his house in Soweto last year. He had no money for rent.

Kippie now lives in Mabopane. This is a township near Pretoria. He lives with Dolly Rathebe and her family. Dolly was a famous singer in the Sophiatown days.

Learn and Teach went to visit Kippie Moeketsi in Mabopane. He told us about his life.

Kippie Moeketsi was born in the slums of Johannesburg in 1925. When he was a baby, his family moved to George Goch location. Kippie's father was a clerk in the municipality.

Kippie's father loved music. He played the organ for the church choir. He wanted his six children to play music. All the children became good musicians. Jacob, the oldest son, played the piano for the Jazz Maniacs.

Kippie was the youngest boy in the family. All his brothers went to school and studied hard. Jacob passed matric. Kippie's brother Andrew became a teacher. But Kippie was not the same. He did not like school.

Kippie had three good friends. They played together all the time. They were very naughty. Sometimes they missed school and went to the golf course. They got jobs as caddies.

“We only got paid one shilling and sixpence a day,” says Kippie. “So we stole golf balls. Then we sold the balls back to the guys we stole them from. We sold the balls for two shillings and six pence.”

They had another trick. They put sticky tar on the end of long sticks. They went to the shop in George Goch location. When the shopkeeper was not looking, they reached over the counter with the sticks. The tickeys behind the counter stuck to

the tar. They went back to the shop the next day. They bought sweets with the same tickeys.

Kippie left school after standard five. He was 18 years old. He got a job sweeping floors in a men's hostel. But the wages were low and the work was boring. He left the job. He got a job at a chemist. He delivered medicine on a bicycle.

Then Kippie got a present. His brother Lopis gave him a clarinet. At this time, Kippie decided he wanted to be a good musician. He worked in the day. At night he played the clarinet.



Kippie Moeketsi and Dolly Rathebe are back at work again!

"I played that thing until 2 o' clock in the morning," says Kippie. "On weekends I played for 12 hours a day. The neighbours complained about the noise. But I did not stop playing. I loved music too much."

Kippie learnt how to read music. After two years he played the clarinet very well. Then he learnt how to play the saxophone. Soon he was also a good saxophone player.

Other young musicians also lived in George Goch location. They played jazz together. They started a band. They called themselves the "Band in Blue". Kippie played the saxophone for the band.

The Band in Blue played in an old house near George Goch. The band played marabi music - the music of the people. The people from the slums came to listen. They bought food and booze. They danced until 4 o' clock in the morning. Kippie's problems started now. He started boozing a lot. He never stopped.

Kippie enjoyed playing for the Band in Blue . But he wanted to play in the townships. The small bands did not play in the townships. The gangs did not let them.

Gangs like the "Russians" and the "Spoilers" ruled the townships. The gangs only let big bands like the Jazz Maniacs and the Harlem Swingsters play in the townships.

Then Kippie got lucky. In 1948 the Harlem Swingsters offered him a job. The Harlem Swingsters started three years before in a backyard in Western Native Township. But now they were famous. The great Todd Matshikiza played for the group.

The Harlem Swingsters mixed American music with marabi. And they mixed it well. Music fans followed them all over the country.

The Harlem Swingsters had six good years. Then people stopped liking them. Kippie left the group. He started a small jazz band called the Shantytown Sextet.

The Shantytown Sextet played with a group of singers. The singers were called the Manhattan Brothers. The Manhattan Brothers were the best singing group in Africa. They were famous all over the world. They sold thousands of records.

The Shantytown Sextet and the Manhattan Brothers played all over the country. "Those were the days", says Kippie. "Our shows were always full. I always had money in my pocket. We ate well in those days."

In 1954 the Manhattan Brothers and the Shantytown Sextet went to Cape Town. They needed a piano player. Kippie saw a young man playing the piano in a bioscope. Kippie asked him to play for the Shantytown Sextet. The man's name was Dollar Brand.

"Dollar knew nothing about music at that time", says Kippie. "He was just a skollie. He followed me around everywhere. I taught him a lot. Now he is a big man in music."



Kippie playing with Dollar Brand in the old days.



Dollar went back to Johannesburg with Kippie. He lived with Kippie at George Goch. They played together at a place called Dorkay House.

At Dorkay House they met other young musicians. They met Hugh Masekela, Jonas Gwangwa, Johnny Getz and Nathaya Njoko. Dollar and Kippie started a new band with these men. They called themselves the Jazz Epistles.

“The Jazz Epistles was the best group I have played with,” says Kippie. “We played at four or five nightclubs in a week. Sometimes we played at two nightclubs on the same night. Then the white musicians complained. They stopped us playing at white nightclubs.”

The Jazz Epistles broke up after four years. Kippie got a job with a show called King Kong. He went to London with the show. But Kippie was boozing a lot. He got very sick in London. He went to hospital for two months.

Kippie came back to South Africa. But most of his friends had left. Hugh Masekela and Dollar Brand were in America. Kippie had no work.

Then Dollar Brand came back to South Africa. Kippie played with him again. But again the booze was a problem. Dollar fought with Kippie about the booze.

“That was the end,” says Kippie. “I have not played with a band since then. In 1977 I made a record with Pat Matshikiza. But that is all.”



Kippie never got married. He lived with a woman for 13 years. Her name is Becky. He met her in Sophiatown in 1951. They have two children. Becky left Kippie in 1964. She lives with her two children in Soweto. Kippie often visits them.

"I'm not bitter," says Kippie. "But I'm angry about one thing. The record companies didn't give me a fair deal. They made a lot of money from me. The record companies are now very rich. And I have nothing."

"I am poor now, but I am not crying," says Kippie. "I'm fighting the booze. I'm going to win. Dolly and me are making a come-back. We are working hard together. Kippie Moeketsi is not dead yet!"



# “Soul brother number one”

## The story of Cocky Two Bull

One night, 44 years ago, a woman gave birth to a son in Alexandra Township. Her name was Mrs Thlothlalemaje.

The family was very excited. They talked about a name for the boy. They talked for a long time. Everybody had a different name for the boy.

The boy's grandfather was very proud of his grandson. He wanted to give his grandson a perfect name. He went outside to think about it.

The grandfather saw a big shadow near the veranda. He went closer to have a look. His two bulls were sitting together. They were facing east.

The grandfather laughed. He had found the perfect name. He called the family outside.

“I have found the name,” he said. “Cocky two bulls - facing the east - Thlothlalemaje. But lets just call the boy Pohopedi !” Pohopedi means two bulls.

People always asked Pohopedi how he got his name. They always

laughed when they heard the story. They started calling him Cocky Two Bull.

Little Cocky Two Bull grew up in Alexandra Township. In those days, Alexandra was a good place for a child to grow up. The people in the township were like a big family. Everybody knew everybody else. When Cocky lay in bed at night, he knew all the voices outside.

Cocky played in the street with the other children. Cocky's best friend lived across the road. His name was Hugh Masekela.

Cocky and Hugh played together. They liked one game best of all. They played old tin guitars and banged on old tins. And they sang. All the children came to watch.

One day Cocky went home after playing with his friends. He walked into the house. The house was very quiet. Cocky knew something was wrong.

"The Peri Urban Police said we must move to Soweto," said Cocky's mother. Cocky did not understand. He was only 10 years old.

So Cocky and his family moved to Soweto. They lived in a place people now call Central Western Jabavu. Cocky missed his friends in Alexandra. Life wasn't the same anymore.

Then Cocky found a new love - acting. He started acting at school. He acted in many school plays.

Cocky went to Dorkay House in Johannesburg for acting lessons. At Dorkay House he met Hugh Masekela again. And he met lots of other young people. He met people like Mirriam Makeba, Kippie Moeketsi, "King Force" Silgee, Zakes Nkosi and Dolly Rathebe.

Cocky was happy. But his parents were not happy. They did not want him to act. They said he was wasting his time. They said he will never make a living from acting.

Cocky worked very hard after he left school. He wanted to show his parents that they were wrong. Cocky acted in plays all over South Africa.

In 1964 Cocky went to America. He went with a play called "Sponono". This play was the first South African play to go to America.

In America, Cocky met some great people. He met people like Les McCann, Langston Hughes and Sidney Poitier. These people were good to him. They showed him around.

Cocky stayed overseas for a long time. He acted in films for television. And he acted in other big films like "Killer Force", "Game for Vultures" and "Dingaka".

But Cocky was homesick. He missed his family and friends. So he came home. He went back to Dorkay House. He helped young actors.

Then five years ago, some people came to see Cocky. They told him they were starting a new radio station. The radio station was called Swazi Radio (SR). They needed a D.J. They offered Cocky the job.

Cocky took the job. And he was

good - really good. He called himself "Soul Brother number one". And everybody agrees. He is number one.

Cocky still works for Radio S.R. And on weekends he works for Channel 702. So when you are bored, turn on the radio and listen to Cocky Two Bull. He will make you put your hands together. And you will feel like dancing all night. If Cocky's grandfather is still around, he must feel very proud.



# Kid Sponono

A Story  
by  
Casey  
Motsisi.



Casey Motsisi was a famous writer. He worked for Drum magazine. Casey wrote many stories about his landlord in Sophiatown. The landlord charged a high rent. Many landlords in Sophiatown charged high rents. The landlords charged high rents because many people needed rooms in Sophiatown. In this story, Casey tells us about his friend kid Sponono. kid Sponono cheated Casey's landlord.

One day Casey's landlord came to ask for rent. ①



Landlord; "Casey, where is your rent? If you do not pay R10 I will throw you out."

Casey thinks; "All you think about is money."

When he left his room, Casey saw the landlord's wife. She was crying. ②



Wife; "Oh Casey, I am very upset. My son has gone. I do not know where he is."

Casey thinks; "I know where he is. He is staying with his girlfriend in Houghton."

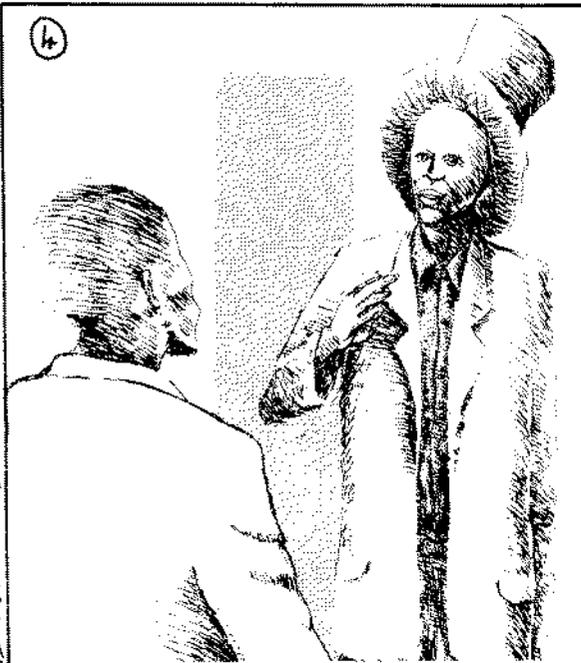
Casey went to visit kid Sponono. kid Sponono always knew how to get money. ③



Kid; "Hi Casey. Howzit?"

Casey; "Hi kid. I need money for rent."

This story comes from a book called "Casey and Co". Thanks to Raven Press for permission to use this story.

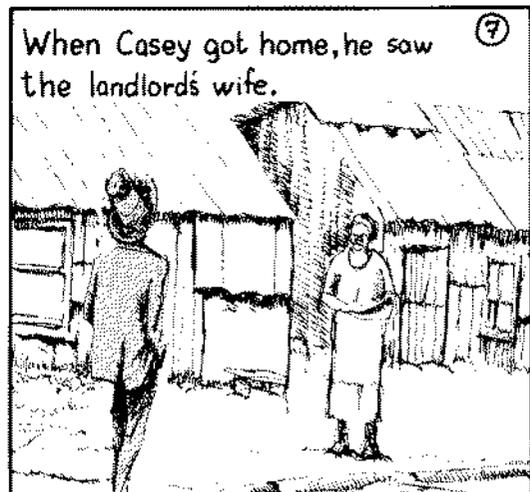


4  
Kid; "Tell me about your landlord, Casey."

Casey; "Oh kid, he loves money. But his wife is upset. Her son has gone. But I know that he is staying in Houghton."



5  
Kid; "Stay here Casey. I have an idea to get money."



7  
When Casey got home, he saw the landlord's wife.

Wife; "Oh Casey, I have heard about my son. A man came and told me that he is on a prison farm. The man asked for R15. He will free my son!"

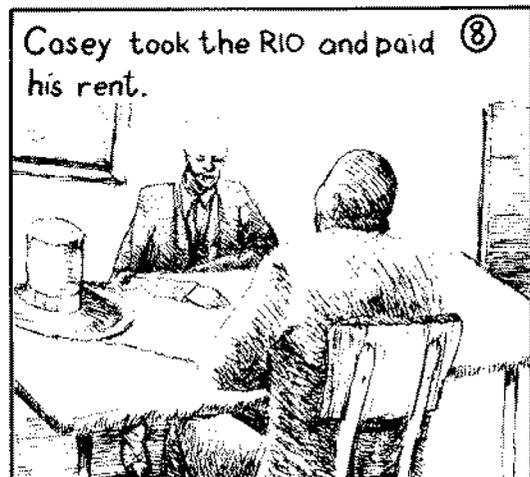
Casey thinks; "So that is how Kid Sponono got the money."

6  
Kid Sponono came back with R15. He gave R10 to Casey. Sponono kept R5 for himself.



Casey; "Hi kid. Thanks a lot. How did you get the money?"

Kid; "Don't worry about that. Go and pay your rent."



8  
Casey took the R10 and paid his rent.

Casey; "Here is my rent." *the end.*



# “His friends called him Sol”

An old Motswana man lay dying. He called his seven sons. He wanted to give them his last words.

“Bring me seven sticks,” he said. His sons did what he asked.

The old man tied the sticks into a bundle. Then he tried to break them. But the sticks were too strong.

Then he picked up one stick at a time. And he broke them one by one.

He sat up and said: “The sticks are strong together. I cannot break them. You must also stand together. Then nobody can hurt you. But if you don’t stand together, you will break into little pieces - one by one.”

.....

The writer of this story loved all the people in South Africa. He wanted them to live and work together.

He worked very hard for his people. He wrote books. He started newspapers and organisations. And he told the world how his people suffered.

His name was Solomon Tshekisho Plaatjie. His friends called him Sol.

Sol Plaatjie was born on a farm in the Orange Free State. His parents had many children. Sol went to a mission school. But he did not stay at school for long. He left after standard three.

After school Sol went to Mafeking. He got a job at the magistrate’s court. He helped black people in the court. He told them what the magistrate was saying. Sol learnt many different languages.

Sol travelled around the countryside with the magistrate. He saw how his people lived. In 1896 drought killed the people’s crops. And a cattle sickness killed thousands of cattle. Sol saw how the people suffered. He wanted to help them.

Sol thought of ways to help his people. He decided to start a newspaper. He called the newspaper ‘Koranta ea Batswana’. This was the first Setswana newspaper. Sol worked on this paper until 1908.

Sol moved to Kimberley. Kimberley was a big city. He thought he could do better work in a big city. In Kimberley, he started another newspaper. He called the paper

Tsala ea Batswana (The Bechuana's Friend). Later he changed the name to Tsala ea Batho (The People's Friend).

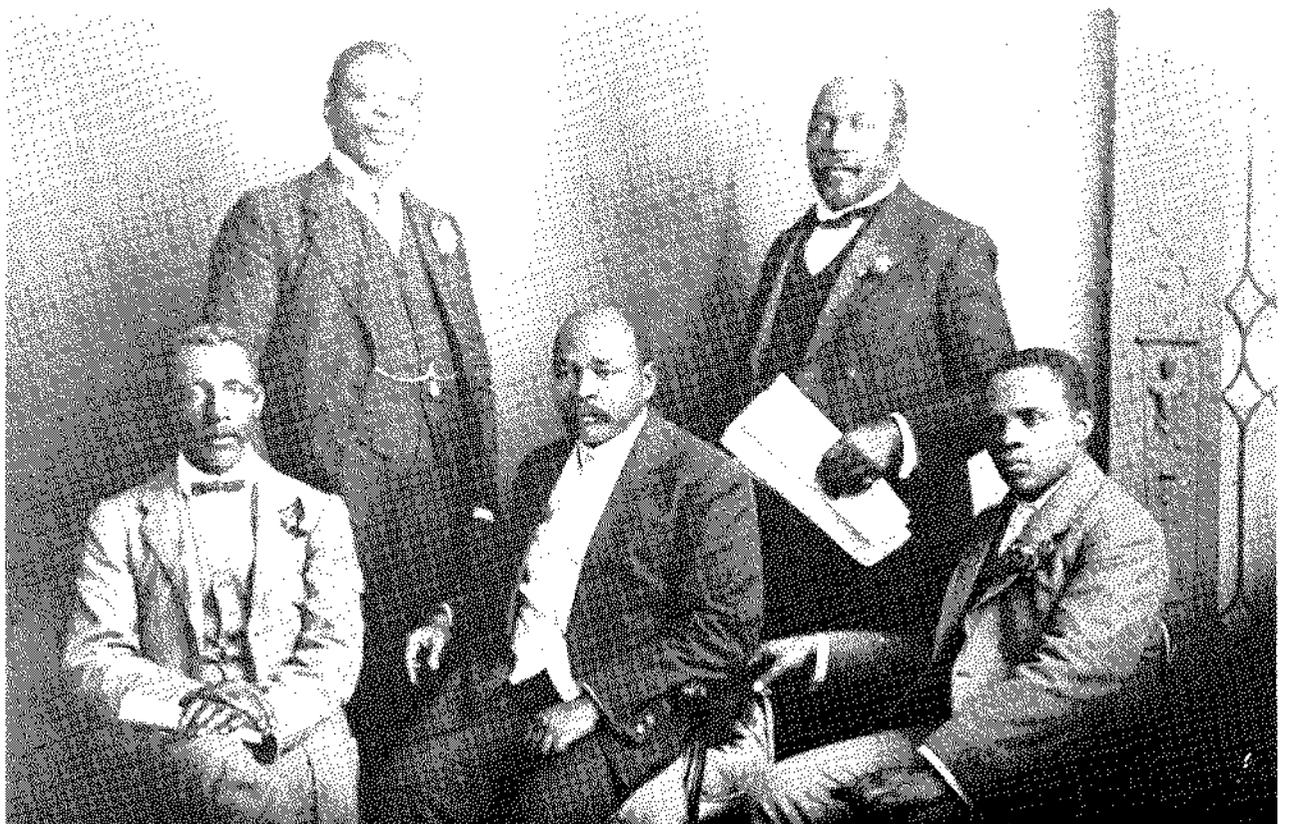
In 1912 Sol went to a big meeting in Bloemfontein. Many leaders, chiefs, ministers and lawyers went to this meeting. This meeting was the first meeting of the South African Native National Council (SANNC). The SANNC later changed its name to the African National Congress (ANC).

Sol wanted the SANNC to fight a new law the government was making. The law was called the Land Act. SANNC asked the government to stop this law. But the government did not listen. The government passed the law in 1913.

The Land Act gave most of the land in South Africa to white people. Black people only got land in the reserves. The law let black people live on white land only when they worked for white people.

Sol rode around the Transvaal and the Free State on a bicycle. He wanted to see how people suffered because of the Land Act. He wrote about the Land Act. He put the stories in a book. The book was called "Native Life in South Africa".

One story was about the Kgobadi family. The Kgobadi family lived on a white farm. Then the government passed the Land Act. The farmer told the Kgobadi family to leave his farm.



These men went to London in 1914. They wanted the government in England to stop the Land Act. Sol Plaatjie is sitting on the right.



The Kgobadi family packed their things. They took their goats and cattle. They travelled around in an old ox wagon. But they had nowhere to go.

They lived in the ox wagon in the cold winter. The goats began to die. Then their child got sick and died.

The Kgobadis had no land to bury their child. Late one night they stopped the ox wagon. They dug a grave and quickly buried the child. The Kgobadis stole some land to bury their child.

In 1914 the SANNC sent some people to England. Sol Plaatjie went with these people to England. The SANNC wanted the government in England to stop the Land Act. But the government in England did nothing. Sol Plaatjie came home. And the Land Act carried on.

Some people were angry with Sol Plaatjie and the SANNC. They said they wasted their time in England.

In 1918 the workers in Johannesburg went on strike. They wanted a shilling a day. Many workers were members of the Industrial Workers of Africa (IWA). The IWA was the first trade union in Johannesburg.

Sol Plaatjie did not agree with the workers. He said the workers must not strike. He said the workers must speak to the government.

The SANNC sent another group to England. Sol Plaatjie was the leader of this group. But the visit failed. The government in England still did not help.

Many workers were very angry with the SANNC. They said only a few workers belonged to the SANNC. They said the SANNC was not fighting for the workers.

Sol Plaatjie never stopped writing. He worked for all the newspapers in Johannesburg. He was a very good journalist.

Sol Plaatjie also loved music. He sang with a choir. He was the first black person in South Africa to make a record. He made a record of "Nkosi Sikelel' iAfrica". And in 1930, Sol Plaatjie's great book was printed. He called the book Mhudi. The book tells how the Barolong people lost their land.

In 1932 Sol Plaatjie got sick. He died the same year. He was only 52 years old. Many people went to his funeral - even people who did not agree with him. They went to bury a great South African writer.



Sol Plaatjie and the choir he sang with. Sol Plaatjie is in the middle row, on the left.

# Letters from our readers

Dear Learn and Teach

I am writing this letter for my mother. She is very sick. My mother wants to find her daughter. Her daughter's name is Fundiswa Joyce Nongindzi. Fundiswa is my mother's only daughter. Can any of your readers please help? My mother's name is Lucy Qabazi. Her address is:  
16 Acute Road  
Grossvenor Bluff  
Durban

Salakahle Qabazi

Dear Learn and Teach

I am at school. I am in standard five. My father died in 1978. My mother works on a farm. Our family is short of money. I need a bursary. Can you please help me?

Leah Moagi  
Trichardsdal

Dear Leah

The Institute of Race Relations can help you. They can give a list of people who give bursaries. Write to:  
The Bursary Officer  
SAIRR  
P.O. Box 97  
Johannesburg  
2000

- editor

Dear Learn and Teach

I have read your stories on skin lightening creams. I started using lightening creams when I was at boarding school in 1967. Now I have dark patches all over my face. I feel like throwing my face into a dustbin. What can I do?

Joyce Sovenga  
Evaton

**Stop using the creams. Go and see a skin doctor at a hospital - editor**

Dear Learn and Teach

I like your magazine very much. I like writing short stories. I have written some stories already. Can I send the stories to you?

Ali Hlongwane

**Please send us your stories. If your stories are good, we will print them. We want our readers to write stories for the magazine. - editor.**

Dear Learn and Teach

Can you please send me a list of trade unions?

Joseph Matlamela  
Elandsfontein

**Many readers have asked us about trade unions. We will print a list of all the trade unions soon.- editor**

Write your letters to Learn and Teach, P.O. Box 11074  
Johannesburg 2000

# “Diana Ross” and her Mighty Queens



Dumelang bomme ba rona  
Dumelang, re ya le dumedisa  
Re di mighty  
Re bana ba Diana  
Re bana ba metsi

Hello our mothers  
Hello, we are greeting you  
We are the mighties  
We are the children of Diana  
We are the children of metsi

This song scares all the basketball teams around. It means the Mighty Queens are coming!

And wherever the Mighty Queens go, hundreds of fans follow them. Their fans love them. The whole of Alexandra Township loves them. The Mighty Queens are the best basketball team around.

The Mighty Queens live in a women's hostel in Alexandra. Sorry, one of the players doesn't live in the hostel. Walk Tall, one of the stars in the team, is a guy. He can't live in the hostel.



But the other players live in the hostel. Ace, Sugar, Sea Water, Valdez, Let it Be, Trouble Maker, Giant Killer, Take it Cool ... the women in the hostel are proud of them all.

And anybody who knows the Mighty Queens, knows "Diana Ross". She is the president of the team. "Diana Ross" started the team. She trained them. She made them famous.

"Diana Ross" is her name now. But her real name is Dianne Mosia. She grew up in Witbank. She did well at school. But she loved sport most of all. She was a good tennis and basketball player.

Then her father died. The family needed money. In 1969 Diana moved to Johannesburg. She wanted to find a better job.

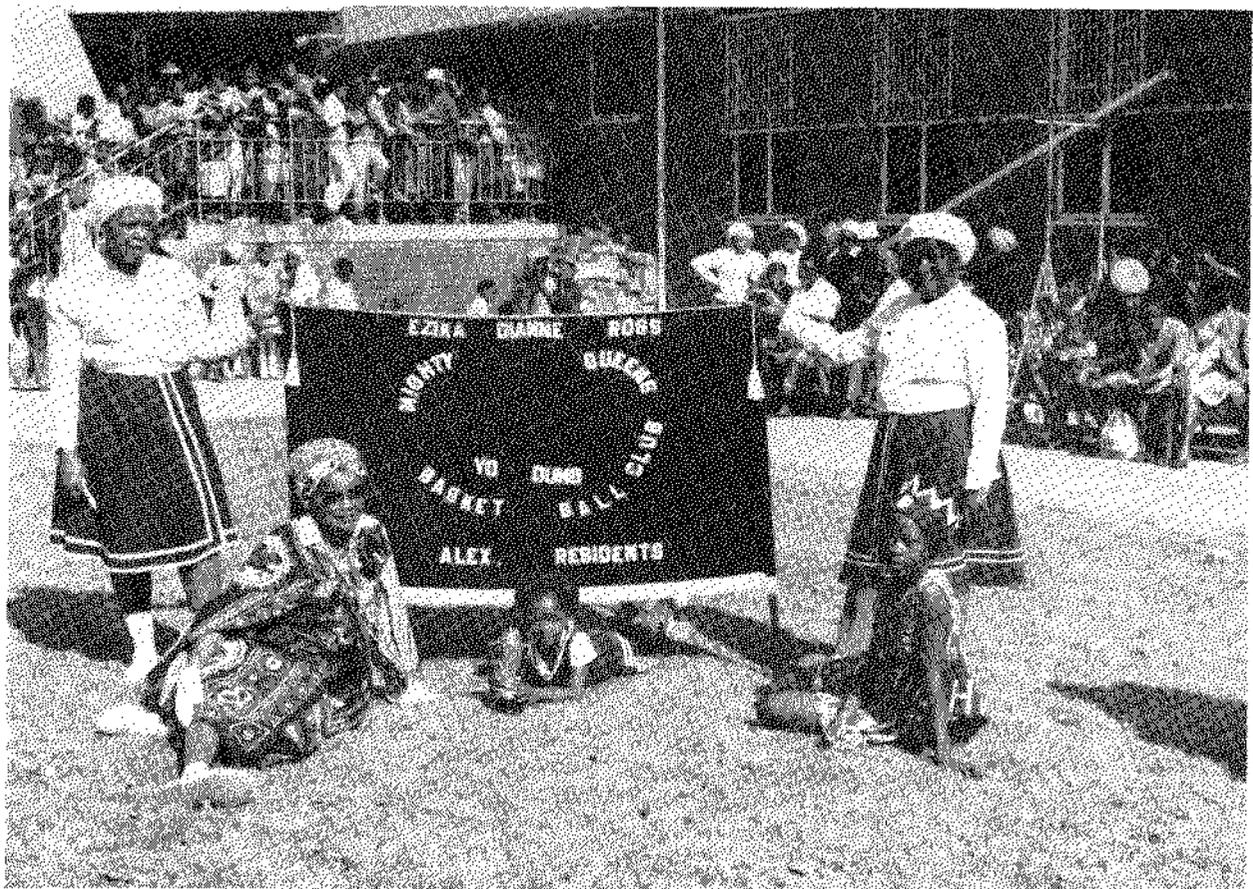
She stayed in the Alexandra Women's Hostel. She found a good job at a Dry Cleaner. But she was lonely in the hostel. And she saw that other women were lonely also.

Diana had an idea. She decided to start a basketball team. She told people about her idea. A lot of women wanted to play basketball.

Diana called her first team the Eagles. In 1975 she left the Eagles and started the Mighty Queens. The Eagles changed their name to Trinity.

Diana did a good job with the Mighty Queens. The team did well. Then Diana had another idea. Some women in the hostel were old. They could not play basketball. Diana told them to join the Mighty Queens. She said the club needed members.

Now hundreds of members follow the Mighty Queens everywhere. They go with the team to places like Newcastle, Rustenburg, Witbank, Brits, Bloemfontein and Kimberley. Diana always makes sure the members have transport.



The members have membership cards and badges. And they always wear the same uniform - white tennis shoes, dark red skirts with white stripes, white blouses with "Mighty Queens" printed on the back and dark red berets.

"We really do love the Mighty Queens," says Cecilia Zulu. She is a member of the Mighty Queens. "We will follow them anywhere. We will do anything for them. We even clean the field before they play."

The members have meetings every Thursday night. They watch the team train on Saturday afternoons. And on Sunday mornings they watch the Mighty Queens play.

Sometimes the Mighty Queens win some money. Diana puts the money in the bank. Every member knows how much money is in the bank. The club spends the money on a big party once a year. Sometimes the club helps members who lose their jobs.

On Sunday mornings players and members sing and dance before they leave for a game. Then the world knows that the Mighty Queens are coming. And after the game, they also sing and dance. Then the world knows that the Mighty Queens have won again!





## Letter puzzle

Look at the pictures and fill in the right words.

**Look for the words here.**

women, sun, mealies, pray, nine, forty, bicycle, clouds, seven, rain, heart, goats, house, bus, school, mine, shoes, water, trees, food, write, fence, cow,

Dear Mandla,

Thank you for the ..... (40) Rands.

I hope you are well.

We have not seen ..... for



..... (9) months. The .....



died ..... (7) days ago. The ..... 

are very thin.

The children are working hard at



..... . Siphiwo can

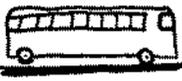
.....  well. I will buy them pants

and ..... . I fixed the .....   
and use it to carry ..... .

I put up a .....  round the  
.....  and planted ..... .

So now we look for .....  and  
.....  for rain.

The land is very dry. The .....   
are dying. The .....  is burning  
everything.

Each time I see the .....  on the  
road I feel sad. I think of you in eGoli.

I hope the work on the .....   
is not too hard. Is the .....  good?

I hope you are not chasing after city  
..... .

With love  
Nomhla.

# Fill in the right words.

We have done the first one

1. We walk on this part of the street ..... 

p	a	v	e	m	e	n	t
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
2. We put letters into this box ..... 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
3. We tie our shoes with these strings .. 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
4. This place lends books to people ..... 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
5. A Trade Union official in a factory ..... 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
6. The part of a house we cook in ..... 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
7. Old people get this money ..... 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
8. We stick these on letters ..... 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
9. We use this machine to take pictures ..... 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
10. Children learn in this place ..... 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
11. We walk on this part of a house ..... 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
12. The outside part of a book ..... 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
13. We use this to dry ourselves ..... 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
14. We make bread from this stuff ..... 

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

## Here are the answers

2) post box 3) shoe laces 4) library 5) shop steward 6) kitchen

7) pension 8) stamps 9) camera 10) school 11) floor 12) cover

13) towel 14) flour

# Fill in the right word

1  
Can you ..... me a Rand?

land

lend

2  
I put the tea ..... the table.

on

in

3  
I sleep in a .....

bad

bed

4  
We ..... in the Ciskei.

live

leave

5  
The car got stuck in the .....

mad

mud

6  
Cook the meat in the .....

pan

pen

7  
I left my hat ..... home.

in

at

8  
This work is .....

head

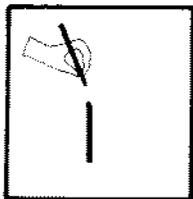
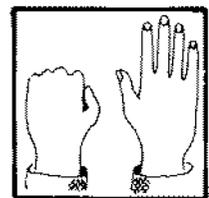
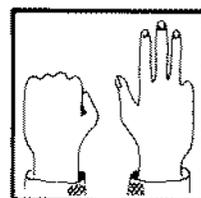
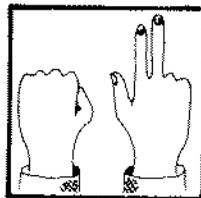
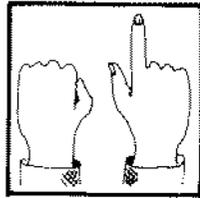
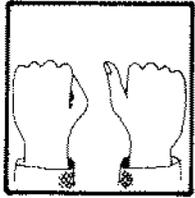
hard

here are the answers.

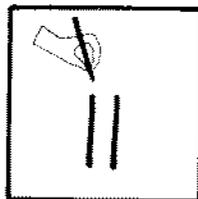
(1,lend) (2,on) (3,bed) (4,live) (5,mud) (6,pan) (7,at) (8,hard)

# Counting

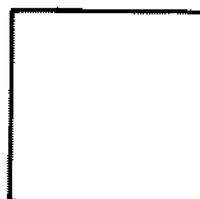
Make a stroke for each finger showing.



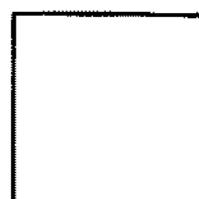
one



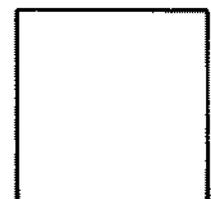
two



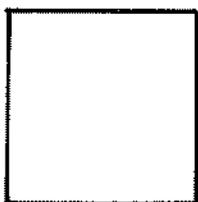
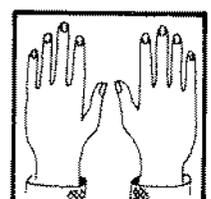
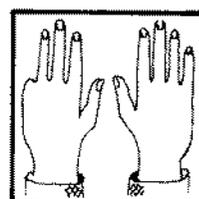
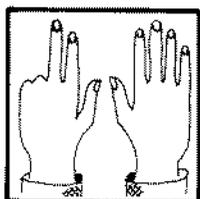
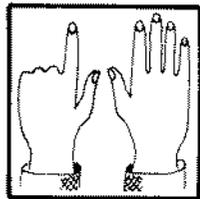
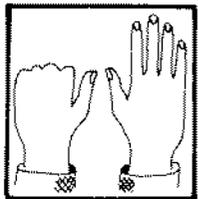
three



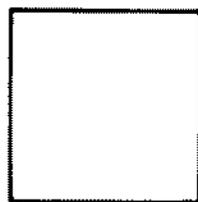
four



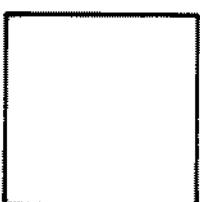
five



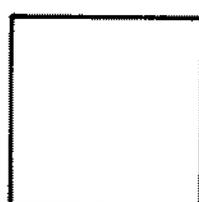
six



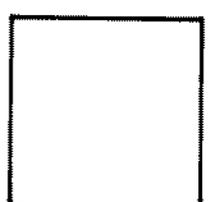
seven



eight



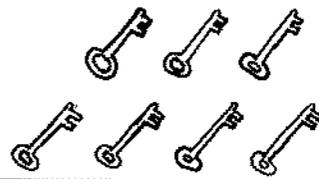
nine



ten

# Count the things and finish the words.

 one stamp	 five stamps
--	---

 one key	 _____ key
--	--

 one top	 _____ top
--	--

 one padlock	 _____ padlock
--	--

 one car	 _____ car
--	--

 one eye	 _____ eye
--	--

Here are the answers.  
seven keys, eight tops, three padlocks,  
six cars, two eyes,

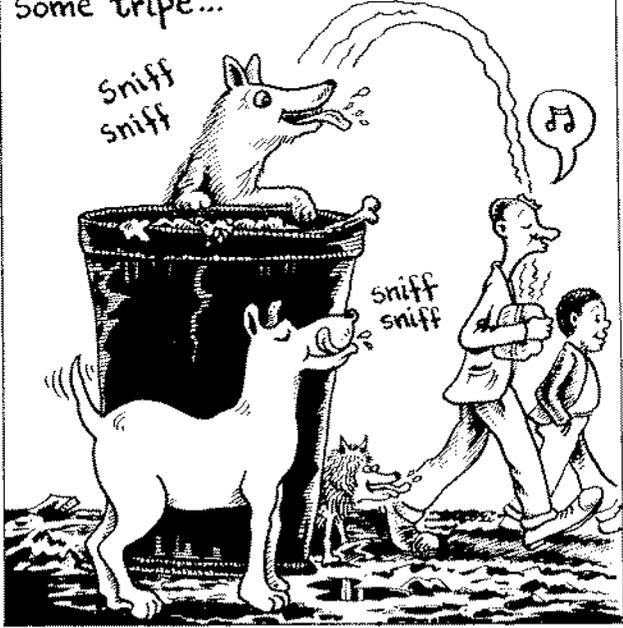
# SLOPPY

## AND THE BIG RACE!

I'm the fastest runner in the township. But I'm still broke!

© Motshumi/Mazin 1982.

Sloppy and Dumpy are walking home from the butcher. Sloppy has bought some tripe...



Hungry dogs smell the tripe. They run after Sloppy. Sloppy runs very fast...



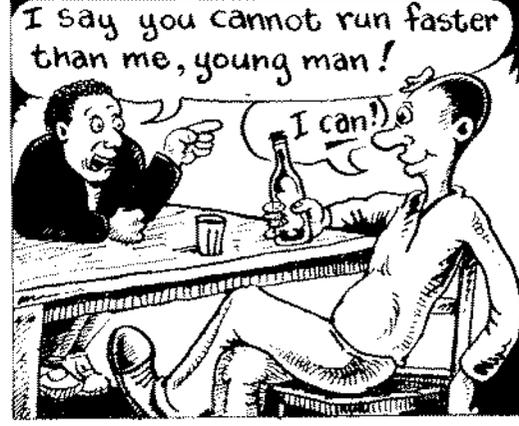
"Flying Feet" Tshepe sees how fast Sloppy can run...



"Flying Feet" is the fastest runner in the township. He wants to have a race with Sloppy.



That afternoon "Flying Feet" goes to see Sloppy...



Yerr! You are cheeky! I bet you R25 I can beat you in a race!



Sloppy goes to Dumpy and tells him about the bet...



Sloppy trains hard every day. But Dumpy sees Sloppy cannot run very fast if there are no dogs...

Soon Sloppy is tired. He asks Dumpy if he is running well.

Faster Sloppy! Run man, run! Hup! Hup!



You are doing fine, Slop! You'll win!



The night before the race, Dumpy enters Sloppy's room. Sloppy is asleep.

I know Sloppy is scared of dogs! I'll rub some tripe on his T-shirt!



The day of the race... many people have come to watch...



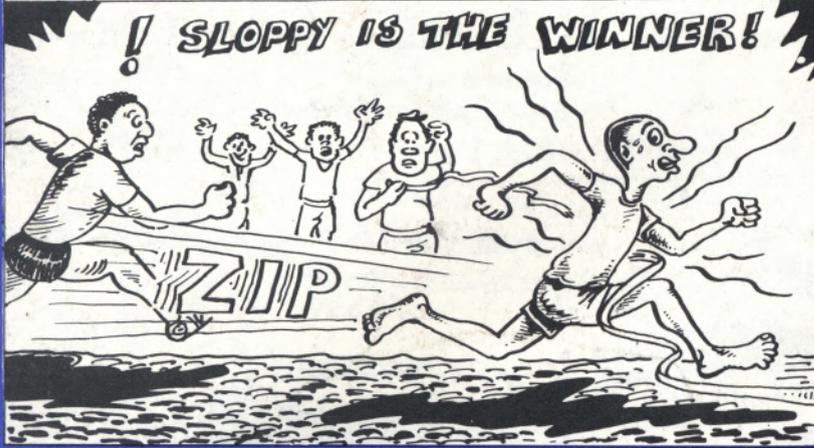
Sloppy is dreaming. "Flying Feet" leaves him behind.



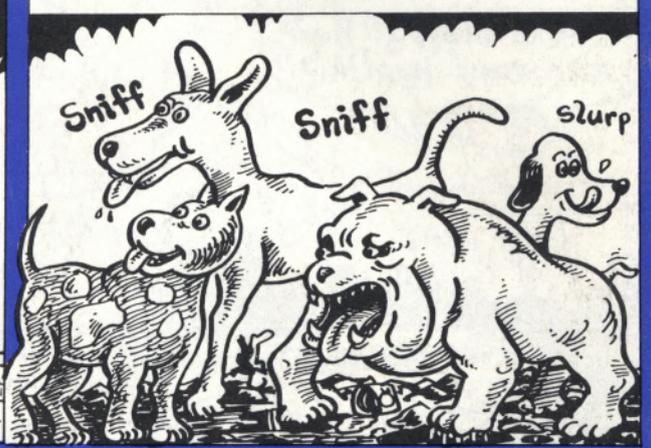
Then Dumpy sends his little dog after Sloppy. Sloppy sees the dog and begins to run very fast!



Soon Sloppy overtakes 'Flying Feet'.  
He runs past the winning line!



But other dogs nearby smell the tripe on Sloppy's clothes.



The dogs chase Sloppy...



Sloppy jumps over a high fence...



Sloppy is not looking where he is going. He crashes into Ma Dlamini. She is a shebeen queen.



Ma Dlamini is very angry...



You must pay R25 for this beer-NOW!!

Y-yes... er madam! I'm (gulp) a rich man, you know!



So Sloppy collects the money he won from 'Flying Feet' and gives it to her.

And the next time you eat tripe, use a plate, not your clothes!

what's so funny?

THE END.

More fun with Sloppy and Dumpy in the next issue of 'Learn and Teach'.