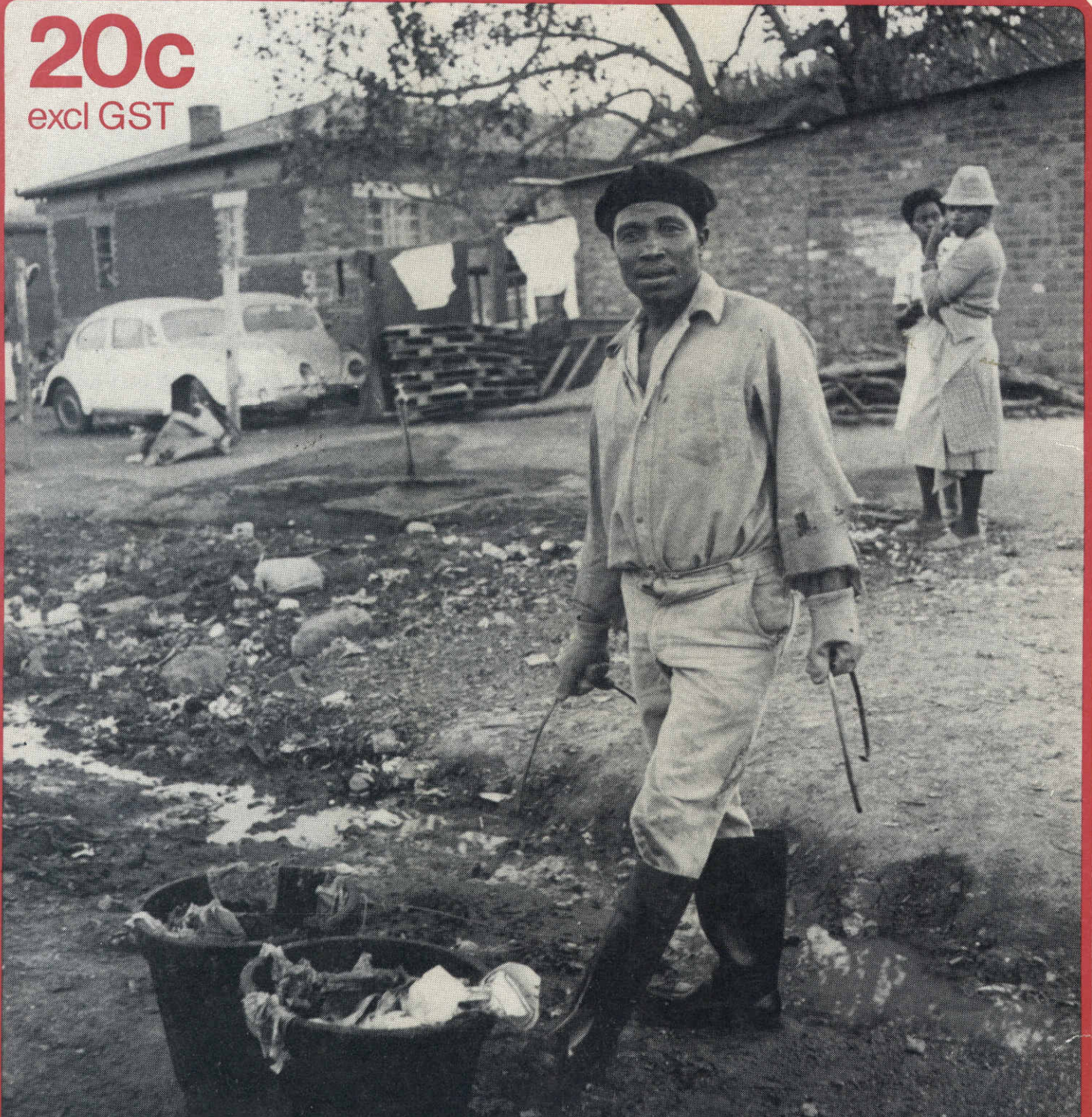


Learn and Teach

NUMBER 4 1983

20c

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Mealie Meal and Cancer

The big Workers meeting

The 'bucket boys' of Alexandra Township

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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



Telephone: 834-4011 or 834-5939

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A letter to the mealie meal companies of South Africa

We only ask companies who care to read this letter - only companies who want to help thousands of poor, sick people in South Africa.

Last year Learn and Teach magazine wrote a story. We said thousands of people in South Africa get a sickness called 'Pellagra'. Only poor people get pellagra. People who eat mostly mealie meal get pellagra.

And we said the mealie meal companies can help fight this sickness. They can stop people getting pellagra. And they can help people with pellagra. All they need to do is add two vitamins to the mealie meal. (These vitamins are called 'Riboflavin' and 'Nicotin').

The two vitamins are very cheap. You only need to add a few drops of the vitamins to a lot of mealie meal. And the vitamins don't even change the taste of the mealie meal.

Last month we heard this other terrible news. The Medical Research Council told parliament that cancer of the gullet (throat) is the cancer black men get most. And they said mealie meal companies can really help fight this cancer - if they just add the two vitamins to the mealie meal.

Doctors have asked the companies to add vitamins for over 10 years. Every single doctor we spoke to wants the mealie meal companies to add vitamins.

But only a few small companies have added vitamins. The two biggest companies, Premier Milling and Tiger Oats, have still not added vitamins. (Premier Milling makes 'Iwisa' and 'Impala' mealie meal. Tiger Oats makes 'Ace' and 'Induna' mealie meal).

These two companies make most of the mealie meal in South Africa. So if they add vitamins, thousands of people will not get pellagra and cancer of the gullet. And thousands of people will not die.

Learn and Teach spoke to these two big companies last year. Mr Thomas from Tiger Oats said: "We will do anything the people want. We don't believe the people want us to add vitamins."

And Mr Van Selm from Premier Milling said: "We put vitamins into our mealie meal for two weeks last April. But people didn't like it. People said the colour was not the same."

We believe the companies are talking nonsense. Tiger Oats say they believe the people don't want them to add vitamins to mealie meal. How can the company say this when they haven't even tried!

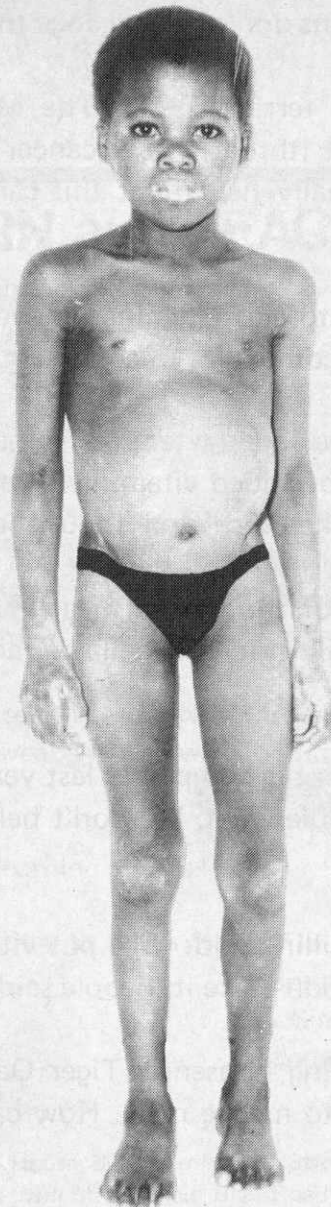
And Premier Milling says the vitamins change the colour of the mealie meal. Doctors have done tests - and they say this is not true. They say you can't see any change in the colour of the mealie meal.

We now think it's time for the companies to do something. After all, the bosses of some companies want the world to think they are nice guys.

Learn and Teach also asks the Health Department and the government to wake up. They have known about pellagra and mealie meal for a long time. Why do they just wait for the companies to do something?

Learn and Teach has sent this letter to the 10 biggest mealie meal companies. We have also sent this letter to the Health Department and the Minister of Health. Why must people get sick - when they can so easily be saved?

THE EDITORS



A CHILD WITH PELLAGRA

One step closer to Workers Unity

An old 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."

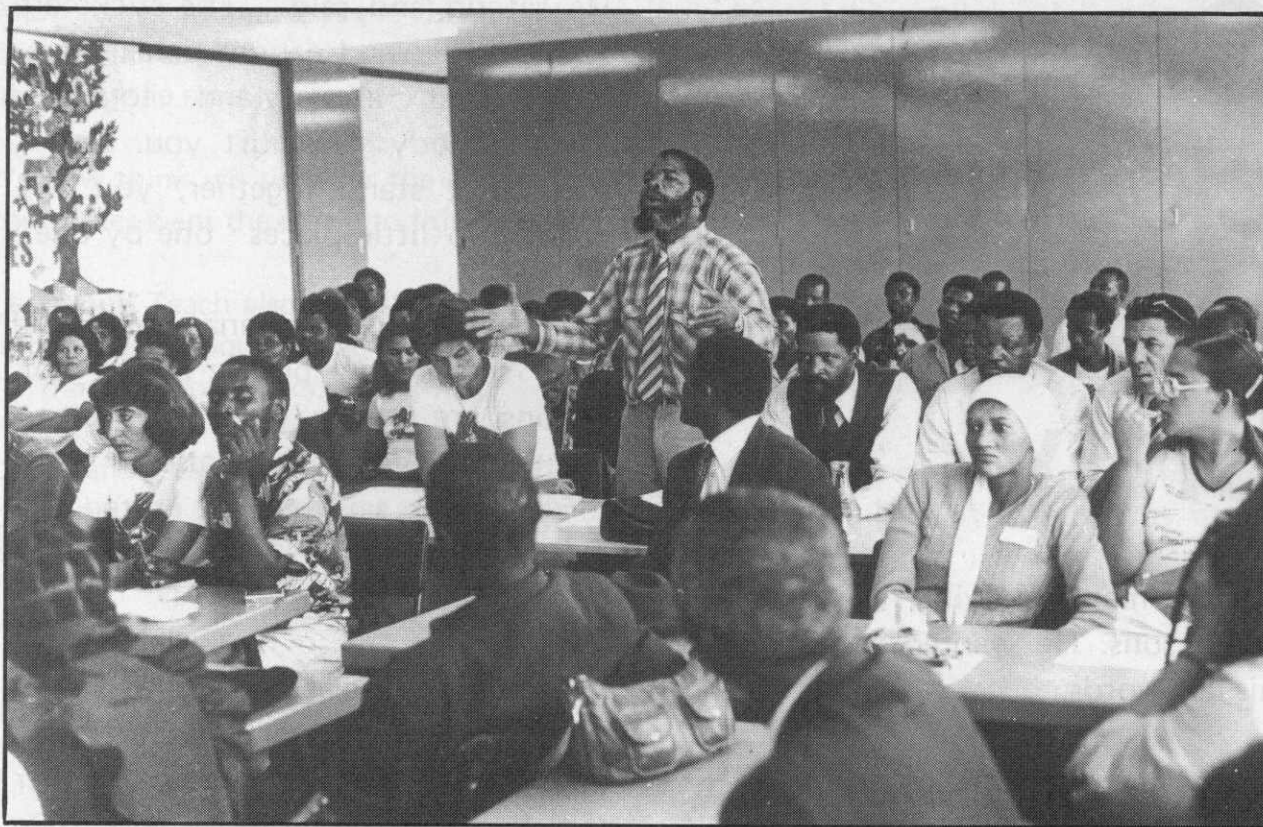
This is an old Setswana story. The story shows how people and organizations are strong when they stand together. When organizations stand together, we say they are united. We say they have unity.

In April this year 11 trade unions went to a very important meeting in Cape Town. The unions came together to talk about the unity of workers in South Africa.

The unions came from all over the country - the Transvaal, Natal, the Eastern Cape and the Western Cape. All the people at the meeting agreed about one thing. They agreed that



Unions from all over South Africa met for two days in Cape Town.



A worker from AFCWU talks for his union.

workers must stand together. They agreed the unions must unite.

But people had different ideas on how the workers must unite. Some unions wanted to make a federation of trade unions. Others wanted the unions to work with each other in solidarity committees.

After the meeting Learn and Teach spoke to some of the unions. They told us about their ideas on unity.

"A federation brings unions together under the roof of one organization," says a worker leader. "This keeps unions united at all times. A federation allows unions to fight battles together. And in these struggles the unions will be loyal to each other - just like a man and a woman who get married!"

Another union explained what solidarity committees are. They said workers can start these committees in different parts of the country. Workers from different factories and from different unions can join the solidarity committees. In the committees they can meet each other. They can talk about the problems the workers have. Then they can decide how to fight together for these things.

Some unions said the workers were not ready for a federation. They say workers must first build up unity in solidarity committees.

"In this way the workers will get to know each other. They will discuss many things about worker organization. In struggle they will grow to trust each other. Then they will be

ready to build a stronger unity," a trade unionist told Learn and Teach.

Other unions said their workers want a federation. They said these workers are ready for a federation now.

"A federation will allow unions from all over the country to work together all the time," says a trade union man from the Cape. "The bosses meet together from all over the country. We must do the same. Already we work with unions from the Transvaal. We are ready to join with them so we can work together - day by day."

THE MEETING DECIDES

At the meeting the unions talked about these things for a long time. They spoke for two days. At the end

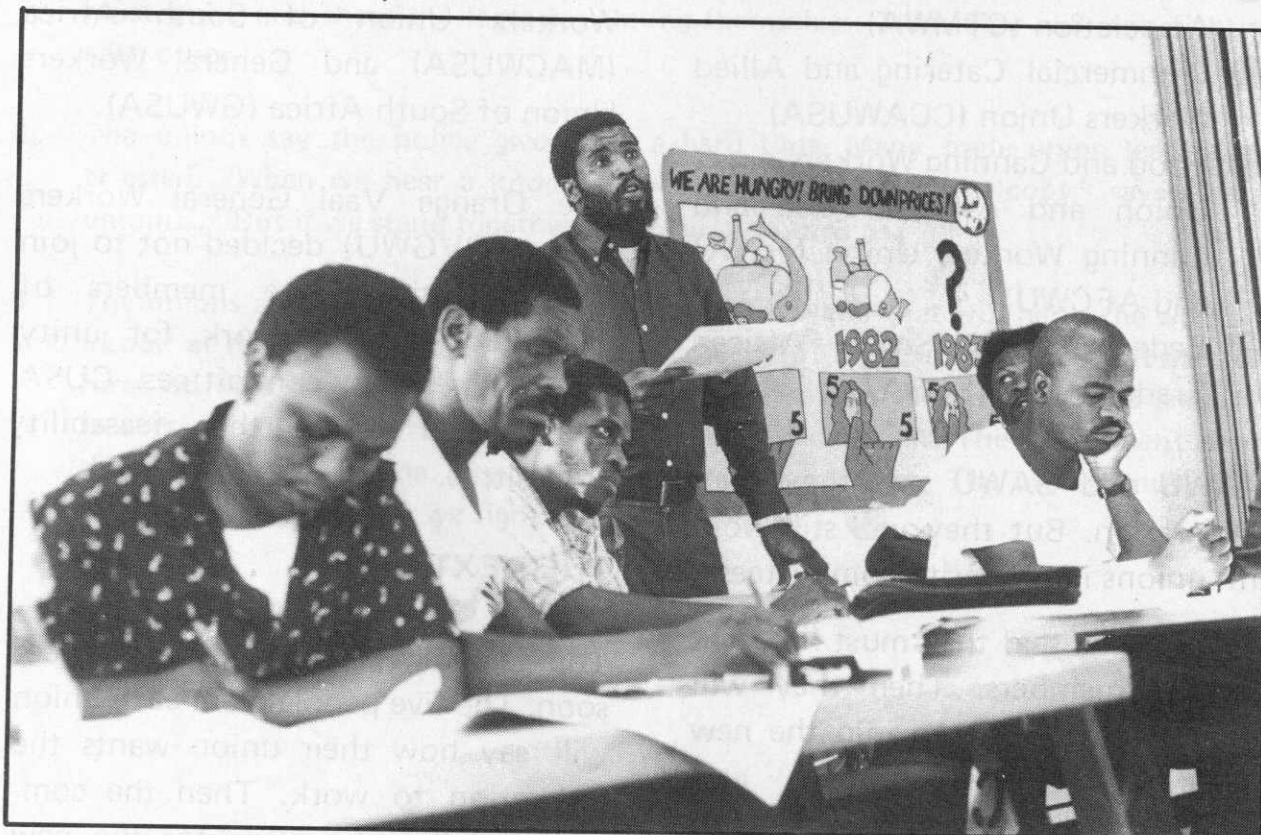
of the second day most unions agreed to start a new federation.

Then people at the meeting spoke about how the new federation will work. They made a smaller committee to talk about plans for a new federation. The smaller committee is called the 'Feasability Committee'.

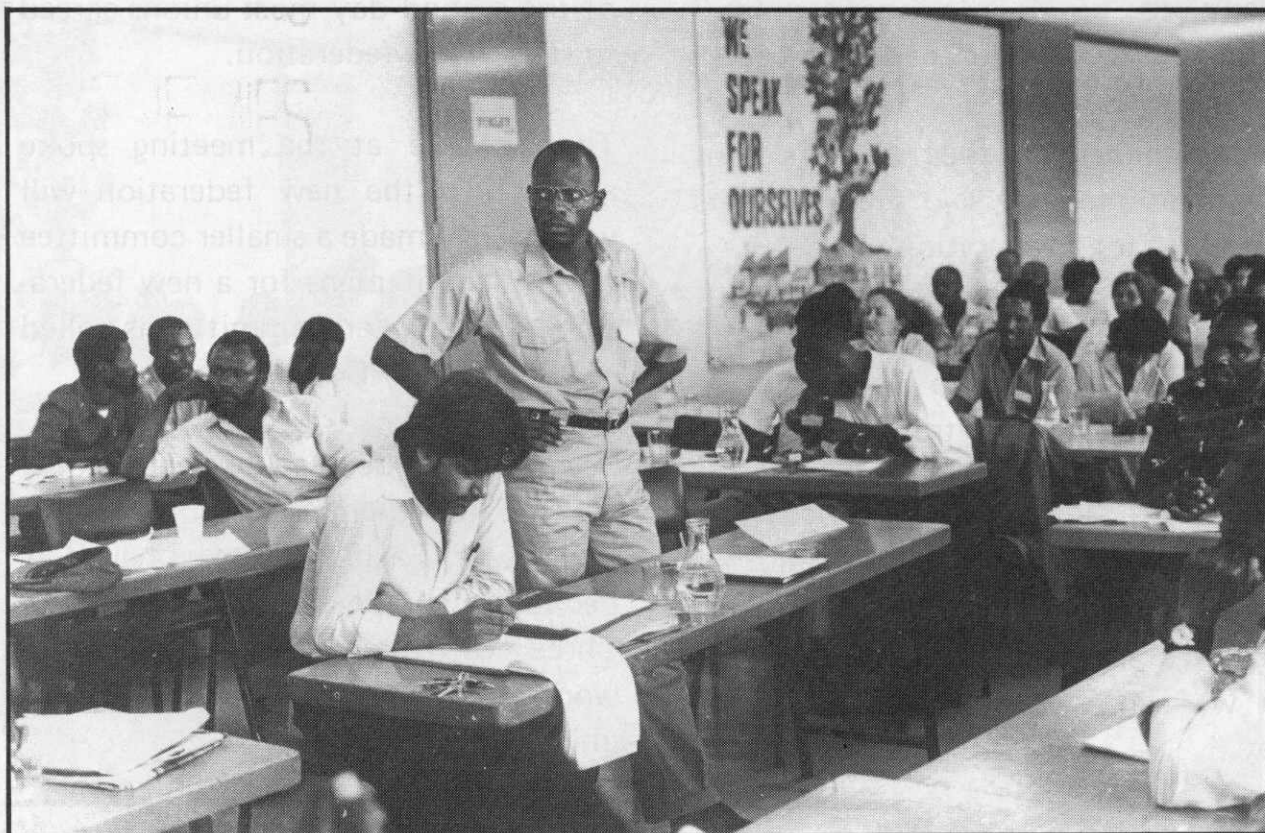
Seven unions decided to send people to talk for them on the feasibility committee. Each union must have five people in the feasibility committee. Three of these people must be workers. Two of them can be trade union officials.

The unions that decided to form a new federation at the meeting are:

- General Workers Union (GWU)
- South African Allied Workers Union (SAAWU)



SAAWU's president discusses unity.



CUSA members at the meeting.

- General and Allied Workers Union (GAWU)
- Cape Town Municipal Workers Association (CTMWA)
- Commercial Catering and Allied Workers Union (CCAWUSA)
- Food and Canning Workers Union and African Food and Canning Workers Union (FCWU and AFCWU)
- Federation of South African Trade Unions (FOSATU)

SAAWU and GAWU said they want a federation. But they will still work with unions in solidarity committees.

A few unions said they must first talk to their members. Then they will decide if they want to join the new federation. These unions are: Municipal and General Workers Union (MGWUSA), Council of Unions of

South Africa (CUSA), Engineering and Allied Workers Union (EAWU), Motor Assembly and Component Workers Union of South Africa (MACWUSA) and General Workers Union of South Africa (GWUSA).

The Orange Vaal General Workers Union (OVGWU) decided not to join the federation. The members of OVGWU want to work for unity through solidarity committees. CUSA later agreed to join the feasibility committee.

THE NEXT STEP

The feasibility committee will meet soon. The five people from each union will say how their union wants the federation to work. Then the committee will make plans for the new

federation.

Soon the unions will have another big meeting. They will discuss the plans of the feasibility committee. Then they will decide how the new federation will work.

In Cape Town the unions took one step along the path to workers' unity. The path is long and hard. But the workers know they must finish the journey. ●

WHY IS WORKER UNITY SO IMPORTANT?

Learn and Teach spoke to people from different trade unions. They explained why trade union unity is so important in South Africa.

1. Most workers in South Africa are not members of trade unions. Thousands of these workers work for the government, the railways, the mines and for white farmers. But the bosses of these workers do not like trade unions. They give trade union members a tough time.
The unions want to organize these thousands of workers. "But a small union cannot fight for the rights of these workers alone. We will only organize these workers if we unite and help each other," says a worker leader.
2. Sometimes the trade unions fight each other. They try to get members from the same factories. For example: In Vereeniging three unions are organizing metal workers. In the Eastern Cape many unions organize motor car workers. The bosses like this. They use one union against the other. This divides the workers. Unions must unite and share the factories among themselves. Then they will stop fighting each other.
3. The unions say the police give them a hard time. Many trade union leaders are arrested. "When we hear a knock at the door we think its the cops," says a trade unionist. "But if we stand together they will not break us."
4. The unions also believe the government is making laws that will harm the workers. "Look at the new pass laws" says a worker leader. "These laws will make it hard for rural workers to get jobs in the city. The government knows that rural and city workers are uniting in trade unions. They are afraid of this. The government wants the pass laws to divide city workers from rural workers. The unions must fight these laws. But how can we fight if we stand alone ? " ●

'Umsebenti Othsambile'

The 'bucket boys' of Alexandra Township



Imali yalaba bantu igcwele amabhakede

Awu! yaze yaninzi imali!

These people's money fills buckets

Awu! What a lot of money! (The bucket boys' song)

When the people of Alexandra Township come home from work, they know they are home. They can tell by the smell in the air.

The smell is both sweet and sour. The smell tells the people their supper is cooking. And the smell tells them the bucket boys are at work again.

In Alexandra Township people still use buckets in their toilets. Two trucks collect the buckets in the evenings. Each truck carries 15 men. The men run in and out of the toilets. They take out the full buckets and leave empty ones. The people call these men 'Abantu bamabhakede' or the 'bucket boys'.

The people of Alexandra Township hate the buckets. They hate the smell and the mess. But what about the bucket boys? How do they feel? Learn and Teach spoke to some of them:

Wanda Mdudi is 22 years old. He left school after he finished standard five. He went to

work in Port Elizabeth. But he did not like Port Elizabeth. So he came to Johannesburg to find work.

In Johannesburg, Wanda could not find a job. He looked everywhere. He got worried. His parents were not working. And his younger brothers and sisters were still at school. His family needed money in the Transkei. Wanda was ready for any job.

Then Wanda got a job as a bucket boy. He hated the job. He felt ashamed of the job. He did not tell his parents about his job for a long time. He wanted a better job. But four years have passed. And Wanda is still a bucket boy.

Stanford Dangelazana is also a bucket boy. He is 31 years old. He is married and has one child. His mother is still alive at home.

When Stanford came to Johannesburg, he also couldn't find a job. He became a bucket boy. His wife sometimes visits him. She always complains about his job. Stanford also prays for a better job. But ten years have passed. And Stanford is still a bucket boy.

"We start work at 5 o'clock in the afternoon," says Stanford. "Before work, we get dressed in the hostel. We all live in the Alexandra Men's Hostel. We put on our overalls, boots and gloves. Then we rush to work. If we are late, they sometimes send us back to sleep. And then they take money from our wages.

"We don't empty all the buckets every night. We only empty the buckets in one part of the township each night. We drive into the part of the township where we are working. We drive around and throw the clean buckets off the truck.



After the bucket boys fetch the buckets, other men clean the buckets here.



"Then the truck goes back to the place where we started. We get off the truck and fetch the buckets from the toilets. The buckets are always full. We use handles to pick up the buckets. We take the buckets outside. We then put clean buckets into the toilets.

"The truck comes back for the third time. The truck drives slowly past. We empty the buckets into one part of the truck. And we put the dirty, empty buckets into another part of the truck.

"Then we drive back to the 'tip hole'. We empty all the shit in the truck into the 'tip hole'. Other men then clean the buckets. The truck then takes us back to the hostel at about 10 o'clock.

The bucket boys run all the time. They shout orders at each other and they sing at the same time. They look happy in their work.

"Many people think we are happy because we sing, "says Joseph, another bucket boy. "But we are not happy. I will never let my son come near a job like this. I want him to have a better life.

"Our job is not a healthy job. If you have a wound or a cut, the wound or cut gets worse at work. Some of us get boils and 'isifesane' on our hands. Sometimes we fall because we run at night.

"When we fall, they take us to the clinic. But when we get sick away from work, then we must go to our own doctor. And we must pay. We must also take a doctor's certificate when we go back to work.

"Most of us come from Umzimkhulu in the Transkei. We come from a clan called 'Amabhaca'. So many people call our work the work of the Bhaca's. In our language we call our work 'umsebenti othsambile' - this means the 'soft work'.

"So you can see, we are from the Transkei. We are migrant workers. We migrant workers can't change jobs very easily. We get stuck in one job.

"Other tribes hate this job. They say this job is dirty. When we come back from work, our overalls smell very bad. People shout at us. They call us names. They insult us. We always shout back, "This shit is your shit, not ours". Sometimes we get so angry we empty our buckets over people who laugh at us.

"I don't understand why people don't treat us kindly. The whole place would stink without us. We suffer in our work. We must eat in the daytime. At night we can't eat because the smell stays with us.

"We do not work on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays. We have a rest. We clean our own overalls. We sometimes play football. We do try to dosomething. Otherwise we will get bored in the hostel.

We go home for one month every year. We go to see the people who love us. And we leave all the shit behind us! ●

Kwa Vezinyawo



No place to hide your feet

When they knocked down the old Brakpan location, the people moved to a new township called Tsakane. But only people who were born and grew up in Brakpan got houses in Tsakane. The people who come from other places in the Transvaal did not get any houses.

The East Rand Administration Board (ERAB) only gave these people numbers. They told the people to build themselves shacks at the very end of Tsakane Township. People call this place Silvertown. The people also have another name for this place. They call it Kwa-Vezinyawo.

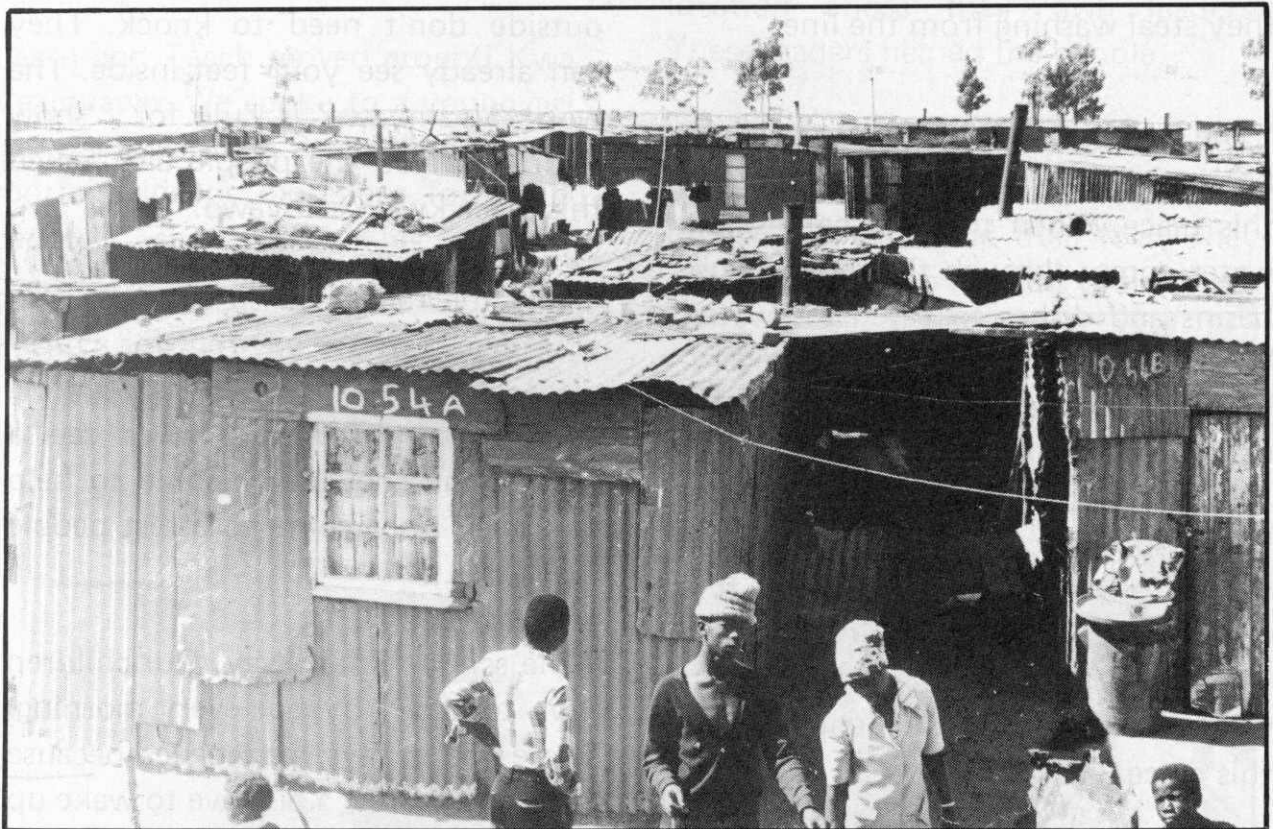
The place is crowded. The shacks are close together. The streets are muddy after the rain. And when the rain does not come, the streets are dry and dusty.

The place has no clinics or schools. There are only two street lamps in the whole shack township. Every street has only two taps. Dirty, smelling water runs in the streets. Learn and Teach visited the place and spoke to some people.-

Dan Vilakazi lives in Silvertown. He has a wife with one daughter. He spoke about life in the place: "We came here in 1981. ERAB told us to come here for a while. They promised to build houses for us in two years.

"They gave us numbers and we built our shacks. We spent a lot of money on corrugated iron and other building materials. I spent nearly three hundred rands on building materials to make this little shack.

"My wife left her job to look after the





Dan Vilakazi with his wife and daughter outside his shack.

shack. People break into our houses in the day when nobody is home. And they steal washing from the line.

"The corrugated iron makes the shack hot in summer. In winter we freeze in this place. When the rain comes, the water comes through the roof. We use basins and dishes to catch the water. When the rains come at night, everyone must wake up to keep the shack dry.

"Do you know why we call this place kwa-Vezinyawo? Well, when we first came here we found only toilets. There was nothing else. The toilets were painted silver. So people called this place Silvertown.

"But we noticed something else. When

you sit in the toilet, people can see your feet from outside. People from outside don't need to knock. They can already see your feet inside. The word 'Vezinyawo' is Zulu for - 'show your feet'. So the people also called this place kwa-Vezinyawo.

"Now the rent has also gone up. Can you believe it? We pay rent for a dirty place like this! When something goes wrong here you never see a policeman. They never come to help us - they only come to arrest people for passes.

"The school is far away. Our children have to travel by bus every morning. There are always long queues because buses are scarce. You have to wake up very early to stand in the long queues.

People and children are late for work and school almost everyday.

"When one family has a party or stokvel, we can't sleep at night. We feel like the party is in our own house. We just hope that one day ERAB will keep its promises. I don't know how much longer we can stay in this terrible place.

Learn and Teach spoke to Mrs Alleta Dube. She is 69 years old. She shares a shack with her children and grandchildren. Altogether 15 people live in the shack. The eldest son Dan is the only one who has a job.

Mrs Dube is a very sick woman. She has fits very often. The nearest hospital is in town. When Mrs Dube must go to the hospital, she must hire a car for R10 or R15.

Learn and Teach moved around Kwa-Vezinyawo. We spoke to a young girl. Her name is Maria Soko. "We have no sports fields or bioscopes for young people," she said. "This place is dead. We spend the whole day

cleaning. When we finish cleaning, we start again."

We then saw some men drinking beer outside a house. The wind was blowing dust into the beer. They laughed and one man said: "We are now used to it. Maybe the dust gives the beer a better taste, who knows?"

Another man said: " You see there is no clinic or hospital here. We only have a graveyard nearby. They can bury us quickly - no problems."

"We do not have any leaders to help us," said another man. "ERAB chooses our leaders for us. They choose a Zulu to speak for the Zulu people. They choose a Tswana to speak for Tswana people and so on. These people on the Council do not help anybody really. People in the old location chose their own leaders. These leaders helped the people.

The people of Kwa-Vezinyawo now wait for better houses. They wait for toilets that will hide their feet. They wait for ERAB to keep its promise. ●



Children playing next to the rubbish in 'Kwa-Vezinyawo'.

WORKER ORGANIZATIONS - NEW ADDRESSES

Early this year Learn and Teach gave a list of trade unions and worker advice centres in South Africa. This list was in Learn and Teach No. 1 and No. 2 for 1983.

Now some of these worker organizations have got new addresses and phone numbers.

These Are:

Industrial Aid Society
Room 213
2nd Floor
International House
Cnr Loveday and Kerk Streets
Johannesburg
Tel: (011) 836 - 4422

East Rand Community Advice Bureau
Box 12009
KATLEHONG
1832

Other unions and worker advice centres can send new addresses to Learn and Teach. Then we will print the new addresses in the magazine.



ORDER FORM

(If you don't want to cut this page then write the form out)

Please send me the next 10 copies of **LEARN** and **TEACH**.

I enclose a postal order for R2,50. (People from Zimbabwe, Botswana, Lesotho, Swaziland and Mozambique must please send R3,50.)

NAME

ADDRESS

Send this order form to:
LEARN and TEACH,
P.O.Box 11074,
JOHANNESBURG 2000.

Domestic workers DO have some rights

There are some laws that look after domestic workers. The government did not make these laws. These laws come from long ago. We call this law the 'Common Law'. People must obey the common law like any other law.

The Domestic Workers Employers Project (DWEPP) helps domestic workers with the law. DWEPP gets domestic workers lawyers for free. If you have a problem, go see DWEPP. There are DWEPP offices in Johannesburg, Cape Town and Durban. DWEPP's address is:

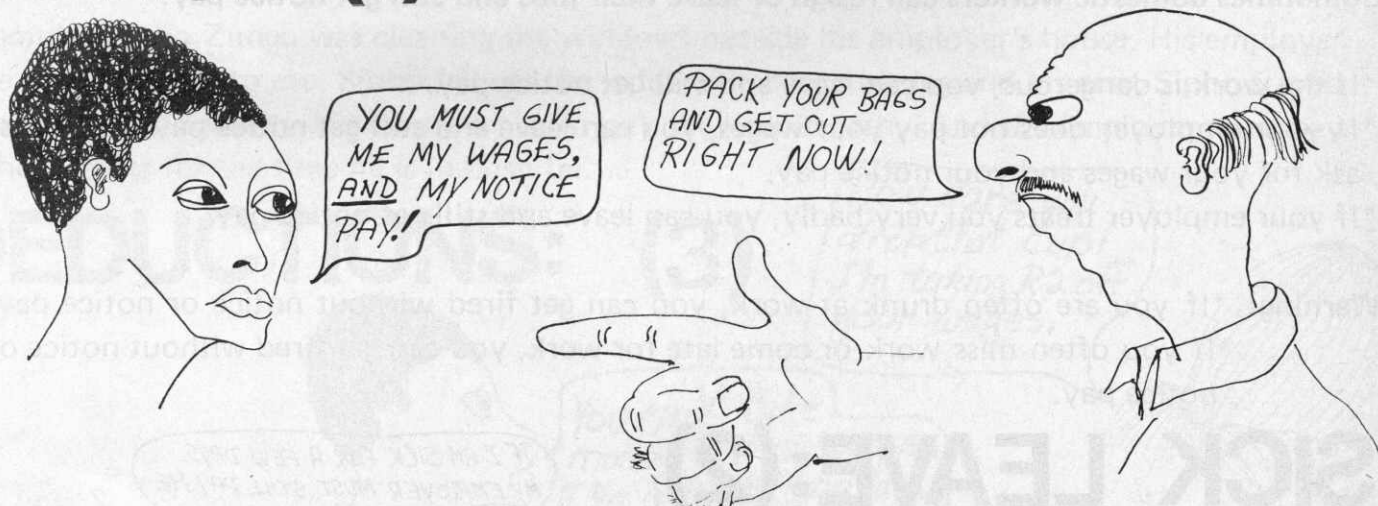
101 Kenlaw House
27 De Beer Street
Braamfontein
Johannesburg
Tel: 39 - 6757/8

5 Long Street
Mowbray
Cape Town
Tel: 66 - 6645

St Andrews Centre
21 St Andrews Street
Durban
Tel: 31 - 8322

Now read what the law says about domestic workers.

NOTICE: (1)



If a domestic worker is fired, the domestic worker must get notice. Or the domestic worker must get notice pay.

If you are fired, your employer must give you notice. That means you work for another month and get paid. Or your employer must pay you for the time you have worked and give you notice pay. Notice pay is an extra month's pay.

Example: Zinzi Qunta earned R70 a month. At the end of the month she was fired. Her employer said she must go immediately.

Zinzi must get her R70 wages

Zinzi must get R70 notice pay

R70
+R70
R140

Zinzi must get R140 altogether.

Domestic workers who stay with their employers must get more notice pay. They must get notice pay and food and accommodation pay. Lawyers say domestic workers must get about R80 for food and accommodation.

Example: Maria Motsepe earned R85 a month. She stayed with her employer. At the end of the month she was fired. Her employer said she must go immediately.

Maria must get R85 wages	R85
Maria must get R85 notice pay	R85
Maria must get R80 food and accommodation pay	<u>+R80</u>
	R250

Maria must get R250 altogether.

Example: Susan Jele earned R70 a month. She stayed with her employer. In the middle of the month she was fired. Her employer said she must go immediately.

Susan must get R35 wages for half a month	R35
Susan must get R70 notice pay	R70
Susan must get R80 food and accommodation pay	<u>+R80</u>
	R185

Susan must get R185 altogether.

Domestic workers who get paid every week and domestic workers who do 'piece work' must also get notice or notice pay.

Sometimes domestic workers can resign or leave their jobs and still get notice pay:

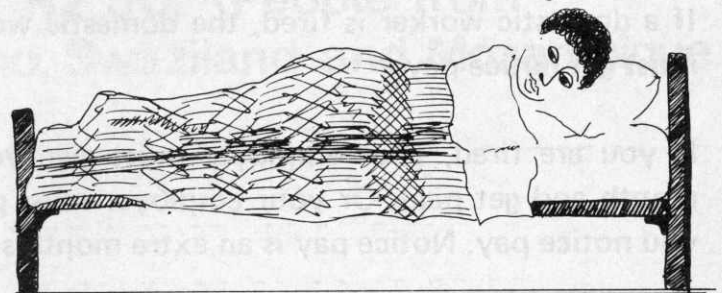
- * If the work is dangerous, you can leave and still get notice pay.
- * If your employer does not pay your wages, you can leave and still get notice pay. You must ask for your wages and your notice pay.
- * If your employer treats you very badly, you can leave and still get notice pay.

Warning: * If you are often drunk at work, you can get fired without notice or notice pay.

- * If you often miss work or come late for work, you can get fired without notice or notice pay.

SICK LEAVE:(2)

IF I AM SICK FOR A FEW DAYS,
MY EMPLOYER MUST STILL PAY ME



Lawyers say that domestic workers can get sick for a week and still get paid. But an employer does not have to pay a domestic worker when the domestic worker is sick for longer than a week.

Example: Thandi Zondo was sick for 5 days. She did not work for these days. Thandi must get paid her full wage at the end of the month.

Example: Elizabeth Lesu was very sick. She went to hospital for an operation. She did not work for 6 weeks. Elizabeth must get paid for 1 week only. Domestic workers only get 1 week's sick leave at a time.

If a sick domestic worker is fired, the domestic worker must still get notice or notice pay.

Example: John Molema is a domestic worker. He was sick for 3 weeks. He did not work. Then his employer fired him. The employer said he must go immediately. John must get paid wages for 1 week. And John must also get notice pay. Notice pay is an extra month's pay.

ACCIDENTS AND SICKNESS AT WORK

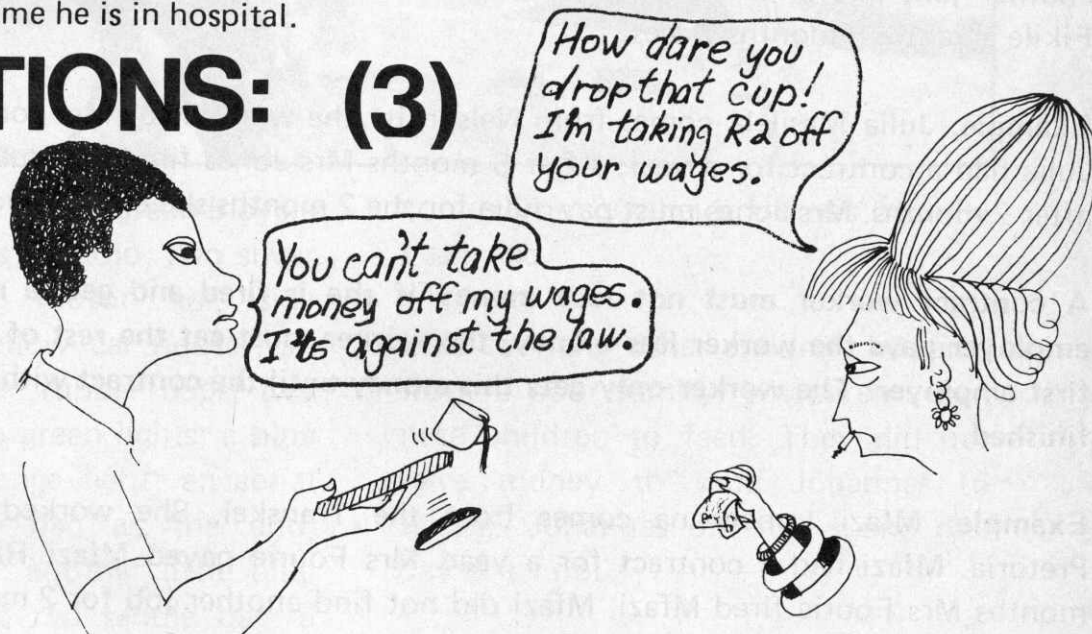
The employer must pay when a domestic worker gets sick or hurt at work. The employer must pay wages. And the employer must pay all the medical fees.

Example: Gladys Nkuta cut her finger with a sharp knife in the kitchen. She was making lunch for her employer. Gladys needed to go to hospital. She also needed medicine. The employer must pay for the hospital and medicine.

Example: Lydia Mojapelo was cleaning the floor in her employer's house. She used a strong soap. The soap burnt Lydia. She needed to go to hospital. The employer must pay for the hospital and medicine.

Example: Sipho Zungu was cleaning the windows outside his employer's house. His employer gave him a ladder to use. Sipho fell off the ladder. He broke his leg and his arm. Sipho stayed in hospital for 7 weeks. His employer must pay the hospital fees. And the employer must pay Sipho's wages for the time he is in hospital.

DEDUCTIONS: (3)



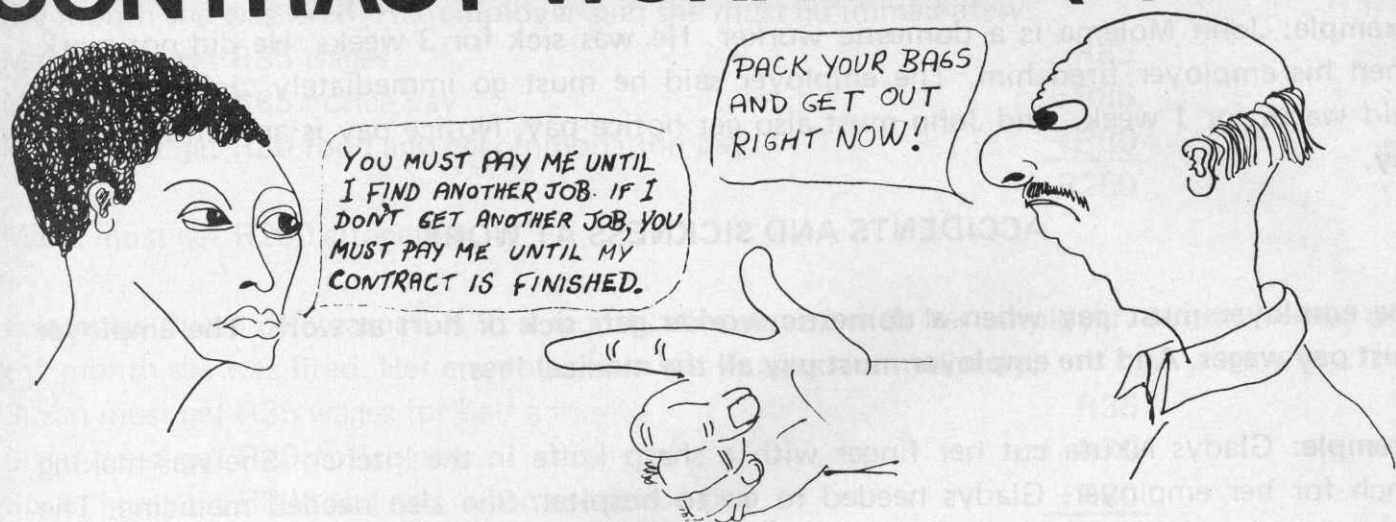
Many employers deduct or take off money from their domestic workers wages. They take off money when the domestic worker breaks or damages something. If an employer takes off money, it's against the law. **An employer can't take off money when a domestic worker breaks or damages something.**

Example: Dora Masipa was making tea for her employer. She dropped 2 cups on the floor. The cups broke. Her employer was angry. He said he will take R2 off her wages. The employer can't do this. He must give Dora her full wage.

Example: Teboho Katse was ironing her employer's dress. She burnt a big hole in the dress by mistake. The employer was angry. She said she will take R10 off Teboho's wages. The employer can't do that. She must give Teboho her full wage.

LEARN AND TEACH

CONTRACT WORKERS: (4)



Many domestic workers are contract or migrant workers. Most contract workers can work for 1 year at a time. Then they must go home and get another contract.

If a contract worker is fired, the employer must pay the worker until the worker finds another job. If the worker can't find another job, the employer must pay the worker until the contract is finished.

Example: Fikile Ndlela comes from Ladysmith. She worked for Mrs Smith in Johannesburg. She had a contract for a year. After 4 months Mrs Smith fired her. Fikile couldn't find another job. Mrs Smith must pay her until the contract is finished. Mrs Smith must pay Fikile an extra 8 months wages.

Example: Julia Masilela comes from Nelspruit. She worked for Mrs Jones in Johannesburg. Julia had a contract for a year. After 6 months Mrs Jones fired her. Julia found another job after 2 months. Mrs Jones must pay Julia for the 2 months she did not work.

A contract worker must not lose money if she is fired and gets a new job. If the new employer pays the worker less money, the worker must get the rest of the money from the first employer. The worker only gets this money until the contract with the first employer is finished.

Example: Mfazi Lubelwana comes from the Transkei. She worked for Mrs Fourie in Pretoria. Mfazi had a contract for a year. Mrs Fourie payed Mfazi R80 a month. After 6 months Mrs Fourie fired Mfazi. Mfazi did not find another job for 2 months. So Mrs Fourie must pay Mfazi an extra 2 months wages.

Then Mfazi got another job with Mrs Nel. Mrs Nel pays Mfazi R60 a month. But Mrs Fourie paid Mfazi R80 a month. That is R20 a month more. Mrs Fourie must now pay Mfazi an extra R20 a month. Mrs Fourie must pay Mfazi R20 a month until the contract is finished.

Warning: *If a contract worker is often drunk at work, the worker can get fired and get nothing for the rest of the contract.

*If a contract worker often misses work or comes late for work, the worker can get fired and get nothing for the rest of the contract.

A man and his bicycle



What kind of guy rides a green bicycle with 12 red lights; a radio; two silver headlamps; two motor car side mirrors; a big yellow car hooter; an orange light; three rubber flaps; two yellow lights; two green lights; a blue light; another orange light; an aerial with an orange flag at the end; another red light; another little blue flag; a black and red saddle bag; a black pump; a carrier with three lights; another four flags (yellow, blue, red and green); another three rubber flaps; another yellow light; a bicycle stand; and little pieces of metal joining the spokes?

His name is Johannes Buthelezi and he

comes from Vryheid. He was born 34 years ago.

Like so many other children, he came from a poor family. His parents had nine children to feed. They did not have money to send Johannes to school. Johannes did not spend one day at school.

The young Johannes worked as a herdboyc. He looked after cattle and sheep. He worked hard. He walked many miles every day.

When Johannes finished work each day, he played with his friends in the early evening. They played a lot of

football. They hunted small animals. And they fought with sticks at the river.

But Johannes liked to play one game best of all. He liked to play the clever mechanic from Jo'burg. He fixed old bicycles from all over the place. And when he fixed the bicycles, he never charged anybody. He only asked for a ride.

He loved those rides. He loved the fresh wind to touch his face. He loved to ride somewhere and suddenly change his mind - and then ride somewhere else.

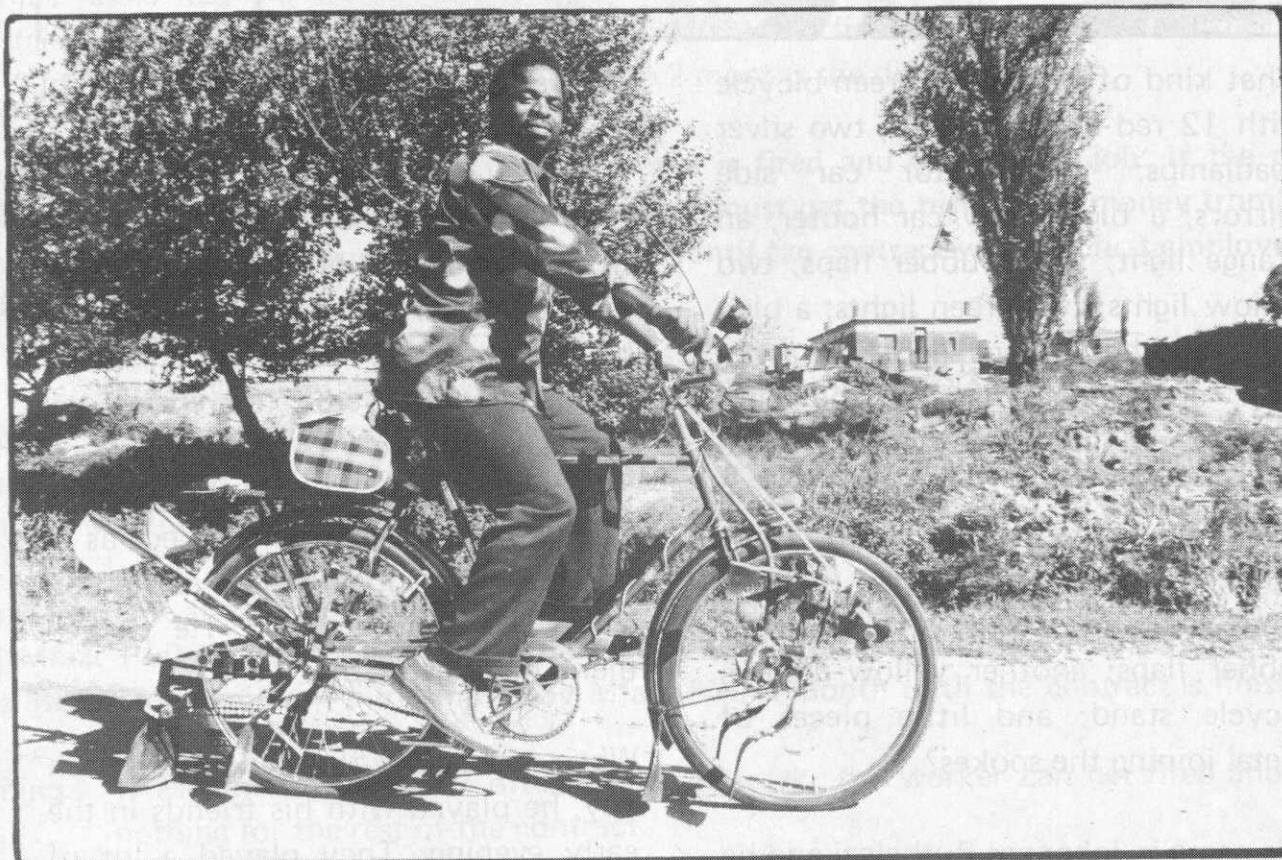
Johannes wished for his own bicycle. But his parents did not have money. Johannes only got one kind of bicycle - the toy bicycles he made from pieces of wire.

When Johannes was 20 years old, he knew he must now help his parents. So he packed a small suitcase. And he went to find a job in Johannesburg.

Johannes went to stay with an old friend in Alexandra Township. His friend is Mr Thwala. Mr Thwala showed Johannes the ways of the big city. And he helped Johannes to find a job.

Johannes got a job at a factory. The factory makes switches, plugs and other electric things. The job was new to Johannes. And Johannes had another problem. He only knew two words in English. All he could say was 'Yes Baas!'.

But Johannes learnt fast. He learnt how to work with five different machines. And he also learnt how





to fix broken machines.

"I've never been to school," says Johannes. "I can't even read or write but I help people who have been to school. I've got a mind to think even if I can't read or write. I can do a lot of things because I'm a man like other men."

Johannes worked very hard. He sent money home to his family. After six years in Johannesburg he decided to buy himself a present. He decided to buy himself a bicycle.

So Johannes went to a bicycle shop and bought a bicycle. He put the bicycle next to his bed that night. And he didn't sleep. He now owned his own bicycle. He felt very proud.

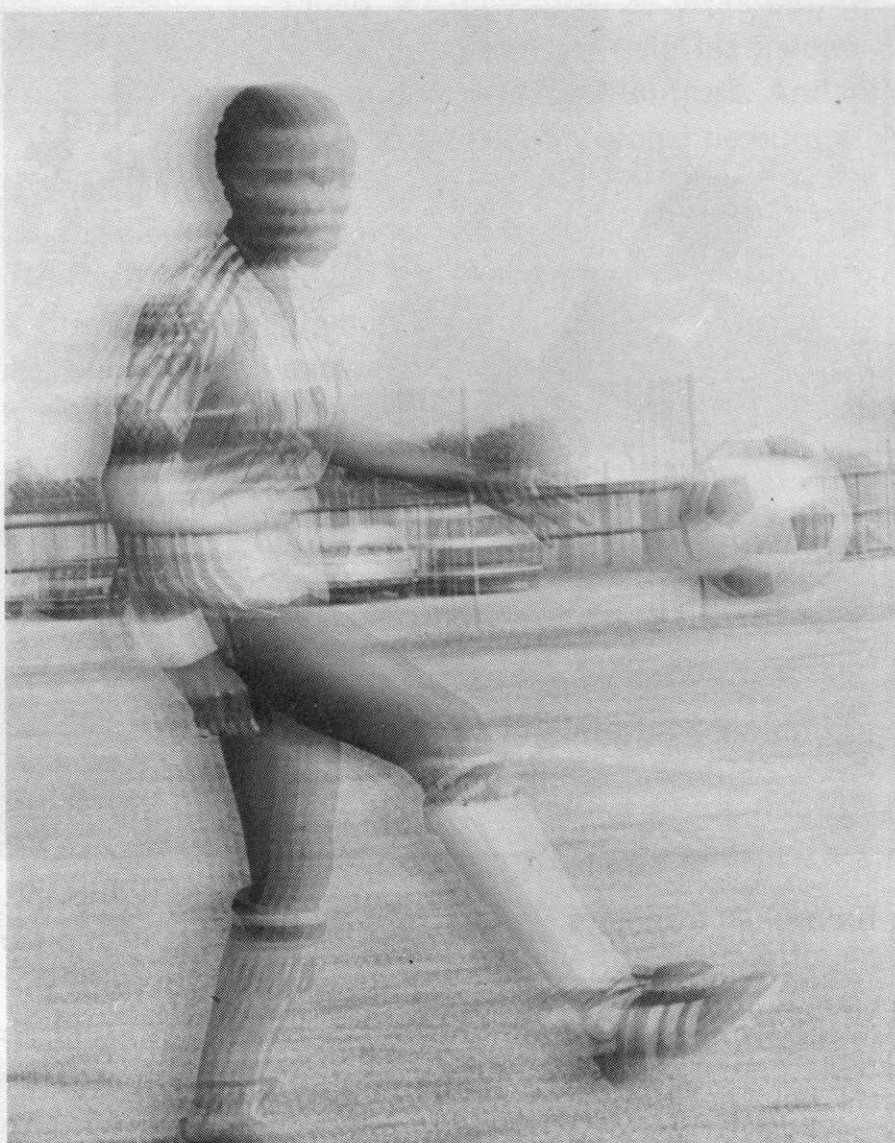
Johannes wanted the whole world to

see his bicycle. He put some bright lights in the front - he knew all about lights from the factory. He put on a mirror. And then he put on a flag. And he put this on and he put that on. He hasn't stopped.

Now when Johannes drives home from work, the world sees his bicycle. He drives through the streets slowly. He blows his car hooter again and again. The people wave at the man on the rainbow bicycle. And the children run after him. The people of Alexandra know when Johannes Buthelezi is on his way home.

Now Johannes wants to get married. "I've had enough of many girlfriends who come to ask for this today and something else tomorrow. The woman who marries Johannes will be lucky. He is a good, honest man. Ask anybody in Alex! ●

Just a bit of ball.



Little Gloria Hlalele was not like all the other little girls in Tembisa. When she was six years old, she got tired of the games girls play. She put her dolls in the cupboard. And she left them there.

Gloria played with her brother. They played with a tennis ball all day long. Gloria loved to kick a bit of ball.

When Gloria was 10 or 11, her love for football grew stronger. She went with the boys to all the big games. She became a Chief's fan.

After school Gloria didn't waste any time. She rushed home. She had a lot to do. And she didn't want to be late for the game in the field down the road.

When Gloria got home, she fed her brothers and did the house work. She was the eldest daughter and her mother needed her help. Gloria knew how her mother struggled. Her husband left her a long time ago and she had three kids to feed.

When she finished all the house work, Gloria ran to meet the boys at the field. The boys



liked Gloria. They didn't think she was strange. She played good football. And she wasn't scared.

One day a bus driver called Abraham Tsheola walked past the field. He stopped to watch the kids play. Abraham loves children. In his spare time he works with children. He wants to keep them off the streets.

Abraham also know something about football. He was the manager of a football club called the 'PUBS'. When he saw Gloria play, he gave a long whistle. This kid knew how to kick a ball.

So Gloria joined Abraham's team. And she got better. She passed a good ball. She was fast. And she knew how to look after herself.

Then Abraham had an argument with some people in his team. He decided to leave. Gloria loved Abraham. She decided to leave with him.



Abraham and Gloria started another team. They called the team 'Gloria's Football Club'. Soon many boys joined the club. They all wanted to play with Gloria.

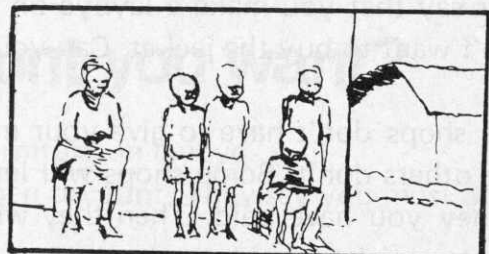
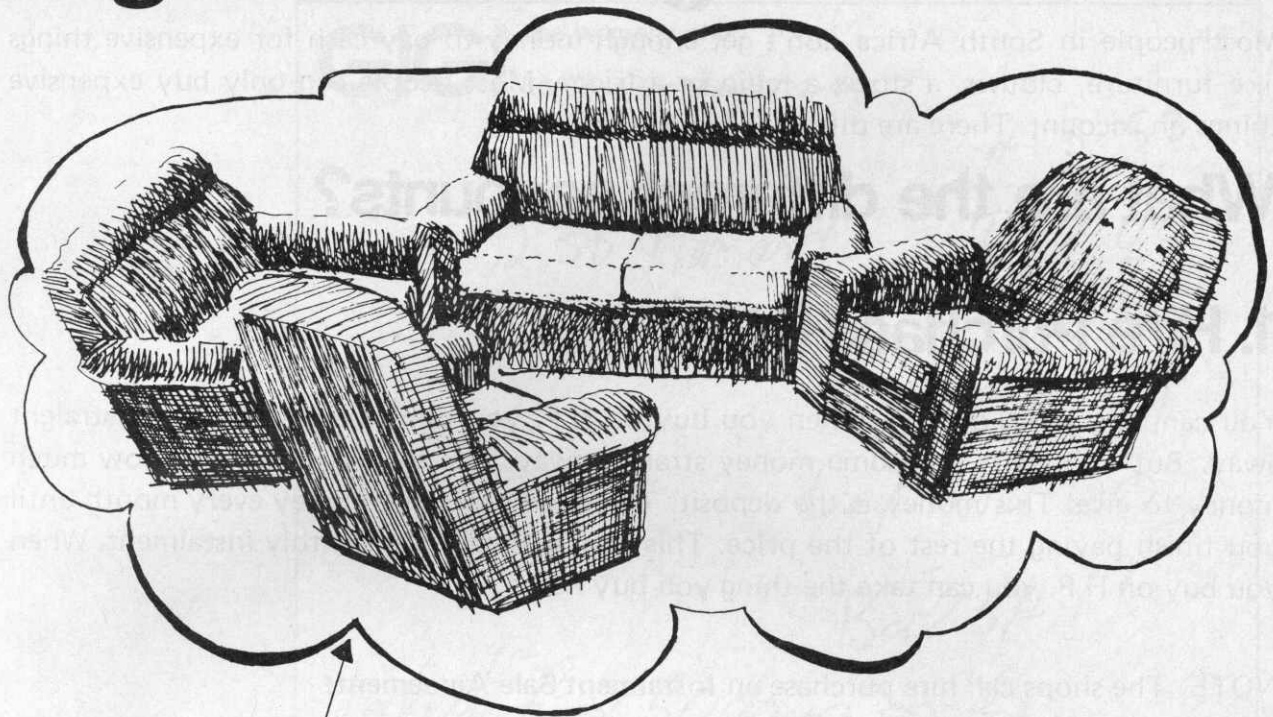
Now Gloria is suddenly famous. Everybody knows about 'that sixteen years old girl from Tembisa who plays soccer'. Newspapers write stories about her. A magazine put Gloria on its cover last month. And when Learn and Teach visited Gloria, we found two groups of people making a film about her.

Gloria answered all our questions. She was very polite. But she kept looking over her shoulder. She wanted to get back to the game. She doesn't like all the fuss. She just wants to kick a bit of ball. ●



Gloria and her mother.

English lesson



Understanding accounts

Most people in South Africa don't get enough money to pay cash for expensive things like furniture, clothes, a stove, a radio or a fridge. Most people can only buy expensive things on account. There are different kinds of accounts.

What are the different accounts?

1. Hire Purchase (H.P.)

You can buy goods on H.P. When you buy on H.P. you don't pay the full price straight away. But you must pay some money straight away. The shop will tell you how much money to give. This money is the deposit. Then you pay some money every month until you finish paying the rest of the price. This money is called a monthly instalment. When you buy on H.P. you can take the thing you buy home.

NOTE. The shops call hire purchase an **Instalment Sale Agreement**.

2. Laybye

You can buy goods on laybye. When you buy on laybye, you give the shop some money and ask the shop to keep the goods for you. The shop will tell you that you must pay the rest of the money by a certain date. Lets say you want to buy a jacket on laybye. The jacket costs R40.00. On the 1st June you give the shop R10.00. Then the shop will tell you that you must pay the other R30.00 by the end of July.

When you buy something on laybye you can't take the goods home. You must pay the full price first. When you buy on laybye the shop must give you a receipt. The receipt must show:-

- (a) your full name
- (b) your address
- (c) what you are buying
- (d) the full price of the goods you want to buy
- (e) how much deposit you paid
- (f) how much money you must still pay. This money is called the balance.
- (g) how long you can take to pay the balance

Lets say that you make a laybye on a jacket. Then a few days later you decide that you don't want to buy the jacket. Can you get your money back?

The shops don't have to give your money back. Some shops do give your money back, but others don't. Some shops will let you buy something else. They will see how much money you have paid. Then they will tell you to buy goods that costs the same as the money you have paid.

Look at this laybye receipt. Is it right?

GIGI	The womens shop	44
	43 Good Str. Phone 722-449	
1 X 102(38) Mustard		4.3.83.
		R69.99
G.S.T.		4.20
		74.19
Dep. R10.00		
Bal 64.19.		
Valid for 60 days only.		

What is missing?

3. Open account

You can buy something on open account. When you buy on open account, you can pay off the account over a long time. The shop will send you an account every month. Then you can decide how much money you want to pay. When you buy goods on open account, you can take the goods home.

Can you choose the account you want?

NO: (a) Most furniture shops don't let people buy furniture on laybye.

(b) Some shops won't let you buy goods on open account. They say you must buy on hire purchase.

Great offer!

R299⁰⁰

DEPOSIT R30,00. R15,40 p/mth over 24 months

EASY TERMS



The 5 seater lounge suite

**Look at this advertisement.
Now answer the questions.**

1. Can you buy this lounge suite on (a) Hire Purchase or (b) Open account or (c) Laybye
2. What is the purchase price?
3. How much are the monthly instalments?
4. How much cash must you give straight away?
5. How long can you take to pay the full price?

Can you make words?

consacut

tmnsiealnst

Can you make a sentence?

Use these words.

people only expensive on most
can buy account things

Answer the questions.

Look for the answers on page 28

1. Accounts help people to buy expensive things like furniture. Why?

.....

2. What are the different kinds of accounts?

.....

.....

.....

3. What do the shops call hire purchase now?
.....
4. When you buy goods on hire purchase, you must first pay a Then
you pay the rest of the price in
5. When you buy goods on H.P., can you take the goods home straight away?
.....
6. When you buy goods on layby you give the shop some money. Then you ask the
shop to The shop will tell you
that you must pay the rest of the money
7. When you buy goods on layby, can you take the goods home straight away?
.....
8. When you buy goods on open account, can the shop tell you how much money to
pay every month?
.....
9. When you buy goods on open account can you take the goods home straight away?
.....
10. Can you always choose the account you want?
.....

Think about these things:

Have you bought goods on account?

Did you have any problems?

What problems did you have?

Letters from our readers

Dear Learn and Teach

I like the Learn and Teach magazine. I am a 21 year old woman. I left school in 1978. When I left the school, I was in standard four.

I left school because my parents died. Now I love to read your stories in English. When I read your magazine, I remember school.

Hilda Nomalanga Simelane
KENSINGTON.

Dear Learn and Teach

I am an adult learner in Martindale, Johannesburg. Please forgive me - but I want to be forward. I found a mistake in your magazine number 2 1983.

On page 31 you asked us to make a sentence with these words:

Write to Teach. Workers many a Learn letter s.

I have tried all the ways but I can't get the sentence right. I think the letter 'a' doesn't belong in the sentence.

Susan Mnisi
TRIOMF.

Thank you for your letter Susan. You are quite right. We did make a mistake. I've spoken to the man who makes up the English lesson. I showed him your letter. I've decided to give him one more chance -editor

Dear Learn and Teach

I have a problem with my skin. I have a black patch on my nose. I think I got the black patch from skin lightening creams. I have tried some medicine but nothing helps. Please give me some advice.

Dorah Mudau
NZHELELE.

Thank you for your letter Dorah. I'm very sorry to hear about your problem. Thousands of women in South Africa suffer because of these dangerous creams. I think you must go see a skin doctor (dermatologist) at your nearest hospital. But in the meantime, throw these rubbish creams away. -editor

Dear Learn and Teach

I enjoy reading your magazine very much. I'm from a poor family. I don't have money for school fees. Can you please tell me how to get a bursary.

Weppies Sambo
BUSHBUCKRIDGE.

Dear Weppies,

Thank you for your letter. Many readers ask us about bursaries. We will write a story about bursaries very soon. But in the meantime, you can write to an organization for help. The organization is called the Education Information Centre (EIC) The address is: E I C, 6th Floor, Dunwell House; 35 Jorrisen Street, Braamfontein. -editor

Dear Learn and Teach

In 1975 I got a job with a lawyer. I left the job after three years. When I left he did not give me my U.I.F. card. He said he did not get one for me.

Then I got a job at a shop. The shop told me to go to the Labour Department. They said I must get my own card. So I went and filled in the forms. I sent the forms to Pretoria. But they never sent me a card.

Now I have worked at an insurance company for over two years. I still haven't got a card. My boss did send the forms but we have heard nothing. What must I do? What happens if I don't have a card?

Moses Pholoha
WELKOM.

Thanks for your letter Moses. I'm sorry to hear about your problems with your blue card. You must make sure you get this card. If you don't, you may never get U.I.F. money when you lose your job.

The law says your boss must ask for your blue card. All employers must get blue cards for their workers. Workers must make sure their bosses get their blue cards for them.

If you have problems, you can go to an organization for help. Go to the: Industrial Aid Centre; 312 Trevor Building, Voortrekker Street, Vereeniging. Tel: (016) 22 - 4743. -editor

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

Dear Learn and Teach

Please tell your readers about the Cape Town Trade Union Library. Five trade unions started the library. The unions want to help the workers learn about trade unions.

Books are so expensive today. Workers cannot afford to buy them. That is why the library has got these books about trade unions and workers' problems. Any worker can join the Readers' Club and use the library. There is a small fee. But if you are a trade union member, bring your membership card and you will pay less.

The library has opened a reading room in Salt River. The address is 108C Malta House, Malta Road. The library is only five minutes walk from Salt River station. It is open every Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

R.G. Young
SALT RIVER.

Dear Learn and Teach

I have read Learn and Teach. Now I have a friend to share my problems. I write stories. My first story is about a headmaster and the boy who 'dodges' school. I want to see my stories in books. Where can I send my stories?

Nelson Awaseb
ARANDIS, NAMIBIA

Thank you for your letter Nelson. You can send your stories to Ravan Press, P.O. Box 31134, Braamfontein; 2017.

Or you can send your stories to: Skotaville Publishers, P.O. Box 32483; Braamfontein; 2017.

We wish you good luck

-editor

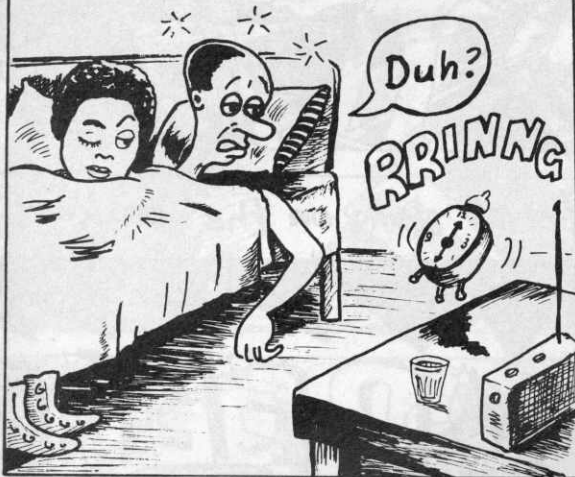
SLOPPY

AND THE BIRTHDAY PRESENT



© Motshumi/Mazin '83

It is June 18, Sloppy's birthday.



As usual Sloppy is late...

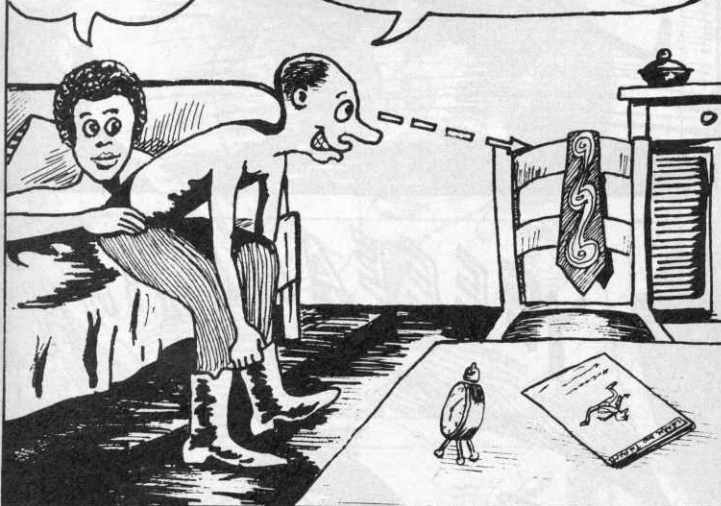


Brand new boots!
It must be my birthday!



Happy birthday, darling!

Heit! A lovely tie, too!



I love you, darling! You are the only woman in my life!

Go on now, dear! Enjoy your day at work!



Suddenly Sloppy's new tie gets caught in the window of a car...



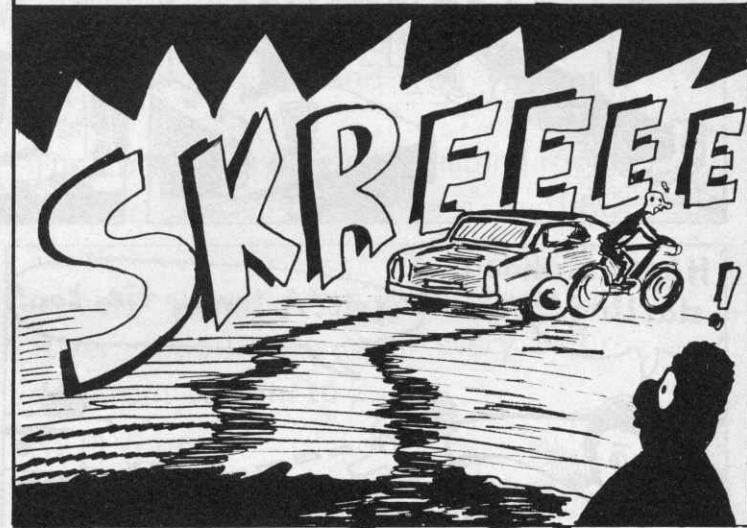
Soon he is speeding along at 80 kilometers an hour, pulled by the car...



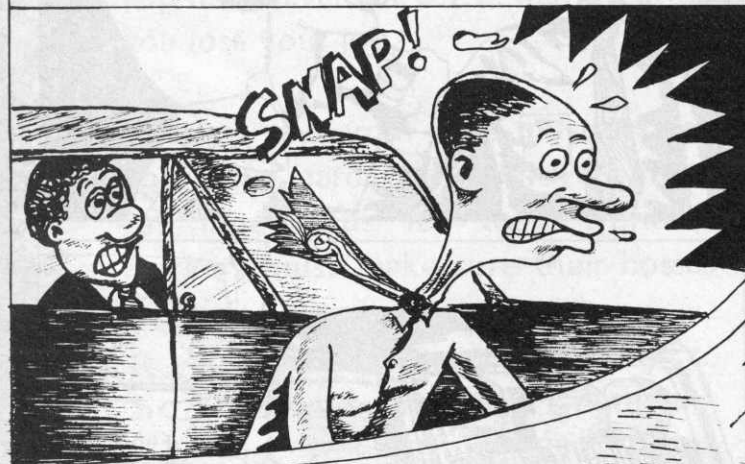
Sloppy bangs on the car window.



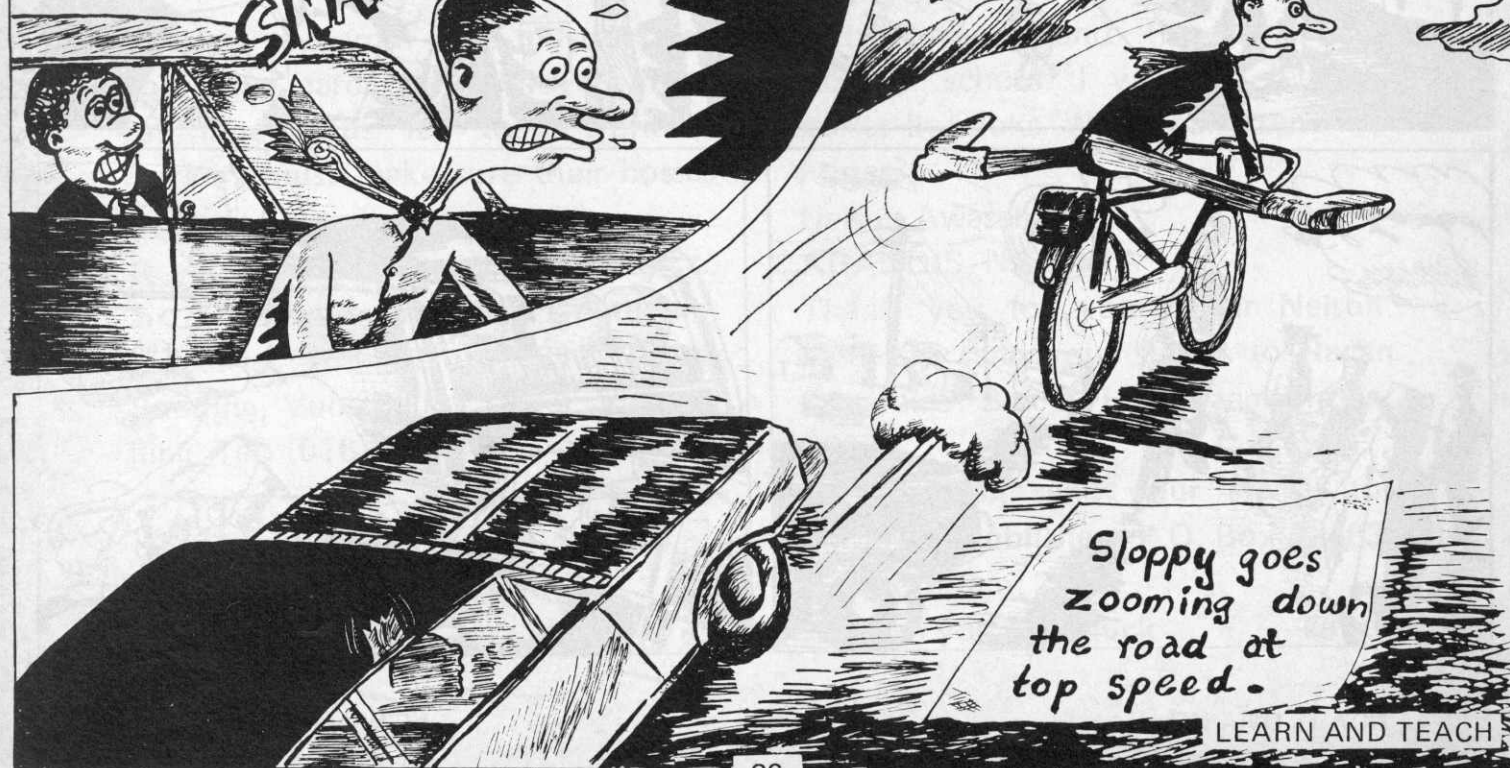
The driver slams on the brakes



Luckily for Sloppy the tie snaps...

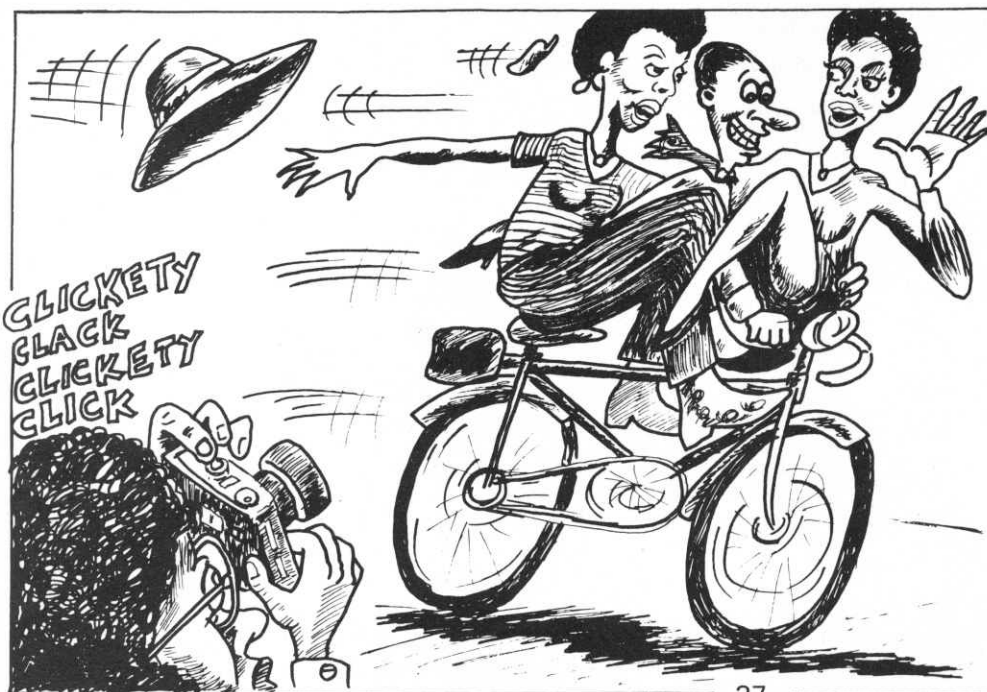


YEEEEAAAAHH

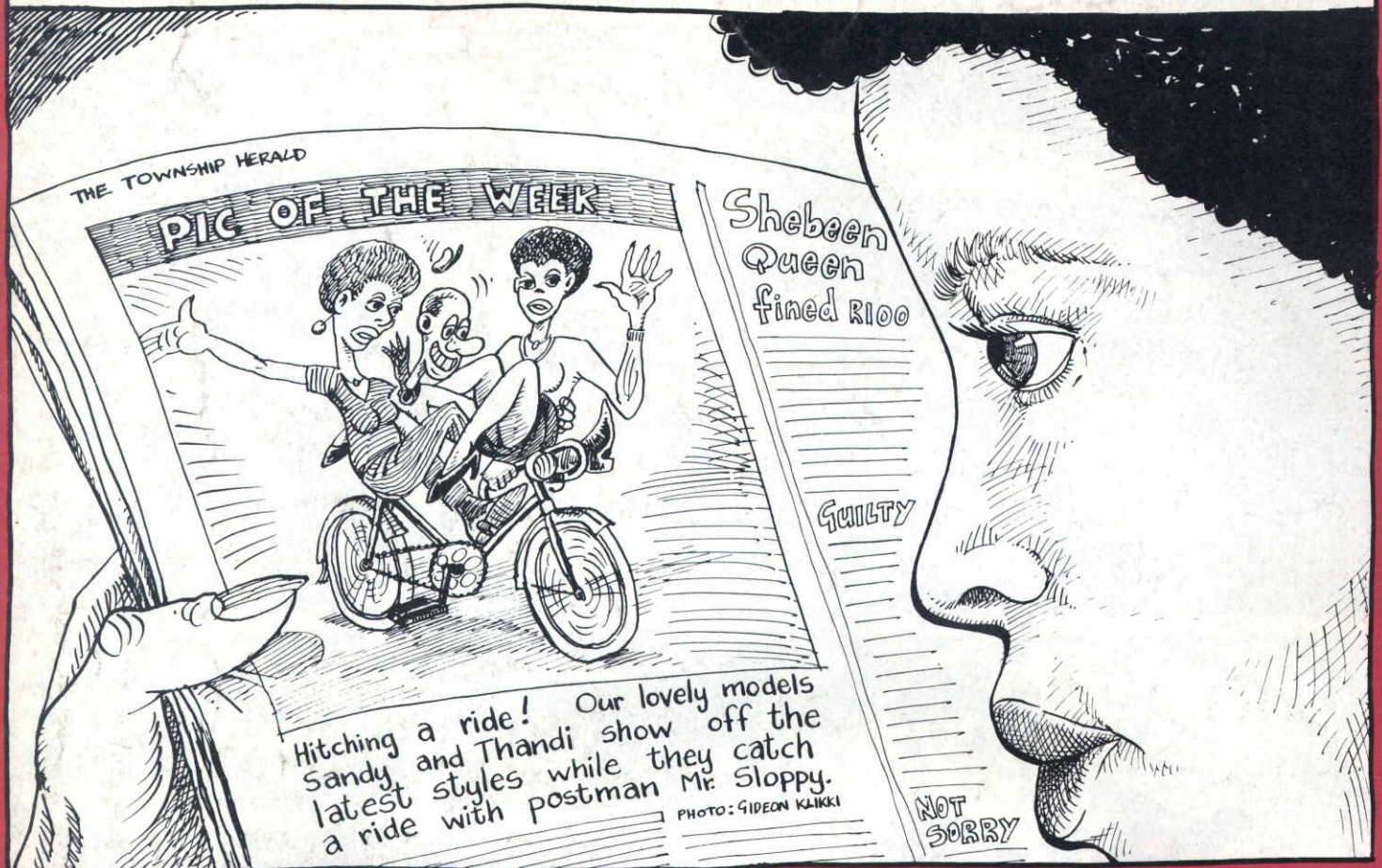


LEARN AND TEACH

Meanwhile, down the road the famous fashion photographer, Gideon Klikki, is taking some fashion photographs...



That afternoon Lizzie is reading the newspaper...



When Sloppy comes home...

Am I still the only woman in your life?

Of course, sweetheart!

What a question!



Did you also say that to these two?

Oer!



I'll tell you how it happened!
It wasn't my fault Lizzie!
It was an accident! Honest!
You won't believe it, but it's true, Lizzie!



More fun with Sloppy and Lizzie next issue.