



Zimbabwe News

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- *Achievements of the Transport Sector — the last Five Years*



- *Senator Culverwell at the Graduation Ceremony*



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Salary and Wage increases by July 1

In view of the good performance of the economy last year and the relatively good forecast for 1989, Government has decided that all sectors of the economy award salary and wage increases within the range of 5 to 16 percent with effect from July 1, 1989. *page 3*

Achievements of Transport Sector in the Last Five Years

The economic development of any country depends on the linkages between the various sectors of the economy. The transport network facilitates the movement of all inputs and outputs from our agricultural . . . *page 6*

Senator Culverwell at the Graduation Ceremony

Senator J.L. Culverwell, Minister of State, Department of National Scholarships, Office of the President and Cabinet, attended the Graduation Ceremony for the 1988 Final Year Students of Mutare Teacher's College held on Saturday . . . *page 18*

New Headquarters for AFC

The Minister of Lands, Agriculture and Rural Resettlement, Comrade David Karimanzira, performed a sod training ceremony to mark the commencement of the building of the Agricultural Finance Corporation's (AFC) . . . *page 21*

The Results of Being Power Hungry: Tekere's ZUM

The people of Zimbabwe should know why Comrade Edgar Tekere decided to form a new "party". In the first place, the name itself Zimbabwe Unity Movement (ZUM), suggests that it is not a serious political party. Many political scientists would agree with me. If it is deliberate that Tekere, affectionately known by many as "Two Boy", knew what "movement" means, and just proceeded to form and establish it, then it is sooner or later going to be a clandestine militant organization to be sponsored by South Africa to sabotage and . . . *page 22*



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Editorial

The Namibian Saga

The transition in Namibia which began on 1 April has got off to an extremely bad start and, due to South Africa's stalling tactics, is now running seriously behind schedule.

The inexplicable and inexcusable decision of the Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary General to release South African troops from barracks has created a crisis of confidence and almost torpedoed the process.

As a direct result over 300 Namibians who had long struggled for their country's independence will never see that day.

Irrefutable evidence that some of them were executed has come from a most unlikely source, the highly conservative *London newspaper, The Sunday Telegraph*.

That newspapers defence correspondent, accompanied by a photographer, saw the bodies of people whom the South Africans claimed were members of the People's Liberation Army of Namibia (PLAN), the military wing of the South West Africa People's Organisation (SWAPO).

The correspondent was immediately suspicious about the way in which the 18 bodies he was shown had been killed on the previous day.

"Most had apparently been shot in the face at close range with small calibre weapons."

I asked the police tracker if the SWAPO guerrillas had been killed after surrendering. "What does it matter?" he replied, "They are SWAPO, and they are dead. That is all that matters."

That story was followed up by the unique United States television programme, *South Africa Now*. On their film, and after examining photographs taken by the *Sunday Telegraph* photographer, the head of ballistics of the New York police said they had been killed, "execution style", probably while kneeling.

This atrocity is not the only one to have occurred in Namibia since 1 April. Relatives of SWAPO leaders and known SWAPO supporters have been killed, maimed and harassed.

Most of South Africa's dirty work in these killings has been carried out by the notorious Koevoet unit, a grouping which brings back chilling memories of the activities by Muzorewa's auxiliaries in our transition here.

Koevoet, was supposed to have been disbanded as part of the transitional agreement in Namibia. But they were not as Western reporters who have visited northern Namibia have written.

So far, and since 1 April, the United Nations, and its representatives in Namibia, have lamentably failed to carry out the tasks expected of it by the international community and Namibian people.

Discriminatory Laws

Koevoet and discriminatory laws remain in place, the return of displaced Namibians in neighbouring countries has twice been delayed and Namibian political prisoners have not been released.

For those of us in Zimbabwe who went through our own transition, and within the spirit and letter of United Nations Resolution 435, this is an intolerable situation. We cannot be passive spectators when the future of the Namibian people and the region is at stake.

When it comes to the right of the Namibian people to freely and fairly, choose their future government we cannot be impartial.

If we are, we will betray the trust Namibians have placed in us.

All agencies in the Frontline and elsewhere, must now monitor the process in Namibia. We cannot put out trust in our enemy, apartheid South Africa, to allow the result that the people of Namibia want and Pretoria does not.

Within this context the appointment of Botswana's Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Comrade Joe Legwaila, as assistant to the Special Representative in Windhoek, is particularly welcome.

In Comrade Legwaila we place our trust in the arduous and daunting task he faces in the months ahead.

Beyond that, and in recollection of our own much shorter transitional period, we salute in total solidarity our Comrades from SWAPO who must now face the inherent risks of the transition and thereafter.

They have struggled bravely for their liberation and must not be cheated at the eleventh hour. That is the moral obligation of the Frontline states and the international community.

LETTER

Cordial Revolutionary Greetings

Dear Comrades,

The staff of the Georg Wolff County Party School of the SED Dresden conveys to you, the people of the Republic of Zimbabwe and the Party of ZANU (PF) most cordial revolutionary greetings and congratulations on the occasion of the 9th anniversary of National Independence of the Republic of Zimbabwe.

The systematic and creative struggle conducted by ZANU (PF) for putting into practice the decisions adopted at its 2nd Party Congress and the resolutions passed at the 8th Harare Non-Aligned Summit has enabled the people of Zimbabwe, the workers, peasants and all patriotic forces to successfully carry on the building of the new society and the struggle for the preservation of peace in the region and in the world.

Throughout the past years, the people of Zimbabwe led by ZANU (PF) and Comrade Robert Mugabe, gained essential successes in strengthening the power of the people, consolidating the economy and, particularly, in guaranteeing food self-sufficiency and uniting all patriotic forces through merging ZANU (PF) and PF-ZAPU to a united revolutionary party based on scientific socialism.

We take the opportunity of your National Day to declare that we shall do our best to

teach the comrades of ZANU (PF) at our Georg Wolff County Party School of the SED Dresden the fundamentals of Marxism-Leninism and the revolutionary experience of our Party and to enable them to dedicate themselves with creativeness and conviction to systematically implement the political line of ZANU (PF).

Also in the year to come, the staff members of our School will be determined to make another essential contribution to intensify the traditional party relations between the SED and ZANU (PF).

With socialist regards.

Rietzschel
Head of the Training Course
DRESDEN, GDR

Salary and Wage Increases by July — Nkomo

In view of the good performance of the economy last year and the relatively good forecast for 1989, Government has decided that all sectors of the economy award salary and wage increases within the range of 5 to 16 percent with effect from July 1, 1989.

This announcement was made in Parliament by the Minister of Labour, Manpower Planning and Social Welfare, Comrade John Nkomo, on May 11.

Following is the text of his statement:

Having reviewed the performances of the economy in 1988, sector by sector as well as the prospects for 1989, Government has decided that in view of the good performance recorded during the previous year and the relatively good forecast for 1989, all sectors of the economy can sustain reasonable wage and salary increases with little effect on inflation provided the increases are within the range of 5,0 percent and 16,0 percent.

Accordingly, Government has decided that:

- All sectors of the economy award salary and wage increases within the range of 5,0 percent and 16,0 percent from July 1, 1989;
- With regard to (a) there be an exemption clause to cater for those business concerns facing very severe financial and economic difficulties;
- The ceiling of salaries be raised from the current \$45 000 to \$50 000;
- Price increases of essential goods and services be held within controlled limits to reduce erosion of incomes.

After consultation with my colleagues who are responsible for the various sectors and with concurrence of the President the following procedures for the implementation of the increases have been agreed upon.

As you are no doubt aware, Section 79 of the Labour Relations Act Number 16 of 1983 provides for the determination of salaries, wages and other conditions of employment through collective bargaining and Sections 63 and 70 provide for establishment of employment councils and employment boards which are empowered to negotiate and conclude agreements on these matters.

The implementation of these provisions has since 1985 been held in abeyance pending the establishment of effective trade unions, employer's organisations, employment councils and boards.

There are now 19 registered employment councils and 42 employment boards covering virtually every sector of the economy except the public sector, the domestic service

and agricultural sectors. These organs are generally well organised and have some experience in conducting negotiations.

On the labour side, through the efforts of the individual unions and ZCTU, the situation has also changed for the better as demonstrated by their successful organisation of the recent May Day celebrations. The numerous splinter unions and labour centres which characterised the movement at independence have been eliminated or greatly reduced and an improved check off system has been introduced. This should add to further strengthening of the individual unions and ultimately the labour centre.

In view of this positive industrial relations climate, Government now believes and has in fact agreed that unions and employers can now sit down and negotiate salaries and wages on an equal footing.

However, in sectors in which employment councils or boards do not yet fully exist, Government will continue to stipulate wages and other conditions of employment for the time being only.

Insofar as parastatal employees below assistant general managers are concerned, employment councils (or other employee-manager bodies) will involve themselves in collective bargaining within the five percent to 16 percent wage/salary rate increases as long as it is borne in mind that according to Section 17 of the Parastatal Commission Act the final position will need to be ratified by the Parastatals Commission. With regard to general managers, deputy general managers and assistant general managers of parastatals, the rate of increases will be finalised by the Office of the President and Cabinet as has always been the case.

Public Service Commission

With regard to the Public Service the Public Service Commission will make recommendations in the usual way which will be considered by Cabinet. The recommendations will be made within the parameters already stated. The Public Service Commission should also have regard to the cost of its recommen-



Comrade John Nkomo, Minister of Labour, Manpower Planning and Social Welfare

dations and the desire of the Senior Minister for Finance, Economic Planning and Development to reduce the budget deficit. The Public Service Commission should also have regard to the loss of professional technical and managerial skills from ministries, and their inability to provide the quality of service they would wish to without such skills.

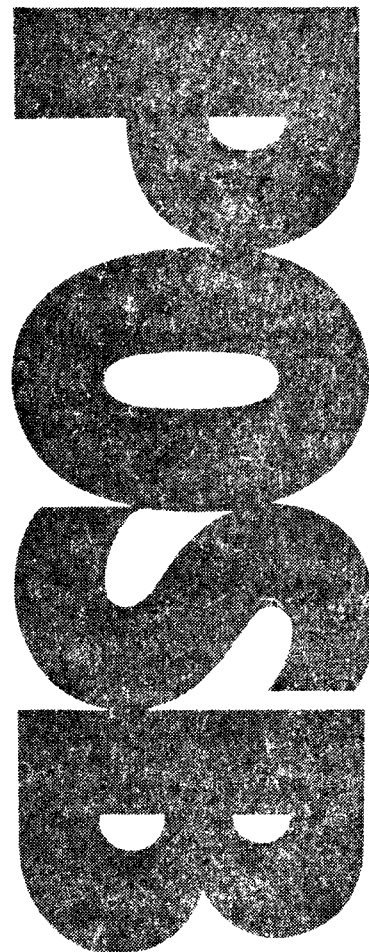
The Public Service Association has already been given the opportunity to make general representation as to a salary review for the public service and has done so. It will be given a further opportunity to make representations having regard to the parameters determined by Cabinet and other relevant considerations.

With respect to urban councils, rural/district councils, the review of salaries, wages and other conditions of employment within each local authority shall initially be the subject of consultations between the employer and employee organisations within that council. This shall be done in good faith and with full disclosure of information on both parties.

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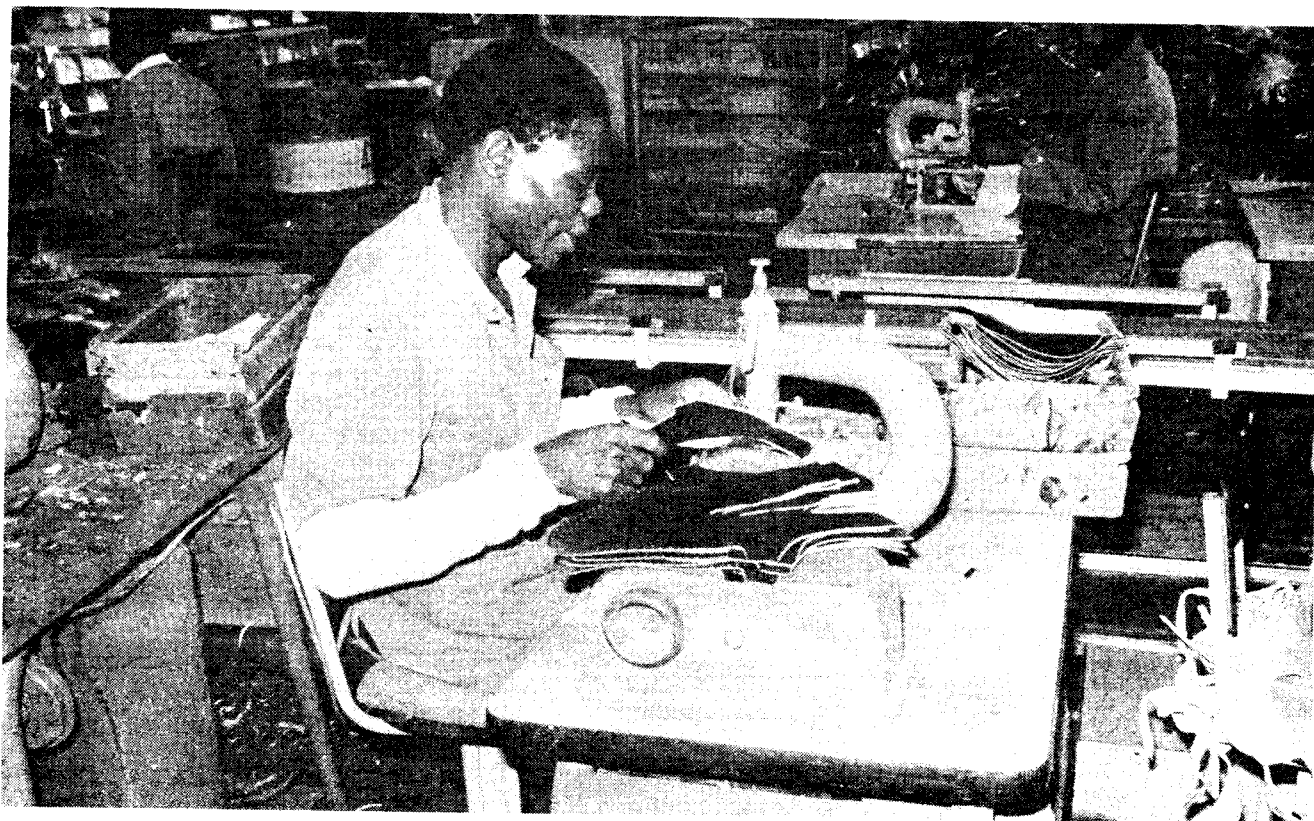
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BATA SHOE Company Workers in a Factory (Gweru)

In accordance with the provisions of the Urban Councils Act (Chapter 214), as amended, and the Rural/District Councils Act No. 8 of 1988, the recommended salaries, wages and other conditions of employment which shall have been agreed upon and approved by the respective council shall be submitted to the Ministry of Local Government, Rural and Urban Development for its consideration and approval.

Salaries, wages and other conditions of employment for persons in designated posts shall be recommended to Government by the Ministry of Local Government, Rural and Urban Development after consultations with the respective local authorities.

Consideration of the approval of the recommendations from each local authority shall be determined by the ability of the respective local authority to meet such costs.

Collective Bargaining

To assist employment councils and employment boards in this important task, the following guidelines and explanatory notes on collective bargaining have been drawn up for their information and reference.

The need for parameters — the five to 16 percent parameters approved by Government are needed to control the inflationary and other financial implications of the nationwide wage adjustments on the national budget. They will also assist in our continued effort to narrow the income gap between the lower and higher income groups which has not yet reached acceptable levels although much progress has been made.

The meaning of the parameters to the negotiators — to the partners in collective bargaining, the parameters also mean that

if an enterprise or industry is doing well financially, it ought to be able to negotiate and conclude an agreement with the most favourable terms within the parameters up to a maximum of \$50 000.

Policy of narrowing the income gap — no arrangement may be approved unless it observes the Government policy to narrow the gap between the lowest and highest paid employees. This is achieved by awarding the highest percentage wage increases to the lowest paid and the lowest percentage increases to the highest paid.

The need to negotiate in good faith and for full disclosure of information — the negotiating parties will be expected to negotiate in good faith, that is, all parties to the negotiation shall disclose all information relevant to the negotiation including information contained in records, papers, books of accounts and other relevant documents.

Government is convinced that this is necessary for the following reasons:-

- Increased availability and sharing of information moves the parties towards greater objectivity in decision-making, discussions and negotiations. The social partners are able to influence and be influenced on the basis of being informed;
- Greater disclosure of relevant information (presented in a way that does not jeopardise strategic enterprises security) helps employers to steer away from a win-lose conflict towards a win-win climate in dealing with employers, trade unions and Government.
- Systematic research and sharing of information enable the parties to be better prepared and organised in performing their roles effectively;

— Information sharing at the enterprise level is also a pro-active response to meet the growing aspirations of an informed workforce.

Exemptions

When financial incapacity is alleged — all negotiating parties have a duty to full disclosure of information when financial incapacity is alleged.

That is, when any party to the negotiation alleges financial incapacity as a ground for inability to agree to any term or conditions or to any alterations, it shall be the duty of such party to make full disclosure of his or her financial position duly supported by all relevant financial statements and documents to the other party.

Applying for exemption — where an enterprise has established its parlous financial position in these negotiations, it shall apply to the Minister of Labour, Manpower Planning and Social Welfare for an exemption. Such application should be duly supported by audited financial and bank statements as well as other relevant documents.

Ratification of agreements — every collective agreement shall be ratified and registered by the department of labour relations in the Ministry of Labour, Manpower Planning and Social Welfare and the parameters set out here in as well as the Government policy of narrowing the gap.

Binding nature of agreement — where a collective agreement has been ratified and registered, it shall be binding on the parties to the agreement including all members of such parties. Any party which fails to comply with an agreement which is binding upon

him or her shall have committed an act of unfair labour practice for which redress may be sought.

When a deadlock arises — where a deadlock or dispute is declared in the negotiations, the procedure for dealing with such a dispute shall be in accordance with the provisions of each council's constitution as provided for in section 64(B) of the Labour Relations Act 16 of 1985.

Where no such provision exists, the parties shall notify the department of labour relations immediately and they shall agree on a voluntary arbitrator or the matter may be referred for compulsory arbitration.

In case of a deadlock on an employment board, the independent member shall exercise his right to cast a vote. A minority view will be noted for the Minister's attention.

Any agreements which had been reached

since January, 1989 may be taken into account in the current negotiations.

This is the first and genuine movement away from a situation where Government stipulated wage and salary levels to one in which the employer and employee will not only negotiate salary and wage levels but also other conditions of employment. And as may also be noted it is the initial step to our response to the provisions of the recently announced investment code. □

Achievements of Transport Sector in the Last Five Years

The economic development of any country depends on the linkages between the various sectors of the economy. The transport network facilitates the movement of all inputs and outputs from our agricultural, manufacturing, industrial and commercial sectors.

The Ministry of Transport is responsible for rail, air, inland water and road transport.

Perhaps the greatest development in the transport sector in government was the merger in January 1984 of Ministries of Roads and Road Traffic and the Ministry of Transport. It is an important development because before January 1984 co-ordination or integrated planning of the transport sector of the country was not possible and to date, the Ministry of Transport has embarked on efforts to integrate the transport sector.

The National Transport study, the first major effort to plan an integrated transport sector, was completed in 1985.

Department of State Roads

The State Roads Department is directly responsible for the construction and maintenance of 18 350 kilometres of primary, secondary and feeder roads. The department is involved in the planning of both national and sub-regional road infrastructure.

Primary road link major urban centres and connect to important boarder posts.

Secondary roads connect district service centres, growth points and major industrial and tourist areas, and link to the primary road network.

Feeder roads are other public roads within rural areas that provide local access and link our secondary and primary road network.

Achievements: Last Five Years:

1983/84 – 1987/88

About 1 000 kilometres of roads has been constructed by the Department of State Roads in the last 5 years alone, involving Government expenditure of approximately Z\$350 million at 1988 prices. A total of about



Minister of Transport, Comrade Simbarashe Mumbengegwi

Z\$140 million at 1988 prices, was spent on road maintenance.

Over 100 bridges were constructed since

1980. Road construction to surface standard is expensive — averaging between Z\$300 000 to Z\$400 000 per kilometre. The first requirement is to preserve this massive investment by means of effective maintenance operations and necessary reconstruction when required. The road is usually designed to last for 20 years assuming good maintenance practice.

We are fortunate in Zimbabwe in that the Government fully recognises the need for essential maintenance and, consequently, our road networks are generally in good condition.

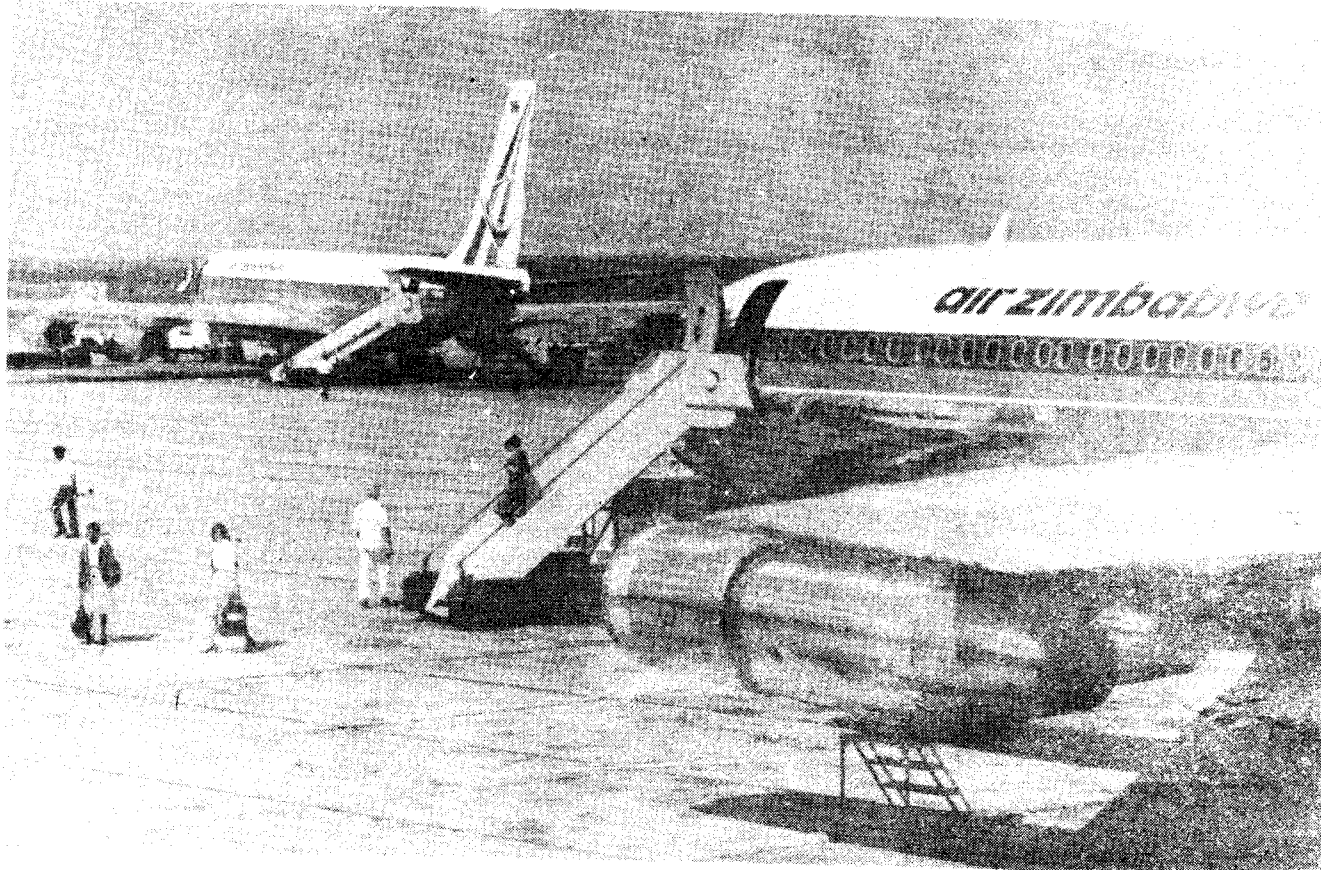
The Ministry of Transport has a very high capacity for construction of roads in Zimbabwe, and compares very well with the international companies now operating in the country.

Vehicle Inspection and Registration

Inspection of vehicle road worthiness, and compliance of heavy vehicle axle loading regulations, is effected through the Vehicle



Road Construction has progressed since 1980



Some of the planes currently being used by Air Zimbabwe

Inspectorate Department (VID). This enhances road safety, and controls road damage by excessive heavy vehicle loading.

The Vehicle Registration Department (CVR) keeps a national register of the country's vehicle fleet.

Goods and Passenger Transport

The role of transport is to move goods and passengers from one location to another. Transport gives goods place utility, and, for passengers, it is necessary to satisfy their socio-economic needs.

The Department of Road Motor Transportation (RMT) is charged with the duty to ensure the equitable distribution of services by public transporters of goods and passengers, and matching demand with supply of the requisite transport services.

After Independence, the RMT Act Chapter 262 was amended to lift earlier restriction to entry in the public transport industry. This saw a substantial increase in the number of transport operators from sixty nine (69) bus operators to about two hundred (200).

For goods transport, a road service permit provincialisation policy was adopted. This allowed issuing of permits to an operator for flexible operations within a whole province. Up to 1987, a total of 2 038 additional permits were issued on this basis.

In order to respond to transport demand, the Ministry of Transport liaises closely with executing agencies like the Grain Marketing Board (GMB), Cotton Marketing Board (CMB), District Councils and Hauliers.

Although the local goods in and out of

communal areas may be high, individual consignments are too small to attract commercial hauliers. These flows are organised through depots at district service centres. These depots form a base for local service and also a buffer storage for fertilisers and agricultural produce to iron out the peaks in transport demand that occur annually.

Problems

The total public service vehicle fleet is depleted and experiences a shortage of spares and tyres.

The unavailability of existing capacity in the face of rising demand causes problems in the provision of equitable and adequate transport services on international routes, twenty entrepreneurs dropped from operations due to the difficulties they experienced in this type of operation.

Air Transport

The air transport sector consists of the department of Civil Aviation, the National Passenger Carrier (Air Zimbabwe) and the National Cargo Carrier, (Affretair).

The Air Transport routes range from the domestic, regional, as well as international routes. For domestic and regional routes our airline is equipped with modern equipment in the form of the B146 and the B737 fleet. It is hoped that domestic routes will be augmented by commuter aircraft that will service the thinner routes and smaller airports.

In the past five years Air Zimbabwe has greatly expanded its route network. The following routes have now been added:-

Harare-Lilongwe
Harare-Maputo-Manzini

Harare-Dar-es-salaam
Harare-Mauritius
Harare-Gaborone
Harare-Lanarca-Athens

This has increased the lines of communication in the SADCC region.

Air Zimbabwe

Air Zimbabwe is in the process of modernising its fleet to replace the aged, fuel inefficient Viscount and B707 aircraft. In recent years three B737 aircraft were purchased and these are now operating the regional routes and to major domestic airports. The airline is also leasing the presidential aircraft BAE 146 for use on domestic services. The total investment in the three boeing 737 was Z\$120 million.

The airline has also ordered two Boeing 767 - 200ER Aircraft. The first is due for delivery in November 1989 and the second in August 1990. These two will be used on international routes, replacing the costly B707 Aircraft. The airline is currently operating 3 flights a week to London and one to Frankfurt and Athens.

At present British Airways, Balkan Airlines and (TAP) Air Portugal and the European carriers are servicing Harare. Air Zimbabwe has also operated joint ventures with European Airlines.

Affretair

Affretair is the National Cargo Airline of Zimbabwe. The company is a pivot in the thriving horticultural industry through the carriage of the perishable flowers and vegetables

to export markets in Europe. Affretair has been able to undertake charters to any point in the world following the hushkitting of its DE8-55F Aircraft. Notable charters were the carriage of fire fighting equipment to Latin America and the company was the first foreign airline to land in USSR after the earthquake disaster with relief materials from London. The Cargo Airline is now considering the purchase of 3rd DC8 to cope with increasing volumes of traffic.

The Department of Civil Aviation

Department of Civil Aviation is responsible for all civil aircraft movements in our airspace. It inspects aircraft, assesses airworthiness, issues pilot licences, and is responsible for the construction of civilian airports in the country.

In 1984 the Government and the FRG (West Germany) signed a loan agreement of

ing, cargo and passenger terminal improvements. The total project is to cost Z\$235,57 million. The Zimbabwe Government has embarked on creation of a pilot training school. The school, at an initial cost of \$3 million is set to start in Bulawayo during the second half of 1989. This will greatly reduce the cost of training pilots for our total Civil Aviation industry.

National Railways of Zimbabwe

The first phase of the Railway Electrification project running between Dabuka and Harare was inaugurated on 22nd October, 1983.

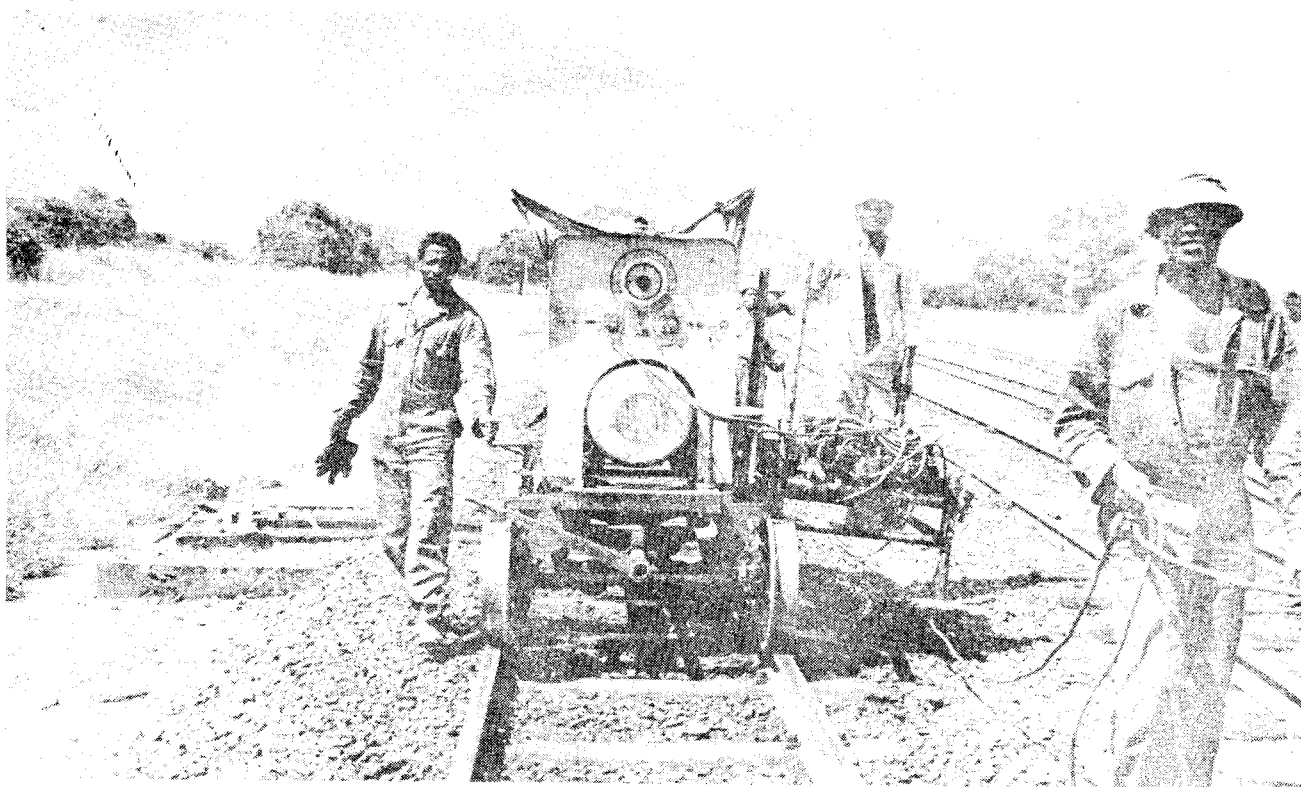
The Electrification of this section has helped considerably in improving the locomotive power capability of the National Railways of Zimbabwe and has reduced the use of imported diesel fuel, which was quite substantial. An evaluation exercise is under-

driver of defective bearings on the bogie.

The railways have managed to move huge volumes of traffic of up to 14 million net tonnes per annum with a continual reduction in the locomotive fleet over the period.

In 1985, the National Railways of Zimbabwe commissioned a new container terminal set at Lochinvar. This terminal is handling up to 150 containers per day. There has been a considerable movement of containers traffic using the facility in the past five years and this is expected to increase by a larger percentage in the next few years.

The National Railways of Zimbabwe commissioned a training centre in Bulawayo which is designed to train all grades of employees with a major emphasis on apprentice training. The facility has the capacity to accommodate the SADCC region in apprentice training relating to railways. A number



Rehabilitation of Railway lines

DM30 million for the modernisation of telecommunications equipment at all the civilian airports, Harare, Charles Prince, Bulawayo, Victoria Falls, Kariba, Hwange, Masvingo and Buffalo range. This has greatly enhanced the status of our airports and airspace.

The Harare International Airport study has now been completed. The major thrust is to upgrade, modernise and expand the existing facilities at the airport to match the increasing volumes of traffic which are forecast to increase considerably between now and the year 2000.

The recommended urgent works up to 1990 are expected to cost about \$36,5 million. They include apron extensions, cater-

way to identify the section and viability of the second phase to be electrified.

In 1985, the Dabuka/Bulawayo telephone exchange was commissioned. This has had a major input on the easing of telecommunications between the two centres thus improving the smooth flow of traffic.

In 1986, the National Railways of Zimbabwe introduced a day passenger train service between Harare and Bulawayo. The service is very popular and is now contributing to the transportation of about 3 million passengers per annum by train.

In 1986, the National Railways of Zimbabwe installed hotbox detectors along its major truck routes. The introduction of hotbox detectors has helped reduce possible fatal accidents by warning the locomotive

of SADCC countries have sent their trainees to the centre.

Beira Line

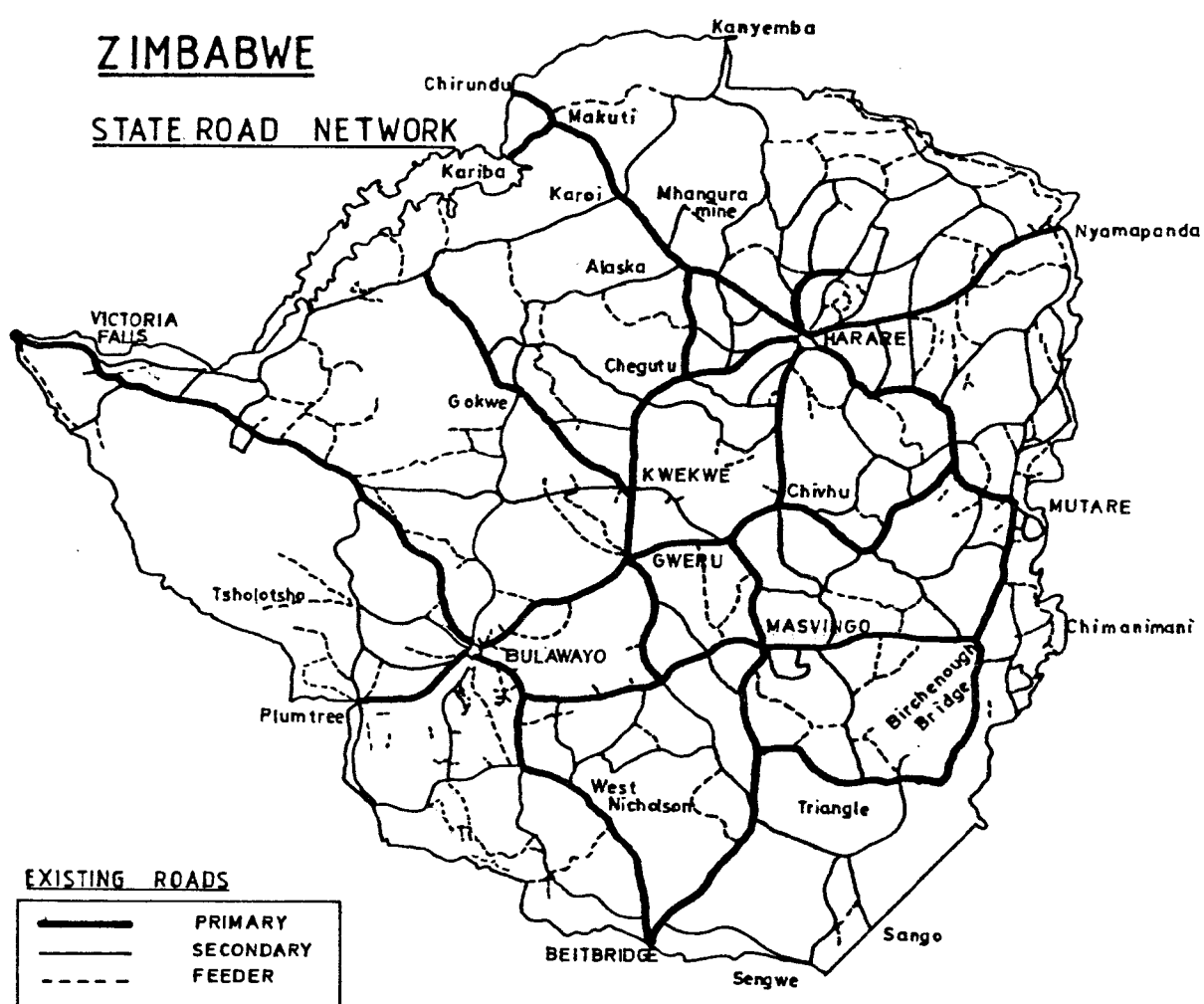
The National Railways of Zimbabwe rehabilitated the Beira line in 1987, from Machipanda to Beira and this was done in about 18 months. This has enabled increased volumes of Zimbabwe, Zambia and Malawi exports and imports moving through the port of Beira.

Chicualacuala Line

After the completion of the Beira line, the National Railways of Zimbabwe rehabilitation team moved to the Chicualacuala line and work commenced in October, 1987 and to date about 190 kilometres of track have been fully rehabilitated, this is no mean achievement taking into account the security situation. □

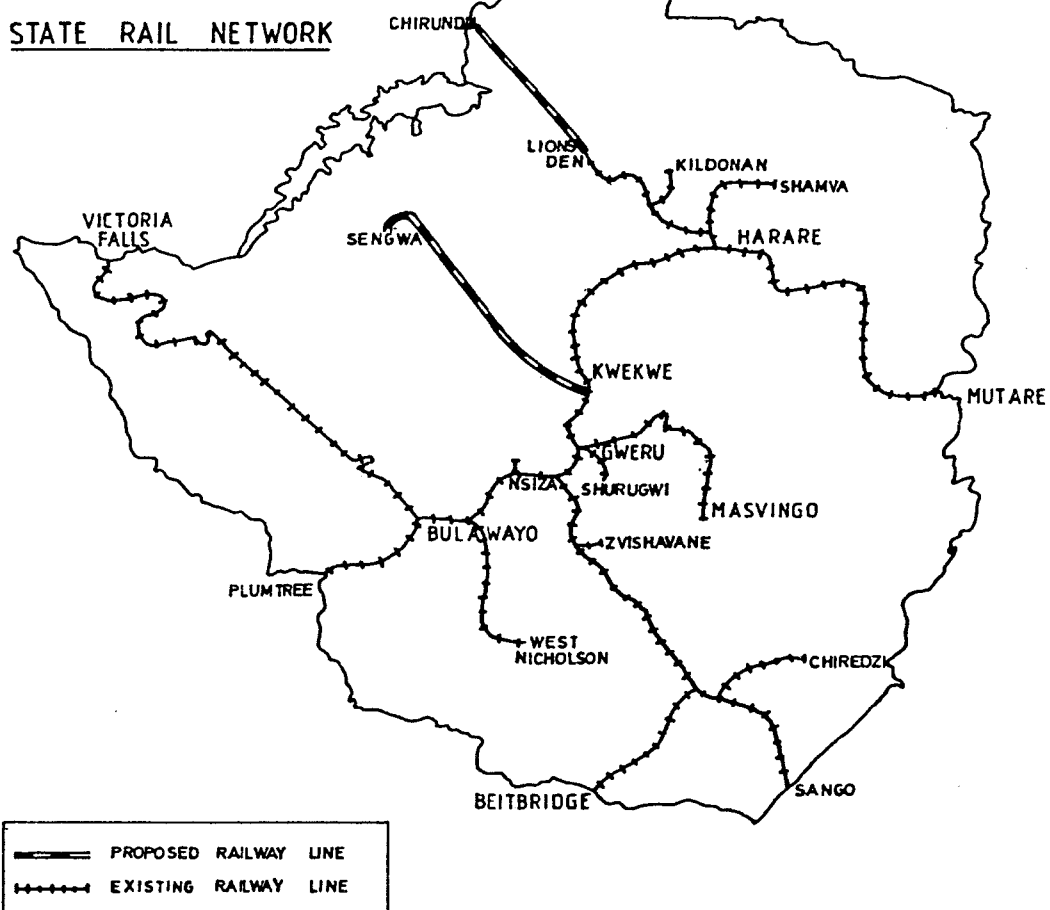
ZIMBABWE

STATE ROAD NETWORK



ZIMBABWE

STATE RAIL NETWORK



Responsibilities of the Ministry of Local Government, Rural and Urban Development



Comrade Enos Chikowore, Minister of Local Government, Rural and Urban Development

The Ministry of Local Government, Rural and Urban Development is responsible for the administration of 27 pieces of legislation which govern and regulate the day to day activities of residents of both Rural and Urban local authorities that is the whole country. In order to correct imbalances that existed during the colonial era and thus democratize the system of local government, the Ministry since 1980 prepared and piloted the undermentioned Acts of Parliament. The ongoing implementation of the same is gradually altering the face of local government from a racially-based system to a non-racial system that is designed to ensure social justice for all Zimbabweans.

Foreign Missions and Agencies (Premises) Act, 1980

This Act was made in view of Zimbabwe's being opened up to the outside world after the Rhodesian era of isolation. It provides for the control of the acquisition and use of premises by the missions of foreign governments and agencies and international organizations. Under the Act the Minister is required to supervise the purchase, hire or acquisition in any other manner; and the subsequent use, of property purchases by the subjects of the Act. He is required to approve or disapprove transactions per his discretion.

District Development Fund Act, 1981

This Act replaced the African Development Fund set up under colonial rule with the new District Development Fund. The objects of the new District Development Fund was to develop all the districts of Zimbabwe by way of laying vital infrastructure such as road networks, water systems, construction works, fencing of vital boundaries for example between communal land and commercial farming land, and engaging in any other public works programme as the Minister directs. Because of its resounding success in these endeavours, the authorities have directed that District Development Fund be upgraded to boost its capacity as a principal development organ in the rural countryside.

Immovable Property (Prevention of Discrimination) Act, 1982

This Act came in the wake of resistance to the eradication of racial discrimination in property transactions among Zimbabwean nationals of whatever race, colour or creed. It made the practice of racial discrimination — which was then rampant — in property deals an offence.

Civil Defence Act

This Act facilitated the setting of a Civil Defence Department under the Ministry of

tionaries from other Government departments, the Red Cross and various other voluntary organisations.

Communal Land Act, 1982

This Act vested communal land that is the former Tribal Trust Lands or African Reserves, in the State President and gave a right of usage to every communal dweller. It designated the district councils as the sole land allocating authority, thereby divested Chiefs and Headmen of their colonial land allocation roles prior to 1980. It effectively brought land control under democratically — elected peoples' representatives, namely the councils, and the latter have discharged their functions well in overall terms.

Chiefs and Headmen Act, 1982

This Act provided for the appointment of Chiefs and Headmen and defined their functions as traditional leaders of their communities responsible for performance of clan rituals, enforcement of tribal customs, and rainmaking ceremonies. It provided further for the setting up of provincial assemblies of chiefs and the setting up of a Council of Chiefs to spearhead chiefs' concerns countrywide. The Act further repealed the African Affairs Act (Chapter 228) and the Council of



Boarding a bus at a rural growth centre

Local Government to take charge of disaster preparedness training in the country and to alleviate suffering in the event of civil disasters such as are occasioned by floods, droughts, earthquakes, accidents (mechanical or chemical), etc. The set-up includes func-

Chiefs and Provincial Assemblies Act (Chapter 243); these two Acts had in colonial times been used to give chiefs and headmen judicial powers which was basically a colonial tactic to enforce their "divide-and-rule" policies against the indigenous population.

Names (Alteration) Act, 1983

This Act was promulgated to enable Government to alter disgraceful colonial and non-indigenous names that had been given to many buildings, roads, national monuments, etc., by the colonial rulers. It has been used extensively to date.

Traditional Beer Act, 1984

This Act was promulgated to provide for the setting up and control of traditional beer production and selling points. It protects municipal outlets against outside competition which has adverse effects on the farmers' revenue base by providing for the Minister to grant monopolies to local authority outlets with regard to the selling of traditional brews. The monopoly aspect was included to strengthen local authorities' self-reliance programmes and to serve, as a consequence, the development function.

Provincial Councils and Administration Act, 1985

This Act provided for the declaration of Provinces within Zimbabwe and the appointment of Provincial Governors. It also provides for the establishment and functions of Provincial (development) Councils and membership thereof. Generally the Act provides for co-ordinated provincial development planning and it repealed the original General Administration Act (Cap 85), the Provincial Authorities Act (Cap 246), *et cetera*. The whole concept of Provincial Governors is new in Zimbabwe.

Urban Development Corporation Act, 1986

This Act provided for the setting up of the Urban Development Corporation whose tasks are to co-ordinate and plan, supervise and implement, together with all urban local authorities countrywide, the development of all the urban centres and prospective urban centres e.g. growth points and rural service centres of Zimbabwe. It provides for membership to the Urban Development Board; the funding of the Corporation and all other matters pertaining to the functions of the Corporation. This too is a new concept in Urban development planning.

Urban Councils Amendment Act, 1986

This Act amended the Urban Councils Act (Cap 214) and facilitated urban council's get-



Renovating the shanties in Epworth

ting involved in commercial ventures singularly or in partnership with other legal bodies to augment their financial income based on rates, rents, charges, etc. It also provided for a Ministry — centred resolution of Staff Relations Matters in all urban councils, and functions of procedures in urban councils and introduced a system similar to the one under the national Electoral Act to enhance a more democratic environment in all urban areas. The Act empowered the President to dissolve urban councils in the National interest within some specified parameters and gave the Minister wider powers of control over urban councils.

The Rural District Councils Act, 1988

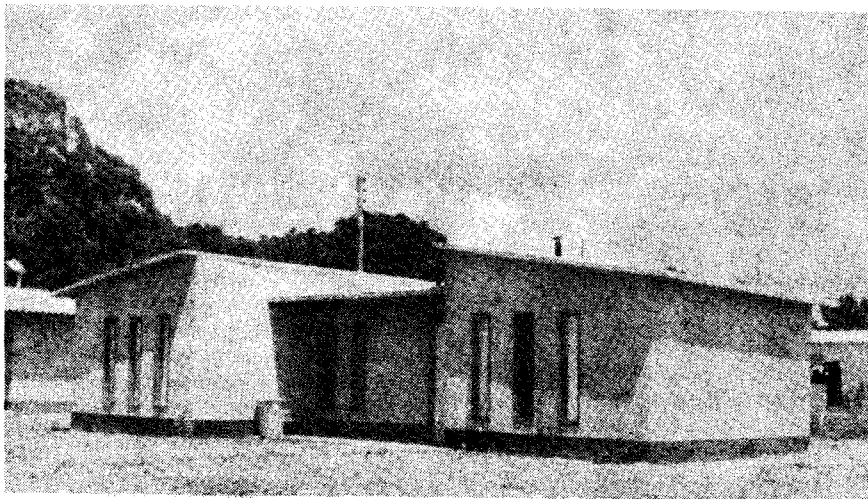
This Act constitutes a crucial instrument in Government's drive to destroy the racially — based system of administration that the colonial regime had imposed on the land. The colonial policy of separate development between Europeans (whites) and Africans (blacks) which revolved around the Local Government and Town Planning Act, the African Affairs Act, the Tribal Trust Lands Act, the Agriculture Act, the General Administration Act, the Provincial Authorities Act, the Land Tenure Act and the many such group-areas Acts, met its legal demise in the 1988 Rural District Councils Act.

The promulgation of the RDC Act constituted, as pointed out above, the legal outlawing of racial discrimination especially as it

related to rural development. At present, there are in reality two types of local authority in the rural areas of Zimbabwe, namely Rural Councils which are established for the large-scale and partly small-scale commercial farming areas; and District Councils which are established for the control and administration of native/indigenous Africans' affairs exclusively based in the Communal Lands, formerly Tribal Trust Lands. Thus, with Government's stated war on racial discrimination and unequal, unjust opportunity, both nationally and internationally, the main purposes of this new Rural District Councils Act, 1988, is to abolish these two types of local authority and to unite them into new administrative and economic entities — local authorities — with a common administrative, economic and social base, to be called the Rural District Councils. This, on paper, effectively puts all the nails on separate development's legal coffin, especially if read together with the Urban Councils Amendment Act, the Urban Development Corporation Act, the Provincial Councils and Administration Act, the District Development Fund Act, and various other complementary pieces of legislation administered by other Ministries e.g. the Parastatals Act, the Education Act, the Land Acquisition Act, *et cetera*.

The RDC Act overhauls the whole local government administrative machinery in the countryside. The Ministry, in pursuance of the legal mandate which the Act confers on it, has now set forth on the following tasks in order to make the goals of the Act a practical reality:

- (a) the setting up of Commissions under the Act to determine district boundaries, with principal emphasis being on economic viability, administrative efficacy and, indeed, racial harmonization, etc;
- (b) the preparation of the groundwork and all necessary legal instruments for the holding of new rural district local authority elections;
- (c) the division and re-aligning of former authorities assets and liabilities adequately;
- (d) the naming of the new districts;
- (e) briefing provincial bodies on the proposed new structures and their functions, procedures and powers;



A Modern House in Highfield High-Density Suburb

- (f) the preparation of conditions of services for all RDC staff so as to ensure a smooth flow from one form of local government structure to another; and
- (g) the pacifying of impulses of resistance from fearful holders of private property in the rural countryside.

The task is a mammoth one which requires a lot of dedication, consultations (both intensive and extensive), good sense of judgement, great expertise and patience, and myriads of other qualities required of a democratic government. The legal framework for administratively destroying separate development as a policy and practice is now firmly in place. It is now left for the functionaries of local government to make it operational. The issue is not one of amalgamating rural and district councils into a legal conglomerate; it is one of completely dissolving both entities, destroying the racial element born of the colonial era, and completely uniting the former entities into one single, common entity to serve the interests of all regardless of colour or race.

The State Land Section

Provision of Infrastructure at Growth Points

Due to the discriminatory, dual spatial development strategy adopted by the previous regimes, the government at independence inherited a situation where the rural areas especially the communal areas had been neglected in the provision of infrastructure. The little infrastructure that had been provided in terms of Township development had been targeted at the so-called proclaimed townships which were designed not necessarily to stimulate economic growth for the areas, but as centres where the black population could retire after having spent all their useful lives in the major urban areas.

In view of this neglect of the communal areas where the majority of the population lives, at Independence, one of the major policies the government adopted was aimed at redressing this imbalance by giving priority to Rural Development. Within this general government objective of developing the rural sector, government launched a programme to establish a hierarchy of towns and permanent settlements in rural areas in the form of Growth Points, District and Rural Service Centres which would (i) attract investment to the rural areas, (ii) create employment opportunities, (iii) avert the rural-urban population drift and (iv) provide socio-economic services.

To date through the Public Sector Investment programme, the Ministry has spent more than \$29 million providing basic infrastructure at 80 centres including each of the 55 District Service Centres. This massive investment has been instrumental in attracting (i) higher order commercial and industrial investment to the areas and (ii) helped decentralisation of government services to various districts and (iii) improving the accessibility of services to the majority of the people.

Home Ownership

Whilst prior to independence accommoda-

tion in the urban areas for blacks was mainly on a rental basis, since independence the section has been responsible for the Schemes converting former rented accommodation to home ownership in all the small high density areas. New schemes where-by those who could afford to build their own houses on home ownership basis were also extended to the density areas as opposed to the previous system where this facility was available to the low density areas, formerly white suburbs.

Purchase of Land for Government Projects and Township Development

As most projects need land, with the expansion of government requirements for land for various projects e.g. to meet decentralisation and expansion of services, the section was responsible for timely provision or acquisition of land to meet this huge expansion since independence e.g. schools programme, offices and housing schemes.

Upgrading of Epworth Settlement

Due to the ravages of the war of liberation



People's health depends on clean water

and the shortage of accommodation in the greater Harare area, a large number of people sought refuge on the Epworth Mission farms to the extent that at independence it was estimated that more than 30 000 people were resident on the farm. As there was no infrastructure to cater for such a large population this caused quite a considerable health risk not only to the people of Epworth but to the Harare area as a whole since Epworth is located on the catchment area of Harare's water supply system.

The previous regime did not take any steps to alleviate the problem but left the problem to the Mission which did not have the resources to solve.

With independence government realised the difficulties facing the Mission and decided to upgrade the settlement to that similar to other high density areas rather than treating the people there as squatters. To date the government has made available more than \$10 million dollars on the project which when completed will be handed over to the

City of Harare to administer. Similarly, Government is upgrading rural centres such as Tsanzaguru in Rusape and similar habitations.

Urban Councils Section

Democratisation of Local authorities

Pre-independence urban councils were geared to serve a minority section of the population who lived in the low density areas and these happened to be white. It was that minority which was eligible to be elected to serve on council and formulate policies which affected the unrepresented majority blacks in the high density areas. All senior council employees including chief executives were recruited from the few whites.

Decisions made by councils were by and large meant to benefit the few whites. Councils were not obliged to let their decisions known to the majority blacks. What was passed on to the blacks was information affecting their areas. Even this was passed on by Township superintendents either by way of circulars or by discussing the issues with Advisory Board members. The Advisory Board members, as the term suggests, were supposed to advise councils on their problems and this they did through council officials — Township Superintendents.

The coming of independence brought with it changes in the whole system of local government. First, the Urban Councils Act was amended so councils could be extended to include what used to be called African Townships as well.

Second, the ward system previously confined to low density areas only was also introduced in the high density areas. That meant that all sections of the community elected their direct representatives to Council. The system of consultation between councillors and the residents was encouraged. Thus, the majority blacks were given their rightful place in that they were now able to direct urban councils so their aspirations could be fulfilled.

Viewed in this light, it becomes clear why the democratization of local government should be regarded as a great achievement. Further, the setting up of the Chirundu Local Board and the Epworth Local Board, bringing the total number of urban councils to 18, made up of 11 municipalities (which include the 4 cities), 4 town councils and 3 local boards, was a vital component of the democratisation process.

Right to own property

Whereas blacks were not allowed to own property either in town or in low-density, whites only suburbs or in the townships that had been allocated to them, independence created a reversal of that trend. Thus, the Urban Councils Section facilitates the implementation of home-ownership schemes by providing funds for infrastructural services so that surveys and transfer of properties to individuals could be effected with minimum delays.

New areas for residential purposes were



This Darwendale Consumer Co-operative serves workers from the neighbourhood

opened and additional funds provided for infrastructural services which include access roads, bridges, sewerage, water, street lights and other services. What was important was not just the provision of additional housing to the people but that those who wanted to buy properties could do so at their convenient time. The Urban Councils Section of the Ministry still provides funds for off-site infrastructure and monitors the projects. This year \$18,805 million in general development loan funds was allocated by the Ministry to Urban local authorities.

Apart from home ownership schemes, local authorities service industrial and commercial areas. What is important here is the fact that ownership of property is now open to anybody who qualifies whereas before independence one had to be white in order to qualify to own property either in the commercial or industrial area. In this regard, the services have been expanded to meet the demands of the majority of the people. Although a lot is still to be done, the Urban Councils Section has made tremendous strides in its endeavours.

To augment their income and lessen the burden on the taxpayer, the Urban Councils Section has encouraged local authorities in urban councils areas to set up income generating projects.

Although the introduction of income-generating projects was resisted at the initial stage, there are now a few councils which are running successful income generating projects. For instance Kariba Town Council is doing well in their Kapenta fishing project realising an average monthly profit of \$15 000,00.

Co-operatives

Local Authorities have also been empowered to promote co-operatives development in and around urban areas thus enhancing the economic base of the local authority while

making a direct contribution towards alleviating the unemployment problem.

One City Concept

Whilst the democratisation exercise gave the majority political control of local authorities, the constraints as to the areas within the urban council where moneys deriving from these various areas could be spent resulted in the perpetuation of the existence of virtually two financially disparate towns in every urban council. The Ministry is working on the implementation of the one city concept which will result in every citizen, irrespective of where he lives within the local authority area, benefiting from all the revenues accruing to that local authority.

Schools

Urban local authorities have now been responsible for the construction of Primary Schools within their areas. This, previously was the preserve of Central Government and District Councils in the Communal Lands.

Twinning

Isolation prior to independence has been removed completely and our developing towns are encouraged to form twinning relationships with towns and cities overseas resulting in our towns benefiting from urban staff training courses and, in the long run, local urban development.

The District Development Fund

Briefly the following is the list of achievements requested for as far as DDF's activities are concerned:-

Road Development Activities:

- 32 000 kilometres of road rehabilitated, upgraded and developed.
- 746 causes and bridges rehabilitated and built.

Human Resources Development:

- 7 Technical Skills Training Centres were

set up at Domboshawa, Manyame, Masvingo, Mutare, Gwanda, Senga and Tsholotsho.

- 10 269 trainees have undergone training in various technical disciplines, for example Building, Vehicle Mechanics, Carpentry, fitting and turning, Blacksmithing, pump-fitting and maintenance, plumbing, road construction and maintenance, welding, road planning, borehole drilling, etc.

Water Development Activities:

- 12 000 boreholes and deep wells were rehabilitated and developed.
- 429 small and medium size dams were rehabilitated and developed.
- 30 piped water schemes were rehabilitated and developed.

At present the Ministry is consulting with Government regarding the proposal to upgrade DDF as the principal instrument of development in all non-urban areas of Zimbabwe.

Department of Rural Development

Translocation

Resettlement:

To date, a total of 50 974 families have been resettled on 2 794 093 hectare of former large scale commercial farming land. Essential infrastructure has also been provided and the resettled communities are now benefiting from improved infrastructure and access to productive resources.

Communal Land Reorganisation Programme: Also referred to as internal resettlement, is, together with translocation resettlement, the major strategy for rural development. Villagisation, a component of the programme, has already been implemented in a number of communal areas. The total programme will involve identification of opportunities and constraints and the development thrust which will be linked to agrarian reform measures. Eight projects, one in each province, are already being planned following this strategy.

Rural District Councils Section

The legacy of land distribution and utilization we inherited from the vanquished colonial regimes was established by the 1923 Southern Rhodesia Constitution, the Land Apportionment Act, Husbandry Act and the Land Tenure Act. These principal colonial Acts and other subsidiary legislation divided this land into areas for Whites and areas for Blacks. The land with rich soils, more minerals, better and more reliable rainfall was reserved for a minority white population, while that with poor soils, absence of minerals, poor and unreliable rainfall was demarcated for the overwhelming majority black population. At one time or another they became known as "Native Reserves", or "Tribal Trust Lands" etc. As a result of this colonial system today one still refers to administrative areas as District Councils, Rural Councils or Urban Councils. Similarly, before independence, the concept of two cities existed in Urban Council areas. Blacks lived in what was known as "African Townships" while whites lived in areas popularly known as *suburbs*.

On the eve of Independence in 1980 conditions in our rural areas were in a troubled state as a result of the war. The new Government of the Republic of Zimbabwe proceeded to democratise Local Government institutions. The 243 African Councils were reconstituted into 55 District Councils. The number of Rural Councils remained basically the same. The former purchase areas were given an option to either join District Councils, join existing Rural Councils or to form their own Rural Councils. Today these small scale commercial farming areas are either small scale Rural Councils or have been absorbed into the District or large scale Rural Councils. There are now 57 Rural Councils, 55 District Councils as well as Resettlement Areas that are planned.

In order to further return and consolidate power to the people, Government has decided to establish new Rural District Councils which, as has been pointed out above in the brief summary of the 1988 Rural District Councils Act, will play a pivotal role in the development of their respective districts and every development project or target that a Rural District Council undertakes will contribute to the betterment of its people and more especially to the betterment of the poor who need it most. Government therefore regards

Rural District Councils as vehicles for self expression and development as well as mechanism for bringing Government closer to the people.

Thus, it is natural and necessary that the division and administration of land between Rural Councils and District Councils be abolished and united under one Rural District Council which has one aim — to equitably administer, develop and uplift the standards of living of all residents in that one community. The colonial legacy of two nations in one should be buried and laid to rest.

Local Government Promotion and Training Section

Promotion:

- (a) Formation of District Councils is in session to replace the then already defunct African Councils.
- (b) Involvement of people into development and decision making through Local Authorities, is an ongoing promotional exercise.
- (c) Creation of Lower Tier Structures, i.e. VIDCOs and WADCOs for the new Rural District Councils is being speeded up. — Further democratization of development planning by involving VIDCOs and

WADCOs structures is being perfected as a basis for national development planning.

- (d) Amalgamation of Rural Councils with District Councils to form Rural District Councils is a task which the Section is fully engaged in.

Training:

- (a) To enhance the viability of the above referred development organs, the Ministry has continually trained both the elected leaders and the executive staff of these bodies in the mechanics of running local government administration.

The Ministry has administered the specialist training of professional areas to fill in gaps created by the whites who left the country after independence. This was particularly so in specialist departments like Engineering, Town Planning, Finance, Health and Housing Services.

Training courses are further being designed to cater for the new rural District Councils which the Ministry is in the process of forming.

I sincerely hope that the above, very brief summary of my Ministry's achievements satisfies your requirements. □

Co-operative Development in Zimbabwe Since 1980

From the Ministry of Community and Co-operative Development and Women's Affairs — Co-operative Development Department

The aim of this article is to provide a cursory outline on Co-operative Development in this country to enable the informed reader to come up with a fair idea of what is meant by co-operation as a form of business organisation and what are some of the major developments that have taken place in this 'sector' of our economy.

The term 'Co-operative' is understood and construed differently by various persons. There are many definitions that may be tossed around but the one that appears most comprehensive and appropriate is that a co-operative is defined as "... an association of people or other legal persons who have voluntarily joined together to achieve a common objective through the formation of a democratically controlled organisation, making equitable contribution to the capital required and accepting a fair share of the risks and benefits of the undertaking in which the members actively participate."

One common statement among the objects (aims) of any co-operative is that the

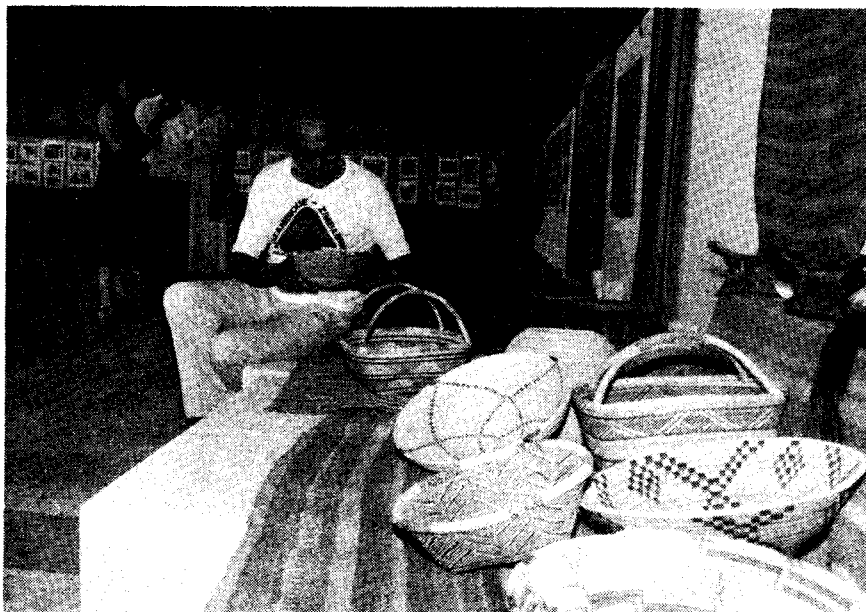


Comrade J.T.R. Mujuru, Minister of Community and Co-operative Development and Women's Affairs

co-operative should be "... for the promotion of the economic interests of its members." This emphasises the fact that co-operatives are not charity institutions. The co-operative idea is without doubt of high ethical and moral value and the co-operative movement is of the greatest social importance, but the underlying daily work is of a definitely materialistic, sober and purely economic character, the non-compliance with which one can have grave consequences.

Outstanding amongst the major distinctions between co-operative and non-co-operative enterprises are the questions of member control (democracy) and participation and the fairness that should be observed by members in the distribution of economic results (Profits and losses) that ensue from the undertaking.

Co-operation emphasises member control. The idea of internal co-operative democracy can be called the summation of the fundamental principles of co-operation. It influences the principles of management and control in co-operative organisations.



Senator Culverwell admiring the work of members of a co-operative

On distribution of economic results members must accept a fair (proportionate) share of the benefits (and losses) that arise from the degree or level of their participation or contribution to the operations of the co-operative undertaking like any other business enterprise, co-operatives must be engaged in economically viable projects for them to survive and flourish.

Brief History of the Co-operative Movement in Zimbabwe

Although co-operatives were first introduced in this country in the early 1900s it is possible to discern three distinct phases in their evolution, namely; the period between 1900 and 1956, between 1956 and 1980 and the post-independence era.

The Period Between 1900 and 1956

The first two pieces on Co-operative legislation (the Agricultural Co-operative Societies Act of 1909 and the Co-operative Companies Act of 1926) were both meant for promoting the interests of the white settler farming community. It was not until 1944 that a commission was set up to investigate problems related to African peasant agricultural production. Amongst other things the commission recommended the creation of co-operatives for handling the produce from the up-to-then completely neglected African peasant farming sector. This is what paved way for the promulgation of the 1956 Co-operative Societies Act. The modelling of this 1956 Act was based on the British, Indian pattern and is almost identical to all the other Acts which were introduced by the British Colonial offices for adoption by its colonies.

The Period Between 1956 and 1980

Immediately after the promulgation of the 1956 Co-operative Societies Act there was much interest exhibited by the African

peasant community. Although non-racial in theory, for all intents and proposes the 1956 Act was considered better suited to serve the needs of the African farming community and in practice it was almost exclusively used for registration and administration of the Co-operative, catering for social and economic interests of the black community. Thus, it was not coincidental that by 1980 almost all the 300 registered and functioning co-operatives were centrally situated in areas where the African Black Community especially the rural peasant farmers, could make use of their services.

The prospects of convenient and less expensive market, the supply of farming inputs on credit attracted many peasant farmers to form or join co-operatives. By working in groups and pooling resources the communal farmers could enhance their creditability before financial institutions and suppliers of in-

puts. For the majority of our rural peasant population this was the only opportunity to economically acquire inputs for and/or dispose of the surplus produce from, the small holdings which they owed or used and they wasted no time in making use of the facility.

The Post Independence Era

In this brief post-independence period Co-operative Development in Zimbabwe should be seen within the context of the social and economic fabric and structures in existence and the government's declared intention to transform the socio-economic system towards greater equality, deepened democracy, economic self-determination and reduced reliance upon foreign capital.

Government policy is explicit in its definition of broad objectives on Co-operative Development — which are:-

- a) to enable the people of Zimbabwe to achieve economic power, and through this power achieve control of socio-economic institutions.
- b) to eliminate the exploitation of man by man, by subjecting any socially generated surplus to the principles of equitable distribution of economic results and democratic control.
- c) to make the people of Zimbabwe self-reliant in skills, management, goods and services, and establish in themselves a sense of confidence, initiative and high development aspirations and;
- d) to provide an opportunity to develop community and collective ways of living that provide a social and economic base for socialism, national unity and solidarity.

Thus, with the advent of independence in 1980 a new era dawned on the Co-operative Movement of this country. The new government was geared towards elevating and increasing the role played by co-operatives in the national economy and there were calls



Members of Varombo Co-operative in Dzivaresekwa Township working collectively in the maize fields

encouraging people to venture into business co-operatively. Within this supportive stance of government many co-operatives were conceived and launched. From only 300 marketing and supply co-operatives in 1980, the number increased to more than 1 100 registered and functioning co-operatives by the end of 1987.

It should be noted that at independence in 1980 most if not all registered co-operatives in this country were of the Agricultural Marketing and Supply (AMS) type. AMS co-operatives are a service type co-operative that provides members with supplies and marketing services, leaving members to produce as individual persons or households.

After Independence other types of co-operatives, largely the producer/worker type, were encouraged to develop. Co-operatives in fishing, Farming, Mining, Construction, Transport, Savings and Credit (just to name a few) started emerging and were registered by the Registrar of Co-operatives at the Ministry of Co-operative Development. The category under which a co-operative is registered is mainly derived from its main activity as stated in its by-laws. With this unprecedented expansion, it is evident that the most phenomenal growth was in the sphere of collective or worker co-operatives.

Promotion of Co-operatives

Though much more still has to be done the government has a lot to show regarding what it has done to improve the performance of co-operatives and promote co-operative development in this country compared to the period before independence. The growth of the Co-operative Movement itself from 300 to over 1 100 registered and functioning Co-operatives requires massive support systems. This number excludes the many organised groups of people who are still yet unregistered or are operating as pre-Co-operatives.

Naturally, the proliferation of so many different types of Co-operatives during the brief post independence period meant that the established infrastructure became over-stretched and in certain cases obsolete. There was need to structurally modify and consolidate the human and material resources of the government department responsible for Co-operative development in the light of the challenges and demands considered by this sudden growth in the size and diversity of the Co-operative Movement. The government department had to be strategically placed under a relevant Ministry or independently be structurally expanded in order to serve a relatively more-sophisticated co-operative movement. In this light we have since seen the department moved, placed under various ministries and these movements may have affected the equilibrium and operations of the department. Perhaps this was made in an attempt to find the most conducive and compatible operating environment for the department. Given the diversity of the contemporary Co-operative Movement in this country, it does not need a lot of insight to

understand the causes of the several changes and shifts that the department has been subjected to. However, more definite action should have been taken by government to structure the Department in such a way that it was able to cope with the challenges of the movement and effectively discharge the critical functions it is charged with.

Technical Sections

The technical structure of the Co-operative Development Department under the enlarged Ministry of Community and Co-operative Development and Women's Affairs now has five distinct sections: that is Planning, Research and Evaluations; Management Services and Field Operations; Registration and Statutory Matters; Training and Education; and Audit and Inspection.

These technical sections now have the base-line staff that is essential to ensure better services to the Co-operative Movement. In this perspective it is important to understand the major role of government to the Co-operative Movement. The Co-operative Development Department views itself as a facility that must be used by the Co-operative Movement to develop itself to a level where it can take over most of functions currently performed by the government. Through unionisation and with the necessary grooming, experience and training, the co-operative movement should ultimately be able to provide the following services, at the unions at secondary, tertiary, apex or federation levels to member primary co-operatives: representation at relevant fora; provision of advice and statistics; trading, processing and manufacturing, audit, accounting and book-keeping, staffing, promotion and rescue; education, research and consultancy.

Categories of Co-operatives

Co-operative Unions are formed out of the primary Co-operatives, while primary Co-operatives have individual persons as their members. The reasons that prompt individuals to co-operate at primary level (pooling resources, enhancing bargaining power and other economics of scale) are the very same reasons that compel the primary co-operatives to unionise at secondary level, secondaries to unionise at tertiary level and tertiaries to unionise at National or apex level and apexes to amalgamate in a national federation level. The latter would in turn be affiliated to the International Co-operative Alliance (ICA).

Thus in the long term the Ministry wishes to see the Co-operative Movement in this country, at different levels, performing most of the above functions. Ultimately the government department should just maintain essential staff to perform registration and statutory matters on behalf of the government. In this light it is encouraging to note the developments that have taken place within the movement itself. The formation of the Central Association of Co-operative Unions (CACU) in 1971, the Organization of Collective Co-operatives in Zimbabwe (OCC-

ZIM) in 1983, the National Association of Savings and Credit Union of Zimbabwe (NASCUZ) 1986, and the North Dyke Mining Co-operative Union in 1987 respectively is a development in the right direction for the co-operative movement. These apex unions represent almost all types of co-operatives in this country at National Level with the exception of fishing co-operatives. The four apex organizations are slowly but steadily working towards the formation of a federation, a body that will represent all co-operatives in this country.

Amongst the main teething problems to the co-operative movement currently are the lack of capital and lack of technical and vocational skills. Most members of co-operatives lack the necessary education and skills to effectively perform the activities envisaged in running a business.

In response to this the Ministry is vigorously working on trading programmes to improve record — keeping internal democracy of co-operative management and administrative skills and other technical and vocational skills.

The Ministry works closely with other training institutions and interested parties in Co-operative Development like Kushinga Phikelela Technical College, Senga and Domboshawa Training Centres in running programmes for co-operators and its own field staff.

Future Plans

Currently there are definite programmes that have been designed for the promotion of Savings and Credit Co-operative Societies. Moreover very soon the Ministry will embark on the second phase of the Member Education Campaign that is geared at imparting knowledge on basic project planning and efficient organising and running of Annual General Meetings. On the drawing board if funds are made available there are plans to establish a Co-operative Development Centre that will serve as a link between the Movement and all other interested parties in Co-operative Development and will be the launching pad for various co-operative related activities such as training, research, consultancy Information Centre *et cetera*. The ideas of Co-operative Banking and Co-operative Insurance have also been mooted and should be coined into definite shape as the Co-operative Movement itself grows and the needs become more definitive.

In conclusion it is safe to assume that the growth of our national economy cannot be left to the multinationals and the parastatals. The small scale economic sectors in which lie the majority of our Co-operatives and pre-co-operatives, have an equally important role to play. There is no immediate alternative at all which will enable the masses of Zimbabwe to participate and create gainful employment for our burgeoning population. Thus it is incumbent on the nation to see that co-operatives are a success. □

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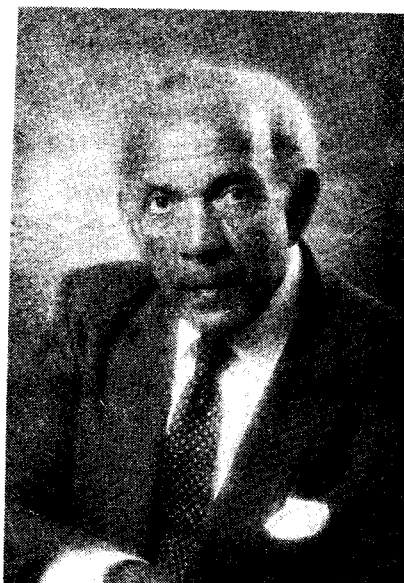
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Senator Culverwell at the Graduation Ceremony

Senator J.L. Culverwell, Minister of State, Department of National Scholarships, Office of the President and Cabinet, attended the Graduation Ceremony for the 1988 Final Year Students of Mutare Teacher's College held on Saturday 13th May 1989 at 11.45 am. He delivered a speech in which he said:



Senator Culverwell, Minister of National Scholarships

One of the most important occasions in the life of any tradesman or woman is that long-awaited moment when he or she becomes fully qualified; the moment when, for the first time ever he or she receives and actually holds, with trembling fingers, the cherished document by which he or she is launched into the fields as an accredited practitioner in a particular trade. That great moment is for you only seconds away.

It gives me enormous pleasure, and felt greatly honoured to have been invited to witness the coming of age in the teaching profession. As you anxiously wait to receive your hard-won certificates, let me invite you to reflect for a while on the importance of this occasion, on what it means to be a teacher in the Zimbabwe of today, and on the kind of citizen we expect you to produce. I want to touch upon these areas not because they did not receive adequate attention during your course, but because it is customary to remind our new recruits about the responsibilities which await them in the field. And just in case you were beginning to entertain second thoughts about becoming a teacher, I want also to reassure you that if you have managed to successfully complete the course, you are the right kind of person we are looking for. Teaching is, indeed a very noble profession.

Viable Education System

Our programmes of teacher education in Zimbabwe are very comprehensive, and thorough. They compare very well with programmes of teacher education in other parts of the world, especially in the developing world. And this is despite the fact that we have only recently attained our political independence." The Minister assured the graduates that they have indeed received the very best that our young nation could afford, given the historical and socio-economic factors which shaped the circumstances under which they trained.

If one looks around now, one will notice that the Government takes the education of teachers very seriously.

To begin with one can see that there are many more lecturers surrounding me here than there were when you enrolled for your first year of the course", said the Senator. The Principal, Dr Zvobgo could do with many more lectures still as there is development in the right direction. Then there are new structures sprouting here and there in the form of seminar rooms, a lecture theatre, science block, geography room and the home economics block, not to mention new office accommodation for the lecturers.

Role of the University

Mutare may be one of the oldest Government teacher's colleges in the country, but it is certainly one of the most progressive also. Teachers and students have every right to be proud to have been associated with an institution which is making a very significant contribution to education in this country. It's not just the ever-increasing number of students but the quality of teachers produced there is also quite impressive, thanks to the role played by our local university in teacher-education across the country.

It is a well-known fact that one major function of the University of Zimbabwe is to respond to the ever-expanding, constantly changing manpower needs of the country. This it does mainly through a variety of well-established internationally recognized courses organised at its main campus in Harare. Such important work should continue to draw support and encouragement from all sections of our society.

The focus of our attention today, however, is another, perhaps equally important, dimension of the University's involvement in the teacher-education. We are today being

reminded that although teachers' colleges enjoy relative autonomy in conducting their affairs, the University of Zimbabwe is the ultimate authority on all teacher-education programmes. This control is effected with utmost care, mainly through professional dialogue to ensure maximum cooperation at every level.

This is not to suggest that teachers have been fully equipped for all time to deal with any situation that might arise in their career. That could be asking for too much. A good education is simply one which enables them to be resourceful in later life.

Resourcefulness

This theme of *resourcefulness* is one to be stressed very much because our circumstances demand it. Even as teachers rejoice now, with so many relatives and friends to wish them well in the noble profession they have chosen, they (teachers) are urged to carry with them great composure and proceed with caution so that we shall all continue to be proud of them for many many years to come. Teachers must not be tempted to make today's euphoria develop into a perpetual professional honey-moon.

They are urged to resourcefully channel their youthful enthusiasm and abundant energies into activities that will benefit both themselves and the communities they serve. They have entered the teaching profession at a time when we are concerned with standards although our material resources are not as abundant as we might like them to be. Besides, we do not, as a nation, have a long history of independent self-rule. What all this means is that resourcefulness is a quality we desperately need, and need in abundance, if we are not to lose our sense of direction in the teaching profession.

Casual mention of the presence of your relatives and friends would not do justice to their vital contribution to the teacher-education. Let it be stressed, therefore, that the parents, guardians, spouses, and brothers or sisters who have accompanied their children back to college for certification are perhaps the people these teachers owe the largest debt of gratitude. Without their unstinted moral and material support none of the teachers would be there today.

These people certainly never featured prominently in the day-to-day running of the college. They, instead, patiently waited in the background, monitoring with keen interest,

albeit from a distance, the progress their children were making. It is now the teachers' turn to fully express their gratitude to the relatives and friends who supported them because their success is very much also theirs.

Certification Day

As a matter of fact, one believes that certification day is by no means the only occasion worthy of the official presence at this college of a relevant and interested public. An open day would provide us all with further opportunities to see for ourselves how teachers are made today in Zimbabwe.

Let me, therefore, congratulate you not only for choosing the teaching profession but also for successfully completing your course. For it is one thing to entertain noble ideas in your minds, and quite another to have the courage and tenacity to translate those ideas into reality.

Right now I can see intelligent young men and women who belong to a new generation of teachers. As you proceed to join your colleagues in the field, take with you all the new ideas with which you have been equipped during your training. Do not keep these ideas to yourself lest they grow stale for want of cross-fertilization. Be prepared instead, to listen to your colleagues, many of whom have long years of experience behind them. There is much you can learn from them if you have the courage to listen. Take every opportunity that comes your way to find new ways of doing things without compromising the dignity of your profession," said Senator Culverwell. He added, "I charge you with the task of injecting an element of dynamism into the practice of education. For, in our profession, we always welcome fresh ideas, and we have a right to expect them from every generation of new recruits. Yours is the generation of teachers whose products will attain their adulthood in the twenty-first century. You must fully equip them to meet fairly and squarely all the challenges of the next century with the confidence that only fully dedicated and resourceful teachers can impart."

Qualities of a Good Teacher

The person who chooses to become a teacher must be imbued with love for children. Some people have a natural phobia for children. They feel uncomfortable in their presence and make learning an extremely difficult task. The graduates (teachers) have had your stint in the field and proved beyond reasonable doubt that they are capable of. The Minister further urged the new teachers to cultivate love for children, for without it they may lose their respect as well as compromise their own professionalism.

Your children will not be the same. They have varying needs which call for your undivided attention. Take the time and the trouble to investigate their problems, whether these are of a social, psychological or pedagogical nature. Above all else, be to them a person in whom they can confide at all times. This requires on your part an exemplary character in matters both professional and strictly personal. Remember, on duty or at

leisure you are always a teacher. And if you never tire to teach by precept and example, you will always be a winner.

Every corner of our country deserves a well qualified teacher. So teachers should take the trouble to get to know their community well and to develop a meaningful relationship with the parents of children. They should feel at home among them and be of service to them in every way that their profession allows. Only in this way will they derive fulfilment from their otherwise very demanding position. They must not be in a hurry to change schools because for one thing, it is taxing on their meagre manpower resources, and for another it deprives them of the opportunity to cement relationships with a growing community.

Political Economy

Trainees have been systematically exposed to the ideology scientific socialism, not only directly through lectures in Political Economy, but also indirectly in the various other disciplines of the course they have so successfully completed. They should now be in a position to formulate a more realistic vision of a future Socialist Zimbabwe, basing their judgement on a scientific approach to Socio-Economic phenomena rather than on mere conjectures and wishful thinking. They have, therefore, been equipped to correctly apply to principles and laws of Dialectical/Historical Materialism in dealing with the issues and events of our time. They should share this knowledge with the working mass-

with developments in every sphere of our economy. A teacher of the people who will build socialism tomorrow cannot afford to be a narrow-minded today. Dogmatic interpretation of theory, even marxist theory, is also not his line, for the concrete historical and material circumstances under which he operates and which condition his way of thinking are always present in his mind," said Senator Culverwell.

He went on: Be resourceful and responsible, therefore, in your application of theory into practice, bearing in mind that just as Rome was not built in a day, so does the emergency of socialism in a country require a transitional period during which the material and technical base of socialism is established. It is in this perspective that current changes in our education system are to be viewed. Our increasing emphasis on the scientific approach, and on science and technology is meant to prepare the nation for more effective local control of the economy. Such preparation begins with you in the classroom. Proper orientation at an early age will ensure that we have the right kind of people to manage our affairs tomorrow when it will be even more urgent to set up our priorities right.

The way people relate with one another in the sphere of production is a recurrent theme in Marxist theory. Our concern to hasten the emergency of truly socialist social relations of production in the workplace is the real motive behind all encouragements



The 1988 Graduation Ceremony (HICC) of the University of Zimbabwe Students

es and their children who will build socialism on the ruins of our Capitalist/Colonial past.

I urge you to seriously view the problems and contradictions of our time in their proper perspective. Be wary of formulas of instant socialism born on half-baked knowledge of the objective laws of Socio-Economic development. For this reason it is imperative that you constantly update your knowledge of scientific socialism while keeping abreast

of education with production. This is an area of curriculum where one expects teachers to do their utmost to apply the relevant philosophy absolutely correctly. It is not the belief in the teaching profession that the most efficient way of punishing children is to give them manual work. This can only condition children to shun the very important and vital activities upon which the viability of our predominantly agrarian economy depends, manual labour has a value of its own which far surpasses our sometimes



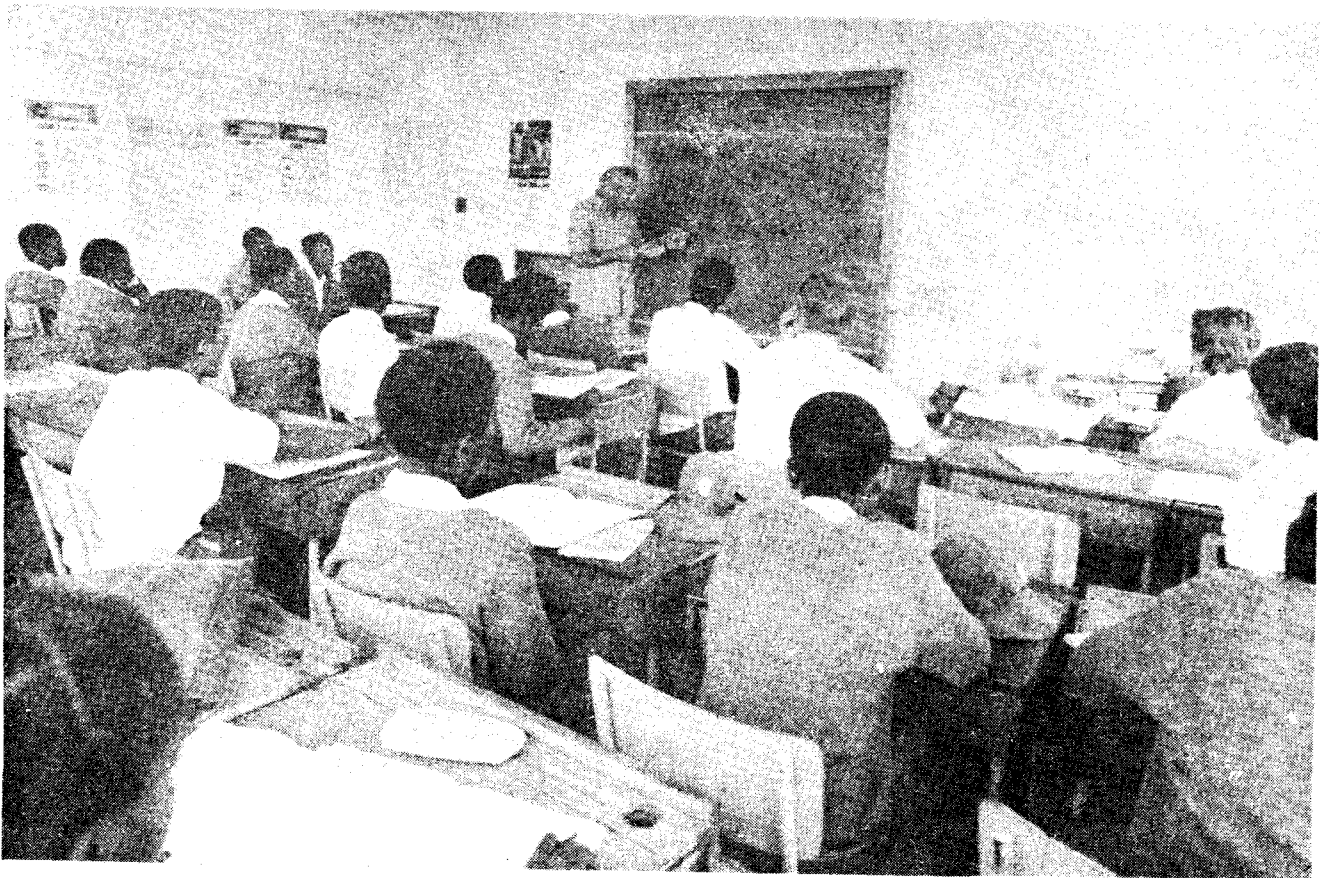
A Chemistry Student at the UZ

people who can be entrusted with responsibilities in the sphere of production. But unless they are given opportunities to handle responsibilities at school, they may never know how to fend for themselves when their schooling days are over. A socialist economy cannot be built and sustained in a country where the working masses are ill-prepared to operate on their own not only as producers but also and especially, as their own managers and custodians of the means of production entrusted to them in various forms of socialist ownership.

Our tasks in the teaching profession are fairly clear. "I have very briefly tried to present to you a picture of the teacher we need today and of the youth whom you will teach. I trust that you will go on from here in well deserved jubilation to discharge your duties with courage and enthusiasm. You should continue to draw inspiration from your lecturers who have done a wonderful job seeing you through the course. For in-service students and pre-service students on teaching practice, this is virtually a 'correspondence college' responsible for organising distance education programmes in a

one other duties.

Graduate teachers are thanked especially for their resilience and tenacity, given the heavy and sometimes conflicting demands made on them. Virtually all of them have served their term in schools and shown themselves to be worthy models of competent teaching. In many cases, they have also further extended their education in some academic and/or professional disciplines in order to improve themselves as teachers. One can only hope that suitably qualified, experienced and dedicated recruits for college teaching will be available in even greater numbers in the years to come. This will not only lighten the burden on existing staff but also make lecturing a more rewarding and truly enjoyable career. The role played by expatriate lecturers in this regard is one for which we shall continue to be grateful even after their contracts expire and they are safely home in Canada, The United States, Great Britain, the Federal Republic of Germany or Distant Australia. The principal, his predecessors in this very demanding post, the entire staff of this college and the supporting staff are thanked for the job well done.



Love for children is one of the essentials of a good teacher

misplaced desire to censure or inflict pain on the young offender by requiring him to work with his hands.

Education with Production

Education with production is supposed to help our youngsters become sufficiently acquainted with the means of production available in our country so that they develop into

number of disciplines. As regards teaching practice alone, the college is like a regional administrative office from where supervisors go out on a daily basis to every corner of Manicaland to ensure that progress is made and standards are maintained. What all this means is that besides their more conspicuous teaching activities on campus, lecturers are also expected to perform a hundred and

"Finally, this graduation will offer magic solutions to all the problems that will confront you, is indeed, an over simplification of the purpose of education. The need will always be there to grow professionally the realization that learning begins on graduation day. Once again congratulations, makorokoto, amhlophe," Comrade Culverwell concluded. □

New Headquarters for AFC

The Minister of Lands, Agriculture and Rural Resettlement, Comrade David Karimanzira, performed a sod training ceremony to mark the commencement of the building of the Agricultural Finance Corporation's (AFC) headquarters on May 10, in Harare.

Cde. Karimanzira said the AFC, in line with the decentralisation programme during the 1987/88 period, built seven office blocks valued at \$2,6 million and 101 housing units valued at \$4,1 million and another eight office blocks and 62 housing units are to be constructed this year with a view to bringing the services of the corporation as close to its clients as possible.

He officiated this important event in the history of the Agricultural Finance Corporation (AFC) and the people of Harare. The occasion is important as it marked a new era in the history of the AFC. It marked the commencement of the construction of the corporation's own head quarters building intended to end the migrant life that it has experienced since its inception through an Act of Parliament in March 1971.

However, we are informed that the rentals charged turned out to be too high in relation to the corporation's resources. Besides, Kurima House is no longer ideal for the corporation's current requirements, let alone future ones. Thus in 1985, the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Resettlement authorised the purchase or building of the corporation's office block, and the two stands, namely numbers 2186A and 2188A, now consolidated into stand 16894, were

For several years before independence, the AFC was accommodated in its Old Third Street headquarters and at two other centres, namely the Travel Centre and the Club Chambers, because the Third Street building was too small to accommodate every department. This obviously militated against the effective administration of the AFC. And in an effort to rectify this and bring all its headquarters staff under one roof, the AFC sold its Third Street property and entered into an agreement with the Old Mutual whereby the latter would cater for the needs of the AFC and related parastatals like the Grain Marketing Board and Cotton Marketing Board (CMB). The office block turned out to be Kurima House, and the AFC duly moved into the building in mid-1984.



Comrade David Karimanzira, Minister of Lands, Agriculture and Rural Resettlement

purchased, after exhaustive efforts to find alternative accommodation had proved fruitless.

When completed, the building will consist of 15 floors with five lettable floors. Some of the facilities to be provided are a banking hall and modern offices and parking space for 80 cars.

This project will cost about \$27 million to complete. While this is a significant sum by any standard, a simple cost benefit analysis will show that this is an excellent investment from both the social and economic standpoints. It has already been stated that Kurima House can no longer meet the corporation's present and future requirement and that the rentals the AFC is currently paying are too high for its resources.

Indeed, if the AFC were to continue paying rent at the current rate, in another 15 years they will have paid more than enough to build this proposed building at today's rates. But, it will take the corporation about 25 years to recoup the full cost of building from the lease of surplus office space.

The project team consists of the winners of the architectural competition held between September 1, 1987 and January 11, 1988,

Fothergill Pearce Jackson Moore, (Chartered Architects) Ove Arup and partners, (Engineers), and Hawkins Leshnick Pridgeon and Veale, (Quantity Surveyors). The whole programme is expected to be completed by May 1991 and the corporation will move into the new headquarters building soon after. This will be the main HURUDZA HOUSE as the corporation has decided to name all its buildings in honour of our efficient farmers.

It should be noted that the AFC is not building offices here in Harare only but also in other areas countrywide. In a concerted effort to fully realise its decentralisation programme initiated in 1986, and in line with Government policy, during the 1987/88 period, the AFC built seven office blocks valued at \$2,6 million and 101 housing units valued at \$4,1 million. Another eight office blocks and 62 housing units will be constructed this year with a view to bringing the services of the corporation as close to its clients, particularly those in the communal and resettlement areas, as possible.

It should be reiterated that the small communal farmer faces many problems, one of which is the delay in receiving the cheque payment once produce has been delivered to GMB. This delay leads to other problems since the farmers is not able to purchase inputs early enough to take advantage of seasonal rebates and also before input costs go up. The farmer is therefore caught up in a vicious circle of delayed payment, high input cost and late plantings. One would like to urge AFC to streamline and resolve this problem together with GMB. These are some of the very issues in the mind of the AFC's programme of having a proper headquarters building at this place, good provincial offices just completed, and district offices to be setup in the plan period.

The AFC will instal computer equipment in its new headquarters building which will bring about a more effective computer linkage between head office and the provincial terminals that have already been installed at provincial offices.

All this infrastructural decentralisation is meant to improve credit service to the rural farmer and the administrative efficiency of AFC. □

Let us Revive the Anti-Fascist Slogan

By M. Bazooka

At a time when the struggle is being waged in Zimbabwe to protect the Black Rhino and other indigenous species, we have suddenly been confronted with the birth of what appears to be a completely new kind of animal — the ZUM! The question we must now answer is, "What kind of an animal is this?"

In searching for the answer let us look at Italy in the years following the first world War, 1918 onwards. These were years of bitter unrest; unemployment was at its height. The businessmen of Italy were frightened for their future, socialism was a distinct possibility and with it, the loss of their privileges, but their old parties had failed

to obtain mass popular support; they needed a leader who could win to their side at least a section of the confused and dispossessed masses. A leader emerged, a leader with a proven revolutionary socialist background. His name was Mussolini. He turned to the unemployed, the overtaxed lower middle class, the huge peasantry and even the sections of the working class. He appealed to traditional values, saying that the place of women was in the home and in the kitchen (though he himself was a frequent visitor of prostitutes). He appealed for national unity between rich and poor, and the rich supplied him with plenty of money to do just that. He took power! At first he succeeded in reducing unemployment, but as the years went by, poverty increased and the people were afraid to open their mouths, for if they did so they could disappear.

It took the Second World War to get rid of him, and the people eventually took revenge, hanging the bodies of him, his mistress and his henchmen by the feet and eventually cutting off his head and using it for a game of football.

The name of brand of politics? Fascism! What kind of animal is the ZUM? It is also Fascist.

There are similarities between Zimbabwe and post-First World War Italy, but there are major differences.

The similarities are these: in both cases we are looking at countries which are industrially semi-developed; in both cases there is a large scale of unemployment; and in both cases there exists a large impoverished peasantry; in both cases there is a good chance of development towards socialism which the most reactionary capitalists wish to prevent at any price.

The great difference is this; unlike the chaos of post-First World War Italy, Zimbabwe has a strong ruling Party and Government. There is a temporary weakness, however, due to the necessary removal from Government of corrupt Ministers and at the same time, a certain lack of direction as the two national liberation movements undergo transformation into a single Marxist-Leninist Party. It is this temporary weakness which is now being exploited by the transformed Rhodesia Front, with its Black and White Minstrel leader and his confused supporters.

However, we must not be complacent, though the leadership problems will soon be resolved; those of unemployment, rural poverty and high taxation will not be solved

so easily! These areas provide fertile ground for recruitment by the fascist.

Make no mistake, should ZUM ever take power, Zimbabwe will revert to the pre-independence position of being a client state of South Africa. Foreign capital would flow in without restraint — not in the controlled way proposed in the new Investment Guidelines. — and in such a surge, local investment and initiative would be stifled — would be completely swamped. True, in the short term, there would probably be some decrease in unemployment, but foreign investment is not a gift. Investors put money in so that they can take more money out. Zimbabwe would end off like so many other African countries, drained and in debt.

Neither could it stop there. For Mozambique, our heroic ally, it would mean victory for Renamo, for the Rhodesian Front will never envisage fighting an organisation which is its own child. A ZUM victory would mean in fact the destabilization of the whole region in favour of MaBhunu, South Africa and the most rapacious sections of international capital. It would mean The Third Chimurenga.

Let us strangle this newly born animal; let us have peace, development and socialism. Let us revive the old anti-fascist slogan. □

The Results of Being Power Hungry Tekere's ZUM

By Benny Chisvo

The people of Zimbabwe should know why Comrade Edgar Tekere decided to form a new "party". In the first place, the name itself Zimbabwe Unity Movement (ZUM), suggests that it is not a serious political party. Many political scientists would agree with me. If it is deliberate that Tekere, affectionately known by many as "Two Boy", knew what "movement" means, and just proceeded to form and establish it, then it is sooner or later going to be a clandestine militant organization to be sponsored by South Africa to sabotage and destabilize Zimbabwe.

If "Two Boy" and his colleagues do not precisely understand the meaning of "movement" then they have no aims or objectives of forming a party; and worse still, they did not consult the povo in all the eight provinces. By other means, this article will prove that this was not done at all.

Overseas (European) Opinion on ZUM

Overseas, where I was when the Senior Minister Cde. Nyagumbo passed away and "Two Boy" formed his party, a handful of people whose opinion I sought, thought that Tekere was not serious, but that he was just trying to twist Comrade Mugabe's arm in order

to get a post within the Government. The few who pursue our political direction with vigour told me that most of the people in Europe with interest in Zimbabwe knew that Tekere was going to form a party. Surprised at this, I asked why they prophesized like that — they told me what every Zimbabwean saw what was happening in the country. They told me of the uncalled-for attacks by Comrade Tekere on the President, that "the top leadership of the party should be replaced", that Mugabe was protecting corrupt leaders, and that the leadership code had been chewed by the big sharks.

A very interesting quotation they cited from Tekere which I would not want to forget in a hurry, and which he spent three months repeating is; "The revolution was hijacked". These Europeans caught me napping when they asked me which revolution was he referring to. Is ZUM the revolution he was talking of? If it was the economic revolution led by ZANU (PF) — where Tekere himself was a member of the Central Committee — can ZUM do it better than ZANU (PF)? It is this last question which does not strike only myself, but three quarters of my fellow freedom fighters still alive in this country. You should be reminded that the Europeans I talked to came from the communist Parties of their own countries. You should also know that although they are different

Communists from Socialists from the East, they have the same fighting spirit as any Marxist. Above all they are far much better than the many intellectuals and petty bourgeoisie who pretend to be revolutionary by word of mouth, but in practice do the opposite — revisionists.

When I was about to part with these comrades at the airport, one of them said to me, "If you were influential to your President, I suggest you hint to him that he had started alright with reconciliation (a thing we did not expect in Africa). I suggest you tell him to continue striving for unity with PF-ZAPU, so that he can check on revisionists, opportunists and "talking empty politicians." I told him that though I was not directly influential upon the President, my pen was on the masses of Zimbabwe, which he (the President) leads; and are still firmly behind him. All I am saying is that the democratic and peace-loving people of Zimbabwe in all parts of the world condemn Tekere's move. As I was on the plane back home, I wondered what people at home were thinking and doing about this move.

What people think about ZUM

I was happy when I realized that I could use my travelling advantage to catch people's views on Tekere's ZUM. I have a job which enables me to travel from one town to another and to almost every growth point in the country. So what I am revealing here are genuine and living opinions of people from all the four corners of our country.

Before I do that, however, let me tell every reader that the people of Zimbabwe will be the last ones in Africa to be cheated politically, especially by defectors, traitors or reactionaries. They are a people who, using crocodile smiles, do not take things for granted. In fact, they usually make use of their maturity to go round the motives of the reactionaries and power-hungry people. A very good example is that of Bishop Muzorewa and his "Dzakutsaku — Huruyadzo", which has already proven itself instead to be "Dukuyadzo". This party spent a lot of money (all of it from Ian Smith and South Africa) doing sky-shouts and dishing out food like nobody's business, to almost everyone in the 1978/79 era. This was at its climax during the 1980 General Elections Campaign. The povo using their crocodile smiles, peacefully accepted the gifts. On seeing this, Smith and Muzorewa thought they had "belled the cat". But what happened at the polls; who won? Is it not ZANU (PF) led by Comrade Mugabe, the party which had cadres begging for food from the people of Zimbabwe, even during the election campaign? The party which did not spend a cent to bribe and buy votes from workers and peasants of this country won the elections.

My snap survey in the rural areas of Zimbabwe indicated that ZANU (PF) is there to stay. I was surprised to hear people from Manicaland saying that this country was "established" in 1963, meaning that if leaders may vanish (if need be) if they want, because they are human. This view was mostly expressed by the middle-aged and the elderly.

When I asked them which of the two parties, ZANU (PF) or ZUM, they preferred to support, it was fascinating to hear them say; "What wrong has ZANU (PF) done; for what is it that Mugabe has done for us to desert him now?"

Why Pick on Reactionaries?

The hundreds of people I quizzed around the country (I still have written proof), questioned the idea of a progressive party to lead the masses; led by some retrogressive elements, and to crown it all, led by the current enemies of the country. Ninety percent of the youth, including the University of Zimbabwe Students' Union (which Tekere expected to give him support) expressed that they were not going to join a party with the faces of Zanu Ndonga, UANC Traitors, CAZ chiefs and many others who are still underground, at the helm. The youth of Zimbabwe felt that this party will end up signing aggression pacts with South Africa, consequently making them, (the youth) recruits of a bandit movement like RENAMO. Most stated that they do not want to shame their government or to die for nothing.

Getting to the depth of their concern, I asked them why they should think that a "revolutionary" like "Two Boy" should do that. They laughed and told me that he is no longer "Two Boy", but "Several Boy" since the day he formed his own party. They also felt that he was not a revolutionary at all, even before he formed his own party, but was only able to articulate "revolutionary vowels" — he is a populist.

On the question of how he can end up forming another bandit movement, like RENAMO and UNITA, they said: "Did you hear that just before he formed his own party he ripped the President apart from nowhere, and started supporting apartheid all of a sudden? For the first time in the Parliament of Zimbabwe, a call was made by him for Zimbabwe to stop supporting Mozambique. Did you hear him long before that, saying he does not support a one-party system in Zimbabwe. What do you think he meant? Is he not the one who used to say the revolution was hijacked? You know what that means to us the youth? We used to record that with impunity, used to take the good from his utterances, and kept on recording the bad (the radical). By the revolution hijacked, he meant that he, a veteran politician, founder-member and 'revolutionary' was being left out in the cold by Comrade Mugabe, without any government cabinet post. Events have proved this, you know."

I left the youth alone, each time I had had enough, because some of them were suggesting "dangerous things" on how to deal with ZUM supporters.

The adults I met country-wide astonished me by telling me that I should not waste their time asking them about their views on power hungry people. Instead, they wanted to know from me, who of the top leadership of ZUM was not given a chance by Comrade Mugabe, to be a leader. It was always:

"Ndiyani pane vese asina kumbonzi atongewe?" Tekere himself was made a minister and failed.

Violence and Human Suffering

The people told me that they could not stand Tekere as the leader of the country. The reason is that they associate him with violence and human suffering. The people of Zimbabwe want peace; they have always been like that, since time immemorial. Peace can only come from unity, then development and prosperity follows.

In Harare and in Bulawayo they said they expected Tekere to form a party earlier than April because of his behaviour and utterances of late. Even the late Senior Minister Nyagumbo suggested it to him; but Tekere denied, saying he would never form a new party. The residents of Harare and Bulawayo claimed they heard through the grapevine that Tekere was approached by "heavy-weight capitalists" to form his own party. By now they feel the party should be having a fat account in South Africa. Together with UANC and Zanu Ndonga, the party will be the richest in Africa; but one of the paper-tiger parties in the world. However, the people are saying ZANU (PF) the people's party, should put its house in order. By this they mean it should choose whether it wants to follow the capitalist path or to continue on the socialist one. The problem is that it adopted and enunciated socialism at the people's congress in 1984 without undertaking political orientation programmes for the masses of Zimbabwe — the workers and peasants. Subsequently, the masses erroneously thought that socialism (gutsaruzhinji) refers to the government and party leadership, thereby expecting socialist transformation to start from the top — with the leaders.

Last but not least, in Highfield, where I was lucky to talk to fellow comrades who were queuing for their war victims pension money at the post office, they stated, in no uncertain terms, that they are not associated with ZUM. They said, "We think Tereke was misled by the bourgeoisie who are against the Mugabe Government and has turned against the people. For that we won't support him."

They felt that the President should take all power hungry people in ZUM and give them some posts in the ministries. "His Excellency should treat them like prodigal sons who have come back home. The home in this case being ZANU (PF)," they said. They also dictated it to me that ZANU (PF) is home to everyone; it is wise for children to fight at home than away from home. For at home the mother will treat their wounds, if any. ZUM should be asked if it is interested in unity. If they are not, they should be reminded that they have no support because they coupled with the wrong people. ZUM could have made an impact if it had joined hands with PF-ZAPU. It surely was going to make a dent, but now PF-ZAPU is now one and the same thing as ZANU (PF) — the workers and peasants of Zimbabwe. □

Career Guidance Programme for School-leavers

In the succeeding issues of our magazines, *Zimbabwe News* will be embarking on a wide-ranging careers guidance programme with a view to assisting school-leavers on the possible avenues at their disposal as regards the choice of careers. In this issue we take a look at existing apprenticeship training opportunities within the various departments under the Apprenticeship Authority. But first, a few general points about the state of the Apprenticeship Training Industry in Zimbabwe.

Prior to February 1982, apprenticeship training in Zimbabwe was not co-ordinated by a central authority such as the one now existing within the Ministry of Higher Education, the Apprenticeship Authority. Each industrial union catered for the training and grading of workers within its field. Consequently, classification and industrial aptitude of members within the same industry was variant. This prompted the Ministry to set up a unified body aimed at standardizing training.

Recruitment of apprentices is now the sole responsibility of the Ministry, through the Registrar of Apprenticeship and Skilled Manpower. Hitherto, private employers and other institutions recruited apprentices directly from the market. This system had its obvious flaws, as allegations of recruitment on racial lines by some employers were rampant.

Loss by Zimbabwe of qualified personnel to other countries led the Ministry to introduce the system of bonding. Under this arrangement, each apprentice is required to sign an undertaking to the effect that he or she will, upon completion of training, render service of an equivalent period to that taken during training, to the country. That is to say, an apprentice trained for four years must work for an equal number of years before they can think of leaving the country. Should they infringe the terms of this undertaking, they stand to forfeit all monies they will have contributed as a guarantee over the period of training. This move is not only a guarantee against absconding personnel, but it is also a safe-guard against the possibility of people wanting to change professions after qualification. For those who abide by the ruling, a 'bonus' awaits them at the end of their period of bonding in the form of a reimbursement of all monies, plus interest accrued therefrom, contributed during the period.

Be clear about your long-term plans

For the school-leaver who wants to be an apprentice, the first question to address to oneself should not be, as many people assume, "which field or trade interests me the most?"

Ideally, it should be: "what do I want to be AFTER apprenticeship training?" This is crucial because it saves both government and the individual valuable time and money which could otherwise be wasted should the apprentices have initial misconceptions about their aspirations in their chosen fields. Comrade Munetsi, Director of Industrial Training in the Ministry of Higher Education, stressed this point in a recent interview with *Zimbabwe News*.

"Prospective apprentices should be under no illusion as to the kind of personnel we train," he said. "Our training is geared towards production of the blue-collar worker. There is a well-known story in the industry of a young man who took up apprenticeship training with a local mining company. Though studying under scholarship at the University, he was required to do certain practical duties while on attachment to one of the company's mines during vacation. On being asked to go underground, he refused and said, 'I am an engineer, not a miner!' Unfortunately, he lost the apprenticeship."

Hence, the Apprenticeship Authority advises people who want to do academic courses to contact the University, the Polytechnic, or other such academic institutions, not the Registrar of Apprenticeship and Skilled Manpower.

Choice of Career and Factors to consider

The Apprenticeship Authority offers training in various trades within the seven industries, namely; Aircraft Engineering, Automotive Industry, Building, Electrical Engineering, Hairdressing, Printing, Packaging and Newspaper Industry, and Mechanical Engineering. The number of trades available within each industry varies. For example, the Hairdressing Industry offers only one trade, whereas the Mechanical Engineering Industry offers as many as 23 trades.

Entry requirements for apprenticeship training differ from industry to industry, and these are spelt out later as we discuss trade by trade. But the general entry qualifications are 'O' Levels in English, Mathematics and a suitable science subject with 'C' or better passes. In addition to these, however, one has to have other special aptitudes as well.

Mechanical or Technical Aptitude

One invariably has to be mechanically or technically minded in order to succeed in any of the engineering fields. There is no point, for instance, for one to aspire to the automotive industry if one does not appreciate the mechanics of a motor-car engine, or cannot handle a spanner in the correct way.

Aesthetic Aptitude

This refers to the inherent quality in everyone, to create and appreciate beauty. It is an aspect that is more pronounced in some people than in others. If you feel this quality is more pronounced in you, then go for any of the creative careers: interior decoration, hairdressing, painting and sign-writing, vehicle body-building, to name but a few.

However, one may find out that a combination of both types of aptitude are required in some trades, such as vehicle body-building.

The following is the procedure for applying for apprenticeship training:-

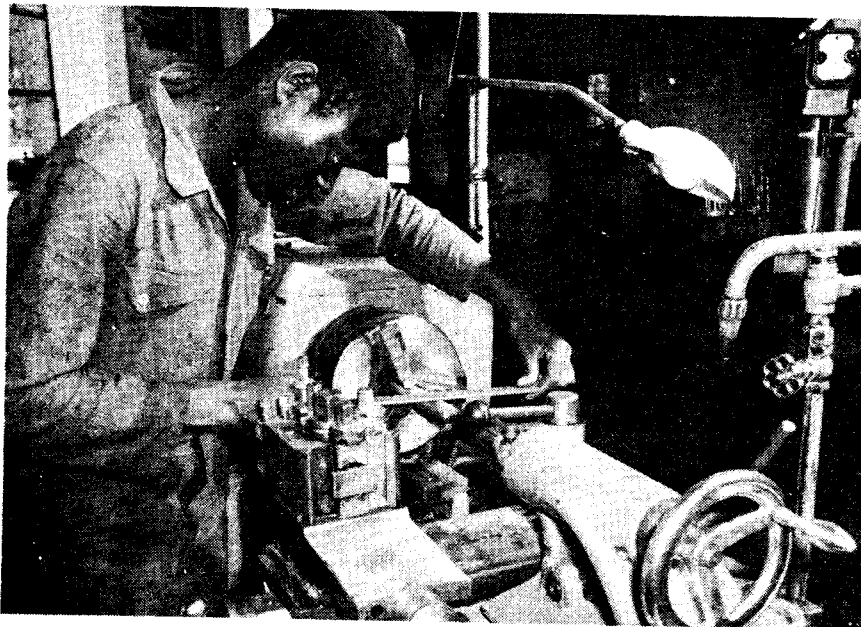
- 1) Applications, in applicant's own handwriting, should be addressed to the Registrar of Apprenticeship and Skilled Manpower at any of the following offices: P.O. Box 387, Harare; P.O. Box 1103, Bulawayo; P.O. Box 721, Gweru.
- 2) Indicate at least 3 (three) trades of your choice, in order of preference.
- 3) Enclose copies of academic and birth certificates.

Alternatively, one may call in person at the nearest Apprenticeship Registration Office. These are at Old Police Station, Baker Avenue, Harare; Exchange Building, Main Street, Bulawayo; or at Cathedral Hall, Seventh Street, Gweru.

All copies of certificates should be certified true by a Commissioner of Oaths. There is one such Commissioner at your nearest Police Station, and the service is free.

Within a month or two, those qualifying for apprenticeship training will receive a form from the Registrar. This form has to be filled in by the applicant and has to be sent back to the relevant offices as soon as possible. Read this form carefully and fill in all required details correctly. Failure to do this may result in unnecessary delays in the processing of several applicants' documents. After the Authorities have satisfied themselves of the suitability of a candidate for apprenticeship training, they will then send the candidate a letter of clearance.

Armed with this letter, the prospective apprentice is now free to apply for training vacancies, as and when they are advertised in the Press. The letter of clearance serves as a recognition by government that the bearer has fulfilled the basic requirements as laid down by law, and may now be trained by any legal employer who finds the bearer suitable for such training. All applications for apprenticeship vacancies must be accompanied by a COPY of your letter of clearance.



Apprenticeship student busy learning engineering

Further Interviews

Most employers conduct further interviews to determine the candidate's suitability for their specific work environments. At these interviews employers seek to establish several personal factors in the applicant; factors such as trainability potential, articulation, personality, conscientiousness, etc. For this

reason, the candidates may find themselves being asked seemingly irrelevant questions such as about their hobbies and about their families. All these questions are relevant and must be taken and answered seriously. The way you answer these questions may well make the difference on whether you get the job or not. Answer all questions truthfully and do not try to be over-impressive.

Personal appearance also counts a lot. A well-dressed and groomed candidate is more likely to get the job than one with a slovenly and unkempt appearance. In fact, your appearance tells the employer a lot about how you will be handling his equipment and executing your duties.

Exception to the Rule

In certain, special cases, people who have been working for a long time as ungraded workers may be exempted from doing apprenticeship training. A reiteration is called for here to stress the point that such exemption is only granted in special cases, and only after thorough investigations by the apprenticeship authorities to establish that the case really warrants exemption. What happens is that an employer may, upon satisfaction that an employee has a very high aptitude and standard in the way they execute their duty, recommend such employee for trade-testing. The apprenticeship board has trade-testing officers in every trade of the industry, who conduct both practical and theoretical testing of the workers. Normally, trade-testing facilities are provided by the Ministry, but if up-to-standard facilities are available at the candidate's place of work, all the better. Most trade-testing, however, is conducted at the various vocational training colleges throughout the country. The particular aspects of the trade on which the candidate's suitability is assessed will be discussed later as we go into the finer details of each trade. Do not miss the next issue of Zimbabwe News. □

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The Stalin Years: Bitter Fruits of Forced Collectivization

It is now almost six decades since agriculture was collectivized in the USSR, and the word still stirs very mixed feelings in Soviet people. For many generations they were told that collectivization was a second revolution — a blessing that brought socialism to the peasants, then the vast majority of the population. Until recently there was no mention of the facts that collectivization and the elimination of the wealthy peasants — kulaks — involved massive violations of the law, large-scale repression and thousands of executions.

Stalin's methods in fact undermined the rural productive forces, prompted the slaughter of half the country's livestock and left the newly-created kolkhozes (collective farms) with no independence or initiative. They couldn't meet Soviet society's needs for farm produce.

The pretext for the rapid and forcible collectivization of the countryside was the grain crisis in the winter of 1927–28. But the situation in reality was more complex — there had already been a critical grain shortage in the winter of 1925–26 that forced the Soviet government to slow down the rate of industrialization. Grain production picked up in 1926, enabling industrialization to accelerate again.

Stalinist Measures

By the beginning of 1928, however, the grain crisis was back in full force, and a balanced policy was clearly needed to meet it. But Stalin and his supporters, who had just secured a majority in the political leadership, rejected Lenin's teaching that the peasantry were the allies of the proletariat in building socialism, and launched a series of coercive "extraordinary" measures against them.

Stalin set the tone for the campaign during the visit to Siberia in January and February 1928. During his tour many officials were reprimanded, dismissed and expelled from the party for being too "lenient" with the kulaks. Stalin's reshuffle of the Party, government, judicial and economic machinery affected the whole country. An idea of the scale of these actions can be gathered from the fact that in the Urals alone 1 157 regional, district and local officials were dismissed.

The constant dismissals and expulsions created anxiety and tension throughout the society. The authorities began closing markets, searching peasant homes and punishing any peasant who had what they termed a "surplus" of grain. The courts automatically ordered confiscation not only of those amounts, but of grain set aside for planting

and consumption. Farm implements were also often seized. Arbitrary arrests and illegal jailings completed the picture of the lawless repression that gripped the Soviet countryside in the winter and spring of 1928.

The "extraordinary" measures were toughened still further in the spring of 1929. Local authorities, unable to meet their grain production targets, made large-scale searches and numerous arrests. Violence was used, and this sparked off peasant revolts — as many as 1 300 "kulak mutinies", as Stalin and his followers called them, occurred in that year.

Justification of Collectivization

Stalin set out to justify forcible collectivization in an article, "The Year of the Great Breakthrough", published on November 7, 1929. He claimed that the mass of middle peasants had joined collectives and that socialism had won a "decisive victory" in the countryside. In truth, more than a third of those living in the rural areas at the time were poor peasants, and only seven percent of peasant households had been collectivized.

The Central Committee plenum in November ordered collectivization to be speeded up and ignored all complaints from Central Committee members about the harm haste and coercion were doing.

Only a special Politburo commission, which included regional and district Party leaders and central government officials, raised a dissenting voice. It recommended that collectivization in grain-producing areas be spread over two or three years, and in the grain-consuming areas over three or four. The commission also urged that collectivization in the backward non-Russian republics be postponed until the next five-year plan period.

The agricultural artel . . . a farm cooperative in which the land, implements, machinery and all livestock were collectively organized . . . was recommended as the principal form of collectivization. The commission also outlined how, and on what principles, a collective's fixed and moveable assets should be created.

Results of Forced Collectivization

These recommendations were ignored, however. Under pressure from Moscow, rural local authorities decided to complete collectivization throughout the Soviet Union during the spring sowing season of 1930. Having failed to win over the peasant masses, the authorities used brute force, threats and

false promises to push them into collectives. The campaign of confiscation and repression hit not only the wealthy kulaks, but also all middle peasants who refused to join collectives. In many areas, up to 15 per cent of all peasant families were declared "kulak" and forcibly collectivized. Even peasants who had a single cow had it seized, along with their poultry, pigs, sheep and goats.

On paper, collectivization went ahead rapidly: by January 1930 more than 20 per cent of peasant households were registered as belonging to collectives, and by March more than 50 per cent. But with many local officials falsifying statistics in fear of punishment, a lot of these collectives existed only on paper.

The main result of forced collectivization was widespread peasant protests, often developing into armed revolts. Between January and mid-March 1930 more than 2 000 peasant riots were recorded: often angry peasants killed Communists and collective farm activists, and there was widespread slaughter of livestock.

Not all rural folk opposed collectivization . . . most poor peasants and part of the middle peasantry welcomed it enthusiastically. Without their support the collectivization of agriculture and elimination of the kulak class would have been impossible. But even those peasants who backed the drive couldn't stomach the bureaucratic abuses and atrocities that accompanied it in the winter of 1929–30.

Stalin and his circle soon learned of the fury their authoritarian methods had sparked in the countryside. Apart from the information received through Party and government channels, in the autumn and winter of those years Stalin got 90 000 letters from peasants protesting against the violent excesses taking place in rural areas.

In late February 1930 the Party Central Committee issued a directive warning against haste in collectivization and urging that local conditions and national traditions be taken into account. On March 2 *Pravda* carried an article by Stalin headed "Dizzy With Success", which criticized excesses during collectivization and emphasized that peasants should only become members if they wanted to. He heaped all blame on local authorities, but at the same time wrote that collectivization of half the peasant families by February 20 had been a major victory in the struggle to bring socialism to the countryside.

He urged local officials to consolidate this

success and continue "forging ahead". The article left them confused and unsure whether to correct the mistakes or stop up their drive to enforce collectivization.

Authorities Reprimanded

Local authorities and activists found themselves reprimanded and even persecuted by the very people who had forced them to impose an absurd and disastrous rate of col-

lectivization in the first place. During May and June 1930, as the Party prepared for its 16th Congress, many Party members sharply criticized Stalin's collectivization policy, the brutality used against peasants and the dishonest excuses offered for the crimes committed and the mistakes made.

In March and April 1930 the Central Committee passed several resolutions designed

to bring matters in the countryside back to normal. Peasants began to leave collective farms, and those established by force disappeared. Nevertheless, 21,4 per cent of peasants stayed with the collectives. Despite errors, abuses and excesses, collective farms had come to stay in the USSR, and their consolidation and development made them an important factor in transforming agriculture on socialist lines. □

9th Independence Anniversary: Celebrations in Moscow



Comrade Misheck Sibanda (Centre) making a speech on Independence Celebrations in Moscow USSR (1989)

It was a packed house at 6 Serpov Pereuloc Road, Moscow, on the eve of 18 April 1989. There was ullulation and whistling from the celebrants who were shouting "Viva Zimbabwe! under its strong leadership of Comrade Robert Gabriel Mugabe!" Revolutionary songs were sung and music depicting the progress of Zimbabwe was played. This was the celebration marking the 9th Independence Anniversary of Zimbabwe.

The gathering was dominated by Zimbabwean students and workers in the Soviet Union, and guests from various European and African countries. Zimbabwean students came from as far as Central Asia and other republics of the Soviet Union. The celebrations were financed and organized by the Embassy staff, Zimbabwean citizens working in the Soviet Union, and students studying in Moscow. This showed the spirit of consolidating our hard-won independence.

Our reporter had a chance to speak to some of the invited guests. He asked Comrade Caroline Doodoo, a Ghanaian second-year student of Pharmacy, how she viewed

the progress of Zimbabwe since independence. She said she admired the way Zimbabwe is developing economically and politically. The same sentiments were echoed by Mrs Eric Nortey, the wife of a Ghanaian Embassy official. She was very happy to celebrate Zimbabwe's nine years of independence.

The celebrations were followed by a speech given by Comrade Mishack Sibanda, Ambassador of Zimbabwe to the Soviet Union. The occasion was celebrated at the House of Friendship. Present were the Deputy Minister of Political Affairs from the Republic of Zimbabwe, Major General Jevan Maseko; Comrades from the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries; and members of Soviet-Zimbabwe Friendship Association.

"The concrete relationship between Zimbabwe and the Soviet Union is evidenced by a number of developments. At political level there are numerous exchanges of visits by political parties of both countries, which have resulted in the renewal of the Protocol on Co-operation between ZANU (PF) and the Communist Party of the Soviet Union.

There were also visits to the Soviet Union by some ZANU (PF) Central Committee Members; ZANU (PF) Youth League Delegations; a high-powered Parliamentary delegation led by the President of the Zimbabwean Senate, Comrade Nolan Makombe; and a visit by the Zimbabwe Peace and Solidarity delegation, to name a few," the Ambassador said.

He also disclosed that during the year under review there were several cultural exchanges between Zimbabwe and the Soviet Union, involving performing artists; exhibitions of various sorts, including the one of Zimbabwean stone sculpture, which was officially opened on April 17, 1989, at the Museum of Oriental Arts; and most notably, the visit to the Soviet Union by the Minister of Youth, Sport and Culture, Comrade David Kwidini.

Trade and Economic Relations

Comrade Sibanda commended the Soviet Union for the assistance it offered in Zimbabwe's manpower development. "This was a great contribution towards making Zimbabwe self-sufficient in terms of skilled manpower," he said.

In the area of trade and economic relations there was notable transformation of Zimbabwe-Soviet bilateral relations. This is evidenced by the appointment of the Zimbabwean Trade Representatives to the Soviet Union, which was followed by the signing of the Zimbabwe-Soviet Intergovernmental Commission on Trade, Economic, Scientific and Technical Co-operation. It will now be up to the Soviet individuals and enterprises and institutions to reciprocate the presence of Zimbabwe's Trade Representatives in Moscow to make inquiries related to exports and imports from Zimbabwe.

Regional and International Issues

Co-operation between the Soviet Union and Zimbabwe has not been limited to bilateral relations alone. There exists a successfully developed extensive relationship on various regional and international issues on which the two nations are in agreement. The new political thinking in the Soviet Union has contributed immensely towards this positive development.

The most outstanding highlights in this area include: disarmament initiative, incorporating the signing and subsequent ratification of Intermediate Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty; peace initiatives in Southern Africa and the ongoing implementation of UN Resolution 435 on Namibia; positive peace initiatives in the Middle East; Resolution on the Iran/Iraq war; withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan; possible resolution of the Kampuchean conflict; and improvement of Sino-Soviet relations.

These developments are also to a large extent compatible with the goals and aspirations of the Front Line States and the Non-aligned Movement, the latter of which Zimbabwe's President is the cur-

rent Chairman. President Gorbachev exchanged various messages with President Mugabe on Afghanistan, Southern Africa, and other important regional and international questions. It was in this context that in 1988 and early this year President Mugabe received special representa-

tives of the Soviet leadership from various Soviet ministries.

In conclusion, the Ambassador said, "Zimbabwe is following with keen interest the positive developments that are currently taking place in the Soviet Union under the aegis of the perestroika (restructuring

and glasnost (openness))." He also expressed Zimbabwe's sincere wish to the Soviet people and their leadership for the successful implementation of these goals which, in the final analysis, "will not only benefit the Soviet people, but the collectivity of the human race." □

The Successful Results of the Defence Committees in Ghana



Residents of Labadi Suburb, Accra, Drawing Water from a CDR Commissioned Public Water-Pipe (Picture: courtesy of CDR)

The 31st December Revolution that took place in Ghana in 1981 gave birth to the Defence Committees (Committees for the Defence of the Revolution. CDR) as the popular mass political organisation. They have undergone various phases of growth and development, physical and organisational information. A *Zimbabwe News* reporter had a chance to speak to Comrade Kester Kenn Klomega in Moscow, Soviet Union. Comrade Klomega is a journalist in the government's department of Information, Culture and Education.

QUESTION: What are the functions of the CDR and why was it formed?

ANSWER: These Defence Committees are formed within the community and they work through their respective districts and regional secretariat to the National Secretariat headquarters in Accra, the capital of Ghana. Regardless of one's occupation, sex, tribal differences, educational background and social status within the society, the CDR membership is open to all Ghanaians who for all purposes and intent adhere to the fundamental principles and ideals of the glorious 31st

December Revolution. This process indicates the people's interest and preparedness to participate in the CDRs activities. On the contrary, membership may be denied of some citizens who lack integrity, patriotism and genuine concern for the people.

As the name implies, the CDRs are primarily formed to defend, consolidate and sustain the revolutionary process and the gains that it makes along. Additionally, the CDRs have the responsibility in explaining major concepts, policies and programmes of the Provisional National Defence Council (PNDC) across to the people. It therefore means that public education and awareness on the above should be created through organising symposiums, public lectures, rallies of workers etc. At the micro levels of the society it is permitted to adopt or use local language understood and spoken by the majority of the inhabitants. By doing this the CDRs promote better and a more profound understanding of the ideas, aims and objectives of the 31st December Revolution.

QUESTION: What kind of projects is the CDR mostly interested in.

ANSWER: CDRs nationwide operate within a broad framework or guideline which spell out its functions like the collection of a date on infrastructural services available, economic activities e.g. shops, health and sanitation, defence and security, agriculture and cottage industries, organising literacy classes (education), rehabilitation, housing etc. The CDRs derived its major programmes largely from the political trends and also according to the specific needs of the people within a particular area where they operate. Their effective functioning is crucial to the advancement of the Revolution. It requires a tolerant attitude to all identifiable groups of the society that could be part of the process without compromising the revolutionary principles, aims and objectives.

There is no particular project area in which they are interested (the CDRs). For instance, in the rural areas of the country, the CDR executives provided adequate guidance and direction within the context of the struggle in mobilisation work initiated by the people themselves.

QUESTION: How does CDR obtain its financial resources, is it through government grant, subsidy or through donors.

ANSWER: The traditional rulers (chiefs) at certain times are used as focal points for the effective mobilization of financial resources mostly through special levies and voluntary contributions. These constitute chief sources of financing development projects. Cases where it involves huge capital outlay, the central government either supplements or takes over the project entirely. The residents also offer free-labour in some cases. Town development Committees (TDC) closely work with the CDRs.

QUESTION: Is CDR getting a positive response from the rural people, if so, what shows the positive side in the case of developmental projects?

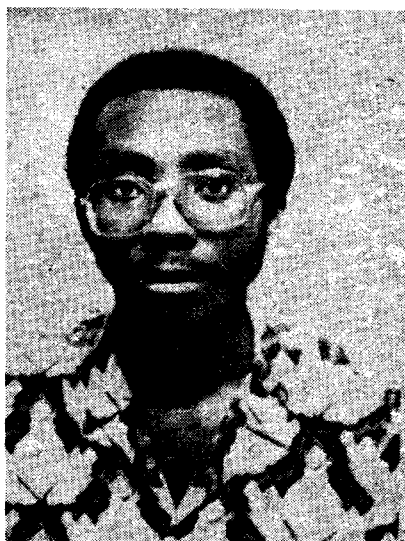
ANSWER: To say that the CDRs have not received any enthusiastic response especially from the rural populace would mean a complete ignorance of the reality. Since 1982, the formation of these defence committees have opened the floodgates for the evolution of various development programmes which

were pursued with vigour. Through the people's own initiatives, voluntarism and active participation, one could count thousand and one projects (completed or incomplete). This vividly indicates the degree of performance (self-help spirit) of the rural folks towards the upliftment of the conditions in those areas which have been neglected over the years. Again, one can convincingly say that this situation resulted directly from the political consciousness that was created among the broadness of the people and the infusion of self-help spirit amply demonstrated by the leader of the Revolution.

Flt. Lt. Jerry John Rawlings. The rural people draw much inspiration and influence from this sterling quality of Rawlings. He endears himself to the people since he constantly keeps in touch with them by working among them. Today, every village or town can boldly boast of at least a project through mobilisation and consequent utilisation of financial, human and material resources available in the area.

QUESTION: Can you state out the fruitful results of the CDR's master plan since its formation?

ANSWER: I cannot state in quantitative terms the fruitful results of the master plan so far pursued by the CDR's, but to simply describe the work performance of the CDR's as enormous. It is, indeed, immeasurable because the Committees for the Defence of the Revolution (CDRs) stand or continue to stand in the forefront of the struggle despite the or-



Comrade Kester Kenn Klomega (Courtesy of (CDR))

ganisational and other obvious problems that militate against their effective functioning. They not only strive to sustain and advance the revolutionary process but also within its capability mobilise available resources to accelerate rural development and to build a new social order. The growth in participation by the people in the activities of the CDRs and the general awareness created by the process itself; a new dynamic approach towards effective and prompt realisation of programmes evolved by the lo-

cal people and the exposure of "ghost" names on pay vouchers, checking corruption and embezzlement of state funds at work places by CDRs executives cannot be over-emphasised as it is just some aspects of the achievements.

Other projects undertaken include rehabilitation, health posts, public water-pipes, Kumasi Ventilated Improved Pit-latrines (KVIP) and public bath houses. At the border areas, the CDRs liaise with appropriate agencies to clamp down the activities of smugglers. The CDRs executives, through planned programmes of training and seminars are now allowed representation on public boards, commissions and committees. Finally, the CDRs as popular mass organisations and bedrock of the 31st December Revolutionary process fostered fraternal co-operation and anti-imperialist solidarity with the struggling peoples of Africa and other parts of the world.

It is with great interest to note from the context of the interview, that the caring plans adopted by the government of Zimbabwe have also been adopted in other African States. For example, public health care, rehabilitation of school buildings and many more mentioned is what the government of Zimbabwe under the strong leadership of Comrade Robert Gabriel Mugabe has even done more than the mentioned on the context. Forward with development, Unity and peace throughout the whole continent. Down with "campaigners" of anti-cooperatives. □

Zimbabwean Foreign Minister is Received in Moscow

Eduard Shevardnadze, member of the Politburo of the Soviet Communist Party Central Committee and USSR Foreign Minister, received on May 7 Nathan Shamuyarira, Zimbabwean Foreign Minister. As representative of the chairman of the Non-Aligned Movement, Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe, Shamuyarira was staying in Moscow on route from Islamabad.

Shamuyarira emphasised that Zimbabwe, the Non-Aligned Movement were concerned over the continued bloodshed in Afghanistan and were favouring political solution to the problem on the basis of strict observance of the Geneva accords and reaching agreement among Afghans themselves. It is from this standpoint that he had conducted conversations in Pakistan.

Questions related to the Afghan settlement will hold an important place at the coming meeting of the coordinating bureau of the Non-Aligned Movement in Harare, the Zimbabwean Minister said.



Comrade Nathan Shamuyarira, Minister of Foreign Affairs

The Soviet side emphasised that the situation in Afghanistan has been aggravated of late as a result of the mounting interference of Pakistan and some other forces in Afghan internal affairs. International obligations are brazenly violated while the USSR and the Republic of Afghanistan honourably and in full volume complied with their obligations under the Geneva accords. The international community, the Non-Aligned Movement must have their weighty say to prevent the creation of a dangerous precedent of contemptuous attitude to international agreements in changing international situation. National reconciliation in whose interests the government of the Republic of Afghanistan is acting in the only acceptable way out. There is no other solution in Afghanistan.

Shavardnadze said that the efforts of President Robert Mugabe as chairman of the Non-Aligned Movement towards ending the war in Afghanistan are highly appreciated in the Society Union. Shamuyarira's mission is regarded as extremely useful and timely. □

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News from Guyana

In March 1989, the Information Bureau of the People's Progressive Party issued an Information Bulletin (Volume 29 No.3) containing the PPP position on denationalization, parliamentary democracy and various social, political and economic issues.

PPP Position on Denationalisation

The People's Progressive Party is opposed to the headlong denationalisation and privatisation by the Hoyte administration. What is needed is democratisation from the top to the bottom.

Some vested external and internal interests see advance and the release of the creative energies of the people only through denationalisation. They want undiluted dependent free enterprise capitalism. For them, there is no place for government in business. What they want is business in government.

It is true that the PNC regime has given state ownership a dirty name. This is because under the existing hybrid system of bureaucratic/state capitalism there is mismanagement, extravagance, corruption and no democracy in government or management. Thus, nationalisation is serving not the working people but the PNC elite and vested interests.

Those calling for dependent free capitalism — less government in business and more business in government should note:

- 1) More than three quarters of third world countries are in trouble because they pursue a course of dependent capitalism or its hybrid form as in Guyana.
- 2) Developed free enterprise capitalist states are faced either with growing unemployment or inflation. And they too have corruption, bribery and bankruptcies.
- 3) British Guyana was dominated in colonial times by the foreign sugar and bauxite barons who exploited the country, leading the underdevelopment and backwardness and misery for the great majority.
- 4) The private Canadian-owned electricity company provided miserable services. Nationalised by the PPP government, it performed admirably and expanded its services. The same state-owned entity under the PNC is a nightmare.
- 5) The state-owned Rice Marketing Board under the colonial government arrested the rice industry; under the PNC regime the industry has been destroyed; under the PPP government it was developed.

The IMF road with denationalisation, privatisation and deregulation failed in Jamaica under the Seaga government and led to the re-election of Michael Manley.

The change from the PNC's bankrupt bureaucratic/state capitalist system to the

IMF-imposed dependent free enterprise capitalist system is not the way to harness the creative energies of the people.

The way forward is democratisation: a broad based National Patriotic Front government at all levels and working people's meaningful involvement in management and decision making.

No Parliamentary Democracy

In a press statement, the PPP has presented a dim of picture of parliamentary democracy in Guyana. The statement said:-

When Brazilian President Jose Sarney, addressed the Guyana National Assembly, he said that in the Guyana Parliament 'the will of Guyana's citizens is exercised freely and sovereignly'. He spoke of the function of parliament, noting that:

'Here consensus is the handmaid of great accomplishments. Here it is that democracy is wrought'. Unfortunately, President Sarney was not properly advised on the nature of the Guyana Parliament, how it is formed out of consistently rigged elections and how few breezes of democracy pass through the House.

Since January 1988, full 14 months ago, motions and questions from the parliamentary opposition have not been debated. The Standing Orders of the National Assembly make provisions for the Assembly to meet for the purpose of dealing with private members' business on Wednesdays, although this does not mean that motions and questions from the Opposition cannot be dealt with on any other day.

The majority of PPP motions and questions were tabled between March and July 1987, some two years ago. A large number of motions and questions submitted since January 1988, were not published until constant reminders brought them to the National Assembly Notice Paper in December last.

These motions and questions deal with matters vital to the welfare of Guyana and include the subject of transportation, treatment of Amerindians, restoration subsidies, exemption from duty for house building materials, removal of consumption tax on dieselene and gasolene, fulfilment of promise by government to present half-yearly reviews of the performance of the economy and calling for the revocation of the power of dismissal at pleasure of public servants and other state employees.

Standing Order 12 provides for questions to be dealt with at each sitting of the Assem-

bly. In spite of this, numerous questions remained unanswered. For example, on July 30, 1987, a question was asked of the Minister of Health as to information on the death of a man injured in a road accident who was refused admission to the Georgetown Hospital and died 4 hours later. No answer is yet forthcoming.

In the face of this, the Opposition has sought to take advantage of Standing Order 11 which permits the adjournment of the House to urgent matters of public interest to be raised. Thus, the Parliament cannot discuss matters of urgent public importance. However, the Speaker has more often than not, refused to allow urgent matters of public interest to be raised. Thus, the Parliament cannot discuss current issues, including the impending IMF agreement, and matters of deep concern to the people.

At the same time, the Leader of the Opposition is prohibited from addressing the National Assembly.

These are facts which President Sarney should know.

A few days after the PPP made the above statement, the National Assembly held a meeting at which some 2 year old questions were answered and a few motions debated.

The PPP has taken this matter up with the London based Commonwealth Parliamentary Association.

PNC Invents Scapegoats

The People's Progressive Party (PPP), has reacted to the PNC campaign of hysteria against Guyanese leader Dr. Cheddi Jagan as a desperate attempt by the unpopular regime to divert attention from its violence against the labour movement and the people.

The ruling party has been carrying out a media campaign claiming that Dr. Cheddi Jagan is preaching violence.

The PNC regime which has virtually handed over power to the police and military when it placed Guyana on a national emergency footing earlier in the year must be pre-occupied with possible consequences which the up-coming IMF and its state budget hold for the oppressed Guyanese people.

Already the PNC regime has placed the nation on the precipice of violence of the food lines, the violence of the fuel lines, the violence of union de-recognition, the violence of political and racial victimisation of teachers and the violence of intolerable con-

ditions of life. But the PNC would wish to invent scapegoats for its own violence.

The following is the full text of the PPP's statement:

"The PNC government is resorting to more lies and distortions to create hysteria. Some months ago, through sections of the media, it charged that Opposition Leader, Cheddi Jagan, had poisoned drinking water; more recently, had incited the people to commit arson; now, it is a 'call to violence'.

For this minority regime, violence is as common-place as ginger beer. Like the proverbial thief, who after his act shouts 'thief', 'thief', it is trying to divert attention from its own recent thuggery and violence and also from the hammer blows of the impending budget and devaluation.

Recently, teachers, women, parents and children had been beaten by thugs on the Essequibo Coast. A lawyer who was engaged to defend those attached had his car stripped. And bauxite workers were victimised for having their militant unions de-recognised because they participated in the Day of Protest called by FITUG.

During his visit to Essequibo, Dr. Jagan urged firm solidarity with the FITUG one-day protest strike in view of its legitimate demands: for independent trade unionism, and against the dismissal of George Daniels from the Public Service, and the rapid decline in the standard of living of the workers. According to PSU President, Daniels, the real wage of the workers had declined by 64 percent between 1977 and September 1978, and 45 percent between January 1987 and September 1988.

The Opposition Leader also referred to favourable external and internal developments. There was a definite democratic and left trend, particularly in Latin America and the Caribbean which was in keeping with the PPP's ideological/political position.

Internally, he said, that more taxation under the new budget, a hefty IMF-imposed devaluation, retrenchment and wage freeze would mean further impoverishment of our people. This would accentuate the class struggle, first for economic and later for political demands.

With the massive escalation in the cost of living, the progressive trade unions would fight on the economic front for increased wages and salaries and better working conditions. But they would face a stone-wall as in 1978-79 when the agreed \$14-a-day minimum wage had not been paid, increments suspended, subsidies removed and taxes raised.

In such a development, Dr. Jagan pointed out that the trade unions would be forced to fight for political demands — free and fair elections and a change of the government.

Consequently, FITUG and PCD separate actions would coincide.

Workers/farmers unity would lead to a general strike and mass demonstrations throughout the country for free and fair elections, for a broad-based PCD national-democratic government in which even the PNC or its labour-oriented section could participate.

"In such a situation, the government has two options: first, to agree to electoral reforms; second, unleash the security forces against the people. In the latter case, the people must be prepared to defend themselves," Dr. Jagan observed. This right to self-defence is legitimate.

He also appealed for racial and working class unity and worker/farmer unity. When such unity was forged under militant leadership, he said, nothing could stop the working people from realising their aims and aspirations.

Guyana in Big Trouble

'Guyana is in real big trouble', says Dr. Davidson Budhoo, a former INF consultant who resigned last year after exposing that the Fund has committed 'statistical fraud' against Trinidad.

Budhoo said he was the IMF man in Guyana when the first agreement was signed and according to him, the Guyana economy was in trouble.

Budhoo, a former consultant to Maurice Bishop during the People's Revolutionary Government, has since written a 300-page book based on his resignation letter about IMF conditionality.

The Grenadian-born economist told Mirror that Guyana is in big trouble as all the IMF 'systems, modules, and mechanisms are geared to facilitate capitalist development'.

But the IMF was not at first favourably disposed to come to the rescue of Guyana. The Hoyte regime virtually went down on its knees before the IMF and the World Bank, explaining that Guyana's 'socialist orientation' under Burnham was a mistake and a Third World example of 'adventurism'.

In the Trinidad case, the devaluation of the currency was so steep that the oil-rich Caribbean state could not pose credibility for much-needed loans when the economy slumped as a result of falling fuel prices.

Trinidadian historian, Dr. James Millette, is convinced that the IMF committed not fraud, but sabotage, against his country in order to get the PNM government of the late Eric Williams to agree to 'imperialist designs in the Caribbean', especially after the Grenadian revolution.

The big question now being asked by

renowned economists is whether the Guyana dollar had been 'systematically and intentionally' devalued to facilitate capitalist development in Guyana. The other question is whether the Guyana economic planners knew that the devaluation had far outstretched the rate of inflation and productivity costs, and if they did then they had acted in collusion with the IMF against the people. Since 1984, the Guyana dollar slumped by 233 percent, while real wages did not rise above 100 percent.

Money speculators have had advanced notice of this 'trigger clause' and already they are ready to pay on the blackmarket G\$61 for one American dollar. Before March 31, when the devaluation is expected to be announced, 'Wall Street' merchants said the 'street rate' could be about G\$70 to the American dollar.

Violence Against Citizens

The People's Progressive Party categorically condemns the fresh spate of police violence against citizens in the form of excessive force. It was with deep shock that the Party learnt of the gunning down of two farmers in the Black Bush Polder by a policeman. The PPP is claiming that lethal force was unnecessary and that the policeman responsible for the deaths of the two farmers should be prosecuted for murder.

In the incident (a dispute over stray animals) four farmers were shot at by the policeman. The dead are Ramesh Nirmal and Krishendat Nirmal. The wounded one is Nandkishore Nirmal, while the one who barely escaped death is Chetram Nirmal. All of them are brothers.

The PPP recalls the other instance of brutality meted out to Amerindian Phillip Emanuel of Yarakita. He escaped death by a hair's breadth. On December 24, 1988 Emanuel was arrested by police, soundly beaten, trussed up and thrown into a cell. Next morning he was allegedly shot at through the hole in the cell door when he asked for water. The bullet went through his mouth. He was rushed to the PHG suffering from gunshot wounds.

The death of Boodram Jaimal of La Grange on February 4, 1989 is another case which calls for investigation. Jaimal who was in police custody died suddenly in a cell. The results of an autopsy suggest that he was severely beaten. The official version, soon after the death, was that he had committed suicide.

The PPP contends that the regime is aiding and abetting state violence and violation of due process by shifting blame on political opponents and creating a *prior* an excuse for further violent incursions, especially on the economic front. □

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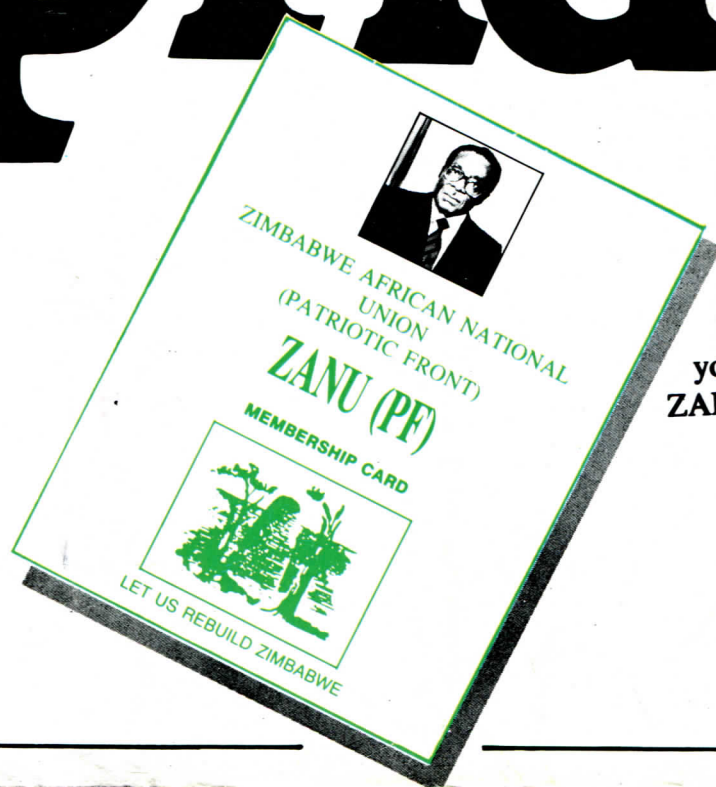
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