

4 facing legal action on votes

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By ANTON HARBER
Political Reporter

THE Transvaal Indian Congress (TIC) will be serving legal demands on the four candidates for the Actonville seat in the House of Delegates elections, alleging that the four have illegally abused the special vote system.

They are also investigating the situation in Laudium, Pretoria, and Lenasia, near Johannesburg, where they allege there have also been many serious abuses of the system by candidates.

The papers will demand that the candidates desist from their "unlawful activities" and may also demand that they withdraw all their applications for special votes.

The TIC alleges that some of the candidates have been telling voters to give false reasons for their applications for special votes, have been threatening people who do not want to vote, and have been bribing others to vote.

Should the candidates fail to meet the demands, the TIC is planning to take urgent Supreme Court action before next Tuesday's elections for the House of Delegates.

The TIC has collected signed statements from a number of people who have cast special votes, and these contain allegations of gross abuse of the special vote system.

Hurley told to stick to faith and morals

ARCHBISHOP Denis Hurley's call for a boycott of the upcoming Indian and coloured election has been noted "with regret" by the South African Catholic Defence League.

The elections were a "purely political matter" and the Archbishop was not placed in his high position in the church to "discuss boycotts of parliamentary elections, but to preach faith and morals to the people", the league said in a statement in Pretoria today.

"The Archbishop has neither the competence nor the jurisdiction to call for a boy-

cott of the elections," the statement said.

"We remind the people who are going to take part in the political process this month that the same Archbishop Hurley was the co-author of the 'Report on Namibia' in which Swapo, a pro-Communist and atheist organisation, was whitewashed."

The league recommended that voters, "specifically Catholics", act according to their conscience, "prayerfully in the light of the Gospel". — Sapa.

(Report by R Norton, Room 627, Old Mutual Building, Johannesburg)

UDF warned

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University of South Africa (Medunsa), the University of Transkei, the University of the Western Cape (UWC), the University of Cape Town, the University of Natal Medical School and at least six tertiary educational institutions in the Cape Peninsula also boycotted classes.

At UWC, about 30 members of staff joined the boycott and held a placard protest at the entrance of the campus early yesterday.

These are apart from a number of ongoing boycotts at other schools and universities not directly related to the elections.

And today at least 40 other coloured, Indian and black schools in the Transvaal, representatives of which met on the weekend, have planned not to attend classes from this morning.

Also due to join the boycott today are students at the University of the Witwatersrand, Rhodes University and both the Durban and the Pietermaritzburg campuses of the University of Natal.

The boycott call has been backed by the Azanian Students Organisation (Azaso), the Congress of South African Students (Cosas), the National Union of South African Students (Nusas) and the Black Students Society (BSS) and the Muslim Students Association at the University of the Witwatersrand.

Mr Noel Eales, the press liaison officer for the coloured Directorate of Education, said pupils were involved in orderly "token protests" against the elections in many schools countrywide.

Professor LJ Taljaard, principal of Medunsa, confirmed yesterday that the boycott that began on Friday was still on.

At Wits students staged a mass rally and at the University of Transkei, hundreds of students staged a protest march.

Students of at least six tertiary institutions in Cape Town and pupils at many schools boycotted classes.

Police kept up a strong presence in the Peninsula with SADF personnel and traffic officers on hand but no action was taken against boycotters and no incidents of violence were reported.

Yesterday morning about 2 000 students of the University of the Western Cape marched to the former Coloured Representative Council building.

Students at the University of Cape Town staged a protest march on the campus.



Students at the University of the Western Cape bury the bronze plaque which marked the opening by Mr B J Vorster of the old CRC building in 1970.

Union group steps up campaign

By STEVEN FRIEDMAN
Labour Correspondent

ORGANISERS and shop stewards of the Federation of SA Trade Unions have been visiting "thousands" of coloured and Indian workers at their homes in the Eastern Cape and urging them not to vote in the forthcoming elections for the new three-chamber Parliament.

According to Fosatu's newsletter, "Fosatu Worker News", about 2 000 homes in Port Elizabeth alone have been visited in the past few weeks.

The newsletter also says Fosatu's Eastern Cape region will be distributing stickers to workers this week, again urging a boycott of the elections.

All the major union groups have now urged a boycott of the elections, says Fosatu.

Several union rallies have already been held at which coloured and Asian voters have been urged to boycott the poll.

A recent meeting in Cape Town, which was addressed both by unions and by community organisations, was attended by nearly 6 000 people.

The present door-to-door campaign is believed, though, to be the most intensive yet run by unions in support of their calls for an election boycott.

Parts of the Eastern Cape — particularly Vitenhage — are regarded as Fosatu strongholds and their percentage poll will give an indication of Fosatu's political influence among coloured and Asian workers in these areas.

According to the newsletter, Fosatu has been conducting its house-to-house campaign since the end of June.

Unrest spreads as pupils burn papers, storm school

By THELMA TUCH

PUPIL unrest erupted again yesterday in Thabong and Tembisa, where pupils stormed a school, and has also spread to Sharpeville and Seshego.

At Tembisa, near Kempton Park, where the suspension of classes was lifted yesterday, pupils refused to be readmitted at three of the township's secondary schools — Jiyana, Boitumelong and Tembisa.

About 250 pupils from the township's fourth secondary school, Thutu-Ke-Maatla, were readmitted to school without having to sign undertakings not to boycott classes.

At Boitumelong Secondary School a large group of pupils forced the principal of the school to hand over such undertakings signed by some pupils and endorsed by their parents.

Chaos broke out at the school when pupils then burnt the undertakings in front of the principal's office.

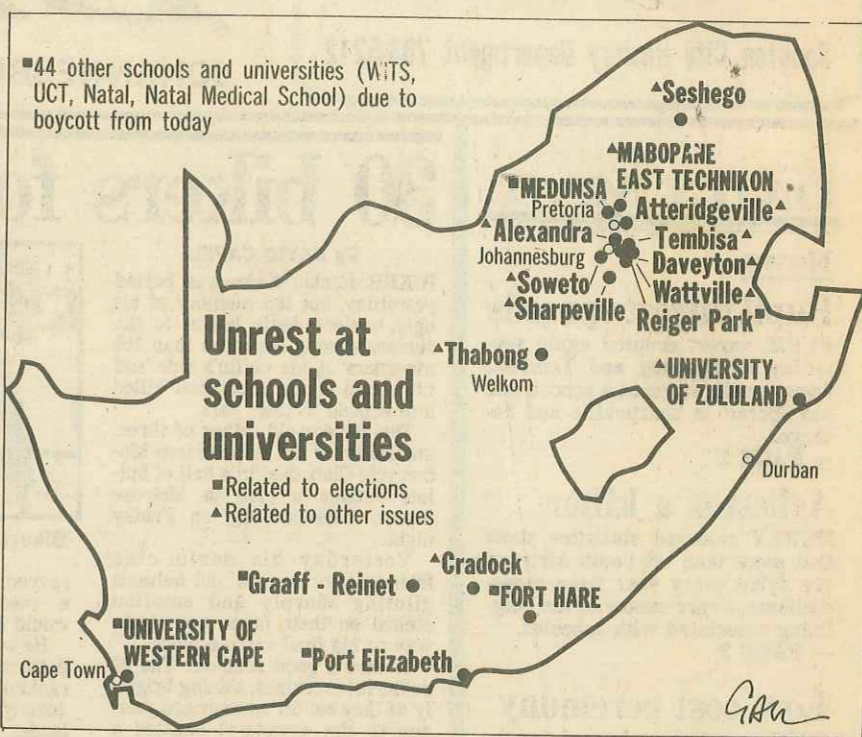
The signing of undertakings has been a source of contention among boycotting pupils.

Pupils from Jiyana and Boitumelong secondary schools then marched through the streets and converged on Thutu-ke-Maatla Secondary School.

They pulled down the school's security fence and stormed the school, dispersing when the police arrived.

In Thabong, near Welkom, pupils from the township's three secondary schools again refused to enter their classrooms and a large group stoned primary schools in the area. Primary school pupils were sent home early.

On Friday nine of 10 pupils suspended from the Thabong schools were readmitted to school following a governing



council's disciplinary hearing.

The Department of Education and Training (DET) yesterday suspended classes in definitely at the three secondary schools in the township.

Classes have also been indefinitely suspended at Minerva High School in Alexandra after unrest.

In Sharpeville yesterday about 1 000 pupils from the Lekoa-Shandu Secondary School boycotted classes in protest against rent increases in the township.

A group of pupils left the school and stoned Putco buses, but by 10am they were back in the school grounds, the chief liaison officer for the DET, Mr Job Schoeman, said yesterday.

MONTSHIWA MOROKE reports that pupils from five secondary schools in Daveyton and Wattville, near Benoni, turned out in great numbers but without their books when the suspension of classes was lifted yesterday.

Pupils from the five schools said yesterday they were willing to return to classes today.

At the Mabopane East Technikon in Soshanguve classes have been suspended until September 3 after boycotts and student clashes with the police.

One student, Mr Hendrik Nkuna, died in the GaRankuwa Hospital's intensive care unit of a bullet wound.

THOMAS LEKGOTH-OANE reports that more than 880 pupils at Masedibu

Senior Secondary School in Seshego, near Pietersburg, boycotted classes yesterday in protest against a circular — issued by the Lebowa Department of Education — asking for an R8 contribution towards the building of a library.

In Craadock, in the Eastern Cape, pupils from four secondary and three primary schools have been refusing to attend school for more than five months, while in Atteridgeville 6 000 pupils have been barred for the rest of the year.

Pupils at most of the boycott-hit schools are demanding student representative councils, abolition of the age limit regulation and an end to excessive corporal punishment.

Blind have voting right

ELECTORAL legislation provides for blind people to cast their votes in secret with the assistance of any person 18 years or older who accompanies them to polling booths, says the SA National Council for the Blind in a statement yesterday.

"Subsection 100 (2) of the Electoral Act (No 45 of 1979) makes provision for a blind person's vote to be recorded in secret with the assistance of any person who has attained the age of 18 years, accompanying him to the polling station," the statement said. — Sapa.

(Report by R Faure, Barclays Bank Building, Church Square, Pretoria)

42 to go to court for 'disturbance'

FORTY-TWO people are expected to appear in court on September 20 after being arrested on Saturday for allegedly disturbing the peace while distributing anti-election pamphlets in Eersterus, near Pretoria.

An Indian woman held on allegations of crimen injuria and of obstructing police in the course of their duty is due to appear in court today.

A regional executive of the United Democratic Front, Mr Ismail Mohammed, said yesterday that UDF campaigners in Eersterus had

been harassed and assaulted by members of parties in favour of the tricameral parliamentary elections.

Mr Mohammed said the police refused to give details of how many people had been arrested, but an estimated 80 campaigners were missing.

He said 36 men and 16 women were released from Eersterus police station yesterday. One girl was still being detained and would be charged today, he said. — Sapa.

(Report by M R Waldner, 216 Vermeulen St, Pretoria)