

Your kids may be taken—magistrate

STAFF REPORTER

A NIGEL magistrate told a 52-year-old widow yesterday that her two children could be taken away from her if she persisted in driving while under the influence of liquor.

The magistrate, Mr. R. Liebenberg, fined Martha du Preez, of Geduld, Springs, R100, of which R75 was suspended for three years.

Her driver's licence was suspended for a year.

Mr. Liebenberg told Du Preez that drunken driving was not only prevalent among men, but now also among women.

"This offence could endanger you pension, and there is also the danger that your children may be taken away from you if you persist in such action," he said.

A Nigel traffic inspector, Mr. J. Theron, said he arrested Du Preez on the night of October 8 when she failed to stop at a stop street. She could not pull away properly and grated the gears.

The car was swerving and he ordered her out of the car. She was unsteady on her feet and her speech heavy.

"I took her to the district surgeon," Mr. Theron said.

Du Preez told the court that she was a pensioner supporting two minor children with a total income of R61 a month. She pleaded guilty.

Hurt golfer 'serious'

Staff Reporter

THE CONDITION of the top amateur golfer Miss Cheran Gerber, 26, from Warrenton, northern Cape, injured in a car accident in Johannesburg on Tuesday, is serious.

A spokesman for the Garden City Clinic said it was too early to know how badly she was injured except that "it would be a long time before she plays golf again."

Raided man in hospital

FROM PAGE 1

any further details. Earlier in the day hospital officials denied any knowledge of his presence in the hospital.

The Minister of Justice, Mr. Pelsler, said last night that he was unable to give any information about the detainees or what had happened to Mr. Essop, a medical student at the University of the Witwatersrand.

"They are being detained by the police as you know. Within a few days' time they (the police) will send me a report saying they have taken so-and-so and so-and-so and giving me the reasons why they have been taken," Mr. Pelsler told me.

Last night, Mr. Glen Moss, vice-president of the Witwatersrand Students' Representative Council, said student leaders were discussing the possibility of applying for a habeas corpus writ in the matter.

They hoped to apply to court in an effort to require the Security Police to disclose why Mr. Essop is being detained.

Mr. Essop was last seen by his parents when he left home on Saturday evening. He was then in good health.

Their Small Street, Roodepoort, home was raided by Security Policemen early on Sunday morning.

Mr. Essop Sr. was taken to John Vorster Square, Johannesburg, for questioning. Police told him his son had been "locked up".

University of the Witwatersrand students will distribute about 25 000 pamphlets on the weekend detentions to the public on Saturday. They also plan to hold a public protest meeting on the detentions next week.

A similar protest meeting is planned by Durban students for Sunday. It is to be held in the city's Bolton Hall in conjunction with the Natal Indian Congress, several of whose members were raided by the Security Police on Sunday.

University of Cape Town students plan a protest meeting for Tuesday.

Rapist jailed for 15 years

Staff Reporter

SENTENCING a man to 15 years' jail for raping a four-year-old child, Mr. Justice De Villiers said yesterday he had seriously considered imposing the death penalty.

Carl Martin Frederick Oosthuizen, 25, of Albertsville, Johannesburg, appeared in the Rand Supreme Court.

The Judge, sitting with assessors, said the case was one of the most serious to come before the courts for a long time. He accepted the evidence of Dr. Hans Bukeizer, Principal District Surgeon, Johannesburg, who said that if he had not hospitalised the child she would have died.

The court ruled the child must not be identified in any way.

Evidence was that on last January 31 Oosthuizen had attended a picnic at a dam near his home. He claimed he had smoked dagga and drunk liquor and that he did not remember the incident clearly.

WORKERS' REWARD

Staff Reporter

THE MAIN purpose of retirement was to reward workers for years of service, the Minister of Transport, Mr. Ben Schoeman, said yesterday at the official opening of the first railways retirement centre at Ravenslip, Boksburg.

Mr. Schoeman said the railways paid more than R3 500 000 a month to its 21 000 ordinary pensioners and 13 000 widow pensioners.

'UP will intern only in extreme'

MARITZBURG. — The United Party would only resort to methods of detention without trial in times of war or when the country was in a state of emergency, the leader of the Opposition, Sir De Villiers Graaff, told Natal University students here yesterday.

Answering a question from Mr. Tim Dunne, President of the Students' Representative Council, and one of the students whose rooms was searched in a pre-dawn police raid, he said: "The freedom and the dignity of the individual are of fundamental importance, regardless of race, colour or creed."

"The United Party believed in freedom and respect in all cases save when the state security was involved," he added.

Sir De Villiers said in the first of series of speeches in Natal that his party wanted more provision for the care of the aged, state-aided medical aid schemes more old-age homes and better social services all round, especially for young parents.

All these things needed a wealthy state but the Government was going to wrong way about stopping inflation, he added. Limiting the amount of money in circulation was a false remedy and the Government expenditure was far too high — an increase of nearly 20 per cent over the last financial year.

Sir De Villiers Graaff also told the students that the United Party was not in favour of direct Black representation in Parliament.

"I personally support White representation of Blacks, but Coloureds' representation for Coloureds." —Sapa.

Guns first

Staff Reporter

POTCHEFSTROOM. — A Potchefstroom magistrate yesterday told a Jehovah's Witness who failed to report for his military duties earlier this year that, if communists invaded South Africa "very few of us would have the time to open our Bibles and read to them."

"If we did that, we would be shot down like dogs," he said.

Mr. P. J. Dreyer sentenced David Lester Wiggell, 18, of Kimberley, to 90 days' imprisonment in the detention barracks at Potchefstroom. Wiggell who attended two previous hearings of the case with a Bible, failed to report for his military training on January 8.