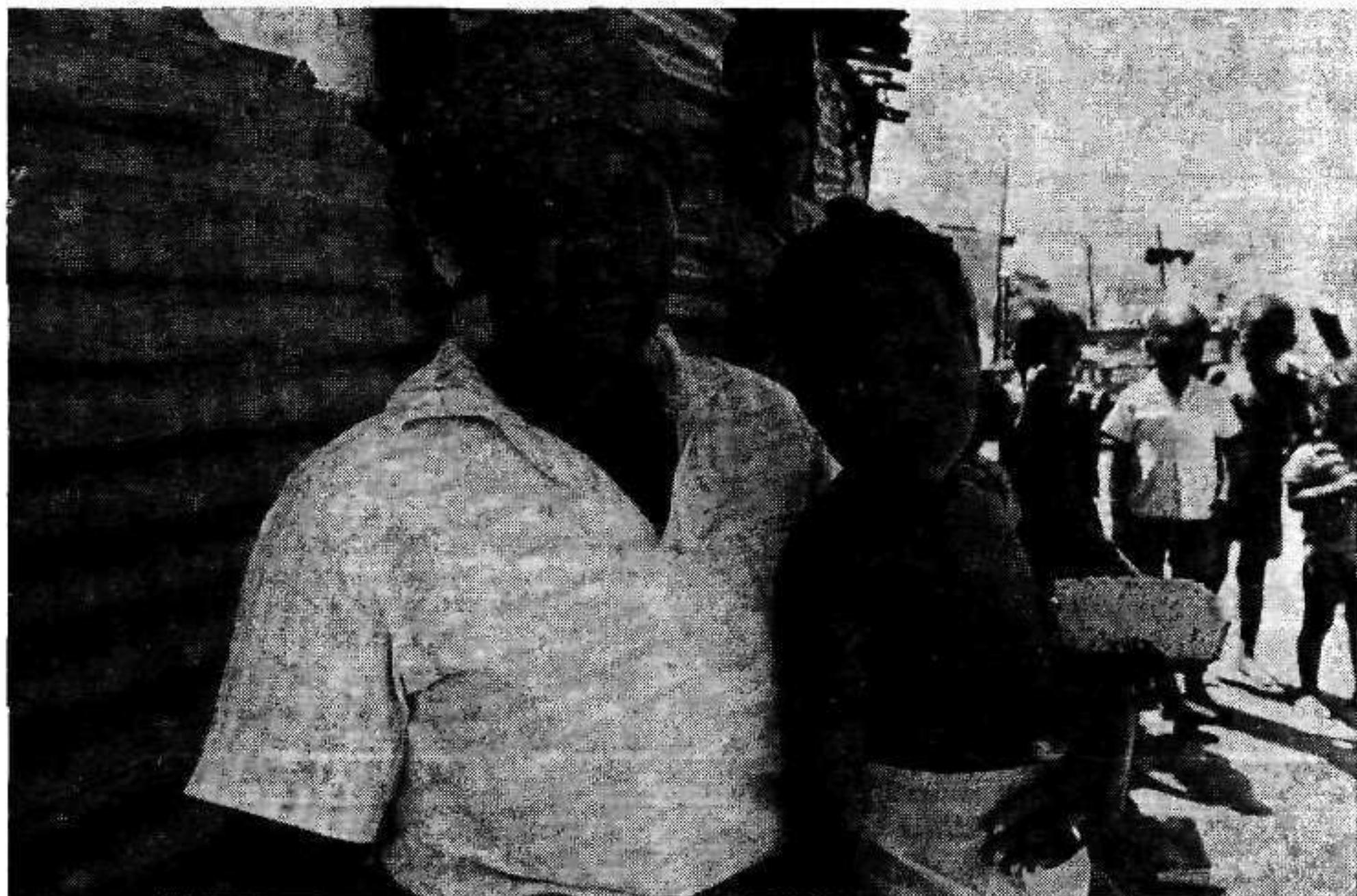


'Where shall I go?'

The following report by DAVID RABKIN is reproduced by courtesy of the Cape Argus.



Mrs. Eleanor Msolo with her youngest child, Brenda, outside her home in Mbekweni township, Paarl. Mrs. Msolo has to return to the Transkei, where she has not lived since 1925. Her family is entitled to stay in Paarl.

A 39-year-old African woman, who has six children and cares for two grandchildren, has been ordered by a Paarl magistrate to leave the place she has lived in for the past 22 years. She must return to the Transkei, which she left as a girl of 17, leaving behind her husband and family.

MRS. ELEANOR MSOLO appeared in the Paarl Magistrate's Court recently on a charge under the Bantu (Urban Areas) Consolidation Act for being in a prescribed area for longer than 72 hours.

She was given until February 28 to leave

the prescribed area of Paarl. Mrs Msolo's youngest child, Brenda, is four years old. Four other children attend school in Paarl. The eldest daughter, who works, has two children, for whom Mrs Msolo cares. The oldest is two years old and the youngest five months.

Mrs Msolo's husband is a labourer in a textile factory.

Sentencing Mrs Msolo, the magistrate, Mr J. M. Lemmer, said that in the circumstances he would not implement a suspended prison sentence already hanging over her. Mrs Msolo was sentenced to three months imprisonment,

suspended for three years, provided she left Paarl by February 28.

It was accepted by the court that Mrs Msolo had been living in Paarl for 22 years. But she could not produced documents to prove that she had resided legally in the area for 10 years, as the Act requires.

All the members of Mrs Msolo's family are legally entitled to remain in Paarl. Only she will have to leave.

Interviewed in her crowded but scrupulously tidy two-roomed shack, Mrs Msolo obviously found it difficult to accept the reality of the court's verdict.

'I feel nasty about the whole thing,' she said. 'Who will look after my children? Where shall I go?'

Eleanor Msolo was married by customary union in 1950. Two years later she joined her husband in the Wellington area, and in 1953 her first child was born.

In 1970 the Msolos were moved to the new

African township of Mbekweni, near Paarl. There they moved into a corrugated iron shack erected by the municipality. They were given to understand that they would eventually be allotted a family home.

But when Mr Msolo went to the township superintendent to apply for a pass for his wife, he was told that the authorities had no record of her entry into the area.

But she was given a monthly visitor's permit which enabled her to live with her husband and children. In 1972 this temporary permission was withdrawn. Mrs Msolo was told she must either leave the area or face prosecution.

The verdict in the Paarl court was Mrs Msolo's third conviction under the Act.

In a letter appealing for help at the time of her first conviction, Mrs Msolo wrote:

'I who have nothing in the Transkei, must now go there. I would go if I had a place there for my children. I don't know what to do. I need help.'

(Continued from page 21)

The third stage, which would constitute the transition to a fully federalised system of Southern Africa would require a number of different moves in fairly close conjunction. These are first, the division of "White" South Africa into a number of regional states on a par as federal units with the homeland regional states; second, the accession of the LBS-countries and Rhodesia (Zimbabwe?) as additional federal units; thirdly the creation of appropriate federal institutions at the centre, in particular a legislative assembly, a separately elected presidential or collegial executive, a reformed Senate or upper chamber with a distinct electoral base as well, and an independent judiciary with powers of judicial review; fourthly, similar federal arrangements and separation of powers at the regional level. The further details of the new federation of South-

ern Africa I am happy to leave in the hands of the "Second South African Convention" where it properly belongs.

Health, Healing and Society — L. G. Wells.

"The Zulus — with whom the author of this essay has come to identify himself — see disease as coming from wrong human relationships. If we accept this understanding as including social as well as personal relationships, we shall find ourselves in entire agreement with the Zulus before we have finished reading this short book."

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Detained

The Attorney General of the Transvaal has confirmed that there are still at least 26 people in detention with no access to family, friends or lawyers.

When will they be charged or released?