

WORKERS, ORGANIZE!

Workers will know by now that they cannot get what is due to them by going down on their knees to the boss. No, it will take a long struggle, with many sacrifices before the workers win their rights. But it is a hopeless struggle unless the workers are organized and led by their own leaders.

The workers of Port Elizabeth are beginning to stir. But what steps are they to take? How are they to organize? How is unity to be obtained?

Factory committees must be elected. Every factory must have a factory committee to represent the workers. The workers must meet in the factory, and elect five or more workers to the factory committee. The boss should be told about this meeting, so that the committee can be registered as a works committee with the Department of Labour (to prevent victimization).

An advice office must be opened. Workers must have some place where they can take their complaints, and where they can get training for organizing. Factory committees should help set up an advice office where this can be done. Get in touch with "Abasebenzi" if you want to know more about an advice office. (317 Durban Road, Korsten).

Only an advice office will bring about unity between all the factories. The advice office will be able to help the factories elect factory committees.

Workers! Get in touch with "Abasebenzi" at
317 Durban Road,
Korsten.

We will help you with factory committees and an advice office.

WHAT THE LAWS SAY ABOUT WORKS COMMITTEES AND LIAISON COMMITTEES.

In 1973, Parliament passed a law which provided for works committees in addition to liaison committees. It is called the Bantu Labour Relations Regulation Amendment Act.

This act says that where there are more than 20 "Bantu" workers in a factory, office or shop, these workers can choose whether they want a works committee or a liaison committee. The choice is entirely in the hands of the workers - the boss cannot force workers to have a liaison committee if the workers do not want one.

Remember, a liaison committee is half boss, half workers. The works committee is all workers.

Works committees, like liaison committees, are legal bodies registered with the Department of Labour.