

REPORT ON UNILEVER

A report has been published in London on the world-wide operation of Unilever, the company that makes money from soaps and foods in South Africa.

The section on South Africa in the latest report fills three pages and concentrates almost entirely on the exploitation of Blacks by Unilever, whose sales in South Africa were R101-million in 1972.

The report says: "Unilever claims to provide equal pay and job opportunities for all its workers irrespective of race; to run a number of training and educational schemes to enable 'all our employees to make the best of their abilities'; the image it attempts to project is that of a haven of paternalism and equality.

"But for the majority of Unilever's 5,000 or so workers, the reality is racial discrimination and exploitation.

WORKERS ON STRIKE

Workers are becoming more and more aware of the means used to break them up into smaller, less effective groups. Last month, more than 1,000 workers went on strike in the car distributors assembly factory in East London, over a new wage grading system. In this system workers are graded according to the jobs they do and repaid according to grades. This would help to destroy their unity as a worker force, and the workers therefore demanded that this new system be done away with.

SEBE CALLS FOR LIAISON COMMITTEE

In a speech to businessmen recently, Chief Lennox Sebe said that bosses should form Liaison Committees for their workers.

Meanwhile, it has been announced that there 61 registered Works Committees in the Cape Province and 298 Liaison Committees. It is believed that most of the Works Committees are in Cape Town, and most of the Liaison Committees in Port Elizabeth and East London.

LITERACY CLASSES

Knowledge is Power! Learn to read and write in an exciting new way. You will get Worker Training at the same time. If you are interested then contact the Workers' Advice Bureau, 1st Floor Benbow Building, Beverley Street, Athlone (next to ½ Price Stores).

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