

Interview with members of Street Committees.

Soweto: Street Committees. [1956]

Soweto has got 26 Townships.

25 of them have established street Committees and are all functioning and holding meetings regularly.

Street Meeting.

All street meetings when called, are 100% successful. Most of the people who attend are parents accompanied by youth. Most of the parents attend meetings because of the issue of rent boycott. They have been organized very strongly and thus are prepared to face any challenges that might come from the state as a result of rent boycott.

Information.

The information which need to reach the people of Soweto is disseminated through

the street committees e.g. (rent boycott) which is the burning issue presently and is discussed daily at the street meetings.

Maintenance of Order.

Since the formation of street committees in the townships, at least they have tried very hard to maintain peace and order ~~be~~ amongst residents, by settling many cases and some of the disputes which people bring to ~~street~~ them. By doing this, people have tried ~~by~~ not to take their cases to the Govt structures such as municipal offices and police station, in this way they are isolating Govt structures and Govt puppets and actually making them unworkable.

Rent Boycott.

Many people are not paying rent in Soweto. The boycott is 90% successful despite the threats and intimidation coming from the Councils and State. Although other people got frightened and ~~tried~~^{devised} some means of paying their rent in secret. Some are posting it and other are paying through their employers. But because they are very few they cannot be put on scale with those who are not paying.