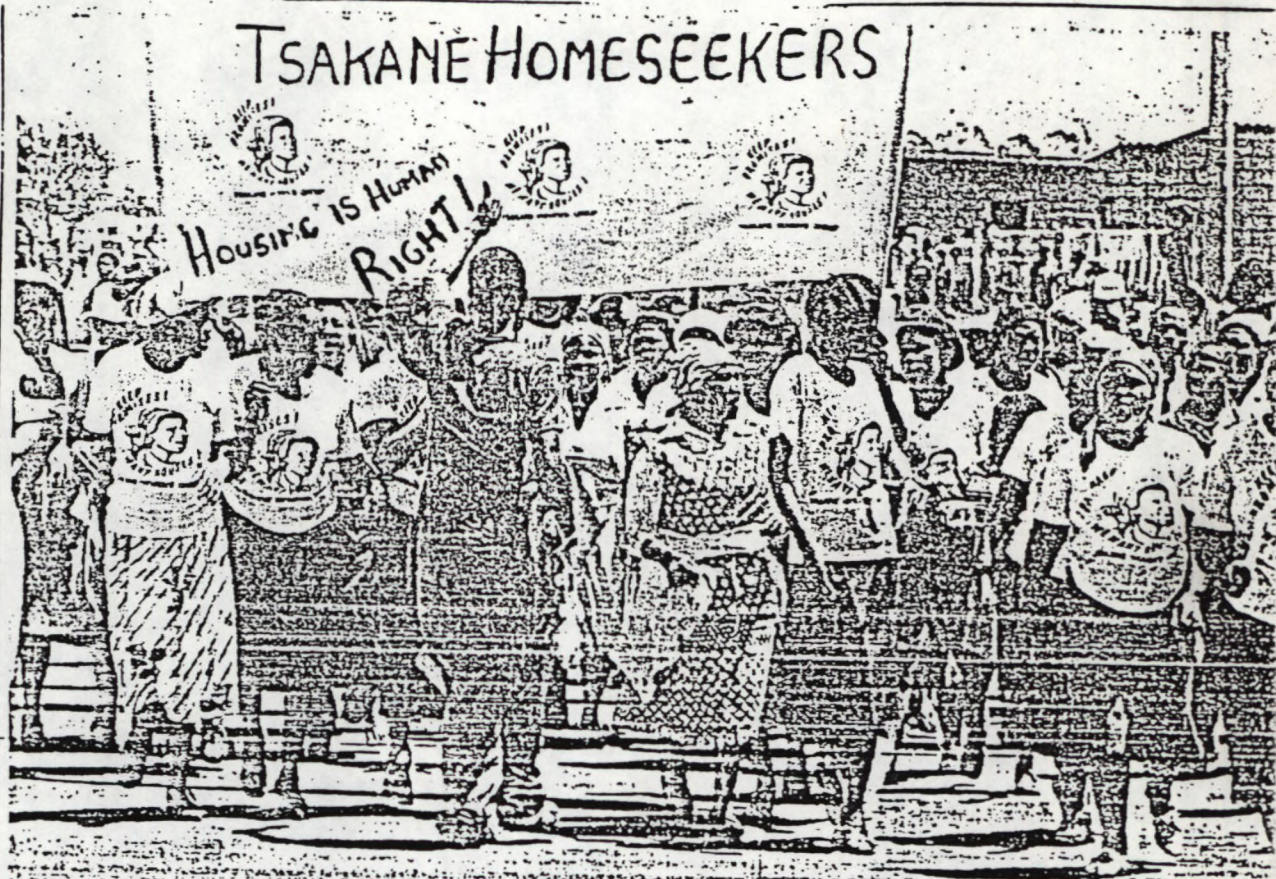


AA 048

R D M Extra

4/3/85



Shack-dwellers march through the streets of Tsakane on the way from the local council's offices where they were to meet officials of the Tsakane Community Council over housing problems. The meeting did not take place.

Picture: ROBERT TSHABANE

Shack-dwellers in protest

By SIPHO NGCOBO

HUNDREDS of shack-dwellers at Silvertown, Tsakane, near Brakpan, marched on the local council offices yesterday to protest against the housing scheme offered by the East Rand Development Board.

The shack-dwellers are refusing to move from their shacks to the new site and service scheme area.

They gathered in the community hall and a councillor who was fetched from his home to address them said nothing could be done as the matter needed the attention of the full council as well as Mr F E Marx, chief director of the East Rand Development Board.

The march followed a meeting last week between the Tsakane Homeseekers' Ad Hoc Committee — a group representing the residents — Mr Marx and the Tsakane Community Council.

The board made several proposals to the shack-dwellers.

However, the residents rejected the proposals, saying the scheme was too expensive and some of them could not afford it.

Among the board's proposals were that:

- It would differentiate between people and families in the economic and sub-economic income groups;

- Two-roomed houses would be built for the sub-economic group and these could be rented by the residents;

- People would be responsible for paying the normal site charges, water tariffs and other charges.

The residents said yesterday that the two-roomed houses were too small and that they wanted to be housed in the three-roomed houses as initially promised by the board.

They also said they did not want to be classified according to economic income groups.

They called for another meeting between them, the council and the board.

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