

I hereby appeal to COSATU to organise teachers directly in a trade union. Do not be fooled by the so-called teacher organisations which have no mandate. Only by proper accountability and mandates under the banner of COSATU can teacher unions win the struggle of teachers in our schools.....Secondary School Teacher, Johannesburg Region, D.E.T.

## More on teachers

Sir, I wish to congratulate you on the recent issue of your journal, particularly its concern with issues of unity in the labour movement. I must, however, take issue with the manner in which the activities of UTASA and its President, Mr Franklin Sonn, are portrayed (see "Towards on South African teachers' union, vol.14 no.1, April 1989). Throughout his term of office as president of UTASA, Mr Sonn has been very consistent in his opposition to apartheid education. The record will show that when he went into the De Lange Commission of Inquiry, he did so in order to bring an end to segregated schooling and all other aspects of apartheid education. His opposition to the apartheid government at the time, along with that of

people like Dr Ken Hartshorne, is well documented. UTASA and the CTPA, too, have been consistent in their anti-apartheid stance. One has only to look at their conference resolutions of the 1981-82 period to see that they have shared all the goals of the "mass democratic movement" throughout the eighties. I suggest that it is not so much that UTASA has had its politics changed by "mass struggles", but rather that it has always acted progressively in recent times and fully represented the mass of its members, and that this fact has now been recognised by other opponents of apartheid education. It is not Mr Sonn who has been inconsistent, but rather the "mass democratic movement". Fortunately for teacher unity, their inconsistency has been for the better!.....For consistency and Unity, Mitchells Plain

### Contributor

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