

NEW YORK NEWSDAY, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 1991

ELECTION '91

All Critics Invited To Home Cooking

when he carries out the supposedly solitary task of voting.

The mayor's polling place, PS 66, is just a block from Grace Mansion, but Dinkins was running 55 minutes late when he showed up there to sign in as the 45th voter of the day.

"Did you jog this morning?" one of the poll workers asked the mayor as he signed in. "No, but I played tennis early this morning," he answered.

Mary Dunham, wearing a biking helmet and biking clothes, walked out of the booth, running head-on into Dinkins, who was waiting to go in.

Clearly startled, she paused as she looked into the mayor's face, then smiled and said, "Promote bicycling."

"Yeah?" Dinkins said. "Why not!"

And while cameramen and reporters surrounded his booth, one poll worker yelled, "Don't forget the propositions!"

Then Dinkins walked out of the booth to a smattering of applause.

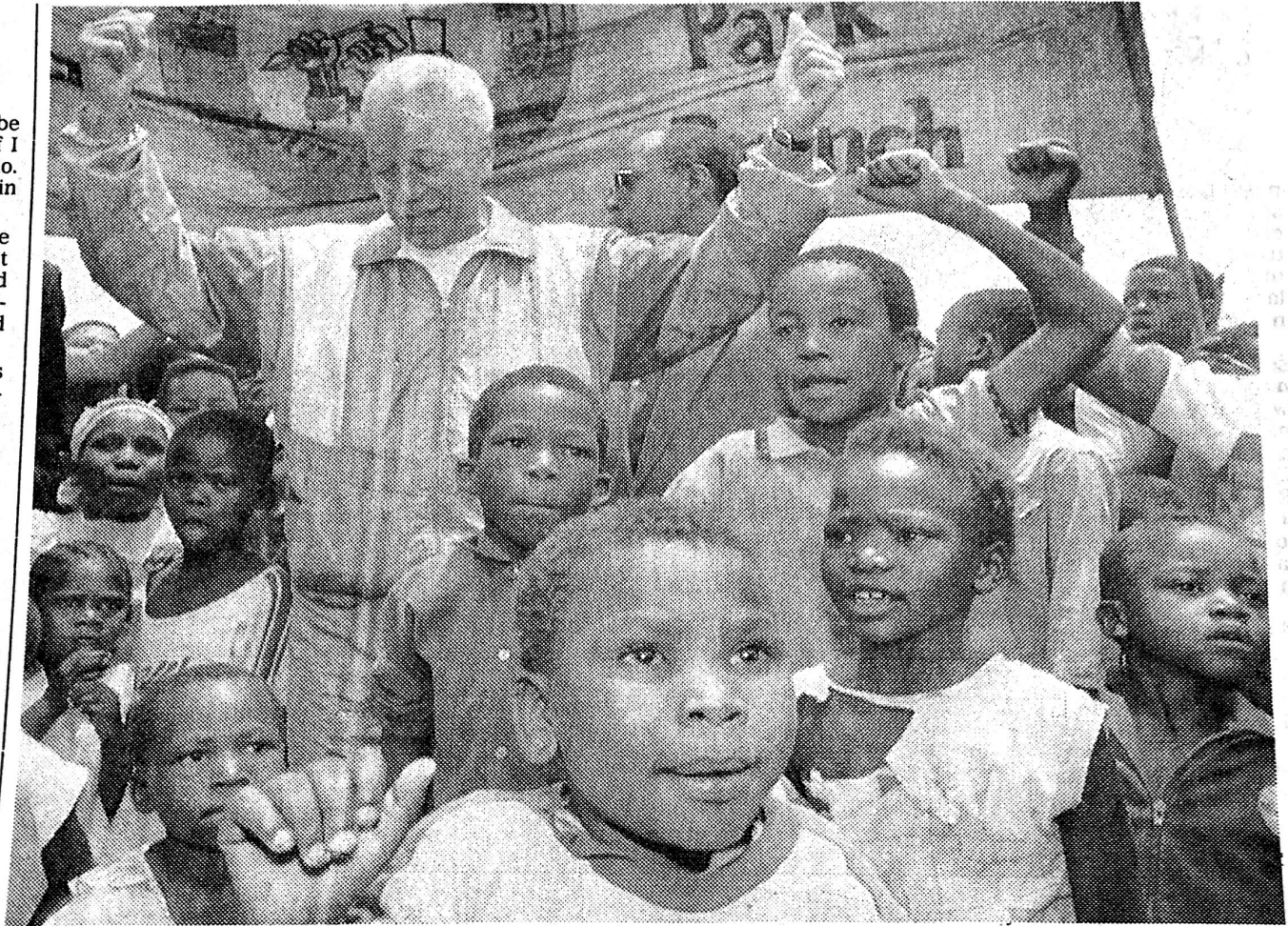
But there was one more request from a Board of Elections employee before Dinkins returned to his car. Poll site coordinator Frank Wilkinson asked: "Mr. Mayor, we're going to have three big elections next year. Could you please



Nadine Gordimer = Sarah?
the mother of Mary?
Buttrick's husband

11/15/91

I T Y Dinkins was wearing this jacket when MP shook hands
with him. (See Newspaper article.)



Associated Press

Mayor David N. Dinkins dancing with children yesterday during a visit to the Phola Park squatter camp near Johannesburg. Mr. Dinkins is halfway through a weeklong visit to South Africa.

Dinkins and South African Discuss Race

By TODD S. PURDUM

Special to The New York Times

JOHANNESBURG, Nov. 14 — For three days, Mayor David N. Dinkins has seen and decried injustice in the squalor of South African shantytowns. But it was a quiet challenge on race relations from the Nobel Prize-winning novelist Nadine Gordimer that moved him to rare candor on his feelings as a black American in her cozy living room tonight.

"I'm going to ask you something hard, and I hope it's not going to upset you," Miss Gordimer said, turning what mayoral aides had billed as strictly a "photo opportunity" into an exchange of ideas. "I find having been coming back and forth between the States now for years that there's more separation now between black and white than there was some years ago, even among the small circle that I move in, of writers, journalists, TV people and people in the arts.

"We mix much more here under apartheid on that kind of level than they do."

Mr. Dinkins, looking neatly uncomfortable, replied, "That's quite an

Sharing reflections with a Nobel- winning writer.

came a time still later in my experience when you came into a room, a conference or whatever, you would seek out the other African-Americans and say: 'What's happenin'? We need a caucus.'

"And so today, there may be greater awareness of the heritage each of us has, which I think is a good thing."

A Sign of Progress

Mr. Dinkins suggested that his election as the city's first black mayor was a sign of progress "because, if nothing else, many of us who are African-American have come to have some confidence in our own abilities" after growing up on images of Africa limited to Tarzan.

He said the term African-American

"No, but you see, I think your desire and concern for South Africa surely goes beyond that," she said. "I don't think you have to be an interested party, so to speak, to be against racism."

"I hasten to agree with you," Mr. Dinkins said. "This is not a black and white issue; it's human rights."

'It's Difficult'

"But it's difficult to get people to see it like that?" Miss Gordimer asked.

"Well," Mr. Dinkins said, "We will get them to see it when we convince enough writers and editors and publishers and those that control the mass media, when they are persuaded, then that's what the story will be because that's how the story gets out."

Mr. Dinkins's visit with Miss Gordimer ended a day that began with a trip to the black squatter encampment of nearby Phola Park, an African National Congress stronghold where factional violence has raged with supporters of the Inkatha Freedom Party.