Mainly about people

BHARATH—SARITHA ENGAGEMENT The engagement has recently been announced of Bharath, second son of Mr. and Mrs. G. Chantry, of Nanoti, Stanger, to Miss Sabitha, second daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Durgapersadh (David Chedie), of Plessislaer, Pietermaritzburg.

Mr. G. Rajagopaul, a former president of the Maritzburg Indian Technical Students' Society, being presented with an illuminated scroll by the president, Mr. S. N. Reddy, at the Society's 11th annual meeting on Sunday night. Looking on are Mr. R. C. Moodley (treasurer, seated) and Mr. L. S. Moodley (secretary). (Pictures: S. J. Moodley.)

ENVER KHAN son of Mr. and Mrs. Amanullah Khan, of Vrededorp, Johannesburg, and grandson of Himdad Khan. He celebrated his second birthday on March 18, 1956.

BOUNDARIES

NEW DELHI.—India and Pakistan have started preliminary work on the demarcation of the boundary between the two countries. The first step was the demarcation of the boundary between Indian Punjab and the Pakistan Punjab. — Sapa-Reuter.

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TRIBUTES TO MR. MALILAL GANDHI

LADYSMITH.—A memorial meeting for the late Mr. Manilal Mohandas Gandhi was held at the Gujrati-Hindi School Hall. Mr. R. R. Singh, chairman of the society, presided. The meeting was held under the auspices of the Young Hindu Cultural Service Society.

Mr. Singh indicated how great a loss to the Indian community was the death of Mr. Gandhi.

Mr. Vithal Lala, patron of the society, said that Mr. Manilal Gandhi was admired for his sincerity of purpose and for his devotion to the high principles of his father.

The late Manilal Gandhi was instrumental in erecting the Kasturba Gandhi Government-Aided Indian School in the Phoenix Settlement, officially opened by the Administrator two years ago, he said.

Mr. Lala supported the idea that the Phoenix settlement should be made into a shrine.

"Mr. Gandhi interpreted the ideals of Hinduism, and we must take the spiritual, cultural and political lessons he had to teach us," said Mr. N. G. Chetty, Principal of the Windsor High School, Ladysmith.

Mr. R. Kallie said that Mr. Gandhi was a public servant and a true politician in the full sense of the word. He suggested that the society should consider the presentation of a trophy in his memory to the Windsor High School.

Mr. N. S. Mudeliar and Mr. K. R. Singh also spoke.

Prayers were offered in Sanskrit, Hindi, Tamil, and English, and the meeting terminated after chanting Shanti Paat, the hymn of peace.

A special prayer service in memory of Mr. Manilal Gandhi was held by the Hindu Thirukootam and Shri Ganaser Temple on Sunday. Mr. M. V. Naidoo conducting.

METHODIST ANNIVERSARY

MARITZBURG. — The Maritzburg Indian Mission joined in the celebrations of the 150th anniversary of Methodism into South Africa.

In a week of happy celebrations, the Mission led by Rev. A. J. Choonoo, with his leaders, arranged an interesting programme. After a Holy Communion Service with nearly 70 attending on the morning of April 15, the anniversary service was conducted in the afternoon by the Rev. V. J. Boshoff, B.A., who addressed a congregation which included several Africans.

On Wednesday evening, Mr. H. W. Haley, a leading member of the Church, gave an inspiring address to a crowded church on the triumphs of the Gospel in Zulu with the aid of films and slides. On Friday evening, the Rev. W. I. C. Shipley spoke with great missionary fervour, and the story of "Penny" will long be remembered.

Saturday came and so did the rain, but nothing could dampen the enthusiasm. The children came in at 2 p.m. for sports and their supper at 5 p.m. The congregation banquet at 6 p.m., with nearly 150 (including the children) attending together with the Rev. and Mrs. D. W. Timm, Rev. W. I. C. Shipley and Mrs. Shipley, and Miss Rina Brink. During the concert, arranged by Mr. M. G. Daniels and Miss Rose Choonoo, the large birthday cake, prepared by Mr. Henry Christian, was cut by Rev. Timm, and the congregation joined with great glee, as they sang the Doxology.

INDIA'S HELP WANTED

NAIROBI. — An appeal to the leaders and people of India to give the people of Uganda a helping hand by providing professional and technical personnel like doctors, engineers and technicians for development that country, was made by Dr. B. M. K. Muwazi, leader of the Uganda Goodwill delegation, at a reception in Madras.

Dr. Muwazi said they had been struck by the ancient civilisation of India and the tremendous magnitude of the nation-building work undertaken since India became independent. India had thus proved to the world that, given the opportunity, she was capable of accomplishing great things.

Dr. Muwazi said that Uganda, like other parts of Central Africa, had a number of social, educational and political problems. They were a colonial people and the political problem in a nutshell was that while the people felt they were ready to take over power in their own hands, their "protectors" said "we cannot give you power because you are not ready."

In matters of health they had the problem of tropical diseases, Dr. Muwazi said. They required more medical facilities for the people so that their health and standard of life might improve.

Hallowed shrines and glorious scenery

(Continued from page sixteen)

We pass on our way the Bathing Ghats, Tulsi Ghat, Harischandra Ghat, Dasasvamedha Ghats and reach Manikarnika Ghat. This is the most sacred Ghat of Banaras. It is here that Parvati, the spouse of Lord Siva, lost the ear-ring. Nearby is the burning Ghats where hundreds of bodies lie awaiting the last rites. The Raj Ghat, Panchganga Ghat and temples are of interest also.

From Banaras one could take a taxi, tonga, victoria or rickshaw to Sarnath, only five miles away, a great centre of pilgrimage for Buddhists. It is here that Budha first turned the wheel of the law by preaching to his five disciples sometime in the 6th century.

We visited Chaukhandi, the actual spot, where Lord Buddha and his five disciples who deserted him earlier; the Museum, Damekh Stupa and the temples.

THE BUDH TREE

From Banaras we proceeded to Gaya, the heart of Budha's country. There is not much to be seen here, but a little away, at Budh Gaya one will be swayed with all that is wild in human faith. There are many temples but most important of all is the Budh Tree under which Lord Buddha was enlightened.

The tree itself has a colourful history of the past. Though the present tree is a branch of the original, it can truly be said to be the oldest tree in the world. This marked more or less the end of our visit to sacred places.

The central objective of planning in India is to raise the standard of living of the people and to open to them opportunities for a richer and more varied life. With this in mind, we continued our journey to see the industries and project schemes on our way. We visited the Tilaiya Dam, the largest cement dam in India, opened by the Prime Minister.

We moved on to Sindri, where there is the only fertiliser factory in India. The assembly shop at Chittaranjan locomotive factory and the Damodar Valley projects and steel plant, one of the largest of the world.

LARGEST CITY

We found ourselves at Calcutta, the largest city in this ancient land after a tiring train journey. Calcutta today is the centre of the world's biggest jute manufacture world's biggest jute manufacturers, and has many other industries. She is the commercial metropolis of India.

Huge, sprawling, shapeless and picturesque, at once shabby and stately noise and taming with life. The world too is represented, for here jostle with one another Europeans and Chinese, Tibetans and Arabs as well as people from the Far East and the Far West. Metaphorically known as the lungs of the city, Chowinghee is the centre of attraction, flanked on either side by fashionable shops, cinemas and restaurants.

Incidentally, Calcutta is not a "dry" area and obviously, one could imagine the night club life here. A real centre of attraction is the Howrath Bridge over the River Hooghly — a triumph of modern engineering. As the teeming millions and the traffic pass over this bridge, one is easily reminded of New York, and turning away—the watch on the Hooghly drift far away to the Thames in London.

After a three-day stay at Calcutta, we left for Allahabad, a city both ancient and new. There are many parks and gardens and we visited the house of Motilal Nehru. The Prime Minister himself spent his early life here and began his career at the Allahabad High Court. The city was connected historically with the War of Independence and later the national struggle for independence.

We must have been tired; for as soon as the train started for Bombay, most of us began dozing. Pleasant memories began to linger in our minds. What a short journey it was—this journey on to a discovery of India!

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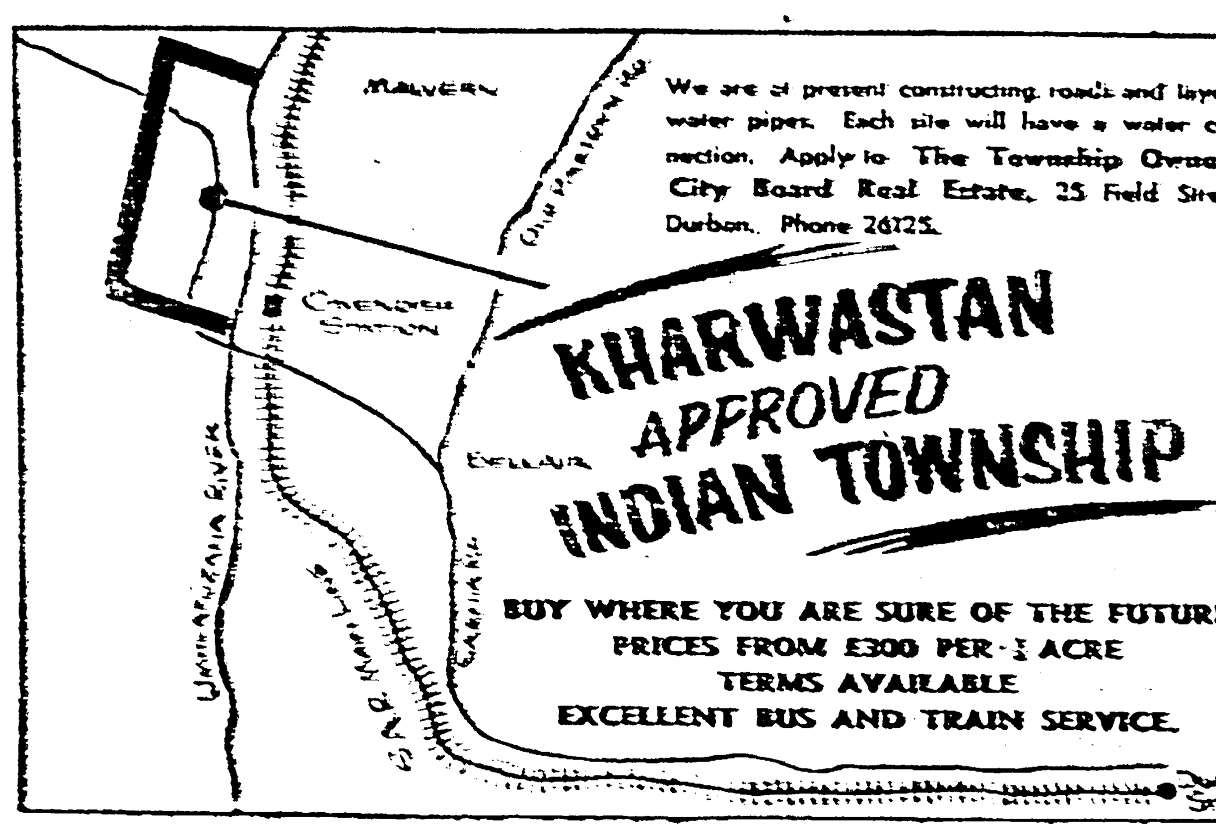

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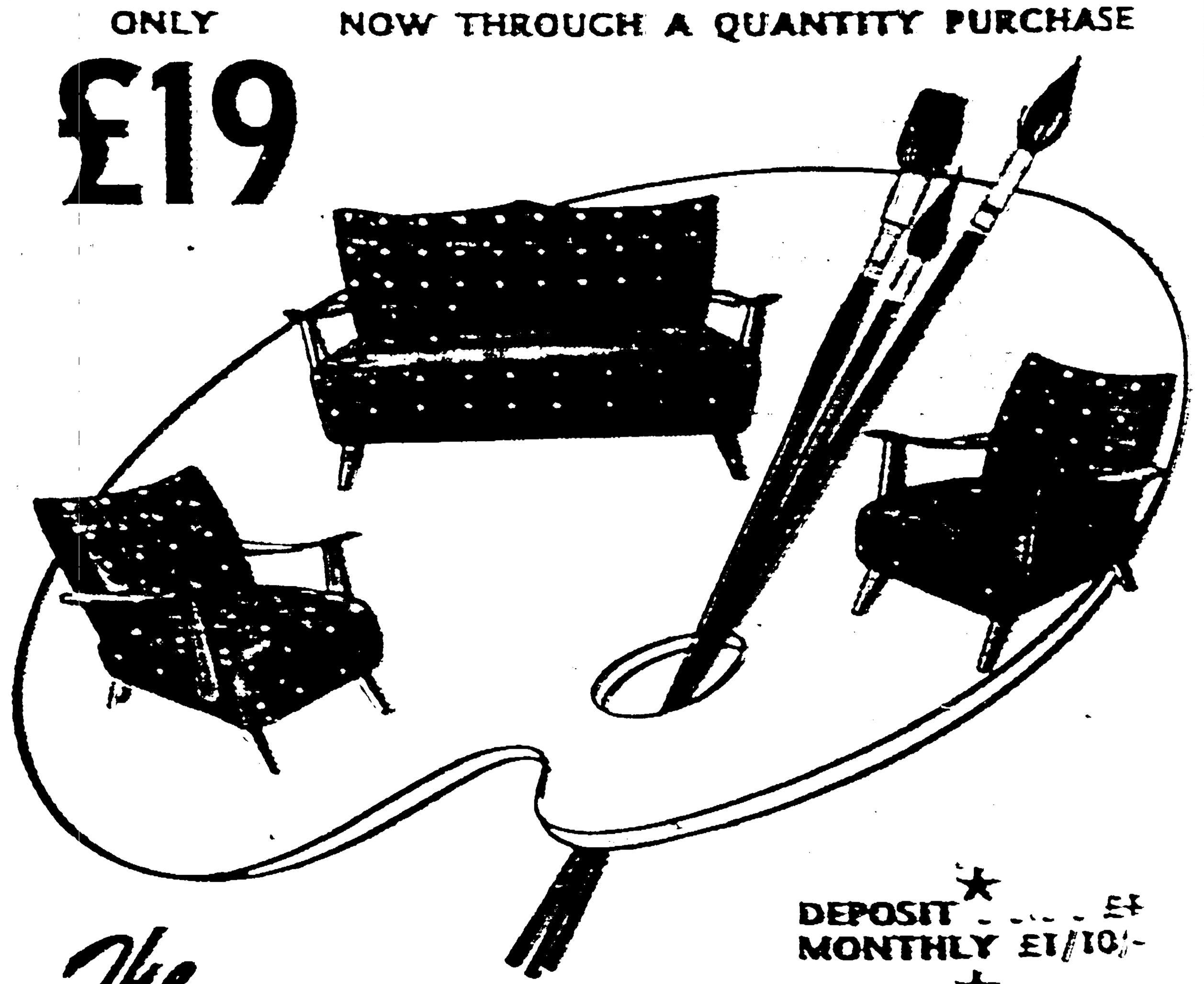

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VOL. XVI—No. 21 PIETERMARITZBURG, FRIDAY, MAY 4, 1956 PRICE 4d.

"Big things" expected in Group Areas talks

DURBAN: Prominent speakers will address the opening session of the Group Areas Conference to be held at the Bharat Hall, Prince Edward Street, Durban, starting tomorrow at 2.30 p.m. and continuing at 9 a.m. on Sunday.

The opening address will be delivered by Mr. Leo Lovell, Member of Parliament for Benoni. The session will also be addressed by Mr. Alan Paton, author of "Cry, The Beloved Country", the Rev. Dr. A. W. Blaxall of the Christian Council of South Africa; Mr. Archie Gumede of the African National Congress; Mr. E. C. Swales, a leader of the Coloured community; and Mr. G. Hurbans.

Owing to the ban imposed by the Minister of Justice, Mr. C. R. Swart, the Presidents of the African National Congress and the Natal Indian Congress, Chief A. J. Luthuli and Dr. G. M. Naicker, will not be able to be present. They will instead present papers to Conference.

"It is the duty of all non-European and European progressive leaders and organisations to come together in the broad united front which is being forged against the Group Areas Act," declares Dr. G. M. Naicker, the banned President of the Natal Indian Congress, in an urgent call issued to the people of Natal on the eve of the All-in Group Areas Act Conference.

Dr. Naicker made a last-minute appeal to "those who may have not yet responded to the invitation of the N.I.C. to do so without delay." There can be no two viewpoints against the Act, adds Dr. Naicker.

"The response to our call," continues Dr. Naicker, "is excellent. To my mind this weekend's conference is going to be a historic one, laying down the pattern of future deliberations and actions against segregation and apartheid on the basis of united fronts of all those who oppose these policies.

"The Group Areas Amendment Bill now before Parliament shows that no one can be secure in the Union. What was claimed to be a protection for the African people in the 1950 Act is now sought to be taken away, with an eye to Lady Selborne. The act of making the non-White people landless acts in our country is continuing, no matter what promises are or have been made."

MENON'S MESSAGE

Mr. V. K. Krishna Menon, the Republic of India's chief spokesman at the United Nations and personal envoy of Pandit Nehru, to whom Cabinet he has recently been appointed, has hailed the All-in Conference.

Dealing with the Natal Indian Congress, Mr. Menon says: "I wish the cause of freedom and justice in which your Congress is engaged all success and strength."

According to Mr. N. T. Naicker, General Secretary of the N.I.C., there has been "the most encouraging response to Dr. Naicker's call for a united opposition to the Group Areas Act." Mr. Naicker added: "We are expecting a very representative gathering on Saturday and at the whole-day session on Sunday."

Conference will have before it a comprehensive paper from Chief

(Continued in column three)

Pastor J. F. Rowlands began a successful Cathedral-Canvas campaign in Maritzburg on Sunday. Packed crowds have been attending the services daily and the campaign will continue up to Sunday night. (Pictures: S. Abel.)

C.A.F. Indian ban "will stay"

LIVINGSTONE.—There was no question of the Rhodesian Federal Government lifting its ban on Indian immigration now, said Lord Malvern, the Federal Prime Minister, at a meeting with the Federal Indian Association and the Indian Chamber of Commerce in Livingstone.

He said that when the Africans were sufficiently advanced to be able to look after themselves — which would not be for many years — the policy might be changed.

Lord Malvern was replying to a question from the two Indian Associations which was put by their chairman Mr. H. B. Oza, who said that the Asians in the Federation agreed with the ban. What worried them most was that the Government was looking for immigrants from countries which had fought against democracy whereas a highly civilised Asian whose country had raised arms for the cause of democracy, was considered an undesirable immigrant.

Lord Malvern said that complications involved in letting Indians in the Federation were obvious. It was undeniable that the Africans' chances of advancing in trade had been thwarted to some extent.

"Now we have to look around and see how we can create an opening for Africans with the least possible friction, such as riots and that sort of thing," he said.

Lord Malvern was also asked about the interterritorial movement of Asians within the Federation. He said that this was the territorial law and there was little the Federal Government could do. He did not like it [illegible]

It was not an opportune time for the Federal Government to start using its power to pass legislation overriding territorial law on subjects on the concurrent list of legislation. If the Federal Government were to try that it would be one of the quickest ways of breaking up the Federation.

Mr. Oza made a plea for Indians in the Federation to be allowed to bring their aged dependants into the country.

Lord Malvern said he would consider the request, but he thought that with the present policy of limiting immigration, members of all races would not be allowed to bring in aged dependants.

VARIETY SHOW

DURBAN. — What has been described as the "greatest variety show of the year" will be staged by Dinny Naidoo at the Durban City Hall, on Wednesday, May 9, at 7.45 p.m. Some of Durban's leading artistes have been engaged to appear on the programme with the Blue Ricky Orchestra.

Some of the artistes are: Joe Hilton, Lot La Grange, Russel Poulthing (Wynberg), Mansoor Omar (brother of Majed Omar), Lilian James, Spring Times, Theo Francis, the 11-year-old banjo wonder, Philadelphian Moonshiners, this year's whistling Cape troupe, with 10-year-old Peter James, the wonder singer; Roy the Black Boy; Charles Abrahams on the piano, and others.

Booking is now open at Peter's Lounge, and tickets are also available at Goodwill Lounge and Simon's Cafe.

HONOUR FOR INDIAN GUIDE

DURBAN.—Mrs. Sashina Moodley, Assistant District Commissioner of the Indian Section of the Girl Guides in Natal, left on Tuesday for Salisbury, Rhodesia, to attend the All-Africa Conference of Girl Guides. Mrs. Moodley has been chosen as the representative for Natal.

This is the first time in the history of the Guide Movement in South Africa that an Indian woman has been chosen as a provincial representative.

GIRL HANDS OVER BURSARY

DURBAN. — A bursary of £20 awarded by Dartnell Crescent School to the girl from the school who obtained the highest marks in the Standard VI examination was won by Kasturi Joosub, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. P. K. Joosub, of 281 Victoria Street, Durban. Kasturi also won a departmental bursary and, with the approval of her parents passed on the school bursary to the girl who came second, Farida Ally, of 45 Acorn Road, Durban.

£183 collected: During the 1955-56 drive for funds for the Durban and District Community Chest, the Sydenham North Local Committee was able to collect £84 8s. 3d. on behalf of the Durban Indian Child Welfare Society.

"Night in Cuba" a Success

DURBAN.—A happy blending of Eastern and Western music in which the Latin-American mood was a dominating feature enthralled a packed Durban City Hall audience last week. Produced and directed by Mr. A. Kistan Pillay, and presented by the Langham Orchestra, "Night in Cuba" succeeded in creating the desired atmosphere; the colourful costumes, scenes and lighting effects were also well done.

Hamid and David, popular stage and radio personalities as Applesauce and Jackson (portraying a team of Indo-African comedians), and Roy the Black Boy, acting as a African comedian, rocked the audience with side-splitting laughter. Other artistes who did their stuff admirably well included Savathree Nallan, Sakunthalai, Savathree Pillay, Mercer Williams, Peter Mscombi, Kenny Pillay, Baby Shields, Cyril Singh and G. K. Naidoo and party. The finale, entitled "The Isle of Cuba," was most impressive.

A presentation of ancient, semi-classical and modern dancing offered a fine contrast, depicting how this art has developed through the ages to the present day.

EID GREETINGS

As usual, "The Leader" will carry Eid greetings in its issue of May 11. The charges are 5s. for personal greetings. The following is an example: Mr. and Mrs. Shaik Abdulla, of 123 Bengal Lane, Durban, extend Eid greetings to friends and relatives. Displayed greetings will cost 10s. per single column inch, £1 for double column inch.

Readers may send their greetings to P.O. Box 362, Maritzburg, or 311 Pine Street, Durban. Greetings received after Monday night, May 7, cannot be guaranteed publication.

(Continued from column six)

Albert J. Luthuli, dealing with the land laws affecting the African people culminating in the Group Areas Amendment Bill now before Parliament and the recommendations of the Tomlinson Commission. On behalf of the Executive Committee of the N.I.C. a paper will be presented by Dr. Naicker on the Act as it affects the Indian people.

Papers will also be presented on the effect of the Act on the Coloured and European communities.

DR. COOPPAN'S PAPER

Among one of the most interesting papers will be Dr. Cooppan's contribution on the effect of the Act on Indian education. It will be recalled that when the Land Tenure Advisory Board (now the Group Areas Board) met in Durban to consider the race zoning proposals for the City Dr. Cooppan gave evidence before it. His authoritative contribution will do much to assist the conference.

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