



**CHRISTMAS MESSAGE BY THE MINISTER OF
INDIAN AFFAIRS — MR FRANK WARING**

I would like to take this opportunity of extending to the officials of the Department of Indian Affairs and to all members of the Indian community my sincere greetings for Christmas and the New Year.

Considerable progress has been made during the past year in the provision of improved services and amenities for the Indian community and I would like to express my thanks and appreciation to the staff and those members of the community who have contributed towards this advancement.

Let us go forward into 1970 with resolution, confident in the knowledge that my Department will continue to fulfil its role in promoting the interests of the Republic's Indian Community.

**KERSBOODSKAP DEUR DIE MINISTER VAN
INDIËRSAKE — MNR FRANK WARING**

Ek wil graag van hierdie geleentheid gebruik maak om aan alle amptenare van die Departement van Indiërsake en alle lede van die Indiërgemeenskap my hartlike Kers- en Nuwejaarsgroete oor te dra.

Aansienlike vooruitgang is gedurende die afgelope jaar gemaak in die voorsiening van verbeterde dienste en geriewe vir die Indiërgemeenskap en ek wil graag my dank en waardering uitspreek teenoor die amptenare en daardie lede van die gemeenskap wat tot hierdie vooruitgang bygedra het.

Laat ons met beslistheid verder gaan in die wete dat hierdie Departement sal aanhou om sy rol te vervul in die bevordering van die belange van die Republiek se Indiërgemeenskap.

FIAT LUX

"Let there be light"

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The views expressed in this journal do
not necessarily reflect the policy of the
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Cover: "Reflections".



Above: Jayalakshami Naidoo (as Valli) in a dance sequence.

Below: Members of the cast.



THEY MOVE gracefully, softly before the audience. Here an eyebrow arches, there a slender neck bends, and always the expressive red-tipped fingers weave a subtle tale of their own, while costumes flash and glitter in the stage floodlights as the Indian dancers move to the strains of Eastern music.

Indian dancing in South Africa is confined to a few of the main centres at present, but the devotees on occasion present top-flight productions to enthusiastic audiences. Recently Durban saw a slight departure from the traditional mixed programme of Indian dances usually featured, when Jayalakshami Naidoo presented a full-length ballet, "Valli's Wedding", in the City Hall.



Right: Valli's love for Lord Muruga being tested by the latter disguised as an old man who proposes marriage to Valli.

The ballet tells the story of how a celestial born on earth as the daughter of the king of hunters is destined to marry Lord Muruga, son of Shiva, the king of dance.

These stories give to the world a whole philosophy of life," says Miss Naidoo, "for they express every kind of human experience and usually have a moral lesson somewhere."



Left: Lord Muruga and Valli about to perform the final wedding dance.

Right: "Angika Abhinaya", expression shown by the limbs, is an important part of Indian dancing.



Left: Lord Muruga, this time disguised as a hunter, approaches Valli for food.



Below: The village maids, in a joyous mood, prepare for the wedding festival.

"In the case of 'Valli's Wedding' it is only after Valli's pride is crushed that she is able to achieve her desire — unity with Lord Muruga."

The stories are told through *Abhinaya*, which is expression shown by the limbs (*Angika Abhinaya*), words (*Vachika Abhinaya*) and dress (*Aharya Abhinaya*), and their aim is to rouse aesthetic emotion in man.

Valli's Wedding is a folk ballet. Miss Naidoo said she decided on a folk ballet as she thought this would appeal to the majority of people and at the same time prepare them for future ballets in the purer classical style.



INDIANS DONATE MORE BLOOD

THE NATAL BLOOD Transfusion Service (NBTS) recently held its first clinic at the Department of Indian Affairs' office in Durban, and, according to Mr S. A. Selby, a NBTS public relations officer, the number of donations received was most encouraging and far greater than expected.

This clinic is one of the many mobile clinics which have been organised by the NBTS. The service visits all large factories, commercial concerns, and high schools where there is a fair proportion of children over the age of 18 (persons under this age are not allowed to donate blood).

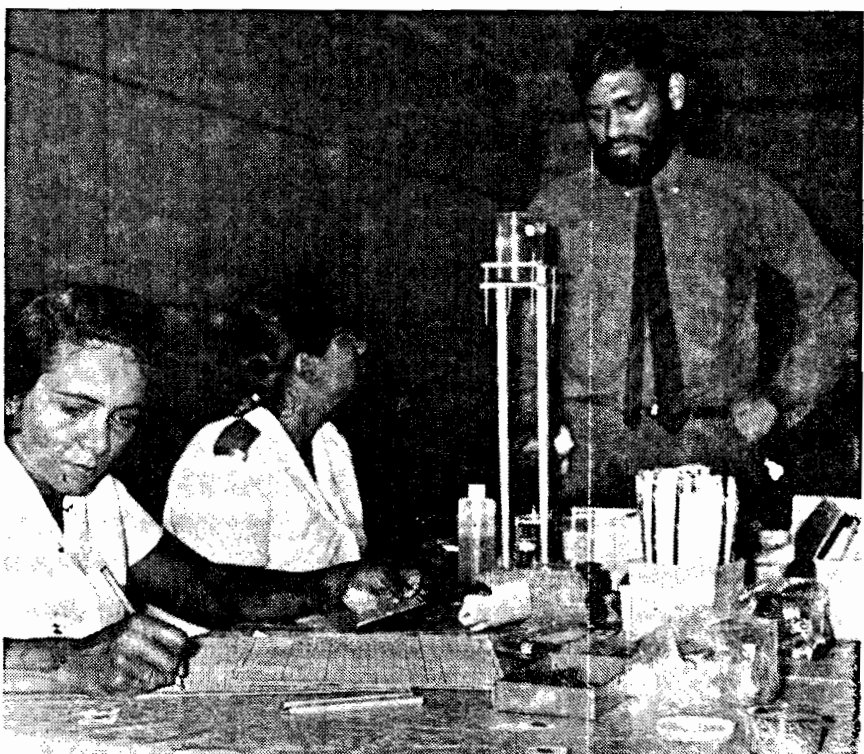
"The introduction of mobile clinics has led to a tremendous increase in the number of Indian blood donors over the last few years," said Mrs O. Carpenter, a member of the public relations department of the NBTS.

In September, 1966, the number of active Indian blood donors was 7,866. This figure had, in September, 1969, risen to 14,028 and is expected to continue to increase.

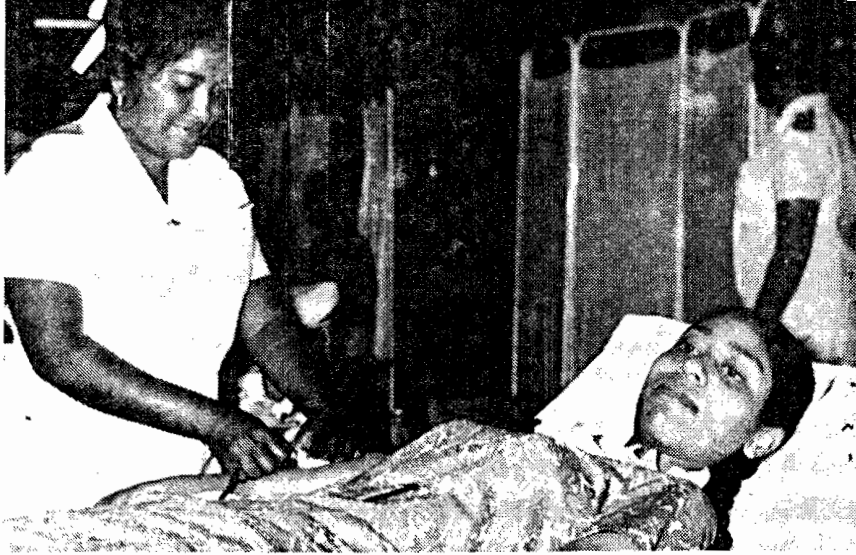
In 1967 collections from Indian donors amounted to 16.1 per cent. of total contributions. This percentage had risen to 17.1 in 1968 and for the first nine months of this year was 18.5 per cent.



It is the task of Nurse E. Nagan to prick the finger of a prospective donor and to test the iron content of his blood. She drops a sample of the blood into a beaker of copper-sulphate. If the blood sinks directly to the bottom of the beaker the iron content is sufficiently high for the person to donate.



If the iron test proves the person eligible to donate blood Sister V. Barnabas (left) jots down all the required particulars for record purposes.



Miss F. Rahiman, a typist in the Department of Indian Affairs, looks not in the least perturbed as Nurse L. Lakhia, of the Natal Blood Transfusion Service, draws a pint of blood from her.

Not only do mobile clinics make it easier for people to contribute as they are set up in places where the people are employed, etc., but they also serve to educate people in this particular field. A person who has heard talks on what blood is needed for, how it is donated, who benefits from the blood he contributes, etc.,

and who has seen films on the work done by the NBTS is more willing to donate than the person who is ignorant of these matters.

The men seem to be outstripping the women in the field of blood contribution. The respective number of donations made in the last three years is as follows :

	Males	Females
1967 ..	13,606	842
1968 ..	16,013	874
1969 ..	14,876	863

Referring to the clinic at the Indian Affairs' office, Mr Selby said: "The Indian staff members have responded wonderfully. More than a third of the staff members donated blood this afternoon — a very satisfactory figure."

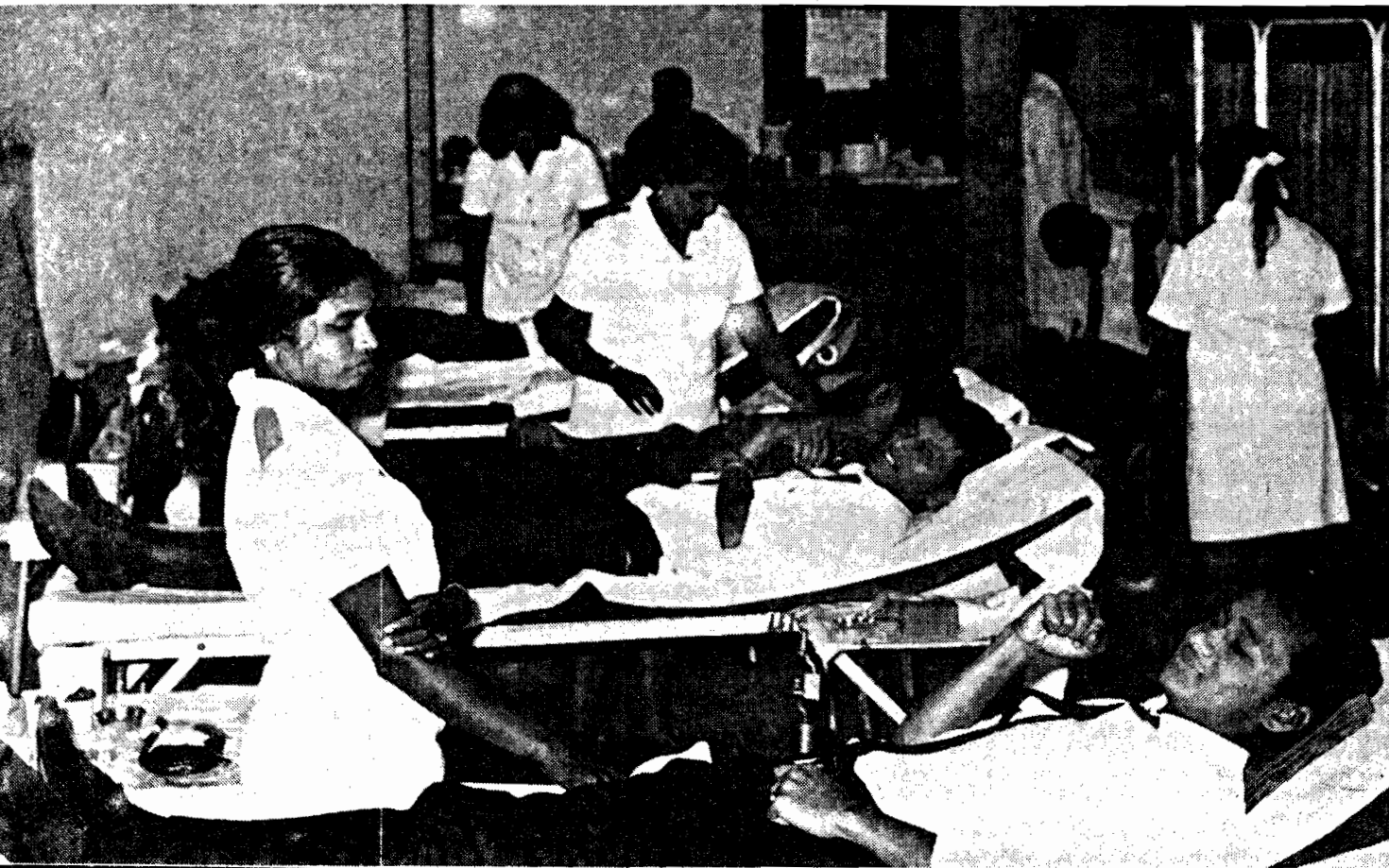
This figure is especially significant when one considers that the reason most other staff members did not visit the clinic was that they had recently donated blood elsewhere. Mr M. T. Moodley, who helped organise the clinic from the Department's side, said that almost every staff member was donating blood and that gradually more would use the clinic at the Department's offices since it was so convenient. It is understood that the clinic will be held every three months.

Mrs Carpenter says that students are usually very good donors.

"They have open minds and learn much from the lectures and film

(Continued on page eight)

A general view of the clinic.



SOMETHING NEW IN SHORTHAND

A n n a

FORKNER SHORTHAND, a new form of shorthand recently developed in the United States by Prof. Dr H. Forkner, of New York, was introduced to South Africa recently at the M.L. Sultan Technical College, Durban. The course, organised by the Division of Commerce, Secretarial Practice and Management, was attended by 20 students from various college faculties.

The crash course lasted for a week, during which classes were held for a full five hours each day. The students seemed to find the course most intriguing, and, encouraged by their initial results, worked hard to become proficient.

Ten years of intensive research resulted in the Forkner Shorthand, which is currently widely used in the U.S.A. and Canada. Professor Forkner is at present working on French and Spanish translations of his book and

the possibility of an Afrikaans edition is being negotiated.

His shorthand is based largely on the alphabet as we know it. It is a scientific combination of longhand letters and a few symbols to form a system of rapid writing.

The student is easily able to learn Forkner Shorthand for it is not the learning of something completely new, merely the adapting of what is already known. In transcribing (from shorthand into long-hand) the student no longer has to search for the hidden meaning, rather, the words tend to jump out at him making for greater accuracy.

Forkner Shorthand requires that theory be taught through use. It is similar, in fact, to the way in which a child learns language. This method of teaching emphasises the self-discovery approach to learning, that is, the writing rule is not given until the learner has had an opportunity to discover the rule for himself. Throughout the course the student is encouraged to think for himself.

In South Africa a student doing a conventional shorthand course studies for about 12 to 18 months before he can attempt his first speed examination, the basic requirement for which is only 60 to 80 words a minute. The reason for this is that the theory of the system has to be fully mastered before the student can start with practical work.

EASY TO LEARN

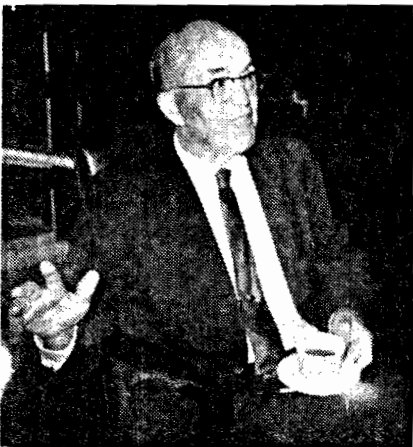
Students at the M.L. Sultan College were already transcribing quickly and accurately after only a couple of days.



Professor Forkner with Mr A. Ramsamy, head of the Division of Commerce at the College, and Mrs C. G. W. Catchpole, lecturer in physical education, who was instrumental in inviting him to the College.



*Spreading the shorthand gospel —
"Education has given me so much over
the years that I want to put something
back in return."*



*"Success is doing the 'fun' things in
life."*



*"Why did I develop the new shorthand?
Everything else has been investigated
and improved, why not shorthand?"*

"In fact this group has learned the shorthand faster than any other group I have had in any country," said Professor Forkner.

"I am amazed at their ability. The students average 60 to 80 words a minute, though a number have already reached 120 words a minute — and this after only being on the course for 2½ days."

Professor Forkner made a special trip from the U.S.A. to South Africa to conduct this course. This visit and similar ones to various other countries such as Canada and Ghana are made at the Professor's own expense.

"This is what I call doing the fun things in life," he commented. "I worked hard for many years so that I could do what I wanted to. Education has given me so much over the years that I would like to give it something in return."

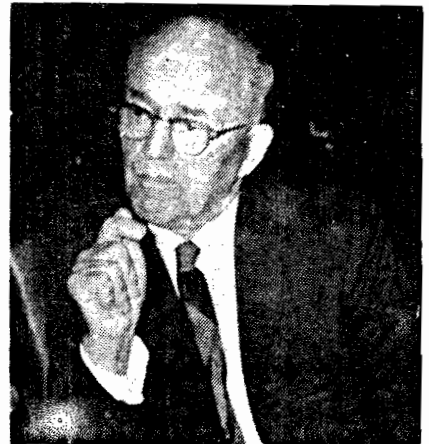
Shorthand in a Few Weeks!

THE REASON WHY

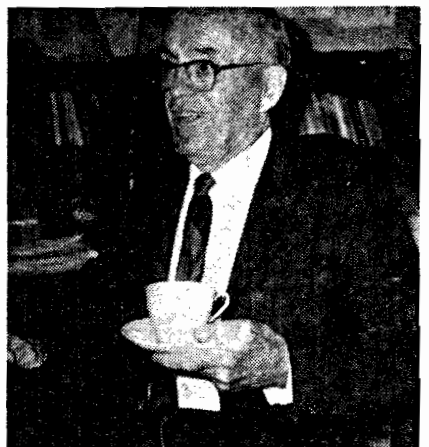
Asked why he had decided to develop a new shorthand, Professor Forkner replied that research had shown that the failure rate among students doing the conventional shorthand courses was extremely high. For every 100 students who started such a course in the U.S.A. only 25 remained after two years. South Africa's drop-out percentage was about the same.

The reason for the failure of these systems was relatively simple, Professor Forkner said. "One of the conventional shorthands, for example, was developed 100 years ago and no research has been done on it since its initiation. Everything else has been investigated and scientifically improved, why not shorthand?"

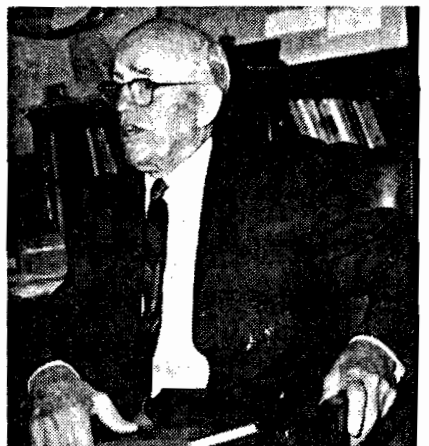
Research provided the reasons for students not being able to cope. Conventional shorthand required the



*"Progress is made only when there are
people and organisations willing to break
with tradition in their efforts to find
better ways of doing things."*



*"To try the impossible is a wonderful
task."*



*"The student is encouraged to think
for himself. He discovers the rules for
himself."*

student to learn what amounted to another language — symbols and letter forms used were like nothing the student had ever seen before. There were also too many exceptions to the rule which meant that memory played a very large part in learning it, and this was a stumbling block. A symbol system had to be used continually if it were not to be forgotten and yet longhand was never forgotten.

SCEPTICISMS

But it was not without a certain scepticism on the part of the world that Forkner Shorthand was created. Many people felt that since the conventional systems of shorthand had been used for so many years they had to be beyond reproach. Referring to the development, Professor Forkner said: "Progress is made only when there are people and organisations that are willing to break with tradition in efforts to find better ways to do what needs to be done."

It would seem that this is Professor Forkner's philosophy of life. "I often

told my students that to try the impossible was a wonderful task, and this was what we were trying to do in developing our new shorthand."

Professor Forkner has worked in the field of education most of his life. He taught at various schools and colleges in the U.S.A. for 20 years before taking up the post as Professor of Education and Head of the Department of Business and Vocational Education at Teachers' College, Columbia University in 1937. In 1958 he retired from this post to do, as he put it, "what I wanted to".

AUTHOR

He is the co-author of many books, including "20th Century Bookkeeping and Accounting", which is being used in 97 per cent. of U.S. high schools and in 60 per cent. of Canadian high schools. It has been printed in several languages, including Japanese, and is reportedly the most widely used single text-book in any subject in the world.

Professor Forkner interviewed a number of prominent businessmen in

the U.S.A. when gathering information for his shorthand project and one of the questions he put to them was, "what do you expect from a stenographer?"

ACCURACY IMPORTANT

Their answers proved that time played only a very small part in their requirements. One minute more or less per letter was unimportant as long as the transcription was accurate. "And this is where our shorthand comes into its own," Professor Forkner remarked.

A number of applicants for this course had to be turned away but the College hopes that it will be able to offer similar courses in the near future. The College feels that this scientific system of rapid writing may appeal particularly to journalists. Professor Forkner will probably return in July next year, when he hopes to conduct a course for teachers only. Once they have learnt the system and the methods of teaching involved classes will be able to be organised on a larger scale.

Indians Donate More Blood

(Continued from page five)

shows which we give at the schools. Because they are prepared to accept our work they are prepared to donate blood."

Mobile clinics visit residential areas at approximately three-monthly intervals. They usually establish themselves at schools and children are urged to tell their parents of the intended visit, pamphlets are distributed and the date of the visit is posted. Women who are keen to donate blood and are not yet aware of the visits to their areas should make enquiries at the local high schools.

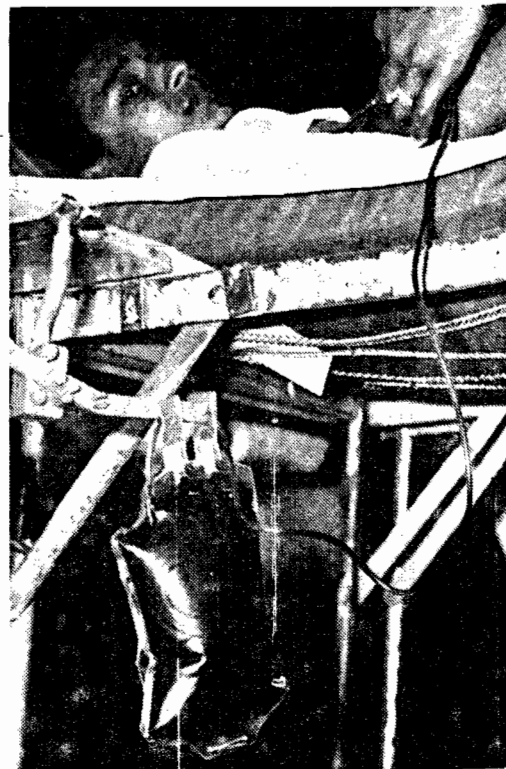
Although Indians are giving more and more blood, Mr Selby says there

are still many who believe that blood donated is blood lost, and the more blood you give the less you have to carry out your own bodily functions.

This is, of course, incorrect. Immediately a healthy body has lost blood it starts replacing it and within a couple of hours the volume has been made up. The red cells are replaced within two weeks.

The only substance which the body loses which it cannot replace is iron, and each person who donates blood to the NBTS is given a capsule of iron pills which, if taken as prescribed, will restore the iron content of the blood.

Having contributed his "pint" this young man is ready for the cool-drink and biscuit which the NBTS usually offers its donors. This pint of blood will now be sealed into the plastic bag and stored at a temperature of between 4° and 10°C until it is needed. If this need does not arise within 21 days the blood plasma will be converted into dried plasma, which has a storage life of seven years.



WHY TEACH MUSIC IN OUR SCHOOLS?

by Mr E. W. ALBERTYN,
Inspector of School Music,
Department of Indian Education,
Durban.



ARE ALL CHILDREN sufficiently musical to be worth training to some extent? This is a question that parents often find themselves pondering. Today, with all the practical advantages offered by modern science, music need not remain the mystery it once was. If it is admitted that people who enjoy music and use it for self-expression are happier than those who do not, then surely the subject deserves careful study.

Every child should be "exposed" to music as early as possible, just as he is exposed to human speech. An inherent love of music, with some instinct for its expression, may be assumed in every normal child, and even the exceptional "tone-deaf" individuals can be trained to considerable enjoyment and even some participation in music.

THE LANGUAGE OF MUSIC

The whole thing becomes very simple if you think of music in the

same terms as language and treat it accordingly. We take it for granted that every child learns first to understand, then to speak, and eventually to read, write and spell his own language. There is no reason on earth why the same should not be true of the language of music. Granting that some human beings are musically more talented than others, it is also true that some children learn to talk, read and write more quickly than others, and that a literary talent may be as marked as a gift for music.

We teach our children languages without any thought of their becoming authors or orators or actors, even though that may occur in a few isolated cases of special ability. Why should we not similarly expect every child to know something of music, without necessarily thinking of a career as composer or performer? And why should not the universal language of music be taught in exactly the same way as the limited language of our own people?

Neil Moorgas, St Antony's State-Aided School, Durban, is a keen trumpeter and spends much time practising his music pieces.

EARLY LEARNING

Children learn languages "by ear". They understand many words and phrases long before they themselves have learned to speak. By the time they are ready for school they have acquired a considerable vocabulary. They are neither inarticulate nor illiterate, and the teacher merely has to show them how to read, write and spell the language with which they are already familiar.

Compare this commonly accepted situation with that of the child presumably starting to take music lessons. In most cases he is thrown to the teacher without any musical experience of his own, completely ignorant of the simplest principles of rhythm, melody or harmony.

When a child is taught to spell "cat", he at least knows the words as applying to a familiar object. He has seen, heard and felt an actual

cat. But when he meets the musical scale, it is usually as a dark and mysterious riddle, with no relation to any past experience with tones or time.

Therefore the question of early exposure to music and the possible start of musical training must be answered through the obvious analogy with language itself. Let the child hear music practically from the day of his birth, and let him also begin to make music whenever he shows an inclination to do so.

RESPONSE

Can you "make" anyone musical? Strictly speaking, no — no more than you can make him mathematical; but every normal child responds to music, and there is no more reason why he should not be grounded in it, and made capable of profiting later on by more specialised training if he shows the right aptitude, than there is for withholding lessons in mathematics or history on the supposition that he will not become a professor of either. Indeed, there is every reason why he should have a grounding, for it is imperative to realise that music is a "humanity", a civilising, internationalising influence. Without trying to exalt it over other subjects, I claim that it is quite as worthy to rank with the humanities as a language is. But it is not yet everywhere taught upon that assumption.

A RIGHT TO MUSIC

The child begins to learn the moment he hears a sound, from his cradle. Sound is the first thing that attracts him, and the world of music exists for his constant pleasure and mental development through life. The length and depth of his pursuit of music depends on many factors, but the child has a simple right to be brought into the friendliest relations with it from the beginning. And music, in its turn, claims the right to be respected and to be properly taught by persons of proved skill.

PARENTS' ROLE

The music teacher's best friend should be the parent or guardian under whose guidance the child spends the vitally important first years. Unless the parent prepares the little one's



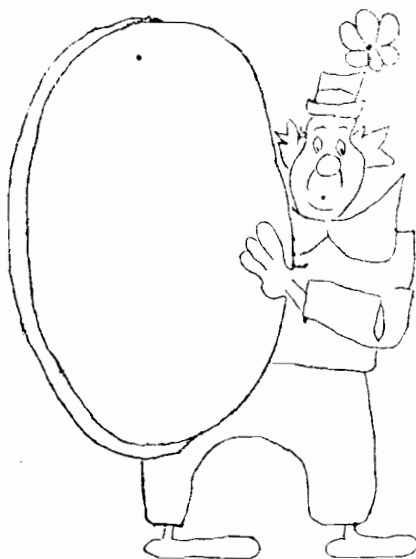
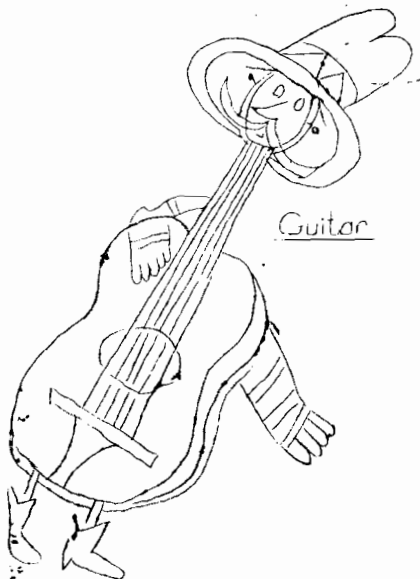
Members of a "percussion" band work out a music sequence with their teacher.

mind for music, how shall a teacher, taking over at, say, six, find receptive ground for his specialised ministrations? Most of our parents can claim little or no practical knowledge of music.

So what can the parents actually do? Two invaluable things: one, surround the children with good music

from his first moments of life; and two (the other side of the shield), keep poor music away from him.

The first is far easier than the second, on which, though it is extremely important, I can spend but a few lines in this article. We agree that in all the education of life first impressions are the strongest. Now,



Ingenious methods are used by individual teachers to familiarise children with musical instruments. These amusing drawings decorate the Felixton State-Aided School's song book.

there is far more poor music in the world than good; and the root anxiety about this is that whilst in other subjects there are in daily experience quick correctives for error.

in music there is none. If inaccurate figure-tables were taught at school, how quickly would experience — our own or someone else's — correct the folly!

HANDICAP

Yet greater follies may be — are — taught in and about music, and downright rubbish is daily poured forth to millions by radio and gramophone. If the literature placed before children, at school and in the home, were on the level of a great deal of the music it is almost impossible to prevent their hearing, would not every intelligent person protest? This is the supreme handicap of music and the musician, this deluge of poor, un-nourishing music.

In the beginning, then, unostentatiously surround the child with good music. Active teaching need be but slight. And from his earliest days he may well become accustomed to occasionally hearing fine music of some elaboration. Naturally one does not attempt to teach him anything about the music. It is merely the beginning of a habit of living amongst and being friendly with a variety of good music.

PROTECTION NEEDED

Musicians agree that every child should have the opportunity of coming into free, natural, constant contact with good music whilst he is protected from the pernicious influence of any witless amusement-in-sound that is obviously just a wasteful, intellectually and spiritually harmful industry, having next to nothing to do with music.

The children in the St Antony's "percussion" band thoroughly enjoy their music. Many pupils bring their own instruments and a colourful tune is produced.



The younger a child is when he or she is introduced to music, the better. This can be done in various ways, such as playing good music, and with musical toys, as in the picture.

In The Silver Moonlight Page 1

First Verse

1. In the sil-ver moo-light, "Pier-rot my good friend,
2. There's a note I must write If your pen you'd lend.
3. See, my candle's dy-ing, And the fire's no more;
4. Listen to my cry-ing, O-pen wide your door."

Songs can be made more interesting and easier to remember by illustrating them. Primary school children also learn spelling and word meanings this way.

When the child grows up he can choose for himself; and the less coddling the better; but children need protecting from aesthetic as well as from social and economic evils.

PROPER INSTRUCTION

Every child should have access to some kind of music-class. Thus he is led to think of music on all-fours with the rest of his education, which goes on almost entirely in association with other children. It has too long been a hindrance to musical education that it was treated like nothing else. Give it its healthy, natural place as a humanity, and let it be realised that though a recreation (and few in





There can be great satisfaction in musical expression, but the best results, as in anything else, are obtained after correct training.

late life are so rich in resource and satisfaction), it is yet like every other subject, a matter for hard work. **Not every child takes to music like a duck to water, or can profit by advanced instruction; but every child can enjoy it, and ought to be given the chance.**

FEW COMPETENT TO TEACH

We must face the simple fact that very few teachers are competent to teach music. The education of would-be teachers in training colleges has in some ways improved in recent years, but it is often sadly insufficient as a professional qualification for the teaching of any aspect of music. There is plenty of advice in books, there are schemes of work to guide the musically-minded, but there are not enough capable teachers.

However, much can be done where there is even one teacher with taste and a measure of training, though he is never able to devote as much time to music as its value in mind-development warrants.

WRONG IMPRESSION

Music has for so long been regarded by the masses as, on the one hand, a recreation needing no serious attention, and, on the other, as a subject for musty, endlessly repetitive study, that one may be excused for insisting on its being recognised in this neglected aspect as a general training in thinking and expressing oneself. There are ample proofs of this necessity.

In the most conservative quarters music is accepted as a sort of "humanity". Children at school may spend four to six hours a week at Latin or French, and . . . how many? . . . at music. Do they, at fifty, speak, read or write Latin or French for their pleasure — as most of them might have learned to think, read and express themselves in musical sound if music had been properly presented to them as a mind-widener

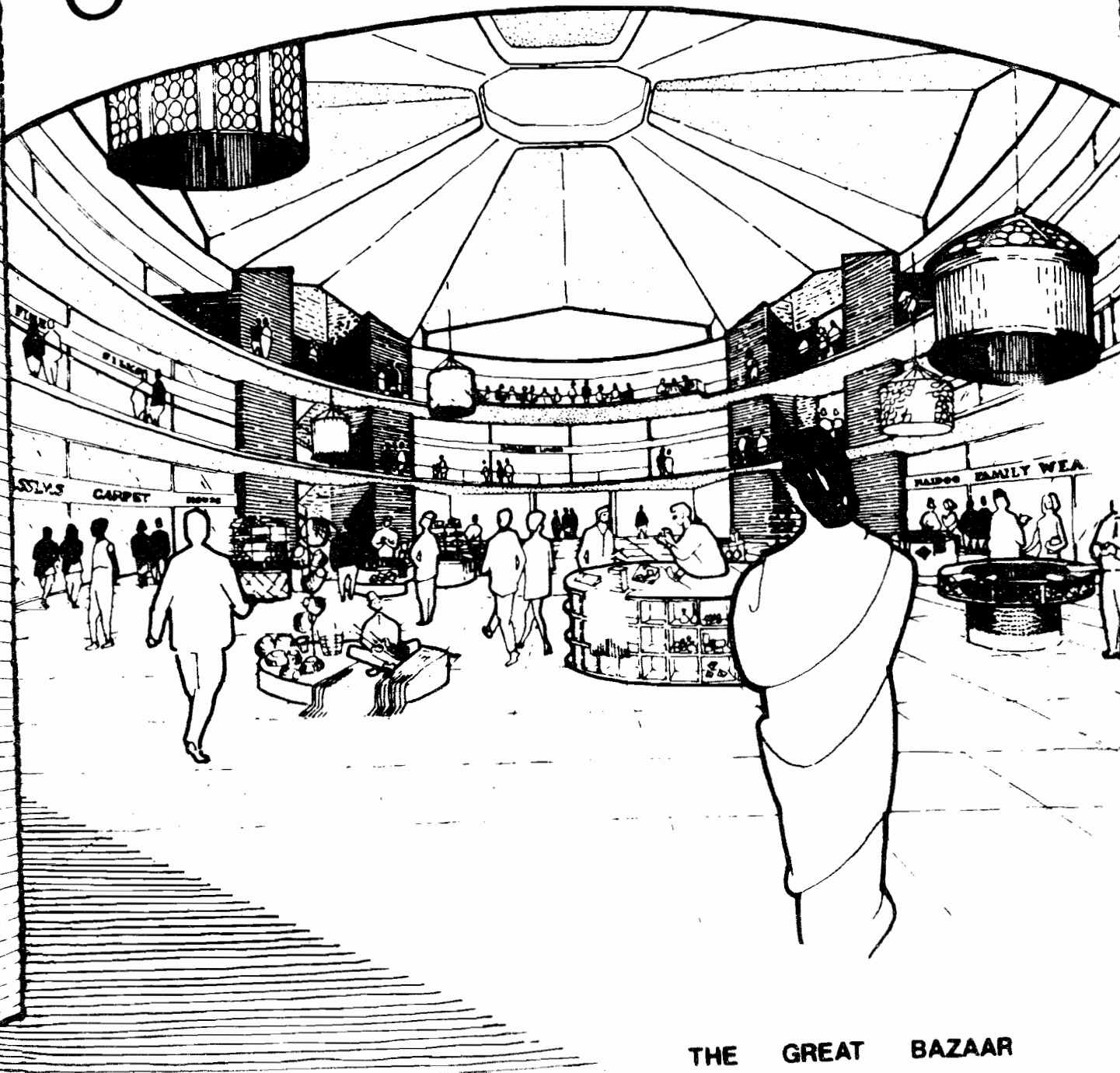
as well as a recreation, and a study capable of self-development after school days.

If and when we deeply believe this about music, we shall see that it is properly taught in all our schools — and taught with varying degrees of emphasis and specialisation to those who show themselves capable of profiting by training to fit them for the numerous mansions of music.



A good musical grounding at school can open the way to an art form that can provide pleasure right through life, not only through listening, but also by playing an instrument.

THE FORDSBURG ORIENTAL BAZAAR



THERE IS A SAYING that nothing is permanent except change: and this can certainly be applied to the face of Johannesburg. The person who returns to the city after an absence of a few years is invariably astounded at the changes in its appearance. Where once was open veld on the outskirts of the city are now pert housing schemes, blocks of flats, shopping centres. All around the feelers of urban development — roads and rail lines, flyovers and fences — define the countryside. But even as the city spreads outwards, as decentralisation nurtures suburban shopping and business centres virtually independent of the city proper, there is also a rebirth taking place within the heart of Johannesburg.

The city that jerked into life not so long ago as a miners' camp has grown up quickly, but it is not being allowed to grow old — gracefully or otherwise! Not for Johannesburg

the stately historic buildings of so many centuries-old European cities. The Golden City is thriving on its economic activities, chiefly mining and industry, and the accent is on growth and maximum use of its resources. One resource already at a premium is space, and consolidation of especially economic activity in a compact environment is a necessity. The city is not only letting out the notches in its belt, but pushing fingers up into the sky and down into the reef.

And so here in the city centre, as well as on the outskirts and in the suburbs, the throb of jackhammers and clank of bulldozers assails the ears, as not-so-old buildings make way for new ones that will reach higher, have more offices and shops, accommodate more people.

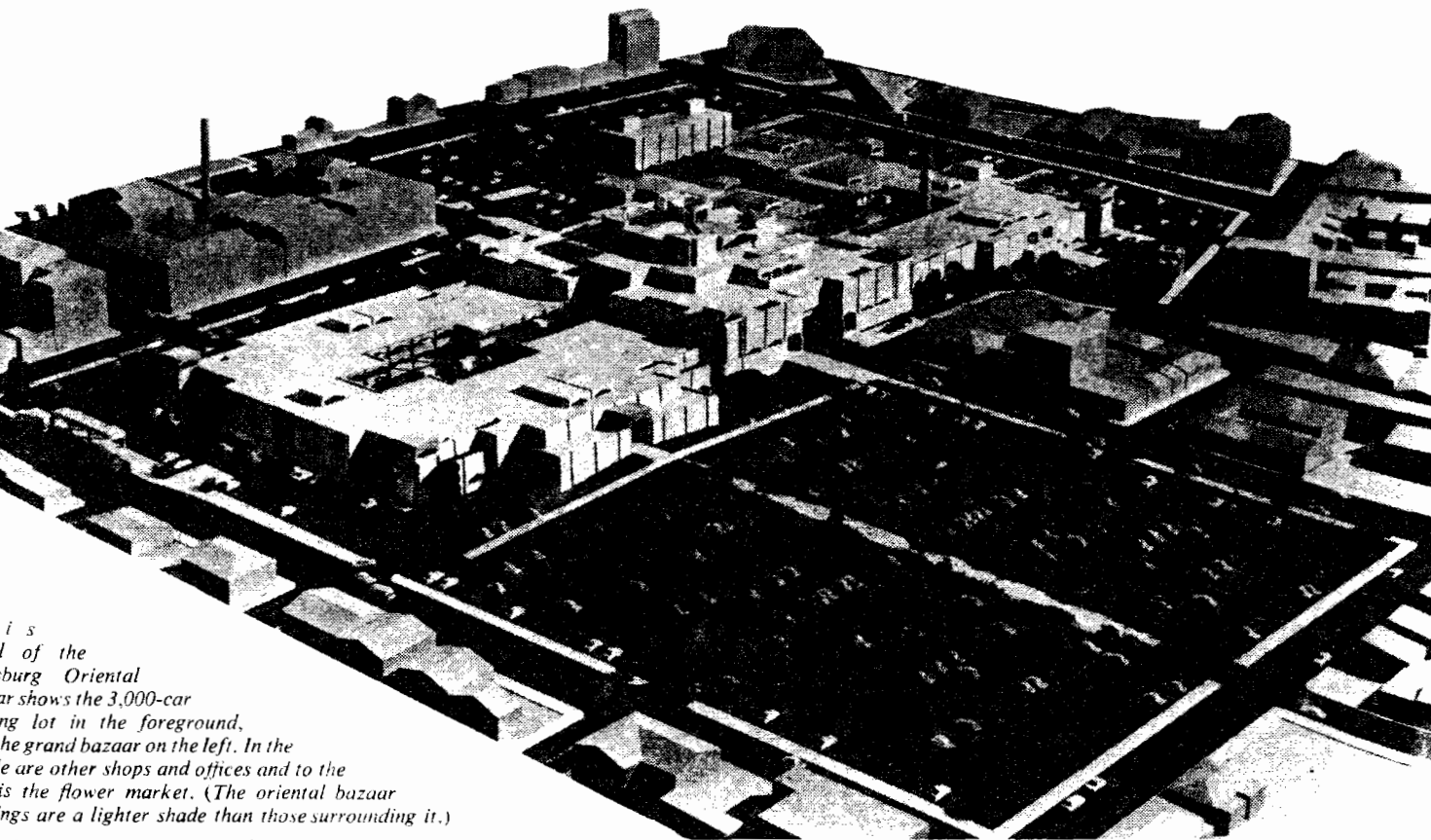
This urban renewal is changing the face of Johannesburg and its environs. One such suburb that is being spruced up is Fordsburg, where in a couple of years a comparatively blighted area will be well on the way to a brighter

future through an imaginative programme of urban renewal.

The Indian community stands to benefit from one such scheme in the form of a giant, multi-million shopping complex, tentatively called the "Oriental Bazaar". The bazaar will consolidate Indian enterprise from the surrounding and other areas in a potentially fertile business area. Plans for the complex, which will have a distinctly Indian atmosphere, are already far advanced, and building is expected to commence in the second half of 1970. The entire complex is expected to be completed by 1975.

Here Indian shopkeepers, tradesmen and professional people drawn from areas in Pageview, Martindale, Newlands, Westdene, Newclare and other areas, will be able to transfer their undertakings to premises with economic rentals in the new complex and carry on business in much more congenial surroundings.

"Indians from other areas are also eligible to hire premises here, but priority will be given to traders or



is
l of the
burg Oriental
ar shows the 3,000-car
ing lot in the foreground,
he grand bazaar on the left. In the
e are other shops and offices and to the
is the flower market. (The oriental bazaar
ngs are a lighter shade than those surrounding it.)

Illustrations courtesy of W. Rhodes Harrison, Holte & Partners Architects

business men from the areas mentioned," said Dr E. J. Jammie, chief officer of the Johannesburg City Council's Coloured and Asiatic Division, in an interview with *Fiat Lux*.

Dr Jammie, a tall, lean, earnest man with a disarming smile, has been

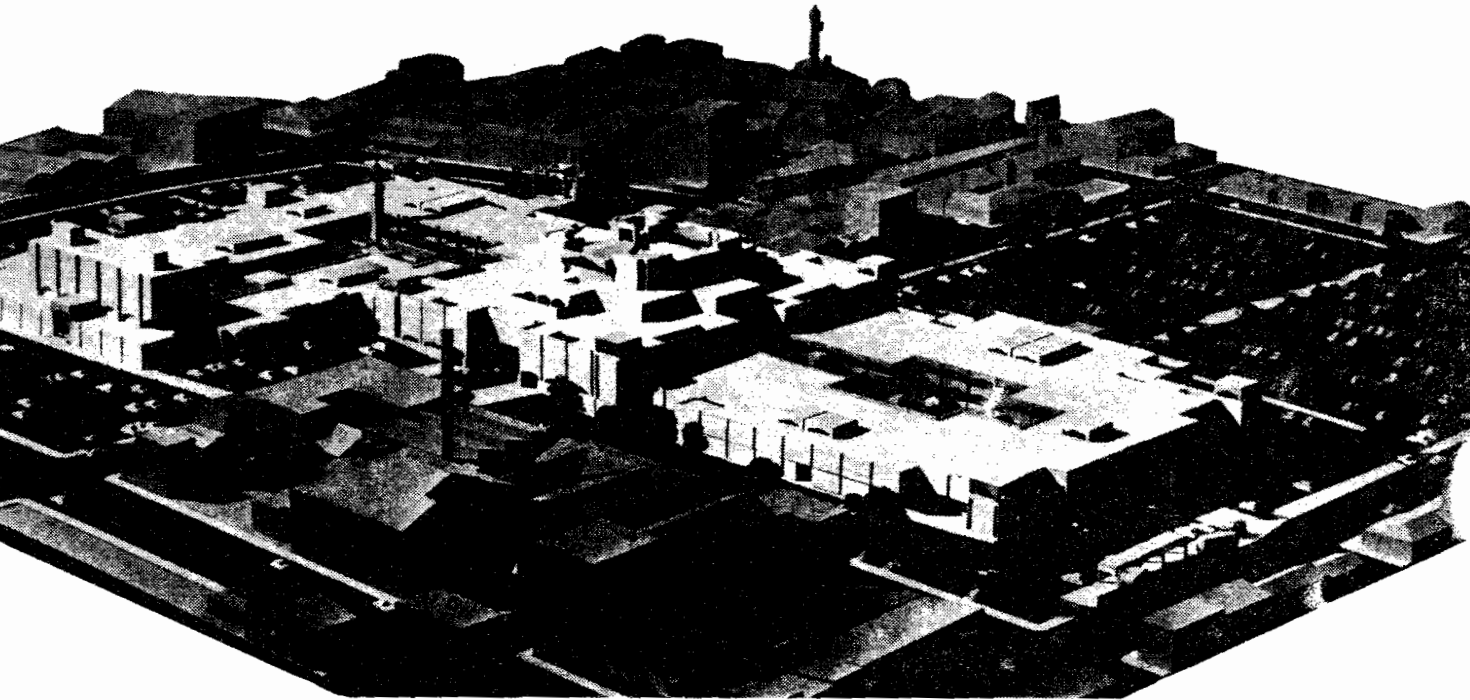
investigation not only on a local, but also international level.

"The advanced thinking that has gone into the provisional planning, and the excellence of the features proposed by the official architects should make this project an extremely attractive proposition for the Indians

Jammie pointed out. "The consultations with overseas experts included a study of a very similar undertaking, the International Bazaar, at Lukaya in the Bahamas, which embodies the same ideas as the Fordsburg Bazaar will."

In planning the Bazaar it was

Another view of the Oriental Bazaar, showing the grand bazaar in the foreground, to the left of it the central shopping area, and on the far left the flower market and peacock court (where the mosque is).



intimately involved in the scheme to create the Oriental Bazaar, which is a joint project by the Department of Community Development and the Johannesburg City Council.

According to Dr Jammie, the project will cover about 21 acres (almost 9 hectares) — 14 city blocks — and will lie just west of the new North-South Johannesburg freeway, thus making it easily accessible to shoppers and visitors from the city, who are expected to make up the bulk of the customers.

This imaginative project will lead the way in the urban renewal programme planned for the area, and is enjoying top priority with city and regional planners. It typifies world trends in urban development and expansion through consolidation. Indeed, the programme has only been undertaken after detailed, exhaustive

who will be offered accommodation in this business centre," commented Dr Jammie.

When the spruce white buildings rise from the rubble of what is now a run-down neighbourhood, they will be the fruit of a great many agile minds and reflect the latest in architectural trends.

"Top overseas consultants have been called in to advise us on the scheme," he added. "Many factors were taken into account — including transport routes, market and trading potentiality and the economics of the bazaar's construction, to name a few."

Because the bazaar was to be for Indians, it was felt that the project should be planned with this in mind.

"A sincere effort has been made to create an oriental atmosphere as an essential feature of attraction." Dr

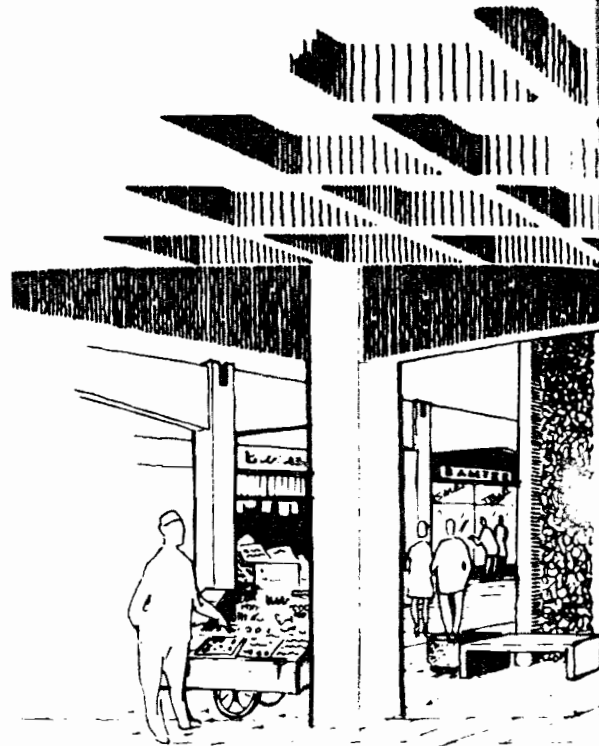
decided to try and disrupt community life as little as possible and to incorporate existing structures, where possible and desirable, in the plans. Perhaps the best example of this is the way the bazaar buildings have been orientated to provide a view of a well-known existing mosque in the same vicinity.

The overall plan for the bazaar comprises an inner magnet, the "grand bazaar", on two levels, with shops, offices and stalls surrounding spacious pedestrian malls. Around the inner "grand bazaar" will be other shops, stalls and offices.

The number of shops will tentatively number 332 — of which 178 will be in the grand bazaar and the other 125 in other parts of the complex. There will also be ten kiosks and arts-and-crafts stalls. A crèche is being contemplated, as well as a Curry House for visitors.

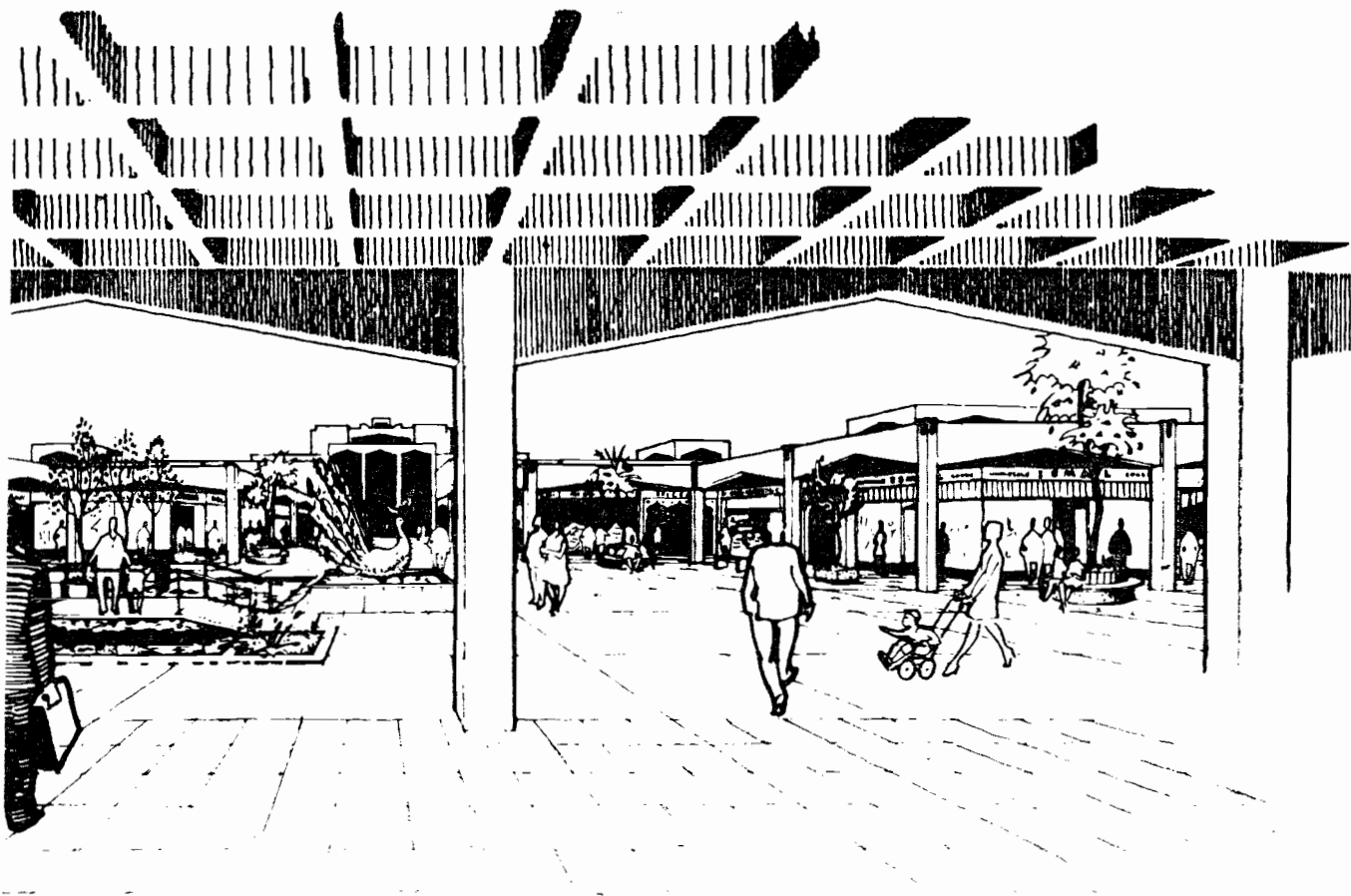
AN ORIENTAL ATMOSPHERE IN THE GOLDEN CITY

THE FORDSBURG Oriental Bazaar, as it has tentatively been named, will add charm and colour to Johannesburg when it is completed in 1975. Designed expressly for the Indian community, the multi-million rand project will accommodate hundreds of traders, businessmen and others in spacious accommodation imaginatively designed by top architects in consultation with overseas experts. The clean lines of the modern structure will, however, reflect the essentially Eastern atmosphere of the Indian occupants.



BELOW: THE FLOWER MARKET FROM PEACOCK COURT.





ABOVE: PEACOCK COURT FROM THE NORTH ENTRANCE.

ATTRACTION FOR TOURISTS

One of the major functions of the bazaar will be as a tourist attraction. It is expected to be extremely popular with tourists to the Golden City who stay at hotels in central Johannesburg. With better and better air services the influx of tourists is expected to increase dramatically in the next few decades, and the Oriental Bazaar will be in the position to take advantage of this.

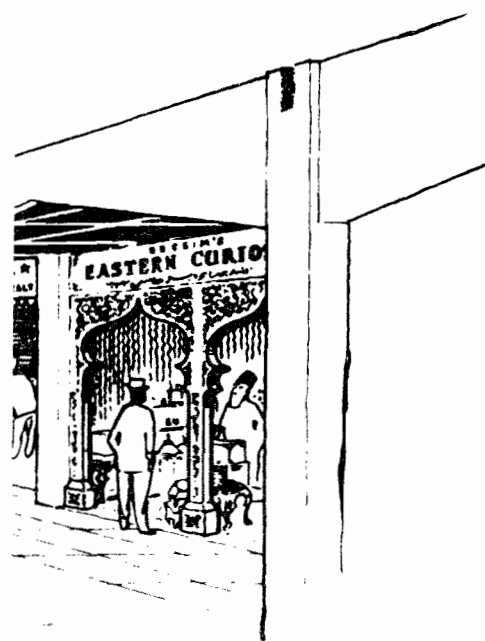
The bazaar will be clearly visible from the central Johannesburg hotels. Accessibility, too, will be no problem as the feeder road system to the area will be good, and it is also on the main bus routes. The bazaar will be easily reached from the main north-south Johannesburg freeway, giving

out-of-town shoppers easy access as well.

Several hoteliers expressed enthusiasm for the project. "We welcome the idea of the bazaar as an additional attraction for visitors," commented one. "It appears possible that some of the car-hire and bus tour firms will include visits to the bazaar in their tours," he volunteered.

With parking facilities a growing headache for planning authorities the world over, the architects have at least made sure that the Oriental Bazaar is well provided, both for the traders and for visitors.

There will be parking for over 300 vehicles belonging to the shopkeepers and others with businesses there, and



room for just over 2,000 shoppers' cars. A novel system in collecting parking fees is likely to be employed, according to Dr Jammine, one that will benefit the motorist in terms of both cash and time.

Instead of depositing money in a meter, or paying a blanket fee for a fixed period, the motorist will be issued with a card on entering the parking lot. The card will record the exact time he enters the parking lot, and when he leaves he tenders it at the gate and is charged only for the amount of time he has spent on the premises. This method is of special benefit to the motorist who only wants to spend a few minutes at the bazaar. This is one of several schemes being considered.

This is an ambitious project, and not one to be undertaken lightly. The seeds of the scheme have been nurtured since 1964, when city planning officials and representatives of State departments started to take a good look at development in Johannesburg.

with a view to planning for the future. They decided that in any new development things would have to be done properly right from the start, and so several committees were appointed to plan future expansion and urban renewal programmes.

"The main committee concerned with the Fordsburg Oriental Bazaar has been meeting since 1964," Dr Jammine told *Fiat Lux*.

"Its members are all specialists in their fields, representing the Johannesburg City Council, the Transvaal Provincial Administration and various State departments, such as Indian Affairs, Community Development, and Planning.

"The Indian community, too, has been consulted throughout, and has made many useful suggestions. There was initial opposition to the scheme from some of their representatives, but as the possibilities and the magnitude of the scheme became apparent, this has turned to approval and enthusiasm."

Dr Jammine was also at pains to point out that no one is trying to make a profit out of the Indians who will be accommodated in the Bazaar; on the contrary, it appears that they will benefit financially as far as rentals are concerned. In this respect there is obviously a sincere effort to provide accommodation in the Bazaar at very reasonable rates.

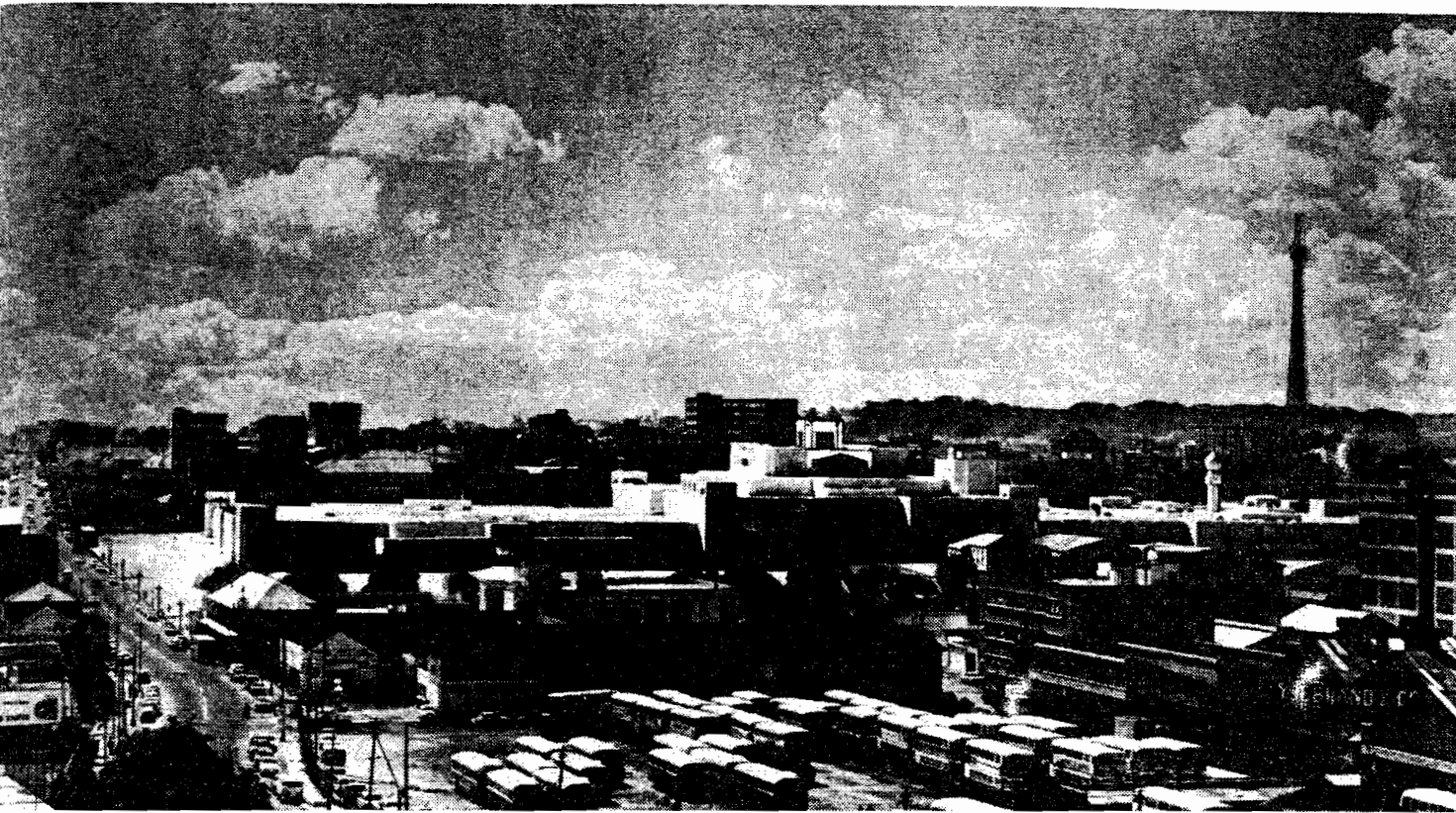
"Rents will be completely economic," we were assured by Dr Jammine. "They are likely to favour Indian traders, as the profit motive usually sought by private enterprise on investments will not apply."

Although applications for the shops and other premises are reportedly flowing in as the Indian business community becomes increasingly aware of the potential and opportunities at the bazaar, allocation of sites has not yet been undertaken. This will only be done at a later stage after a final investigation into the trading potential.

The shops and stalls will be divided into several basic sizes and types, but

The flower market from the south entrance.





This composite picture gives an impression of how the Oriental Bazaar will fit into Johannesburg's skyline, as seen from the elevated north-south freeway, which will give easy access to the bazaar. The grand bazaar can be seen right in the middle of the picture with the entrance facing the freeway. The complex will cover fourteen city blocks.

prospective tenants may apply for larger premises, and alterations may be made to the interior and exterior design, "provided they are not unattractive and fit in with the overall pattern".

It is certain that the authorities are doing their best to make the bazaar a success. The Indians who take advantage of the facilities offered by the bazaar have also, according to Dr Jammie, an important responsibility to make it a viable business undertaking.

"In order to do this some of them may have to consider adapting the type of trade to which they have been accustomed for many years, to suit the requirements of the special, scientifically-based merchandising proposals which form an important part of the concept," he says. "This may require a modern business approach and greater specialisation than previously."

From these remarks it is evident that the bazaar will offer great oppor-

tunities for progressive, go-ahead businessmen who are prepared to move with the times and keep abreast of new developments.

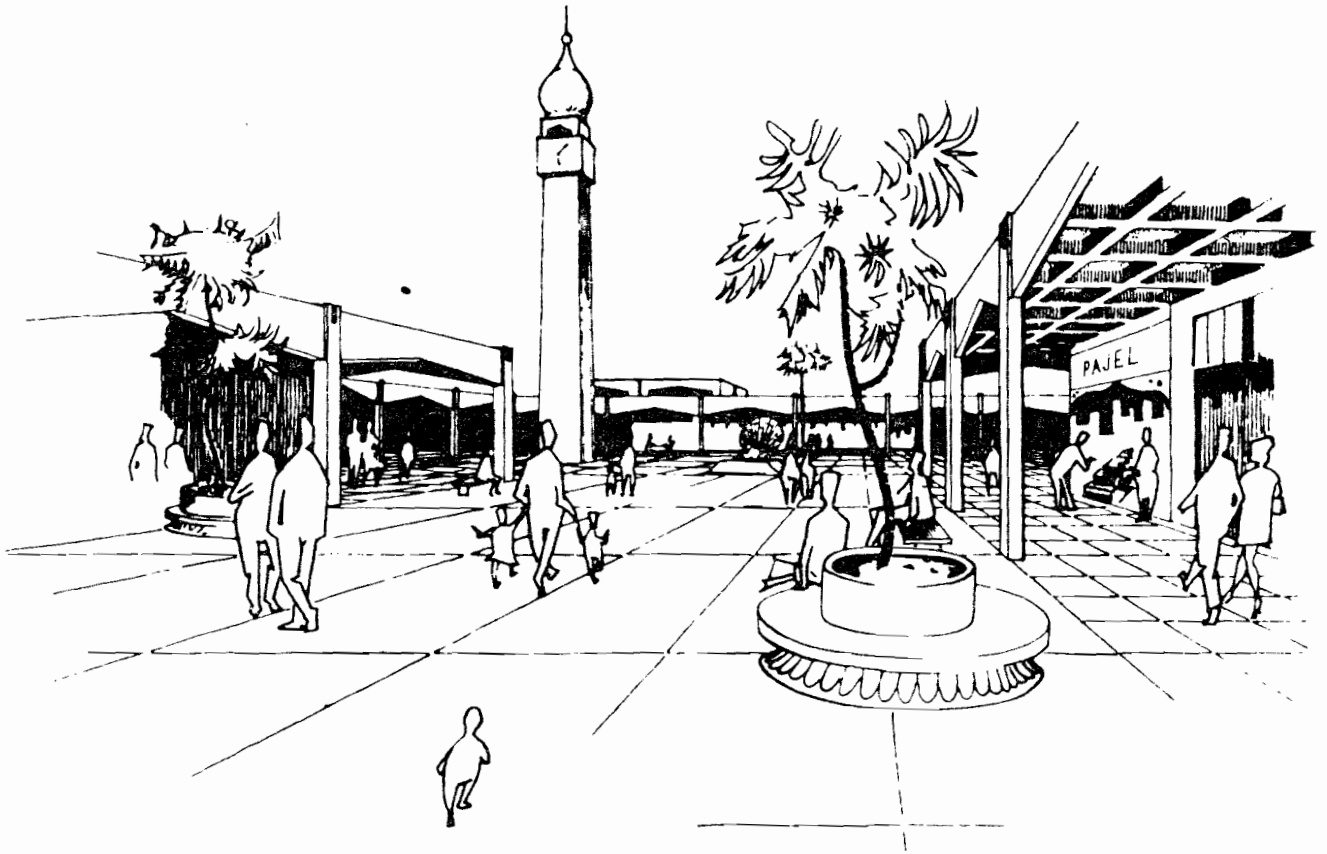
What does the Indian community think of the project? For views we approached some members of the various committees made up of members of the Indian community who will be affected by the project and who have been involved in the planning of the bazaar. They are all members of an Indian Liaison Committee formed in May this year to co-ordinate the ideas of the Indian community and to let the authorities know what the views and wishes of the Indian community are in regard to the oriental bazaar.

The five-man committee represents the communities and business interests in the areas (mentioned earlier) that will be affected by the project. The committee subsequently co-opted another five members to its ranks. This committee works in liaison with the

steering committee of the project. (Comprised of representatives of State departments and the Johannesburg City Council, the steering committee takes care of day-to-day decisions.)

From the comments by members of the Indian liaison committee it appears that although there was initial concern about traders losing their livelihood, and about the scope of the project, these have largely been allayed.

Says Mr I. F. H. Mayet: "Ever since the Fordsburg area was expropriated by the Department of Community Development for the purpose of erecting an exclusive Oriental Bazaar to re-settle displaced Indian traders from Fordsburg, Pageview, Westdene, Martindale, Newlands and Newclare, Indian traders have been keenly awaiting the publication of the detailed plans of the complex to see whether or not the complex will attract sufficient clientele to sustain such a huge commercial centre.



Peacock court from the flower market.

"When eventually the Indian traders were afforded the opportunity of viewing a model of the Oriental Bazaar, followed by the screening of slides and a comprehensive commentary by a representative of the architects, some of their fears were allayed and actual enthusiasm was engendered."

It was at this meeting that the Indian liaison committee was formed.

Another member of the committee, Mr A. Habib, who represents the suburb of Pageview, comments:

"The planning of the centre is a generous gesture on the part of the authorities. From the plans it appears that the centre, when completed, will be of an exciting nature, and dynamic in architecture.

"However, one cannot overlook the fact that this centre will in no measure accommodate all the present traders displaced, and therefore, it is

hoped that the authorities will contemplate the building of more such centres in the different parts of Johannesburg. Such a step will avoid the concentration of too many traders in one complex."

Mr Habib's comments were echoed by another member of the committee, Mr A. M. Jassat, who says: "In my opinion Indian traders, particularly of the western areas of Johannesburg, can look forward to vastly improved conditions in the proposed oriental bazaar.

"The bazaar will offer ample opportunities to businessmen whose activities were restricted by various factors in the past. The complex will usher in a new era for the Indian traders, who will be able to exercise their business talent to the full."

Regarding the potential clientele for the businesses, Mr Jassat said he was confident that the bazaar would not only attract curious sight-seers but would draw customers from all

over the Transvaal as well as the surrounding suburbs.

He also felt that the community was appreciative of the authorities' efforts at ensuring that displaced Indian traders would not be deprived of their livelihood, and added: "A simultaneous start should be made for a second complex of similar magnitude to re-settle Indian traders in the remaining areas of Johannesburg."

Whether this will happen *Fiat Lux* is not in a position to say, but we are confident that all those connected with the Oriental Bazaar will make a success of the undertaking, provided they take the words of Dr Jammine into account:

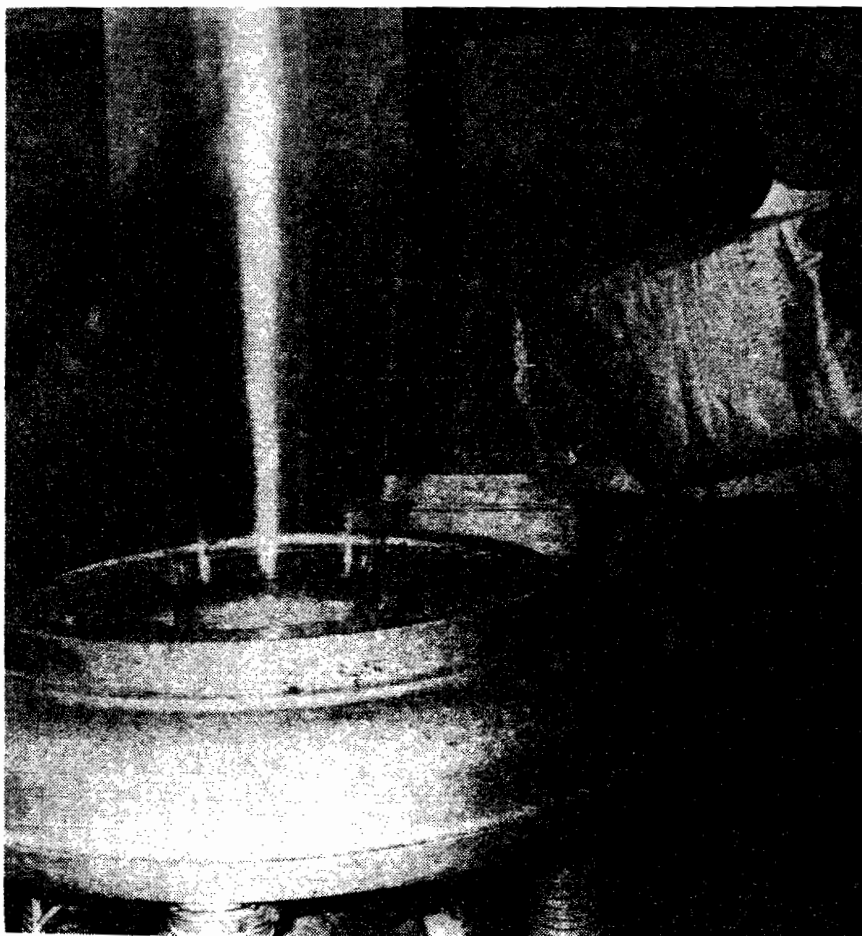
"Its final success must in large measure depend on the ability and adaptability of the Indian trader to diversify and specialise according to the demands of its economic viability and the type of custom likely to be attracted to it."

It's in the Bag!

IN RECENT YEARS industry and commerce have been making increasing use of polyethylene (commonly known as "plastic", though this term is not strictly correct) and this development has made it necessary for firms such as "Tropic Plastic and Packaging" to increase production and trade in order to keep pace with the growing demand.

This factory, the only Indian firm of its kind in Natal, is presently sited in Clairwood, Durban, and is owned and directed by the three Bhabha brothers — Cassim, Ebrahim and Ahmed Salim — who are most satisfied with the progress which their experimental venture has made.

When the factory first went into production six years ago its monthly output of plastic bags and film



Before long these poly-resin pebbles, which are converted from ethylene gas, a by-product of Sasol, will be transformed into plastic bags.

totalled five tons. Today this figure has risen to 60 tons and new machines are at present being installed which will allow an 80 ton-a-month production.

This new machinery will immediately add another 10 to the 50 Indian men already employed at the plant.

The factory operates 24 hours a day, the men working 8-hour shifts in weekly rotation. The main reason for these hours, according to Mr Bhabha, is that the extrusion machines — the focal point of the production line — require at least three hours to get back into top gear after having been stopped.

This picture clearly shows how the polyethylene forms a tube around the air bubble. Air is also forced out of the die on the outside of the tubing to cool the plastic before it reaches the nip rollers at the top of the machine. In the background Mr M. Pillay is seen emptying poly-resin pebbles into the hopper of the extruder.



The works foreman, Mr. M. Morris (centre), checks and discusses the quality of newly-produced plastic with Mr C. M. Bhabha, a director of "Tropic Plastic and Packaging", and Mr A. C. Bhabha, an adviser to the firm.

"If we were to stop and start these machines each day we would lose 18 production hours in a 5½-day week and would consequently not be able to fulfil the demand."

The raw material, which is fed into the hopper of the extrusion machine, takes the form of poly-resin grains or pebbles which, until recently, have been imported from Japan and Italy. The firm has just received its last imported stock and will in future buy locally. The poly-resin is converted from ethylene gas, a by-product of Sasol. The use of this raw material results in a negligible 3 per cent. wastage.

From the hopper the pea-like grains of poly-resin pass into a large steel barrel heated to 150° C. where they melt. The melted poly-resin is then fed into a die and led through by hand into nip rollers at the top of the machine. Air is forced through the die to maintain a bubble within the plastic so that it cannot stick together, and the width of the sheeting is regulated by adjusting the amount of air blown into the bubble. The air

also blows up round the outside of the plastic so that the film is cool by the time it reaches the nip rollers.

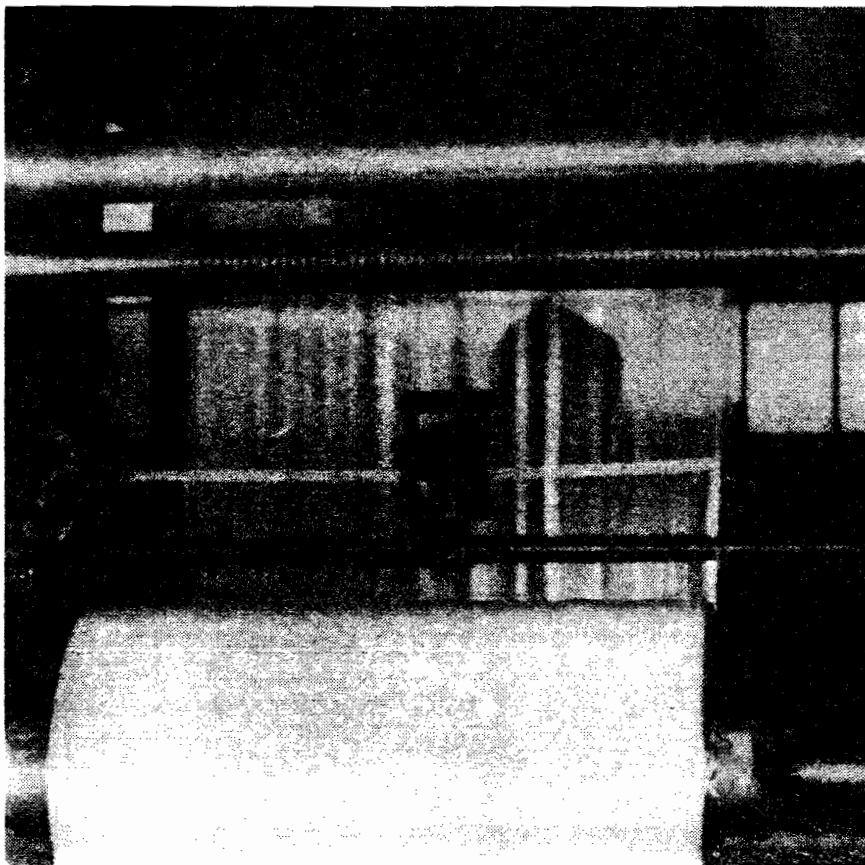
The poly-tubing is guided directly from the extrusion machine on to large rollers. For the plastic film this is the end of the road for it continues as plastic bags along the production line.

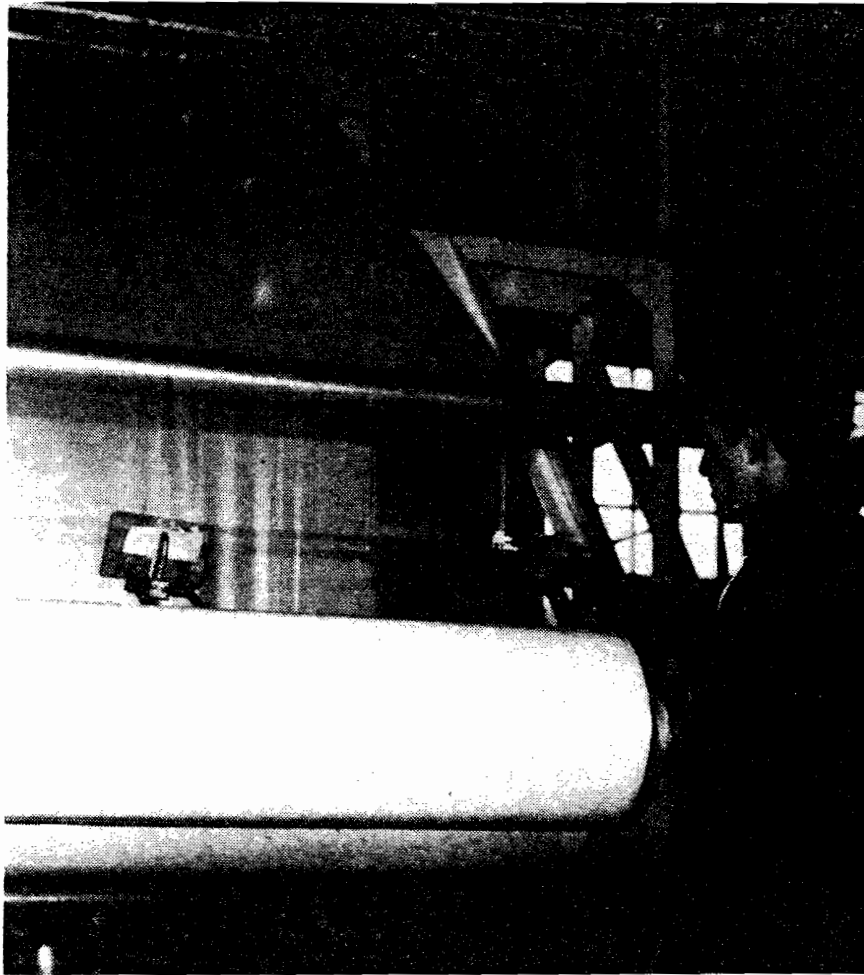
Many manufacturers and commercial concerns require printing or art work of one kind or another on their plastic bags. This is carried out to specifications.

"Previously we were only able to print in two colours," said Mr Bhabha. "but recently we acquired an attachment to our machine which enables us to use three colours."

With the printing completed the sheets of plastic are fed into a third machine which cuts and seals the bags into required sizes. The factory keeps no stock lines. All production is carried out to order and orders range from bags of 3-inch width

Mr P. Pillay checks the width of the extruded film. If it is wrong he simply adjusts the machine accordingly.





The average thickness of polyethylene film is 1/1000th of an inch, the thickest being about 8/1000th of an inch. Here Mr N. Soman measures the film thickness with a micrometer.

through to a 60-inch width in various gauges or thicknesses.

The factory's products are sold throughout Natal and a small percentage is sent to the Transvaal.

"Industries are, of course, our main market," said Mr Bhabha. "Originally, only clothing industries made excessive use of polyethylene but gradually it has come to play a large part in the furniture, engineering, shoe and food industries, to mention only a few. A short while ago, for example, bread was wrapped in paper when bought, today it is often pre-packed in plastic bags."

All the machinery in the factory has been imported from Germany and Italy. Before the plant started production, Mr C. M. Bhabha went to

Germany on a three-month study trip. He learned the entire mechanics of the machinery that his factory uses and became sufficiently proficient to train all the members of his staff and the works foreman, Mr M. Morris. Mr Morris has been with the factory since its inception in 1964 and is responsible for the machinery, doing all maintenance work on the premises.

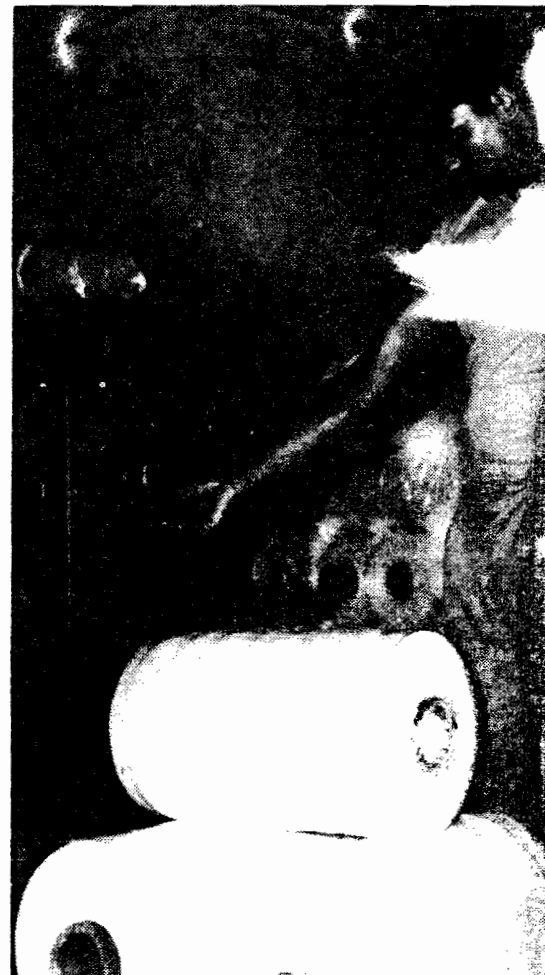
Progress has been encouraging; so much so that the factory will be at its present site for only another few months. Already new premises, which are part of the "Tropic Plastic and Packaging" expansion programme, are being built in Clairwood.

Mr Bhabha maintains that the only way to keep abreast of competitive firms and to keep all customers satis-

fied is to expand on a large scale. The factory, which, it is hoped, will be ready by the middle of next year, will have floor space of 25,000 square feet as opposed to the 6,000 square feet available on the present site. The factory's output, according to Mr Bhabha, will be almost doubled. Many orders have already been booked for fulfilment as soon as the new plant gets under way.

The move to the new factory will take place gradually. A few machines will be transferred initially and these will go into production at the new factory while others are being moved and the remainder keep working at the old site. Production will, in this way, continue throughout the transfer.

Mr T. Govender weighs the rolls of polyethylene, which are then prepared for dispatch. From the weight of the roll he can calculate the yardage of film, and the roll is produced accordingly.



NEXT YEAR, 1970, is the Water Year. This will be the year when South Africa will focus its attention on this vitally important natural resource. Water is one of our most precious assets, one that needs constant care and conservation, yet which, if properly looked after, will always replenish itself.

Water is one of the most important substances in nature. It is essential to life. A man can go without water for 90 days, but cannot survive without water for more than seven days. In fact, 70 per cent. of the human body consists of water. We all depend on water to survive. Animals must drink it, plants require it to grow.

Each year South Africa uses more and more water. But how wisely do we use it? Will there always be enough water? These are burning questions, questions that can only be answered through greater knowledge and understanding of water by everyone in the Republic. How much do you know about water? Do you try and conserve it, or do you take it for granted?

Next year, during the Water Year, everyone will get the opportunity of learning more about water — of how essential it is, where it comes from, how we store it, what we do with it — and also how we waste it.

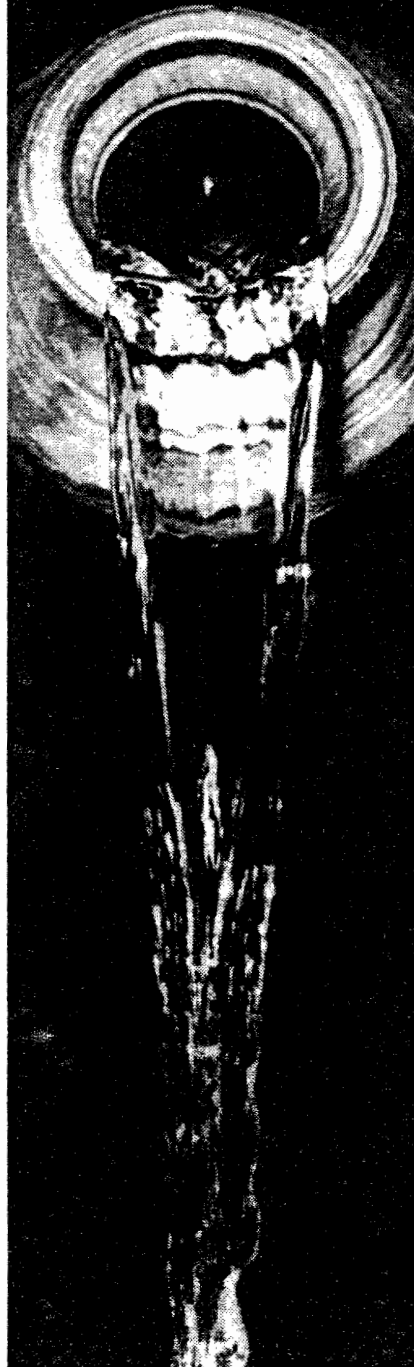
We must learn how to store it, how to use it best, how to avoid waste, in some cases how to re-use it.

Next year will be a year for study, discussion, and action. We will try to improve water supply facilities, try to use water better — and we will learn how wonderful water is.

The South African Indian Council has promised its whole-hearted support to the Water Year project. So that the Indian community can participate as fully as possible in the Water Year, committees are being set up with the object of organising and activating the community in the various areas.

Further details of what is being planned for the Indian community will be published from time to time in *Fiat Lux*. Watch out also for special articles in which the role water plays in our lives will be featured.

Waterjaar 1970 Water Year



VOLGENDE JAAR, 1970, word afgesonder as 'n Waterjaar. Alle bevolkingsgroepe sal dan hulle aandag vestig op die rol wat hierdie uiters belangrike lewensbron speel. Water is een van ons kosbaarste bates en een wat hom gedurig sal aanvul as dit oordeelkundig benut word.

As element van groot betekenis in die natuur, is dit noodsaaklik vir alle vorms van lewe. Hoewel die mens ongeveer 90 dae sonder kos kan klaarkom, kan hy nie vir meer as 7 dae sonder water aan die lewe bly nie. Trouens, ongeveer 70 persent van die menslike liggaam bestaan uit water. Ons voortbestaan word dus in 'n hoë mate deur water bepaal.

Elke jaar word meer en meer water in Suid-Afrika gebruik. Maar word dit verstandig benut? Sal daar altyd genoeg water wees? Dit is kardinale vrae wat alleenlik beantwoord kan word as ons 'n groter kennis en helderder begrip het van die oorheersende rol wat water in ons lewens speel. Volgende jaar, die Waterjaar, sal elkeen die geleentheid kry om meer van water te leer; hoe belangrik dit is, waar dit vandaan kom, hoe dit bewaar en tot voordeel van almal gebruik word — maar ook hoe dit verspil word.

Ons moet leer hoe om dit te berg, hoe om dit so nuttig moontlik te gebruik, hoe om vermorsing te vermy, en in sommige gevalle hoe om water oor te gebruik.

Volgende jaar sal 'n jaar wees vir studie, bespreking en optrede. So sal gepoog word om wateropbergings-fasiliteite te verbeter, om water spaarsaam en verstandig te gebruik. By elkeen sal daar ingeskerp word dat watervormorsing 'n euwel is wat met mag en mening bekamp moet word.

Die Suid-Afrikaanse Indiërraad het reeds te kenne gegee dat hy die Waterjaar heelhartig ondersteun. Streekskomitees sal binnekort gevorm word met die doel om die belangrikheid van water onder die publiek se aandag te bring en om ook ons landsburgers aan te spoor tot daadwerklike optrede en verstandige waterbenutting.

Verdere besonderhede oor wat beoog word gedurende die Waterjaar vieringe sal van tyd tot tyd in *Fiat Lux* verskyn. Artikels oor die besondere rol wat water in ons lewens speel sal ook gepubliseer word.

METRICATION IN INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE

INTRODUCING the metric programme into commerce and industry is no mean task, and, to be carried out efficiently and quickly, it will require the co-operation of everyone, as it affects everyone. The complexity of the change in industry is evident from the fact that all economic activities in South Africa may be classified into 119 groups, each group consisting of a vast number of industries. The manufacture of metal products, for example, includes 460 separate types of manufacture — not counting the manufacture of machinery.

The Metrication Advisory Board has decided that the best way to deal with the industrial change-over is to establish representative committees which will deal with specific industrial sectors, such as, for example, textiles and clothing, furniture, metal products and transport equipment. Several committees have already been formed and metrication in this sphere is now well under way.

Mr J. L. Whitwell, head of the Industrial Metrication Division of the SABS, stated recently that the Metrication Advisory Board had decided that metrication in industry should start with basic materials, such as rod, bar, sheet and strip metal, pipes, timber, wire and fasteners (bolts, nuts, screws and rivets).

"The cost of conversion is clearly going to depend on the efficiency of management and may be either directly or inversely proportional to the period over which the change is made. For example, to attempt to change all designs to metric overnight would need the employment of an almost infinite number of draughtsmen at infinite cost, whereas if the policy decision is made to introduce metric only on new designs, the change can be made without any increase in staff levels.

"On the other hand, as far as material control and inventory are concerned, the longer it takes to run down existing stocks, the greater will be the cost of extra storage capacity, and the longer the time required to

reach economic stock quantities for metric material," Mr Whitwell said.

It is clear that the introduction of the metric system in any one industry or activity cannot be regarded in isolation, and its effects on other industries or activities must be carefully considered. The Metrication Department of the Bureau of Standards is performing an important function in this connection by acting as a clearing centre for the co-ordinated conversion. The Department should, therefore, be consulted before individual industries attempt to convert.

There are some industries or organisations whose products or services do not affect others, and in such cases there is no reason why metrication should be delayed.

Metrication in commerce mainly concerns the packaging commodities and products and conversion of weighing and measuring instruments. The Commercial Division of the Metrication Department is negotiating with organised commerce and various agricultural control boards to co-ordinate the programme in this sphere.

Functional committees have been established which will be responsible for, among other things, designing new metric packaging patterns. The present variety of sizes of bottles, tins, tubes and other kinds of containers often confuses the public and a more standardized pattern of container sizes will result from the conversion.

PLAN TOGETHER

"Manufacturers and packers of non-prescribed products must plan to-



Cool-drink manufacturers have been quick in changing to the metric system. They are already marketing giant 1-litre bottles (on the right). The former "family size" is shown on the left.

gether in order to attain rationalized metric packaging patterns for their products," Mr C. J. du Preez, head of the SABS Commercial Metrication Division, told a recent metrication symposium.

"This request particularly concerns manufacturers who are not organised in an association, because it is presently impossible to approach each company separately."

"Manufacturers must use the opportunity to rationalize and standardize pack sizes, and it is requested that individual commercial enterprises, especially the retailer, must take note of the commodities which will be metricated in the near future, and adjust their organisations accordingly," he added.

Draft regulations prepared by the Division of Weights and Measures of the Department of Commerce will ensure in future that the quantity of most commodities sold in packaged form is shown on the pack in metric units.

COMPULSORY

Metric markings will become compulsory after 1st January, 1970. In the new year no manufacturer should pack goods in the old imperial sizes, and no importer should order products in this form. Meanwhile, negotiations are in progress regarding metric pack sizes of commodities such as milk, butter, tea and sugar, that may only be packed in specific sizes.

It is desirable that sizes on packages should be adjusted to the basic units of the metric system and that existing packs should not merely be described in metric terms.

An example of imported goods that will not comply with South African regulations is instant coffee, some of which is imported from the United States in 2-oz. packs. This product should not be brought into the country after January, 1971, as its equivalent weight is 57 grammes.

It is expected that the American manufacturer will increase his pack to 62.5 grammes to comply with our regulations. The only abbreviations to be permitted on labels will be "g" and "gram" (for grammes). Dual markings in the old imperial and new

metric systems will be allowed, provided that the imperial figures are not more prominent than the metric.

Although retailers should not buy in non-metric units after the final change-over date for any particular product, they will reportedly be allowed to dispose of remaining stocks.

In cases where retailers are still weighing or measuring goods over the counter, it will only be possible to introduce the metric system once the retailer's weighing and measuring devices have been converted.

SCALE CONVERSION

Preparations for this conversion are already well under way. Scale manufacturing firms are preparing special stores for the metric parts which have been ordered and are due to arrive shortly. All conversion work, scheduled to commence early next year, will be done locally.

The enormity of this task is realised when it is known that, with one exception, every type of scale in South African commerce and industry will need to be converted before the metric change-over is completed. The exception mentioned is a bank's coin checker, the chart of which gives money values, not weight.

Even the common counter scale, which operates with weights and a balance, will need alteration. The name-plate must be changed from 15-lb. to 7 kilogrammes, or, in the case of larger scales, the equivalent in kilogrammes.

All weighing machines require new metric charts. Some will need minor adjustments inside and a few, particularly large industrial equipment, will require major alterations.

COMPENSATION

The cost of these operations has received much consideration. The Minister of Economic Affairs, Mr J. Haak, recently announced in Pretoria that the Government had decided to pay direct compensation in respect of the cost of conversion to the metric system.

Mr Haak referred to the findings in the Louw report (it forms the basis for this conversion) which recommended that the payment of compensation be confined to weighing and

measuring apparatus bearing an assize stamp and used in business. The cost of conversion outside this field could be kept reasonably low by allowing conversion to take place judiciously and over a fairly long period.

This was precisely what the Government intended, Mr Haak stated. Moreover, in the long run, the conversion to the metric system would offer particular advantages to industry. The Government could not, therefore, bind itself to pay compensation in these cases.

If, however, conversion in a particular industry had to be carried through in a relatively short period and costs were exceptionally high, the case would be considered on its merits. In any event, the basis of compensation for weighing and measuring instruments would be limited to cost incurred above a minimum level.

Industries and commercial undertakings in need of new equipment might heed the words of Dr S. J. du Toit, manager of the Metrication Department of the South African Bureau of Standards, who recently said that it was no longer sensible to acquire non-metric equipment.

METRIC CALENDAR

Various commodities are already being purchased according to the metric system. August was the change-over month for potatoes and October saw metric packaging for the following: Rice, beans, bean meal and rice meal, whole and split peas, pea flour, lentils and pearl barley, bird seed and bird seed mixtures; chicken grits and balanced rations (in small containers); salt; paint; brake fluid and anti-freeze chemicals for cars. Then follow:

December, 1969: Dried fruit.

January, 1970: Non-prescribed pre-packed commodities (must bear an indication of metric content); lubricating oil and refined petroleum products; fertilisers; cotton seed; baking powder and household chemicals; knitting wools and yarns; agricultural and veterinary chemicals; jam and marmalade; industrial chemicals and glues; pipe tobacco.

Metrikasie in Nywerheid en Handel

OM DIE metrieke program aan nywerheid en handel bekend te stel is geen maklike taak nie, en om doeltreffend en vinnig uitgevoer te word vereis dit die samewerking van almal, omdat dit almal raak. Die gekompliseerdheid van die oorskakeling blyk duidelik uit die feit dat ekonomiese aktiwiteite in Suid-Afrika in 119 groepe verdeel kan word, elk bestaande uit 'n groot aantal industrieë.

Die Metrieke Raad het besluit dat die beste metode om die oorskakeling in industrie uit te voer is om verteenwoordigende komitees wat spesifieke industriële sektors sal behandel, te stig. 'n Aantal is reeds aan die werk.

Mnr J. L. Whitwell, hoof van die Industriële Metrikasie Afdeling van die SABS het onlangs genoem dat metrikasie in industrie met basiese materiale soos staaf-, tralie-, en plaatmetaal, pype, hout, draad, ens. sou begin.

Dit sou oor 'n tydperk geskied aangesien die kostes en uitvoerbaarheid van 'n onmiddellike oorskakeling onoorkombaar was.

Dit was duidelik, het mnr Whitwell gesê, dat die inskakeling van die metrieke stelsel in enige individuele industrie nie in isolasie beskou kon word nie, en die invloed op ander industriële en aktiwiteite moes sorgvuldig mee rekening gehou word. Die Metrieke Afdeling van die SABS voer 'n belangrike funksie uit in hierdie verband deur as 'n sentrum vir koördineerde metrikasie op te tree. Dié Afdeling behoort dus voor enige individuele oorskakeling genader te word.

Metrikasie in die handel het hoofsaaklik met verpakte items te doen, asook die oorskakeling van weeg- en meetinstrumente. Die kommersiële Afdeling van die SABS was besig om oorskakeling-programme in hierdie sektors te organiseer.

Komitees wat onder andere nuwe metrieke verpakkingpatrone ontwerp is reeds gestig. Meer gestandaardiseerde verpakings wat die publiek sal baat sal deur die oorskakeling ontstaan. Daar sal gesorg word dat die inhoud in metrieke eenhede aangegee word.

Etikette met metrieke aanduidings vir alle items sal vanaf 1 Januarie, 1970, verpligtend wees. Vanaf daardie datum mag geen vervaardiger enige ware in die ou groottes verpak nie, en geen invoerder mag produkte in die ou vorm bestel nie.

Net die afkorting "g" en "gram" sal op etikette toegelaat word. Die ou mate mag slegs op pakkies verskyn mits dit minder opsigtelik is as die metrieke mate.

Alhoewel kleinhandelaars nie na die oorskakelingsdatum in nie-metrieke eenhede behoort te koop nie, sal hulle

toegelaat word om van huidige voorrade ontslae te raak.

Vorbereidings vir die oorskakeling van alle weeg- en meeteenhede is reeds aan die gang. Alle oorskakelingswerk, wat vroeg volgende jaar sal begin, sal plaaslik gedoen word. Dit is 'n groot taak, as 'n mens in gedagte hou dat elke tipe skaal in Suid-Afrikaanse handel en nywerheid oorgeskakel moet word, behalwe die banke se muntstukkontroleerder, wat geldwaarde en nie gewig aangee nie.

Die koste verbonde aan die oorskakeling het baie aandag geniet. Die Minister van Ekonomiese Sake, mnr Jan Haak het onlangs aangekondig dat die Regering besluit het om regstreekse vergoeding te betaal ten opsigte van die koste van oorskakeling na die metrieke stelsel.

Die oorskakeling na die metrieke stelsel hou vir die nywerheid in die algemeen besondere voordeel in, veral op die langer termyn, en die Regering kan hom dus nie verbind om in hierdie gevalle vergoeding te betaal nie. Uitsonderlike gevalle sal egter oorweeg word.

Verskeie koopware word reeds in metrieke eenhede verkoop. Augustus was die oorskakelingsmaand vir aartappels en Oktober vir die volgende: Voëlseed; koekies; hoendervoer; ertjies, ertjiemeel, sopmengsels, lensies; rys en boontjies; rys- en boontjiemeel; sout; remvloeistof, chemiese en motorkundige items (vloei-stowwe).

In Desember word die verkoop van droë vrugte volgens metrieke eenhede gedoen, en in Januarie die volgende:

Sekere klaargepakte koopware wat nie op voorskrif gekoop hoef te word nie (moet metrieke inhoud aandui); smeerolie en geraffineerde petrolprodukte; kunsmis; katoensaad; bakpoeier en huishoudelike chemikalieë; breiwool; landboukundige en veeartsenykundige chemikalieë; konfyt en marmelade; industriële chemikalieë en gom; pyptabak.



Aartappels word vanaf Oktober in metrieke eenhede reeds verkoop. Die nuwe 15-kilogram sakke waarin winkeliers die aartappels koop is groter as tevore.

"Well, if you really want to take my picture you may!" Our photographer waited nearly an hour before one of the fledgelings hopped on to the edge of the nest.

A BIRD IN THE HAND is worth two in the bush, according to the old axiom. In this case it's a butcherbird (or two!) in the playground. What makes this nest of young fledgelings so special is that the nest is right in the middle of the playground at the Ramatha Road State Indian Primary School in Pietermaritzburg.

On discovering that the birds had nested at the school, resourceful teachers decided to take advantage of the unusual opportunity to study the nesting cycle, and pupils have been able to study the parents and watch the eggs hatch. At the time of writing the young birds were just preparing to fly.

The butcherbird is also known as a "Jackie Hangman", and both names are apt in their description of this rather common South African bird's most distinctive form of behaviour. As an insect and meat-eater, the butcherbird has the habit of sometimes impaling his prey on thorns or the spikes of barbed wire, coming back later for a meal. This habit has led to the butcherbird being held in an unfavourable light by some people.

The butcherbird's food includes a wide range of insects (grasshoppers appear to be favourites), lizards, even chameleons and small snakes, as well as frogs and the young of other birds.

He is generally not very shy of humans and is often to be seen in gardens, sitting on prominent positions, from where he watches for prey. He has a harsh, grating sort of cry and sometimes tries to imitate other birds.

When nesting time comes along, both male and female build a nest of grass, twigs, and other material, lined with weeds, wool, even paper and string. The female does most of the work, however, and it is also she who sits on the eggs for about 16 days before they hatch.

The eggs, which the young bird-watchers at the school probably saw

"Keep down, chaps! There's a fellow out there with a camera and I think he's on to us."



or two



One of the young fledgelings has taken the plunge and hopped out of the nest, while another looks on rather apprehensively.

only as broken shells after the fledgelings hatched, usually number four or five and vary in colour from pale cream to pale greenish, with scattered speckles and spots of dim olive.

The young fledgelings are a grey-brown colour above, and lighter below, with barred feathers. The wing feathers are tipped with buff. In their colouring the birds are thus less distinctive than the striking black, white and grey of the adults. Their lighter colour makes it more difficult to spot the young birds and thus increases their chances of survival.

The whole school co-operated in ensuring that the birds were not disturbed and were allowed to nest and breed in peace. The pupils were delighted at the opportunity of studying nature in this way and came to realise that the world of nature is always present to be studied. For the enterprising teacher there are many other opportunities (or they can be made) to exploit nature as a teaching aid.

A teacher and group of pupils study the nest, which was easily visible from the ground. The nest is ringed in the picture.

Playground!



PHOTO FLASHES



We wonder if there are many teachers in South Africa who can claim longer service than Mr Gungaparsad Bechoo, who retires as the principal of the Durban South State Indian School at the end of this year with almost 52 years of teaching to his credit!

Born in 1904 and educated in Durban, Mr Bechoo began his teaching career at the tender age of 13, as a pupil teacher in Stanger. While in service he obtained a number of teaching qualifications and taught at a number of schools, becoming Principal of the Mt. Edgecombe Government Indian School in 1937. Since then he has held several principalships in Natal besides his present post.

Mr Bechoo is a keen sports enthusiast, and achieved prominence in soccer, tennis and cricket, where he has also held various executive posts. He has also been active in welfare and religious circles.

Miss S. M. Lawrence (right) was presented with a 35-year service award and 4th clasp to the King's Medal at the annual inspection of the Red Cross Voluntary Aid Detachments (V.A.D.), held recently in Durban.

The presentation was made by Miss Smallberger, Chief Commandant for South Africa.

Miss Lawrence is Commandant of the pioneer detachment V.A.D. 117, which was formed in 1933. She holds the Gold Medal for First Aid and Home Nursing, which represents the highest Red Cross examination.

After attesting for service during World War II, Miss Lawrence served throughout the blackout period as a Unit Commander of the Civilian Protective Service. She holds the South African War Medal.

The only living foundation member of the detachment, Miss Lawrence is a retired school principal. She is now a specialist music teacher at the Springfield Model School.



The Secretary for Planning, Mr A. J. J. van Niekerk (seated), examines a plan of the Grey Street complex, Durban. Mr van Niekerk recently visited Durban at the invitation of the South African Indian Council to visit and discuss the complex in connection with Group Areas development. Others in the picture are (from left): Mr M. E. Sultan, Mr A. G. Khan, Mr M. W. de W. van Eyssen (Regional Representative of the Department of Indian Affairs), Mr A. M. Rajab and Mr Y. S. Chinsamy.

The Mayor of Westville, Durban, Councillor E. R. Browne, adjusts the sash of office which was recently presented to Dr A. N. Naidoo when he was unanimously elected chairman of the Westville Local Affairs Committee.

The blue sash with a pendant bearing the town's coat-of-arms will be worn by the Chairman at meetings and official functions. The crest, like that of the Mayor's, is registered with the College of Arms in London and is certified on a document issued by the Earl Marshal of England.

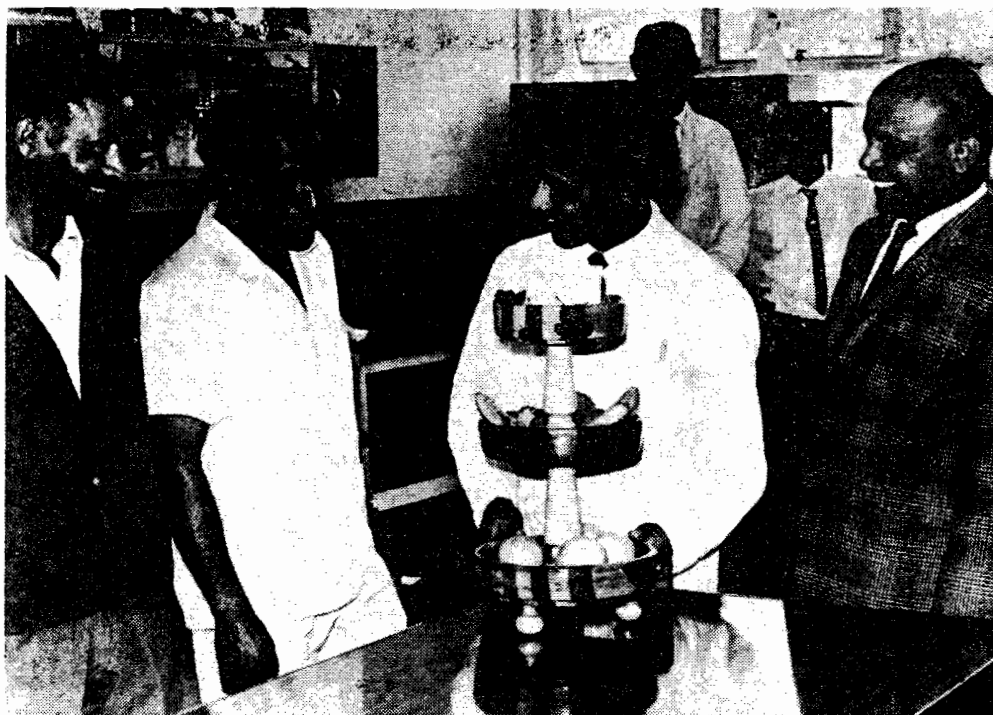
Dr Naidoo is the first chairman of an Indian local affairs committee to be presented with a special sash of office. The Town Council will reportedly provide a modern, fully furnished debating chamber with a large public gallery for the Local Affairs Committee.



— The "Natal Mercury"



Hierdie foto van mense wat met 'n opleidingskursus vir administratiewe hulp by Indiërskole besig was, is onlangs in Johannesburg geneem. Die kursus is deur die Opleidingsbeampte van die Departement van Indiërsake gehou. Op die foto verskyn van links na regs; (Voor) mnr G. van Greunen (Opleidingsbeampte), mnr G. T. Nieuwoudt (Adjunk-Sekretaris, Administrasie) wat die afsluitingsboodskap tot die kursusgangers gerig het, mnr. D. H. de Wet (Personeel-beampte), mnr J. J. Hattingh (Streekverteenwoordiger te Johannesburg) en mev V. Naidoo. Tweede ry: mnr R. M. Williams, mej M. Padayachy, mej T. Padayachy, mnr H. Abdoola (Hoof van die Breestraat Indiërskool waar die kursus aangebied was), mej V. Singh, mej M. Jogiaat. Derde ry: mej Shapurjee, mej S. Singh, mej R. Hassim, mej S. Jeeva, mej S. Pillay.



Mr S. Padayachee, a Std. VIII student at the M.L. Sultan Technical College, Pietermaritzburg, explains to two parents who attended a recent open day, Mr C. M. Chetty and Mr C. R. John, how he made a fruit stand. Looking on is the head of the College, Mr G. D. Delomoney.

RECTOR RETIRES

THE RECTOR of the Springfield College of Education for Indian teachers, Mr A. Levine, retires at the end of this year after 42 years in the teaching profession. He will be succeeded by Mr De Wet Brand, the present Rector of the Transvaal College of Education.

Mr Levine had his schooling and university education in Durban. He has taught at a number of schools in Natal, becoming a lecturer at Sastri College in 1947, and later vice-principal. In 1951 he was promoted to vice-principal of Springfield College and in 1954 was appointed principal and rector, the post he held until his retirement.

During his career Mr Levine played a leading role in the affairs of the Natal Teacher's Society. He was on two occasions president and is an honorary life member. Over a period of 30 years he has held every executive office in the Association.

He has also served on a number of other educational boards and com-

missions, and has done a great deal in promoting welfare in both the White and the Indian communities.

Perhaps his greatest contribution in the teaching field has been at Springfield College. The College opened in 1951 with 125 students, most of whom had passed only the Junior Certificate examination. In those days the training course for teachers was only two years.



Gradually the standard of qualifications necessary for entrance to the college has been raised and the length of the teacher training courses has been lengthened.

In 1958 the first Senior Diploma Course (three years post-matric course) was initiated and the course for those with the Junior Certificate was closed. At present all the students have senior certificates, and this year for the first time the number of women exceeded that of men. As from next year all new entrants will enrol for a three-year course.

In an interview Mr Levine said he had always tried to help unqualified and poorly qualified teachers, through extra-mural classes and the well-known correspondence course launched in 1968. Some 560 teachers are presently writing their 2nd-year exams for the correspondence course.

In his long association with the teaching profession Mr Levine has made a noteworthy contribution and we wish him a pleasant retirement.



*DON'T spoil
things for
others this
Summer
— keep your
beaches clean!*

EVERY PARENT is anxious that his or her child should receive a proper school education. Ensure, therefore, that your child is not refused admission to a school because you are unable to produce proof that he or she has reached the prescribed school-going age.

Proof of age is one of the essential requirements for admission to schools and the onus rests on you, the parent, to furnish this proof. You will avoid this problem if you are in possession of your children's birth certificate.

In terms of the law the birth of all children born in urban areas *must* be registered within seven days. In rural areas this period is 30 days. It is in the interests of your children that this be done. Otherwise they will be the sufferers later in their lives.

Parents wishing to enrol their children at schools for the first time next year should make sure that they have their children's birth certificates available. If you do not have them you should consult the Department of Indian Affairs or the Department of the Interior.

PARENTS — A REMINDER !

OUERS — 'n AANMANING !

ELKE OUER sal graag wil sien dat sy of haar kind 'n skoolopleiding kry. Maak dus seker dat u kind nie toelating tot die skool geweier word omdat u nie bewys kan lewer dat hy of sy die voorgeskrewe ouderdom vir toelating bereik het nie.

Bewys van ouderdom is een van die vereistes wat gestel word vir toelating tot die skool en die onus rus by u om hierdie bewys te lewer. Die besit van 'n geboortesertifikaat voorkom u enige probleme in hierdie verband.

Volgens die wet *moet* die geboortes van alle kinders binne 7 dae in stedelike gebiede en binne 30 dae in buite-stedelike gebiede geregistreer word. Dit is in die kinders se belang dat dit gedoen word andersins sal hulle in hulle latere lewe daaronder ly.

Ouers wat hulle kinders volgende jaar vir die eerste keer by skole wil laat inskryf behoort seker te maak dat hulle vir hulle kinders geboortesertifikate bekom. Indien u dit nog nie het nie raadpleeg gerus die Departement van Indiërsake of die Departement van Binnelandse Sake.

RAMADAN MESSAGE

I have great pleasure in sending this special message of greeting to the Muslim Community on the celebration of the festival of Eid-Ul-Fitr. The festival of Eid follows the Fast of Ramadan which Muslims throughout the world have observed for twenty-nine days.

May you as a result of this religious exercise find a great and abiding peace and may this festival instil in you all a spirit of better understanding between you and your fellow men.

— *The Minister of
Indian Affairs,
Mr Frank Waring*

