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in die uitgawe / in this issue

Minister addresses Indian industrialists	2
South African Games	6
The year of Unisa	8
Our Green Heritage	10
Fire and Electricity Hazards	12
Springfield College Extensions	14
Lakehaven Playing Fields	15
Indian Sculpture and Dance	16
Tongaat Crematorium	19
News and Photo Flashes	20
Western Influence of Indian Women in South Africa	23
Metrication	27
Grey Street Proclaimed	28
The Forgotten Heroes of the Umgeni	29

Front Cover: Indian and Coloured footballers in action at the South African Games.

Editorial Committee: Mr G. Krog (Chairman), Mr I. C. Dannhauser, Mr P. J. Lombard, Mr J. Naidoo, Mr N. J. Nel, Mr J. G. Nieuwoudt, Mr G. R. Oakley, Mr M. G. Pillay, Mr W. J. Schreuder, Mr E. J. Turner (Editor), Mr M. J. de Wet van Eyssen and Dr N. van der Walt.

Redaksiekomitee: Mnr G. Krog (Voorsitter), mnr I. C. Dannhauser, mnr P. J. Lombard, mnr J. Naidoo, mnr N. J. Nel, mnr J. G. Nieuwoudt, mnr G. R. Oakley, mnr M. G. Pillay, mnr W. J. Schreuder, mnr E. J. Turner (Redakteur), mnr M. J. de Wet van Eyssen en dr N. van der Walt.

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197

'N MAANDBLAD NAMENS DIE DEPARTEMENT VAN INDIËRSAKKE DEUR DIE DEPARTEMENT VAN INLIGTING UITGEGEE

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DIE REDAKTEUR
FIAT LUX
PRIVAATSAK X4332
DURBAN

EDITOR • REDAKTEUR
E. J. TURNER

•
K. M. CHETTY
PHOTOGRAPHER • FOTOGRAAF

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All correspondence and requests for this journal should be directed to:

THE EDITOR
FIAT LUX
PRIVATE BAG X4332
DURBAN

Minister Addresses Indian Industrialists



Members and guests listening attentively to the Minister's address.

"LET ME SAY quite clearly that it is Government policy to encourage Indian industrial development", said the Minister of Indian Affairs, Senator O. P. F. Horwood when he addressed members of the Indian Division of the Natal Chamber of Industries and invited guests at the fourth annual dinner of the Division, which was held in the new Sol Namara Hotel, Silverglen, Durban.

In welcoming the Minister, the Mayor of Durban, Cr. Ron Williams; and other distinguished guests, Mr H. H. Dhupelia, Chairman of the Indian Division of the Chamber urged more Indian industrialists who had not yet joined the Division to become members. By doing so they would make the body a more representative one and would be sharing fully in all the privileges and services which the Chamber was able to make available. At the same time the Division served, with the backing of the Chamber's Executive Committee as a valuable mouthpiece in the making of representations to the authorities on behalf of not only Indian industrialists but of the community as a whole on

matters which vitally affected the Indian community.

The Minister, in his address, paid tribute to the Natal Chamber of Industries in taking the initiative by establishing the Indian Division and said by this way we can best hope to achieve success in the promotion of the country's industrial growth. He said that those who were members were fully aware of the various manifold services which the Natal Chamber of Industries offered to all its members. He hoped that the membership of the Division, which has grown from the original eight, when the Division was launched four years ago to forty-six at present, would constantly increase so that it is fully representative of Indian-owned manufacturing business.

ESTABLISHMENT OF INDUSTRIAL UNDERTAKINGS

Referring to the position of the Indian in our industrial pattern in South Africa, Senator Horwood said that Indian industrial undertakings may establish themselves in general (controlled) industrial areas. In addition land may be allocated for In-

dians where such areas adjoin or are in close proximity to Indian group areas. It is also customary for a limited number of industrial sites to be made available for service and light industry in Indian group areas. Heavy industries set up by Indian entrepreneurs can be established within existing or planned industrial areas and ownership and occupation rights are available to be granted to the owners.

APPLICATION OF THE PHYSICAL PLANNING AND UTILIZATION OF RESOURCES ACT

"It is important", said the Minister, "that there should be no misunderstanding about the application of the Physical Planning and Utilization of Resources Act of 1967 (particularly Section 3) to Indian businessmen especially in respect of industrial townships within Indian group areas. It is normal in such cases for a condition to be imposed which calls for the obtaining of the Minister of Planning's consent before Bantu may be employed in an undertaking sited within an Indian group area. The reason for this condition is twofold,

to ensure that the Indian entrepreneur provides maximum employment opportunities for members of his own group within the relative group area, and to ensure that Indian employees are not subjected to unnecessary competition from members of the Bantu group within their own group areas. The condition, it should be noted, by no means imposes a prohibition on the employment of Bantu in factories within an Indian group area. Experience shows clearly that applications submitted to the Department of Planning by Indian owners of factories situated within Indian group areas for the employment of Bantu are dealt with sympathetically and strictly on merit.

The decentralisation programme, generally speaking, provides that the Government will encourage industrial development in those centres which have a relative surplus of labour but, at the same time, it is important that attention be concentrated on a comparatively small number of specially selected 'growth points'. In order to provide increased employment opportunities for Indians, the Government will therefore continue to grant certain valuable concessions to industrialists employing Indians, in the main in the decentralised areas of

Stanger, Verulam and Tongaat."

ASSISTANCE TO INDUSTRIALISTS

Commenting on the various agencies which have been set up by the Government with a view to the establishment of industries the Minister said: "I would refer, first, to the Industrial Development Corporation; and, in this connection, to the question as to whether a parallel organisation designed specifically to assist the Indian entrepreneur is justified in South Africa today. I am of the opinion that the Industrial Development Corporation can effectively cater for the needs of Indians who wish to establish manufacturing concerns. Criticism is sometimes levelled at the Corporation on the ground that sufficient attention and assistance are not afforded to small undertakings. The Industrial Development Corporation has, however, within its organisation a special section catering specifically for the smaller industrial units. Propositions handled by this section must, as with all other applications, prove their economic merit. That is the only criterion. Then again it is sometimes said that there is no single authority from whom one can obtain advice as to what industries are needed in South Africa today.

The answer surely is that in a private enterprise economy it is not the function of Government to tell would-be entrepreneurs what kind of industries they should establish. This decision is left to the initiative of the intending industrialist himself. If he has a specific project in mind, he is always free to discuss its prospects with officials of the Department of Industry or of the Industrial Development Corporation."

SITES FOR INDIAN INDUSTRY

The Minister briefly outlined the position in regard to the availability of land for Indian industry in Natal.

In so far as Durban was concerned, there was, he said, sometimes difficulty in identifying land for further industrial development. He referred to the Rieker Report on industrial decentralization which drew attention to the considerable concentration of industry which has been building up in the Durban - Pinetown area — an aspect of industrial location which will have to be watched in the future.

Pietermaritzburg: The City Council has a large tract of land zoned for Indian industrial purposes. Since 1964 no fewer than 10 Indian industrialists have established themselves in that city.

The Minister of Indian Affairs, Senator O. P. F. Horwood delivering his address. Seated at the table are (from left to right) The Mayor of Durban, Cr. R. Williams, Messrs H. H. Dhupelia and K. P. Desai, Chairman and Vice-Chairman respectively of the Indian Division of the Natal Chamber of Industries.





A group of industrialists discussing topics of mutual interest prior to the dinner.

Estcourt: 15 sites will be shortly made available to the Indian community.

Ladysmith: Indians are permitted to acquire industrial sites in the Nambithi area.

Dundee: 17 industrial sites made available about 3 years ago.

Newcastle: The authorities have plans which involve the lay-out of an industrial township for Indians and heavy industrial sites will be made available to Indian entrepreneurs in the open industrial area under permit.

Greytown and Richmond: These are among other towns in Natal where industrial land is available to Indians.

"As with other communities", he said, "so with the Indian community there is a tendency among some of its members to acquire industrial land for speculative purposes and not for genuine development. Such persons should consider whether they are doing a service to their community. Industrial townships are expensive to lay out and it seems unfortunate that purchasers of sites in these townships should adopt a dog-in-the-manger attitude and deprive the genuine intending industrialist of the land he so sorely needs for immediate development. Local authorities might in such cases with advantage, I think, consider incorporating in their deeds of sale a reversionary clause or some other device, to ensure that the pur-

chaser develops his site within a reasonable period.

ACHIEVEMENTS OF INDIAN INDUSTRIALISTS

The Minister said that according to the last Report of the Department of Indian Affairs, investment by Indians in the various branches of manufacturing industry is estimated at R30 million, and this figure is expected to reach R60 million by 1980. The major share of the investment, as may be expected, is in Natal, where the number of Indian-owned industrial undertakings is nearly 700, employing an estimated 14 000 Indians. In 1961 the figures were 181 and 4 700 respectively. This is a sound growth rate and he hoped that the Indian community would sustain it for many years to come.

"As Indian industry develops, so you will increasingly have to think in terms of **corporate** enterprise (companies) as distinct from the **one-man** business of the **smaller partnership**. Where the scale of the operation warrants it, there are great benefits to be derived from the mobilisation of capital among groups of people, even if the average individual contribution is small. In this context I believe your Indian bank has an important role to play. I am aware, of course, that there are in your community a number of consortiums of Indian businessmen established with a view to the pooling of resources

and the investment of capital in larger projects, both in the commercial and in the industrial fields. This is a desirable approach.

Apart from heavy industry, which is the exception rather than the rule among you, your industrialists have tended to interest themselves over a broad front with a decided preference being shown for clothing, furniture, food processing, tailoring, footwear, timber products, printing, motor garages and laundries and dry cleaning works. But that is not all. Indians are also active in a number of other industries such as textiles, leather goods, tyre retreading, the manufacture of cardboard containers, and packaging, jewellery and even cigar manufacturing. An Indian concern operates the only lace factory in the Republic. One is of course aware of the prowess of Indian jewellery manufacturers whose work shows an outstanding craftsmanship. The manufacture of concrete pipes is another important activity of a particular Indian industrialist. I mention all this because I want to show that the Indian's contribution to South Africa's manufacturing industry is today wide-ranging and is constantly branching out in new directions", said the Minister.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

"An important feature", said the Minister, "which emerges from the range of Indian-controlled factories in Natal and particularly in the Durban - Pinetown region, is the large number of employment opportunities which have been created for Indians.

All businesses, whether they are small or whether they are large, call for efficient management and efficient workers. Your community is well endowed with entrepreneurship and business 'know-how', and that is a great advantage. I trust that you are constantly looking to the efficiency of your employees, and doing as much as you can to encourage proper training, both on the job, and at school, technical college, and university level.

I want particularly to mention the important role which the M.L. Sultan College plays in the industrial field today. Not only does the College offer courses for the senior manage-

ment echelons but also throughout a wide spectrum of the factory set-up, from the technologist and the technician and the apprentice to the various categories of clerical worker and the typist, and these courses are available in a variety of directions depending on the industry concerned. The College is there to serve industry and I would like to commend to you the advantages to be derived from the courses which it offers. You as representatives of Indian-owned industry should wherever possible ensure that your employees are given the benefit of attending classes at the College.

I wonder whether the time is not at hand when you as industrialists should consider the generous provision of bursaries for the more advanced training and education of promising young men in appropriate directions. In the highly competitive present-day world, industrialists simply cannot afford to take chances with the type of person they employ in managerial positions.

As I am addressing Indian employers this evening, I do not propose to make more than passing reference to the position of the Indian as an employee in White industries, except to point out to you that Indians are regarded by your White counterparts in industry as valuable assets in their organisations. We find also that Government Departments such as the Post Office are training Indians for employment in technical directions; banks, building societies, insurance companies are showing an increasing interest in training suitable young Indians to fill posts in their organisations; and industrial and commercial concerns, large and small, are drawing on the Indian labour force to supplement their staff. The Indian entrepreneur must take account of this tendency. Salaries and training facilities are important considerations when one is forced to compete for the services of these young people", said Senator Horwood.

FUTURE PROSPECTS

Discussing the future prospects for

Senator Horwood chatting with Mr Dhupe-
lia. Mr R. J. Naran looks on.

Indian industrialists, the Minister said: "I think that I can say without fear of contradiction that never before have more opportunities existed than today. I have only to mention the example of Newcastle, where the powerful growth factor is the new Iscor works, now in the process of erection. When the Iscor works become fully operational, opportunities will be created for other industrialists to establish themselves in Newcastle in industries requiring the products manufactured by Iscor. I know that the Indian industrialists will not let the opportunity slip by of participating in the exciting prospect which the Newcastle of the future will be offering. Nor should Ladysmith be left out of account.

The great challenge today is the raising of living standards for all our people. How better can you, the Indian community of South Africa, do so than by increasing participation

in manufacturing industry?

I would therefore ask all those of you who are obviously already concerned in some way or another with industrial activity to prevail upon your compatriots to join forces with you and to follow your example by exploring fully the possibilities of establishing themselves in the industrial sector of our country's economy. By so doing you, and they, will not only offer more and more employment to the members of your own community, but all of you will be doing a service to South Africa, whose prosperity is the concern of all of us."

Mr E. G. Hotchkiss, President of the Natal Chamber of Industries in his address said that the export of semi-processed raw materials and manufactured goods should be improved to generate employment opportunities for the country's rapidly growing population. □



THE SOUTH AFRICAN GAMES

AT 7.00 p.m. on Friday, 23rd March sporting history was made in South Africa when the first multi-national Games opened in the indoor stadium at the Pretoria Show Grounds. In opening the Games, the State President, Mr J. J. Fouché, said "It was the universal right of sportmen to take part in sport without ulterior motives. When all else failed, sport and sportsmen found something to maintain the balance

of sanity". Speaking immediately before the State President, Dr Piet Koornhof, Minister of Sport and Recreation, appealed to all South Africans to make a massive success of the greatest sporting event in South Africa.

More than 1 500 competitors from more than 50 countries competed with and against South Africans in the Republic. In all 27 types of sport were catered for. This was surely

the largest international spectacle of sport yet staged in South Africa.

Indian participation in the Games was confined to soccer in which game Indian, Coloured, Bantu and White teams played against each other. The soccer games were originally scheduled to be played in Pretoria but the venue was switched to Johannesburg because of increased spectator potential.

The Indian contingent assembled two weeks before kickoff in Johannesburg for training.

Interest in the matches was considerable and large crowds were drawn to the Rand Stadium — undoubtedly the "Mecca of Soccer" in South Africa — where the matches were played. Under floodlights, the preliminary rounds were played on the first five days and the crowds were given scintillating displays of soccer as each team did its utmost to assert its dominance over the other. The finals were played on Saturday afternoon between the Bantu and White teams, the Indian and Coloured teams having been eliminated in the earlier rounds.

The first night of the soccer matches was an unforgettable experience. The behaviour of the tightly packed crowd of about 40 000 was exemplary. This despite the fact that a heavy downpour persisted almost throughout the evening. The crowd

braved the soaking showers and roared their approval.

All of the soccer matches went off harmoniously. The atmosphere was very relaxed. The crowd cheered and applauded Bantu, White, Coloured and Indian players alike. Brilliant tactical soccer from all four sides brought the crowd repeatedly to their feet.

Mr Dudley Zagnov, the South African Games soccer tournament organiser said that he had never seen a crowd behave so well. The police had done more work at normal cup finals than they have done at the Games soccer tournament. It was a fantastic spectacle.

Mr Wilfred J. Warnasuriya of Lenasia served as the Indian representative on the five man mixed Disciplinary Committee to deal with infringements of the rules in the Games soccer tournament. Mr Warnasuriya has had a long and distinguished association with Indian soccer in South Africa. At present he is Honorary Life Vice-President of both the South African Indian Football Association and the Transvaal Football Association.

Despite the fact that the Indian team was not successful in scoring a victory in this series, there can be no doubt that it has acquitted itself favourably. For all South Africans it was not the result that mattered but the game. The South African Games have, indeed, instilled a new spirit in South African sport which must, as a consequence, move forward.

Commenting on the selection of the Indian team this is what Mr Y. C. Meer, President of the South African Indian Football Association had to say: "My Association selected a team to enter the Games to ensure that the Indian community was represented irrespective of results. We have been a party to the making of history and the fact that as sportsmen we have taken part in the Games for sport's sake and not for victory alone, gives us a great amount of satisfaction".

Referring to the offers of help from players who did not attend the trial, Mr Meer said that on principle he had to turn them down. The players who had been selected had sacrificed their time and leisure to

come to Johannesburg because they believed in the ideal of the Games and wanted to take part. It would have been unfair to leave them out and take in new players who had woken up too late to the fact that multi-national soccer is a reality."

There has been much criticism that the South African Indian XI was not the best. Admittedly this was so and the following impartial viewpoints expressed by responsible members of the community show the selection in its true perspective. "In the face of formidable obstacles, it is to their credit that they (the non-White teams) have been able to put up any show at all. Some of the best Indian soccerites like 'Smiley' Moosa and other scintillating jewels of Indian soccer talent were missing from the Indian XI. The Indian team fielded was not truly representative of the fullest Indian soccer talent and potential. To use an old cliché, the Bantu, Coloureds and Indians were well and truly beaten by a superior White side but not disgraced," said Mr A. S. K. Joomal, a prominent member of Johannesburg's Indian community.

Mr Essop Moosa of Pretoria, a former organising secretary for the South African Indian Football Association, said "The teams were make-

shift and certainly not fully representative of the cream of South Africa's players. The Government's action in organising the Games was extremely welcome. It was difficult to get Indian soccer players from all over the Republic to co-operate."

The games ended successfully on Saturday the 7th April. Mr Rudolph Opperman, President of the South African Olympic and National Games said that one of the most pleasing aspects of the Games was the way South African spectators of all races had been united in their support of South African competitors.

Summing up the Games, Mr Opperman said: "The Games have been a vindication of our faith in South African sport, for its perseverance and determination to face up to what at times seemed insurmountable difficulties. They have also justified our faith in world sport at large, which saw fit to put ulterior motives aside and allow international sportsmen to play sport for the sake and love of sport alone. The various peoples of South Africa had recognised the wonderful opportunities offered them by their common interest in sport, and by pooling their resources had reaped the satisfaction of a worthwhile accomplishment." □



Mr J. J. Fouché, the State President, officially opening the Games at the Pretoria Show Ground Indoor Stadium.

THE YEAR OF UNISA



THIS year the University of South Africa, the oldest in the country, has reached two historic mileposts: the celebration of its hundredth year of existence in South African university life and the official inauguration of its new headquarters on Muckleneuk Ridge in Pretoria. With the opening of this modern multi-storey building complex by the State President, Mr J. J. Fouché on April 14, the university's centenary, which includes a variety of congresses, exhibitions and performances until the end of 1973, will be ceremonially commenced.

The history of the university, known for short as Unisa, dates back to the formation of the University of the Cape of Good Hope in 1873. The latter, which for more than 40 years was the only university in South Africa, became a federal "mother" university in 1916. Through Act No. 12 of 1916 the University of South Africa, with its seat in Pretoria, became the successor of the University of the Cape of Good Hope and retained the examining function of the latter. Apart from the universities of Cape Town, Stellenbosch, Port Elizabeth and the Rand Afrikaans University, all the other educational centres

in the Republic were incorporated in the University of South Africa for a certain time.

As time passed, the university training colleges emerged from beneath the wing of Unisa and became fully-fledged universities. Eventually, only the Non-White university colleges fell under the "mother" university. In 1970 these colleges achieved university status and Unisa's federal role came to an end. In the meantime, the character of the University of South Africa had changed radically. Under the guidance of its first principal, Prof. A. J. H. van der Walt, an official start was made, in 1947, with its own special method of tuition by correspondence.

(The late Professor van der Walt was elected as first Chancellor of the University of Durban-Westville and was due to illness, installed "in absentia" in May 1972. He never recovered from his illness and died on August 16 at Pretoria. Professor van der Walt, as Chairman of the Council of the University College of Durban (now the University of Durban-Westville) since its inception in 1960, pioneered a new institution bringing his wealth of experience and wisdom to bear on the overall organisation, the recruiting

of staff and the relationship with the University of South Africa, under whose aegis the College was placed. Professor G. S. Nienaber, Chairman of the Council of the University of Durban-Westville in paying tribute to the late Professor van der Walt said, "It does not often happen that one person can be regarded as the 'father' of two strong academic institutions. The attractive buildings of the University of South Africa and the magnificent campus of the University of Durban-Westville are monuments testifying to his earnest endeavours".)

From that time on, its enrolment of correspondence students has grown tremendously. Today, Unisa has students from various parts of the world: the Republic, North America, Britain, Europe, Australia and a number of African countries such as Malawi, Zambia, Angola and Rhodesia. In the past 25 years, Unisa has developed on a large scale. Today it is the biggest university in the Republic with an external enrolment of some 30 000 students among whom are approximately 2 000 Indian South Africans. Their study needs are provided for by a lecturing staff of approximately 530. The method of tuition has also necessitated extending

the university's administrative work. At the moment a staff of 600 handles a variety of administrative functions which range from the registration of students, the printing, production and despatch of study material to the organization of vacation schools, examination centres and graduation ceremonies.

Service to the student is the basis of Unisa's development. New academic studies are continually being provided to supply new needs. Additions to the existing faculties of arts and philosophy, science, law, education, theology and commerce and administration since 1965 have included: seven subject courses, five departments, two diploma courses, nine degree courses, two institutes and a school for management as well as a bureau for market research. Apart from study material in various subjects including 23 languages, opportunities for post-graduate study are also provided.

Unisa's progress did not take place without problems being encountered. One of the most important was the question of accommodation for its employees — a problem which was gradually aggravated by the increase in personnel. After its founding in Pretoria, the university had its seat at Somerset House. Subsequently various buildings in the city were occupied. Accommodation became a growing problem, but this was solved through a grant of land by the Pretoria City Council which made the ideal of a new, bigger university become a reality.

The building of the Unisa complex commenced some five years ago. Out of the hillside, a gigantic steel framework began to emerge. The cantilevered "bridge" of the building, its most outstanding characteristic, rests on three roller-bearings and makes provision for the structure's expansion and contraction. To complete the building of ten storeys in the shortest possible time, the architects and engineers teamed up to implement new construction techniques. The result was the large-scale use of precast panels and gas concrete. Wood, too, was used with great effect. Apart from flooring, corner and ceiling mouldings of

Burmese teak, oak and yellow-wood, chiefly in the form of murals, decorate the entrance hall and various halls.

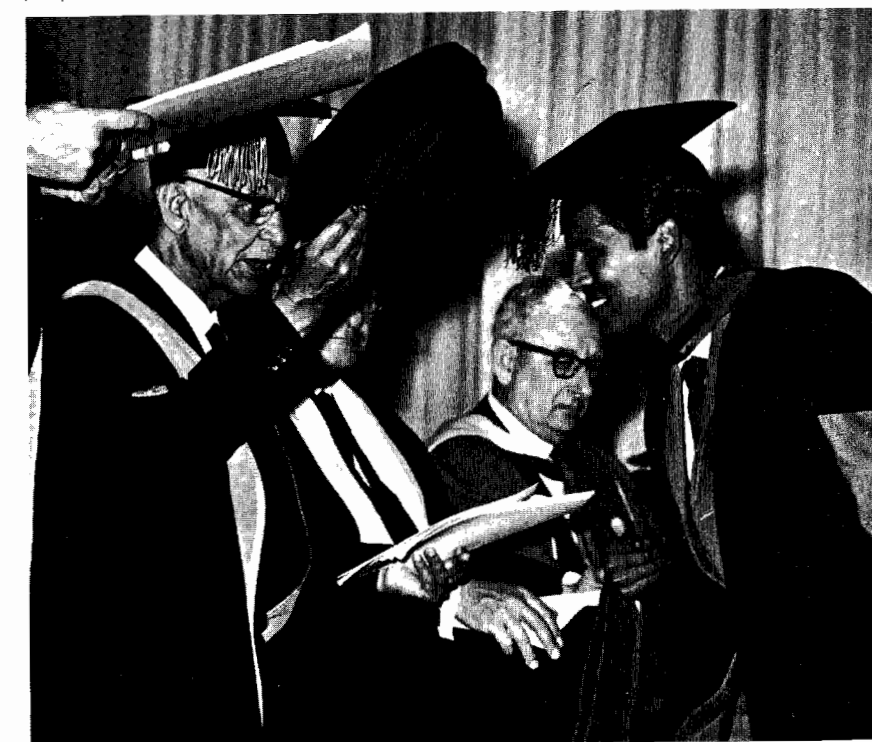
The building is one of Pretoria's largest with a surface area equivalent to some 11 rugby fields. Passages of more than 3 000 metres and 11 lifts ensure smooth communication. The most important interior characteristics are seven large halls: a council chamber, a film and senate hall, a recreational hall and cafeteria, two examination halls and an auditorium with 1014 seats. There are also 620 offices, 20 seminar rooms and a separate laboratory complex for chemistry and physics consisting of laboratories, seminar rooms, practical examination rooms and offices. Most of the large halls are provided with air-conditioning, as well as the computer centre, production section and the library.

Unisa's library which occupies five floors and covers approximately 10 000 square metres, forms an integral part of the university's teaching and research projects. For this purpose, 380 000 books and 25 000

bound magazines are provided. The library is one of the largest in the country and includes reference and loan facilities as well as the service of sending books to students. For maximum efficiency, the lending library has been mechanized, while a new service — the provision of books on microfiche — has been provided with great success over the past two years. Attached to the library is a record library containing a collection of some 3 000 music, drama and poetry records, and language courses.

In the past 100 years, South African universities have gone from strength to strength. This is reflected to a high degree in the development of Unisa, the correspondence university. Its new building complex, containing an astounding 2 800 metric tons of steel reinforcing and some 33 000 cubic metres of concrete, serves too as a mirror showing the foundation upon which South Africa's tertiary educational institutions will be built in the future. □

(With acknowledgements to S.A. Panorama)



The late Prof. A. J. H. van der Walt, Acting Vice Chancellor of the University of South Africa, is seen conferring a B.Sc. Hons. Degree on Mr M. Moodley at a joint Graduation Ceremony of the University College of Durban (now University of Durban-Westville) and the University of South Africa.

THE LAUNCHING of the "Green Heritage" campaign at the University of Durban-Westville by the Minister of Water Affairs, Senator S. P. Botha very clearly focusses the importance of trees in lending beauty to one's surroundings. But that was not the only significant feature of the campaign. The solemnity of the occasion instilled in the audience a resolve to take responsibility for the widespread dissemination of saplings which would grow into magnificent trees to adorn and make verdant the landscape that meets the eye from every vantage point. To the Indian community who are accustomed to the greenery around their homesteads the appeal to participate in tree-planting was not construed as a request but as an encouragement to a people alive to the horticultural traditions of an intensely rural ancestry. The Indian loves his garden. He has always done so and to this day nurtures the plants and flowers with exciting interest and affectionate care.

It is true that when the Indentured Indians arrived in Natal they were made to clear the bushes and destroy the stately trees to make way for the advancing cane fields. And if the arboreal landscape was destroyed it was done to serve the purposes of industry and introduce an economy which in the process of its growth brought about the sombre awareness of a dwindling heritage. Trees seem to have a personality — they grow in stature, stand imperviously before the depredations of time and decline over the years from youth, beauty and maturity to an inexorable senescence.

The earth did not always possess trees. The first tree made its appearance in the evolutionary Time Scale during the early Mesozoic Period. Fossil evidence in the Triassic deposits suggests the early conifers to be over 125 million years old. It was in the early Cretaceous period about 70 million years ago that deciduous trees suddenly became conspicuous. At that remote period in the history of the earth the undergrowth was not grass which was to appear more recently in the Geological Time Scale. Grasses seem to have made their ap-



Besides being beautiful and providing shade trees can do much to add to the attractiveness of new townships.

our green heritage

involvement and preservation

by

Dr. M. B. NAIDOO, F.R.G.S.

pearance in Miocene Times, some 25 to 30 million years ago.

Trees have always had a fascination for the aesthetic man and their whispers could be heard as the wind soughs through the foliage. They have girdled the earth in the Northern Hemisphere and succeed in great

varieties of height and foliage through arboreal belts from the sub-polar regions to the equator. Their grandeur is indescribable and their usefulness illimitable. They are the source of many of the raw materials in this modern technological age. There are few items in daily use

which are not the products of timber and in the sparsely inhabited regions of the world, wood is used for fuel. Advances in wood chemistry have yielded alcohol and several important chemicals. In fact, as the saying goes, "everything of the tree is used but the shade".

The demands of industry are threatening the existence of trees and diminishing forest lands are a matter of international concern. Governments view with seriousness the wanton destruction of forests and every effort is made to replenish the exhausted timber stands. In many countries, including South Africa, indigenous trees are being replaced by exotic varieties. The pine and the eucalyptus are no exceptions in South Africa although the latter is widely distributed as a drought resistant tree. The eucalyptus gum can be used for swamp reclamation as well as for mine props and cellulose and its further use as a wind-break is best appreciated in the open velds within the Republic.

Many areas in Africa are, for reasons of soil and climate, suited only to tree growing and this applies with equal emphasis to parts of Natal where soils and rainfall determine the desirability or otherwise of afforestation schemes. Another fact of importance is that a number of indigenous trees are of little value when compared with timber trees that thrive in other countries. In the Republic, the economic demand for the soft woods of commerce has led to the importation of exotic trees. It must not be overlooked, however, that the indigenous high forest trees have the inability through their sensitivity to thrive away from their native habitats on land available in large tracts but ill-suited for afforestation by the indigenous variety.

Exotics have their own problem: the soil and climate of their new environment are totally unsuited to the imported varieties. They usually succumb to the diseases transmitted by indigenous trees or are seriously affected by diseases brought by them thriving in the new environment.

Apart from the provision of timber to meet the economic needs of

South Africa there is the other important consideration relating to the conservation of water supplies and the prevention of erosion. In this respect the indigenous forests and natural bush are generally more effective than exotics which are fast growing and have particularly high transpiration rates. They abstract soil moisture and the soluble salts more rapidly than the indigenous vegetation. It is therefore considered disastrous to plant exotics near the sources of springs and along streams. From experience gained elsewhere, particularly in the marginal rainfall areas, the planting of conifers with their needle-like leaves has not helped the country to utilise to the maximum its rainfall descending in showers. The foliage prevents light showers from reaching the ground which is covered by an accumulated mat of dry needles. This mat is absorbent and prevents all but the heaviest rain from penetrating into the deep sub-soil.

But it is the tree as a contributor to beauty and shade that it is most desired, particularly in our emerging townships with their unaesthetic and barren surroundings. There is need for a concerted effort on the part of Local Authorities to undertake the planting of trees in avenues and clusters so that in the years ahead they will form shady retreats for the musings of young and old. Again, as equally important trees are to lend enchantment to the surroundings, they cannot be overlooked in conservation programmes. Trees tend to bind the soil and are therefore powerful agents for the control of soil erosion, particularly in the watersheds from which our streams emerge to wend their way to the ocean. And it is in the constricted valleys of these streams that the indigenous bush flourishes from the available moisture while the interfluvial lands display human activities in their varied forms.

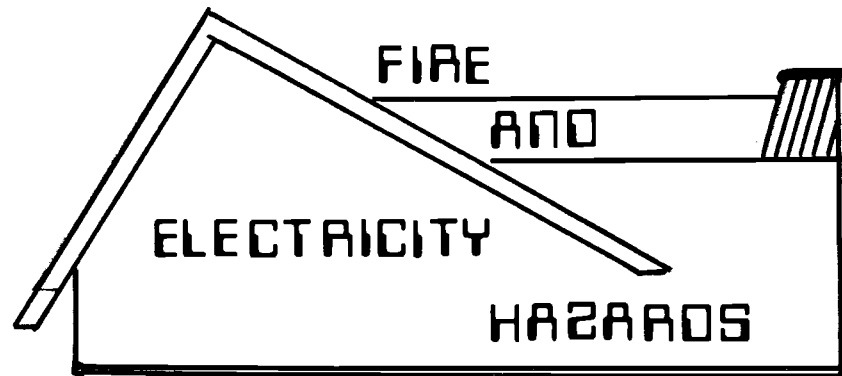
The "Green Heritage" campaign has no doubt focussed the attention of all South Africans to the need to beautify their surroundings with trees. But this does not appear to be the only reason for the planting of trees: there is the need to conserve the soil and the water resources of the

land as well.

Much beauty can be lent to the landscape by a judicious planting of grasses and this can be done with ease by school children, by boy scouts and girl guides. Exposed areas in the neighbourhood denuded of vegetation can be made verdant by this exercise on the part of volunteers. A green landscape will certainly enhance the surroundings of a home and if grass planting is carried out at a national level, many of the badly eroded lands in the vicinity of townships and cities can be rehabilitated through a mat of thriving grasses.

In New Zealand bare hills have been grass covered through seed dispersal by helicopters. The spraying of an admixture of seed and soil over barren hill slopes has great possibilities in beautifying the countryside providing it is done immediately after rains or at times when precipitation is in the form of a drizzle. Heavy rains will make the effort futile.

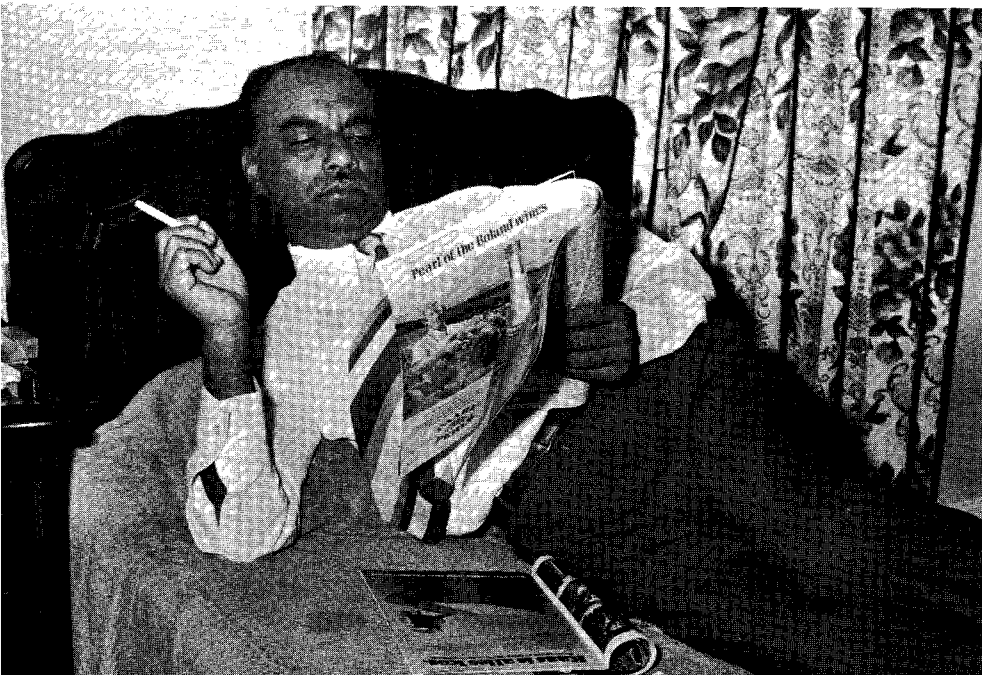
The preservation of the indigenous bush wherever it appears must be enforced by law and no inroads into existing stands must be allowed in the interest of urban development. A stately tree has its own intrinsic grandeur and its right to survive must be unassailable. Some of the grandest phases of African vegetation are to be seen in the interior of Kenya and Uganda and I do hope these will continue to remain one of man's proudest legacies and will not be destroyed. I once saw a towering forest tree in Uganda being felled to the ground. As the axe which was applied to the trunk for days was delivering its final death-blow, the mighty tree shuddered in its helplessness and slanted ignominiously towards earth only to crash on the ground with a deafening roar. Man had accomplished his task and destroyed a primeval giant which was for centuries nurtured by the soils and rains of Equatorial Africa. This is but one of the sad episodes in the history of nature when man has set to tame the earth by his orgy of depredations. An imbalance had been initiated where processes of organic evolution have for so many milleniums maintained an equilibrium. □



FIRE usually strikes when and where it is least expected. And those who disregard the basic principles of fire prevention are generally the sufferers. One's home and other valuable possessions which were obtained by dint of years of hard work and endeavour can be lost in the course of a few minutes! More dreadful is the fact, however, that the lives of dear ones can be endangered or lost as a result of a fire in the home.

A fire is seldom caused by accident. More often than not it is the result of negligence or even gross stupidity. For the purposes of this article, however, some of the causes of fire in the home, which are commonly ascribed to "accidents" will be dealt with.

Very relaxing — but smoking in bed has been the cause of many fires.



SMOKING IN BED

This is a very dangerous habit and has been the cause of many a disastrous fire. A person smoking a cigarette in bed can, before extinguishing it, easily fall asleep. The burning cigarette can then ignite the bed clothes. The process of burning will be slow initially, with much smoke. The smoke tends to overcome the sleeper due to the presence of carbon monoxide produced by the smouldering fire. Even should he not be so overcome, by the time the sleeper awakens the fire could already be beyond control, with calamitous results.

BEDSIDE LAMPS

The heat from an electric light bulb is sufficient to set bedding, curtains or other inflammable material

with which it comes into contact alight.

ELECTRICAL HAZARDS

As mentioned in a previous article three basic elements of Heat, Fuel and Air are necessary for a fire to take place. One of the most common sources of heat which could be responsible for a fire is electricity. This form of energy should at all times be treated with the utmost respect.

Fires and other dangerous conditions are often caused by the nailing or fastening of electrical wires to corrugated roofs. A short circuit is thereby caused, the roof is electrified and roof timbers are set alight. Wires leading under carpets often become frayed, resulting in a short circuit, the ensuing sparks igniting the carpet. The overloading of electrical wiring systems such as taking too many leads from one plug point will cause a build-up of heat at the plug area, which will slowly but surely erode insulation materials. This will result in short circuiting which could mean electrocution to the unwary as well as starting a fire.

FUSES

The blowing of a fuse is an indication that there is a fault in the electrical system, appliance or installation. By fitting a heavier fuse unsafe and fire conditions are created. The wise man will see to it that the fault is rectified by a qualified electrician and not to endeavour to carry out "do-it-yourself" repairs. One of the best safeguards today is the fitting of an earth relay unit.

COOKING HABITS

All cooking fats and oils have a

high flash point and are normally safe, but can and will ignite when subjected to intense heat. Many fires have been caused by a switched-on oven having been forgotten whilst the housewife is having a chat with the next door neighbour. When the oven door is opened the contents ignite in a spectacular manner and the person handling the stove finds herself sprayed with burning fat. In the case of overheating the stove should therefore be switched off and the oven door left closed for at least ten minutes. Then open it slightly to allow the heat to escape and thereafter open the door fully after a further ten minutes.

THE ELECTRICAL HAND DRILL

This appliance which is so useful in the home could also be lethal in the hands of the unwary. Without proper attention and servicing it cannot be expected to function safely indefinitely. Faulty drills have caused more deaths from electrocution than any other appliance.

ELECTRICAL HEATERS

Many serious fires have been started by these appliances being placed too close to curtains and clothing. They also represent a danger to children unless the elements are well guarded.

PRESSURE VESSELS

Liquid Petroleum Gas cylinders are in wide use today and are normally quite safe. Should the cylinder however become heated as a result of it being placed on a hot surface, the resulting explosion has enough force to blow a house apart!

Many aerosol containers contain inflammable liquids and are also dangerous when exposed to heat.

PARAFFIN LAMPS AND PRESSURE STOVES

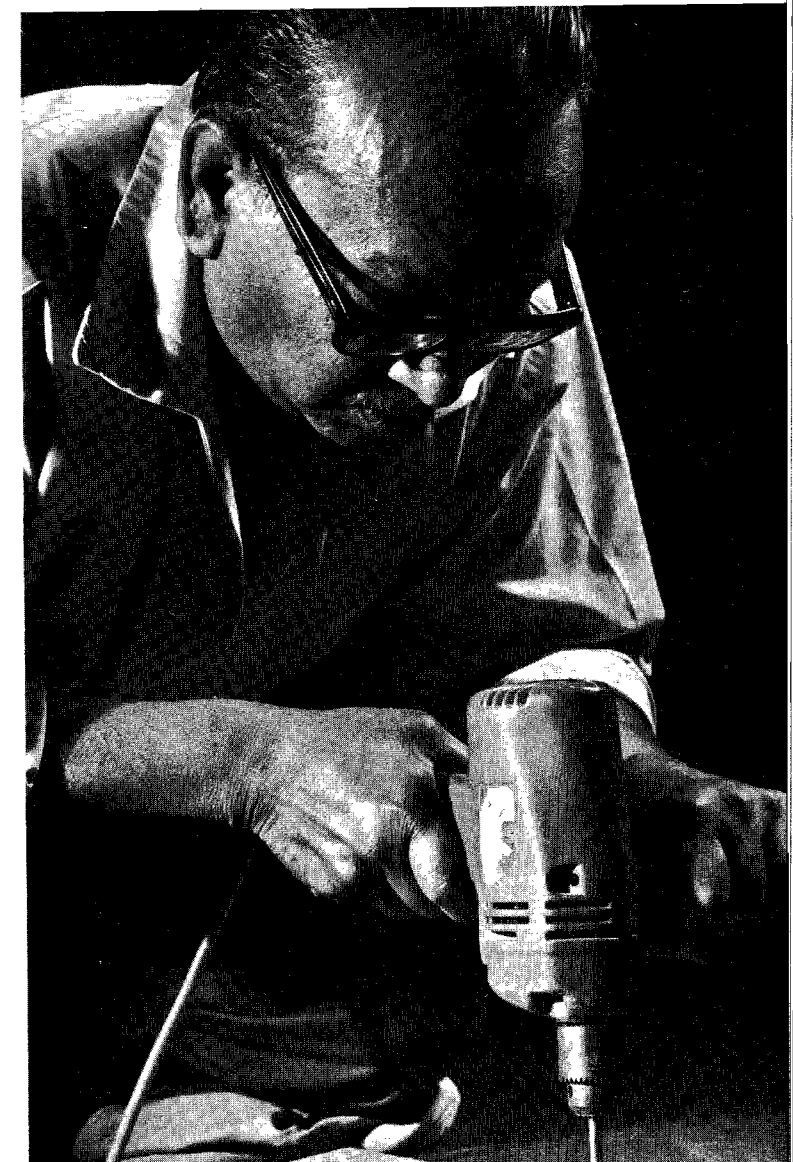
These constitute a high fire potential and are responsible for many fires. Fortunately they are not in such great use today as earlier years.

Modern life has many advantages and comforts, but to enjoy these it is necessary to face up to the many hazards which accompany them. Let us therefore take all the necessary precautions to ensure the safety of ourselves, our children and our homes. □



Above: Don't place electrical heaters near curtains or other inflammable material. See that the elements are guarded if children are about.

Right: Make sure that your hand drill receives regular service and attention.



SPRINGFIELD COLLEGE

extensions

ON Monday 5th March 1973 the first builder's pegs were driven into the ground to start the extensive additions to the Springfield College of Education. This long-awaited event was the culmination of years of planning and negotiation and will result in virtually a new teachers' college to serve the Indian Community of Natal. The contract period is for 33 months and the new buildings and alteration will cost R1 564 500 excluding furniture equipment.

The most noteworthy innovation will be the provision of two resi-

dences, one for 120 men, and the other for 80 women students. These residences will be well-equipped and students will be able to receive friends and relatives in the reception rooms provided. There will be a common dining room leading onto a large covered patio to be used for socials and dances. Each residence will have flats for the resident Warden and matron.

Much thought and experience has gone into the planning of the Auditorium. Designed to seat over 800 the floor is raked to provide every-

one with an uninterrupted view of a stage equipped to handle all types of theatrical productions.

The main entrance to the college will be through the present students' entrance. The stairway will be remodelled and will also serve as the entrance to the existing students' common rooms. Here there will be a self service cafeteria to cater for non-residents. The new administration block will be hexagonal in shape and will house the central registry and offices for the Rector, Deputy Rector and Heads of Departments. On the top floor of this block will be the Staff Room which will have extensive inland and sea views. This block will also house the new library — about three times the size of the existing one.

The present netball field will contain additional lecture rooms, a Chalk Board Room and tutorial rooms. An interesting new item will be an Infant Demonstration Room fitted with a one-way mirror system so that students will be able to watch lessons unobserved by the pupils.

New laboratories will be built for Chemistry, Physics and Zoology. There will also be specially equipped Geography, History and Audio-Visual rooms.

The library will be absorbed in the Art Block and the present Hall will be converted to two gymnasias with change rooms for staff and students. Part of the foyer leading to the hall will become a store-room and the rest, along with the administrative offices, will be converted to tutorial rooms.

As the new men's residence will be built on the present soccer field, land has been acquired from the King George V Hospital and new sports fields will be laid out there catering for cricket, football and athletics.

From the above it can be seen that the alterations and additions are very extensive and when completed the college will cater for a student roll of 750.

The whole conception is aesthetically pleasing and the object of harmonising the new structures with the existing buildings has been successfully achieved. □



A tractor levelling the site for the new extensions to the College.

LAKEHAVEN

PLAYING FIELDS

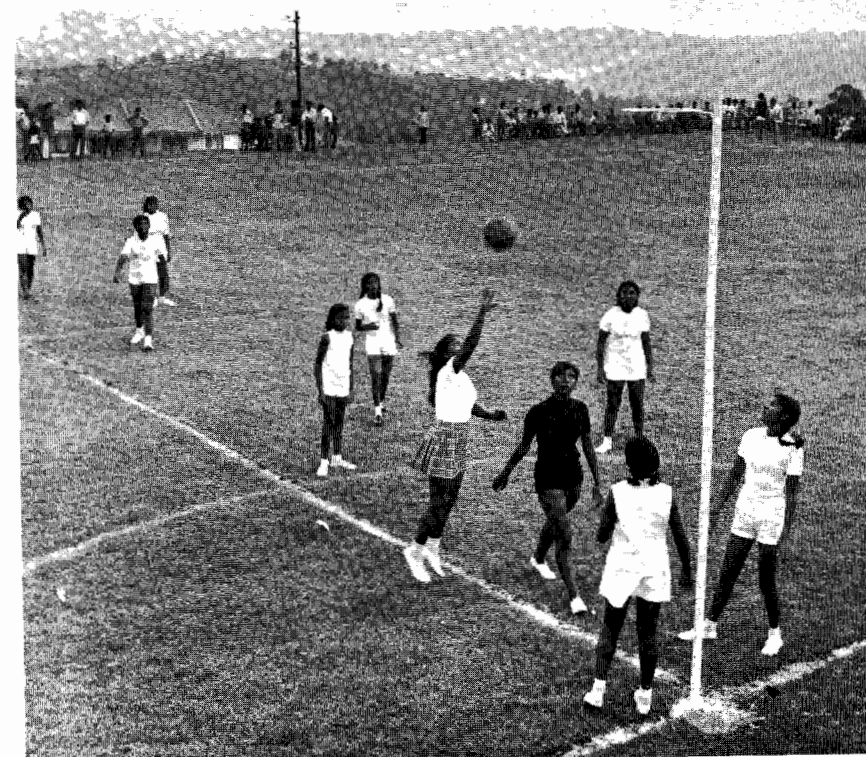
A PLAYING FIELD costing R2 000 and provided by the North Durban Rotary Club was recently opened by Mr Alan Burnett (President of the North Durban Rotary Club) at the Lakehaven Children's Home.

The field which was laid out from funds raised at charity functions held by the club, will provide for the recreational needs of the 70 children between the ages of 18 months and



The basket-ball match in progress between the girls of the Lakehaven and Aryan Benevolent Homes.

Mrs Burness, wife of Mr Burness, President of the North Durban Rotary Club, plants a tree to commemorate the occasion. Mr Dhanpal Naidoo, President of the Durban Indian Child Welfare Society lends a helping hand.



18 years accommodated at this home. In his address Mr Dhanpal Naidoo, president of the Durban Indian Child Welfare Society, said:

"The new playing field fulfils a primary recreational need at Lakehaven, and is part of the therapy set-up, but we still need a tennis court, nursery school and other facilities to make this institution complete."

After Mr Burnett had officially opened the playing field, guests were treated to a soccer match between boys and a basketball match between girls of Lakehaven and the Aryan Benevolent Children's Home.

To commemorate the occasion trees were planted by Mrs Burnett and the wives of other Rotarians who were also present at the function.

Mr M. E. Sultan, Chairman of the Lakehaven Board of Management Committee proposed the vote of thanks at the end of the meeting after which tea and refreshments were served. □

THERE has, in recent times, been a resurgence of interest among Indian South Africans in the cultural arts of India. Enterprising individuals and groups are making efforts to promote and give recognition to some essential aspects of the Indian heritage, particularly in the field of music and dance, for the benefit of the Indian Community in the Republic.

Understandably, at present, there is only a broad understanding of the arts. A more judicious and consistent approach to cultural matters should make for deeper appreciation and at the same time lend support for the reassertion of a new ideal in this country. In pursuance of this revival of interest and promise, it is intended, within the scope of this article, to examine briefly, the mutual influences of Indian sculpture and the classical dance form.

THE ART OF INDIA

The distinctiveness of Indian art begins in an attitude towards the soul. A great deal of the Art of India was to do with religion and has thus been shaped in accordance with Indian philosophy and a certain psychological intention. As such, Indian art expresses with perfect simplicity and directness the pure devotion and self-surrender implied in faith.

"Whatever I do, with or without my will being surrendered to Thee, I do it as impelled by Thee."

It is an art with perfect control of technical methods, which from its intense sincerity and depth of religious conviction makes no parade of virtuosity. The personality of the artist is merged in his own creations.

Stylistic features, recognisable as belonging to individual masters, are rare. The artist seeks no reward of fame or riches. He has no biographer, his masterpieces remain unsigned. He is content that his own identity shall be completely lost in his art and his name forgotten.

This, indeed, is essentially a characteristic of all Indian religious art, which it shares with the Gothic Art of Europe.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The art of India up to the fourth century was purely eclectic and transitional. The spirit of Indian thought

was struggling to find definite artistic expression in sculpture and painting. Perfection of expression was not reached until the seventh or eighth centuries when most of the sculpture was produced. One reason advanced for this is that the spirit of faith (bhakti) of the artist took more delight in sculpture than in painting on account of the greater labour. This came from the idea that the greater the labour devoted to the service of the gods the greater would be the merit won by the devotee. But, what may be termed typical Indian sculpture emerged at the time of Asoka, an emperor of the Mauryan Dynasty in the third century B.C.

SCULPTURE

Indian sculpture, by reason of it

being religious is not austere, gloomy or remote. It is exuberantly rhythmical, glowing and luxuriant. At the same time, like much of the art of eastern peoples, it is non-imitational but results from a conventional method.

Human figures are overwhelmingly the subject. An ancient treatise says that art fulfils the aims of life, the ultimate aim of which is release (moksha). Those who would reach it must endure discipline, for the breathing human body is where mok-

sha is realized. Thus the human form is represented in sculpture. Anatomical accuracy and individual portraiture are hardly known. Genre is absent. The sculptural quality of the figures lies in the direction of the sensuous and melodic loveliness. The vision of the sculptor was not dictated by his own preferences, but by terms of a canon which stipulated proportion, pose of body and gestures of hands and limbs.

According to Hindu theory no image can be "beautiful" if it is not

created according to the canon. The principles and practices of art are contained in a treatise on art called the Silpa Sastras. Whether the artist sculptured, carved or drew he never worked from a living model. His work was based on conception, not perception.

Some early critics applying the academic prescriptions of the West to Indian Art, without recognising its intentions and ideals, have attributed to the sculptors a deplorable lack of anatomical knowledge. There was no failure in technical accomplishment by the sculptors, as the bony structure of the body and limbs and the mechanism of the joints were perfectly understood but the muscular system was simplified

to express the artist's idealised image of the divine form. Indian genius has never lacked the power to express its highest religious ideals in worthy aesthetic form.

SCULPTURE AND THE DANCE

In one of the few references to aesthetics in Sanskrit literature, the correspondence between music, dancing and sculpture is emphasised. Another ancient treatise opens with a conversation between a king and a sage. The king desires to learn the whole meaning of sculpture, but he is told that he must first learn the theory of dancing. The figures in Indian Sculpture are given the bodies and movements of dancers because gods were known in religion and philosophy in the image of dancers.

The earliest known evidence of the dance in Indian was the bronze figure of a danseuse unearthed in the Mohenjodaro area. From this, one infers that the dance was in vogue during the Indus Valley Civilization (3000 - 1500 B.C.).

Both dance and sculpture, nurtured in the temples, have continued to support and inspire each other from the dawn of earliest civilization in India. Thus the best records of the dance are preserved in sculptural forms in temples. By causing monuments, in the way of temples to be built, royal patrons endeavoured to assure for themselves a footing in heaven whilst they were still on earth. The temple sculptures impressed on the minds of the masses the activity among the gods of the Universe.

At the great temple of Tanjore, sculpture and dance received great encouragement from successive rulers (the Cholas, Nayaks and Maharattas). Rajaraja was the ruler who sponsored the sculptures depicting the standard practices in the sphere of dancing. The Tanjore temple, also has a series of wall carvings illustrating the dance poses as expounded by Bharata Muni in his Natya Sastra, the treatise on dance drama in 300 A.D. There are numerous temples with these stylised poses of the dancers. At Chidambaram in South India the many styles with their variations of the sculptured dancing figures are considered to be an



Indian dance and music is graphically illustrated in the sculpture in the Purana Mahadeo Temple, India.

INDIAN SCULPTURE AND DANCE

MLAI
Subject Matter (Art)

"Encyclopaedia of the Dance Art".

The dancer was always a source of inspiration to the sculptor. In form, the sculptured dancers have become an everlasting guide and inspiration for generations of dancers. Such was the influence of the dance on the sculptors that even in portrayal of non-dancing figures a dance-like posture was evident.

The dance sculpture and Hindu iconography throughout India — Konarak, Bhubaneswar, Amravati, Belur and other places — bear testimony to the sculptor's knowledge of the dance.

Some 108 movements in the dance called the Karanas (karana means "to do") have been captured in the perpetual silence of the stone in the temples of India. Each Karana is a movement of the legs and the gestures of the hand. Just as a still photographer registers the fleeting movement — the sculptures show the beginning and the finish of each movement.

THE DANCE OF SIVA

Many of the mythological deities are said to be dancers but Siva in his role as Nataraja is the king of them all. Siva is the divine dancer who in the many different movements interprets the mathematical law of the universe. The principal movement, known as the Nadanta Dance is represented with wonderful power in the famous bronze image of the Nataraja. Other forms of Siva's dances as the Kali's dance of destruction are among the sculptures of Elephanta and Ellora.

The dance of Siva is still performed by Devadasis (temple maids) in the temples of Southern India and by exponents in many parts of the world. The appropriate dance for Siva is the role as the storm god as shown in the Nataraja sculpture. It is the dance of creation, existence and annihilation.

The popular explanation of the dance is as follows: Siva, disguised as an ordinary ascetic, came to a forest heritage where his enemies were assembled. He easily confuted their arguments and they in revenge tried to destroy him by black magic. First, they created a fierce tiger which sprang out of the sacrificial

The Dance of Siva. A centuries old piece of Sculptural art depicting the legendary Siva in his role as Nataraja.



fire. Siva seized it, stripped off its skin and wrapped it as a garment round his loins. Then they created a venomous serpent. Siva took it and wreathed it as a garland round his neck and began to dance. Whereupon, an ugly dwarf demon rushed out of the fire. Siva crushed it under his foot, broke its back and continued his triumphant dance, while all the Devas (gods) assembled as witnesses of his great power.

The great French master, Auguste Rodin wrote an impassioned tribute to the splendid bronze from the craftsman's point of view. The Nataraja embodies the mystic idea of divine ecstasy. In its technical treatment the figure represents the same broad anatomical generalization peculiar to the Indian divine ideal. The

Indian sculptor only delights in elaborating detail when he thinks it is necessary, but here he has deliberately left out the human details which he thought inappropriate.

CONCLUSION

As the Art of India speaks for itself, it is necessary for Indians in this country to give serious consideration to their cultural sterility. Endeavours, by this community in transition, to prevent a complete alienation from a heritage of which they are heirs, will prove more than rewarding in the years to come.

Therefore, minds should be kept open to meaningful influences which could be incorporated into presently developing cultural patterns in this particular context of this country with its diverse cultures. □



The new crematorium building incorporates the latest developments in crematorium planning.

A PROJECT which was first mooted as far back as 1935 has been brought to fruition with the recent opening of a Crematorium at Tongaat by Mr A. R. Naidoo, a prominent Verulam businessman. Built by the Town Board under the auspices of the Tongaat Crematorium Society, at a cost of R60 000, the Crematorium will provide a much-needed amenity for Indian residents on the North Coast.

Sketching the background of the project Mr G. H. Mitchell, Chairman of the Tongaat Town Board, said that the concept of a crematorium for Tongaat goes back very many years before 1954, when the then Administrator of Natal sanctioned an open air type of crematorium on the Tongaat River to be administered by the Tongaat Hindu Crematorium Society. Nothing was finalised, however, until 1968, when the Town Board's architects submitted their first sketch plan. In 1970 the Board applied to the Administrator and received authority in principle to erect a crematorium.

A final design prepared by the architects was thereafter chosen and approved by the Administrator and work on the structure which was undertaken by the staff of the Town

Mr A. R. Naidoo unveiling the plaque. With him are Messrs G. H. Mitchell, Chairman, Tongaat Town Board and S. K. Pillay, Treasurer, Tongaat Hindu Crematorium Society.

Board commenced last year.

Mr Mitchell said that the crematorium would cost the Town Board R60 000, and he thanked the Tongaat Crematorium Society for their very generous gift of R10 000 which was collected by public donation.

"There are", he said in the course of his address, "two points which we should remember today — firstly that this crematorium should serve as a reminder 'that in the midst of life we are in death'. Let us try and live every day to the fullest; make the most of every opportunity we are given and let us try and contribute all we can to the public good."

"Secondly," said Mr Mitchell, "whoever we are, whatever we do, however much money we earn —

death is the great equaliser. It is the common denominator. Everyone is united in death, but let us at Tongaat go one step further, let us, as in the past, be united in life. As parents, human beings and as adults of Tongaat we have so many things in common. Let us today on this rather solemn occasion make sure that this spirit continues and that we may be given the opportunity of going a long way further."

In conclusion Mr Mitchell said that the Tongaat Town Board is constantly working for the good of all our people and will keep on doing so. "One more project is successfully finalised", he said, "now we must move on to the next and so continue progress." □

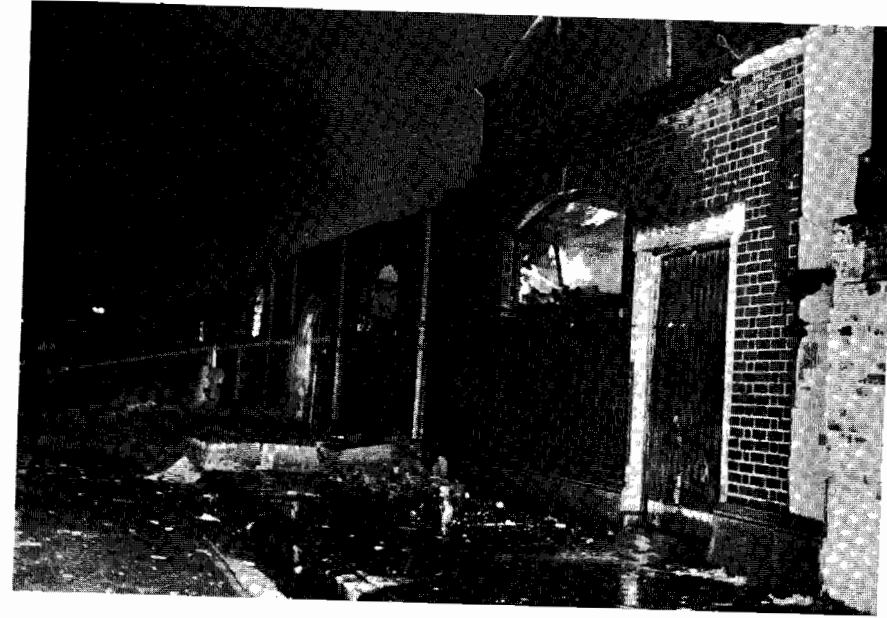


THE END OF A FAMOUS LANDMARK.
Durban's 63 year old Indian market in Victoria Street has been destroyed in one of the most disastrous fires experienced in that city for many years.

Well known as one of Durban's major tourist attractions, the market consisted of numerous stalls dealing in a wide variety of goods ranging from vegetables to curios. The fish, poultry and butchery section of the market escaped damage in the blaze.

In addition to the loss by stallholders of their livelihood, estimated damage to the extent of several million rand was caused by the fire.

Our pictures show the devastation resulting from the blaze.



NEWS and PHOTO FLASHES



One of South Africa's foremost insurance companies has taken the lead in providing as a free service to the Indian community, a management course for business and professional men. The course which extended over a period of three evenings was designed to afford executives the opportunity of becoming acquainted with modern management techniques.

The course which was led by Mr. B. Pfuhr, development manager of the Old Mutual, was attended by twenty five of the top Indian business and professional men in Durban.

Interviewed by Fiat Lux, Mr. A. M. Moolla, a leading industrialist and businessman of Durban who attended the course, said: "This was an excellent course. The lectures were delivered by a man who is an expert in the field of management. I personally found them extremely helpful."

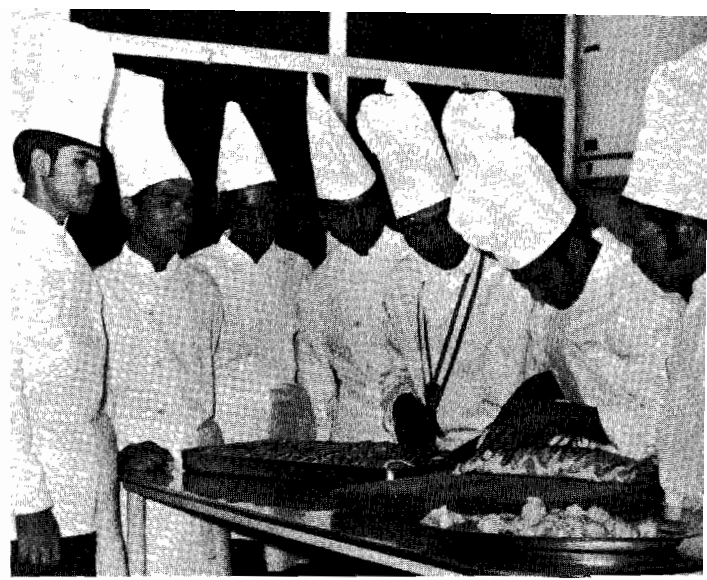
Mr Moolla said the main theme of the course was "Money, Material and Man", the most important of these being "Man". Throughout the course the importance of the relationship between management and employee was stressed, especially the importance of the building up of sound harmonious relations within the organisation.



A Durban student of Hindi, Miss Shanta Harriepersadh, receives a shawl of honour from Professor C. Ramfol of the University of Durban-Westville, after winning a "Kovid" Certificate for her success in a Hindi examination of post-matriculation standard conducted by a Hindi Institute in India. The ceremony took place at the Aryan Hall, Durban, recently.

Thirty eight students of the Divisions of Technology, Evening School, Commerce, Home Economics and Physical Education of the M.L. Sultan Technical College received awards at the Annual Speech and Awards function held at the College recently.

Our picture shows D. N. Govender, a first year apprentice bricklayer receiving the Grinaker Group Award from Mr R. C. Throssel, Vice-President of Steel and Engineering Industries Federation of South Africa.



M.L. Sultan Technical College at a function recently awarded certificates and diplomas to successful students in its Catering School Division.

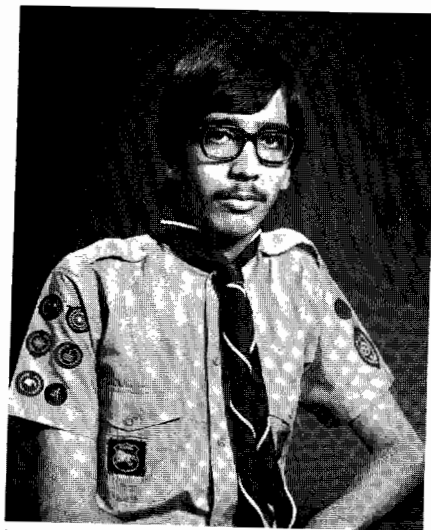
Our picture shows some of the student cooks examining some of the foodstuffs prepared by them.

The foundation stone of the new Indian community centre at Westville was laid recently by the Mayor of Westville, Councillor W. H. Bamber.

The project which is estimated to cost R70 000 which will be borne by the Westville Municipality, will comprise a hall, seating about 400, a large stage, an imposing foyer, supper room and offices for the local affairs committee.

According to the Chairman of the Local Affairs Committee, Dr A. N. Naidoo, the project will be built in three phases. It is expected that the first two phases, i.e. the foyer and main hall, will be completed this year. The third phase, which will include the supper room and offices will be completed later.

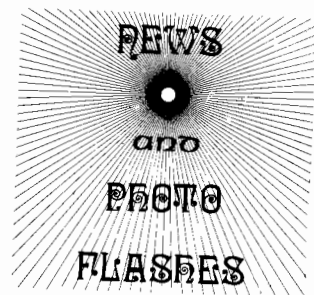




TWO OUTSTANDING SCOUTS

Selvarajan Pillay (left) and Jugdeesh Kalidas (right) who have been connected with the Scout Movement for the last ten years, have besides participating in all scouting activities covered more than 160 km in various hikes. Selvarajan is the 1972 Bata Toughies 80 km Hike Divisional Winner and is the troop leader of the Clairwood Scout Group.

Both youngsters are matriculation students and are at present Bushman Thong Scouts. They are now busy completing the requirements for the Springbok Scout Badge, the highest badge attainable by Scouts. They are two of the seven Natal scouts to be chosen to represent Natal at the first multiracial Scout Youth forum held in South Africa recently.



The launching of the 1973 Easter Stamp campaign in the Indian Community of Pretoria took place at the Civic Centre, Laudium, on the 26th February, 1973. The Mayoress, Mrs G. T. Malherbe, bought the first stamp from Mr B. Devchand, Chairman of the Laudium Management Committee, Mr H. Parker, Director of the National Council for the Care of Cripples in South Africa was the guest speaker on this occasion.



At a social evening held at the Dannhauser State Indian Primary School recently, book prizes and trophies were awarded for activities that had taken place during the year.

Our picture shows Kalil Hassim being presented the Soccer trophy by Mrs A. Y. Danjee. The Mayor of Dannhauser, Mr L. C. Koch and Inspector of Education, Mr W. J. J. van der Merwe are seated in the background.

Mr van der Merwe, who was the guest speaker addressed the gathering on "Differentiated Education" and explained to parents the courses that were being offered under this new system at the Dundee State Indian High School, which serves the Dannhauser area.

FIAT LUX May, 1973



Most Indian women still favour the colourful and graceful sari — especially for formal occasions.

FIAT LUX May, 1973

WESTERN INFLUENCE ON INDIAN WOMEN IN SOUTH AFRICA

by

MRS K. P. NAIDOO

AS far back as 1860 the first shipload of indentured Indians set foot on the shores of Natal to work on the sugar plantations. Even though they were domiciled in a foreign land, the Indians retained their Eastern culture and traditions. This was the position until the early thirties of the present century when many facets of Indian life began to undergo change. The so-called Westernisation of the Indian woman is actually a process of emancipation and modernisation. This was due not only to the education of a western pattern extended to Indian girls but also to the close proximity of their Western sisters in this country. Because of the changed attitude of the Indian parents in regard to the education of girls, the number receiving education from the Primary to the University level had increased beyond expectation, particularly during the last quarter of the century.

Indian women are rapidly shaking off the shackles that bound them in the same way as their Western counterparts of the Victorian era. The disadvantages which women of the West suffered in this era were in many respects similar to those experienced by their Eastern sisters about 50 years ago. Many changes, however, have taken place in the life of the Indian women in South Africa in a comparatively short time. In the past they lived a secure and untroubled life protected by their menfolk from all the harsh realities of life. They were expected to leave all business and public affairs to the males of the household. The ideal Indian woman was portrayed as a modest, retiring creature who ruled in her own domain but took very little interest in anything outside it. She never meddled in legal matters or politics and never dreamt of claiming equality with men.

Nowadays, the idea that an Indian woman is naturally subservient to her menfolk is rapidly dying out. The western women's liberation movement has had a profound effect on many modern Indian women. Gone are the days when households needed constant attention to keep them running smoothly. Most modern Indian homes now have their vacuum cleaners, electric polishers, refrigera-



Indian women are to an increasing extent taking up employment in a variety of occupations. A woman operator is here seen adjusting a weaving machine in a large textile manufacturing concern.

tors, washing machines and food mixers. The accent is on labour saving. This naturally means more leisure. Having "time on her hands", the Indian woman thinks of taking up a career as well as running a home.

Not many years ago it was unheard of for Indian women to go out to work except in the poorest section of the community where the woman had to supplement the family income by such labours as working in the sugar plantations and market gardens. Today Indian women are trained and qualified in almost every profession open to them.

Women who have not had the opportunity of receiving normal education attend part-time classes in a variety of courses both professional and vocational.

Advances are also being made in the cultural field. Classical dancing, like ballet, is becoming increasingly popular with young Indian girls. They attend classes either at the M. L.



Sultan Technical College or receive training at private studios. A few Indian girls learn Indian ballet or "Barathnatyam" but the majority seem to prefer the western form of ballet.

Age-old customs and traditions which were practised by their forebears are still observed by some Indian women who cling tenaciously to the Eastern way of life. Religious ceremonies connected with family events are still widely practised by some Indian women. Wedding ceremonies continue to be performed in the traditional manner but they are now considerably modified. In Hindu weddings the "Thali" or necklaces is used in place of the western wedding ring. However, it is now becoming fashionable for contracting parties to exchange rings. The cutting of the wedding cake by the bride and bridegroom is gaining popularity.

The accepted system of arranged marriages amongst Indians is also undergoing change. Marriages have been usually arranged affairs. The parents choose the respective partners. The trend is now for love and

Western ballet too has its followers among the Indian community. Our picture shows a ballet class in progress at the M.L. Sultan Technical College.

courtship to follow the western tradition. This was unheard of in the past.

Another feature of Indian society is the joint family system where the eldest son exercises a very strong influence on the household. When he marries, his wife comes into the family and cooks and cares for the rest. If there are other sons, their wives also become an integral part of the family. The elderly parents are cared for by the sons and their families.

Today there is a break-down of the joint family system. The young people desire to live independently. Westernisation and education have encouraged in women a desire for self-expression and the right to run

tians. Small groups of Indian women were taught knitting, embroidery and needlework. Some were taught how to play the piano and the organ. Many Indian women are now able to play a variety of western musical instruments.

Indian women were also taught the use of cutlery, crockery, and laying of the table with linen and also western table manners.

The western concept of nutrition has had beneficial efforts on young Indian mothers. Young Indian children were in the past fed on spicy diets. Because of education, Indian mothers pay special attention to a balanced diet. Growing children are given plenty of milk and plain, nourishing food.



Western garments are worn for the sake of convenience and have been found to be more suitable for office wear.

their own homes.

Even Moslem women who only a few years ago lived in strict purdah and were denied all but the elements of education have now fully emerged and occupy their rightful place in community activities.

The type of garments worn by Indians is also changing. The Indian male has adopted the western type of clothes but the Indian woman still clings to the glamorous "sari" or "Punjabi" costume. Many Indian women wear western garments for the sake of convenience and on important occasions like religious ceremonies the traditional costumes are worn.

During the turn of the century the wives of missionaries exerted an influence on the wives of Indian Chris-

The establishment of clinics by Municipalities has helped to improve the health of the Indian child. Family planning clinics have influenced mothers to reduce the size of the family. They now enjoy better health and are relieved of the responsibility of bringing up a large family.

The type of entertainment enjoyed by Indian women has also been influenced by the West. Indian women go to the cinema where western films are shown. Occasionally, they enjoy Indian films, but the older generation prefers such films.

Western ballroom dancing is also gaining popularity amongst Indian women. They patronise the many night clubs now available for Indians. More and more women frequent discotheques and dance to the accom-

paniment of pop music.

Special attention is also given to speech and elocution. Indian girls who have had the advantage of education now speak English without a trace of an Indian accent which is usually associated with their forebears. As a medium of communication English is preferred to the vernacular.

Indian women follow the fashion set by western hair stylists. Several beauty salons have been established and well patronised by Indian women. In the past Indian women managed their own hair and preferred to wear it either braided or in a "bun". Indian women now attend functions with the latest creations in hair styling. Wigs and hair pieces are also

in fashion. The modern Indian girl prefers short, sleek hair styles which are convenient and easy to manage.

The introduction of sport among Indian girls has had a marked effect on their health and well-being. They now participate in all types of sport. Because of systematic training and outdoor activity, the physique of the Indian girl has improved greatly. She is no more petite and delicate but is stronger and healthier than her grandmother.

A matter of concern is the increasing divorce rate among Indian women. Divorce was unheard of in the past. The sanctity of the marriage vows was rigidly observed even if the married couple were totally unsuited to each other.



The influence of the West is becoming more evident in the kitchen where housewives are experimenting with a variety of Western dishes.

The impact of the West is also seen in the different dishes prepared in modern Indian homes. Indian women were taught to make do with the little they had. Because of her skill as a cook, the Indian mother improvised whenever a basic ingredient was not available with the result that Indian cookery in this country has acquired a typical South African flavour. Cookery books were unheard of in the past. Indian mothers usually passed down their favourite dishes to their daughters who had to serve a period of apprenticeship in cookery under the eagle eye of an old grandmother or elderly relative who demanded a certain standard. When the girl reached the marriageable age she went to the home of her mother-in-law with a sound knowledge of the art of cookery. It was regarded as a stigma for any mother to send a "novice" to the home of her husband-to-be. Even though the Indian woman has not radically changed her style of cooking, the influence of the West is becoming more and more evident. In many Indian homes a variety of Western dishes is prepared. Baking cakes, pas-

tries and the making of sweets and preparation of savoury dishes such as roasts, stew and soups are distinct evidence of western influence.

Indian chefs in hotels prepare a complete Western menu which is popular among young South African

Indian women are making increased use of Municipal Clinics providing child care services as well as family planning clinics.



Indians. The national dish of curry and rice introduced into this country by the Indian has become part and parcel of the cuisine of the Westerners. Very few South African hotels do not have curry and rice on the menu. Here it is interesting to note that the West has been influenced by the exotic dishes of the East!

There is no doubt that the influence of the West on the Indian woman has been most marked in recent years. She has now fitted into the South African pattern of life with a happy blending of the best from the East and the West. In this connection it is interesting to note the remarks made by a visiting international lecturer, Mr. Balasubramanian from Madras University after his stay in South Africa. He observed that:

"They (Indians) have already taken so much to the Western way of dress that some of them raised their brows when I, as a fellow Indian, arrive from India in native attire and move among them. When they eat, it is Indian food taken in the European way. Frankly, I am apprehensive about the perpetuation, and usefulness of the Indian language to the various sections of the local community."

mETRICATION

USE OF YARDSTICKS NOW ILLEGAL

THE ATTENTION OF SHOPKEEPERS and other dealers in cloth and piece goods is drawn to the fact that the use in trade of any non-metric measure of length or volume became illegal on January 1, 1973.

Shopkeepers are therefore urged in their own interests to obtain their assized metre measures as soon as possible.

A handy pocket-size card "Metrication of piece goods" (MP 24) which gives the metric equivalents for various lengths and widths of material is available free of charge from the Metrication Department, SABS, Private Bag X191, Pretoria.

INFORMATION PLATES ON BUSES AND GOODS VEHICLES

The attention of owners of buses and goods vehicles is drawn to certain requirements stipulated in the Road Traffic Regulations regarding information which has to be displayed.

The following information must be displayed in a conspicuous position on the left side of the vehicle in letters and figures not less than 40 mm in height:

- the tare of such vehicle in kilograms (kg) (denoted as T)
(Example: T 1 089 kg)
- the permissible maximum vehicle mass of the vehicle in kilograms (kg) (denoted as V)
(Example: V 2 255 kg)
- if the vehicle is used to draw another vehicle, the permissible maximum drawing vehicle (denoted as D/T) mass of such vehicle in kilograms (kg)
(Example: D/T 4 986 kg)

In the case of registered buses or goods vehicles with a gross vehicle mass in excess of 3 500 kg the following particulars in relation to the buses or goods vehicle must be clearly imprinted or stamped on a metal plate or plates in an accessible position on a door post or under the bonnet or on the dashboard of such vehicle or, in the case of a trailer, on the left side thereof, in any conspicuous position:

- the tare in kilograms (kg) (denoted as T)
- the gross vehicle mass in kilograms (kg) (denoted as GVM / BVM)
- the gross axle massload or axle unit massload of each axle unit in kilograms (kg) (denoted as GA / BA or GAU / BEA)
- the gross combination mass in kilograms (kg) (denoted as GCM / BKM)
- where applicable, the maximum net power at sea level in kilowatts (kw) delivered to the transmission (denoted as P/D)

- the permissible maximum vehicle mass in kilograms (kg) (denoted as V)
- the permissible axle massload or axle unit massload of each axle or axle unit in kilograms (kg) (denoted respectively as A or AU / AE); and
- the permissible maximum drawing vehicle mass in kilograms (kg) if such vehicle is used to draw other vehicles (denoted as D / T)

CORRECT SYMBOLS

The correct international symbol for kilogram is kg. Both letters are lower case and there is no full stop. The correct manner of writing is with a space separating three groups of three digits.

Examples: CORRECT T 2 530 kg
INCORRECT T 2,530 kg
INCORRECT T 2 530 KG

SALE OF THERMOMETERS

As from 1 October, 1973, the possession for sale of new thermometers calibrated in degrees Fahrenheit, or thermometers with dual calibrations, will become illegal. Shop owners and manufacturers of articles incorporating such instruments are advised to sell their existing stocks as soon as possible, and to avoid procuring further such instruments if they are to avoid being landed with unsaleable stocks in nine months' time.

The relevant proclamation is No. R317 of 1972 and is an extension of Proclamation No. R212 of 1972. For the convenience of readers, the permissible units for instruments affected by these two proclamations are listed below. The dates given are the dates upon which the possession for sale of new, incorrectly calibrated instruments becomes illegal.

Measure or instrument	Permissible units	Date
Any massmeter	kilogram (kg) and submultiples; metric ton (t)	1 August, 1973
Any ruler or measuring tape	metre (m) and submultiples	1 August, 1973
Any kitchen measure of volume	litre(l) and submultiples; submultiples of the cubic metre (m ³)	1 August, 1973
Any temperature measuring instrument having visible indications	kelvin (K), degree Celsius (°C)	1 October, 1973

NOTE

- The kelvin is a unit of temperature used in scientific work. For most everyday applications, the use of the degree Celsius is recommended.
- The name "degree centigrade" is still frequently encountered. This name is however obsolete, having been replaced by "degree Celsius" as far back as 1948

by the CGPM (the highest international authority on the metric system). It should therefore no longer be used.

RECIPES

The Metrication Department is pleased to announce that kitchen measuring cups, measuring spoons and dry measures manufactured according to CKS specifications 246, 247 and 248 will be available in the near future. Problems associated with the production of suitable moulds are being overcome, and housewives and educationists will be pleased to know that metric measures will soon be on the market.

Compilers of recipe books are urged to make every effort to have their books properly metricated. Unfortunately, it is not always simply a matter of converting imperial quantities to metric equivalents. It should be remembered that recipes are no longer written in terms of "cups" and "spoons" but in terms of grams, kilograms, millilitres and litres. The Metrication Department will be happy to advise on this matter. To allow suitable tolerances, it is also necessary that new metric recipes be compiled and actually tried out in the kitchen.

Pagers read at the Seminar on Metrication in Cooking and Dietetics held last year will be available shortly in book form at 50 cents per copy. □

GREY STREET PROCLAIMED

THE LONG AWAITED proclamation of the area generally known as the Grey Street Complex was published in the Government Gazette of April 27, 1973.

In terms of this proclamation the area has been proclaimed as an area for occupation and ownership by members of the Indian Group in terms of Section 23 of the Group Areas Act, No. 30 of 1966. The relevant proclamation declares further that in terms of the provisions of Section 19 (1) of the Act, all the buildings, land or premises in the area shall be occupied or used for the purposes of business only.

DEFINITION OF "BUSINESS"

For purposes of the proclamation the expression "business" means:

- (i) the trades or occupations specified in the First and Second Schedules to the Licences Act, 1962 (Act 44 of 1962), excluding hotels, boarding- or lodging-houses and the letting of flats or rooms for residential purposes;
- (ii) the sale of liquor in terms of any of the licences specified in sections 8(1)(a) or 8(1)(b) (i) (iii) or (iv) of the Liquor Act 1928 (Act 30 of 1928), an authority specified in section 71 bis (7) (a) of the said Act or a special author-

- ity specified in section 100 sex (1) of the said Act, to the extent that such licences do not include occupation for residential purposes; and
- (iii) financial institutions, offices, industries, personnel restaurants, funeral parlours, parking accommodation, medical consulting rooms and club activities in so far as it does not include occupation for residential purposes.

DESCRIPTION OF THE AREA:

The proclamation describes the area as follows:-

"From the point where the middle of Grey Street intersects the middle of Derby Street, north-east along the middle of the said Derby Street, Albert Street, Commercial Road, Grey Street, Pine Street, Cathedral Road, Queen Street, Cemetery Lane, and Victoria Street to the point where it intersects the south-eastern boundary of the railway reserve; thence generally north-east along the south-eastern boundary of the railway reserve to the point where it intersects the middle of Cross Street; thence north-west in a straight line to the point where the middle of the said Cross Street intersects the middle of Alice Street; thence north-west along the middle of the said Cross Street, Carlisle Street and Grey Street to the point first named".

PRESS STATEMENT:

In a joint press statement by the Secretaries for Planning and the Environment and for Community Development it was announced that the planning and development of the trading area which was proclaimed an area for occupation and ownership by members of the Indian Group for the purposes mentioned in the proclamation, are matters which fall under the control of the Department of Community Development. Persons affected by this proclamation may seek further information from the aforementioned Department. It should, however, be pointed out that prohibited usages, including cinemas, will only, after the expiration of one year and upon written notification to the occupants by the relative Department be terminated upon a date mentioned in the notice. In this connection, however, the assurances can be given that the matter will be dealt with sympathetically and with due regard to alternative facilities.

As far as religious institutions are concerned, the existing Government policy that no population group will be deprived of the use of its places of worship, applies.

Members of disqualified groups in the proclaimed area will have to move to their own group areas for residential purposes, but as repeatedly stated by the Government, no person will be resettled unless alternative accommodation is available.

Enquiries in connection with any aspect emanating from the proclamation, including resettlement and housing, should be directed to the Regional Representative, Department of Community Development, Private Bag 4315, Durban.



GROUP OF SIX HEROES OF UMGENI

Back row: Sabapathy Govender, Mariemuthoo Padavatan (captain), Gengan Padavatan.
Front row: T. Veloo, Rungasamy, Naidoo, Kuppusamy Naidoo.
This picture was taken a day after the rescue (29th October, 1917).

"The act of your deed will be long remembered. Great was the service that was done that day. And such a deed shall be appreciated and commemorated as a great event."

From: TIRUKKURAL

(A moral aphorism of Tiruvalluvar (4th Century A.D.) in Tamil on Address presented to Mariemuthoo Padavatan.)

THIS is a story of courage and of tragedy. The courage of six men with nerves of steel and dogged determination who dared and defied the wrath of nature when death and destruction struck at Durban's Springfield Flats, fifty-five years ago.

This broad flood plain, where the Umgeni River leaves the hills and winds out to meet the Indian Ocean, was densely peopled by some 500 families of small Indian market gardeners. In October 1917, a deluge brought great disaster here to lives and properties.

The year 1917 saw torrential rains in Natal and most of the rains fell between June and October when the very heavens seemed to let loose hell on Durban. Phenomenal rains literally descended in sheets for four continuous days between 25th and 28th October. The only great recorded disaster in Durban before this

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was in May, 1905 when the Umbilo River, flowing to the Durban Bay, rose in flood and many Indian gardeners were washed in to the Bay.

On Sunday, 28th October 1917 the sleepers of the Umgeni Valley were awakened by a most thunderous din as the raging river rose rapidly above the banks and within minutes had beleaguered the numerous houses with water up to a height of 2 metres. A large number of people perished in their sleep whilst others scrambled up to their roof-tops. Here, whipped by the downpour and howling wind which had reached hurricane force, they clung desperately as the foundation of their homes were rocked by the swirling torrents. In such a hazardous and precarious

plight, many clung on as they awaited the morning light and hope of rescue. A flood victim, in describing the terrible hardship on that dark fateful morning, recounted how he stood on the roof with his wife and two children as the water rose up to his chest, he carried his children on his shoulders, and one of them died through exposure.

Throughout the night the river rose rapidly, as a tremendous amount of debris had collected further downstream against the Railway Bridge and two other bridges which spanned the Umgeni at a narrow gorge. The clogging of the debris at the bridges, dammed up the furious on-rushing waters and set up a number of treacherous cross-currents through-

out the inundated area. The water at the Connaught Bridge had risen to a height of 25 metres (27 feet) above the normal flow.

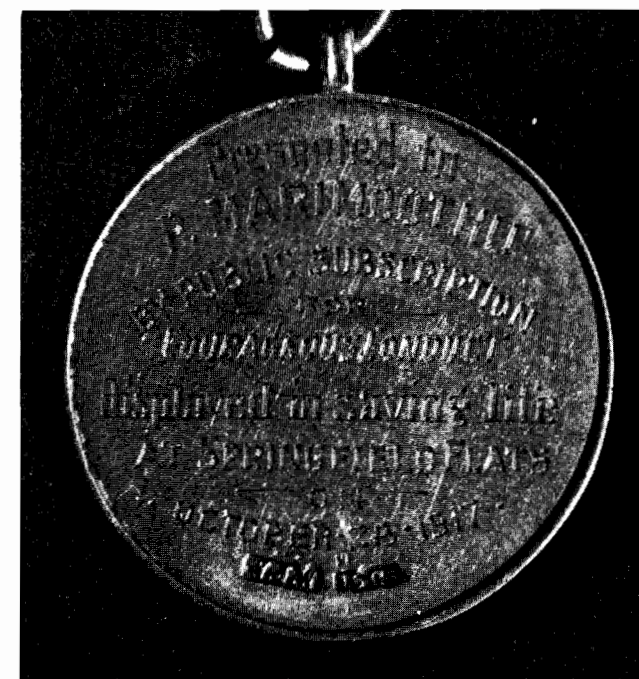
At the crack of dawn, White rescue workers under Chief Constable Donovan rescued a few Indian families marooned on an island near the mouth of the river. Then a message reached him that flood conditions were exceedingly serious higher up the river, at Springfield Flats, where whole families perched on house-tops were hopelessly trapped and were threatened by imminent danger of being swept away to sea.

On the same morning, when there was a slight break in the torrential downpour, T. Veloo made his way to the fishing hut near the North Pier, to see what damage had been done by the heavy seas to the fishing equipment. What follows is his account of the sad drama given to the author in 1957, a few years before his death.

"I found one of our flat-bottomed surf boats missing and subsequently learnt that the boat had been taken away by the Police to the Umgeni River. It was said that the flood had created havoc there.

Together with crowds of people, I arrived by tram at the Umgeni bridges. The whole Umgeni Valley presented a picture of utter desolation as it appeared to be one great inland lake. The surging river was pounding furiously against the Railway and Connaught Bridges and the level of the water was within inches of flowing over the bridges. A number of houses that stood alongside the banks were either missing or floating down the rushing river. Clinging onto the roof of one house was a family which shouted and wept for help in vain. In a moment the house was sucked by the surging torrents and the whole family was lost forever.

Then, I made my way across the hill through the Burman Bush to Springfield Flats. The Flats, as far as the eye could see, was a huge sheet of water and many families were either desperately perched or hanging on to their flimsy roofs. They were in a piteous plight as every swirl of water brought death and de-



GOLD MEDAL BELONGING TO MARIEMUTHOO PADAVATAN
(a) On one side: "Presented to P. MARIMUTHU by public subscription for courageous conduct displayed in saving life at Springfield Flats, October 28, 1917."

struction to some of them. The thousands of sight-seers who stood on the higher banks were in no position to help.

It was here, near what today is the intersection of Quarry and Alpine Roads, that I saw our fishing boat which was carried earlier, with much labour, over the hill. In its first trip to carry out rescue work the boat was handled by some brave White volunteers. About a hundred yards from the dry land there was a house with a number of women and children on it. When the crew of Whites put out, the treacherous cross-currents swiftly swept the boat more than half a mile downstream. After fighting bravely for more than an hour against the formidable torrents, the family was eventually rescued. As the river currents proved too dangerous, Chief Constable Donovan decided to abandon any further rescue work. It was then that I saw Mariemuthoo and Gengan Padavatan talking to Police Inspector W. Alexander. I made my way to them. Sabapathy Govender, Rungasamy Naidoo and Kuppasamy Naidoo arrived at the scene. Mariemu-



(b) Reverse side: The Durban Corporation's coat of arms.

thoo, sensing our eagerness and enthusiasm to have a go at rescue work, asked us to jump into the boat. Although we were accustomed to riding the swells of the sea, the river currents proved to be very treacherous and very often I feared we would be swept away to death and disaster at any moment. But it was not to be, as there was team-spirit, split-second team work, very able leadership under Mariemuthoo and above all, the determination to save lives. During each trip we brought a load of between 30 to 40 persons. These people were made to lie on the floor of the boat and we stood in an upright position along the middle of the vessel and worked the oars. It was through the employment of this method that we met with no disaster as the boat was prevented from rolling over. After making five trips we were restrained by Constable Donovan from making the sixth as the light was failing badly and we were completely exhausted. It was said that after the fifth trip we were staggering like punch-drunk men. I do not remember this but all I remembered was a need for a brief

rest. We were told that we had brought 175 persons to safety . . ."

Towards the evening of that fateful Sunday the Railway bridge which was jammed with debris gave way under the terrific onslaught of the river and released the dammed up water.

This great deluge left in its wake a deplorable scene of death, destruction and devastation. There is no doubt, death would have claimed many more lives had it not been for the most courageous and memorable rescue which was undertaken by the Indian fishing crew of Fynnlands, under the leadership of Mariemuthoo Padavatan.

This appalling calamity evoked a deep feeling of sympathy for the unfortunate victims throughout South Africa by all sections of its people, which included Lord Buxton, the Governor-General, General Louis Botha, the Prime Minister, and Mahatma Gandhi who was in India.

The local English press paid high tribute to all the heroic rescuers: ". . . when human beings are in danger . . . it was grand to note the magnificent efforts and courage of all in the dangerous rescue work . . ."

PORTRAIT OF MARIEMUTHOO PADAVATAN
Captain of the fishermen. He is seen wearing his gold medal.



Women and children were in danger, that was quite enough to call forth all that is best and bravest in the races. It was a noble spectacle."

"Then there is that wonderful crew of Indian fishermen, who carried out the work of rescue until utterly exhausted, bringing boatload after boatload at the imminent risk of their lives. The public presentation of the medal of the Royal Humane Society would be a fitting reward for these men, who offered their services voluntarily at a time when the bravest could have been forgiven for refusing to venture into the angry flood."

In recognition of the fishermen's gallant feat, the citizens of Durban, represented by Mr T. Burman, M.P.C. at a public ceremony, presented each of these heroes with a gold medal bearing Durban's coat of arms and inscribed with these words: "For

courageous conduct displayed in saving life at Springfield Flats on October 28, 1917." A silver-mounted malacca walking stick, suitably inscribed, was presented to Mariemuthoo Padavatan, the captain of the crew, in addition to a medal.

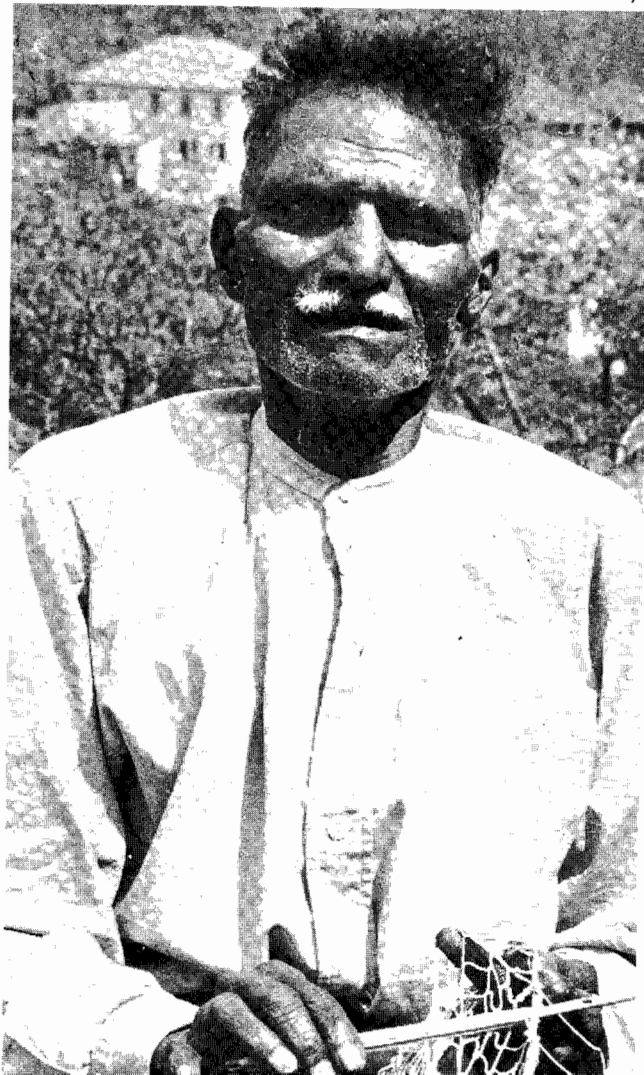
Among the others, at this ceremony, who extolled the gallantry of the fishermen were the Chief Constable Donovan and Police Inspector W. Alexander. The Chief Constable said that these men rendered conspicuous service by saving life in the disastrous flood. He personally saw a part of what these men did, and he could only testify that they took a man's part, a brave part, in rescuing people. Inspector Alexander said that during his war campaigns he had seen many noble deeds performed but he doubted whether they were more noble than those performed by these men on October 28th. On many occasions his heart

went into his mouth in expectation of seeing the boat go under. The obstacles they had to encounter in the way of floating houses and huge trunks of trees, made their work perilous in the extreme.

The sentiments of the Indian community were aptly recorded in a citation of 8th December 1917, presented to Mariemuthoo Padavatan. It was one of appreciation and gratitude in commemoration of the invaluable and heroic services rendered by Mariemuthoo Padavatan and his small band of five noble assistants:

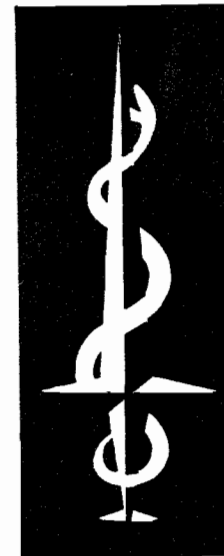
"An action like this needs no comment. Yet if men are to be found who are willing to risk their very lives to succour fellow creatures in distress, it is but becoming on our part to express the sentiments which burn in our breasts, occasioned by much self-sacrificing and ardent devotion . . . when in face of considerable difficulties and perils you risked your lives again and again on the tempestuous bosom of the irresistible flood to succour the hundreds of unfortunates marooned on the housetops and trees at the submerged flats of Springfield and who well nigh spent with exposure and sheer exhaustion were continuously threatened to be swept away to a watery grave in the Indian Ocean and eventually with untiring zeal and becoming perseverance effected the rescue of 175 of our countrymen, women and children from imminent death. We beg you . . . to accept our heartfelt gratitude for the humane services you have so nobly rendered, assuring you that this heroic deed will ever remain enshrined in our hearts."

Today the noble deeds of these humble self-sacrificing, seine fishermen is not known to the present generation. All of them are dead. There is no memorial, whatsoever, to commemorate their heroism, hardly a place in the gallery of South African heroes and their feat, among their own people, is but a vague memory bordering more on fiction than fact, a legend perhaps, but in reality they were heroes of whom all South Africans could justly be proud. □



T. VELOO
When this picture was taken in 1959, he was the last of the surviving heroes. He was then 70 years old.

The Need is Now



Die Tyd is Ryp

FIGHT CANCER

BESTRY KANKER

CANCER'S 7 DANGER SIGNS

1. ANY SORE THAT DOES NOT HEAL.
2. A LUMP OR THICKENING IN THE BREAST OR ELSEWHERE.
3. UNUSUAL BLEEDING OR DISCHARGE.
4. ANY CHANGE IN A WART OR MOLE.
5. PERSISTENT INDIGESTION OR DIFFICULTY IN SWALLOWING.
6. PERSISTENT HOARSENESS OR COUGH.
7. ANY CHANGE IN NORMAL BOWEL HABITS.

THE NATIONAL CANCER ASSOCIATION
OF SOUTH AFRICA

The Need is Now

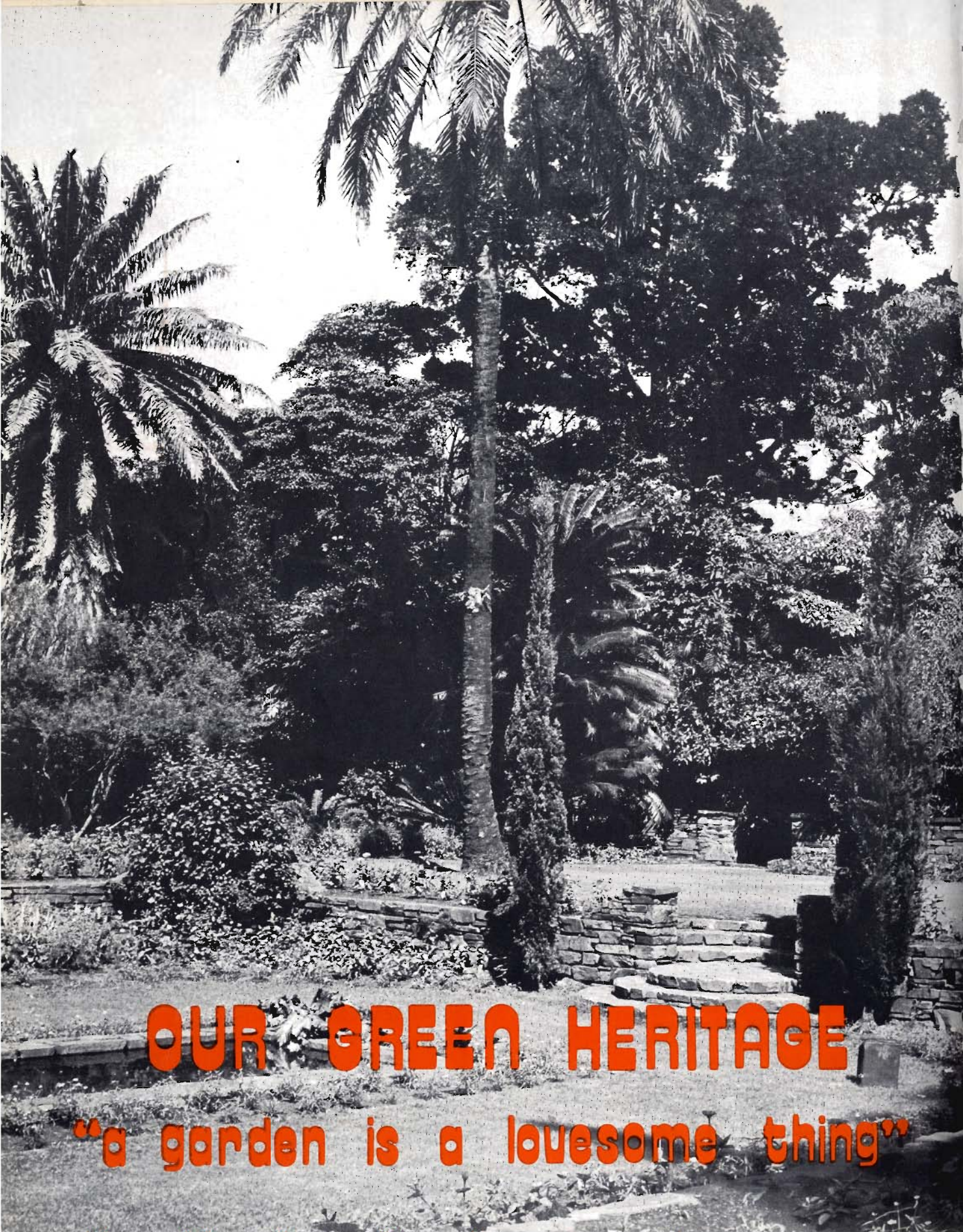


Die Tyd is Ryp

DIE 7 GEVAARTEKENS VAN KANKER

1. ENIGE SEER WAT MAAR NIE GESOND WIL WORD NIE.
2. ENIGE KLONT OF VERDIKKING IN DIE BORS OF ELDERS.
3. BUITENGEWONE BLOEDING OF AFSKEIDING.
4. ENIGE VERANDERING VAN 'N VRATJIE OF MOESIE.
5. AANHOUDENDE SLEGTE SPYSVERTERING OF SLUKMOEILIKHEID.
6. AANHOUDENDE HEESHEID OF 'N GEHOES.
7. ENIGE VERANDERING IN DIE NORMALE INGEWANDSGEWOONTES.

DIE NASIONALE KANKERVERENIGING
VAN SUID-AFRIKA



OUR GREEN HERITAGE

"a garden is a lovesome thing"