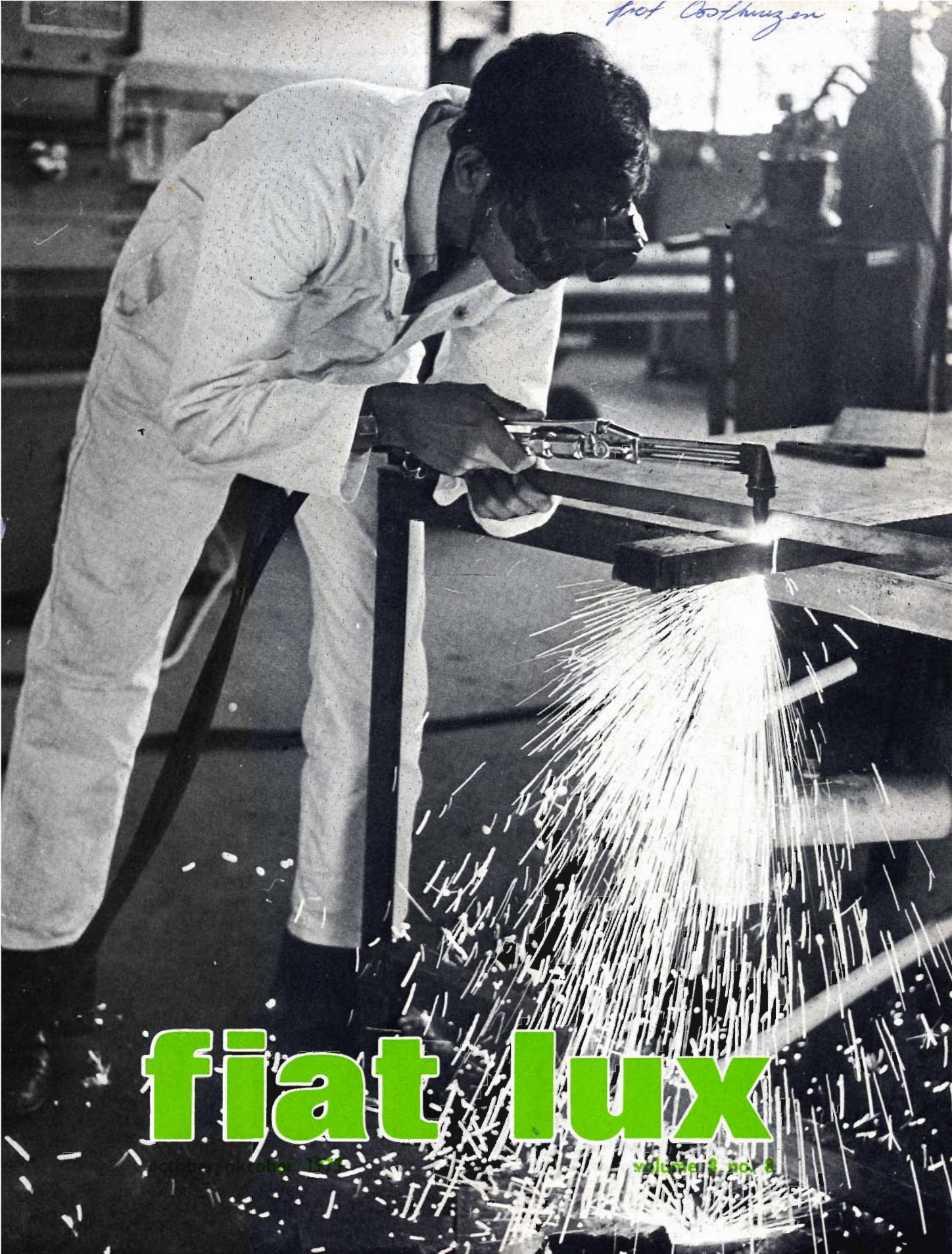


fred cootner



fiat lux

volume 3 no. 8

*Deepavali Message from the
Minister of Indian Affairs,
Senator O. P. F. Horwood*

*It gives me great pleasure to extend
my greetings and best wishes to the
Hindu Community of the Republic
of South Africa on the occasion of
the celebration of Deepavali.*

*May you draw inspiration from
the symbolic message of the Festival
of Light, that the forces of good will
triumph over those of evil.*

*I wish to express the hope, also, that
the poor, the physically disabled, the
widow, the orphan and the sick will
benefit from the charitable efforts of
your community which are especially
evident at this time.*



fiat lux

Volume 8 No. 8
October/Oktobre 1973

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Front Cover: Apprentice cutting steel with oxy-acetylene torch. (See article on page 4.)

Back Cover: Spring — and the glory of Our Green Heritage is born anew.

'N MAANDBLAD NAMENS DIE
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DEUR DIE DEPARTEMENT VAN
INLIGTING UITGEGEE

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E.J. TURNER
K.M. CHETTY
PHOTOGRAPHER • FOTOGRAAF

A MONTHLY JOURNAL
PUBLISHED BY THE DEPART-
MENT OF INFORMATION ON
BEHALF OF THE DEPARTMENT
OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

Articles or parts thereof published
in this issue may be used provided
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this journal should be directed to:

**THE EDITOR
FIAT LUX
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DURBAN**

OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

RECONSTITUTION OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN INDIAN COUNCIL: STATEMENT BY THE MINISTER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

AT its sixth meeting held on 23-25 July, 1973 the South African Indian Council adopted the basis proposed for the reconstitution of the Council as agreed upon between myself and the Executive Committee of the Council during our prior consultations.

In consequence the Government will recommend to the State President that the Council after expiration of its present term of office on 31st August, 1974 be reconstituted as follows:

- (i) The Council will be increased from 25 to 30 members.
- (ii) Fifteen members will be elected.
- (iii) Fifteen members will be appointed by the Minister.

In the absence of voters rolls and in view of certain practical difficulties which cannot be overcome within this period of time, the election of the fifteen members will take place by means of a system of electoral colleges on a provincial/regional basis, the details of which are being worked out in consultation with the Council.

COMPILATION OF A GUIDE PLAN FOR THE GRASMERE/LAWLEY - LENASIA - NANCEFIELD COMPLEX: STATEMENT BY THE SECRETARY FOR PLANNING AND THE ENVIRONMENT

IN order to lay down guide lines for future development in the abovementioned complex an ad hoc committee has been nominated to prepare a guide plan for the area to determine the land use for agriculture, industry, residential and other purposes, taking into consideration the future need for extension of the existing Indian and Coloured residential areas.

The area to be covered by the investigation will include the Grasmere-Lawley Local Area Committee in the south and, in broad outline, is bounded further northwards by the railway lines on the west, the Golden Highway to the east and the road to Potchefstroom through Nancefield to the north.

The Committee consists of representatives of the Departments of Planning and the Environment, Community Development, Indian Affairs and Coloured Relations and Rehoboth Affairs and of the local authorities concerned, namely, the City Council of Johannesburg and the Transvaal Board for the Development of Peri-Urban Areas and will be under the leadership of Mr S. W. van Wyk of the Department of Planning and the Environment.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE VISITS TRANSVAAL AND KIMBERLEY

MEMBERS of the Executive Committee of the South African Indian Council recently visited Indian areas in the Transvaal as well as Kimberley with a view to gaining first-hand knowledge of the progress that is being made in the development of the areas and to meet and discuss with members of the community and officials of the local authorities concerned, problems confronting the community. Members of the Executive Committee have told Fiat Lux that they regard their visit as being a very successful one from all points of view.

On the morning of their arrival in Pretoria they held informal discussions concerning a wide variety of subjects with the Minister of Indian Affairs, Senator the Honourable O. P. F. Horwood. In the afternoon of the same day they paid a courtesy call on the Director of Non-European Affairs, Mr J. C. Taljaard, of the Pretoria City Council in the company of the members of the Consultative Committee of Laudium, after which they were taken on a conducted tour of the township of Laudium. They also paid a visit to the new shopping complex now in course of construction in the so-called Asiatic Bazaar area of Pretoria. This project which is designed not only as an urban renewal scheme to give a facelift to this hitherto depressed area, will also serve as a resettlement scheme offering accommodation to Indian traders who conduct their businesses in other parts of the central business district of the City of Pretoria.

On the following day the Executive Committee members were given the opportunity of accompanying Senator Horwood on an official tour of Lenasia, the Indian suburb of Johannesburg. The Mayor of Johannesburg and senior officials of the municipality together with the Secretary for Indian Affairs, Mr H. A. Prinsloo, and other members of the De-



The Minister, Senator O. P. F. Horwood, arriving at the Lenasia Civic Centre. Accompanying him are from left to right Mr I. F. H. Mayet, member of the South African Indian Council, Mr Omar Joosub, Vice Chairman of the Lenasia Management Committee and Mr S. (Chita) Govender, member of the Lenasia Management Committee.

partment were included in the Ministerial party.

During the afternoon they paid a visit to Actonville, the Indian suburb of Benoni in the company of officials of the municipality and members of the Consultative Committee for Actonville. While they were in Benoni they addressed a public meeting which was attended by members of the Indian Community from all towns on the East and the Far East Rand.

The third day of their visit saw two of the Executive Committee in Kimberley. Messrs J. N. Reddy and Y. S. Chinsamy interviewed the Mayor of Kimberley, Councillor L. H. G. Shuttleworth, who was accompanied by the Town Clerk, Mr P. K. Botha and by the Councillor responsible for Indian Affairs, Mr A. Britz, after which they were conducted around the Indian township which lies on the northern side of the town of Kimberley. Messrs Reddy and Chinsamy addressed a meeting in the evening which was attended by prominent members of the Diamond

City's Indian community.

On their return to the Transvaal the members of the Executive Committee addressed public meetings arranged for them in Johannesburg, in Lenasia and in Pretoria. They also paid an unofficial visit to the Indians of Witbank, the coal-mining town in the Eastern Transvaal.

Asked by Fiat Lux to sum up his impressions of the tour Mr Reddy said:

"There is no doubt that attitudes towards the Indian people of South Africa are undergoing great changes. In our discussions with the heads of local authorities it was apparent that there is an awareness and a keenness to implement, and to implement quickly, stated Government policy in regard to the development of Indian areas in South Africa."

Municipal officials realise that the provision of amenities in Indian areas must go hand in hand with the provision of housing." □

An Outline Of APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING

THE BACKBONE OF INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE

THE whole industrial organisation of any country is dependent on the support it receives from its skilled workers. Our skilled workers can, in fact, be regarded as the backbone of our industrial structure.

The number of highly skilled workers in any industrialised country determines in the long run, the production and hence the wealth and standard of living of that country.

Although South Africa is the most highly developed country in Africa in the industrial sphere, we are still a long way behind Europe and North America in this respect.

There are two major factors which are aggravating the shortage of skilled workers at present. One is the short-sighted attitude of some employers who are enticing workers to leave their present employment by paying higher unrealistic wages. This policy gives further impetus to the vicious circular movement of spiralling costs. The other is the tremendous upsurge in industrial activity caused by the technological developments of the modern world on a country of vast natural resources but with a rural and agricultural background and with the ma-



The Author, Mr J. P. O'Gorman.

by
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jority of its population having little or no experience in technological skills.

Fifty years ago South Africa was an agricultural country but today the emphasis has swung towards secondary industry and mining. Even in the sphere of agriculture, as its functions become more exacting and sophisticated, the demand for large numbers of highly skilled workers is growing.

There is at present a severe shortage of skilled workers and it would appear that although recruitment campaigns overseas for tradesmen do alleviate the shortage to a certain extent they are not the long term solution to the problem.

Several large firms and undertakings as well as some Government departments have found a partial solution to the problem by training Indians to perform skilled work. Even this source of very suitable labour will shortly be completely absorbed by the vast requirements of industry. If we consider, for example, the industrial development that is taking place in Newcastle in Northern Natal, it will give us some indication of the tremendous industrial development that is taking place throughout South Africa.

It is, therefore, appropriate to

give Indian parents, who may soon be faced with requests from their sons to become apprentices, some information about apprentice training.

THE MAIN PROVISIONS OF THE APPRENTICESHIP ACT

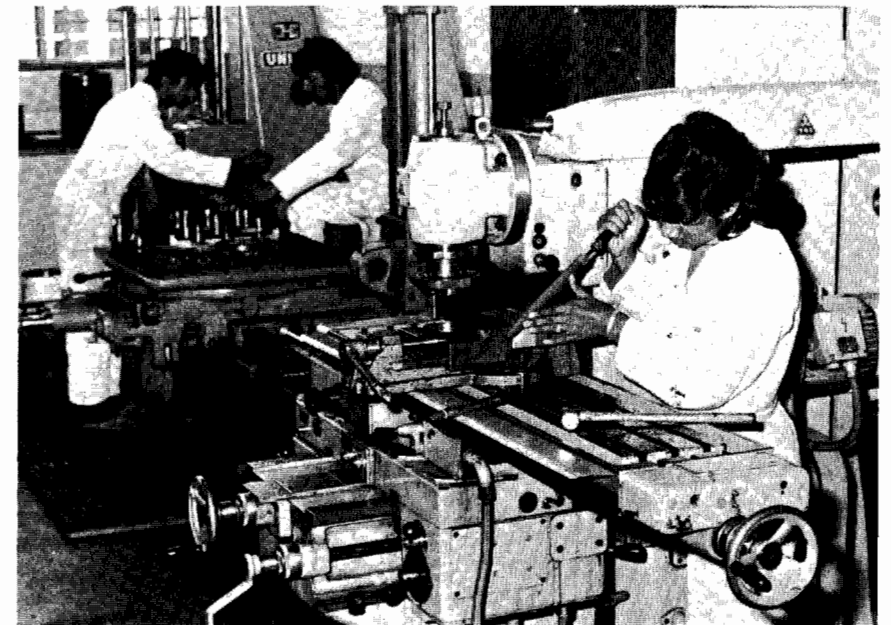
An apprentice is a young worker who is indentured by an employer who undertakes to teach him a certain trade and to pay him a certain fixed wage while he is undergoing training.

The schedule of training is prescribed for each trade by the Department of Labour and must be followed by the employer.

If the employer does not have the proper training facilities he will not be granted the right to employ apprentices.

The Apprenticeship Act of 1944, as amended, prescribe all the conditions under which apprenticeship training may be undertaken. The main provisions of the Act which affect the employer are:

- The employer undertakes to train the apprentice in all aspects of the particular trade so that after the prescribed period of four years, the apprentice will be able

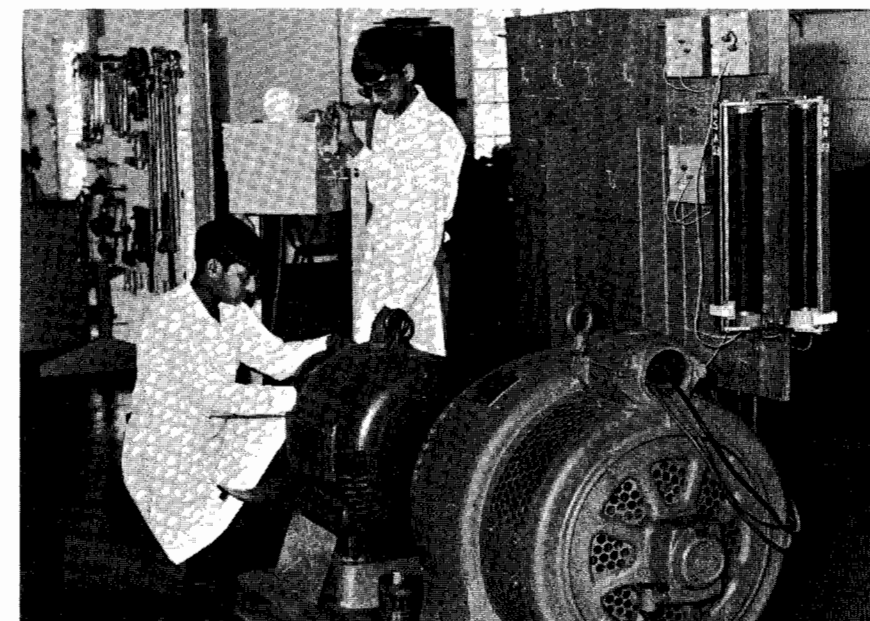


A Vanco apprentice milling a clamp in a vertical lead milling machine.

- to undergo a tradesman's competency test with a good chance of success.
- The employer also undertakes to pay the apprentice the prescribed rates of pay and to allow the apprentice to attend classes at a Technical College in order to learn the theoretical knowledge required for his trade.

- The apprentice undertakes to work for the employer in all the employer's undertakings involving his trade and to become proficient in his trade to the best of his ability. He agrees to attend technical classes and to pass the National Technical Certificate Part II examination, which is the minimum educational requirement for artisans.

Technical High School students busy in the electrical workshops working on a D.C. generator.



THE CONTROL OF APPRENTICE- SHIP CONTRACTS

The Division Inspector of Labour and the local Apprenticeship Committee control the conditions under which the apprenticeship is completed. If the apprenticeship has any complaints he should discuss these with his employer and if he is still not satisfied he should inform the local Apprenticeship Committee.

One of the most common complaints of apprentices is that employers are not paying them the correct wages. The Department of Labour will be able to verify whether this is so or not, if the apprentice submits the required information to that Department.

The apprentice may also complain that he is not being trained adequately because he is being kept too

long on one aspect of his training and is not following the prescribed training schedule. In such a case he should, in the first instance, approach his employer and ask to be moved to another aspect of the schedule. If he receives no satisfaction from his employer he should complain to the local Apprenticeship Committee who will investigate his complaint and instruct the employer if necessary.

The employer usually approaches the local Apprenticeship Committee to suspend, without pay, the apprentice for any misdemeanour, such as staying away from work or not attending technical classes. The Committee then suspends the apprentice for a number of days, which are added on to the period the apprentice must serve before he completes his apprenticeship.

In other words the apprentice and the employer approach the local Apprenticeship Committee if they cannot agree on any contentious point. The Committee then gives a ruling which must be adhered to by both parties to the contract.

It will be seen therefore that the Local Committee controls in all respects the contract between the apprentice and the employer and acts as mediator in any difference which may arise between them.

HOW TO BECOME AN APPRENTICE

The prospective apprentice should have the following qualifications:

- He should be interested in the trade he chooses. He should have some idea of the type of work he is setting out to do for a considerable portion of his future life.
- He should be physically capable and in good health so that he will be able to cope with the physical requirements of his chosen trade.
- He should have the necessary standard of education for the particular trade, i.e.:

Standard VI for the Furniture Industry

Standard VII for the Building Industry, and

Telephone electrician binding telephone wires on the insulators.



Standard VIII for the Motor and Metal Industries.

- He should choose one of the following trades which are at present open to Indians:

The Furniture Industry

Framemaker, Cabinetmaker, Upholsterer, Wood Machinist, Furniture Polisher.

The Building Industry

Bricklayer, Plasterer, Carpenter and Joiner, Painter, Plumber, Electrical Wireman, Wall and Floor Tiler.

The Metal and Motor Industry

Shipwright, Fitter and Machinist, Welder, Toolmaker, Electrician, Turner Machinist, Boilermaker, Motor Mechanic, Diesel Mechanic, Auto Electrician, Panelbeater, Spraypainter, Vehicle Body Builder, Sheet-metal Worker, Shopfitter, Motor Trimmer.

If he has these qualifications, the prospective apprentice should take steps to find a suitable opening by:

- Scrutinizing the staff advertisements in the newspaper;

- Asking his friends and acquaintances if they know of any vacancies;

- Applying to as many firms as possible requesting a position as an apprentice;

- Calling at the Technical College and employment agencies and leaving his name and address so that he can be notified of any vacancies.

He should not give up if he is not immediately successful but should keep on applying.

If he is successful in obtaining a position the prospective apprentice will have to serve a probationary period of at least three months. During this probationary period he should decide whether he is satisfied with the type of work being done, the employer or the working conditions.

If he is not satisfied then is the time for him to leave, because if he decides to leave after the contract is signed, he will be breaking the contract and he will become liable

to compensate the employer for any expenses involved in his training up to that stage.

If, however, the apprentice is satisfied with the working conditions and agrees to sign the contract, the employer will then apply to the local Committee, and if all the necessary conditions, such as proof of having attained the required standard of education and a medical certificate are furnished, the contract will be sanctioned and the contract will be issued to the employer who will sign it and hand it to the apprentice for his and his parents' signature.

The parents are also required to sign the contract on the apprentice's behalf giving their consent if the apprentice is under the age of 21 years.

The apprenticeship contract is then returned to the Department of Labour so that the Registrar of Apprenticeships can officially record it. A copy of the contract is given to the apprentice so that he knows what his obligations are.

THE THEORETICAL TRAINING RECEIVED AT THE TECHNICAL COLLEGE

All technical classes for apprentices are now run on the block re-

lease system of training in which the apprentice attends the College for three months of every year of his apprenticeship period.

The subjects he studies are divided into two main categories, i.e. the Building Industry group and the Engineering Industry group, as follows:-

Building Industry

Mathematics
Building Drawing
Building Science
Trade Theory

Engineering Industry

Mathematics
Technical Drawing
Applied Science
Trade Theory

These subjects are studied for a period of three years, each year at a higher level until the N3 grade is obtained. The apprentice is thereafter given training which leads to the National Technician's Certificate.

THE ADVANTAGES OF HIGHER EDUCATIONAL CERTIFICATES

Should an apprentice hold a Senior Certificate he enjoys an immediate increase in wages and the compulsory period of training is re-

duced. After 2½ years he may apply to undergo his trade test and if he is successful he becomes a qualified tradesman immediately after the test.

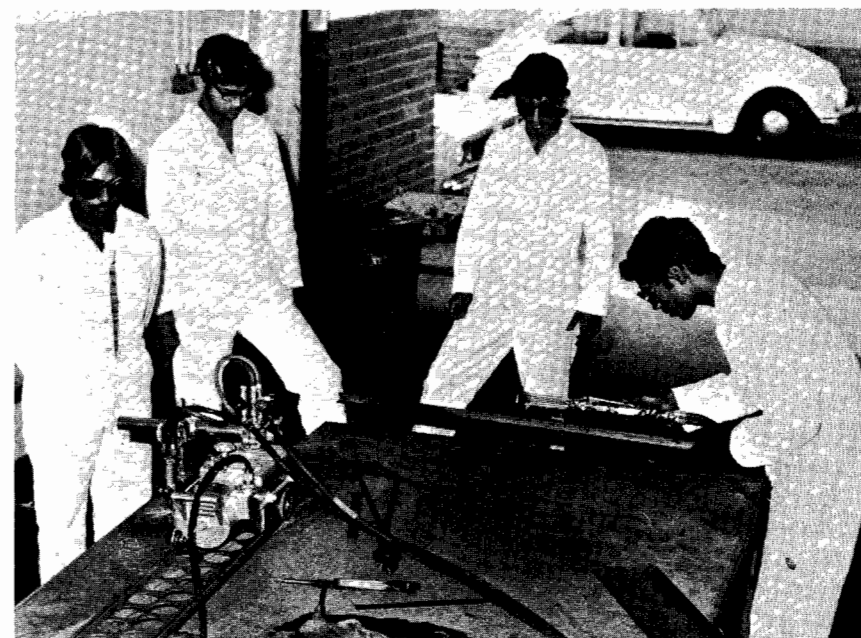
If an apprentice does not have a Senior Certificate but applies himself diligently to his training in the workshop and at technical classes and obtains a National Technical Certificate Part II, he may then apply to be trade tested and if successful the period of apprenticeship required of him is shortened.

Some employers are under the mistaken impression that an apprentice need not attend technical classes if he has passed the National Technical Certificate Part II. It should be noted that the Apprenticeship Act provides encouragement for the intelligent apprentice who passes his examinations each year and who is rewarded not only by an increase in his weekly wage packet but also allowed to continue with his studies on the day time Block Release system, with its tremendous advantages. These intelligent and hard working apprentices will eventually become the leaders in their industry. They will be the Chargehands, Foremen and General Foremen in charge of construction projects.

The wise employer will, however, encourage these bright young men to continue their studies to the Technician level. They may become Construction Supervisors, Construction Surveyors, Architectural Draughtsmen, Civil Engineering Technicians, etc. thereby elevating themselves to highly skilled positions as assistants to Architect, Quantity Surveyors, Civil Engineers etc.

It can be seen thus that improved higher education can place an industrious apprentice who is willing to study further into a highly paid and much sought after occupation. The upsurge in the industrialisation of the country will bring with it an ever increasing number of opportunities for the young man who has a genuine desire to ascend to the topmost rung of the ladder and who prepares himself for increased responsibilities by further study. □

Apprentice cutting steel plate with a straight-line cutter and another using a torch.



The Economic Development of the Indian Community

SOME interesting facts pertaining to the economic development of the Indian Community in South Africa and its participation in various sectors of the national economy are revealed in a sample tabulation of the 1970 population census undertaken by the Department of Statistics and published in its Report No. 02-01-04 and in the Annual Report of the Department of Indian Affairs.

According to the Report the Indian population in South Africa at the time of the Census was distributed as follows:

	Male	Female	Total
Cape Province	10 970	10 660	21 630
Natal	254 790	257 270	512 060
Transvaal	40 370	39 870	80 240
Total for Republic	306 130	307 800	613 930

Of these the following numbers of persons were economically active:

	Male	Female	Total	%
Cape Province	5 410	1 840	7 250	33,5
Natal	119 930	26 140	146 070	28,0
Transvaal	20 260	5 260	25 520	30,9
Total	145 600	33 240	178 840	29,0

Participation of the economically active population in the various sectors:

AGRICULTURE

6 550 or 3,7% of the economically active population are engaged in this pursuit. 98% of those active in agriculture are resident in Natal and they are regionally distributed as follows:-

Durban-Pinetown	35,8%
Lower Tugela	32,7%
South Coast	13,6%
Midlands	7,9%
North Coast	3,6%
Western Natal	2,9%
North-Western Natal	1,5%

MINING

Only 610 persons representing 0,3% of the economically active population are employed in the mining industry. Participation among Indians in this industry is confined mainly to Natal, where 98,3% of the Indians who are economically active in the industry are resident. The majority of them (46,7%) reside in the North-Western Natal Coast Mining areas, while other concentrations are found in the Durban-Pinetown region (30%) and on the South Coast (13,7%).

MANUFACTURING

63 140 Indians i.e. 35,3% of the economically active Indian population of the Republic are engaged

in the manufacturing industry.

88,6% of the Indian population engaged in this field reside in Natal. The Cape Province accounts for 2,5% and the Transvaal for 8,9% of the total.

The Indians economically active in manufacturing in Natal are distributed as follows over the various regions:

Durban-Pinetown	80,2%
Natal Midlands	8,7%
Lower Tugela	3,4%
South Coast	3,1%
Western Natal	2,5%
North Coast	1,3%
North-Western Natal	0,8%

ELECTRICITY

Indian participation in the electrical industry is practically non-existent. Only 180 persons are engaged in this activity — less than 0,15% of the economically active population.

CONSTRUCTION

9 530 Indians or 5,3% of the economically active population are engaged in this activity.

93% of those engaged in construction work are resident in Natal and of these 92% are in the building division of the industry. The largest concentrations are found in

the North-Western Natal where 15,4% of the economically active Indians are involved in construction; in Western Natal (12,7%) and the South Coast (11,1%). In the Cape Province most Indians employed in construction work are found in the Port Elizabeth-Uitenhage areas, while in the Transvaal they are best represented in the Johannesburg area.

COMMERCE

(Wholesale and retail trading etc.) 50 710 Indians, or 28,4% of the economically active population are engaged in commerce.

The greatest participation in commerce in the various provinces is found in the Transvaal where 58,5% of the economically active population are involved in this sector. Second is the Cape Province with 51,4% and third Natal with 21,9%. Broken down further into regions of the provinces, the greatest participation in commerce is found in the rural areas of the Transvaal (76,9%) of the economically active population and in the Pretoria area — 71,3%.

TRANSPORT

Altogether 7 520 Indians — 4,2% of the economically active population — are engaged in this activity, 99% of whom reside in Natal and of these 77,9% are employed in the Durban-Pinetown area.

FINANCING

Financial institutions, insurance, real estate and business services are the most prominent divisions under this heading.

2 820 or 1,6% of the economically active population are engaged in this sector.

SERVICES

The expression "Services" include the following activities: Public Administration, Educational Services, Medical and Health Services, Motion pictures and entertainment services, Amusement and recreational

services, Laundries and dry cleaning services and Domestic services.

23 030 or 12,9% of the economically active Indian population of the Republic are engaged in these services.

In addition to the activities mentioned above 12 050 Indians are engaged in other activities which are not adequately defined. These represent 8,2% of the economically active population.

Indian population's participation in manufacturing:

If the results of the sample tabulation are compared with the distribution of the economically active population in 1960 (the previous census), as shown below, the most interesting phenomenon is that the Indian population's participation in manufacturing increased by more than 10% over this ten-year period against the 5% increase in commerce which was at one stage the dominant economic activity of the Indians in the Republic. There has, further, been a very marked decline in participation in agriculture and "services" which would indicate a swing away from those activities to manufacturing, commerce and construction, the last being an activity in which participation has nearly trebled since 1960.

ACTIVITY	1960	1970
Agriculture	8,6%	3,7%
Mining	0,5%	0,3%
Manufacturing	25,1%	35,3%
Electricity	0,2%	0,1%
Construction	1,9%	5,3%
Commerce	23,0%	28,4%
Transport	3,0%	4,2%
Services	18,7%	12,9%
Financing	not stipulated	1,6%
Other	19,0%	8,2%

The Indian woman in the economy

While the percentage of economically active Indian males has increased slightly from 47,3 in 1960 to 47,6 in 1970, that of economically active Indian women has more than doubled from 4,9 in 1960 to 10,8 in 1970. It would seem that the In-

dian woman's entry into manufacturing concerns, especially in the Durban-Pinetown area of Natal, is mainly responsible for the increase, since the number of women employed in manufacturing increased by 435,5% in the period 1960-1970 — from 3 091 in 1960 to an estimated 13 460 in 1970. In fact, in 1970 more women were employed in manufacturing than there were economically active women (11 559) in 1960.

Employer — Employee relationship

Another interesting feature of the sample tabulation is the projection of the employer-employee relationship in the Indian economically active community. The findings of the projection are an indication of how many Indians in the various sections of the economy have their own factories, business undertakings etc.

The following table reflects the position as disclosed by the sample tabulation:-

Division	No. of Indian Employers	No. of Indian Employees
Agriculture	2 140	4 520
Mining	—	620
Manufacturing	1 650	61 800
Electricity	—	180
Construction	730	8 900
Commerce	10 850	40 130
Transport	1 060	6 480
Financing	290	2 540
Services	980	22 250
Other activities not adequately defined	50	12 120
TOTAL	17 750	159 540

From the above it would appear that commerce is still the major field for the Indian entrepreneur; but the fact that already 1 650 Indians have the status of employer in the manufacturing industry points to a promising development in the diversification of the economic activities of the Indian population. Furthermore, the statistics indicate that thousands of Indians are employed by persons, organisations and enterprises other than Indians. □

HISTORIANS have recorded the achievements of outstanding persons but the ordinary man who in his own quiet way makes his contribution towards the development of a country is often forgotten. He is given little or no recognition or credit. Nevertheless in his own humble way he has done his share. The Indian has been in South Africa for 113 years and during this time he has made his mark in the land of his adoption.

From the earliest days of Indian's immigration to this country many employers allowed their labourers the use of small plots of land on which to grow fruit, vegetables, and flowers. From 1860 onwards Indians themselves began to buy or rent land for cultivation. In numerous localities, in the uplands as well as the coastal districts, the Indians have converted what was once waste and unproductive land into well kept gardens with vegetables, flowers, tobacco, maize and fruit trees. Those who settled in the vicinity of Durban and Pietermaritzburg have succeeded in winning for themselves, almost entirely, the supplying of the local market with vegetables. In the early years Indian hawkers, male and female, adults and children, with heavy baskets on their heads went from house to house, selling fresh fruit, vegetables and flowers. Householders were able to purchase wholesome vegetables and fruit which

The Unsung Pioneers

by
S. S. SINGH
(Deputy Principal: Lakehaven Indian High School)

were not always procurable in public markets. The Indian hawker was more-over able to sell his produce at a low price.

The tendency today in Durban, which has been by far the biggest outlet for garden produce, is for the hawker to be replaced by the motor van. Yet these market gardeners are still playing an important part in the economic life of Natal. A visit to the Durban Indian Squatters Market will confirm this fact and it would seem that this Indian market is one of the main sources of Durban's supply of vegetables.

The sugar industry today owes much of its prosperity to the labour of the Indians. In fact it has been said that the arrival of the indentured Indian labourers to work in the sugar fields saved the colony of Natal from certain ruin. The immigrant Indian labourer applied himself wholeheartedly to the task of cultivating the soil. He was by character and tradition an agriculturist, a tiller of the soil. His aim was to succeed and he worked hard. He was regarded as the backbone of the sugar industry.

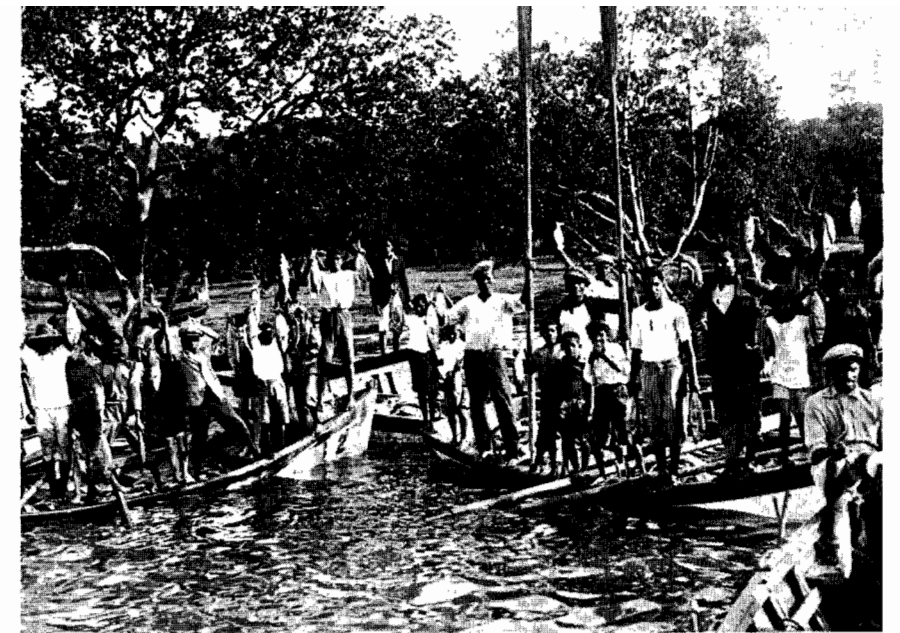
Today, however, the younger generation is moving away from the sugar estates because of the more lucrative jobs in the towns. But it was the Indian who nevertheless laid the foundation of the now prosperous sugar industry.

A little known fact is that railway contractors were among the first to avail themselves of the opportunity of obtaining indentured Indian labour and later employed an increasing number of free labourers. Indian workers were employed in extending the railway lines into Northern Natal and even the Orange Free State. In 1886 the then General Manager of the Natal Government Railways remarked: "It is not easy to see, from my point of view, how we could get on without the Indians." But in time as Bantu labour in Natal became increasingly more available and the Natal Railways were merged in the South African Railways, the Indians were unable to compete in this field of heavy manual labour. At present only

a few Indians are employed by the railways.

The role of the Indian fisherman and seine netter should also not be forgotten. As early as 1866 Indians were living on Salisbury Island, in Durban, and were engaged in catching fish for commercial purposes. In 1866 a report stated that, "Fresh and wholesome fish is easily procurable as far away as Pietermaritzburg, and for this the thanks of the colonists are chiefly due to the Indian Settlers of Salisbury Island." Not only fresh but cured fish was also sold. Fish curing took place from August to November, in which period large quantities of shad and "Cape Salmon" were caught at the "Back Beach". (Now known as Durban's South Beach.) As early as 1886 cured fish was being exported by local Indian merchants to Mauritius. Although Indian fishermen have been moved away from Salisbury Island, they are nevertheless continuing to play an important role.

The Indian has at all times shown his loyalty to South Africa. Even as early as the Anglo Boer War, Mahatma Gandhi, an opponent of violence, and who could obviously not take part or urge his followers to take part in any actual fighting, stated that the Indian community owed allegiance to the State and ought to give it support in time of danger. He therefore offered his help to the Natal Government in



Indian fishermen at Salisbury Island in the 1920's.

organizing an Indian ambulance corps. The offer was at first rejected, but Gandhi and other Indians at their own expense began to train as nurses and orderlies. Three hundred free Indians volunteered, together with 800 indentured labourers, who were given leave for the purpose by their employers. They displayed great courage and endurance in their care of the wounded and rendered valuable services. Sir George White spoke in glowing terms of the heroism of Parbhoo Singh who, perched on a tree, never once failed to sound a gong as a warning to the inhabitants of Ladysmith each time the Boer cannons were fired from the Umbulwana Hills. The names of many members of the volunteer

Corps were mentioned in dispatches. Similar assistance was rendered during the Bambata Rebellion.

During the two World Wars Indians again volunteered for service. Although they did not take part in the actual fighting, they nevertheless rendered valuable services as transport drivers and first aiders. Many tributes were paid for their excellent work in the Abyssinian Campaign of the Second World War.

Some ex-indentured Indians as a result of their thrifty habits became traders. They were joined during the late 1870's by other traders who came as passenger Indians from Mauritius and India. The first passenger Indian to open a store in Durban was one Aboobaker Amod, who arrived in the colony in 1874. His shop was in West Street, next to where Greenacre's stands today. Eventually the trader spread to every part of the Colony of Natal. He moved even further afield as far as the Transvaal and the Cape and can be found in the remotest parts of the country. The competition offered by the Indian traders helped to reduce the prices of articles and the general population, both White and Non-White benefited as a result of their enterprise.

No monument has been built in honour of these and many more "unsung pioneers". Their names do not appear in history books but their contribution to the development of the country cannot be denied. □

Indian labourers harvesting sugar cane for Natal Estates at Mount Edgecombe.



The Victoria Street Indian Market in the 1920's.



Chatsworth Community and Research Centre

by
MONA MAHARAJ
(Social Worker and a
Research Officer)



Miss Mona Maharaj, the author.

*"Only that day dawns,
To which we are awake."*

(Henry David Thoreau)

THE CHATSWORTH Community and Research Centre came into being during April, 1972, when the Department of Social Work undertook a socio-economic study of a sub-unit of Westcliff, Chatsworth. The main aim of the study was to investigate and rate the needs in the community, so that in rendering a service to the residents, correct priority could be given to the various unmet needs. Furthermore, it was hoped that with the introduction of a very basic and humble form of community service by the University, amongst the tenants (friendly visits with emphasis on relationships), the University would be able to illustrate to the Local Authorities the important role that social workers could play in sub-economic housing schemes, in preventing the already existing problems from developing into more complex ones.

However, in working with a people who come from deprived family backgrounds and who are accustomed to lower class life styles, several difficulties were experienced. The foremost of these was that the tenants did not respond well to our presence in the community, the general feeling

being that we represented to them a symbol of higher authority just like the Durban Corporation. In view of this the department of Social Work decided that before any further form of research work could be undertaken, we had to first gain the trust and confidence of the people we were wanting to work with. Hence by establishing as many relationships as possible and by giving the tenants some visible evidence of our kind of work, we hoped to overcome the barrier between us and work together in bringing about a general social emotional uplift in the area.

ACTIVITIES OF THE CENTRE

(a) Direct Services to the Tenants

(i) Casework

The development of case-work services to tenants of City housing schemes is a long awaited newcomer to the community's social services.

With the co-operation of the City Treasurer's Branch Office in Chatsworth, a monthly list of families, in arrears with their rent is received. These lists are care-

fully studied and families with rent arrears are paid friendly visits, with a view to helping them initiate the necessary problem-solving processes. In this way a check is maintained over families that tend to become weighed down by the problem of chronic arrear rentals. During the time the Centre has come into being 54 home visits were undertaken in this respect. From these visits, it has come to our attention that families who tend to fall prey to this problem, are those who have some form of a social problem, often a multi-problem, and are therefore in need of case-work services.

(ii) Group Work

This service is rendered to children, once a week, on a Thursday afternoon, from 2.30 p.m. to 4 p.m. 14 group sessions are held each Thursday and is carried out on the premise that it is through participation in group activities, that children learn to know one another and help

one another. Activities offered to the children include games, arts and crafts, needlework, knitting, sewing and drawing. Discussion groups are held whenever necessary.

As far as possible, programmes are planned according to the skill of individual groups. However, mention must be made of the fact, that these groups are in the very early stages of development. Attempts are made to run them on a basis which would encourage members to play a large role in the planning and functioning of their groups so that it would be to their maximum benefit. However, it must be borne in mind that these children come mostly from deprived families, who have not had much opportunities in life, and therefore, it would be unrealistic to expect the groups to produce great changes. In view of this, the group leader has to do most of the planning and directing of group processes

and much is left to her own initiative. The ultimate objective of this type of approach is that through a process of imitation and identification with the group leader, and through purposeful group experiences, the potentialities of these children will be brought to the fore.

At the present time, membership is restricted to children of families who come within the purview of the Centre's Clientele.

Considerable planning and effort has gone into broadening group work activities to encompass various other age groups, e.g. teenage and adolescent groups. At the moment one adult group is held on a Thursday afternoon. The Centre hopes to be able to expand on such groups in the future and also those which involve the more specialized fields, e.g. alcoholism, drug addiction and unmarried motherhood.

(iii) Community Work

The Centre is trying to help residents in housing schemes,

A social work student is seen conducting a group work session.



to solve their problems in the context of larger community problems.

The socio-economic Research Study recently completed, indicates a marked lack of community facilities in the area. Attempts have been made to locate the "leaders" in the community and enlist their help in bringing about some movement in this respect. The intended idea is to involve as many persons as possible in the project so that the people themselves might become interested in planning their own activities and recreation, help in problem-solving processes and discuss ways and means as to how one could best find solutions to problems, thus leading to a better and more effective way of living.

(b) Student Training and Supervision

In addition to rendering services to the community, the Centre also serves the purpose of training students in the field of social work. Students play an important role in the direct services (casework and groupwork) rendered to the tenants. Presently, five second year students and two honours students are actively involved in social casework in the project area. Furthermore, the 14 children's groups and the adult group are all run by students.

As students play an important role in services rendered, the task of supervising their work is an equally important and responsible one, so that in dealing with the tenants, we are certain that the work done by students is geared in the correct direction. Considerable time and effort is spent in providing the necessary supervision and discussing problems arising therefrom with regard to casework, groupwork and any personal problem that might interfere with the student's functioning at her optimum.

Students receive two sessions of supervision per week, one each on casework and groupwork.

A social worker is seen conducting a group work session in a classroom of a nearby school.



(c) Liaison with other Welfare Bodies:

The Centre has made concerted efforts to maintain inter-agency contact and cooperation in the project area. This has been attempted with the understanding that contact and co-operation with other social or religious agencies would lead to the pooling of resources in the area of common concern, while NOT duplicating services which are already in adequate operation. In this way confusion and competition would be averted and the local tenants would benefit from a co-operating network of social services and agencies.

(d) Research and Intended Future Programmes:

From the socio-economic study which has been recently completed, several features now become very apparent. The foremost of these is the urgent need for community facilities in the areas e.g. a creche and after-school centre, a nursery school,

parks and a recreation hall.

The centre hopes in time, to be able to establish a creche and after-school centre in the area and use this as a basic foundation for the development of a proper Community and Recreation Centre.

It is perhaps useful to remember that the establishment and building up of a Centre, such as the one proposed, cannot be accomplished within a few months or a year, especially in a Community where limited resources and lower-class life styles of the people depress efforts made towards achieving the desired state of organisational efficiency sought by the project.

However, modest but substantial progress has been made and it is hoped that with the availability of more suitable community facilities, which is truly representative of the needs of the people, some form of community organisation will be established in the area in time to come. □

A TRIBUTE TO THE LATE COUNCILLOR NADASEN PHILLIP

It was with deep regret that Fiat Lux learned of the passing of Mr Nadasen Phillip on the 2nd September, 1973.

The late Mr Phillip served on the South African Indian Council since its inception in 1964, as the representative for Lenasia.

He was for many years actively associated with the Liquor and Catering trade union movement in the Transvaal and was well-known for his work in cultural, education and sporting bodies.

Mr J. N. Reddy, member of the Executive Committee of the South African Indian Council in commenting on the death of Mr Phillip, said, "The passing of Nadasen Phillip deprives the South African Indian Council of a man with the common touch to whom the working class people could always look to for assistance and guidance. His work on behalf of the Indian Community of Lenasia will long be remembered."

Fiat Lux joins with the many people who will mourn the death of Mr Phillip and acknowledges with gratitude the loyal



and faithful service which he rendered so unselfishly to his people over a long period of time.



The new maternity block.

new services at the R.K.KHAN HOSPITAL

JUST a little over three hours after an expectant mother was admitted to the R.K. Khan Hospital's new maternity block when it opened its doors for the first time for patients at 8 a.m. on 1st July 1973, the first baby was born.

Since that time and within the short space of two months, no less than 849 mothers have been admitted to wards in the new block and 680 babies have been delivered, including four sets of twins.

In keeping with the other sections of this modern and spacious hospital, the equipment and facilities of the new maternity wing leave nothing to be desired. Mothers, after delivery, are accommodated in six and four-bed wards. Accommodation is at present available for 86 mothers, but provision exists for the extension of maternity facilities on

An expectant mother being interviewed by a member of the nursing staff prior to examination.



Expectant mothers awaiting examination at the ante-natal clinic.

another floor when the need therefor arises and when sufficient nurses have completed their midwifery training.

CLINICS

Since 30th April 1973, ante-natal clinics have been held at the hospital every day excluding Saturdays and Sundays from 8 a.m. to 12 noon, when expectant mothers are examined, given advice and guidance and, where necessary, treatment and arrangements made for their admission when their babies are due. Starting with a modest six expectant mothers who attended the clinic on the first day of its opening, the numbers have increased to such an extent that in July alone no fewer than 1505 expectant mothers had availed themselves of the services of the clinic.

Post-natal clinics for mothers and their babies are held in the afternoons. Attendances at these clinics are remarkably good and are reaching peak figures.

CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

The children's section of the hospital has now been moved to the fifth floor of the new maternity

block of the hospital. The more spacious and air conditioned accommodation will undoubtedly make the nurses task in caring for their small patients a less irksome one and will provide more and better facilities than were available in the accommodation previously occupied by the children's section.

NURSING

Training in midwifery is now being provided at the R.K. Khan Hospital. The course, which is of one year's duration, is being followed by a group of 16 nurses who commenced their training at the King Edward VIII Hospital in November 1972, a further group of 13 from that hospital which started its course in March this year, whilst a group of 17 nurses from the R.K. Khan Hospital commenced their midwifery training on the 1st July 1973.

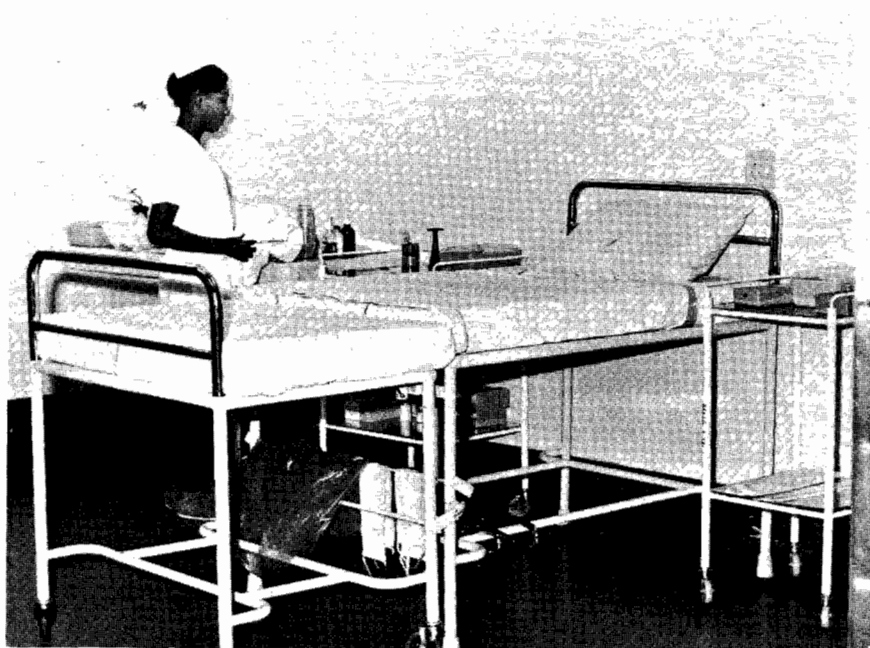
Feeding time for the newborn.



In order to equip the new Northdale Hospital at Pietermaritzburg with a nucleus of nurses when it is opened in 1974, the R.K. Khan Hospital is at present training 16 pupil staff nurses for the new hospital.

The R.K. Khan Hospital continues to maintain the successes it has achieved with the training of nurses. Of a total of 120 nurses who have written the final diploma examination, 111 have passed and six are awaiting the results of the final examination written in July. Diploma training, which is of three years duration, is only open to girls with a matriculation level certificate.

Enrolled staff nurse trainees with a Standard VIII level of education undergo a two years course of training. Twenty five pupil staff nurses at the hospital have written the final examination, 24 of whom have qualified.



One of the delivery wards.

OUT-PATIENTS AND VISITORS

During the course of an interview with the Medical Superintendent of the hospital, Fiat Lux was told that the hospital was experiencing difficulty in dealing adequately with the growing number of out-patients who

presented themselves in the late afternoon and evenings for non-emergency treatment. He said the hospital was not equipped to provide services of a non-emergency nature at times when X-ray and dispensary facilities were not available and when a fewer number of doctors were on duty. He appealed to those

wishing to make use of the out-patients department to present themselves for treatment not later than 11 a.m., but stressed that bona fide emergency cases would always be attended to.

The Medical Superintendent also expressed concern at the large numbers of people who were visiting

The children's ward.



A premature baby being fed in an incubator.



New arrivals in the nursery.

The labour ward.



patients at the hospital and mentioned an instance where no less than 48 persons had visited a patient in one evening. He said that such a large influx of visitors impeded the smooth working of the hospital and was often detrimental to the recovery of the patients. He hoped that patients would co-operate with the hospital authorities by requesting their relatives and friends not to visit them all at the same time and to endeavour to confine the number of visitors to not more than three at a time.

With the opening of the new maternity block the R.K. Khan Hospital has advanced a further step forward in the provision of medical services to the Indian community of Durban and environs. The community has indeed reason to be proud of this magnificent, well equipped hospital and its dedicated staff, whose aim it is to provide a hospital service which is second to none in South Africa. □



A view of the completed portion of the new shopping complex.

PRETORIA'S NEW ASIATIC BAZAAR

Some of the shops are already open for business.



THE old Asiatic Bazaar, situated a few blocks west of Pretoria's Church Square, is at present undergoing a much needed face lift.

Consequent upon the proclamation of the bazaar area as a "trading area" in terms of Section 19 of the Group Areas Act, the Department of Community Development has embarked upon an extensive multi-million rand development scheme for this run-down area. Many of the old shops and houses, most of them in various stages of disrepair, have been demolished to make way for a new bazaar which will provide the Indian Community of Pretoria with a very fine modern shopping complex relatively close to the central business district. It is interesting to note that some of the old buildings that have come under the demolisher's hammer, were erected as long ago as 1903, shortly after the bazaar was

first established.

A large complex built at a cost of R288 574, and which provides accommodation for two general wholesalers and one industry has already been completed and occupied by the traders and industrialist concerned.

Work on the first phase of the shopping complex which is being erected at a cost of R1 270 000 is rapidly nearing completion. When completed it will provide a total shopping area of approximately 10 787 square metres comprising 111 shops. 45 shops in fact have already been completed of which 43 are occupied. In order to encourage traders to occupy the shops, rentals have been fixed at the very low figure of 5 cents per 0,092903 square metres (square foot). It is understood that the rentals will be revised from time to time as the trading potential of the area improves. It is expected that the remaining 66 shops will be ready for occupation by the end of 1973.

It is anticipated that work on the second phase — the erection of an additional 15 shops, with a floor space of 2 137 square metres and which will cost an estimated R200 000 — will commence shortly. These shops are expected to be ready for occupation by mid 1974.

The Department of Community Development is also planning 17 ad-



A feature of the new complex is the paved arcades between the rows of shops.

ditional sites, covering an extent of 9076 square metres for wholesale merchants.

A representative of Fiat Lux who visited the new bazaar complex recently interviewed several of the traders who have already transferred their businesses to the new premises. All of them expressed their satisfaction with the new modern shops they now occupy. Most of them said, however, that business was quiet but improving. They expressed the hope that once building operations had been completed, the sites cleared of the contractor's material and workshops and the parking areas macadamised, the new complex would draw large numbers of shoppers to the bazaar.

This huge complex of modern well designed shops, and cool arcades has unquestionably brought about a big change for the better in this once rather depressed area of Pretoria. Flanked as it is on either side by bus termini serving the Bantu population and adjacent to the Indian retail fresh produce market, which is already drawing large numbers of customers of all race groups, there is no doubt that Pretoria's new Asiatic Bazaar has all the potential for the enterprising go-ahead businessman who has the initiative to plan his trading patterns to meet the many needs of the people who will be thronging the arcades of the bazaar. □

The complex is relatively close to the central business district as is evidenced by the skyscraper in the background.



WOOD



The Universal Raw Material

THERE is an old saying that from the cradle to the grave man is surrounded by wood. Taken literally, this is not quite as true as it was: cradles are sometimes made of plastic and coffins are not necessarily made of wood. Figuratively the saying is more correct and in all probability it will continue to be so in the future.

Wood preceded the mechanical era: the first disc-wheel was fashioned from a round tree trunk. In constructing the pyramids the Egyptians made use of round logs to roll the giant blocks into position. Noah survived the floods in a wooden ark and the great oceanic explorations were undertaken in wooden ships.

Today we are not only surrounded by wood its natural and familiar forms, but also by numerous products derived from it and upon which we are largely dependent. The blanket covering your bed contains perhaps a high percentage of rayon — derived from wood cellulose; your breakfast foods come in paper or

cardboard packaging, which are wood products, as are the newspapers you read.

The most important attribute of wood is that it is not a diminishing asset, as is the case with minerals. It is a renewable natural resource which will always be available for future generations to manufacture the innumerable products they require — as long as we provide for them today. Wood is universal: forests occur on all continents except Antarctica.

Practically all of man's requirements can be manufactured directly or indirectly from wood: his food, clothes, transport, communication systems, medicines and the roof over his head. As long as we ensure that wood will always be available, we need not fear for our survival.

DIRECT TIMBER PRODUCTS

It is perhaps difficult for us to visualise all the products derived from wood. It is far easier for us to recognise the more important industries which manufacture products easily identified as being made of wood, as well as those industries which are large users of wood.

The furniture industry provides for our household requirements. Practically all the rooms in our homes contain wooden furniture.

The farmer uses local timbers for structural purposes, poles and laths for fencing. His farm produce is packed in wooden boxes and cardboard cartons. The sawmilling and secondary manufacturing industries are expanding rapidly of all the products of these industries structural timber is the most important. This includes the timber used in conventional roof trusses, beams, framework of timber houses and so on. Laminated beams built up by glueing several layers of wood together have also proved very popular in churches, large span buildings and flat-roofed houses. Doors, windows and window frames are made from both hardwoods and softwoods. While wood is still preferred for floors and ceilings, weatherboarding used for exterior, claddings, panelling for interior decor and shuttering for concrete formwork are commonplace in the building industry.

It is virtually impossible, due to limited space, to list all the wooden products manufactured by secondary industries. The products include railway coaches, railway sleepers, toys, brooms and brushware, turnery, ornaments and so on. Smaller articles include matches, ice-cream sticks and tooth picks.

Man is even dependent upon wood for his sport and recreation. Think of the wooden seats at sports pavilions, cricket and baseball bats, tennis racquets, water skis, gymnasium floors and equipment, ping pong tables and many other items. Wood is also ideally suitable for the manufacturing of musical instruments.

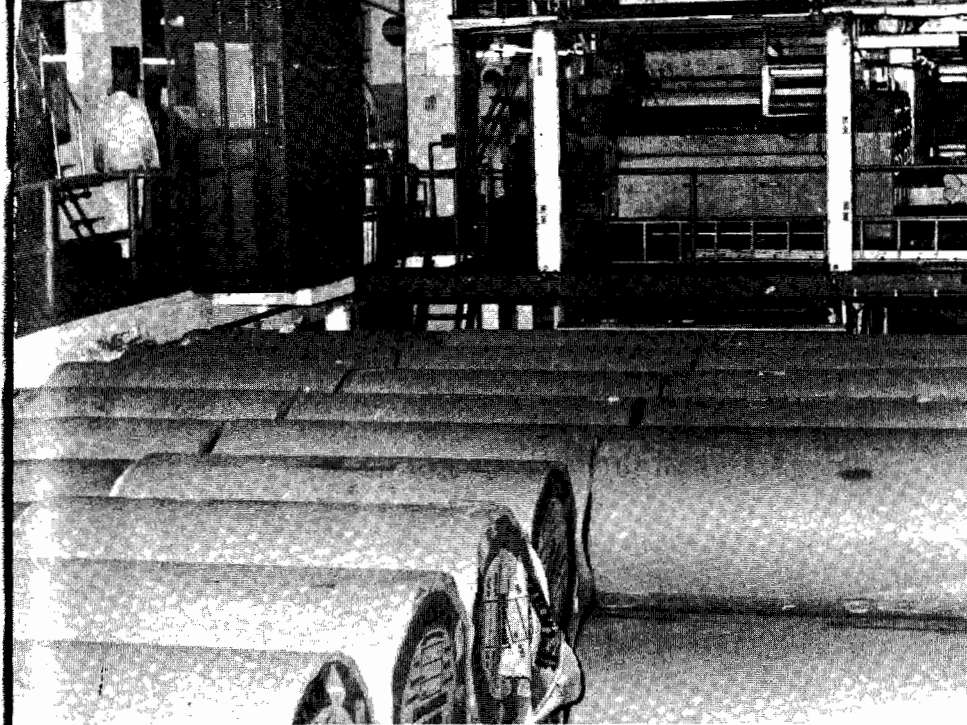
Wood is becoming more and more popular as an engineering material, especially as design strengths are improved, making wood more often than not the preferred building material. Wood is used in the construction of factories, packing houses, cooling towers and bridges. It can be seen for thousands of kilometres along South African roads in the form of telephone and transmission standards.

Another facet of the timber industry is the manufacture of veneers, plywood and board products. Veneers are very thin sheets of wood which are peeled from round logs. Plywood is manufactured by glueing an uneven number of veneers together. Other board products with a thicker core are also produced from either short pieces of timber, wood waste or chips, for example, careboards such as chipboards and laminboards.

Veneers, plywoods and careboards are used for panelling, flush panel doors, cabinets for radio and television sets, furniture and wooden containers. Matches are produced from popular veneers.

The last category of board products are the fibreboards used for panelling, backing for furniture, blackboard, drawers, pelmets, packaging, shoplifting, caravan linings and general carpentry uses.

The mines are big users of timber in the form of poles, planks and railway sleepers. Mat-packs play an important role in the safety of mine



Rolls of newsprint manufactured from wood waiting to go on the printing press.

workers by supporting the ceilings in stopes after the gold ore has been removed. An important feature of wooden supports used in mines is that they compress slowly and give fair warning before they collapse.

Wherever timber is to be used in unfavourable conditions, it is usually treated with chemicals. This is especially necessary in the case of transmission and telephone poles, fencing posts and railway sleepers, where the timber is exposed to damage inflicted by termites, wood-borers and fungi.

Wood does not play such an important role in South Africa as it does in many other countries. This can be attributed to the fact that our forefathers were compelled to use clay and burnt bricks for building their homes because of the scarcity of local timbers. Bricks have consequently become the traditional building material in South Africa. In addition, prejudice has been built up against timber homes because of reservations about their durability and fire resistance. These fears are today unfounded, thanks to research workers who have prescribed suitable and acceptable treatments.

More and more local authorities are now approving of timber framed structures and in particular brick-

veneer construction (i.e. a timber-framed house with a single exterior layer of brickwork).

Wood panelling and decorative woodwork have always been a popular feature in our architecture.

OTHER WOODEN PRODUCTS

The abovementioned products are easily recognised as being made of

wood, but there are countless other products which the layman does not recognise as being a derivative of wood. By means of chemical, distillation and other processes man has produced any number of by-products.

Of these the most important is paper.

The daily newspapers we read, the page on which an infant draws his first picture, the files on thousands of office desks, the countless books in libraries, even the paper you hold in your hand now, are all made from wood pulp.

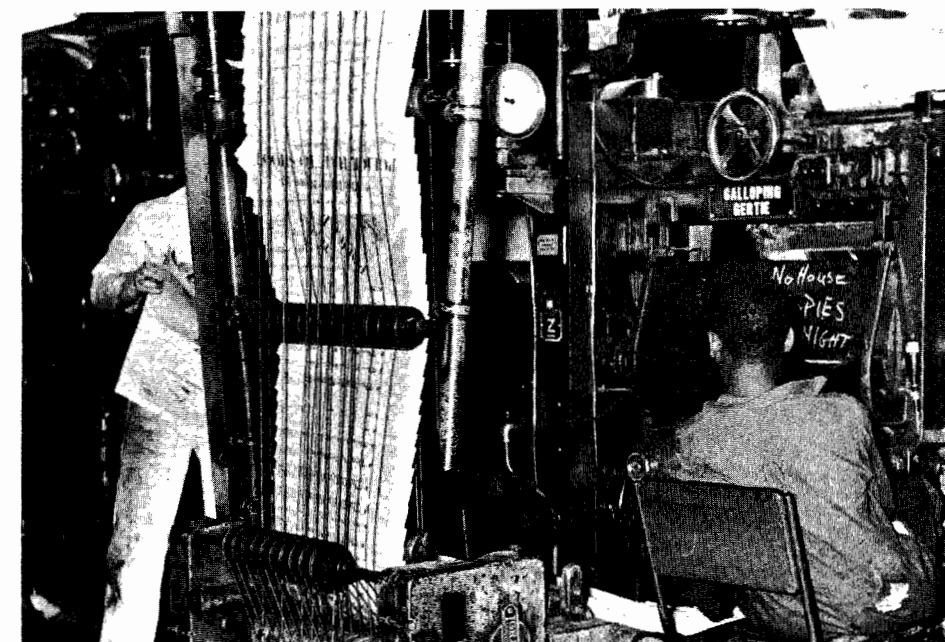
It is generally accepted today that the quantity of paper used annually per person can be regarded as a measure of the standard of civilisation of that country. In 1970 South Africans used an average of 42 kg per person; somewhat less than the 252 kg used in America, but more than the 25 kg used in Greece, 27 kg in Russia and 1,9 kg in India.

On average every South African uses six times more paper each day than the citizens of the emerging African state of Mali use during a year.

Other fibre products include paper bags and cardboard packaging.

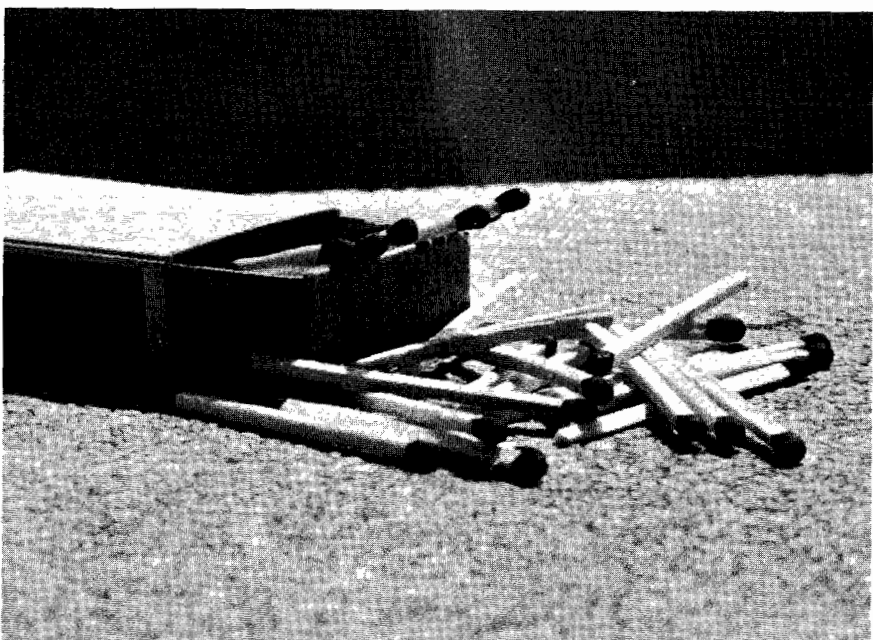
Numerous chemical products are

Your daily newspaper owes its existence to wood.





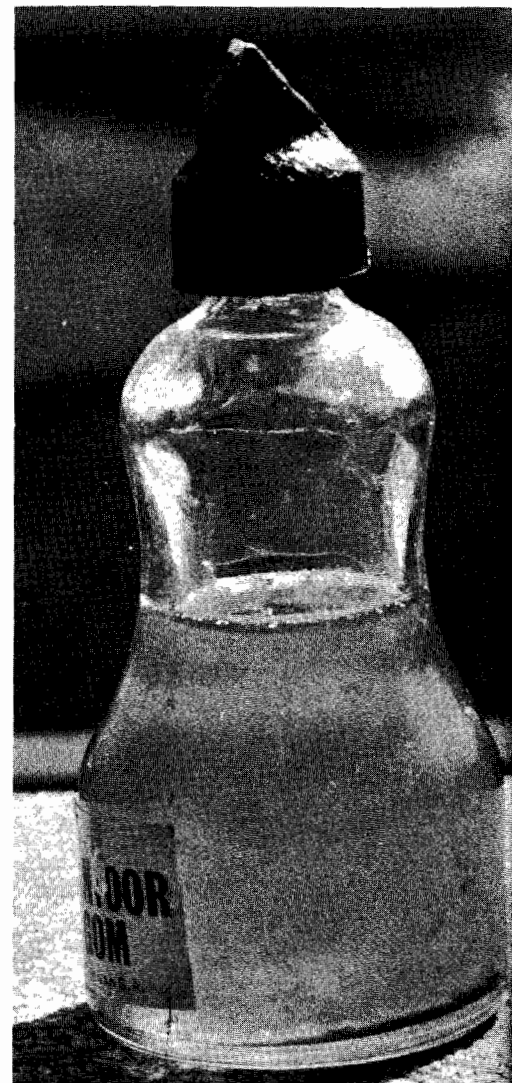
The everyday things of life we all take for granted such as matches, gum and books are all derived from wood.



also manufactured from wood. Examples are photographic film, gum, explosives, industrial alcohol, wood-tar, pitch, dyes, paints, chewing gum, polish, perfume, fertilizers,

tannins, drugs and clothes. How often do we think of wood when we mention these articles?

Who would think when the telephone rings at your elbow, that the



expensive synthetic resin that forms the basis of its plastic case is extended with wood flour to bring it within the bound of economic practicability.

THE COMING AGE OF WOOD

According to the post-war authority on timber, Dr Egon Glesinger, wood will become the characteristic raw material of our civilisation because it has three attributes which make it unique:

- (a) It is universal.
- (b) It is abundant.
- (c) It is inexhaustible.

The forest is not a mine that will eventually be deleted, but rather a renewable crop. Provided trees are harvested as a crop and the forest is sustained by proper management, wood will forever provide the requirements of the human race. □

NURSES FOR NORTHDALE

THE Department of Hospital Services of the Natal Provincial Administration has embarked upon an extensive recruiting campaign for nurses to be trained for duty at the Northdale Hospital at Pietermaritzburg, which will serve the Indian and Coloured Communities. The hospital is expected to be ready for occupation towards the middle of 1974.

The hospital will be a modern acute general hospital with all the facilities provided normally in a hospital of this kind. Initially there will be 250 beds available with ultimate expansion to some 500 beds. The initial extent of the service being provided will depend on the available administration, medical and nursing staff.

During the first phase of the occupation there will only be a very limited number of single bedded wards.

Ward facilities have been provided for male and female medical, surgical and Orthopaedic cases as well as a modern maternity unit and a children's ward.

The operating theatres, five in number, have all the modern requirements and are in close proximity to the intensive care ward.

A modern nurses home will provide accommodation for 72 trained staff and 162 pupil staff nurses. Lecture rooms are also provided to train pupil staff nurses.

The Department requires Indian and Coloured female pupil staff nurses who will undergo a two-year training period in preparation for the opening of the hospital. The first batch of pupil Staff nurses commenced their training at the R.K. Khan Hospital in Chatsworth in August this year, while a second course is scheduled to start in De-

The nurses home at the Northdale Hospital.



cember. The pupils are accommodated at the R.K. Khan Hospital until their transfer. Training will be completed at the new Northdale Hospital when it opens.

The Department offers a salary of R900 plus 17½ per cent pensionable allowance and requires an educational attainment of standard VIII with suitable symbols. Applicants must be at least 17 years of age and in good health.

Those who wish to commence training in December 1973 should address applications to the Principal Matron, R.K. Khan Hospital, Private Bag X 16, Mobeni.

Applicants who wish to commence training at Northdale Hospital in April, August and December 1974 should apply to the Principal Matron, Northdale Hospital, Department of Hospital Services, Private Bag 9051, Pietermaritzburg. □

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF DANN-HAUSER INDIAN CHILD WELFARE SOCIETY

The annual General Meeting of the above Society was held on 25th August 1973 and was attended by a large number of members and well-wishers of the Society. Among the guests were Mr G. Hanekom, M.P.C., Mr L. L. Millar, Head of Social Development, Department of Indian Affairs, Mr G. D. Nel, the Department's Local Representative in Pietermaritzburg and Mr J. N. Reddy, Executive member of the South African Indian Council.

Mr Hanekom is seen addressing the gathering, with him are (from left to right) Mrs G. D. Nel, Mr L. L. Millar and Mr G. Ellary (President of the Society).

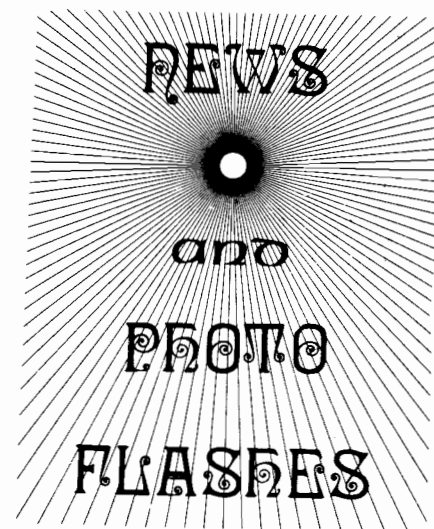
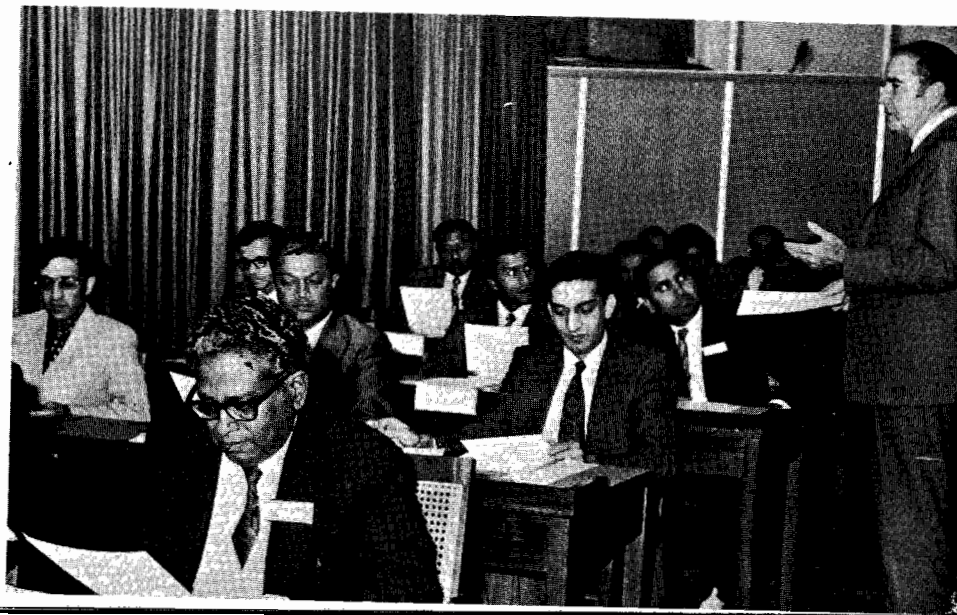


CRICKET COACHING CLINIC

Mr Trevor Goddard, the ex-Springbok Cricket Captain held a cricket coaching clinic for Physical Education teacher trainees at the Springfield College of Education recently. The clinic was arranged by the Department of Skills of the Springfield College of Education in collaboration with the South African Sports Foundation.

MANAGEMENT COURSE FOR INDIAN BUSINESSMEN

Encouraged by the success of its business management course which a leading South African insurance company held for a group of Indian businessmen a few months ago the company recently arranged a further course for a second group of Indian businessmen. Seen in the photograph is Mr E. Pfuhl, lecturing to the second group.



NEW MOSQUE FOR ROSHNEE

The sod-turning ceremony for the new Mosque at Roshnee, the Indian township at Vereeniging, was performed by Moulana Abdul Hamid, Imam of the Kerk Street Mosque, Johannesburg on August 26th. When completed the mosque complex will cost R200 000. Classrooms for religious teaching are also being provided in the mosque complex.

Seen in the photograph (from left to right) are Moulanas Cassimali, Bhoola and Abdul Hamid.

PREMIERE OF DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION'S NEW FILMS

Seen in the photograph is a section of the audience who attended the first showing of new films of the Department of Information to the Indian community at the Albert-Avalon Cinema, Durban, recently.



THE SAM CHINA CUP

The South African Indian Football Association staged yet another successful biennial Sam China Cup Tournament which ended at Chatsworth on 2 September 1973.

At a well-attended function sponsored by Clover Dairies who, incidentally paid all the advertising costs connected with the tournament, the Sam China Cup was presented to the winning team from the Western Province. Clover Dairies also presented gold medals to the manager and each member of the team and silver medals to Central Natal who were runners-up.

In appreciation for the continued efforts by the South African Indian Football Association to keep alive the spirit of the Sam China Cup and to foster Indian soccer the Department of Indian Affairs has again made a financial contribution to assist in staging the tournament. (Photo: Daily News.)



Die Indiërgemeenskap van Lichtenburg het die dorp se honderdste verjaardag gevier met 'n karnaval en 'n atletiekbyeenkoms. Skole van Lichtenburg, Bloemhof, Schweizer Reneke, Zeerust en Koster het aan die atletiekbyeenkoms deelgeneem. Op die foto is leerlinge van die verskillende skole wat aan die atletiek deelgeneem het.



HISTORY SYMPOSIUM

The Historical Society of the University of Durban-Westville, in conjunction with the Department of History, held its second history symposium at the campus on Saturday, 11th August this year.

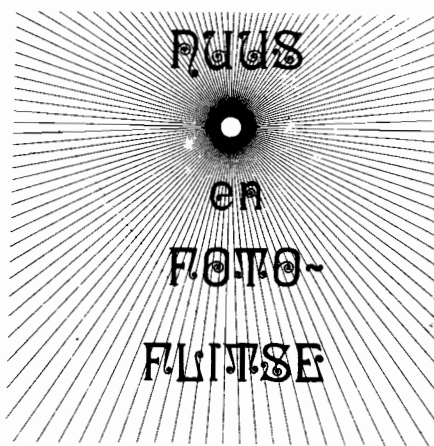
The highly successful symposium featured two very prominent South African historians: Professor D. W. Krüger, M.A., D.Litt. and Professor Eric Axelsson, M.A., D.Litt., F.R. Hist. Soc.

Professor Krüger was formerly professor and head of the Department of History at the Universities of Potchefstroom and South Africa. He was one time Director of the Institute of Historical Research of the Human Science Research Council. He served first as chief editor of the Dictionary of South African Biography, and later as chairman as well. A noted historian on South African history, Professor Krüger has many publications to his credit.

Professor Axelsson was formerly a research officer at the Ernest Oppenheimer Institute

of Portuguese Studies at the University of the Witwatersrand. He thereafter served as professor and head of the Department of History at the University of Cape Town. He is presently deputy principal of that university. Professor Axelsson is an accredited historian on the history of Portuguese colonies in Africa and has written many works on this field.

Professor D. W. Krüger's paper indicated the relevance of medieval history for the present, while Professor Eric Axelsson's address centred on Africa through Portuguese eyes in the 17th century. The addresses were stimulating and were well received by the audience.



Die Andrew Anthony Indier Laerskool van Laudium, Pretoria, het homself onderskei deur gedurende 1972 die grootste aantal kersseels in Transvaal te verkoop. Mnr. Joo-sub H. S. Ebrahim, wat die trofee geskenk het, oorhandig die trofee hier aan Fatima Carrim, wat die trofee namens haar skool in ontvangs neem.

NUWE INDIËR RADDPLEGENDE KOMITEES IN TRANSVAAL

Twee nuwe Indiër Raadplegende Komitees is in Transval gestig, die een in Koster en die ander een in Nylstroom. Lede van die Koster komitee (op foto regs) is van links na regs Mnr. A. M. Bulbulia (ondervoorsitter), A. S. Vadee (voorsitter), G. G. N. Masher (sagr.), A. B. Hafajee en R. A. M. Bulbulia.

Op die foto links spreek mnr. Hattingh, adjunk-burgemeester van Nylstroom, die gaste toe by die instellingseremonie van die Nylstroomse Indiër Raadplegende Komitee. Aan sy linkerkant sit mnr. S. Casmod, die voorsitter van die Komitee.

teachers at ART COURSE



An absorbing subject!

ART teachers from Natal schools participated in an exciting course of activities during the July vacation at the Orient High School in Durban.

The orientation course planned and organised by the Education Division of the Department of Indian Affairs was officially opened by the Chief Inspector of Indian Education Mr S. P. van den Heever.

The teachers were given an insight into the basic practical approaches for art teaching where the main concern is for problems in the area of Design in two and three-dimensional work in the high school.

The selected participants, many of whom handled some materials for the first time, tackled their tasks with enthusiasm. The end of each day saw tired but satisfied people, many of whom were pleasantly surprised at the quality of their achievements.

Credit is also due to their under-

standing tutors, who were able to "draw out" the teachers, making some of them realise their potentialities as "artists."

The teaching team comprised:

Tutor: Mr Angamuthu B.A.(F.A.) from Lakehaven High School, responsible for Drawing and Painting.

Tutor: Mr P. A. Ranchod M.A.(F.A.) from Risecliff High School, responsible for Graphic Printing.

Tutor: Mr S. Moodley Dip.(F.A.) from Shallcross High School responsible for Basic Design, Construction Work and Screen Printing.

Tutor: Miss Asha Singh Dip.(F.A.) from Woodlands High School, responsible for Clay Sculpture and Pottery.

Tutor: Mrs Pushpa Padayachee Dip.(F.A.) from Apollo High School, responsible for Batik and Tie and Dye.

Although the work was of an exploratory nature the display of work on the final day not only revealed hitherto hidden talent but gave indications of promising possibilities for Art Education in our schools in the future.

The five day course was brought to an end with a short ceremony where statements of participation were presented following an address by Prof J. W. Grossert, Head of the Department of Art at the University of Durban-Westville.

With a store of new knowledge and still enthusing over their achievements the teachers took leave, inspired and confident that a new meaning has been added to their experience. □

An interesting sculpture emerges from deft hand work.



EDUCATION FOR LEISURE

THE pioneer Indian South African regarded his occupation, according to the tenets of his eastern culture, as the sole source of his self-fulfilment. In any case his long hours of work and conditions of employment left him no time for leisure.

With assimilation of Western Culture, better working conditions and relative economic prosperity, the Indian no longer regards his work as the entire means of self-expression. The fruitful utilization of leisure time, therefore, assumes a new importance for the Indian community.

The 1970's find the South African Indian turning more and more to his increasing free time to fulfil himself. It is during leisure time and through play and recreation that increasing numbers of people are seeking the means for creative expression. We as a group, can, in our culture, achieve greater heights than it has ever known before and lead a richer, fuller life through this process. Certainly, one of the real strengths of any society is the amount of "discretionary time" individuals have at their disposal and the positive utilisation of this time.

But as it is a strength, it can also be a weakness. The quality of resources and opportunities available for the pursuit of leisure requires careful consideration and must, to a large extent, be shaped and modified by the kind of education the individual receives.

Leisure is looked upon as free time after the practical necessities of life have been attended to — or the time during which we are free from the more obvious and formal duties that a paid job or other obligatory occupation imposes upon us. A paid job imposes upon us certain specific duties; nevertheless, work may be so enjoyable to some

by

R. GORDHAN

(Vice Principal: Naidoo Memorial Indian High School)

that it becomes equivalent to leisure. Many examples can be given of people whose leisure-time activities have changed into their daily work, such as photography, gardening, carpentry, sport, etc. The opposite is also true, namely, that not all the surplus time remaining after the formal duties have been attended can be considered as leisure. We must realise that leisure is not mere idleness even though many people do while away their spare time.

The School: Our society has formalised the education and training of the young in some fashion. We consider education as a force of great importance for it encourages and guides the young in their basic growth towards adulthood, towards being discriminating and productive individuals in the community. The function of the school in educating for leisure is crucial in the present movement towards an increasing understanding and use of leisure and recreation as a means of enhancing the worth of the individual and his happiness in life. The type and function of education is equally important in this context.

The broad aims towards educating the individual should not only be directed to equip him in terms of competence for work but also competence in recreation and leisure. Both become the charge of the school. Education must offer the individual that vital release from the tension and stress that characterise

present day living and provide opportunity for creative self expression and the development of aesthetic values. It is imperative then, that the school, besides providing for the acquisition of knowledge must also provide for the worthy use of leisure time; allow for maximum articulation between instruction and recreation; mobilise total community resources for recreation; encourage, stimulate and produce research in recreation; and most important, it should stress preparation of professional recreation personnel.

Within the framework of the existing educational policy and practice as it obtains in Indian schools there is much scope for the fulfilment of these basic aims. A great responsibility is vested in the educator and the educand in bringing to conscious awareness the opportunities and scope that are offered to the school leaver within the social and economic matrix in which he will find himself. The new Differentiated System of education can, and must, broaden its scope in this direction. As a policy that is relatively new the embryo for such a programme is already noticeable with the inclusion of such courses as art, music, physical education, industrial arts, handicrafts, library science and guidance.

The handling of this programme poses for the school a very challenging problem of undertaking in one educational process two relatively unlike functions i.e. the preparation for the freedom that is implied in leisure and the discipline that is implied in work. There is no doubt that this problem still remains. It will be solved when children and youth graduate from our schools with hunger for many kinds of creative recreation and eagerness to fill their

leisure hours with deeply rewarding activities. Much can be done to provide in the school the kind of training that will whet the appetites of those in our charge.

The Need: Perhaps the most urgent need for the individual is to utilise his free time profitably and positively. The average number of working hours in the week is about 46. Allowing 12 hours for sleeping and eating this means that our waking hours are now fairly equally divided between work and leisure — apart from holidays.

With specialisation, much work is of a repetitive nature allowing little scope for creatively and intellectual stimulation; in fact the major problem seems to be one of boredom. Work is generally of an impersonal nature, depriving the individual of the kind of sociability that characterised isolation at work, coupled with monotony and boredom, results in unrest which is both spiritual and moral. "It is actually the revolt of a man who sees life slipping away

from him without his having lived, who sees wishes unfulfilled and aspirations unattained and unattainable." (Sapora and Mitchell)

When socially acceptable living fails to bring opportunity for the satisfaction of basic drives and desires individuals tend to turn to anti-social outlets. Crime is in a large part a compensatory device when other forms of amusement are not forthcoming. The resultant behaviour is alcoholism, addiction to harmful drugs, delinquency, hippiedom and other forms of deviate behaviour.

Stemming from this lack of opportunity and coupled with the tremendous stress of modern living is the increase in mental illness. According to a report in the 'Natal Mercury' by reporter Tim Muil there are 30 000 patients in South Africa's mental institutions and during the past 11 years there has been a 500% increase in admissions.

The Challenge: Strangely enough it seems that the increasing amount

of leisure time accentuates the magnitude of this problem and the need for education for the use of leisure time. Education for the constructive and creative use of leisure time has become one of the most pressing needs of today. It requires the combined effort of all agencies. Our educational institutions have a major role to play in providing the lead and offering the models which can be emulated as examples.

It seems that society is fast becoming addicted to fun, sensuality and frivolity to escape from reality. This we must try to avert. William F. Dankenbring, an Associate Editor of the magazine 'Plain Truth' puts his finger on the pulse when he says:

"When leisure becomes an end in itself, when millions begin putting fun before the serious business of life, when leisure activities become a form of escapism from reality, when the sole purpose for leisure activities becomes hedonism and the gratification of the senses — then a whole society is in trouble." □



"Kilo" To Rhyme With "Willow"

Many people are under the impression that the correct pronunciation of kilometre is with the stress on the second syllable — they pronounce the "o" of "kilo" in the same way as the "o" in "pot". The pronunciation is incorrect, according to a press statement issued by the Metrication Department of the South African Bureau of Standards.

The Manager of the Metrication Department Dr S. J. du Toit, explained that the English Academy of Southern Africa was consulted in this connection. The Academy pointed out that the correct pronunciation of the prefix

"kilo-" rhymes with the word "willow" so that kilometre is correctly pronounced with the stress on the first syllable.

Dr Du Toit said, "We pronounce the prefix 'kilo-' correctly when we say kilogram, kilopascal, kilolitre, so why should we adopt a different pronunciation when we say kilometre? After all we do not stress the second syllable in the names of the other metric units such as millimetre, micrometre, nanometre, etc." He appealed to teachers to encourage their pupils to pronounce kilometre correctly.

CORRIGENDUM

It is regretted that due to a printing error the amount of the Department of Indian Affairs' Vote referred to in the penultimate paragraph of the article 'This Year in Parliament' published on page 23 of the September 1973 issue of "FIAT LUX" was inadvertently shown as R38 759. This figure should, of course, read R38 759 000.

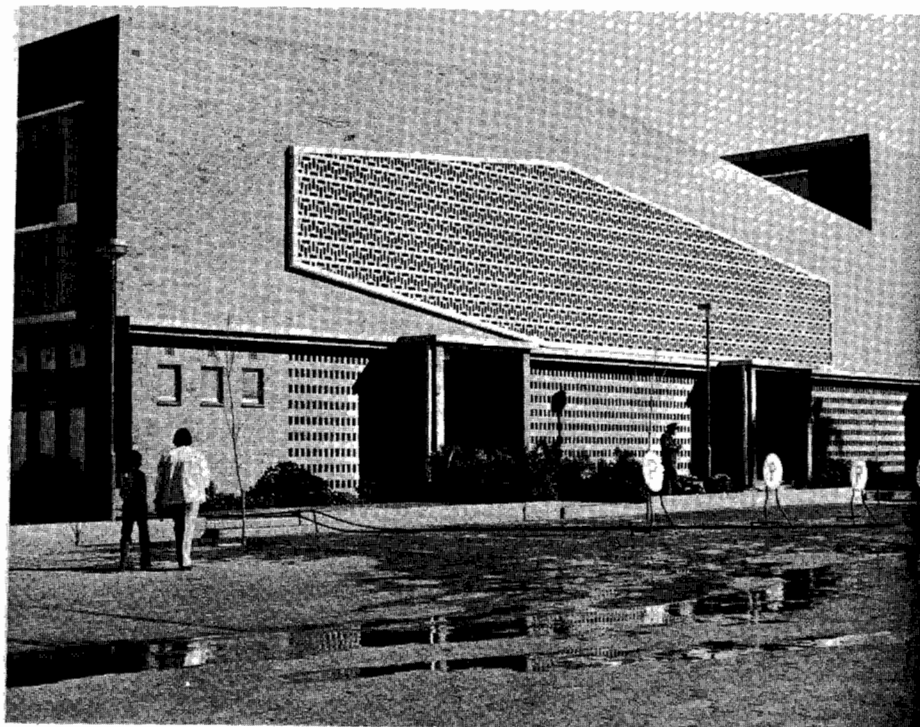
CIVIC CENTRE for LENASIA

A magnificent Civic Community Centre built at a cost of R300 000, was recently opened at Lenasia by the Mayor of Johannesburg, Dr A. D. Bensusan. The main hall seats 800 persons; there are adjoining supper rooms, kitchen, a small theatre seating 100, a library, municipal administration offices and a boardroom for the Indian Management Committee.

Speaking at the opening ceremony the Mayor said that his Council had spared no cost in ensuring that the Centre should be attractive and adequately equipped with administrative offices and a library.

"The Johannesburg City Council," he said, "hopes that this Centre will provide the community with a venue for a renaissance in the cultural and social upliftment of the Indian community," and added that it should benefit young and old, rich and poor and used by all religious groups and for official social gatherings.

"This building," he continued, "has not been the City Council's only contribution to the community of Lenasia — there have been the sports fields and the children's playgrounds and your new cricket stadium, recently acclaimed by Springbok and other cricketers as suitable for international matches. The grassed soccer stadium should shortly be available and the Council is also developing an extensive sporting complex of 14



Front view of the Civic Centre.

separate sports fields and a tennis complex of 8 courts with change rooms and all amenities."

The Mayor added that the Council has also embarked upon a programme of improving roads and storm water drains, involving an expenditure of R4 million. The planned establishment of a large recreation area — double the size of Johannesburg's Zoo Lake, will cost an addi-

tional R1 million.

In conclusion Dr Bensusan paid tribute to the members of the Indian Management Committee for their co-operation, their wise counsel and their constructive criticism in working with officials of the City Council, particularly through the Coloured and Asian Division. "They," he said, "have provided invaluable service to the people of Lenasia." □

Ramadan Message from the Minister of Indian Affairs, Senator O. P. F. Horwood

It gives me great pleasure to send a message of goodwill and greeting to the Muslim Community of the Republic of South Africa, who in common with followers of Islam throughout the world, are at this time observing the Fast of Ramadan.

May you, as in the past, benefit spiritually from this period of fasting and prayer which the observance of this important event in the Islamic calendar enjoins upon you to do.

I trust too that by your charitable deeds, joy and happiness will be brought to the less privileged among you during this holy month of Ramadan.

