

purchasing power of Natal Indians in 1965 was nine per cent of the Natal total, and this amounted to about R65-million, of which about R40-million came from the Durban-Pinetown area.

There seems to be a great need for more training facilities for those going into commerce and industry, for more help from the Industrial Development Corporation or the Indian Investment Corporation if it is established; and for the same in agriculture which could play a great part in producing vegetables for the Durban area, if helped by capital and know-how.

### Conclusion

It is known that the Natal Indian is becoming more westernised. Ninety-eight per cent are able to converse in English. Language is therefore not a problem in training them. The Indian is education conscious. In 1965

14,950 passed Standard 8  
7,100 matriculated.

Approximately 1,200 graduated and 2,500 received diplomas in their particular courses. In 1966 1,661 enrolled at our universities. With the po-

pulation increasing rapidly this will mean a better educated and skilled labour force.

This field is not fully exploited. Why? The legal barrier is not entirely the cause. Job reservation affects Indians little. The restrictions preventing their movement within the Province and group areas legislation are factors. The former precludes the worker from seeking the best market for his labour, while the latter restricts him from finding the most economic location for his business.

In the Durban area particularly business expansion by the Indian does not occur because of their uncertain future. These factors are of the utmost importance, but it is customary rather than statutory restrictions that prevent the full realisation of the economic potentials of the Indian community. The attitudes of European employers and employees are restricting the rate of economic growth in Natal to a level far below the potential. The Indian labour force is not being fully exploited. Shortage of skilled labour is bound to restrict. In Natal we have this under-utilised potential skilled labour force. How long can Prejudice be yet another unjust law.

# Johannesburg Advice Office

Annual Report November 1966 to October 1967

Total number of cases	557
Total number of interviews	982
Total number of cases successfully closed	18
Total number of cases unsuccessfully closed	4

### ANALYSIS

Permits	146
Endorsements out	57
Reference books	38
Housing	8
Miscellaneous	25
Foreign Africans	6
Sent elsewhere	8

The number of cases coming to the Advice Office remains steady. The analysis of this year's figures reflects that the great majority of cases are concerned with permits, and comparatively few with endorsements out, but it must be emphasised that a number of cases classified as permits, reference books, foreign Africans and housing are subsequently endorsed out.

The number of cases successfully concluded is depressingly low and is inaccurate as a number of people do not return to the office to report the outcome of their appeals.

It has been obvious during these last twelve months that the regulations are being more rigidly enforced. One of the most distressing aspects

of present day policy is the endorsement out of teenagers, children of parents qualified to be in Johannesburg. If these parents send their children away to the country to stay with grandparents and/or to go to school there, they are deemed to have broken their domicile unless they can prove that they were bona fide scholars in the country area. When the children return home to live, the parents find that the children's names have been removed from the family housing permit. Their names can only be included again if the parents can produce the proof that they were at school in the country and that they returned home for the school holidays.

When the 16 year olds who have broken their domicile, apply for their reference books in Johannesburg they are refused the issue of a book and are told that they must apply in the country area where they were staying. (Many of them find when they do go back they are not entitled to be in that area either and their book will not be given to them.) If they are given their books in the country area, they are entitled to come back to live at home until they are 18 and they are then endorsed out of Johannesburg. Between the ages of 16 and 18 they cannot be registered in urban employment.

Another directive put into force this year is that children living at home cannot be accepted

at a local school until they have obtained a permit from influx control proving that they are legal residents in the township.

The embargo on the entry of women into Johannesburg still obtains and many women who cannot provide the proof of the period of their residence here, (since March 1959) are being endorsed out.

Old age pensioners suddenly find that their pensions have been withdrawn. Before they can get their pensions back they are told to leave Johannesburg and go back to the place where they were born. When they comply with this instruction some find that the authorities refuse permission for them to live there.

Wives are being endorsed out because they cannot prove that they entered the area lawfully. Those who were born here but broke their domicile when at school in the country, are in the same predicament as the teenage boys. They are lawfully here as long as they are the unmarried daughters of men qualified to be in the area, but when they get married it seems that the break when they were sent to school and to live in the country disqualifies them.

Men who are in Johannesburg in terms of Section 10 (1) (d) can never rent a house. If they are married to women who qualify in their own right to remain in the area they have to apply for a lodger's permit to reside in the house of another family. This is the only way they can live together.

Foreign Africans, now including those born in Lesotho and Botswana, are being endorsed out in ever increasing numbers. Many of them have been here from infancy and do not consider themselves nationals of these two countries. As yet there is no diplomatic representative from either Botswana or Lesotho in the Republic, thus those people who did not take out their passports when they should have done so, have to go to Botswana or Lesotho to get one. Swazi's, too, are now foreigners in South Africa, but the British Government is still responsible for them.

Some of the people whose parents were born in what were the Protectorates find that they are registered in their reference books as having been born there as well, when in fact they were born in the Republic. It is a complicated process to prove this fact and have the appropriate alteration made in their books. Foreign women who are widowed or deserted have to return home when they lose their husbands.

One is forced to conclude that the laws of the country are turning more and more of our citizens into "displaced persons". With the need for an ever increasing number of workers in the urban areas and with the government insistence on migratory labour, no African can count on any sense of permanence in the place where he works, no stability for his family life and no security for his old age.

In conclusion I would like to thank Mrs. Kirk and Mrs. Radale for their untiring work in assisting the voluntary workers in the office. I never cease to be astounded by their fantastic memories. They remember the names and the details of every case who comes for help.

Mrs. Martin has relieved Mrs. Kirk for two months when Mrs. Kirk went overseas. She has been wonderful and we are most grateful to her.

To all our voluntary workers I give my sincere thanks for continuing to give their time and energy to doing this heart rending and distressing work.

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## OBITUARY

*The Border Region of Black Sash deeply regrets to report the death of four valued members during the course of the year:*

MARION SMITH (neè Armstrong) was born in Cheshire in 1879. She came to South Africa in 1923 and lived on an isolated mission station on the borders of Basutoland where, undaunted by extremely hard and primitive conditions her spirit of compassion for the underdog was further developed and nurtured. In England she had campaigned for votes for women.

When the Black Sash Movement started it was natural that she should join and become a keen member. She died in East London on December 30th, 1966, in her 87th year and is mourned by many who loved and admired her.

IRENE ESTELLE GARCIA died on March 17th, 1967. With her passing the East London Branch of Black Sash lost a very loyal supporter. Her indifferent health prevented her from taking a very active part, but she made up for this by her fearless campaign against injustices of any kind by constant contributions to the press.

Until a few months before her death Miss Garcia served as a member of the local Executive Committee. Her gentle character, her ladylike qualities and keen sense of humour endeared her to all who knew her.

MAY LANGFORD JOHNSTON joined the Black Sash in 1957, when a branch was formed at Kei Road. She became the first Chairman of the Branch, a post which she held until poor health forced her to give up the honour to her daughter, and she became Vice-Chairman. She remained a keen member of the Region after the Branch disbanded in 1963 and when she retired to East London with her husband at the end of 1965 she again attended meetings regularly. A meeting held the day before she died suddenly on May 7th, 1967, was to have been held at her home.

.....She was an active member of the Kingwilliamstown Branch of the National Council of Women and was several times president of both the

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