IDEALS OF THE I.L.O

“All human beings, irrespective of race, creed, or sex, have the right to pursue both their material well-being and their spiritual development in conditions of freedom and dignity, economic security, and equal opportunity.” This was one of the principles of the International Labour Organization reaffirmed at the Philadelphia Conference in April of last year, and contained in the Philadelphia Declaration. The Conference, which was the twenty-sixth of its kind, was attended by delegations representing Governments, workers, and employers from 41 States members of the Organization.

Starting off with the basic principle that “poverty anywhere constitutes a danger to prosperity everywhere”, the I.L.O. has as its ideal the furtherance among the nations of programmes which will achieve full employment, the raising of standards of living, and the employment of workers in occupations in which they can have the satisfaction of giving the fullest measure of their skill and attainments. It aims at achieving policies of wages, hours, and other conditions of work which will “ensure a just share of the fruits of progress to all”; the effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining, the extension of comprehensive social security measures to all in need of such protection, and the assurance of equality of education and vocational opportunity.

The Philadelphia Declaration emphasizes that all these aims are fully applicable to all peoples everywhere, and that, “while the manner of their application must be determined with due regard to the stage of social and economic development reached by each people, their progressive application to peoples who are still dependent, as well as to those who have already achieved self-government, is a matter of concern to the whole civilized world.”

MORE LAND FOR SWAZIS

The acute Native land shortage in Swaziland is to be relieved by the purchase, under the Colonial Development and Welfare Act, of European-owned properties to the extent of 229,875 acres, and the utilization of 135,449 acres of Crown land for Native settlement. In addition, large sums are to be spent on the construction of roads, water supplies, fencing of pastures and forest reserves, anti-erosion work, and the erection of schools.
At present there are some 27,050 landless people living outside the Native areas, “squatting” on Crown land or on the land of absentee European landowners. In 1942 Paramount Chief Sobhuza petitioned the King, complaining that the Swazi people could not avoid deterioration unless they were assured of wider areas. An investigation revealed that the problem of the landless Swazis was one of great urgency.

The land purchased under the new scheme is to be safeguarded from destructive farming methods. Holdings will be granted on leasehold so that control can be exercised over the individual to see that the land is properly cultivated. The control of the new areas and the facilities that will be given to assist the Native to improve his agriculture will be such that the land settlements will serve as demonstration areas for the rest of the country.

DR. NEIL MACVICAR

The Institute takes this opportunity of congratulating Dr. Neil Macvicar, member of the Executive, on having received from the University of the Witwatersrand the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws.

After graduating at the University of Edinburgh, Dr. Macvicar engaged in missionary work in Nyasaland. In 1902 he went to Lovedale, and for thirty-five years worked there, extending the Victoria Hospital and its out-patient hospital department, until in 1937, when he retired, the hospital accommodated 175 beds, and Africans of the surrounding areas no longer hesitated to come there. Lovedale has commemorated his work by naming its new tuberculosis hospital after him.

Dr. Macvicar founded the Health Society in 1909, and has continuously carried on health propaganda, work, in which he is still engaged. If, as Principal Raikes said at the graduation ceremony, he was a generation ahead of his time in 1908, in 1945 the vitality and youth of his mind, and his eager acceptance of new ideas place him still far ahead of this generation.

The Institute has for long enjoyed, and greatly valued, his assistance in all health and medical activities in which it has engaged.
INSTITUTE MEETING

At a meeting held in Durban last month under the auspices of the Institute, Mr. Quintin Whyte, Assistant to the Director, spoke on the findings of the Council on housing and the National Health Services Commission Report.

Other speakers at the meeting were Senator D. G. Shepstone, who spoke on the place of the Non-European in the industrial development of Southern Africa; Professor E. H. Brookes, who dealt with racial attitudes; and Professor H. R. Burrows, who spoke on the latest proposals of the Government on social security. Mr. Maurice Webb was in the Chair, and there were over 100 members present.

While in Durban, Mr. Whyte also addressed the Durban International Club on the subject of African adult education.

LEGAL AID IN CAPE TOWN

The work of the Cape Town Legal Aid Bureau has grown by leaps and bounds within recent months. The Bureau, which was established in 1941, is under the aegis of the Institute. The work was originally handled by Mr. Donald Molteno, M.P., the Cape regional representative of the Institute, but two years later the number of cases had reached such proportions that a qualified legal aid officer had to be appointed. In criminal cases, an investigator of the Bureau, assisted by an interpreter, interviews accused persons in their cells and arranges for local attorneys to assist those too poor to arrange their own defence.

Free legal aid is supplied to Non-Europeans earning less than £2 a week, and to Europeans with salaries under £3 a week. The majority of applicants are Africans and Cape Coloured.

During the period September 1943 to September 1944 the Bureau defended 402 criminal cases, and 1,031 civil cases. In addition 3,137 interviews were given, and 938 letters dispatched.
MILK SCHEMES IN LOCATIONS

Investigations by the Institute in various towns have disclosed a very low consumption of milk by the African population. In various municipalities, however, milk depots established in the locations are ensuring regular supplies of fresh milk at reduced charges to the inhabitants.

The first experiment of this nature was made by the Germiston municipality a few years ago in the Native location which has a population of about 14,000. Milk is sold at 2 3/4d. per pint, a fluctuating quantity averaging between 350 and 450 gallons daily being supplied.

In Grahamstown three depots for Africans, and one for Cape Coloured, have been opened by the Coloured and Native Affairs Committee. Milk is sold at 2d. per pint, and sales average 60 gallons a day.

The Springs municipality has a milk depot at the Payneville Native Township where milk is sold at 2d. per pint. In the summer over 10,000 gallons are sold per month to the 16,000 inhabitants of the Native township.

SHORTER ITEMS

Mass Education Experiment.—An interesting experiment in mass education has been carried out in Udi, Nigeria. At a mass meeting it appeared that the townspeople were eager for some form of mass education, and all promised to attend classes if they could find people to teach them. As a result classes were begun, with the District Clerk in charge of the organization of the scheme. The tutors were trained and untrained professional teachers, clerks, police constables, educated labourers, and even school boys in Standards IV to VI. Since the start of the experiment many of those who never read a word in their lives are now literate.

Housing at Iscor.—Plaes are being developed for the construction of thousands of homes for African employees of Iscor and their families, announced Dr. H. J. van der Bijl in a paper on “Health Organizations from an Industrial Aspect” which he read at a Health Congress at the end of last year. It is the aim that every married African who wishes to have his family with him near his work will be encouraged in this direction. The houses will be erected in scientifically laid-out townships and all essentials will be made readily available to the resident Africans.
Pass Law Exemptions.—African ex-volunteers who were discharged “with benefits” after more than two years of service and have good civil records may now apply for exemption from the pass laws.

Africans with less than two years of service, but who receive military pensions, or who have been boarded out because of illness or injuries contracted while on service, may also be exempted.

Stabilizing Family Life.—The Union Secretary for Native Affairs, Mr. W. G. A. Mears, speaking in Johannesburg recently, said, “The Natives desire a stabilized family life in the towns, and the growing exodus of women as well as men from the reserves to the towns, points to that stabilization in urban areas. There are growing indications that the Natives in the future will have a greater say as to where they will live.”

Speakers on Penal Reform.—The Secretary of the Penal Reform Committee will be very glad to hear from members who are either competent to speak on some aspect of penal reform, or willing to study material with a view to such public speaking. Many requests for speakers have come in from all over the Union. Please write to P.O. Box 97, Johannesburg.

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LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR
Progress Possibilities in Native Areas

Dear Member,
My work during May took me to the Northern Transvaal. In the space available I can only speak of three matters of major importance which I wish to bring to your notice. I must preface what I have to say with a word of sincere thanks to the Department of Native Affairs and its officers for the help they gave me and those who accompanied me.

At Hamanskraal, 25 miles from Pretoria, on the road to Pietersburg, the Department of Native Affairs is converting a "shanty town" into a well-ordered village. Some months ago, about 60 African families, who had squatted illegally upon town land in the municipality of Alberton, were removed by lorry to land belonging to the Native Trust at Hamanskraal. There they found tents and food awaiting them, and they were fed by the Department for about ten days. The plight of the people at Alberton and their summary removal to Hamanskraal cannot be discussed here, since I wish rather to draw your attention to the initiative which the local Native Commissioner has shown in the settlement of the people under more permanent and happier conditions. Here is to be seen an experiment in the creation of a community out of a collection of homeless, unconnected families. The new houses, built of concrete blocks and thatch, are arranged in squares or circles of 20 houses, each on a stand of 100 by 80 ft. The men are offered work on the Trust land, but most of them are now working in Pretoria, coming home at week-ends. It is hoped that before long trains will take them to and fro daily, the railway line being close at hand. This raises the growing important question of the transportation of workers which the Bus Services (Rand and Pretoria) Commission urged the Government to have investigated more fully. The experiment, too, offers an opportunity for the model organization of social services. But perhaps the most striking feature is the training and use of Africans
to build houses for Africans. Under the supervision of a European foreman an African trainee can lay the foundations of a two-roomed house in 30 days, and roof and thatch in 4 days. As soon as the families have been housed and the tents removed, houses of three and four rooms will be built. In the meantime the experiment shows that Africans can be used on a large scale to overcome the housing shortage in the towns.

In the Pietersburg, Zoutpansberg, and Lethaba areas I saw the results of the efforts of the Department of Native Affairs to help the African people to make the best use of the land. In the Pietersburg district, where the land has only had between three and four inches of rain this season, those who followed the advice of the agricultural supervisors have outstandingly good maize crops, while next to these allotments are to be found allotments of shrivelled maize stalks, tragic evidence of ignorance, indifference, and indolence. In all three districts, two- or three-morgen lots of irrigated soil on Trust lands were covered with variegated crops, worked by Trust employers or tenants. The settlement of the people in villages with organized social services and amenities will in due course bring profound changes and make possible great advancement in the living and outlook of the people.

The pioneer health work of mission hospitals (such as the Swiss Hospital at Elim, and the Donald Fraser [Church of Scotland] Hospital, Sibasa) provides the foundation for the development of health units on the lines recommended by the National Health Services Commission. Their hospitals and their clinics in the Native areas should become Health Units.

I came away profoundly impressed by the need for and the possibility of the large-scale agricultural and social development of life in Native areas; but also with the conviction that if these areas are to be brought into life again—and most of them are dead to-day—it will be necessary to mobilize, train, and use thousands of Africans for the redemption of the Native areas. Here is a field of employment for returned soldiers and for the thousands of young Africans who are without training and employment.

Yours sincerely,
THE PREVALENCE OF T.B.

Manpower for March 1945 draws attention once again to “the regrettable lack of statistical information pertaining to morbidity and mortality of the population of South Africa”. The subject under discussion is the prevalence of tuberculosis among the Bantu. It appears that, contrary to the commonly held opinion, evidence is now accumulating that tuberculosis is not so very prevalent among the Bantu. At the Health Centre, Polela, Natal, “where reliable morbidity statistics are being collected for a small sample district, it appears that, roughly speaking, the number of persons found to suffer from tuberculosis is about the same as that of people suffering from leprosy. For each tuberculotic there are about 100 persons with venereal disease [and] between 70 and 80 showing clinical signs of malnutrition.” This for a country district. As regards city conditions, “the 1943 Annual Report of the Alexandra Health Centre and University Clinic states that the total number of cases of tuberculosis notified in 1943 was 34, and in 1942, 30. During the same years there were 10,125 and 9,996 attendances at the Venereal Clinic, 19,008 and 14,952 medical consultations.” These are striking figures from reliable sources.

By way of contrast, it is useful to look at a somewhat similar analysis made in 1903 in a rural area of the Ciskei. Out of 2,739 Bantu outpatients examined at the Victoria Hospital, Lovedale, 191 had tuberculosis (148 being lung cases), 41 had venereal disease, 4 leprosy, and 83 “diseases due to the lack of suitable food”. That was over 40 years ago. But there does seem to be some contemporary evidence—it can hardly be all mere rumour—that tuberculosis is still prevalent in some places. In the Rand Daily Mail of 4 May is the statement by a Durban M.P. in the House of Assembly that “about four people died in Durban every day from tuberculosis”. Such a statement presumably has a statistical basis.

Manpower recognizes that the incidence of tuberculosis is reputed to be high in certain “large urban areas”. The chief purpose of the article is “to stress the need for the introduction of a proper system of health statistics . . . based upon a new census of the Native population”. South Africa, in short, must begin to take notice of births and deaths among the Bantu, and the causes of the deaths.
When such vital statistics have been obtained, we shall know where we stand. Compulsory registration of births and deaths must be introduced in the rural areas as now in the towns.

N. M.

JOINT COUNCIL NOTES

Pretoria. The Pretoria Joint Council of Europeans and Africans has issued a memorandum covering the arrest of Africans for failure to produce passes and poll-tax receipts. The Joint Council considers that Africans should only be arrested for the non-production of these documents if there is a reasonable suspicion that they have just committed or are about to commit crimes. The indiscriminate arrest of Africans is causing a feeling of frustration and resentment so that the police, instead of being regarded as the guardians of peace and order, are held in fear and contempt by the people and fail to get their co-operation when it comes to a question of serious crime.

The Institute has been informed that no instructions have been given reversing the police policy introduced in 1942 modifying the application of the pass laws on the lines mentioned above.

Germiston. The action of the Government in increasing the price of maize, the staple food of Africans and the poorer whites, thereby causing still further hardship and privation, has been criticized by the Germiston Joint Council of Europeans and Africans. A unanimous resolution reaffirmed the Council's resolution of September 1943 which asked the Minister of Agriculture to take steps to initiate a State scheme for growing maize on a large scale on Government-owned farms, and on claim surfaces not needed by the mines, using white and Native labour at present unemployed in the town and country areas.

The Institute has asked the Minister of Native Affairs if he will indicate the grounds on which he has acquiesced in the increased price.

Potchefstroom. At a large meeting of African residents of the Potchefstroom Location, arranged by the local Joint Council of Europeans and Bantu, Mr. Rheinallt Jones gave an address on the functions of Native Advisory Boards as extended by amendments to the Natives (Urban Areas) Act. Dr. Wollheim spoke on the work of the Institute.
Tribute was paid at the meeting to the work of Mr. Edward Calder, Chairman of the Joint Council since its inception twelve years ago until his recent retirement through ill-health.

**Durban.** The Durban and District Joint Council of Europeans and Bantu has set up a legal sub-committee to study legislation as it affects Africans, and to recommend reforms. The sub-committee has already submitted reports to the Executive on Natal pre-Union legislation and will now examine Union statutes.

**JUVENILE DELINQUENCY IN SOUTHERN RHODESIA**

The report of a survey of Native juvenile delinquency in Southern Rhodesia, carried out by the Rev. Percy Ibbotson during 1944, has just been published by the Federation of Native Welfare Societies in Southern Rhodesia.

Mr. Ibbotson confined his survey to boys, and these mainly in urban areas. The report shows that a serious problem exists. Although the official statistics for 1939–43 (the latest available) show no increase in the number of offences committed by Native juveniles, evidence submitted shows that the type of crime committed is becoming more serious and there is an increase in real juvenile delinquency as distinct from petty crime committed by first offenders.

78 questionnaires were issued to judicial officers, missionaries, and others, and evidence was collected by visits to prisons and interviews with individual experts.

Six out of the eight sections into which the report is divided are devoted to an examination of the present position with regard to the types of crime committed and punishment used, the registration and employment of Native juvenile delinquents, and the existing certified institutions for the detention of Native juveniles. (At present the Roman Catholic School at Driefontein Mission is the only certified institution for Native juvenile delinquents in Southern Rhodesia!)

Section 7 describes briefly “Contributory Factors in Juvenile Delinquency” such as “unsatisfactory home conditions, poverty, lack of educational discipline, lack of adequate leisure activities”. Mr. Ibbotson found that of the juvenile offenders interrogated, 78

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1 *Report on a Survey of Native Juvenile Delinquency in Southern Rhodesia. Copies can be obtained from the Institute for 1s. 6d. (postage 1d).*
per cent had not attended school, 19 per cent had reached sub-
standards only, 9 per cent had reached Standard 1, and 2 per cent
had reached Standard 2 or over.

The last section details recommendations for dealing with this
problem. Changes in legal procedure, control of urbanization,
investigation of the background of accused Native juveniles, extension
of educational and other facilities among Natives, probation, limita-
tion of corporal punishment, and the establishment of additional
approved schools and certified institutions for Native juvenile delin-
quents, are among the recommendations made. Finally, Mr. Ibbot-
son recommends that a conference be arranged as soon as possible
by the Government of Southern Rhodesia to discuss the recom-
mandations and facts contained in the report.

THE RED CROSS AND THE RESERVES

How the Red Cross could play its part in helping Africans in the
Native areas to better health and living conditions was the subject
of Mr. Rheinallt Jones’s address to the Red Cross Conference held
in Johannesburg in April.

Mr. Jones outlined the social and economic conditions of Afric-
ans in the reserves, where poverty, ignorance, and sickness predominated.
The inertia of ignorance prevented the people from taking advantage
of the efforts which the Department of Native Affairs and others
were making for their uplift. To overcome this and to raise the
standard of living, large-scale and intensive propaganda must be
undertaken. Here, as well as in the organization of health and welfare
activities, the Red Cross should play a prominent part. It could do
this by providing propaganda material on numerous topics of vital
importance to the well-being of the people, for use in printed form,
on the radio, and in other ways. It would be necessary to train
propagandists, making use of the personnel to be developed in
connection with national health services, teachers, ministers, agri-
cultural demonstrators, women’s organizations, tribal and other
authorities, as well as youth movements. It should also be possible
to make use of the large numbers of men who have been trained in
first aid on the mines. The aim should be to train and use 10 per
cent of the women in home nursing and hygiene. Co-operation with
other bodies, official and unofficial, was essential to maximize all
all efforts for the advancement of the reserves.
LORD LUGARD

Lord Lugard, whose death at the age of 87 was announced in April, did more perhaps than any other man to shape British colonial administration in Africa. He was the father of “indirect rule”, the system which is in practice to-day in most of the British African territories and which has served as a model to many other countries.

His career, a colourful and adventurous one, took him to many parts of Africa. He took part in the expedition organized by the British community in Nyasaland against the Arab slave-traders in 1888, and three years later was busy putting an end to the civil war in Uganda, which territory he then administered. In 1897 he was sent to West Africa, where he was ordered to raise a force to protect British interests against French aggression in Nigeria. In 1903, after a successful campaign against the Emir of Kano and the Sultan of Sokoto, he brought the whole of the territory under British rule, and was made its Governor. It was then that he formulated the principles of Native administration which were put into practice as “indirect rule”.

CAMPAIGN FOR FUNDS

The Campaign is now launched. Some 20,000 colour folders have been distributed from house to house in certain suburbs of Johannesburg. Results are beginning to come in. An encouraging response has been received to the President’s letter in the April issue of the News, one member paying the subscriptions of ten new members named by him, an example well deserving emulation. The special letter I sent out to every member has also brought in results, and I thank those who are helping in the ways suggested.

My own time is taken up with personal calls in Johannesburg, and I am gratified with the way in which business concerns, individual citizens, and public bodies are receiving me.

I hope soon to enlist the help of Johannesburg members for this personal canvass. Any volunteers?

O. D. WOLLHEIM
**SHORTER ITEMS**

**Public Health Bursaries.**—The Department of Public Health is granting bursaries of £30 per annum to 15 Cape Coloured and 15 Africans to take the course for the Sanitary Inspectors’ Examination, conducted at various technical colleges. Priority in the selection of candidates is given to approved candidates with good military records, and the claims of other sections will be considered only if there are not sufficient candidates from the ex-volunteer group. Indians will also be included in the scheme.

**Unemployment Insurance.**—For several years the Institute has pressed for the inclusion of workers earning less than £78 a year under the Unemployment Benefits Act. It is gratifying to find that they are included in the Unemployment Insurance Bill now before Parliament. Nearly half a million workers will benefit, most of them Africans. This measure will prove a most powerful factor in reducing the excessive turnover of labour in the Union, and in encouraging workers, especially Africans, to work continuously.

**Basutoland Education Commission.**—A commission appointed by the Secretary of State for the Dominions to investigate African educational matters in Basutoland has visited the various parts of the territory. The commission was under the chairmanship of Sir Fred Clarke, Director of the Institute of Education at the University of London. The other members were Mr. G. Power, Director of Education in the Gold Coast, and Dr. W. M. Eiselen, Chief Inspector of Native Education in the Transvaal.

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Published by the Institute Price 3d. (postage £d.)
A Living Memorial

Dear Member,

I am sure you read with warm appreciation Major-General Frank Theron's stirring appeal to the troops under his command to support a proposal that a national trust fund be formed for Native health services as a war memorial. He was expressing the general feeling among soldiers that they want something done to help the African people and to recognize the splendid war record of our African soldiers. By his appeal General Theron has done honour to himself and his soldiers, and a service to the country.

I think, however, that the best war memorial would be one from which all sections of the population could benefit, and without doubt the development of an effective national health service for all sections would be the best war memorial. But, it may be asked, is it not the Government's responsibility to organize and maintain a national health service? Yes, it is; but no health service is possible until the personnel has been trained. This is the immediate need, and this is where the public can take the initiative.

The Gluckman Commission's Report said: "If national health services are to be developed in accordance with the modern conception of health, the provision of this class of personnel (i.e. for preventive work) is the most important of the National Health Services—more important than the provision of doctors, nurses, etc.—for upon them will depend the efficiency of the non-personal and educational services which should form the very foundation of the
health of the future. At present the facilities for training this class of personnel are totally inadequate and, where present, unsatisfactory. Adequate training of this class of personnel should be undertaken by the National Health Service itself at an Institute of Hygiene. . . .

The types which could be trained in part or whole at such an Institute would be hygiene officers (medical aids), health inspectors, health assistants, and health visitors. The Institute of Hygiene could also be used for the training in preventive hygiene of other categories desirous of educating the public, and even keen members of the general public itself.

This was whole-heartedly supported by the representative conference of national bodies convened by the Institute of Race Relations in January 1945.

Here is a well-considered proposal which is fundamental to any national health service to be developed by the Government, and it is a scheme which, if initiated by the public as a memorial for soldiers of all races, should command equivalent response from the Government and become a permanent, living, and powerful driving force for national health.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

SHABBY TREATMENT

The Institute has joined in representations for an improvement in the cash allowances and civilian clothing given to African ex-volunteers. The comparative scale is as follows:—

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The khaki suit is of deplorably poor quality and quite unaccept­able. It should be noted that the honourably discharged African soldier fares much worse than the dishonourably discharged Coloured soldier.

So far the representations have been fruitless.

PENAL REFORM OVERSEAS

The Annual Report for 1943–44 of the Howard League for Penal Reform mentions the appointment, by the British Home Secretary, of a Standing Advisory Council on the treatment of offenders. The Council is under the chairmanship of Mr. Justice Birkett, and its members include the Chairman of the Howard League, Mr. George Benson, M.P., as well as several other League officials. The Report regrets that the Council does not include a medical psychologist, but hopes nevertheless that it will not only keep the Home Office alive to the constant need for minor penal reforms but will induce it to grapple with fundamental problems, such as those of capital and corporal punishment.

In September 1943, says the Report, 17 members of the International Committee of the Howard League, writing in their personal capacity, sent a letter to the Prime Ministers of Belgium, Czecho­lovakia, Great Britain, Greece, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Yugoslavia, and the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, as well as to the President of the Provisional French Government, and to the American and Russian Ambassadors in Great Britain. The letter urged the governments of the United Nations to consider the im­portance of international co-operation in the prevention of crime, and suggested that any future international organization should include a Bureau of Penal Affairs. It also stressed the importance of co-ordinating the social services auxiliary to the courts, and of abandoning the theory of punishment as an end in itself.

Dishonourable Discharges.—The attention of Non-European ex-volunteers is drawn to the fact that applications can be made for a review of dishonourable discharges. It is reported that in about two-thirds of the cases reviewed the original decisions have been revised. Applications should be made to the Adjutant-General, War Records, Pretoria.
CARE OF DISABLED SOLDIERS

Among the demobilization problems with which the Institute has been much occupied during the past year or so has been the provision of training and employment under sheltered conditions for disabled soldiers. An organization called "Ex-Servicemen's Industries", set up by the Navy War Fund had established centres at Johannesburg, for European disabled soldiers, and at Cape Town, for both European and Coloured disabled soldiers. The Institute was asked by the National Board for Sheltered Employment to assist in establishing a centre for urban African disabled soldiers. In collaboration with other bodies arrangements have been made with the Ex-Servicemen's Industries to set up the necessary organizations in Johannesburg on which the Institute is represented, to provide separate centres for Cape Coloureds and Africans.

MORE ABOUT HOUSING

Mr. L. I. Venables, Manager of the Non-European Affairs Department, Johannesburg, in an address to the Joint Council of Europeans and Africans, said that ten years ago African houses had averaged 442 square feet at 4s. 6d. per square foot. To-day they average 733 to 824 square feet at 10s. 9d. per square foot. The cost per house had risen from £90 in 1932, £125 in 1937, £237 in 1941, £472 in 1943, to £628–£650 in 1945.

It is reported that a sample house suitable for Non-Europeans, manufactured by an American firm, is to be imported into South Africa. The house has two bedrooms, a living-room, a kitchen, a bathroom, and a store-room. It is said that, with the use of unskilled labour, the house can be erected on a concrete foundation with concrete partitioning walls at a cost of about half that of a brick building of similar size.

It is stated that the Anderson home, a three-roomed building erected by a European supervisor with nine Africans, costs £336 and can be erected with this labour force at the rate of one a week.

From Durban comes a report of a pre-fabricated house for Non-Europeans consisting of a living-room, 17 feet long, with a fireplace and a built-in cupboard, two bedrooms, a kitchen with sink, coal stove, food cupboard, a large bathroom, and separate store-room.
It was built in 48 hours at a cost of £275, £100 less than the Native houses being put up by the Durban Corporation. The labour force for each unit consists of two electric welders, usually Coloured, and about six unskilled Africans under a European supervisor. All materials are South African and the house is constructed of steel, cement, stone, and clinker ash, the use of wood being eliminated.

In Southern Rhodesia, village settlements are being put up for Africans working in urban areas. Erected on concrete foundations, the homes, which are of solid brick, are roofed with re-inforced concrete slabs or asbestos cement sheets. No wood is used except for the door. Each cottage has its own bathing facilities and pail closet, and water is laid on to stand pipes in the street. A two-roomed semi-detached house costs £75, a three-roomed house £120, and a four-roomed house £160. Rents are 7s. 6d., 12s. 6d., and 15s. per month respectively. African labour is used.

Draft regulations under the Housing (Emergency Powers) Act provide for the training, at any institution under the Union Education Department, of Africans for a period not less than 12 weeks and of "non-Natives" for a period of not less than 16 weeks. The nature of the training will be determined "with due regard to the principle that Native and non-Native artisans will be restricted to performing work of a nature and standard usual in dwellings for occupation or use by Natives and non-Natives respectively". After training every learner will complete a further period of training not exceeding one year in the case of Natives and three years in the case of non-Natives with specified employers. No Native artisan will be employed on the construction of any building intended for use or occupation by persons other than Natives without the consent of the Secretary for Labour.

**BROOME COMMISSION**

The Broome Commission has not endeavoured or been able to collect new factual material on the problem in Natal. No sociological data are contained in the Report, which nevertheless gives a calm and reasoned analysis of the present position in its political aspect. It makes a tentative suggestion that a solution of the much-discussed franchise question may be found in the adoption of a "loaded franchise", requiring higher qualifications from Indians
than from Europeans. It makes only one definite recommendation—that the Union Government should immediately invite the Government of India to send to South Africa a delegation, composed substantially of Indians, to discuss matters.

**BRITISH COLONIAL DEVELOPMENT**

The Colonial Development and Welfare Act, 1945, passed this year by the British Parliament, supersedes the Act of 1940 and provides for a total sum of £120,000,000 to be spent in the ten years from April 1946.

In an official statement on the progress made under the Act grants of nearly £24,000,000 for development work were listed. Nigeria received £181,000 for road development, £181,000 for rural water supplies, and £61,000 for general building, while another scheme includes a grant of £370,000 as a first instalment towards a £2,000,000 plan for electrical and hydro-electrical work. Nyasaland received £345,000 for medical work.

The West African Commission Report on Higher Education suggests three centres, one each in Nigeria, the Gold Coast, and Sierra Leone, to provide a course in arts and science, and to undertake extra-mural work. It is suggested that these be financed by the Colonial Development and Welfare Fund until the West African Governments can take over full financial responsibility.

In view of these and other recent developments in colonial and mandatory affairs, the Executive Committee of the Institute feels that it should be a function of the Institute to keep in closer touch with other African territories by the appointment of regional representatives wherever possible. It also considers that more contacts should be made with opinion in London on colonial policy and with organizations in New York interested in African development.

**FOOD AND EFFICIENCY**

The City Engineer, Johannesburg, has reported that from a careful review of records taken when the Council fed its African employees in compounds, compared with the present system under which the employees feed themselves, there has been an average drop of 30 per cent in the output of employees.
The Medical Officer of Health also reported an increase in the sick record of African employees, due particularly to malnutrition. The City Engineer’s department has calculated that this agreement, to allow employees to exercise the option to feed themselves, costs that department £250,000 p.a. through the lower efficiency of the workers and the additional labour required. Other departments are said to be affected, making the cost greater.

Under the agreement whereby African employees are allowed to feed themselves, an allowance of 3s. per week is allowed to each man in lieu of the food formerly provided by the Municipality.

**MIGRANT LABOUR**

The Witwatersrand Native Mine Wages’ Commission reported that, “having regard to the circumstances of the Witwatersrand gold mining industry, the migratory system of present labour must continue. Any other policy would bring about a catastrophic dissolution and consequent prejudice to the whole economic structure of the Union.” The Commission, however, added:

“It is clear that in years to come there will be an ever-increasing body of Natives in or from the reserves who will be without allotments and who, whether resident in the reserves or elsewhere, will be dependent entirely upon their earnings by their labour without the subsidiary means available in the case of the bulk of the migrant labourers to-day. A large number of these men must be absorbed into industry, some of which, it may be hoped, will be within the reserves, supplying the needs of the inhabitants, but more of which are likely to be in, or in the neighbourhood of, the great centres outside them. A long-range view of the position indicates that the gold mining industry could not continue indefinitely to claim exemption from participation in this process.”

The Institute’s evidence before the Commission expressed itself in similar but more urgent terms.

In supporting the continuance of the present system, the Commission stipulated that the combined income of the labourers from wages and their reserve production should enable them to remain long enough in the reserves to maintain their tribal associations, keep in reasonable touch with their families, preserve their health, and retain adequate control of the interests of their allotments.” These and other findings of the Commission raise fundamental questions on which the Executive Committee of the Institute at its
recent half-yearly meeting felt that much more information is necessary, and a sub-committee was appointed to organize further study of the whole question of the effects, favourable and unfavourable, of migrant labour upon the social and economic life of the Union and other African territories, and especially upon the Native areas and African peoples themselves.

SHORTER ITEMS

The Institute’s Library would like to remind members that gifts of old journals, books, or pamphlets which are no longer wanted, and which have any bearing on race relations, are very gratefully accepted.

Senator Dr. the Hon. E. H. Brookes, after eleven years’ service as Principal of Adams College, Amanzimtoti, Natal, is resigning at the end of this year. It was recently announced that he has been appointed a member of the Native Affairs Commission. Senator Brookes is a foundation member of the Institute and a member of its Executive Committee.

Pass Laws.—The Minister of Native Affairs has promised that, as soon as circumstances permit, he will have the whole pass system thoroughly examined to discover a simplified but satisfactory one.

CHRISTIAN PRINCIPLES AND RACE PROBLEMS, by the Hon. J. H. Hofmeyr

This is the first Hoernlé Memorial Lecture, delivered by the Hon. J. H. Hofmeyr in January 1945 at Cape Town. In it he emphasizes the importance of the Christian approach to the problem of race relations. An outspoken criticism and appeal. Copies can be obtained from the Institute for 2s. 6d. each (postage 2d.)

IN THE PRESS

N.A.P. No. 9. The People’s Food, by Dr. Neil Macvicar.

Published by the S.A. Institute of Race Relations, P.O. Box 97, Johannesburg
Printed by the Morija Printing Works, Basutoland
LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

"What Can I Do?"

Dear Member,

Individual members of the Institute are always asking: "What can I do to help further the Institute’s ideals?" Letters and personal calls from soldiers show that in the war they have found with amazement that Africans and other Non-Europeans have qualities and abilities which few White men realized they possessed. These soldiers want to translate their admiration of the war services of Non-Europeans into practical action for their upliftment. They, also, ask what they can do.

The Institute must canalize this new *humanitas* into personal service, and it is in a position to do so. For, while the Institute has in the main been concerned to increase knowledge on the fundamental causes of the disharmonies in our "multi-racial society", and with disseminating this knowledge, it has also done its best to develop national and local agencies for removing bad social and economic conditions and for securing racial co-operation. It is perhaps in these directions that individuals can best render personal service.

Here are just two examples of the kind of help which individuals can give:—

*Formation of Joint Councils.* Racial harmony cannot be secured without more knowledge, understanding, and practical co-operation between the races. The social gulf between them makes it difficult for one racial section to know and understand the outlook, and ways of life of the others, or nothing of the hardships which embitter the Non-Europeans against the ruling race. The Joint Councils make possible discussion between Europeans and Non-Europeans which leads to greater knowledge about our racial problems, better
understanding of their causes, and effective co-operation between the races on such matters. There are in the Union about forty Joint Councils of Europeans and Africans, three or four Joint Councils of Europeans and Coloured, and one Joint Council of Europeans and Indians. There is urgent need for hundreds of such councils to concern themselves with local conditions and to work for their amelioration. Joint Councils can help in building a sound public opinion that will bring about co-operative racial attitudes on both sides of the colour line.

**Personal Service.** There have been in the last few years remarkable developments in the field of social welfare. The state has assumed much more responsibility for social services, while the number and variety of voluntary social agencies has greatly increased. The place and functions of these agencies in the advancement of the well-being of the country are becoming clearer, so that social welfare work is assuming a more coherent and purposeful character. It is ceasing to be an aimless expression of humanitarian impulse, so that every form of social service becomes an essential part of the national effort to secure the freedoms which are now the purpose of democracy to achieve. As the state develops, the network of social services necessary to maintain a civilized life, the calls for personal voluntary service will increase, but the volunteer will know that his work is well directed and a real contribution to national well-being.

Most social agencies are to-day extending their activities to Non-Europeans. Organizations like the national councils for the care of the blind, for the care of cripples, and for the care of mentally handicapped, the National Council of Y.M.C.A.’s, Associations of Boys’ and Girls’ Clubs, are anxious to develop their work for Non-Europeans, and need the personal service of voluntary workers at local centres throughout the country. While Non-Europeans are being trained at the Jan Hofmeyr School for Social Work for employment as social workers among their own people, Europeans can render great service as voluntary workers in local social welfare agencies, not least by enabling Non-Europeans to acquire knowledge and experience in social service.

In these and other ways members of the Institute who are willing to give personal service can in their own areas render effective service to the cause which the Institute serves. The Institute will be glad to put volunteers into touch with organizations, local or national, which can make good use of their services.
One last word. Every member is urged to inform the Institute of any fact or situation which he thinks should be brought to the Institute's attention. Suggestions for action by the Institute are always welcome.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

THE AFRICAN IN INDUSTRY

The place of industry in South Africa and of the Native in industry is discussed in the recently published report of the Board of Trade and Industries.

The first essential of economic policy in a country with a per capita income as low as that of the Union is to increase the productivity of its labour, states the report. The problem confronting South Africa is to determine what place the manufacturing industry should occupy in the national economy and to assist secondary industry to take its full share in reaching the broad objectives of national welfare—the attainment of full employment and the more equitable distribution of income through the elimination of want, fear, and ignorance.

It discusses the peculiar labour structure of South Africa. In other countries the proportion of skilled workers and of labourers to the total of industrial workers has diminished, and the number of semi-skilled workers has increased. But in South Africa, trade union rules and colour bars have kept the number of semi-skilled workers very low and has led to a superstructure of highly paid workers whose wages are high in relation both to their efficiency and to their contribution, resting on a basis of inadequately paid unskilled labour. With the reorganization of industrial establishments to allow more specialized machine operation, Natives could be more extensively employed, with consequent reductions in costs. This increased use of Native labour would bring about an increase in European employment and would make possible a big expansion in manufacture.

Dr. van Eck, Chairman of the Industrial Development Corporation and of the Social and Economic Planning Council, in an address
to the Natives' Representative Council in Pretoria last month discussed the possibility of establishing industries for Natives in, or near, Native areas. If the plan to establish a textile industry in Kingwilliamstown was a success there was every possibility of repeating it elsewhere, especially in the Transkei and Natal. The industry would employ 4,000 Natives near their homes and the capital outlay would be £3 million. In the Transkei, which is mainly an agricultural country, forestry should be encouraged so that a pulping industry might be established. Chemical industries producing cellulose acetate, clothing factories, and tanning industries were all possibilities. "We want to bring industry to the people rather than people to the industries", said Dr. van Eck.

MARGARINE

Four manufacturing firms have been authorized to manufacture up to 7 million lbs. of margarine per annum, this allocation to be later increased to 12 million lbs. Its distribution is to be restricted to the lower-income groups and will be undertaken by the Department of Social Welfare. The selling price will be 1s. per lb., which is equivalent to the price of subsidized (first-grade) butter.

The Executive Committee of the Institute at its last meeting felt that the total production was quite inadequate to meet the nutritional needs of the lower-income groups of the population. On the basis of a total population of 10 million, a production of 12 million lb. per annum means 1.2 lb. per person per annum. It has been calculated that the per capita consumption of butter and edible fats in the Union is 5 lb. per annum, one of the lowest figures in the world. In so far as the margarine produced was interceded only to make up for the shortage in the supply of butter, the Executive felt that the production suggested in no way met the nutritional needs of those groups in the population who rarely, if ever, consumed butter. The Executive therefore strongly urge upon the Minister responsible the desirability of greatly increasing the volume of production as soon as practicable.

The chief difficulty in the way of such expansion is that the Dairy Industry Acts of the Union expressly prohibit the sale of table margarine. By a measure promulgated under war emergency powers in April 1945, the Government legalized the manufacture of margarine, but the prohibitions on such manufacture remain and
their operations are only temporarily suspended. The effect is that few firms will care to incur the capital expenditure required to produce the article while the ban on its manufacture remains in force. Control over both the total quantity of margarine to be produced from time to time and the allocation of the total quantity between different manufacturers is vested in the Minister of Agriculture. Under the war emergency regulations margarine cannot be sold through ordinary trade channels but must be distributed through the Department of Social Welfare.

**NON-EUROPEAN TRADE UNIONS**

The General Secretary of the Electrical Trades Union of Great Britain and a member of the General Council of the Trade Union Congress said there is material within the Non-European trade unions, which, if properly directed by the (European) trade union movement, can be of great value. If the Non-European organizations suffer from a feeling of frustration, it will not only not redound to the credit of the European organizations but will eventually create difficulties for them. "If there can be increasing co-operation, I am sure the results will justify the policy. I am satisfied that in certain sections these lines are being followed and that such a policy is not detrimental to the White workers."

The membership and approximate number of African trade unions in South Africa is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No. of Unions</th>
<th>Membership</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Johannesburg</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pretoria</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bloemfontein</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kimberley</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East London</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Port Elizabeth</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cape Town</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>119</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The figures were kindly supplied by the Council of Non-European Trade Unions, Johannesburg.
DEMOBILIZATION PLANS FOR ASKARI

Some time ago a committee was formed in Northern Rhodesia to help demobilized Askari. It recommended that an Askari after-care committee should be formed in each district to look after the welfare of discharged soldiers. These committees would probably consist of the District Commissioner, one or two Europeans, and one or two Africans with, probably, an African clerk or secretary. As each Askari was discharged, a card would be made out giving his full particulars and one copy would be sent to his home village, and one kept by the Central Records Office. These cards would make it possible for the District Commissioner and the district after-care committee to know all about the character and experience of the ex-Askari in each district and help him to find a civilian job. It would be the job of the district committees to give any necessary financial assistance to African ex-servicemen, to advise them what benefits they were entitled to, and to keep in touch with other after-care centres. A third recommendation was that a certificate should be given to discharged Askari who have advanced in their education since joining the army, and that there should be special classes started to give further education to soldiers after leaving the army. The report also recommended that assistance should be given to ex-Askari to continue the vocational training they have received in the army.

It remains to be seen whether any of these recommendations will be implemented by the Government.

BANTU LANGUAGE PROBLEMS

Professor G. P. Lestrade, Professor of Bantu Languages at the University of Cape Town, recently read a paper on some problems of Bantu language development before the Association for the Advancement of Science. For a Bantu language to have any hope of survival, said Professor Lestrade, it had to be spoken by a sufficient number of people to make possible the production of literature varied enough to be culturally useful. Such language would have to be adaptable.
Of the four groups into which the South African Bantu dialects could be divided, two—Venda and Shangana-Tonga—had so few speakers that it might be better for them to attach themselves to one of the other groups, abandoning their own tongues.

Although the two remaining groups had sufficient numbers of speakers, some danger to their survival and usefulness lay in the existence of no fewer than three written forms in each group. In the Nguni group were Zulu, Xhosa, and Rhodesian Ndebele, and in the Sotho—Tswana, Northern Sotho, and Southern Sotho. The three written forms in each group resembled each other as much as, e.g., Nederlands and Afrikaans.

Two methods could be adopted to reduce the number of written forms in each group to one. Firstly, all except one written form could be eliminated. That was what had happened in most European countries. The alternative was to create an artificial written language by fusing the three forms into one.

Mr. J. M. Nhlapo, principal of the Wilberforce Institute, has written a pamphlet entitled *Nguni and Sotho* which discusses the problem and makes suggestions for fusing all the languages into two main languages, Nguni and Sotho. It is published by the African Bookman, Cape Town.

**OUR TREASURER RESIGNS**

It was with deep regret that the Executive Committee at its last meeting learned that Mr. G. H. R. Edmunds, Honorary Treasurer of the Institute for several years, was for health and business reasons unable to continue in this office.

Mr. Edmunds was third in the succession of treasurers drawn from the firm of Messrs. Howard Pim and Hardy, Chartered Accountants, Johannesburg. The late Mr. Howard Pim was a founder and first treasurer of the Institute. The next senior partner, the late Mr. J. L. Hardy succeeded as Treasurer, and on his death, Mr. Edmunds. It is hoped that on the return of members of the firm from active service the historical association of the firm with the Institute will be resumed.

Mr. P. R. B. Lewis, Hon. Assistant Treasurer, has succeeded Mr. Edmunds.