

91

14143,10

JULY 2 - 1958



THE FORGOTTEN LANDS

CAFDA

CAPE FLATS DISTRESS ASSOCIATION



FIFTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT

1958

'CAFDA IS CAPE TOWN'S CONSCIENCE'

Cape Flats Distress Association

CAFDA

OFFICE-BEARERS, 1958

President	Advocate D. B. Molteno
Vice-Presidents	Mrs. N. B. Spilhaus
				Mrs. M. H. Ensor

Executive Committee

Mrs. Rose Brodie	Mr. C. Pama
*Eerw. S. Buckle	*Bishop W. Parker (Chairman)
Mr. P. Carelse (deceased)	Mr. J. A. V. Ruck
*Hon. Mr. A. van de Sandt Centlivres	*Mr. Gordon Searle
Mr. M. Colman (resigned; o/seas)	*Rev. C. J. Skett
Dr. R. S. Cullis	Mrs. Ren Stodel
*Mr. E. F. Doman	Rev. E. O. Torrance
Mr. H. H. Esslinger	*Mr. D. van der Ross
Mr. Peter Leigh (Vice-chairman)	Miss B. Westphal
Mrs. C. M. Louw	Mrs. B. Wyatt.
*Mr. J. F. Louw	

*Members of Finance and General Purposes Committee

Fund Raising Committee

Mr. J. Blundell	Mrs. A. Naude
Mrs. I. Edelstein	Bishop W. Parker (Chairman)
Mrs. J. Digby	Mrs. D. Stubbs
Mrs. C. M. Louw	Miss B. Westphal
Mrs. G. Ellis	

Industrial Training Centre Committee

Mrs. L. Arnold	Mrs. H. R. Keyter
Mrs. R. Brodie	Mr. Jas. Littler
Dr. R. S. Cullis	Mrs. R. W. Morris
Mr. H. H. Esslinger	Bishop W. Parker (Chairman)
Mr. D. Findling	Mr. E. J. Price.
Mrs. J. I. L. Fisher	Mrs. Reynolds
Mrs. O. H. M. Goodwin	Mrs. Dr. Roux
Mrs. H. Handley	Mr. Gordon Searle
	Dr. L. van Schalkwyk

CAFDA Utility Company Board

Mr. Leighton Ashmead (Chairman)	Mr. Hugo Naude
Councillor C. Bakker	Mr. C. Pama
Chief Assistant (Local Government)	Mr. J. A. V. Ruck
Mr. H. H. Esslinger	Mr. Gordon Searle
(Chairman, resigned)	Dr. O. D. Wollheim
Councillor Norman Murray	(Managing Director).
Mr. Peter Leigh	

Warden

Dr. O. D. Wollheim

Sub-Warden

Mr. D. Findling

Address

Prince George Drive, Retreat

Phone 7-9111

"Health cannot be preached to the underprivileged who live below the poverty line. Instruction on diet and nutrition is wasted in the practical implementation of such teaching. We glibly say, 'Take medicine after meals.' But what if there are no meals to be had? We repeat the slogan 'Drink more milk', but how can a Bantu family afford milk at 5½d. a pint on a labourer's income of £2 a week?"

Dr. H. M. Wolfsohn, Kimberley.

Preface

Any industrial revolution brings an aftermath of social chaos and dislocation. The discovery of the power of steam and its harnessing at the turn of the century 150 years ago in Britain led to the "Hungry Forties" when millions moved from the rural areas into the cities to provide the manpower for the newly formed industries.

Cities became swollen overnight and housing lagged behind the needs for more than half a century; ignorant and illiterate labour was ruthlessly exploited; morbidity, infant mortality and disease rates rose with alarming rapidity. The same process repeated itself in North America and many countries of Europe in the latter half of the last century, and the process repeats itself now in the Union of South Africa.

The Cape Peninsula has doubled its population in a decade and a half and continues to grow. The Witwatersrand has grown even faster. Appalling overcrowding and slums continue to exist; unskilled labourers are paid far less than the basic cost of keeping alive; disease and death rates, in spite of the new drugs, are as high as ever.

It is a pity that man does not tend to learn from history, because what is happening in the Union of South Africa has happened for exactly the same reason and with exactly the same results in other countries before us. Had we been wise we might have learned these lessons, profiting by their errors and using their remedies.

In the meantime, the "Hungry Forties", so brilliantly described by Charles Dickens and by Arthur Bryant in England, can be seen every day in Alexandra Township, Cato Manor, Korsten and Cook's Bush. The same means that Britain used will have to be used here to wipe out these blots on our landscape: living wages, decent houses, proper medical service, education and good use of leisure.

In the meantime, the social work agencies like CAFDA must cope with the position as best they can. Much of the work is "ambulance" work and patch-work; more and more it becomes basically reconstructive work, but all the time it only touches on the fringes of the problem.

This book tells you how it is done and we rely on you to enable us to do it and to extend it beyond the fringes.

Chairman's Report

It is a pleasure to be able to report that the Chairman of CAFDA, Bishop Wilfrid Parker, is well on the road to recovery, and we look forward to having him back in the Chair shortly.

Another milestone has been reached in the history of CAFDA, and since the last Annual Report an additional 136 houses have been built and occupied at Cafda Village. There are now 336 houses, and CAFDA is proud to be able to state that it is providing housing for more than 2,000 persons. Many of the families of Cafda Village previously occupied a pondokkie, or shared a single room with other families.

As far as I am aware, CAFDA is the only purely charitable organisation in the country supplying housing to the poor. It is the first in this country—and possibly in the world—to use a housing scheme in a concentrated effort to rehabilitate problem families through the specialised work which the Warden describes elsewhere.

The rents cover the cost of the scheme only and there is no profit made by CAFDA on the Cafda Village. The dwellings have been erected at the keenest and most competitive price and the rents have been brought down to the lowest possible, covering only redemption, interest, maintenance, rates, water and electricity.

Housing is, of course, only incidental to the work of CAFDA, its main objective being social work. As pointed out by the Warden, the housing scheme was a means to an end, the end being the relief of distress in the Cape Flats. By the relief of distress we do not simply mean the handing out of soup and blankets (something which, of course, is still done where it is required), but we mean helping people to solve the many problems which confront them and which often baffle them. In order to do this, CAFDA has developed numerous activities which are described elsewhere.

A fresh development during 1958 took place as the result of the cessation of the feeding scheme in Coloured schools. One must congratulate the Peninsula School Feeding Association which promptly stepped into the breach and formed a channel for the generosity of the citizens of Cape Town, who were aghast at the prospect of undernourished children having even the little they were getting taken from them. CAFDA placed its services at the disposal of the Association and it prepares and cooks, on behalf of that Association, some 400 gallons of soup (cocoa on Mondays) every school day for the Association. Although the Association pays the direct costs involved in this large-scale venture, the resources of CAFDA nevertheless have been taxed to the full.

I would commend to the attention of readers the other activities described in the Report which follows. It should be noted, as was pointed out by the Warden in the 1957 Report, that all these activities are not haphazard or ad hoc. They are all part of a composite plan to try and provide for the basic needs of poor people and to show them the way towards a better life.

I must also draw attention to the opening of the Mary Attlee Centre during the year and the appointment of a Community Organiser. This has resulted in the starting up of clubs, discussion groups, sports, games, gardening competitions and other forms of entertainment amongst our tenants. CAFDA is deeply indebted to the City Council of Cape Town for the financial assistance they have given us in this project and to Councillor and Mrs. C. Bakker for the tremendous support they have given.

The amount of work and organisation entailed in running the Village, attending to the needs of 2,000 problem people, collecting the rents, maintaining buildings, the training and the social welfare work

need hardly be emphasised. We are indeed fortunate in having outstanding staff, without whose enthusiasm and devotion to duty our task would be almost impossible.

CAFDA is not quite as fortunate in regard to its income. It has no income other than the subscriptions it receives from the citizens and business organisations in Cape Town.

The pondokkie dwellers have indeed been fortunate in having experienced two fairly dry winters, but the public is apt to forget the financial needs of CAFDA when the elements have been kind. I appeal to the friends of CAFDA, who have helped so magnanimously in the past, to continue their support, and to others who have hitherto not known what purpose CAFDA achieves, to support this most charitable cause. CAFDA caters for the poor, the disabled, the homeless, the blind, the crippled and any person with a social problem. CAFDA is Cape Town's conscience, and is an organisation worthy of unstinted support.

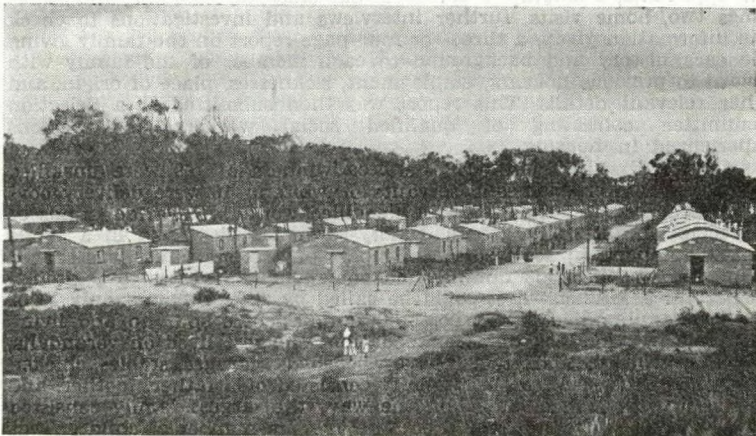
In conclusion, I wish to thank the numerous voluntary helpers for their loyal support when needed, and the organisations and citizens of Cape Town who have given us financial assistance during the year. Finally, I pay tribute to the Warden, Dr. O. D. Wollheim, his assistant, Mr. D. Findling, and the staff for their untiring efforts and unselfish devotion to duty in keeping CAFDA going.

PETER LEIGH,
Acting Chairman.

Warden's Report

PIONEERING IN HOUSING

After almost three years it is now possible to assess the results of what has been a unique experiment in the field of housing. The experiment is unique because I know of no other housing project anywhere in the world which has been used in the same way for the same purpose. Housing, as such, has often been provided by the State or the local authority or utility companies for the poor and, wherever it has been provided, it has immediately produced beneficial results upon those who have been housed. Often too, such housing efforts have been accompanied by social services in which facilities for leisure-time



General view of CAFDA Village in its setting of trees

activities and group work have been provided. Often social workers have been employed in such schemes to deal with, and to attempt to solve, the problems that continuously arise in the day to day lives of poor people.

As far as I know, however, no one has ever deliberately gone out of his way to pick out problem families who are below the bread line, and who form the normal flotsam and jetsam of large developing industrial cities, and then set out specifically and deliberately to rehabilitate them using a housing project as the means to this end.

This CAFDA set out to do in 1952 when it first embarked upon a housing scheme by the purchase of land in the angle formed by Retreat Road and Prince George Drive. We did so with a certain degree of trepidation because we did not know where this would lead us, nor could we foretell whether we would succeed or fail. This trepidation also found expression in the attitude of the City Council and of the National Housing and Planning Commission which, for many years, delayed the start of actual building, expressed many doubts as to our ability to cope with so large an effort and, in the end, granted us a scheme which was too small to run on its own as an economic unit or to place us in a position to tackle the problem on a worthwhile scale.

The first group of houses consisted of 200 semi-detached cottages, into which we placed very carefully selected families as and when the cottages became ready for occupation. It is this group which I particularly wish to discuss in this report. Since then a further 136 cottages of a smaller type have been erected and occupied and our Utility Company is at the present moment negotiating with the City Council for more land on which to erect a further 350 dwellings.

The families selected had to satisfy strictly applied criteria. The income of the breadwinner had to be below £20 per month but above £15 per month; the families had to be young and growing ones; there had to be social problems other than pure poverty and lack of accommodation; the families had to satisfy a panel of social workers that, with the assistance of housing and good social work, they would make the grade.

In order to arrive at our first 200 families our social workers had to investigate almost 500 applicants.

The process of selection consisted of application forms filled in by the applicants, a lengthy interview in our office, at least one, and sometimes two, home visits, further interviews and investigations to check the information given, a three- or four-page report on the family giving the case history and background to each member of the family with regard to previous housing, employment, sicknesses, place of origin, and other relevant details. This report was then submitted to a Selection Committee consisting of qualified social workers and persons experienced in housing.

Of the first 200 families, the breadwinners of 149 were unskilled labourers; 10 were domestic servants or waiters; 10 were delivery-boys or messengers; and the rest were unskilled workers of various kinds or in receipt of disability grants. Ninety-seven families lived in a single room in a pondok; 15 lived in only part of a room which was shared with other families; 28 families had one room and access to a kitchen or part of a kitchen—if it could be called by such a name; only 19 of the 200 families lived in 2 rooms; 8 families were split up and living with relatives for lack of accommodation; the rest lived on verandahs, in tents, a disused van, tool rooms, woodsheds, garages, stables, chicken runs and sheds. The smallest family consisted of a father, mother, and one baby with a second one on the way; the largest family consisted of a husband, wife and 9 children; the average number of children was 3.75. Approximately 5% of the children were over 12 and some 95% were below that. They were chosen in this way deliberately because we

felt that families with young children stood a better chance of rehabilitation than families where the children were already adolescent.

It can be imagined that we were faced with enormous problems from the outset. Not one family had ever lived in a house before; almost all of them had become accustomed to cooking, eating, washing, laundering, sleeping and performing all the functions (intimate and otherwise) of a family in one room; none of them had furnishings for more than one room; none of them had sufficient money to "set up house" in the normal sense.

All of this had to be taught to them by three or four social workers in the shortest possible space of time; somehow or other money had to be found to provide the houses with adequate furnishings, curtains and decoration; all had to be taught the importance of making some attempt at flower-gardening in the front and food-growing at the back of the houses—on very poor soil; all had to be taught the importance of separating out the various functions of a family and reserving separate rooms for certain of them.

In order to accomplish this a degree of discipline was necessary and a very strict lease was drawn up with this in mind. In the first instance it was decided that the welfare work should be done by CAFDA as such, whereas the purely administrative work of receiving the rents and applying disciplinary sanctions should be the function of the Utility Company. This has worked extremely well and the tenants have gradually begun to realise that the CAFDA social workers are there to help them out of their troubles, whereas the Company (a purely business concern consisting of directors, accountants and rent-receivers) were there to see to it that the lease was carried out, that the money came in, and that the properties were maintained.

The lease gave the Company power to inspect at all reasonable times, control over all hire-purchase agreements, the right to insist on school attendance for children under 14 years of age, the right to move families from one house to another and the right to eject tenants for unacceptable behaviour of any kind.

That the Company has hardly ever had to use these wide powers is indeed a tribute to the work of the CAFDA social workers, and an even greater tribute to the resilience and the innate desire to improve themselves of human beings. The change in their way of life of the majority of the tenants, even with very little help from the social workers, has been startling.

Of the 200 broken-down families originally taken into this portion of the scheme, I would say that 40 or 50 are completely rehabilitated, have never been one day late with the payment of their rent, have somehow managed to furnish and decorate their houses with good taste, have created in the sandy soil nice gardens of flowers and vegetables, have increased their income significantly, and are living according to standards perfectly compatible with those of a modern, civilised way of life. A few of these families have improved their position to such an extent that they have, of their own free will, moved out of the Cafda Village into better accommodation provided by the Municipality or other housing organisations, where they pay economic rents.

This, of course, is the success story of 20% to 25% of the families. There is also the other side of the picture. On the other hand, there is no family which has not learned at least something. All of them have at least learned how to separate the household functions into different rooms; all have more furniture than they had when they came; all have become conscious of the responsibilities upon parents to provide for their family by trying to pay the rent on due date; by sticking to their jobs and doing them better and, through our insistence, feeding and clothing their dependants better and sending their youngsters to school.

Many have not learned the lessons properly and there are still 40 or 50 families which give us continuous trouble in gathering in the rent, by the abuse of alcohol, by losing their jobs from time to time, and by allowing their houses to deteriorate into a state of filth. It has not always been the fault of the tenants, because the labour market has in recent years deteriorated, causing a higher percentage of unemployment, and because years of malnutrition and the degradation of pondokkies have lowered resistance to disease.

In between these two extremes there are the remainder, who have made varying degrees of progress from fairly slow to fairly rapid, and we have come to the conclusion that almost any family, with the help of proper housing and intensive social case work, backed by a degree of discipline, can, in the long run, be rehabilitated. In this process we have used all the facilities available to us. Other agents, such as the



At last they live as humans in a proper house.

Child Life Protection Society, the Mental Health Society, the Board of Aid, the various bodies dealing with tuberculosis and the Government Departments of Labour, Health and Pensions, have been called in to play their part. There exists very cordial relations between CAFDA and these bodies. In particular, one would congratulate the Municipality on a magnificent new Clinic next door to CAFDA, the District Nursing Services which operate within the Village, and the schools which have made great efforts, in spite of overcrowding, to take our children.

One of our greatest problems has been the control of hire-purchase. We have done what we could to provide families with clothing and household furniture from our own stores of donated second-hand materials, but we are often unable to supply all their needs. The only way in which families can possibly obtain their basic needs is through hire-purchase, but families have not always acted wisely and have often bought far beyond their means. In this they have not been helped by a few unscrupulous dealers in this field. Many families have applied to us for assistance in this matter and our social workers have been able to guide them wisely. On the other hand, we have had to take strong action in a number of instances both against tenants and against unscrupulous dealers where such purchases have been contracted without our knowledge and have been beyond the capacity of the tenant.

There has been a significant improvement in the incomes of the families. In many cases we have been able to assist breadwinners to get better jobs or better pay; in other instances both parents have been able to work because of the facilities we have offered for the care of their children; mostly it has been a case of better pay resulting from better work which, in turn, results from a lessening of the social stresses upon the tenants because of their improved housing conditions. In the scheme under review there has been an increase of 11.4% in the incomes of tenants since their entry. This has taken place in spite of the fact that over 60% of our tenants are either illiterate or semi-literate.

Our Welfare Department is open every morning from 9 a.m. to 12 noon for consultations, and in the figures appearing elsewhere in the Report it is obvious that good use has been made of this service. At these consultations problems are put before social workers and advice is given. Where necessary, assistance may be given as well, and in some cases specialised agencies are called in to deal with specific problems.

In most cases rent is paid weekly and must be brought to the Rent Office at CAFDA. Every week the rent roll is checked and those in arrears are warned. If the arrears continue, social workers are asked to investigate and report. Pressure is applied where the arrears appear to be the result of carelessness; where the arrears are due to unemployment, every effort is made—usually successful—to find other employment; where the cause has been illness, medical attention is provided at once. That grand old lady, Miss Elsie Manning, has provided the Company with a sum of money from which rent can be paid in cases of dire necessity.

As the result of a grant from the Coloured Affairs Department, it was possible for us to appoint Mr. P. J. Carelse as a Community Organiser and he, together with many volunteers, has done sterling work in providing our tenants with healthy occupations for their leisure time. He is rapidly gaining the confidence of our tenants and the tendency has been towards much better attendances at the various functions which are arranged almost every afternoon and evening. He also edits a monthly newspaper called the "Cafda Courant", which encourages people, gives them the latest information of the activities which are available and dispenses useful advice. The Municipality has

generously repaired and modified a large cowshed on the Company's property, which is the centre of these community activities and which has been named after one of CAFDA's founders—the late Miss Mary Attlee.

South Africa is a changing country—changing with lightning rapidity from the ox-wagon to the aeroplane, from the plough to the factory, from the tribal blanket to the city suit. Such change inevitably brings chaos and dislocation to those involved in the change. CAFDA's effort in the field of housing has proved that such dislocation need not persist and is not inevitable. Its pioneer effort in a very small way has already proved that the change-over from what South Africa was to what South Africa will become could be a smooth one if governments were alive to the causes of dislocation and were anxious to avoid them. With sufficient money and the large-scale expansion of the CAFDA experiment to cover all persons affected in Cape Town and with the development of similar schemes in other parts of the country, social dislocation could be avoided and the transition made smooth. It would cost vast sums of money, but it would save even vaster sums of money at present unnecessarily spent on the police, the hospitals and labour inefficiency, not to speak of the avoidance of all the misery and degradation which simply cannot be counted in terms of money.

Record of Activities

Volume of Work

Office interviews re:	Outside Cases	Cafta Village Cases		
Family Problems	5950	1847		
Clothing	558	—		
Sundry	484	—		
Rent difficulties	—	6992	707	2554
Home visits	963		1757	
Visits to other agencies re cases	182	1145	5	1762
Clinics attended at Retreat	45		—	
Families supervised (emergency quarters)	30		—	
Cases referred to us by other bodies	321		—	
Cases referred by us to other bodies	564		57	
New cases (direct approach)	816		—	

Analysis of Relief Cases

Food rations	695		84	
Clothing and blankets	258		9	
Cash	173		17	
Other materials, furniture, etc.	90	1216	15	125

Analysis of Case Problems

Old age pensions	144		—	
Disability grants	226		7	
Maintenance grants	90	460	18	25
Employment	215		86	
Sheltered employment	265	480	1	87
Medical	293		57	
Mental	12		2	
Tuberculosis	—		6	
Admission to homes and hospitals	13	318	6	71

Analysis of Case Problems—(continued)

Housing advice and disputes	1763	—
Marital, non-support, family	58	136
Child neglect, schools, etc.	25	77
Juvenile delinquency	8	15
Crime	40	7
Legal	19	7
Repatriation	23	—
Sundry, H.P., sub-tenants, etc.	1012	1375
Ejectments	25	—
Emergency accommodation provided	19	—
Fire	95	—
Cafda Nursery	70	59

Cafda Village Changes

Left through rent default	11 families
Left through other causes	3 "
Left of own accord	12 "
New tenants (including 136 new houses)	150 "
Natural increase	52 persons
Other increase (including 136 new houses)	759 "
Total population at 31/12/59	2070 "

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

The renovation of the old cowshed, formerly known as "Jersey Barn", was completed during the course of the year and was formally opened on the 28th October. This hall is called the Mary Attlee Centre, in honour of the late Miss Mary Attlee. It is a great boon to the community, but we are limited by the fact that there are as yet no chairs or stage. The City Council has made a special grant to purchase chairs and these are now being made in the Industrial Training Centre.

Regular church services are held under the auspices of the Cape Peninsula Church Council and a local Mission. Attendances are satisfactory and there is also an extremely well-attended Sunday School run by the same Mission.

Very many clubs have been developed since the Mary Attlee Centre has become available. Boys' and Girls' Clubs have average enrolments of 45 and 80 respectively, while there is a Recreation Club for seniors with average attendance of 70. Sometimes more than 100 persons attend on an evening. Equipment for indoor games is very badly needed.

Apart from the normal Saturday matinee and evening show to which all are welcome, a Film Club, which is educational, has been started. Travelogues and films dealing with health, road safety and hygiene are drawn from the Government Film Library and from other sources such as the Shell Company and the Canadian High Commissioner. Attendances at these shows vary from 100 to 150.

Other activities consist of an Art Club, run by Mrs. Dumbleton, a First Aid class (now in recess), run by the Red Cross, gardening competitions with prizes, a needlework and knitting class, run by Mesdames R. Kleinsmidt and M. Roberts, and a CAFDA Savings Bank which had 270 clients.

The sports fields at CAFDA were in constant use during the year, especially by schools, and also by other clubs. Our Soccer team and our Domino Club were active and able to win trophies.

The "Cafda Courant" has been issued regularly at intervals of approximately one month. It is available free to CAFDA villagers and members of the various clubs. It contains articles of general interest in

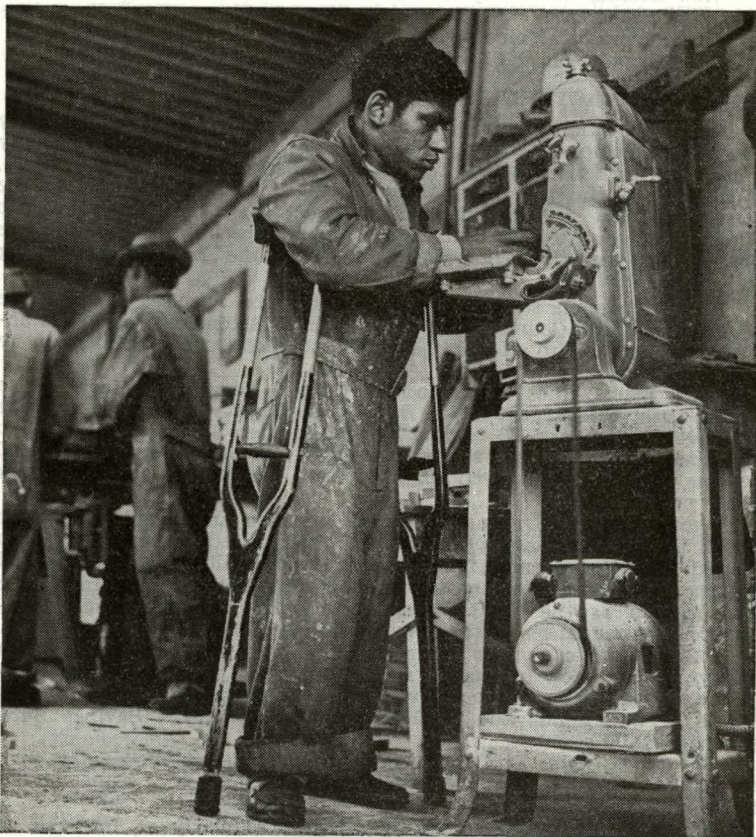
both languages, social and personal announcements, spot news and helpful hints.

Future plans include a library, a hobbies section, dramatic art, ballet, boxing, a choir, a string band and a dance club. The difficulties in attaining all our objects are lack of space and equipment, and, more especially, voluntary helpers to run the various activities.

CAFDA INDUSTRIAL TRAINING CENTRE

During 1958 thirty disabled men were retrained in the Centre and successfully placed in employment, mainly as semi-skilled labourers and machine operators. But for the Centre these men would have been rotting in idleness at home and living on charity and what Government grants and pensions could be arranged for them.

The happy co-operation between the National Council for the Care of Cripples and CAFDA continues, with the Cape Cripple Care Association holding a watching brief and playing its full part in the management of the Centre.



"It is better to work than to get a dole".

In the Financial Statements the full position of the Centre is shown with the contributions in subsidy from the Labour Department and the National Council clearly indicated. The contract with the National Council expires during 1959 and has been renewed on much more favourable terms to CAFDA. Whereas before CAFDA had to bear all of the costs over and above the £1,000 contributed by the National Council and the subsidy on the Placement Officer's salary, it will now only be expected to carry £500 per annum; local Cripple Care Associations are being asked to bear a portion of the costs in respect of trainees from their particular regions. Apart from this, CAFDA has undertaken also to finance the Feeding Scheme. Legislation in respect of the training of cripples and sheltered employment is still under consideration and it is hoped that its enactment will not be too long delayed.

Sixty-two trainees were on the roll during the year and this project, in spite of its high cost, is still one of the most rewarding of rehabilitative services which CAFDA, together with the National Council, have ever attempted.

The negotiating of suitable contracts in the Centre to provide rewarding work for training the men continues to be a problem. The Centre does not wish to compete with Industry and at the same time industrialists cannot be expected to hand over highly profitable work to the Centre. In spite of this, the Centre can be proud of its production, the main items of which are listed below. Apart from those it also assembled or manufactured fair quantities of electric-iron connections, bedside lamps, blackboards, beach bats, letter weights, newspaper poster boards, carpenters' bench hooks and butchers' meat boards.

8935 Chairseats	9406 Chairbacks
4586 Tabletops	29082 Switchblocks
1907 Wire spirals for electric installations	6329 Drawing boards
12587 Blackboard dusters	7450 Chairwashers
6783 Radiator tubes	14479 Vaccine cases
9110 Mineral water cases	32786 Hulahoops

Together with the industrial training, intensive social work was done, the social worker seconded by the Cape Cripple Care Association giving special consideration to the personal and family problems of the trainees.

Finally, tribute must be paid to the wonderful co-operation which we received from the Department of Labour. Without the subsidy paid by this Department, and without the assistance of their various Committees and their encouragement, the work of the Centre would be impossible.

THE NURSERY

During the year a promise of a grant from the Government enabled the CAFDA Executive Committee to re-roof and modify the old manor house at Cafda Village for use as a nursery. The old premises at CAFDA had long been unsuitable, unhygienic and too small. The manor house, which has now been renamed the R. S. Cullis Centre to honour an Executive member who has served almost since the beginning and who has given unstinted voluntary medical service, is now an attractive and commodious nursery with lovely playgrounds and capable of holding far more than the 40-odd kiddies we were able to accommodate before. The children moved over at the beginning of 1959.

The Committee decided to keep children at the Nursery until December of the year in which they turn six, so as to ensure that no little ones would roam about without attention before they were eligible for school. Statistics in respect of the Nursery follow:

Total possible attendance	1957	1958
Actual attendance	10891	11244
Percentage of possible attendance	87.9%	90.3%
Average daily attendance	40.2	42.3
Number of days open	238	240
Age distribution (December):		
1-2 years	5	—
2-3 years	8	8
3-4 years	9	7
4-5 years	15	8
over 5 years	9	25



Spacious lawns and shady trees surround the R. S. Cullis Centre.



The new nursery—now called the R. S. Cullis Centre.

Other Activities

The Shop

The turnover of the shop increased from £26,557 in 1957 to £30,954 in 1958, thus demonstrating its need. Food, vegetables and fruit and some hardware and household remedies are sold at the cheapest possible prices. Proper provision was made for rent, electricity and overhead charges, and the shop operated at a very small loss over the year.

During the year the size of the shop was doubled and the premises properly equipped in order to cope with the additional turnover. CAFDA has thus been able to offer better services at reduced costs and there has been a notable drop in prices charged by shops in the vicinity.

Clothing and Furniture Service

Large quantities of clothes, furniture, cutlery and crockery were again sold at nominal prices to persons in possession of a Card. These Cards are only issued, after investigation by social workers, to cases whose incomes are below the bread line. Even at such prices, the turnover was £2,939, from which certain expenses amounting to £787 had to be deducted, leaving a balance of £2,152.

Soup Kitchen

The Kitchen had to work under emergency conditions from 1st April, 1958, owing to the cessation of the School Feeding Scheme for Coloured schools. This caused an immediate reaction in Cape Town,

resulting in the setting up of the Peninsula School Feeding Association. CAFDA was asked by this Association to undertake the provision of soup on every school day to 15 schools for Coloured children in the South Peninsula. In 1957 we made and distributed 6,671 gallons of soup; in 1958 we made, or prepared, and distributed 40,000 gallons throughout the year. During the winter months soup was also supplied to an African school at Blouville and tenants in the Cafda Village were supplied with their requirements throughout the year.

This necessitated considerable re-organisation, and additional large 50-gallon pots were installed. Owing to difficulties experienced through soup going sour, it became necessary to cook during the night, and a team of workers starts from 7 p.m. and works through the night until 8 a.m. next morning cooking soup in relays to prepare the daily 400 gallons for distribution.

The major costs of this service have been met by the School Feeding Association, which must be congratulated on its vigour and determination. On the other hand, the cooking of soup under these conditions and on such a scale is an enormous problem and a tremendous strain upon already hard-working staff, and it is sincerely to be hoped that the Provincial Administration will find some way of reinstating a modified scheme for feeding hungry children.

Water Sales

Vrygrond, a shanty area near Muizenberg, continues to be without proper water supplies and last year CAFDA's taps sold 648,000 gallons of water at 1d. per 4-gallon tin to counteract the black market in water. This operation resulted in a small loss, but was of immense benefit to the residents of this area.

Christmas Parties

The CAFDA Committees decided to alter the system of past years because the main children's party had become unmanageable and had been grossly abused. We entertained 125 babies on one day and rather more than 200 old people, aged from 65 to 110 years, on another day. Christmas Food Parcels were given to 325 destitute families. Instead of the usual party for youngsters, every child under the age of 14 in the Cafda Village was given a present.

We are greatly indebted to Carols by Candlelight, which provided all the presents for these parties, to the merchants of Cape Town who provided a large proportion of the foodstuffs, and to the volunteers and the public who co-operated in the "Buy a Tin for CAFDA" Week, which provided the rest of the food for the Food Parcels.

CAFDA Voluntary Workers

As usual, a large number of volunteers assisted in many ways—running various clubs, art classes, sports and clothing sales, knitting, sewing and preparing layettes and doing other odd jobs. It would be impossible to mention all of them, but especially worthy of mention are Mrs. Clack and her band of helpers, who sewed from scraps and samples many hundreds of very attractive children's garments; and Miss Black, who for years has made up to 144 garments annually, also out of odd bits and pieces which have been donated. Other ladies who, with their helpers, have sewed for CAFDA for years are Mrs. Bowley and Mrs. Desclays, while Mrs. Punt poured in a continuous stream of knitted garments for our layettes, and some of the larger girls' schools both knit and sew for us every year.

In addition, our Fund-raising Committee of volunteers organised a bumper Street Collection, a motor-car competition which raised over £700, the "Buy a Tin for CAFDA Week" (which collected over 5,000

parcels of food), and our Christmas Card campaign, which sold 20,000 attractive cards.

These volunteers have given many thousands of hours of hard work at great inconvenience to themselves because they believed in the work of CAFDA. Without their tireless efforts CAFDA could not have survived.

Business Matters

Our Balance Sheet and Revenue and Expenditure accounts follow. For the third year CAFDA has ended with a deficit which, added to the deficits of 1956 and 1957, now totals some £5,000. This has resulted in an extremely serious financial position as far as ready cash is concerned. It has meant operating on an overdraft for a large part of the year, keeping our creditors waiting for longer than we like, and has resulted in a serious depletion of our assets as shown in the Balance Sheet.

The CAFDA Committees are giving serious attention to this position and have called in expert advice to assist in remedying it. Either our income must be increased or our expenditure reduced—or both. In the face of the many calls upon the generosity of the donating public, an increase in our revenue is not easy; a decrease in expenditure can only really be made by cutting our services, which, in the face of all the need, our Committees are very loth to do. No unnecessary penny has been spent; salaries and wages are below what our staff could earn elsewhere; no materials are wasted.

Enquiries are now being made by experts to find ways and means of streamlining our systems and of uncovering any possible overlapping or duplication in our work. In the meantime, £3,274 bequeathed to CAFDA in 1958 has been swallowed up in the expenses of running the organisation—money which the Committees feel should really have been set aside for capital expenditure, for replacing obsolete transport and for development work.

The Committees feel that the position could be remedied if Local Authorities and the Government subsidised CAFDA on an adequate scale. We wish to place on record our sense of gratitude to the City Council of Cape Town, which has made available large sums for specific ad hoc purposes such as the rebuilding of the Mary Attlee Centre and the provision of chairs for it, but this does not help the general administrative expenses of CAFDA. To these expenses the Divisional Council grants annually £75 and the Municipality of Cape Town £250. These amounts, surely, in the face of the work reflected in this report, are paltry sums and should be four times as much. Four social workers are employed at the same salaries as are paid by other welfare organisations. If they received subsidies on their salaries on the same basis as the other organisations, our deficit this year would have been covered. Every year, for over ten years, the Department of Social Welfare has found excuses for refusing these subsidies in spite of recommendations supporting them from the Local Chief Welfare Officer and the statutory Local Welfare Board. In the meantime the public of Cape Town is being called upon to bear an unfair share of the burden of providing essential social services to its poor (as they are being called upon to do in the case of school feeding).

THE CAPE FLATS
BALANCE SHEET

LIABILITIES		£17088
SUNDRY CREDITORS	10970	
JOHANNESBURG BUILDING SOCIETY	3172	
(Loan Account secured by Mortgage Bonds over Land and Buildings as per Contra)		
BANK OVERDRAFT (GENERAL ACCOUNT)	946	
LOAN—PAYNE FOUNDATION OF NEW YORK	2000	
	<u> </u>	
DEVELOPMENT FUND		47
TRUST FUNDS		2044
PENNY BANK	77	
DECEASED ESTATE—ABRAHAM BEUKES	7	
J. E. GOODWIN TRUST	116	
BARLOW BEQUEST	816	
PRINCE GEORGE DRIVE SPORTS BOARD	1028	
	<u> </u>	
REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT		9379
BALANCE, 1ST JANUARY, 1958	10591	
Less: EXCESS OF EXPENDITURE OVER INCOME FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1958		1212
		<u> </u>

£28558

We have examined the books and accounts and vouchers of the Association and have obtained all the information and explanations we have required. We have satisfied ourselves of the existence of the securities. Proper books and accounts have been kept. In our opinion, the attached Balance Sheet is properly drawn up so as to exhibit a true and fair view of the state of the Association's affairs according to the best of our knowledge and the explanations given to us and as shown by the books of the Association as at 31st December, 1958.

DISTRESS ASSOCIATION

31ST DECEMBER, 1958

ASSETS		
CASH		£1408
On Hand	84	
At Bank (Trading Account)	821	
On Savings Account	503	
SUNDRY DEBTORS		4068
Grants and Subsidies Unpaid	1558	
Trade Debtors and Sundries	2510	
STOCKS ON HAND—As certified by the Responsible Officials		3031
Provisions	2195	
Industrial Training Centre Stocks	529	
Packing Materials and Stationery	307	
DEVELOPMENT FUND INVESTMENTS (Including Accrued Interest) Savings Bank Accounts		47
TRUST INVESTMENTS (Including Accrued Interest) Savings Bank Accounts		2044
Penny Bank	77	
Deceased Estate—Abraham Beukes	7	
J. E. Goodwin Trust	116	
Barlow Bequest	816	
Prince George Drive Sports Board	1028	
FUND RAISING COMMITTEE Balance of 1958 Proceeds held by Committee in Bank and Savings Bank Accounts.		264
FURNITURE AND EQUIPMENT At Nominal Value		1
MOTOR VEHICLES AND CYCLES At cost, less depreciation		1520
LAND AND BUILDINGS On Prince George's Drive, Retreat— At Cost, less Depreciation (Mortgaged as per Contra)	12725	15450
Land at Grassy Park At Sworn Appraisalment Valuation	1250	
Additions to Shop—At Cost	1475	
EXPENDITURE IN ADVANCE		725
		<u>£28558</u>

GURNEY, NOTCUTT & FISHER,
Chartered Accountants (S.A.),
Auditors

CAPE TOWN.
20th April, 1959.

THE CAPE FLATS
GENERAL REVENUE ACCOUNT FOR THE

To	ADMINISTRATION EXPENSES		£8254
	Annual Report and Meeting	155	
	Audit Fees and Expenses (1957)	105	
	Bank Charges	11	
	Electricity and Water	436	
	Insurances	122	
	Interest on Overdraft	42	
	Maintenance, Caretaking, Repairs to Buildings, Cleaning, etc.	1288	
	Printing and Stationery	197	
	Publicity	36	
	Salaries	4742	
	Kitchen	314	
	Sundry Expenses	107	
	Superannuation Fund Contribution	441	
	Telephones, Telegrams and Postages	225	
	Unemployment Insurance	33	
	INTEREST ON BOND		213
..	NET COST OF NURSERY ACTIVITIES		1021
	Day Nursery	1002	
	Net Expenses	1373	
	Less: Subsidy from Coloured Affairs Department	371	
	Watersprites' Nursery	19	
..	NET RELIEF AND SOCIAL WELFARE EXPENSES		9115
	Community Activities	203	
	Net Expenses	553	
	Less: Grant from Coloured Affairs Department	350	
	Grants in Cash and Goods and Relief Wages	1876	
	Salaries	3794	
	Industrial Training Centre—As per Annexure "A"	1897	
	Soup Kitchen	31	
	Transport and Travelling Allowances	1154	
	Christmas Celebrations	60	
	Bloulei Nursery School—Grant	100	
..	LOSS ON PROVISION STORE TRADING		75
..	FURNITURE AND EQUIPMENT PURCHASED DURING THE YEAR—WRITTEN OFF		204
..	IMPROVEMENTS TO BUILDINGS		—
	Converting Manor House into Nursery	1240	
	Less: Recovered from Barlow Bequest	1240	
..	AMOUNTS WRITTEN OFF LESS RECOVERIES		688
	Buildings	173	
	Vehicles	671	
		844	
	Less: Profit on Vehicles Sold	156	
		—	
			£19570

We report that to the best of our knowledge and belief and according to the information supplied to us, and according to the books of the Association, the above Account reflects a true statement of the Income and Expenditure for the twelve months ended 31st December, 1958.

DISTRESS ASSOCIATION

TWELVE MONTHS ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1958

By DONATIONS AND FUNCTIONS		13425
Donations	7499	
Bequests	3274	
Street Collection	692	
Ideas and Functions	996	
Special Donation for Purchase of Vehicles	964	
	<hr/>	
„ GRANTS		325
Corporation of the City of Cape Town	250	
Divisional Council of the Cape	75	
	<hr/>	
„ NET PROCEEDS FROM COMMUNITY CENTRES ACTIVITIES		2462
Fees in respect of Social Services rendered to Retreat Students' Clinic	250	
Old Clothes, Blankets, Merchandise, etc.	2152	
Cinema	71	
	<hr/>	
	2473	
Less: Water Distribution	11	
	<hr/>	
„ CAFDA UTILITY COMPANY		1600
Administration and Welfare Services Fee		
„ SECRETARIAL FEE—INDUSTRIAL TRAINING CENTRE		250
„ RENT RECEIVED		282
Prototype House	42	
Provision Store	240	
	<hr/>	
„ INTEREST ON SAVINGS ACCOUNTS		13
„ DISCOUNT RECEIVED		1
„ EXCESS OF EXPENDITURE OVER INCOME FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1958		1212

£19570

GURNEY, NOTCUTT & FISHER,
Chartered Accountants (S.A.),
Auditors.

CAPE TOWN.
20th April, 1959.

THE CAPE FLATS

INDUSTRIAL

REVENUE ACCOUNT FOR THE TWELVE

To STOCKS ON HAND, 1ST JANUARY, 1958	£632	
Add: MATERIALS PURCHASED	3741	
	4373	
Less: STOCKS ON HAND, 31ST DECEMBER, 1958	529	3844
„ BAD DEBT WRITTEN OFF		22
„ COMMISSION ON SALES		81
„ ELECTRICITY		152
„ EQUIPMENT AND SMALL TOOLS		202
Purchases during year		
„ INSURANCE		44
„ MAINTENANCE—BUILDING AND GROUNDS		10
„ OVERALLS		148
„ PLANT MAINTENANCE		219
„ SECRETARIAL FEE		250
„ SUNDRY EXPENSES		84
„ TELEPHONE AND POSTAGES		60
„ TRANSPORT AND DELIVERY		290
„ TRAVELLING ALLOWANCES TO TRAINEES		123
„ WAGES		8256
„ WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION INSURANCE		83
		£13868
To WOODWORK SECTION—NET COST OF TRAINING, brought down		£1848
„ SHOE REPAIRING SECTION		28
Materials and Wages	376	
Less: Wages Subsidy	201	
Sales	147	
	348	
„ SALARIES		500
Paid	1300	
Less: Grant Received from The National Council for Cripple Care	800	
	521	
„ FEEDING SCHEME		521
Cost of Meals Charged	1077	
Less: Meal Tickets Sold	556	
	£2897	

DISTRESS ASSOCIATION

TRAINING CENTRE

ANNEXURE "A"

MONTHS ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1958

By SALES	£6850
" WAGES SUBSIDY—DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR	5170
" NET COST OF TRAINING, carried down	1848

£13868

By CONTRIBUTION TO COSTS RECEIVED FROM THE NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR CRIPPLE CARE		1000
" NET COST OF TRAINING FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1958	2897	
Less: RECEIVED FROM THE NATIONAL COUN- CIL FOR CRIPPLE CARE	1000	
		1897
		£2897

MEMBERSHIP FORM

TO THE WARDEN,
CAFDA,
PRINCE GEORGE DRIVE,
RETREAT,

Dear Sir,

*I wish to become a member of the Cape Flats
Distress Association and enclose herewith my cheque/
postal order/cash for £.....:.....:....., being
2/6 for membership and the balance as a donation.*

(Signed).....

BLOCK LETTERS

Name.....

Address.....
.....
.....

BEQUESTS

Have you remembered CAFDA in your will? Your lawyer will assist you in this matter. Otherwise, simply add the following codicil: —

"I bequeath to CAFDA (The Cape Flats Distress Association), of Prince George Drive, Retreat, the sum of £....."

This should be signed by yourself with two witnesses.

EXEMPTION FROM DONATIONS TAX

CAFDA reports with pleasure that the Minister of Finance has exempted all donations made to and by this Association from the Donations Tax, under Section 54 quat (1) (i) and (j) of the Income Tax Act.

WARDEN.

CAFDA

(Cape Flats Distress Association)

IS A GENERAL WELFARE AGENCY AND COMMUNITY CENTRE;

OPERATES IN THE RETREAT/GRASSY PARK AND MOST OF THE CAPE FLATS AREAS;

PAYS SPECIAL ATTENTION TO PROBLEMS OF POVERTY.

WE CAN USE YOUR

Discarded clothes, shoes, furniture, crockery, utensils, tools, musical instruments, playing cards, games, toys, beds, prams., cots, mattresses, knitting and darning wool

IN FACT—ALMOST ANYTHING

Phone 7-9111 { FOR LIST OF DEPOTS OR
FOR VAN TO COLLECT

DONATIONS (which should be by crossed cheque, money order, postal order, or in a registered envelope) may be sent to

The Warden, CAFDA, Prince George Drive, Retreat,

When one works among people who live half-lives: in overcrowded homes, where children from early childhood live in a morbid atmosphere of orgies, deathbeds, and child-births, where they become acquainted in a shocking manner with the naked facts about the origin of the human being; in filthy streets, and insanitary conditions all round; in abject poverty, very often technically, if not actually, starving to death; having inadequate educational facilities and having very few opportunities of becoming anything but ordinary labourers; then one realises that the refinements of social work lose quite a bit of their usual fascination—they become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal.—News Letter, Cape Town Social Workers' Association, December, 1948.



● About 100,000 Coloured people and 50,000 Africans still live in such hovels.

● Such hovels breed drunkenness, disease, depravity, delinquency.

● A civilised community will not tolerate them in its midst.

● They are the result of scandalously low wages paid to unskilled workers.



HELP CAFDA TO REMEDY THIS.

Collection Number: AD1715

SOUTH AFRICAN INSTITUTE OF RACE RELATIONS (SAIRR), 1892-1974

PUBLISHER:

Collection Funder:- Atlantic Philanthropies Foundation

Publisher:- Historical Papers Research Archive

Location:- Johannesburg

©2013

LEGAL NOTICES:

Copyright Notice: All materials on the Historical Papers website are protected by South African copyright law and may not be reproduced, distributed, transmitted, displayed, or otherwise published in any format, without the prior written permission of the copyright owner.

Disclaimer and Terms of Use: Provided that you maintain all copyright and other notices contained therein, you may download material (one machine readable copy and one print copy per page) for your personal and/or educational non-commercial use only.

People using these records relating to the archives of Historical Papers, The Library, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, are reminded that such records sometimes contain material which is uncorroborated, inaccurate, distorted or untrue. While these digital records are true facsimiles of paper documents and the information contained herein is obtained from sources believed to be accurate and reliable, Historical Papers, University of the Witwatersrand has not independently verified their content. Consequently, the University is not responsible for any errors or omissions and excludes any and all liability for any errors in or omissions from the information on the website or any related information on third party websites accessible from this website.

This document forms part of the archive of the South African Institute of Race Relations (SAIRR), held at the Historical Papers Research Archive at The University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa.