

Pharmacy File 10.8.18  
SOUTH AFRICAN INSTITUTE OF RACE RELATIONS.

FACILITIES FOR TRAINING NON-EUROPEAN PHARMACISTS.

1. Apprenticeship in the Pharmaceutical profession is by the Medical Dental and Pharmacy Act. In terms of this Act a Pharmacy Board has been established in Pretoria, which receives and considers all applications for apprenticeship.
  - (a) The regulations governing apprenticeship do not contain any colour bar.
  - (b) The only qualification required of an apprentice by the regulations is the Matriculation certificate.
  - (c) The period of apprenticeship is three years, during which time two examinations have to be passed. To prepare for these examinations apprentices attend classes at technical colleges. (Attendance at a technical college is not obligatory, however.)
  - (d) Before registering any contract of apprenticeship the Board satisfies itself that the pharmacy is able to provide training facilities of the standard required, and that
    - (i) it has been in existence for a period of not less than three years and
    - (ii) it handles at least three thousand prescriptions a year.
  - (e) Not more than one apprentice is permitted per qualified chemist.
  - (f) Premiums are not payable in law. (However, contrary to the regulations, pharmacists do accept premiums.)
2. At the present time Chemists are disinclined to accept any apprentices for the following reasons:
  - (a) Wages payable to apprentices are appreciable.
  - (b) Apprentices have to be given time off to attend classes.
  - (c) The nature of the pharmaceutical work today is such that most of it can be performed by unqualified persons under the supervision of registered chemists. Therefore, chemists prefer to employ girl assistants primarily in the capacity as counterhands.

It is thought that the prospects of chemists apprenticing Non-Europeans are remote, except perhaps in areas where the clientele is predominantly Non-European.

3. Training facilities at the Cape Town Technical College.

At present no facilities for the training of Non-European pharmacists exist for the reason that in the past thirty three years only six Non-Europeans have applied for this type of training. If a sufficient number of applications were received, viz. a minimum of twelve, the Council of the College would consider providing the necessary facilities. However, in doing so, the following difficulties would have to be taken into account:-

- (a) The Coloured Branch of the Technical School is already

overcrowded/

overcrowded and additional accomadation would therefore have to be obtained.

- (b) The provision of laboratories would be expensive and the College, which is not a Government institution, has limited funds at its disposal.

The Principal of the College suggested that, if such a course were to be provided and it were desired that Africans in addition to Coloureds be permitted to attend the course, it would be expedient for the ratio of Africans to Coloureds not to exceed one in four. The reason for this suggestion being, that as the Coloured branch caters in the main for Coloureds, objections may be raised to the presence of a large number of Africans.

TRANSVAAL AFRICAN TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION.

RESOLUTIONS PASSED AT THE 41ST ANNUAL GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE T.A.T.A.

HELD AT LEMANA TRAINING INSTITUTION ON THE 1ST AND 2ND JULY 1947.

Resolved:-

That the Transvaal African Teachers' Association has received with gratification the news of the proposed training of Africans in ~~the~~ pharmacy which is soon to come into being and express appreciation to the Institute of Race Relations for their effort in this connection. This T.A.T.A. Conference urges both the Africans and the European~~x~~ Chemists to give support to the efforts ~~xx~~ to commence this training.

**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*

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