

S. 32.1.6

Group Areas: Mr. Amra, J. N. Singh
Chairman, Secretary
Sub-Committee

① Petition 11th April 1962.
Draft ready: Mr. C. I. Amra.

Mr. S. Rajah contacted
Mr. Amra.

Secretary informed.

② Objections:
Mr. J. N. Singh prepared
And ^{the Secretary} sent objections to the
Group Areas Board.

Group Areas Commission: 10th July 1962

3) Delegation: Meeting 6/7/62

Messrs. J. N. Singh, P. Seethan,
S. Rajah & Secretary

Appointed to appear before
on 10th July 1962 at Subhan, the enquiry commencing.

Likewise our Assistant Secretary Mr Ranjee who has played his part well. During ~~the~~ ~~the~~ the emergency when the Secretary was away the Assistant Secretary carried on the work that was possible to do.

To them I owe a special debt of gratitude ^{thanks} for their readiness & unswerving loyalty.

Of course I must not forget my other officials & members to them I express my sincere thanks for their ^{unflinching} cooperation in making my task less burdensome. Thank you

15/6/59

Sponsors Committee

9 no minutes.

Report - J. J. ...
meeting of

February 1959. - Sponsors Committee

3 meetings of Small Committee.

28/4/59. Court action Petition
Finance

Court Action pressing

motion action by owners of property
immediately expected. Opinion

on it. Question of timing
by the 6th June or so after.

Wait for time & see the attitude
of the other City Council.

Correspondence on Stand at ...

4th June 1959. from Tom ...

10th June Meeting
discussion

The. Mode: Court action

request asked to leave with
a year.

① Compaction :

1 action cured in several
are the areas.
1st aspect.
occupied prop. in full Sv. and
vacate premises 12 months

* action already begun in the
Supreme Court.
Changin of Bd. Mr. Marais
Govt. declare Group Areas
& those group must find
their own homes.

Legal advice : attention circumstances?
mutability must be provided.

possible that the proclamation can be
appt. to include in no relations
four chains - bidens are
robber, ill holdings. Mr. Hoop
newspaper report. - 18 joined in
action.

few refused to signify
their indifferences. Marais' action
in Pretoria.

Durban City Council : City Council
composition - revised plan. the
Anglophobous Dept. many areas
reverted back to Urban Imp. Board
is that Planning Committee - Comprehensive
representation in changing the whole

(2)

Recent assessments pleased
in the light of the made
representation to the Finance
Advisory Committee. to revert
to the 1952. all proclamations
have in law & invalid

Amirid ✓
Melland ✓
Sydenham ✓
Seabrook ✓
Morpeth ✓

397.10
178.10 0
... 0

PRESS STATEMENT: (Issued by the South African Indian Congress)

MINISTER FOR INDIAN AFFAIRS.

The Ministry for Indian Affairs is a logical development under apartheid. We now have a Ministry for Africans Affairs, Coloured Affairs and Indian Affairs, none yet for Jewish, Afrikaaner and English Affairs.

The ethnic linguistic and racial division continues and for each section there is a separate institution to control thousands of lives which would not be possible under multi-racialism, for then we would think as South Africans and there would be no departments for the separate races but one Ministry which is non-racial, dealing with all internal problems. There will be no financial wastages.

It is clear that the South African Indian Congress must reject this Ministry and must refuse to co-operate with it. We cannot congratulate Mr. Maree who has been and still is a vigorous opponent of Indian development having maliciously repeated nationalist sentiment that the ultimate purpose of the Group Areas Act was to drive the Indians out of the commercial and business fields and who also issued as Minister of Bantu Education that white officials should not shake hands with Africans.

(sgd.) G. M. NAICKER (DR.)
PRESIDENT - SOUTH AFRICAN
INDIAN CONGRESS.

P. O. Box 2299,
DURBAN.

7/8/61.

REJECT ASIAN AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT.

"Our people cannot and will not accept any plan designed to set up a separate department of Asian Affairs in South Africa", says a statement issued by the Natal Indian Congress.

"South Africa belongs to all who live in it and the Indian people are as much an integral and vital section of the country as the non-Indian population. The cardinal feature about the plan is that it vaguely recognises the South Africans of Indian origin as a special entity".

"The plan is against the concept of good government and is diabolically conceived to denude the Indian people of their economic and cultural attainments and potential and to make them politically impotent".

"It is our firm belief that South Africa can no longer tolerate racial compartments and the population as a whole in its own interests must guard against the birth of dangerous anarchy in such a plan. The fundamental basis of the entire scheme is racialism and as we condemn racialism we reject the plan in toto. The fast flowing currents of freedom in Africa and the strong "winds of change" were beating on the "granite walls" of apartheid and we must do everything in our power to help in the corrosion of the apartheid "wall of granite".

"We must also guard against the further suggestion that flow from the creation of such a department namely the idea of separate "Asian" homelands and separate self-development of the Asian people, the idea of special racial enclaves constantly under Ministerial and executive supervision. This arrangement is inconsistent to the Congress stand for a truly non-racial democratic state in which is ensured the freedom and liberty of all South Africans".

"Congress urges the Nationalist Government to recognise the urgent need for a National Convention before the institution of the republic instead of indulging in the dissection of South Africa under Bantu Authorities, Coloured Authorities and Asian Authorities".

"The Congress therefore urges the Government to withdraw and revoke its plan and should the authorities persist in its creation, Congress calls upon the Indian people not to collaborate in any way to make the plan work".

GENERAL SECRETARY
NATAL INDIAN CONGRESS

P. O. Box 2299,
DURBAN.

23/1/61.

(11)

PRESS RELEASE: (Issued by the Natal Indian Congress)

The Natal Indian Congress meeting at its Working Committee last week-end critically surveyed the present political situation affecting the Indian people and reiterated that the destiny of the Indian people lies in common with the other oppressed peoples in South Africa.

The political report delivered by the General Secretary, Mr. N.T. Naicker made the following points:

- That the present apartheid offensive launched by the Nationalist Government through its so-called independence plans in the Bantustans is an evasion of the real issue: facing the Government conditioned of course by internal opposition, by world pressure, the cracking of the colour bar on the Republic's borders and the demand of the Afro-Asian powers for self determination, human dignity and self respect.
- That the real issue is the immediate granting of the political franchise to non-whites to return representatives without discrimination as to race or colour to a non-racial Parliament.
- That the fundamental error made by the authorities is its refusal to deal with the real problems and find an escape route for its policy of white domination.
- That the meeting of handpicked members of the Indian community with the Minister of Indian Affairs Mr. Maree is a dangerous trend, and that acceptance of the formation of consultative committees as springboards for the Indian Advisory Board and Council reflected political opportunism not in tune with the progressive and democratic development which clashed with official policy of apartheid.
- That the Indian Advisory Board is a vile and treacherous institution which detracts from normal democratic process.
- That individuals who met Minister Maree had no political backing and no authority to speak in the name of the Indian community. They owe an apology to the Indian people and it is only fair that any confidence in them should be forfeited.

The Working Committee of the Natal Indian Congress decided to launch a campaign in all the areas to answer the Minister's statement that the Congress had "left wing" tendencies.

Congress was founded by Mahatma Gandhi, its policy is non-violence and it spoke for the professional, trading and working masses. It is the most representative political body of the Indian people and rejected in toto the Advisory Board and all minority institutions which are the very negation of democracy.

15th February, 1962,

P.O. Box 2299,

DURBAN.

K. M. M. M. M.
for: GENERAL SECRETARY.

PRESS RELEASE: (Issued by the Natal Indian Congress)

MAREE MUST APOLOGISE TO THE INDIAN PEOPLE

" Mr. W.A.Maree, the Minister of Indian Affairs must apologise to the Indian people of South Africa for stating in the Senate that ' a custom or habit has perhaps developed on their part not to do any work', " says a statement issued by the Natal Indian Congress after a meeting of its Executive Committee.

" The Executive Committee of the Natal Indian Congress,"says the statement, "carefully studied the policy statement made by Mr. Maree in the Senate on 8 February, 1962..According to the Hansard Mr. Maree inter alia told the Senate:

'Indians live in very poor slum conditions, some of the worst that one can imagine and the result is, that as a result of these circumstances a custom or habit has perhaps developed on their part not to do any work. They dig a little in the small garden which they have and they sell their few bananas and fruit and they are not used to doing any more work.' (page 510 of the Hansard)

" These comments on the part of Mr. Maree tantamounts to an insult of the Indian people as a whole, who are no less hardworking than the rest of the South African population. Such racial thinking on the part of a person of Cabinet rank brings no credit to the Nationalist Cabinet as a whole for the Cabinet must be held collectively responsible for the utterances of any of its Ministers.

" We deeply regret that the Minister should have expressed these views instead of facing the real issues responsible for the large number of unemployed in the ranks of the Indian community, namely the policy of apartheid and segregation, which prevents them from finding employments in many fields open to the Europeans of the country. The Provincial barriers further militates against the Indian people of Natal in that they cannot seek work outside the province.

" The Indian people strongly resent Mr. Maree's comments and his endeavours in the Senate to ascertain whether this was not due to ' an inherent characteristic' of the Indian community.

" The Indian people cannot allow such insulting remarks on the part of Mr. Maree to remain unchallenged. It is the duty of every Indian leader in the political, social, educational and economic field to protest at these remarks of the Minister and call for an unconditional apology on his part.

" The policy statement made by Mr. Maree in the Senate is full of inaccuracies. For instance Mr. Maree states that only a small percentage of Indian who are poor and that 'the vast majority of Indians in South Africa live under very good and decent circumstances.' Mr. Maree should at least take the trouble to acquaint himself of the factual position as contained in the recognised publication 'Indian Life and Labour' in which Professor Burrows states as a scientific fact that over 70 per cent of the Indian people of Natal live below the bread line.

"Nothing has incensed the Indian community more than the speech he made in the Senate and the sooner the Minister recants the better it will be for all concerned."

P.O.Box 2299,
DURBAN.

17th March, 1962.

K. K. K. K.
for: NATAL INDIAN CONGRESS.

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