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MINUTES OF A WORKING COMMITTEE MEETING
 HELD ON SUNDAY 19TH AUGUST, 1956, AT
11. a.m. AT THE CONGRESS OFFICE, DURBAN.

PRESENT: As per registers attached hereto.

APOLOGIES: Apologies for non-attendance were received from the following members: Mrs. J. Singh, D.A. Seedat, R.S. Pather (Central Branch) V. G. Naidu, C. Boyer, Sookmay, G.A.N. Govender, ^{S. Chetty} (Mayville Branch).

CHAIRMAN: Mr. V. Lawrence was in the Chair.

WELCOME TO DELEGATES: The Chairman in declaring the meeting open welcomed the delegates from branches to the first Working Committee meeting since Conference and wished them well.

Notice conveyed the next
ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION: *The Chairman read the notice convening the meeting* ^{adjourned}

Mr. V.S.M. Pillay moved and Mr. K. Moonsamy seconded the adoption of the notice, ~~convening the adjourned meeting.~~

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

The following agenda was unanimously accepted on the motion of Mr. K. Moonsamy seconded Mrs. F. Seedat with the following addition: ~~to item~~.... "XXXX ELECTION OF SAIC COUNCILLORS.

poor

The question of attendance was discussed and it was ^{stated} felt that the branches should ~~be notified~~ advise that there delegates were not present.

Mr. E.N. Moodley (Clairwood) stated that they had not elected their new members to the Working Committee and therefore the attendance from his branch was ~~not~~ bad.

MINUTES:

The minutes of the last working Committee held on the 22nd April, 1956, were read and confirmed on the motion H.E. Mall seconded by Mr. G.S. Naidu. AGREED.

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The SAIC Minutes & Mr. G. Naicker were appended
Committee. 5

ADOPTION OF 9TH PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE MINUTES:

The Minutes of the 9th Provincial Conference as circulated was adopted, with the following correction, on the motion of Mr. G. S. Naidu seconded by Jack Govender.:

delete
erase the word
On ~~the~~ Page 10 under the ~~word~~ heading "Congress Properties" ~~Delegase~~ Conference" and substitute it with the words "Working Committee".

CORRESPONDENCE:

Letter from Transvaal Indian Congress, dated 4/8/56, requesting us to send fraternal delegates to their All-In-Conference on Saturday and Sunday 25th and 26th August, 1956. AGREED that delegates from NIC attend.

Letter from The Natal Indian Blind Society, dated 30/7/56, asking Congress permission to allow their Society to build a Workshop for the Blind on the May Street Property.

DECIDED that the matter be considered after ~~the~~ ^{the} conclusion of the item "Properties" *in the agenda.*

Letter from SAIC, ~~dated~~ undated, convening SAIC Executive,

NOTED.

SAIC

The Secretary reported that the South African Indian Congress Conference was scheduled to be held on the 21st, 22nd and 23rd September, 1956, at the Bharat Hall, Durban.

The reports and other material for Conference would be handled by the SAIC officials and only the Presidential ~~Address~~ Address was to be undertaken by Dr. G.M. Naicker.

The Secretary reported on the recent Jt. Executive meeting and the SAIC Executive meeting held in Johannesburg on the 18th and 12th August, 1956.

Mr. Naicker said that many areas which are occupied by non-Europeans, such as Vrededrop, Westdene, Martindale, Sophiatown partly and wholly have been declared European areas. The notices to vacate from these areas ~~are~~ ^{is} within one year in some cases and two years in others.

These proclamations were discussed at length at the meeting and it was felt that it should not go unchallenged. The proclamations could be challenged in the Courts on the ground of ^{the} equity.

The Freedom Charter campaign for a million signatures was ~~now~~ closed with about 16,000 signatures collected. It was also agreed that certain constituent bodies which wished to continue collecting signatures may do so.

The Suez Canal crisis was discussed and the SAIC was in sympathy with the Egyptian people and their legitimate struggle to nationalise the Canal. A press statement on the Suez Crisis ~~and our sympathy~~ is to be issued.

ELECTION OF SAIC COUNCILLORS:

The following were elected enbloc SAIC Councillors for the ensuing year:

- Messrs: H. E. Mall
- N. T. Naicker,
- G. Eurbane.
- V. S. M. Pillai

with the following as alternates: Messrs G. S. Naidu and K. Moonsamy.

SAIC DELEGATES:

Arising from the Secretary's report that the SAIC Conference would be held in Durban on 21st, 22nd and 23rd September, 1966, the ~~xxxxxx~~ Secretary stated that the NIC was entitled to 30 delegates to attend Conference. The following were nominated:

- | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------|
| V. Lawrence, | George Singh. |
| Dr. M. N. Padayachee. | G. S. Naidu |
| R. A. Pillay. | D. A. Seedat |
| S. M. Mayet. | L. E. Woodley. |
| Dr. A. H. Sader. | Dr. Omar Hasshim. |
| K. Swaminathan. | A. I. Bhoola, |
| Jack Govender. | R. Kallie |
| Dr. M. H. Motala. | Billy Neir. |
| H. A. Meer. | S. B. Mungal. |
| T. C. Metha | E. Seedat. |
| xxx R. A. Pillay. | S. B. Maharaj. |
| N. Sunker | A. S. Chetty |
| A. S. Chetty | S. S. Nachand |
| Ramlagan | A. E. M. Docrat |
| Mannie Govender | S. G. Chetty |
| Inder Rajgopal | Dr. E. R. Naidu |
| S. R. Singh | Harry Deoduth |
| M. S. Pillay | L. Ramsunder |
| Ismail Gangat | George Naicker |
| K. Moonsamy. | |

Decided that there be 30 delegates to be by ballot.

In view of the fact that there were more than 30 nominations it was decided that there be 30 delegates to be by ballot.

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Mr. G.S. Hande & T.C. Mulla were appointed Secretaries

AGREED that nomination cease on the motion of Mr. N.T. Naicker
seconded by Mr. George Naicker.

CONFERENCE; RESOLUTIONS:

The General Secretary reported that all resolutions passed
at Conference were distributed to the Branches.

He further stated that sub-committees that were formed
to implement the resolutions would report at the next Executive
meeting.

Mr. A.K.M. Docrat raised complained that at the Group Areas
Conference no reference was made to the Freedom Charter and that
the Chairman rejected any reference being made of the Freedom
Charter in the resolutions that were adopted.

CONGRESS PROPERTIES:

The Secretary suggested that the ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ the item
"Property" be not discussed at this meeting but at the next
meeting as the time was late and that the meeting would not
do justice to such an important matter in the short period
available.

After some discussion it was however disagreed that
that the Secretary convene a special meeting of the Working
Committee at the earliest to discuss the Property issue.

In regard to the tenants at the 95 Maince Edward Street
Property the following resolution was moved by Mr. R.G. Pillay
seconded by Mr. K. Moonesamy:

"That this Working Committee meeting of the
Natal Indian Congress held at Durban on Sunday
the 19th August, 1956 resolves that the President
and General Secretary be and they are hereby
empowered to institute legal action against Mrs.
J. Tandree and/or other persons who are wrongfully
and unlawfully occupying the property of the Natal
Indian Congress described as

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richer class buying them off.

There was some discussion on this and as insufficient facts were available it was DECIDED that further investigations be made and the matter be deferred to the SECRETARIAT.

RESULT OF BALLOT:

On receiving the Scrutiners report the Chairman announced the ~~following~~ results of the ballot; and declared the following elected accredited delegates ~~of~~ the NIC to the Conference of the SAIC:

- | | |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Messrs V. Lawrence. | 25. H.R. Deoduth. |
| 2. Dr. H.N. Padayachee | 26. Ismail Gangat. |
| 3. R. G. Pillay. | 27. George Naicker. |
| 4. S. M. Mayet. | 28. K. Moonsamy. |
| 5. Dr. A.H. Sader | 29. A.K.M. Doerat. |
| 6. K. Swaminathan. | 30. S.G. Chetty. |
| 7. Jack Govender. | |
| 8. Dr. M.M. Motala. | |
| 9. T. C. Metha. | |
| 10. R.A. Pillay. | |
| 11. George Singh. | |
| 12. G.S. Naidu. | |
| 13. D.A. Seedat. | |
| 14. Dr/ Omar Hasshim. | |
| 15. A.I. Bhoola. | |
| 16. R. Kallie. | |
| 17. Billy Nair. | |
| 18. S.B. Mungal. | |
| 19. E. Seedat. | |
| 20. S.B. Maharaj. | |
| 21. Sam Pillay. | |
| 22. A.S. Chetty. | |
| 23. S. Nanaokchand. | |
| 24. Ramlagan. | |

It was suggested ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ in the event of those elected ~~being~~ ^{at} indisposed and not available to attend Conference the ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ unsuccessful candidates be approached to replace them. The Secretary be entrusted with this task.

DUFFS ROAD:

Mr. H.E. Mall reported that a deputation of the Vigilance Committee met the Duffs Road Indian Association in connection with the threatened expropriation of Indian owned land at Duffs Road for the erection of an African Housing Scheme there. Mr. Mall gave details of the present position at Duffs Road and the Vigilance Committee suggested to ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ ^{give} them their full and unflinching support and made the following suggestions:

1. That they should remain in possession of their properties as long as they could.
2. That they should employ every tactic to delay the expropriation of their land.
3. That legal action should be taken to preserve their right of ownership.

It was also agreed that the Vigilance Committee should keep in close touch with the development in that area and with the Duffs Road Indian Association.

Mr. Hill reporting further said that attempts to interview the Mayor of Durban had failed and their request to interview the Administrator is pending.

A panel of private valuers have already approached the owners affect to value their land and the Vigilance Committee had suggested to the Association not to co-operate with them.

A mass meeting in the area is being convened in the near future by the Duffs Road Indian Association.

WOMEN'S PROTEST - Delegation to Pretoria:

The Executive and Secretariat was strongly criticised for ~~not assisting the Women's Federation~~ their failure to actively assist the Women's Federation in their protest against the passes and in sending a strong contingent of women to Pretoria to protest against Passes for women.

TERMINATION:

The meeting terminated at 2.45.p.m. with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

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RECORDS RELATING TO THE 'TREASON TRIAL' (REGINA vs F. ADAMS AND OTHERS ON CHARGE OF HIGH TREASON, ETC.), 1956 1961

TREASON TRIAL, 1956 1961

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