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# CAFDA

CAPE FLATS DISTRESS ASSOCIATION

17. III 1952

EIGHTH ANNUAL REPORT

# 1951

"CAFDA IS CAPE TOWN'S CONSCIENCE"

# Cape Flats Distress Association

## CAFDA

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### OFFICE-BEARERS:

#### President:

Advocate D. B. Molteno.

#### Vice-President:

Mrs. N. B. Spilhaus

#### Chairman:

Advocate P. Charles.

#### Vice-Chairman:

Mrs. M. H. Ensor.

#### Hon. Treasurer:

Mr. Ivo E. Chunnnett.

#### Warden:

Dr. O. D. Wollheim.

#### Executive Committee:

Sir Alfred Beit.

Mrs. Rose Brodie.

Mr. P. Carelse.

Mr. D. Chapman.

Advocate P. Charles.

Mr. Ivo E. Chunnnett.

Dr. R. S. Cullis.

Mrs. M. H. Ensor.

Dr. J. Henson.

Mrs. Hyde-Jones

Mr. E. J. Lever.

Rev. H. G. Leverton.

Dr. Budtz Olsen.

Bishop Wilfred Parker.

Rev. C. J. Skett.

Mrs. Dora Tamana.

Miss B. Westphal.

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#### Addresses:

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*No one can presume to understand a problem of poverty without some knowledge of human behaviour, and no one can treat a problem of human behaviour intelligently without reference to its economic and social frame-work. It is no accident that social work meets criticism and resistance, since fundamentally its objectives challenge men's choicest possessions and dearest associations.*

—Hamilton, *Social Case Work*.

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CAFDA, Prince George Drive, Retreat. Phone 7-9111.

## PREFACE

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CAFDA arose out of the need so clearly defined in the report of the Cape Flats Commission issued in 1943. A comparatively sparsely populated area of wide farm lands had become in parts a closely settled area with thousands of persons whose existence had hardly been suspected previously. Higgledy-piggledy townships of wood and iron, sackcloth, tins, oil drums and fencing slabs had grown where potatoes and peas had flourished. Thick bush hid them from sight and few bothered about sanitation, drainage or other normal community services.

The rapid industrial expansion of Cape Town had drawn many Coloured people from the countryside around and later there came from the Eastern Province, where erosion and poverty helped to drive them forth, thousands of Africans; the geographical growth of Cape Town all along the mountainside had displaced many Coloured people to cheaper areas. All these came to the Cape Flats. The best parts were kept as farms or bought by the local authorities, while the rest became inhabited by all these people. As they were largely illiterate, and certainly for the most part unused to urban conditions, it was no wonder that the conditions disclosed in the Commission's report developed. The "civilised" labour policy of successive governments, stringent hire-purchase conditions and the rise in the cost of living, which always outpaced wage levels, did the rest. Densely populated areas were subject to severe flooding so that many houses in winter stood in lakes; disease, shebeening and vice were rampant; the infant mortality rate rose rapidly. Miserable and dumb with suffering, these people could not understand.

Cape Town's conscience was awakened by the report. Local authorities redoubled their efforts to provide sub-economic housing and to drain the flooded areas; new hire-purchase laws were passed; a small band of men and women created CAFDA and another the Friends of Windermere Association (now part of CAFDA); the University of Cape Town directed social surveys; other social welfare agencies extended their scope. But the problem had in the meantime grown too large and the war had intervened to limit housing efforts and hamper major works. The war also called into existence large numbers of new industries which in turn played their part in adding to the population. Last year's census shows that the European population has doubled, the Coloured population nearly trebled and the African population multiplied by five in the last fifteen years. Almost all the additional people come from conditions vastly different from the new and many of them have not succeeded in making a

complete adaptation in their way of life. The old problem remains—improved in some few respects, but quantitatively a greater problem than ever before.

CAFDA is a voluntary association with headquarters at its main community centre on the Prince George Drive, Retreat. It also has a small centre in 12th Avenue, Windermere, and it reaches much of the rest of the Flats through its Social Workers, its Mobile Shop and Soup Kitchen. Round the scenes of its operations lie Rondevlei, Zeekoefvlei, Princessvlei and the stagnant pools of Windermere and Kensington. In winter the water table rises practically to ground level around us and above it in some places. Twenty thousand people live within close range of our centres and more than ten times this number further away. More than half of these people live below the bread line. Since our last report the public has helped us to reach out to many more than before but there are still scores of thousands who need us and whom we are unable to help.

What we do and how is told in this report. But, because it is a factual report, the drama must be left out and the imagination of the reader must create the persons, the heartbreak, the bewilderment and the inarticulate gratitude when the problem is resolved. The reader must conjure up the cripples rotting away spiritually and morally on pensions and charities who suddenly find themselves again members of society and earning a living, the ejected family hopelessly contemplating sleeping under a bush which finds itself comfortably settled in tents; the relief of a worrying parent whose erring adolescent son has been brought back to decency through the Boys' Club.

Anyone who contributes more than 2s. 6d. per annum becomes a member of CAFDA and is entitled to a vote at the Annual General Meeting. The number of members and the size of their donations determine what can be done to help the destitute, rehabilitate the demoralised, provide leisure activities and educate the public and authorities. The field is almost unlimited.

"CAFDA is Cape Town's Conscience."

## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

On behalf of the Executive Committee of CAFDA I have great pleasure in presenting to the members and supporters of the Association the Warden's report on the work of the Association during the past year, the balance-sheet and financial statements and the report of the Honorary Treasurer. In doing so, I should like to draw attention particularly to certain aspects of the work and of the problems which confront the Association.

There has not been the same spectacular all-round expansion in the work of the Association during the year 1951 as took place in the years 1949 and 1950. The work has indeed been extended in a number of fields, as will be mentioned, and where it has not been extended it has been maintained at the levels reached last year. The year has, however, been marked by a struggle to maintain CAFDA's services in the face of the difficulties created by the rapidly rising cost of living. Inflation hits an organisation like CAFDA hard: in the first place, members of the public find the rising cost of living makes it difficult for them to spare the money, the clothing and the other donations on which CAFDA depends; secondly, the cost of CAFDA's services rises—staff have to be paid increased cost-of-living allowances and materials used all cost more, so that we find, for example, the cost per attendance in the day nursery rising from 2/2½ to 2/11; thirdly, the people whom CAFDA exists to help find the shoe pinches and they need help more than ever before.

Despite these difficulties there have been a number of important developments and improvements in the work of the Association in the year under review. Perhaps the biggest expansion was in the sheltered employment department, in which 14 unfit persons were employed at the end, compared with six at the beginning, of 1951. At the end of the year work was well advanced on the construction of a special sheltered employment building, for which purpose generous donations of £1,500 from the Students' Rag Fund and £400 from Mr E. W. McL. Thomas, as well as a number of other donations, have been earmarked. When this building is completed it will be possible to train upwards of 25 physically handicapped persons at one time for employment which will make them self-supporting. A survey of handicapped persons in the Retreat-Grassy Park area which was carried out by our Welfare Department shows how necessary this work is. The improved equipment of the Day Nursery at the Retreat Centre is another big step forward. Owing to the exceptionally long and severe winter an increased demand for the soup purveyed by the mobile soup kitchen had to be met, with the result that 8,160 gallons of soup were distributed last winter, as compared with 6,000 gallons in 1950. In a time of rising prices the non-profit shop fills a need that can hardly be exaggerated. This is reflected by the rise in the turnover from £11,052 to £16,390.

In the early part of the year the Association became increasingly aware of the urgent social problem created by ejections of tenants under the provisions of the amended Rents Act. A number of tenants had been ejected from houses which in many cases they had occupied and regularly paid rent for over long periods of years. Many of these people were quite unable to find other accommodation within their means. By February, 1951, the Warden reported that 95 ejected people were occupying tents provided by CAFDA, many others were living in similar or worse makeshift accommodation, and Mr Findling was receiving several telephone calls every day from persons without a roof over their heads. In co-operation with other interested bodies

the Association made urgent representations to the Mayor of Cape Town, as a result of which the Dispersal Depot at Athlone was made available for the accommodation of ejected families from the municipal area. CAFDA partitioned the large rooms of the depot with its own materials and labour, and Mr Findling did splendid work in organising this "displaced persons' camp." Unfortunately the accommodation provided was only temporary and is no longer available, whereas the problem is still as acute as ever. We feel that the provision of emergency accommodation for ejected families is a problem which should be tackled by the central Government. In passing, I think it is fair to say that what was achieved during the year in quick action to meet an emergency which apparently was "nobody's baby" is a good example of one of the important roles which a voluntary organisation like CAFDA will always have to play.

The problem of financing CAFDA's work in a time of rising prices and tight money could not have been met during 1951 without a special fund-raising effort. This was made by a fund-raising committee which, under Mrs. Lance Taylor, was responsible for the organisation of the Maynardville Fête. I should like to take this opportunity of thanking all members of that Committee and the workers who helped to make the fête a success. At the same time it is encouraging to be able to record that the large number of regular donors, small and large, who keep the Association going, have continued their support.

I also wish to record with great appreciation a resolution by the Retreat Students' Clinic to pay CAFDA the sum of £100 per annum in return for the services of our Welfare Department at their clinics. The first payment was received after our books for 1951 were closed. The very close and happy co-operation between CAFDA and the various students' clinics results in much better services to the poor and is an example of the manner in which we attempt to co-ordinate our work with the other agencies, both official and voluntary.

As in previous years, it is a pleasure to report that the Warden and staff have worked together harmoniously and with unflinching energy for the good of CAFDA. The Warden particularly has done great work in keeping the problem of the Cape Flats pondokkie dweller constantly before the public of Cape Town and in suggesting and organising developments and improvements in the work of the Association. The Association and those it serves are very much in the debt of the large number of voluntary workers who continue to devote their time and energies to CAFDA.

It is with deep regret that I record the death of Dr. A. Albers, a member of the Executive Committee, which occurred during the year. Dr. Albers had made a most valuable contribution to CAFDA's work during the short time he served on the Committee and had made a deep impression on all his colleagues by his sympathy with and understanding of the underdog. Mr D. C. Frew, who had been honorary treasurer of the Association for a period of 18 months, had to resign on his leaving South Africa. I should like to thank him on behalf of the Association for the valuable work he did in that capacity. Mr Ivo Chunnnett has taken over the position of Honorary Treasurer in succession to Mr. Frew. During the year Dr. Budtz Olsen was co-opted to the Executive Committee, as a representative of, and in liaison with, the Kensington Students' Clinic Committee, with which we are co-operating in the work of the Windermere Centre.

The problems which will face the incoming Executive Committee are: first, to maintain the work of the Association at its present level, a daunting fund-raising task lies before them, in which, how-

ever, I am happy to say they have been promised the help of the fund-raising committee which functioned so successfully last year. Second, with the help of the Kensington Students' Clinic Committee a new community centre is being erected at Windermere which will give the Association an opportunity which we must not let slip of expanding social and community work in that area. The expansion of sheltered employment at the Retreat Centre has already been referred to. One side of CAFDA's work which calls for further development is the club and community work at the Retreat Centre. A large number of activities are being undertaken, but much more can and should be done. It is essential that this work should be co-ordinated by a trained and experienced club leader who can give his full time to the job. At the beginning of the year the Executive Committee advertised extensively for a club leader without getting any suitable applications. For financial reasons the matter was thereafter left in abeyance, but the outgoing Executive agree that as soon as possible the post must be filled, even if this involves offering a larger salary than was offered when the post was last advertised. Finally, the housing and rehabilitation scheme remains the biggest responsibility of the incoming executive. Land is available and all the preliminary work has now been done. It is hoped that money will be made available by the National Planning and Housing Commission during this year. If so, the scheme will be a reality before the next CAFDA annual report is presented.

It is a frightening thought that the organisation whose multifarious activities our report describes lives a hand-to-mouth existence, dependent on the voluntary contributions of a few thousand private citizens of Cape Town. Should those contributions dry up for three months the work would have to stop. The Executive Committee is confident, however, that as long as Cape Town appreciates that worthwhile work is being done our fellow-citizens will not fail to meet whatever calls CAFDA has to make on them. It is the firm conviction of all of us who see at close quarters the work that CAFDA is doing that that work is indeed worth doing and is on the whole well done. The Executive Committee hopes that this report will confirm in that conviction all members and supporters of the Association.

P. CHARLES, *Chairman.*

## WARDEN'S REPORT

### THE MAIN CAUSES OF DISTRESS

#### An Apparent Anomaly

We have had many hundreds of telephone calls from the public and there have been frequent references in the press with regard to CAFDA's continual requests for assistance and more money and the difficulty of obtaining reliable servants and workmen. People wish to know why there is still so much distress in the Cape Flats and why at the same time it is so difficult to get good domestic servants, gardeners or other unskilled workers for factory and home. This argument is obviously based on the misconception that distress in the Cape Flats is due to lack of suitable or sufficient employment and that the reason for poverty is that the people will not or cannot work. The following paragraphs will show that, in spite of almost full employment, it is practically impossible for certain types of employees to balance their budgets and that social evils must flow from this fact.

Under normal labour conditions there is a continually changing pool of unemployed labour which varies from 5% to 15%, the former figure indicating industrial development and expansion while the latter figure indicates a tendency towards stabilisation or even regression. Widespread unemployment can be regarded as present only when the figure goes above 15%. Since the beginning of the war there has seldom been much more than an unemployed pool of 5% and the figure has even dropped below this. The indications are, therefore, that there is, and has been for a long time, full employment in the Peninsula. These figures obviously do not refer to unemployables such as physically handicapped persons, tuberculotics, housewives with small children, etc. The answer to the anomaly must, therefore, be found elsewhere.

#### Incomes

The wages for unskilled workers in the Peninsula range from 35/- per week for young and inexperienced males to a little over £5 per week for a competent and experienced workman. The average figure would be about 60/- per week. In the Cape Peninsula there would probably be some 50,000 workers earning £3 per week or less. It can be taken that about half of this number have families of their own to support so that there are in the Peninsula over 20,000 breadwinners whose incomes do not exceed £150 per annum. The remainder of the unskilled workers either earn more than this amount or are unattached persons or have additional sources of revenue from the earnings of their children.

#### Family Budget

Many of the families are large or extended families, including relatives and aged and infirm persons dependent upon them, but I propose to quote the expenditure of a normal family of five, consisting of father and mother with three children aged from four to twelve years. The diet is based on the minimum scale for such a family, as advised by the National Nutrition Council some years ago and certainly is a basic one, making no allowance for luxuries, comforts or even any real variation. Rents are the average amounts paid by the persons living in the pondokkies of the Cape Flats. Of such persons we estimate that there are 100,000. The transport figure is also an average figure worked out in the Retreat area and weighted by other areas



such as Windermere and Crawford. The figure for clothing is a minimum estimate. We then arrive at the following necessary expenditure:

Food, Light and Fuel	£150
Rent	15
Transport	20
Clothing	50
Insurance, Burial Society, Church Dues, Amuse- ments, Medicines, School Books and Sundries	20
	<hr/>
	£255

It will thus be seen that there is a deficit in the income of such a family of more than £100 per annum, which applies to some 20,000 families representing roughly 100,000 souls. This deficit is not a stationary one, and has tended in recent years to become further and further enlarged owing to the fact that the cost of living has materially increased in the last three years, whereas there has been no significant increase in the wages of unskilled workers. Here lies the explanation for the distress in the Cape Flats, and it is necessary now to explain how this deficit is met and what effects their efforts to balance their budgets have on them.

### The Consequences

**Food:** The first and easiest method of balancing the budget is to reduce expenditure on the diet by cutting down the most expensive items, consisting in the main of the protective foods like milk, butter, eggs, cheese, fruit, green vegetables, etc. Other foodstuffs such as meat may also be cut down, and starches, which are cheaper and bulky, are substituted for such items. The result of these changes in diet is malnutrition (not under-nourishment) with low resistance to disease as a concomitant.

**Accommodation:** When the shoe pinches, part of the accommodation is given up to lodgers who pay small rents for occupying additional rooms or for sharing the same room. The result is that the family becomes grossly overcrowded and there is a natural degeneration in the morale of the family where father and mother have to share rooms with adolescent and younger boys and girls. There is no privacy and all the bodily functions have to be carried out in full view and hearing of everybody else. We have found up to 43 persons ranging from a newborn baby to a bedridden invalid of over 70 in one small shack containing five rooms, the largest of which was 10ft. x 12ft.

**Additional Income:** Some of the deficit is made up by sending the wife to work either as a domestic servant or else as a char or laundry woman by the day. Other additional income is derived from minor children who do seasonal work such as grape-picking, or who are permanently taken out of school at the age of ten or eleven. Officially children may not trade on the streets before they are twelve and fourteen for boys and girls respectively, but there are great difficulties in establishing the ages of street traders and large numbers of them claim to be old enough, whereas in fact they are much younger. Such children sell flowers, accompany hawkers' carts or find other similar work.

The consequence of this attempt to balance the budget is that the absence of the mother leads to neglected children who sometimes have to spend many hours per day without any attention or food. Often the house is locked and the children have to spend the day on the streets until the parents arrive home. Neglected small children

at a later stage become difficult and uncontrollable and often end up as bad skollies or delinquents. There is also no adequate control by the parents upon the school-going of children, which tends to become exceedingly irregular until the child finds himself so far behind that he is discouraged and leaves. All these factors added together have tended to increase juvenile delinquency and certainly to perpetuate the already high degree of illiteracy among sections of the Cape Flats population.

**Illicit Income:** It is very difficult to obtain factual information about income derived from illicit sources, but our experience has been that such incomes are widespread. Our liquor laws make it exceedingly difficult for Africans to obtain European liquor, but comparatively easy for Coloured males to do so. Africans who have spent many years of their lives in large cities tend after a time to develop a taste for European liquor, and up to 30/- is offered for a bottle of brandy. The temptation upon any Coloured man to buy a bottle of brandy for 10/- to 11/- and to resell it to an African at 30/- is very great, owing to his need to balance his budget, and quite often a man with heavy commitments and debt to face finds himself inextricably mixed up in illicit liquor traffic.

Young adolescent boys, especially if they have had little parental control and few pleasures or interesting activities for their leisure time, quickly find themselves drawn into the Dagga traffic as runners. Young girls of the same type are drawn into prostitution, which at any rate provides them with decent clothes from time to time where their parents are unable to do so.

### **General**

All these factors added together indicate that any attempt made by a breadwinner in this category to balance his budget results in the demoralisation and degeneration of himself and his dependents. With the passage of time this degeneracy has also tended to increase with further efforts of unskilled workers to balance their budgets so as to cope with the increase in the cost of living and their stationary income. Here, too, lies the explanation of the general unreliability and unsuitability of those who normally apply for domestic work. The number of coloured females in factories has trebled in the last fifteen years and all the better types of girl are drawn to that form of employment because of the more attractive wages and conditions offered. The result has been that the only girls left for domestic service are those who come from this type of family and who have been subjected in greater or lesser degree to the operation of the factors outlined above.

Here, too, lies the explanation for the distress in the Cape Flats. Distress is not necessarily occasioned by lack of food or of income, but is often the result of social degeneracy occasioned by factors beyond the control of the persons concerned.

### **How CAFDA Copes**

Everything that CAFDA does fits perfectly into the picture drawn above. Distress is obviously attributable to two main factors:

- A—The shortage of cash which leads to the demoralising attempts to balance the budget; and
- B—The various social evils outlined above as the results of these attempts.

All CAFDA's activities are designed to meet either or both of these two factors. The shop provides cheap food and household commodities

enabling 20/- to do the work of 25/- in the normal shops; the clothing store provides good used clothes at about one-third of their normal secondhand market value for selected poverty-stricken families; the nursery cares for children where both parents must work, thus enabling the mother to increase the income by her earnings and prevents the child from suffering the consequences of parental neglect. Our social workers are continually trying to solve the financial and other tangles confronting these people by means of finding more suitable employment, help and advice in budgeting, the provision of relief in cases of destitution due to death, misadventure or illness, provision of advice in matters of pensions, disputes, etc., and the other thousands of everyday problems which appear so insoluble and inexplicable to the illiterate; our Sheltered Employment provides a source of income other than charity for persons who are physically disabled, and at the same time instils in such persons new hope and a new faith in the future; our community activities provide healthy recreation for hundreds of people every week, thus keeping them off the streets and away from shebeens; our winter relief in the form of blankets, soup, etc., provide at least a little warmth and comfort to those living in the worst of the pondokkies where winter wreaks such havoc.

### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

It would not have been possible for any of these things to be tackled without the ever generous support of the public, which has provided CAFDA with large sums of money, enormous quantities of clothing, household commodities, foodstuffs, blankets and Christmas Comforts. Slowly, too, the general public begins to realise that it must either face higher expenditure in industry and commerce on the neglected and forgotten unskilled worker, or it must pay ever increasing amounts in relief and other social services to the same people in order to undo the damage caused by inadequate wages. To the public who have been so generous and so understanding of CAFDA's problems go the unspoken thanks and gratitude of very many inarticulate people whom CAFDA has assisted, and to the same public I wish to say that none of this assistance has ever been given to undeserving cases. Our Social Workers have not hesitated to make persons who should have known better bear the consequences of their actions and no assistance has been given until after careful investigations have been made. Relief is only given to prevent destitution and distress falling upon those not responsible for the situation. CAFDA has at times been accused of pampering "won't works" and even of drawing farm labour away from its legitimate work to come and enjoy the material benefits dispensed during winter. Nothing could be further from the truth and our Centre and our books are available to authorised persons who may wish to check.

There has been, I am happy to say, a great increase also in the interest shown in CAFDA's work by the Government and local authorities and there are negotiations at present with a view to increasing the financial assistance which the Government has been giving in the past.

Last but not least a deep debt of gratitude is owed to the very large number of voluntary workers who attend week in and week out to the many essential tasks such as the sorting, mending and pricing of secondhand clothing, assisting in the nursery, cleaning of vegetables and cooking of soup in winter, the running of the various club activities, the driving of the soup van, and many other duties too multifarious to mention. There are at present more voluntary workers than

ever before, indicating the most laudable desire on the part of the public to help and an even greater increase in public confidence in CAFDA's work.

### THE FUTURE

To some extent the future lies in the hands of the public of Cape Town, but to an even greater extent it lies in the utilisation of facilities which the Government has made available. Mention has been made in previous Reports of the proposed rehabilitation scheme and it is pleasing to report that during the last twelve months considerable progress has been made. An area of some 55 morgen of land near to CAFDA has now become available, and the final steps are being negotiated with the Municipality, the Provincial Administration and the Central Housing and Planning Commission for the raising of sufficient money on loan to purchase the land and with the architects and other persons and bodies concerned for the designing and planning of a scheme to provide amenities and proper social facilities for some 600 to 800 families. A Public Utility Company under Section 21 of the Companies Act has been approved by the Minister and the final registration papers are eagerly awaited.

The problem to be faced in Cape Town goes much deeper than merely the one outlined above. The general level of poverty at which the unskilled worker finds himself, leads to moral degeneration, but there are other considerations. Our industrialised cities have grown so rapidly that probably half their population fifteen to twenty years ago were in other occupations, other surroundings, other ways of life before they came to the city. It can be safely said that the majority of the unskilled workers now contributing to the industrial development of the big cities come from rural areas where the acquisition of food, clothing and housing prevented few problems, where the mode of living was primitive and closely organised by the existing social conventions and beliefs and where there existed ready-made solutions for most of the problems. At one fell swoop such persons have been called upon to make adaptations to their mode of life so far reaching and so fundamental that many have fallen by the wayside and have been incapable of making the adjustment. CAFDA's work must therefore be not only to provide houses; it must also show people how to live in them; it must not only provide social activities, but it must show the people how to benefit from them. The scheme envisaged is much greater than merely a housing scheme; it is a scheme in which the Committee hopes to short-circuit the effects of an industrial revolution, the consequences of which were so clearly seen in the "Hungry Forties" in England.

### ADMINISTRATION

The administration of CAFDA has been streamlined during the past year and to some extent decentralised. Under the direct authority of the Warden there is a bookkeeper and two typists, one of whom works for the Fund-Raising Committee in the Cape Town office. This forms the total purely administrative staff. Responsible to the Warden are the Matron, in charge of the nursery and kitchen, Mr Findling, in charge of the social work, the Shop Manager, in charge of the Non-Profit Provision Store and trading, and Mrs Wollheim, in charge of the Clothing Department. The Sheltered Employment has developed to such an extent that the Committee decided to appoint a manager who will also be responsible to the Warden. Each of these heads controls his own staff under the general supervision of the Warden.

The whole staff underwent mass X-Ray during October and no signs of infection were found.

**Fund Raising:** During the year it was decided to experiment with an office in Town. An additional typist was appointed, and Mr R. Spence, a retired business man, offered his services voluntarily in this connection. All subscriptions, donations and fund-raising efforts were centred in this office, and it has been decided to extend its period of operation for at least six months. A number of functions, concerts, competitions, etc., were arranged with some success, and the Cape Town Office was responsible for the setting up of the Fête Committee which held a successful function in the Maynardville grounds in December. It is expected that some £1,600 will be paid to the funds of the Association early in the new year, when all the accounts have been settled. From preliminary discussions it would appear that this Committee wishes to run a similar fête every year.

There has been a great deal of difficulty with regard to letters going astray. With the co-operation of the postal officials, who were most helpful, this difficulty has been reduced to a minimum, but an earnest request is made to the public not to send cash in unregistered envelopes, which have formed the bulk of the losses. All money transmitted to CAFDA should be by crossed Postal Order, Money Order or cheque, or else by registered post.

A new Christmas Card was designed early in the year, and some 10,000 were sold at a substantial profit.

### SOCIAL WORK

To cope with the problems which have been outlined above it has become more and more necessary for all of CAFDA's activities to begin to revolve to an ever greater extent around the Welfare Department. Degeneracy can only successfully be dealt with by long and arduous social work. Although the cause of the degeneracy must be sought in poverty and the consequences thereof, the mere alleviation of poverty does not immediately lead to an alleviation of its consequences. The social consequences of poverty are habits which have been formed over a long period of years and are not easily broken. An active attack upon these habits must be made by qualified and experienced social workers in the first instance to break down the old habits and to substitute for them habits which are better and more constructive.

Mr Findling's department has been extended by the addition of a recording clerk so that it is now possible for monthly statistical records to be made available and much of the information published below will be of extreme interest to sociologists. The figures quoted are truly staggering and represent a case load of over 400 per social worker as compared with the ideal recommended of 120 to 150. The public may rest assured that this enormous burden is not shuffled off by half-measures or by doing the work inefficiently or ineffectively. This department has justly earned a reputation for efficiency and effectiveness.

The following are the statistics submitted by Mr Findling:

## REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1951

## RETREAT CENTRE

## Cases Handled

	1950.		1951.	
Coloured	675		675	
African	130		152	
European	22	827	19	846
Cape Town Municipal Area			543	
Other Areas			303	846
Cases Carried Forward	282		402	
New Cases	545	827	444	846
Home Visits		983		735
Visits to Other Agencies				67
Interviews at Centre Office and Retreat Students' Clinic (recorded only)		1,727		2,571
Cases referred from Other Agencies	369		258	
Direct Approach	176	545	186	444
CAFDA to Other Agencies		276		107

## Analysis of Cases

Relief: Food Rations	184
Clothing and Blankets	119
Cash	28
Miscellaneous	10
	341
Flood Relief (Emergency Accommodation and Relief provided) Families	36
Old Age Pensions	36
Blind Pensions	
Disability Grants	5
Maintenance Grants	5
Employment (placed in)	47
Sheltered Employment (placed in)	20
Clinical Follow-up	7
Admission to Hospitals and Homes	4
Legal	7
Fire Cases (families assisted, not number of fires)	78
Housing: Disputes	38
Ejectments	67
Emergency Accommodation provided other than Flood	55
Ex-Volunteer Cases	17
Child Neglect	19
CAFDA Nursery Cases	95
Marital Cases	28
Repatriations	4
Juvenile Delinquency	1
Criminal Cases	14
Miscellaneous Cases	78
Blankets issued free	244
Free Fish issued (Stock Fish)	6,460
Free Soup issued (pints)	3,164
Christmas Food Parcels issued	250

WINDERMERE CENTRE		1950.		1951.	
Cases Handled		21/3/50 to 31/12/50.			
Coloured	.....	75	.....	160	.....
African	.....	145	.....	85	.....
European	.....	1	221	4	249
Cape Town Municipal Areas		.....	.....	244	.....
Other Areas		.....	.....	5	249
Cases carried forward		.....	.....	45	.....
New Cases		.....	.....	204	249
Home Visits		.....	210	.....	418
Interviews at Office (recorded only)		.....	401	.....	723
Cases referred from other Agencies		52	.....	84	.....
Direct Approach		169	221	120	204
CAFDA to Other Agencies		.....	59	.....	91

#### Analysis of Cases

Relief: Food Rations	.....	45	.....
Clothing and Blankets	.....	44	.....
Cash	.....	6	.....
Miscellaneous	.....	5	100
Old Age Pensions	.....	.....	33
Blind Pensions	.....	.....	3
Disability Grants	.....	.....	27
Maintenance Grants	.....	.....	15
Employment (placed in)	.....	.....	7
Sheltered Employment (placed in)	.....	.....	2
Admission to Hospitals and Homes	.....	.....	4
Legal	.....	.....	7
Fire Cases (families assisted, not number of fires)	.....	.....	56
Housing Disputes	.....	.....	14
Ejectments	.....	.....	3
Child Neglect Cases	.....	.....	5
Marital Cases	.....	.....	28
Repatriations	.....	.....	8
Ex-Volunteer Cases	.....	.....	3
Miscellaneous Cases	.....	.....	25
Christmas Sweet Parcels issued	.....	.....	120
Christmas Food Parcels issued	.....	.....	30

#### STAFF

Retreat Centre	.....	1 Social Worker in charge.
	.....	1 Case Worker.
	.....	1 Recorder.
Windermere Centre..	.....	1 Clerk/Case Worker.

#### Cases Handled

It will be noted that as in previous years the number of cases handled and the interviews given have increased. The number of 846 cases in Retreat and 249 cases handled in Windermere represents, if the average family is taken as five, approximately 5,475 individuals dealt with. It has not been possible during the year for the available staff

to do as many home visits as in previous years. The great number of interviews at the office do not leave much time for this. Only urgent visits could be done, and staff shortage is very keenly felt in this department. An additional office has been acquired during the year and it is now easier to cope with the great number of interviews.

The policy of this department, as fully outlined in last year's report, viz., that material relief must be accompanied by constructive social work, has been strictly adhered to and it is gratifying to note that very many families have been made independent of material relief and are using this department for advice in solving their everyday problems. This obviously does not mean that this department gives no more material relief; 341 families have been materially assisted from the Retreat Office and 100 families from our Windermere Office. This material assistance had to be given continuously sometimes for many months. In addition to this, approximately double the number have been assisted with food given as donations to CAFDA.

The closest co-operation between agencies has been maintained and CAFDA is represented on a number of organisations. Through this co-operation and the use of the Central Case Register overlapping in dealing with cases is avoided as far as possible.

#### **Analysis of Cases**

A full explanation of all aspects of the work was given in last year's report, and it is therefore unnecessary to repeat it. Only a few important matters will be mentioned.

**Flood Relief:** A very serious flood took place in Cook's Bush, Grassy Park, in October, 1951. We had to evacuate 36 families, consisting of 159 people, and accommodate them at CAFDA for two nights and three days.

**Legal:** Difficulties have been experienced during the year with legal cases and we had to refer a number to private lawyers acting pro amico. The Legal Aid Bureau unfortunately can only assist families whose earnings are under £16 per month: this figure bears no relation to the present-day cost of living for a family, and there is much hardship on certain large families whose income slightly exceeds that amount. The Bureau should reconsider this means test.

**Housing Difficulties and Ejectments:** Extreme difficulties have been experienced with housing during the last year. It appears that no Government Department or local Authority makes itself responsible for families who have been made homeless through no fault of their own. Hundreds of 'phone calls are received by this office asking to accommodate and help these families. We have come across families who have been living for fifteen years and more in one house, who have paid their rent regularly and have been ejected under the recent Amendment to the Rents Act. We have been able to accommodate some of these families in tents, and alternate accommodation has been found for others. Negotiations have taken place with the Municipality for an emergency scheme for this kind of case, but no proper solution has been found. It is impossible for a private organisation to cope with this problem which should, in my opinion, be the responsibility of the State Department of Social Welfare which is responsible for the Amendment causing the trouble.

**Nursery Cases:** Every application for admission to our nursery is thoroughly investigated by this department. Urgent cases are given preference. The need for nursery accommodation in this area is tre-



mendous and will get preference as soon as our envisaged rehabilitation scheme starts.

**The Public:** A word should be said about the relations between this department and the public. We receive continuous phone calls asking why certain families are not assisted and why others are. All cases are dealt with on their merits after full information has been received and investigations carried out. Much of this information is of a strictly confidential nature and can under no circumstances be divulged except to accredited agencies and officials. If we divulged confidential information we would immediately destroy the confidence which our clients have in our social workers. It is hoped that the public will realise that we have no option in this matter and that the divulging of information is impossible in very many cases.

### Cumulative Statistical Record

The record is kept by means of a Card Index System which registers information under 169 headings, the information being gleaned from case records by a routine process. Below are some interesting figures taken from the record:

Old Age Pensioners:	Coloured	207	
	African	58	
	European	5	270
Blind Pensioners:	Coloured	22	
	African	4	26
Disability Grants:	Coloured	82	
	African	8	
	European	2	92
Maintenance Grants:	Coloured	83	
	African	11	
	European	2	96
Sheltered Employment (Fit for):	Coloured	154	
	African	14	168
Ex-Volunteers:	Coloured	68	
	African	2	
	European	9	79
Juvenile Delinquents:	Coloured	7	
	African	1	8
Criminals:	Coloured	55	
	African	5	
	European	2	62
T.B.'s:	Coloured	110	
	African	14	
	European	2	126
Asthmatics:	Coloured	38	
	African	3	
	European	1	42
Epileptics:	Coloured	18	
	European	2	20

Cripples :	Coloured	....	....	....	....	68	
	African	....	....	....	....	5	
	European	....	....	....	....	1	74
Mental Cases :	Coloured	....	....	....	....	33	
	African	....	....	....	....	9	42
Miscellaneous :	Coloured	....	....	....	....	78	
	African	....	....	....	....	6	
	European	....	....	....	....	1	85
Alcoholics (Male) :	Coloured	....	....	....	....	37	
	African	....	....	....	....	4	41
Alcoholics (Female) :	Coloured	....	....	....	....	15	
	African	....	....	....	....	3	18
Mixed Marriages :	Coloured/African	....	....	....	....	3	
	African/Coloured	....	....	....	....	35	
	African/European	....	....	....	....	1	
	European/Coloured	....	....	....	....	6	45
Unskilled Workers :	Coloured	....	....	....	....	965	
	African	....	....	....	....	281	
	European	....	....	....	....	20	1,266
Operatives :	Coloured	....	....	....	....	29	
	African	....	....	....	....	6	
	European	....	....	....	....	1	36
Skilled Workers :	Coloured	....	....	....	....	43	
	African	....	....	....	....	3	
	European	....	....	....	....	2	48

From the new year it will be possible to present to the Executive Committee monthly records of work done and the compilation of the Annual Report has been greatly facilitated. This department now contains 1,600 files and the information gathered will be invaluable in planning intelligently for the future, especially for the rehabilitation scheme and the sheltered employment scheme. The information applies to the areas of Retreat and Grassy Park only.

The record, for instance, discloses that in our area alone there are 270 old age pensioners of whom we know. The problem of the old age pensioner of any race is well known and it is not necessary to enlarge on it in this report. Among the low-income groups old age becomes a tragedy. The Executive Committee will have to consider adequate facilities in our rehabilitation scheme for old people who have to live on their old age pension and have no other income. The index further discloses that we have 168 men who are fit for Sheltered Employment and who are at present living on disability grants or other assistance. Most of these men could be rehabilitated through sheltered employment.

The problem of the unskilled worker was fully discussed in the beginning of this report. The figure in this instance speaks for itself: Out of 1,350 workers, 1,266 are unskilled.

Finally, a word should be said about the great number of tuberculosis cases in these areas. Every organisation including CAFDA is

paying special attention to this problem and the tremendous effort put in by specialised tuberculosis organisations cannot be highly enough commended. The scarcity of hospital beds is very keenly felt, but on the other hand it is our experience that great difficulties are sometimes encountered in persuading tuberculosis patients to accept hospitalisation if a bed is available. In our opinion tuberculosis treatment should be made compulsory.

### SOCIAL SURVEY RESEARCH PROJECT

In connection with the proposed rehabilitation and rehousing scheme the Social Survey of Cape Town under the direction of Professor Edward Batson agreed to do a survey with regard to present housing conditions, incomes, degree of literacy, social and cultural background, migration, etc. The object of the research was to enable CAFDA to plan its rehabilitation scheme intelligently. The survey has been completed under the direction of a committee of which the Warden was the chairman, and it was financed by grants from the Union Education Department, Provincial Administration and the two Local Authorities. The Report should be ready for publication early in the new year, and should provide very interesting figures.

### LOCAL WELFARE BOARD

A Local Welfare Board for the Cape has been set up under the Welfare Organisations Act, and the Warden has been nominated as a member. The Board has not yet commenced operations.

### HEALTH SERVICES

The Retreat Students' and the Windermere Students' Clinics continue to provide excellent services, which have been expanded during the year to include patients from Cook's Bush. The closest collaboration exists and our social workers attend all their medical clinics. These clinics are of the greatest service to the community and extremely useful to ourselves.

### DAY NURSERIES

#### CAFDA—Retreat

	1950	1951
Total possible attendance	9,623	9,408
Actual attendance	8,930	8,710
Percentage of possible attendance	92.8	92.6
Average daily attendance	37.2	36.4
Number of days open	240	239
Age distribution (December):		
1 to 2 years	5	6
2 to 3 years	12	12
3 to 4 years	5	11
4 to 5 years	11	7
Over 5 years	8	5
	41	41
Number of meals served	26,790	26,130

#### Costs

	1949	1950	1951
Provisions	£260	£333	£442
Wages	374	325	350
Salary	198	295	413
Other	72	38	76
	£904	£991	£1,281

Paid by Parents .....	80	66
Dept. of Social Welfare Subsidy .....	379	327
	<u>£459</u>	<u>£393</u>
Cost per attendance .....	2/2½	2/11¼

**Note:** It will be noted that actual attendances as well as possible attendances have dropped. This has been due to the fact that the enrolment was restricted to allow of more personal attention to individual children. The costs of provisions and salaries have gone up considerably owing to the added cost of living, and the cost per attendance at the moment is almost 3/- as compared with 2/2½ last year. These added costs have been unavoidable, and reflect the higher cost of living. The smaller amounts paid by parents is a result of greater financial stringency owing to the same reasons. Pressure should be brought to bear upon the Department of Social Welfare to reconsider the subsidy.

### Equipment

The equipment of the nursery has been considerably improved by the installation of a large oil-burning range with 300-gallon hot-water cylinder and proper showers, making it possible for much more efficient cooking and for each child to be bathed daily. The children are enthusiastic about their showers and older ones are learning to bath themselves.

### Medical

The pro deo services of Dr. Cullis are available when required, and Dr. Suckling, the child specialist, every month. The Grassy Park Health Centre vaccinated or immunised all children requiring it during the year, and a skin specialist, Dr. Krafchik, also visited and advised.

The nursery was remarkably free from infection, having had only an epidemic of whooping cough. The average gain in weight for children attending throughout the year was 4½lb.

### Activities

There is a striking improvement in the behaviour and independence of the nursery children. More initiative is shown in their games and more spontaneity in the use of their toys. The usual nursery-school activities are continued, and the transition from shy, backward children to alert and helpful little people, in a small space of time, is an ever-increasing source of wonder. It is also an indication of how many more children would benefit if only we could take them.

During the summer we had frequent trips to the sea and one to town to see the Gardens, Natural History Museum and Picture Gallery.

Singing and story-telling are great favourites and dressing up to act in a real "Nativity Scene" at Christmas was also a great success.

### Mothers' Club

Nursery mothers and all interested women met together once each month. Talks were given on simple health rules, hygiene, infant feeding, simple menus for children, first-aid talks and demonstrations, sewing and cutting out.

We had two visiting lecturers, for which our thanks are due to the Red Cross Society and to the Barkly House Training College, whose representative also showed a most interesting nursery-school film.

### Watersprites—Goodwood

This nursery is an independent one run by its own local committee but assisted by CAFDA. Matron visited the nursery and gave advice four or five times during the year. Supplies of Vitamin Oil, cereals and meal were continued from CAFDA, which also arranged for milk supplies from the State Aided Milk and Butter Scheme throughout the year. Toys and sweets were provided at Christmas time. It is pleasing to note that the children are now gaining weight.

A tribute should be paid to Mrs. Waterwitch and her friends, as well as to the Committee governing this school, for their great initiative in starting, building and equipping this project. Their work is voluntary and they are performing a service of no mean order to well over 50 children in the most depressed areas of Goodwood. Very little help of any kind is being received by this nursery from local or central Government authorities.

### Nyanga Crèche

This crèche caters for 15 to 20 African children in the Divisional Council African sub-Economic Housing Scheme at Nyanga. During the year Mrs. Mears and her assistants were able to arrange more commodious accommodation through the good offices of the Cape Divisional Council and there is a Committee consisting of members of the National Council of Women controlling the crèche.

The usual subsidy of £5 per month paid by CAFDA is now paid to this small committee, which is in full charge.

### OLD CLOTHES DEPARTMENT

#### Sales:

	1949	1950	1951
CAFDA .....	£1,697	£2,420	£1,942
Windermere .....		459	321
	<u>£1,697</u>	<u>£2,879</u>	<u>£2,263</u>

#### Purchases:

Blankets .....	240	189	349
Mending .....	97	167	185
Other .....	—	191	285
	<u>£337</u>	<u>£547</u>	<u>£819</u>

The sales figures for old clothes show a considerable drop, due to the much smaller intake of secondhand clothing from the public. The public has not been less generous, but the smaller intake is due to the extremely high cost of new clothing, so that the public tend to use what clothes they have much longer than they did before. As a result of this CAFDA has been obliged to purchase much heavier quantities of blankets and clothing than usual.

Mention has been made of the generosity of the public in this connection and also of the voluntary work done in this department, which is very much appreciated. The service is of extreme value to the poor, as was pointed out in the earlier part of the Report. We appeal to members of the public who can spare clothing or who can sew and knit, to come to our aid. There is a constant legitimate demand for babies' and children's clothing as well as for men's clothing which cannot be improvised or made at home.

**SOUP KITCHEN**

	1949	1950	1951
Expenditure .....	£238	£287	£350
Receipts .....	117	114	108
Period operated: 17 weeks.			
Total issued: 8,160 gallons.			
Cost of preparation: 10.3d. per gallon.			

Owing to the longer duration of cold weather, the Soup Kitchen was continued somewhat longer than in previous years, with the result that expenditure rose. Receipts dropped again owing to the increased stringency of money and the larger number of free issues (over 3,000 pints) during 1951. The procedure followed was the same as last year.

Our thanks are due to the large number of voluntary workers who continued to help with the preparation of the soup, the supervision and the distribution both in Retreat and at Windermere, and the driving of the van. The fact that a voluntary worker drove the van brought the cost of preparing the soup down by more than 1d. per gallon.

**PROVISION STORE**

	1949	1950	1951
Total net purchases .....	£7,498	£9,862	£14,534
Wages .....	375	794	1,704
Transport and Sundries .....	—	66	636
	£7,873	£10,722	£16,874
Sales .....	7,941	11,052	16,485
Profit .....	£68	£330	—
Loss .....	—	—	£389

Staff: 1 Manager, 4 Assistants, 1 Driver, 2 Storemen.

It will be seen from the figures that there has been very great expansion in the sales and purchases of this department. This has not been due to any attempt on the part of CAFDA to expand the service but has been entirely due to unsolicited demand from the surrounding people. Large numbers of customers from the Military Road Sub-Economic settlement also patronise the shop and the Mobile Service has also shown considerable expansion.

In response to demand also certain new lines such as a range of Dutch medicines and a little stationery for school children have been added. The price policy has been followed and goods are sold at whole-sale cost plus only the wages and other immediate costs. The service is of the utmost value to the poor, especially in view of the sharp increases in the cost of living.

**TRANSPORT**

Mobile Shop .....	9,463 miles
Soup Distribution .....	2,604 miles
Welfare Work .....	18,410 miles
General (collection of clothes, etc.) .....	27,192 miles
	<hr/>
	57,669 miles

Since May, 1951, a more efficient system of recording the mileage and expenditure on transport has been instituted. The figures above are the figures for the year averaged out from the actual figures for

eight months. They give some idea of the enormous distances (twice around the world) which CAFDA vehicles were called upon to travel to perform their services. The strictest care has been exercised and as far as possible unnecessary trips have been eliminated. The figure would have been much higher had it not been for the kind services of Mr Jack Logan, Messrs. Lawson and Kirk and others who have undertaken to do part of the routine collections for us.

### SHELTERED EMPLOYMENT

	Expenditure			Income
	Wages	Materials	Total	
Cobbling	£187	£77	£264	£185
Weaving	564	83	647	221
Duplicating	33	18	51	72
Water Sales	80	75	155	201
Woodworking	100	66	166	121
			£1,283	£800

**Note:** In these figures, two-thirds of the duplicating clerk's wages have not been charged, since he spends that proportion of his time on the telephone exchange and other administrative duties.

#### Persons Employed

Cobbling	2
Weaving: Demonstrators	2
Weavers	4
Duplicating	1
Woodwork	4
Provision Store	1
Water Sellers	2

It will be noted that there is a very great expansion in the work of this department. The small pilot scheme which had been operated previously had demonstrated effectively that there are few physically handicapped persons who could not be taught some useful occupation and made independent of disability grants and charity. The effect upon the morale and behaviour of such persons of a few months of regular work and regular pay is startling, and for this reason the Executive Committee decided to take steps to expand the department. From the statistics supplied by Mr Findling it will be noted how great a need there is for sheltered employment amongst disabled persons. Accordingly the Executive Committee spent much time finding ways and means of expanding. Increased Government interest was also shown by a visit from Dr. Wright, the Director of Readjustment Services of the Department of Social Welfare, and also by an invitation from that Department to submit a Memorandum.

The interest of the Students' Rag Fund Allocation Committee was also gained and we record with gratitude a donation of £1,500 from this Fund and also a donation of £400 from Mr. E. W. McL. Thomas for the provision of buildings and equipment for the expansion of Sheltered Employment. A number of smaller donations has also been received for this project. The Chamber of Industries demonstrated its interest by appointing Mr. Marx to the Sub-Committee and the scheme has now developed into a vocational retraining scheme in which persons with disabilities are to be retrained in skills within their

physical capabilities and then migrated into the open labour market when trained

A new building is in the course of construction and should be finished early in 1952; Mr. T. G. Dawson has been appointed Supervisor of Sheltered Employment as from January 1952. In the interim a small woodwork department has been started, and it is hoped to expand the general scheme during 1952, to accommodate 25 to 50 trainees.

The Sheltered Employment Department necessarily runs at a loss because it cannot be expected that unfit and untrained labour should produce at a rate comparable with that of the open market. Further Government interest has been demonstrated by the negotiations with the Department of Labour which pays a subsidy of 65% of the basic wage and 50% of the cost of living of most of the employees in the Sheltered Employment Department.

### COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

The following activities took place during the whole or part of the year:

Activity:	Directed by:
Young Girls' Club ....	Mrs. P. Charles.
Boys' Club ....	The Warden.
Young Boys' Club ....	Rev. C. J. Skett.
Young Women's Club ....	Mesdames Hyde-Jones and Parkes.
Women's Mending Group ....	Mrs. Dumbleton.
Physical Training Group ....	Mr. J. Mathidus.
Boxing Group ....	Mr. C. Mogotlane.
Tuesday Devotions ....	Mrs. Dumbleton.
Ballet Club ....	University Ballet Students.
Sunday School ....	Mr. Rose.
Cinema ....	Mr. Vulliamy.
Penny Bank ....	Mr. A. I. Jacobs.
Mothers' Society ....	Matron.
Free Library ....	Cape Libraries Extension Service.

It will be noted that the Dramatic Society has ceased to function. This was caused by Mrs Solomon's leaving Cape Town and our inability to find anyone to replace her. One or two other activities have been added to the list and our thanks are due to the voluntary workers who are prepared to give up so much of their time to this work. There is little to add to the remarks in our last report, except to mention once again the difficulty in keeping all these groups operating satisfactorily and the need for starting new groups with no specific official in charge. The Executive Committee made attempts early in the year to find a suitable person, but funds were lacking for an adequate salary and there were no suitable applications. The importance of this work for leisure time occupation can hardly be over-stressed.

The usual parties were given at Christmas time, but the numbers had been somewhat restricted owing to the difficulties experienced the previous year. An innovation in 1951 was the suggestion of our Vice-Chairman, Mrs Ensor, that a party for old people should be given. Nearly 200 over the age of 65 attended the party, at which there were some refreshments, some singing and a present for each person. Some 250 Christmas Food parcels were distributed to the most



needy cases selected by our Welfare Department. The value of these parcels exceeded £400, and our thanks are due to the firms who donated most of the materials.

### NEW SPORTS GROUND

Slow progress with regard to the filling-in of the donated ground for a sports centre can be reported. It is exceedingly difficult to obtain suitable fill, and part of the ground has been used for the dumping of household refuse with the assistance of the Municipality of Cape Town. We have been notified of a grant of £250 for the development of this sports field by the National Advisory Council for Physical Education. Negotiations with the Council are in progress as to how this money may be most successfully used.

### FREE LIBRARY

A library which is operated by our staff is under the direction of the Cape Libraries Extension Service. A stock of 200 to 300 books is in hand which is renewed from month to month, and no charge of any kind is made. The following statistics will show the progress of the venture:

	1950	1951
Subscribers	332	352
Circulation of books	6,540	2,975
Average number of books per subscriber per annum	19.8	8.5

The statistics for the library are discouraging due to distance and unsuitable premises. The Cape Libraries Extension Service are contemplating the shutting down of the library, but have extended its life for one more year on condition that better accommodation is provided. This will be done.

### WINDERMERE

The Centre is continued as before, but it is hoped that big developments will take place in 1952. The Kensington Students' Clinic Committee has been given an allocation of money for the erection of premises to house their Clinic, the Crèche operated by the Union of Jewish Women, and suitable premises for CAFDA. Building operations started shortly before Christmas and it is hoped that the new Centre will be occupied early in 1952. This will entail the appointment of a qualified Social Worker and the development of community and other activities in this area. The Executive will have to consider ways and means of finding new financial resources to enable this development to take place.

A small sub-committee of local residents in Windermere are assisting our representative and are raising small sums of money from time to time.

### RELATIONS WITH PUBLIC BODIES

It is pleasing to report that the relationship between CAFDA and other social agencies continues to be excellent. Closer liaison than ever has been established by the appointment to some of the committees of delegates from CAFDA, and a sense of mutual regard and helpfulness has been developed. The thanks of CAFDA are due to the many agencies, both Government and private, with which CAFDA has had

dealings during the year, for their ever-ready helpfulness and for making this close liaison possible.

Our relations with the Local and Provincial Authorities continue to improve and we have had immediate consideration given to all matters placed before them. Representations have been made with regard to water supplies, canalisation, levels of vleis, street lighting, sanitation, bus services and many other matters with much success. The water services, for instance, at Windermere have been improved by the installation of four points, and of Vrygrond by the installation of two points, all of which are under the control of CAFDA and which now dispense large amounts of water every month at the cheapest possible rate. A main pipe with standards has been installed along the length of 4th Avenue, Windermere, making it possible for the Fire Brigade to check serious outbreaks of fire at an early stage.

Professor Brock of the Medical School of the University of Cape Town invited the Warden to deliver a series of lectures on social aspects affecting the practice of medicine in South Africa to the third year medical students. Four lectures were given and three visits arranged for groups of students to various black spots.

### CONCLUSION

This, our eighth Annual Report, with its record of what CAFDA has accomplished in so short a time, impresses on us again how much still remains to be done. It is also an impressive record of the kindness and sense of duty of the public which has made this work possible. It throws into sharp relief the necessity for deciding rapidly whether we prefer to rely on cheap labour which results in expensive social and medical services or to pay living wages which will in the long run cheapen these services. Let us hope fervently that the latter decision will prevail.

O. D. WOLLHEIM,

Warden.

## HON. TREASURER'S REPORT

As will be seen from the Revenue and Expenditure Account published in this Report, the financial affairs of CAFDA have now reached a position requiring very careful administration.

The Finance Committee meets at least once a month and every item of expenditure is carefully considered. The expansion and development of the work which CAFDA is doing constantly create new staff problems.

The building of a new Workshop for the Sheltered Employees has necessitated the appointment of a Supervisor. This means additional expenditure. Revenue is considerably lower than for 1950 and the year under review ended with an excess of Expenditure over Revenue. However, the proceeds of the Maynardville Fete do not appear in the Accounts and the amount realised will wipe out the greater part of the deficit.

Due primarily to the rising cost of living, donations in 1951 were for smaller amounts than those we received in 1950. On the other hand, our list of donors is increasing. A special effort is being made this year to increase revenue from donations. The Fund Raising Committee has prepared a plan of campaign and we look forward to big results. We are doing the maximum of relief and social work with the funds at our disposal.

There is a tremendous lot still to be done. Whether this can be achieved depends entirely on the generosity of the public. Because of the nature of the work CAFDA is doing we have no hesitation in again making a strong appeal for donations. Every pound received means some deserving case will be helped.

The Trading Account shows a loss of £388 17s. 7d. This is due to the increases in commodity prices during the year which were not all passed on to purchasers. It is to be regretted that this policy cannot be maintained and in future shop prices will have to be put up as and when the wholesalers' costs to us increase.

In conclusion we would like to express to the Honorary Auditors our sincere appreciation and thanks for their services and all the help and advice given by them.

IVO E. CHUNNETT.

## THE CAPE FLATS

## GENERAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
To ADMINISTRATION CHARGES				4,328	3	8
Bank Charges			14	4		
Electricity and Water	197	11	10			
Insurances	57	5	8			
Maintenance of Property (including Cleaning of Offices, etc.)	953	15	2			
Printing and Stationery	236	0	1			
Publicity	70	9	3			
Salaries	2,112	6	4			
Warden	994	0	0			
Book-keeper	543	10	0			
Clerk	198	2	4			
Typist	376	14	0			
Sanitary Services	57	4	0			
Staff Meals	122	8	6			
Sundry Expenses—As per Annexure "A"	131	0	1			
Superannuation Fund Contribution	151	7	1			
Telephones, Telegrams and Postages	153	19	9			
Unemployment Insurance	63	13	0			
Workmen's Compensation Insurance	20	8	7			
" INTEREST ON BOND				119	10	5
" NET LOSS ON NURSERY ACTIVITIES				1,033	18	7
Day Nursery—As per Annexure "B"	888	14	5			
Grassy Park Nursery	74	13	11			
Grant to Nyanga Nursery	60	0	0			
Watersprites Nursery	10	10	3			
" NET RELIEF AND SOCIAL WELFARE EXPENSES				4,230	9	3
Clubs	22	9	9			
Grants in Cash and Goods	682	0	7			
Sheltered Employment	548	11	5			
Soup Kitchen	242	10	3			
Transport	821	12	7			
Salaries	1,679	14	2			
Chief Social Worker	692	2	0			
Assistants	987	12	2			
Travelling Allowance	87	4	0			
Christmas Celebrations	146	6	6			
" FURNITURE AND EQUIPMENT PUR- CHASED DURING THE YEAR WRITTEN OFF				650	10	9
" AMOUNTS WRITTEN OFF				545	0	0
Buildings	120	0	0			
Vehicles	425	0	0			
" LOSS ON SHOP, MOBILE VAN AND CAFE—As per Annexure "C"				388	17	7
				£11,296	10	3

**DISTRESS ASSOCIATION****THE TWELVE MONTHS ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1951**

	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
By DONATIONS AND FUNCTIONS .....			6,920	5 10
Donations .....	5,747	0 11		
Bequests .....	450	0 0		
Street Collections .....	901	15 0		
Ideas and Functions .....	148	12 3		
	<u>7,247</u>	<u>8 2</u>		
Less: Expenses Cape Town Office .....	327	2 4		
„ GRANTS .....			350	0 0
Corporation of the City of Cape Town .....	250	0 0		
Divisional Council of the Cape .....	100	0 0		
„ NET PROCEEDS FROM COMMUNITY CENTRE'S ACTIVITIES .....			1,685	15 10
Sale of Old Clothes, Blankets, Merchandise, etc. ....	1,610	0 7		
Cinema .....	75	15 3		
„ INTEREST .....				4 6
„ SUNDRY REVENUE .....			14	12 7
„ REFUND FROM MOTHERS' SOCIETY, GRASSY PARK .....			86	3 2
„ EXCESS OF EXPENDITURE OVER INCOME FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1951 .....			<u>2,239</u>	<u>8 4</u>

We report that to the best of our knowledge and belief, and according to the information supplied to us, the above Account reflects a true statement of the Revenue and Expenditure for the twelve months ended 31st December, 1951.

GURNEY, NOTCUTT & FISHER,  
Auditors.

Cape Town,  
19th February, 1952.

## THE CAPE FLATS BALANCE SHEET

	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			6,162	5 6
<b>SUNDRY CREDITORS</b>			3,733	6 6
Trade and Other Creditors	2,997	3 4		
University of Cape Town:				
Amount held in Trust	736	3 2		
<b>JOHANNESBURG BUILDING SOCIETY</b>			2,428	19 0
(Loan Account secured by First Mortgage Bond over Land and Buildings as per Contra)				
<b>DEVELOPMENT FUND</b>			992	7 11
<b>REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT</b>			6,083	13 3
Balance, 1st January, 1951			7,409	4 9
Add: Grant from University of Cape Town:				
Amount utilised to date			763	16 10
<b>AMOUNT TRANSFERRED FROM DEVELOP- MENT FUND</b>			150	0 0
			8,323	1 7
<b>Less: EXCESS OF EXPENDITURE OVER INCOME FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1951</b>			2,239	8 4

£13,238 6 8

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 above Balance Sheet is properly drawn up so as to exhibit a true and

**DISTRESS ASSOCIATION**

31st DECEMBER, 1951

	ASSETS	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
CASH					886	0	9
On Hand		81	2	6			
At Bank		539	0	8			
On Savings Account with Johannesburg Building Society		265	17	7			
SUNDRY DEBTORS					564	10	2
Shop Debtors and Sundries		455	17	6			
Staff Loan Accounts		108	12	8			
STOCKS ON HAND—As per Managerial Certificate					1,092	14	2
Provisions		936	5	9			
Clothing		15	0	0			
Sundries		34	14	8			
Sheltered Employment		106	13	9			
DEVELOPMENT FUND INVESTMENT (Including Accrued Interest) Building Society Savings Bank Account					992	7	11
FURNITURE AND EQUIPMENT At Cost, less amounts written off					1	0	0
MOTOR VEHICLES At Cost, less Depreciation As valued by the Management		1,120	0	0	1,190	0	0
As valued by the Management		70	0	0			
LAND AND BUILDINGS					8,324	6	2
Property on Prince George's Drive: At Cost, less Depreciation (Mortgaged as per Contra)		7,549	17	10			
New Sheltered Employment Building: Cost of work completed to date		763	16	10			
Land at Grassy Park: At Cost		10	11	6			
EXPENDITURE IN ADVANCE					187	7	6
					£13,238	6	8

correct 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, 1951.

GURNEY, NOTCUTT & FISHER,

Cape Town, 19th February, 1952.

Auditors.

**THE CAPE FLATS DISTRESS ASSOCIATION****ANNEXURE "A"—SUNDRY EXPENSES**

	£	s.	d.
Expenses of Annual General Meeting	13	15	2
Staff Advertising	57	7	6
Subscriptions	4	9	0
Sundries	6	15	11
Christmas Bonus to Staff	31	0	0
Cheque Books	3	18	0
Government Gazette	2	0	0
Legal Expenses	11	14	6
	£131	0	1

## ANNEXURE "B"

## THE CAPE FLATS DISTRESS

## REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
To SALARY AND WAGES				747	19	3
Matron	413	0	0			
Assistants	334	19	3			
" PROVISIONS AND NURSERY REQUISITES				435	15	2
" DIESEL OIL				63	13	6
" REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE				18	14	3
" MEDICINES				6	17	9
				<u>£1,272</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>11</u>

## THE CAPE FLATS

## SHOP, MOBILE VAN AND CAFE TRADING AND PROFIT AND

	£	s.	d.
To STOCKS ON HAND 1st JANUARY, 1951	1,098	9	9
" PURCHASES	14,371	16	3
	<u>15,470</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>0</u>
Less: STOCKS ON HAND 31st DECEMBER, 1951	936	5	9
	<u>14,534</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>3</u>
" GROSS PROFIT, Carried Down	1,945	15	4
	<u>£16,479</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>7</u>
To WAGES	1,703	16	3
" REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE	12	18	9
" TRANSPORT	192	10	9
" PAPER BAGS	186	7	8
" PRINTING AND STATIONERY	77	13	8
" DISCOUNT ALLOWED	55	3	8
" INSURANCE	31	3	5
" GENERAL EXPENSES	3	3	6
" RAILAGE	3	1	11
" BANK CHARGES	3	11	5
" CHRISTMAS CLUB EXPENSES	5	15	0
" EQUIPMENT PURCHASED DURING YEAR	64	16	4
	<u>£2,340</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>4</u>



## ASSOCIATION—DAY NURSERY

THE TWELVE MONTHS ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1951

	£	s.	d.
By FEES .....	57	13	9
„ SUBSIDY FROM THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPT. ....	326	11	9
„ EXCESS OF EXPENDITURE OVER REVENUE for the twelve months ended 31st December, 1951 ....	888	14	5
	<hr/>		
	£1,272	19	11

## DISTRESS ASSOCIATION

LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1950

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
By SALES .....				16,390	1	0
„ MILK SALES .....	1,607	4	11			
Less: PURCHASES .....	1,517	10	4			
	<hr/>			89	14	7
				£16,479	15	7
By GROSS PROFIT, brought down .....				1,945	15	4
„ DISCOUNT RECEIVED .....				5	9	5
„ NET LOSS, carried to GENERAL REVENUE & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT .....				388	17	7
				<hr/>		
				£2,340	2	4

# CAFDA

(Cape Flats Distress Association)

IS A GENERAL WELFARE AGENCY AND COMMUNITY CENTRE;

OPERATES IN THE RETREAT/GRASSY PARK AND WINDERMERE 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 either to

The Warden, CAFDA, Prince George Drive, Retreat,

or

CAFDA Town Office, 30 Darling Street (P.O. Box 4313), Cape Town.

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*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.*



Within the last twenty years 150,000 Coloured and over 50,000 African people have come to the Cape Peninsula to provide labour for OUR factories.

They came from plain and simple or even primitive surroundings to this complicated and bustling city life.

Little or nothing has been done to house or help these particular people to make the change in this short time.

Most of them earn only half of what it costs them to live.

**THIS REPORT TELLS YOU HOW CAFDA TRIES TO  
COPE WITH THIS PROBLEM.**

**“Cape Town’s Conscience”**

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