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THE NON-EUROPEANS' NATIONAL WEEKLY

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Poorly Attended Conference

C.P.N.U. URGES SEGREGATION

At a conference of the "Coloured People's National Union" progressive organisations, committed to a fight for democratic rights and the emancipation of all non-whites from their disabilities and servitude, were adversely assessed by the apologists of the United Party.

The conference advocated support, by Non-Europeans, of the Government's policy of segregation, and urged the amendment of the Urban Areas Act, so that "full, compulsory segregation from the Africans" could be effected in the Free State. The C.P.N.U. was formed to publicise the work of the C.A.C. the secretary revealed, and the official organ, "Coloured Opinion," would be used for that purpose.

RACIALISM ADVOCATED
The inaugural conference of the Coloured People's National Union was opened by the president, Mr. George Golding (commonly referred to as Gorman no. 2), who, in his address, stated that the Government should realize that the C.A.C. was representative of the desires and opinions of the Coloured community.

LETTERS OF THANKS
The president, Mr. Lavita, a new C.A.C. man, proposed a motion of thanks to the Provincial Administration and Dr. de Vos Marais, for making "compulsory segregation" possible for coloureds.

A special vote of thanks proposed was to the United Party for having "safeguarded" the rights of the Coloured people.

On the first day of the conference was attended by 21 delegates from 11 branches, and a few other representatives, and a fairly large crowd, which lined up with the street, had dwindled on the second day to some stragglers. C.A.C. men were there, and everywhere, praising themselves (by implication) for the work done by the C.A.C.



UNREPRESENTATIVE OF COLOURED
This photograph of the recent C.P.N.U. conference shows the gathering representative of those Coloured people whose aim it is to boost the C.A.C.

and so we represent... as simple folk, shared that these cries had roused some Coloured people against the Europeans, and also against some of their fellow coloured men.

URBAN AREAS ACT
One of the items on the Agenda for the conference was the Urban Areas Act.

FLOOD DAMAGE

Dr. J. W. Pieterse, president of the Eerste River and Thervel Welfare Association, told our representative, "The flooding has developed from an acute to a chronic condition. We have appealed to the Rehabilitation Authorities, but they have not the necessary machinery at their disposal. Dependents of men on active service are among the worst sufferers."

"We also give relief to a large number of Europeans who are suffering more than the Coloured people. Action is needed, not a Commission.

Many of the people are becoming hysterical. Something must be done at once. People cannot have their cherished homes raised by repeated flooding."

The Free State, where Non-Europeans already have a hard time, would be a hard time for the coloureds from the Africans may be brought about.

DRUNKENNESS
Drunkenness amongst the non-Europeans was the subject of a memorandum delivered by Mr. F. Pieterse.

The coloured section of the people were responsible, he said, for 97 per cent of the total convictions for drunkenness.

The root of the evil, he claimed, could be traced to liquor from off-shore departments for off-consumption.

Mr. Pieterse said that the public in towns and villages, moved about in fear of being molested because of the drunken orgies and brawls and murders that went on.

Licensing boards should bring about more restrictions, and coloureds should be made members of these boards.

He advocated social farms for drunk soldiers, because short periods in jail did no good to weak-willed persons.

Simla Proposals

NO INDEPENDENCE FOR INDIA

THAT the Viceroy's Council—apart from the Viceroy and the Commander-in-Chief—should be composed mainly of Indians, is the substance of the proposals contained in the British White Paper on policy in India, Lord Wavel in a broadcast to the Indian people had described the proposals as making "a considerable stride forward" towards self-government—but the Indians themselves are cautious of the proposals.

The Simla conference aimed at the co-operation of Indian leaders in the central and provincial administration in India, on the basis of the present constitution. If the Indian leaders accept the proposals contained in the White Paper, the responsibility for the administration of domestic affairs in India will, by a large extent, be shifted to the Indians themselves—subject to the approval of the British Government.

Co-operation on the basis of the present constitution does not mean independence or self-government for India.

Even if the Indians change the form of the structure of the government in the future, the constitution ensures that the British Government shall retain a controlling interest in the administration of India.

RESERVE POWERS
The Viceroy retains his reserve powers which the British Government may exercise if necessary.

It was, however, on the question of the reserve powers which included a "veto" right, that a "stand-back" was reached, and the Crispin mission to India abandoned in 1942.

The Indian leaders themselves probably see in the present proposals a means to furthering the development of Indian capital but they realize that the growth of a class of Indian financiers and industrialists will be limited by the extent to which British vested interests in India are threatened.

To what extent the Indian peasants and workers will be better off than they are at present is a matter for speculation, and whether the Indian leaders themselves will obtain political independence in the near future is uncertain.



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