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Cover Picture

The tower of the Mariaman Temple,
Pietermaritzburg.
(Photograph: R.F. Haswell)

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Editorial

The Index of the previous ten volumes published in *Natalia* 11 revealed that a theme conspicuous by its absence was the history of the Indian community and its contribution to the tapestry of Natal life.

1985 marks the one hundred and twenty-fifth anniversary of the arrival of the first indentured Indian labourers and thus provides a most suitable occasion to make good a regrettable deficiency in the scope of material published in *Natalia*. Accordingly we reproduce a letter by a literate indentured Indian supplied by Professor Surendra Bhana of the University of Durban-Westville, to whom we are also indebted for its editorial introductory note. Accompanying it is our first venture into oral history, the reminiscences of Mr Sam Chetty of Pietermaritzburg, recorded and edited by Mr Moray Comrie of the *Natalia* Editorial Committee.

Not inappropriately, it is other members of the staff of the Department of History of the University of Durban-Westville whom we have to thank for further contributions on the theme of Indians in Natal: Dr Joy Brain for an unusual photographic essay on Indian immigration to and settlement in Natal (and we acknowledge the assistance of her husband, Dr Peter Brain, in the reproduction of the photographs), and Ms Uma Mesthrie for a substantial article on the South African assisted emigration scheme of 1927. Dr Rajend Mesthrie reports on his study of the evolution of distinct South African varieties of the Indian languages while Mr Robert Haswell of the University of Natal completes this part of *Natalia* 15 with a piece on the Indian contribution to the Pietermaritzburg townscape.

1985 was also the one hundred and twenty-fifth anniversary of the inauguration of the railway age in South Africa with the running of the first train from Durban to the Point, an event commemorated by the Railway Society of Southern Africa with an appropriate (if not precisely accurate) historical re-enactment by a special train with guests in a variety of nineteenth century costumes, hauled by the second oldest steam engine in the land. Mr Bruno Martin, also of the University of Natal, and a railway enthusiast, has contributed a substantial Note on these events.

Three years ago *Natalia* recorded the centenary of the establishment of the Mariannahill monastery. We are now pleased to be able to carry an illustrated article on the work of its architect, Brother Nivard Streicher, both at Mariannahill and at various daughter houses. For this our thanks go to the well known Durban architect, Mr Robert Brusse, himself responsible for the recent splendid restoration of St Joseph's cathedral church at Mariannahill.

For the rest, we are glad to be able to publish another offering by one of our most indefatigable contributors, Dr Peter Spiller of the School of Law at the University of Natal, Durban, this time on the controversy that erupted between the architects and their clients, the Catholic Church, over the

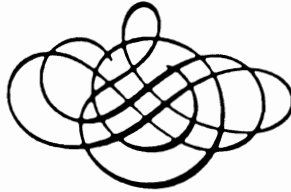
construction of Durban's Emmanuel Cathedral. The adjective 'indefatigable' is also an appropriate one to apply to Dr Joy Brain who has supplied us with an interesting article in an unusual field — health and disease in colonial Natal.

Travellers on the national road through the Natal midlands pass through the farm *Bosch Hoek*. We are grateful to Mrs Maryna Fraser, archivist of the Barlow Rand group, for tracing its history for us.

In our Book Review section we publish a short article by Professor Michael Chapman, co-editor of the facsimile reprint of *Voorslag* 1 - 3, on Roy Campbell and his role in the production of that iconoclastic journal.

To all our contributors, to the writers of obituaries, and to the members of the Editorial Committee who have attended many meetings, made many enquiries in search of material and done much proof-reading, my grateful thanks. Without so much talent and goodwill, freely given, there could be no *Natalia*. May the pleasure and profit of our readers be their reward.

T.B. FROST



Select List of Recent Natal Publications

- BROUGH, P.J. *and* Bromley, K.A. An experimental land-cover map of the Natal Midlands using landsat imagery. Pietermaritzburg, Natal Town and Regional Planning Commission, 1984.
- COASTAL zone management; proceedings of a seminar. Pietermaritzburg, Natal Town and Regional Planning Commission, 1984.
- GROBBELAAR, J.A. The population of Natal/KwaZulu 1904-2010. Pietermaritzburg, Natal Town and Regional Planning Commission, 1985.
- HOUSING for the Indian community in Pietermaritzburg City. Proceedings of a Symposium. Pietermaritzburg, Natal Town and Regional Planning Commission, 1984.
- JUUL, Natalie, *Editor*. Open testimony; the story of *The Natal Witness*, South Africa's oldest newspaper. Pietermaritzburg, *The Natal Witness*, 1984.
- MEER, Fatima, *Editor*. Factory and family; the divided lives of South Africa's women workers. Durban, Institute for Black Research, 1984.
- MEIJER, Sjoerd. Next six exits; a camera essay. Durban, Durban Arts Association, 1985.
- MIRRILEES, R.I. Report on Natal/KwaZulu regional input-output table. Pietermaritzburg, Natal Town and Regional Planning Commission, 1985.
- MORRAN, Elda Susan. Faith for the fearful? An investigation into new churches in the greater Durban area. Durban, University of Natal, 1984.
- OOSTHUIZEN, A.J. The application of the Sea-Shore Act and related legislation on the Natal Coast. Pietermaritzburg, Natal Town and Regional Planning Commission, 1985.
- RIDGE WOMEN'S INSTITUTE. Annals of the Scottsville area. Pietermaritzburg, The Institute, 1984.
- STANWIX, John. A study of the Natal regional economy. Pietermaritzburg, Natal Town and Regional Planning Commission, 1985.
- TROTTER, G.J. A survey of educational facilities and social rates of return to education in the Durban metropolitan region. Durban, University of Natal, 1984.

Compiled by JUNE FARRER

Register of Research on Natal

This list has been compiled from individual submissions from subscribers to *Natalia* and from the Natal Archives. Persons knowing of current research work that has not been listed are asked to furnish information for inclusion in the next issue. A slip is provided for this purpose.

- BARNES, P.M.
Periodicity of sea-gales and cyclones in Natal's weather over the last few centuries
- BELL, B.
Clément Sénèque
- BONNER, P.L.
American Board Mission
- BURTON-CLARK, J.
Weenen County
- CHETTY, V.R.
Employment of Indians by the Durban Corporation
- CHRISTISON, G.
Gold and Christison families
- DOMINY, G.A.
The application of archival theories in a museum documentation system: the case of the Methley Family Papers, Howick Museum
- DROOGLEEVER, R.W.
History of Natal Police, 1874-1913
- DUBE, S.W.D.
Amakholwa communities
- DUCKWORTH, J.G.
St Mary's Catholic Church, Pietermaritzburg
- DUMINY, L.
Royal and Marine Hotels, Durban
- ELLIS, B.
Natal environment
- ERLMANN, V.
African urban performance
- ESPREY, C.
Fishing, Natal
- ETHERINGTON, N.
Criminal court cases
- FORSYTH, P.
Natal native education, 1893-1910
- FRANCIS, M.
Transport in Pietermaritzburg

GASA, E.D.

J.L. Dube, his *Ilanga Lase Natal* and the administration of Blacks in Natal, 1903-1910

GORDON, Dr R.E.

1820 Settler Ulyate family origins and genealogical statistics

GRACE, Dr A.

Veterinary history in the Biggarsberg and Buffalo regions

GRANT, Mr & Mrs P.

Boer Field Hospital "Thornley" October 1899

GROVE, R.

Conservation

GUNNER, E.

Isaiah Shembe

HALE, Dr F.

History of Norwegian immigrants and missionaries in Southern Africa, 1844-1948

Norwegian missionary correspondence from Natal, Zululand, and Swaziland, 1844-1930s

HASSELHORN, F. and I.

Hermannsburg Mission

HOTCHKISS, S.E.

Shipwrecks off the coast of Natal, particularly 1850-1900

HUNTLEY, P.

Theophilus Shepstone's relations with Lieutenant Governor Scott

JENKINS, A.N.M.

William Butler

JEWELL, C.J.

History of Durban City Police

KHAN, U.

Indentured labour

LABUSCHAGNE, J.A.

Urban economics, Pietermaritzburg

LA HAUSSE, P.

African women and the informal sector in rural Natal, 1900 to present

LAMBERT, J.

Social and economic changes in black Natal, 1888-1905

LEUSCHKE, A.

German settlement in Natal

LEVIN, M.

Benjamin Pine

LÖTTER, W.

'n Geskiedenis van die Nederduitse Gereformeerde gemeente Vryheid — die eerste 50 jaar, 1886-1936

McCRACKEN, D.

Botanical research and exploitation in Colonial Natal

McFADDEN, P.

Agriculture in the Biggarsberg and Buffalo regions

MARTIN, B.

Natal railways

MATHEWS, J.

Lord Chelmsford as General in Southern Africa, 1878-1879

- MEINTJES, S.M.
Social and economic history of Edendale
- MESTHRIE, U.
The agents of India
- MINNAAR, A. de V.
Regional history of Zululand
- MORPHEW, J.
Centenary of *Furth* Farm
- MOSTERT, H.G.
The Afrikaners as viewed by *The Natal Mercury* during the Second Anglo-Boer War period
- NICHOLLS, B.M.
Zululand and the Colensos
- NUTTALL, T.A.
A social and political history of black people in Durban in the 1940s
- PARLE, J.
Impact of the economic depression of the 1860s on Maritzburg
- PERRY, J.E.
Natal estuaries
- PETÉ, S.A.
Natal prisons
- PILLAY, M.S.
Coal mining, Dundee
- POSEL, R.
Durban history
- RAYBOULD, J.S.
Pietermaritzburg, 1906-1914
- SCHÜTTE, H.
German missions
- SCOTT, D.
Bayhead area, Durban
- SPENCER, S.P.M.
Natal settlers 1824-1857
- SPILLER, P.
Natal Supreme Court
- STRACHAN, A.
Voortrekker laers
- STREICHER, H.
Vryheidsdeputasie
- SWANEPOEL, A.C.
J.C. Boshof
- TURNBULL, M.
Durban Art Gallery
- VAN DIJK, B.D.E.
Horne family
- WARHURST, P.R.
Natal and the Far Interior

Notes on Contributors

JOY BRAIN, formerly librarian at the Edgewood College of Education, lectures in History at the University of Durban-Westville.

ROBERT BRUSSE is a Durban architect. He has recently been responsible for the restoration of St Joseph's Cathedral at Mariannhill and the re-erection of St Saviour's at Randjesfontein, Halfway House.

MARYNA FRASER, also a former librarian, is archivist for the Barlow Rand group of companies.

ROBERT HASWELL, a regular contributor to *Natalia*, lectures in Geography at the University of Natal in Pietermaritzburg. He is also a Pietermaritzburg City Councillor.

UMA MESTHRIE is a graduate of the University of Durban-Westville where she now lectures in the Department of History.

PETER SPILLER, another regular contributor to *Natalia*, is Senior Lecturer in the Department of Public Law at the University of Natal in Durban.

T.B. FROST