

NATAL MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION.

RECORD OF MEETING OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE APPOINTED TO
CONSIDER THE QUESTION OF ASIATIC PENETRATION IN URBAN
AREAS, HELD IN THE CITY HALL, DURBAN, on THURSDAY,
30th. JUNE, 1938, at 3.30 p.m.

Present.

Cr. J. W. Sinclair (President, in chair)
Cr. H. H. Kemp (Durban)
Cr. F. J. Lewis (Pietermaritzburg)
Cr. C. W. Mackay (Dundee, and
Mr. J. H. Hardy, Acting Secretary.

ASIATIC PENETRATION QUESTION.

A resume of the replies received from the various Boroughs in regard to the extent to which their areas are affected having been circulated, consideration was given to the explanatory plans submitted.

Cr. Kemp gave an outline of the attitude taken up by the Association and the steps taken in regard to Asiatic Penetration, its representations culminating in the so called Gentlemen's Agreement at the instance of the Minister Mr. J. H. Hofmeyr, whereby the Natal Indian Congress was to use its influence in curtailing the apparent serious Asiatic Penetration in recognised European Areas. He felt that the steps so far taken and the Gentlemen's Agreement had been unsuccessful and that some action of a definite nature to meet the present unsatisfactory position and prevent further encroachment in Urban Areas was imperative and submitted the desirability of the question being placed before Conference to ascertain if Members are desirous of application being made to the Government for powers to enable Local Authorities to set aside particular areas for the occupation of Europeans only.

Cr. F. J. Lewis explained the position that had arisen in Pietermaritzburg and submitted his Council's desire that authority be sought to set aside particular areas for the different sections of the community, and at the same time leaving neutral zones open to all sections. In regard to this latter point the other Members felt that it was inadvisable to provide areas where all sections would be mixed up.

In the resulting discussion all Members agreed that the position was serious and definite action was called for without delay, Cr. Mackay in supporting the suggestion put forward by Cr. Kemp, expressed the view that powers should at the same time be obtained to expropriate in cases where property in a Proclaimed European Area is owned by Indians.

It was agreed that rather than report to the Executive Committee the matter should be left with Cr. Kemp to draw up a few points outlining the position of the Committee's opinion, Crs. Lewis and Mackay to speak to the points brought forward by them.
