

INDIAN OPINION

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NOTES AND NEWS

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Indian Relief Workers

D R. F. G. Rochfort-Wade writing in the *Mercury* draws the attention of its readers to the announcement that relief workers may get 10s. instead of 8s. a day. "But there is no mention of Indian relief workers," he says, who get 2s. 6d. a day (out of which personal tax, rates, etc., must be provided), a total of 12s. 6d. a week for a five day week's work, if the weather is fine. On wet days, when they cannot work, they get no pay. How and where can a man with a family or even a single man live on 12s. 6d. a week? The idea is revolting to one's sense of justice and would be ridiculous if it were not so sad. We hear—and rightly—a great deal about the clearance of urban slums; but on the part of Durban's Corporation such declarations are hypocrisy and cant, as long as it pays 2s. 6. a day as a "living wage" to a man with wife and family, for thereby the Corporation is creating slums of the worst kind. I would like to see those who vote such a wage compelled to live on it for a month. It is high time that such atrocities should be exposed to the light of publicity. I have sufficient confidence in the Durban Europeans to believe that if they knew of the awful conditions in which Indian relief workers have to exist they would speedily remedy them.

We wonder what justification our City Councillors have for this sad state of affairs? The allegations are serious and it is up to them to investigate and put matters right and not 'create slums' in this model City of Durban.

Race Arrogance In India

The Leader (Allahabad) in commenting on the open letter to Lord Willingdon by Sir Chimanlal Setalvad, says:—
In his open letter to Lord Willingdon, with particular reference to the reported invitation of the Bombay Byculla Club to his Excellency the Viceroy to dinner in April this year, Sir Chimanlal Setalvad does not object to any community having its own club and confining its membership to that particular community. But a member of the Byculla, Yacht or Bombay Club who may be a High Court Judge or a member of the Executive Council can-

not even invite his Indian brother judge or member as his guest to any of these clubs. Sir Chimanlal proceeds: "If your Excellency has accepted the invitation, of the Byculla Club to dinner, you will find that the Indian members of your Executive Council who, I expect will be in Bombay to receive the new Viceroy, will have no place at the table to hear your Excellency give an account of your stewardship." Sir Chimanlal feels that representatives of the Crown should "openly dissociate themselves from this reprehensible practice," and suggests to Lord Willingdon to decline the hospitality of the Byculla Club. The point is "race arrogance" and not that Indians will, "feel themselves exalted by being allowed within the precincts of these clubs." The European community in India has yet much of its narrowness to shake off and to learn a little more of broadmindedness.

England's Inertia

We cull the following from the interesting long letter appearing in the *Natal Advertiser* by Mr. J. A. Pourrat who in the course of it points out why England is now so much interested in the Italo-Abyssinia war. He states: There has been of late too much talk about the League of Nations and Covenant in the British Press—the more so because since the Treaty of Versailles, England has had the most wavering and inconsistent foreign policy it is possible to imagine, as has been pointed out by many in England, and even by Mr. Winston Churchill. Germany has been allowed to rearm on land, in the air, and now on the sea. In reply to this, England has steadfastly propounded a policy of *ultra inertia*. China a member of the League, is being slowly, but surely conquered by Japan, without so much as a protest on the part of England, although America would have given full support to any action on the part of the League at that time. Now suddenly England wakes up and evinces strong feelings about the League and Abyssinia, for the simple reason that some one is walking too near her fence, and that the principles of the League fit in perfectly with her interests in the Mediterranean. England therefore ex-

pects every other nation to follow her lead, even to the extent of plunging Europe into chaos. I do not mean that she wants war; but a certain section of the British public is so short-sighted that it cannot see that enforcing sanctions too far is only courting disaster. If a fire breaks out in one spot it is a sound principle to extinguish it by all means and not to spread it. In all this, England must remain what she has always been, a practical nation—a nation in whose history the strong hand of business has played too large a part to let us believe now that her aims are purely idealistic and entirely free from a certain amount of egoism. But should we blame or insult England for that? Certainly not. Diplomacy is after all nothing else but the efforts of nations to preserve their own interests in relation with each other, and must always be tinged with egoism and selfish motives.

Mr. S. B. Mehd Still In Hospital

Mr. S. B. Mehd who had a very serious motor accident on the Johannesburg-Pretoria road when he was going with Messrs K. Jinwala and K. J. Tavanla to collect funds to buy the Parsee airmen Messrs Dalal and Pochkhanawala a new aeroplane is now over two months in the Johannesburg hospital under the treatment of Dr. MacGregor the well-known surgeon and lecturer at the Witwatersrand Medical College. Mr. Mehd is making satisfactory progress. It will be another four weeks at least before he could be released from the hospital. Mr. Mehd wishes us once again to convey his thanks to the many friends both Indians and Europeans who have been paying him constant visits which have been a great consolation to him in his present trying time; Mr. Mehd also wishes us to convey his sincere thanks to the various friends who have very kindly sent messages of good wishes which in his present state he is unable to acknowledge personally. We wish Mr. Mehd a speedy recovery.

Indian Opinion

FRIDAY, JANUARY 3RD, 1936

Our Future

IN our last week's issue we reproduced from *The Hindustan Times* an interesting article by Mr. H. S. L. Polak on "Indians Overseas And Their Future" wherein he stressed the need for India to be more watchful towards the conditions of Indians abroad. In view of the fact that the India Office has shirked its responsibility of safeguarding the rights and interests of Indians residing in the self-governing Colonies Indian nationals naturally look to their Motherland for help. But that help can never be given effectively so long as India is not allowed to think for herself and to do as she wills. We fully appreciate the obstacles in the way of India in helping her people abroad. What we can expect and what should have actually been the case was a firmer hand on the part of the Government of India in dealing with the India Office and the respective Colonies in regard to the question of the treatment of their Indian population. But unfortunately the Government has shown great weakness and being foreign has not fully appreciated nor cared for the susceptibilities of its Indian nationals. We find as a result thereof in Kenya, Zanzibar and South Africa Indians are gradually seriously losing ground in respect of their rights and interests.

We firmly believe that our future in South Africa depends much on our own strength. "God helps those who help themselves" is a very apt saying and it has a word of meaning. Unless we help ourselves we can expect help neither from India nor from elsewhere.

To enable to help ourselves it is absolutely essential that we should have certain qualities in us. In the circumstances we are placed in South Africa our worst enemy is disunity. Disunity seems to have become a chronic disease in our community during recent years the ultimate result of which cannot but be its downfall and no one

can save it. The first thing therefore, towards which our attention needs to be focussed above all else is unity and harmony, first among the workers and then among the community as a whole. Secondly the character of the workers must be unquestionable. That might not be necessary if we were to fight our battle with brute force. But the only weapon we have is soul-force and unless there is strength of character that force will have no effect. Thirdly there must be patriotism, sincerity, integrity and a spirit of self-sacrifice in the community. Self-respect, national honour and such like terms are meaningless and sound hypocritical unless they form part of ourselves and are perceived in our every action. There should be a spirit of helping one another and of uplifting every section of our community and not a spirit of taking undue advantage of our brethren for our own gain. This rule should be observed in social, commercial and all other matters. Each one of us should ask unto himself whether these qualities are in him. If these qualities were in us we would not be taking things as lightly as we are when the fate of our brethren in the Transvaal is sealed under legislation that no self-respecting people would tolerate under any circumstances and when measures after measures are being taken in Natal to deprive us of our ordinary rights as human beings and to treat us outcasts. We have very rightly raised a voice of protest against the Agent of the Government of India saying that there was no stigma attached to the term "coolie" but let us not forget that while coolies were not impotent we who claim to be a self-respecting community are showing every signs of impotency. We are showing no practical signs of our resentment to the humiliations that

we are being constantly put to. On the contrary we showing every signs of our readiness to sell our soul for a mess of pottage. Instead of standing united to sink or swim together each one of us are seeking to gain our own self-interest unmindful of what happens to others. With this demoralisation what right have we to expect any help coming to us from India or elsewhere. We can expect our doom and nothing else. What then is the remedy would be a pertinent question. The only remedy we can see is for the leaders or those who pose themselves as such to humble themselves for the cause of their people and their country and to work harmoniously towards that goal being dictated by no one else but their own conscience and God will be with them.

Poet's Corner

FORGIVE ME, PEERLESS ONE

(By RABINDRANATH TAGORE)

Forgive me, my peerless one

If I forgot myself;

for with the first rush of the rains
the forest trees are darkly
agitated,

the garden lane is reckless in its
flowering excess,

prodigal with its perfume

Forgive me my peerless one,

if my eyes are guilty of trespass,

See from all corners of the sky

the lightning repeatedly flashes
through your window,

and the wind is rudely rampant
with your veil,

Forgive me my peerless one,

if I am slack in my manners

The daylight is dim today,

the idle hours seem absent-minded

are without cattle,

the sky blinded with showers.

Forgive me my peerless one,

if I forget myself

when the shadow of the dark
dense clouds

has deepened in your eyes,

your black hair circled by a
jasmine chain,

your forehead kissed by the clamorous
day of July.

(Translated by the Poet himself from
the original Bengali)

SEGREGATION ON THE RAND

JOHANNESBURG CITY COUNCIL'S MOVE

THE Johannesburg City Council debated at length reports the Transvaal Star the recommendation of the General Purposes Committee that its previous recommendation be reaffirmed as to the areas which should be exempted from the provisions of the gold law regarding occupation or residence by coloured persons. It was recommended that representations be made to the Minister of the Interior not to proceed with the exemption of any areas in Fordsburg or Ophirton, other than those recommended by the Council.

Mr. Green declared that if the recommendations were accepted by the Asiatic Commission, property would depreciate in the areas affected and there would be driven away enterprising and hard-working residents who had put their life savings in the erection of substantial dwellings. The areas would then become coloured or Asiatic. He did not see coloured or Asiatic encroachment in Ophirton. He favoured segregation. Prospect Township should be laid out as a coloured township, and Malay Township could easily accommodate Johannesburg's Asiatic community.

Mr. M. Freeman, chairman of the Public Health Committee, emphasised that the Council was not being asked to commit itself to any new recommendation or to set aside any new sites. The Council could have gone further and asked for additional areas than those recommended to be set aside. If portions of Fordsburg and Ophirton were not considered suitable, he wanted to know from the objectors what was suitable.

Mr. Green: Milner Park.

Mr. Freeman said that if the Council was in favour of some other recommendation, he would accept it, but he pointed that he was congratulated when he gave evidence before the Asiatic Land Tenure Act Commission, and no objections were made to the recommendations he then put up.

New Factors

Mr. Bloch reviewed the events which had preceded the present recommendation. Fordsburg was to be one of the main arteries to Mayfair, 75 per cent. of whose residents had put up good houses. The Good Hope School had from 500 to 600 children, and it would be harmful to them if coloured people were allowed to settle in that district. The three representatives of the ward protested to the Council and now protested against the passing of the recommendation.

Mr. D. H. Epstein said that conditions had changed and in the light of new facts new recommendations should be made. The decisions which were now

being recommended were passed two years ago, and the Council was entitled to make new decisions. The Council was going to go to considerable expense in acquiring a new township for occupation solely by the Indian community, and land in that township should be sold in freehold to Indians. It would cause land speculation among Indians which would be detrimental to the whole Indian community. To avoid speculation, the areas should not be sold for speculative purposes. The town was unfortunate in its land deals. Increasing land values were responsible for retarding the progress of the city.

Mr. W. Bawden also opposed the recommendation as far as Ophirton and Fordsburg were concerned.

Mr. O'Connor protested on behalf of the resident of Denver. He said there was a large school in the neighbourhood. In recent years there had been, owing to native overcrowding, a distinct menace and disgrace to the adjacent suburb of Malvern. No fewer than seven murders had been committed in that area within recent years.

Mr. Huddle submitted that the whole structure of Johannesburg had materially altered since evidence had been brought before the Asiatic Commission, and representations should be made to the Minister not to carry into effect decisions come to two years ago.

The Minister and the Council would be well advised to reconsider their decision. The Minister should review the whole of the circumstances in the light of present day facts.

Mr. Roberts said he did not agree with splitting the Indian community into sections and dotting them all over the neighbourhood. The great evil of small Indian communities was due to the Council's attitude. It would cost the Council millions of pounds to settle the Indians, yet if the Council had taken up the proper attitude years ago the coloured community would have agreed to segregation.

Indians were not entitled to the privilege of living among the white community. They had done nothing, and would do nothing, to earn that privilege. The Council should protest vigorously against the Asiatic Commission's recommendations.

Mr. J. J. Page, chairman of the General Purposes Committee, contended that the debate had not brought forth any new suggestions. It was a difficult and delicate subject both for the Council and the Government. The recommendations were not brought in hastily, but they had given the matter careful thought.

The Asiatic Commission had recommended a larger area than the Council.

In a few years Ophirton would become a completely industrial area and land was being sold very rapidly.

On a division the General Purposes Committee's recommendations were carried by 18 votes to 13.

Opposition By Indian Community

The Agent for India has stated that the Indian community is opposed to the segregation referred to by the General Purposes Committee of the Johannesburg City Council in a report of the findings of the Transvaal Asiatic Land Tenure Act Commission.

"We recently interviewed the Agent with regard to the position of the Indian community as affected by the provisions in the report of the commission," the committee states.

As an outcome of the discussion it was proposed to him that a special area be set aside for residential occupation by Indians, with all proper amenities such as water, sanitary services, light, roads and transport, and that if necessary the Council should purchase the area and sell the land to Indians with freehold title. In the event of this proposal maturing it was suggested to the Agent that there would have to be a stipulation that no Europeans were permitted to own property in the township or premises in it, as the township would be set aside exclusively for the Indian population.

The Agent stated that any proposal involving segregation would be unacceptable to the Indian community. "We consider, however, that in any scheme of this nature it should be definitely provided that no European would be permitted to own, reside in or occupy land or premises in the township. We have interviewed representatives of the Western Suburbs Property Owners' Association in regard to the Fordsburg area. The association contends that the lower portion of Fordsburg is rapidly becoming an industrial area and with the contemplated lowering of the railway line and the erection of a bridge in Avenue Road the whole position of the district would be changed. The association is opposed to the exemption of any area in Fordsburg. We are of the opinion that in view of the proposals regarding the establishment of a township exclusively for Indians and setting aside Prospect as a township for coloured people and with the lowering of the railway line the position of Fordsburg will be changed and it is considered desirable to prevent the exemption of any further areas than those recommended by the Council."

The ratepayers of Ophirton, interviewed, opposed setting that suburb aside for Indians. The Commission did not favour Prospect township being converted into a legal coloured township either.

The General Purposes Committee considers that the Council should reaffirm its previous recommendations that the whole of Prospect Township be exempted and this has been done.

INDIAN NATIONAL CONGRESS

GOLDEN JUBILEE CELEBRATION

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT]

[By Cable]

NATION wide celebrations of the Golden Jubilee of the Indian National Congress commenced on Friday December 27 at Bombay. All parties Liberals, Muslim League, Hindu Maha Sabha Non Congressites extended felicitations on the political programme. Sir Abdurrahim president of the Legislative Assembly wished Congress success as it undoubtedly rendered signal service in developing political opinion throughout the country. Sir Ramasami Ayer ex-member of the Viceroy's Council considered it an epoch making institution which contributed the political awakening of India, Poet Tagore sent his warmest greetings. India's destiny, the message continued, has chosen for its ally, power of soul, not that of muscles, she is to raise history of mankind from muddy level of physical conflicts to highest moral altitude. Villages commemorated in grand man-

ner the morning procession of flag salutation. In the public meeting Babu Rajendra Parsad read his Jubilee message. India wide sports, Kavi Sammelan, Khadi Village Industries exhibitions was held. The Jubilee message stated how from a seedling planted fifty years ago it has grown a mighty tree with branches spreading over the vast country blossomed in their sacrifices countless men and women. It is for those left behind to nourish the tree by their further services and sacrifices so that it may bear fruit and make India free and prosperous country. At this remembrance day we should renew our resolve to win swaraj. Bombay Congress birth place celebrated the function in unique manner. Living ex-presidents Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya, Sirdar Valabh-bhai Patel, Mrs. Sarojini Naidoo were present at Gokaldas Tejpal Patshalla

where Congress birth took place in 1885. Special attractions were decoration and illumination. 30,000 cheered Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya when he unveiled on Friday the commemoration tablet. He said, "In this historical hall on December 23, 1885, a band of gallant patriots laid the foundation of the Indian National Congress which during these 50 years have been built stone by stone, tile by tile by sound devotion, courage and sacrifice of countless men and women pledged to the inevitable purpose of securing India, their Motherland its legitimate birth right Swaraj. Mahatma Gandhi has happy hopes which augurs well for India. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru's message was through travail and sorrow we may not forget our cause which evinced great enthusiasm.

Mahatma Gandhi is progressing and is proceeding to Ahmedabad for a change.

WAGE ACT CASE JUDGMENT

BADAT ACQUITTED ON FIVE CHARGES

JUDGMENT was given in Durban Magistrate's Court on Thursday Dec. 24 by Mr. F. R. Barratt in a case of considerable importance to the Union's industrial legislation. The case was that in which Ahmed Mahomed Badat was charged with six contraventions of the Wage Act in the bespoke tailoring industry.

The issue raised by the defence was that persons said to be employees of Badat were in fact independent contractors, for whose wages Badat was not responsible.

Judgement was in favour of Badat, it being held that he was not liable for actions of the independent contractor to whom he had given work.

"The position to my mind is extremely difficult," said Mr. Barratt. "I have given considerable thought to the implications in the Act and under the Determination.

"In this case Badat is charged on three counts relating to a tailor named Kaisvel. Badat is a bespoke tailor, as well as an outfitter, and Kaisvel is said to be an employee in his service. If Kaisvel is not an employee then the charges cannot be maintained."

The definitions of "employer" and "employee" under the Act were exceedingly wide, continued the Magistrate. The definition of "employer" was:

"Any person who employs or provides work for an employee and remunerates him in money or kind, or both." The definition "employee" was: "Any person whatsoever employed by or working for or under any employer, and receiving, or entitled under the terms of his employment to receive, any wage or other remuneration in money or in kind."

Again, Sub-Section 2 said: A person shall be deemed to be an employee, or to be in employment within the meaning of the Act, when performing at the request of any person any work for profit."

Wide Definition

"This definition is so wide that it is obvious that if I engage someone to build a house for me, or to make a suit of clothes, and pay him for doing so, I become the man's employer," said Mr. Barratt. "This position is easy if such person does the work with his own hands, but it is complicated if the person employs another to do the work, as has been the case in the two instances quoted. If the original position held good that I was the employer of a person whom I asked to build a house for me, or to make a suit of clothes, it would come about that I should be the employer of an employer, a position

which could not have been contemplated by the Legislature.

"I hold therefore that where the definition speaks of work it means personal manual work, and that any person who is by way of being a contractor, that is, a person who employs others, or who is entitled to do work for which he receives an order, is excluded from the category of an employee.

"The relationship of employer and employee holds good even though the employee may work for many employers, but the point made by the defence that Kaisvel could not be an employee because he worked for others besides the accused I do not think at all relative to the issue.

"But I hold that the relationship of employer and employee cannot hold good where a person asked to do the work himself becomes, or has the right to become, an employer himself in respect of such work.

"Kaisvel himself employed assistants when doing work for Badat—assistants who were responsible not to Badat but to Kaisvel.

"I must hold therefore that Kaisvel was not Badat's employee, but a contractor. That being so, counts one, four and six automatically fail. So does count two, that is, the charge of not posting up a copy of Determination.

It must fail because there is no evidence that Badat had any employees.

Employer And Employee

"In count five Badat is charged with allowing certain persons, described as employees on a piecework basis, to perform work elsewhere than in the factory. Clause 15 of the Determination lays down that it shall be a condition of employment of each employee, whether on time or piecework, that he shall not work for his employer elsewhere than (a) in his employer's shop, or (b) in a factory.

"While there is in the clause a special definition of an employer which brings

Badat within the category, seeing he is admittedly the person who took the order to make the suits, there is no similar special definition of an employee, so that for that we have to go back to the definition in the Act.

"One of the Indians to whom the work was given had stated that he did not do bespoke tailoring work for others besides Badat, but did not state whether he himself employed others. The inspector stated that both the Indians concerned were outside contractors, and therefore might have employees of their own. In these circumstances

it is impossible to hold that these men are employees of Badat, as alleged in the indictment, and therefore this count must also fail."

As regards count three, in which Badat was charged with having made a false statement to the inspector, Mr. Barratt said he had no reason to doubt the inspector's evidence. He found Badat guilty on this count.

Badat was therefore found guilty on one count and not guilty on five others. He was fined £5 (or seven days' hard labour).

Mr. C. W. Scoble prosecuted, and Mr. E. P. Fowle was for the defence.

THE SECRET OF ABYSSINIA AND ITS LESSON

The following interesting article by Mr. Subhas C. Bose appears in the November issue of the *Modern Review*:

THE fate of Abyssinia is now in the melting-pot. The outlook for her is exceedingly gloomy. But whatever happens in that part of Africa, the lesson of Abyssinia will remain as a legacy for humanity.

What Is That Lesson?

It is that in the 20th century a nation can hope to be free only if it is strong, from a physical and military point of view, and is able to acquire all the knowledge which modern science can impart.

The Orient has succumbed bit by bit to the physical encroachment of the Occident, because it has wrapt itself up in self-complacency and lived in divine (?) contentment for some centuries and because it has refused to keep abreast of the march of human and scientific progress, especially in the art of warfare. India and Burma, along with other Oriental countries, have suffered for this reason. Countries like Japan, Turkey and Persia are still alive because they were able to modernize themselves in time.

Like the rest of the Orient, Japan too, at one time, wanted to live in peaceful isolation. But the booming of American cannon burst upon her ears as a mighty challenge. She would either enter the arena of the world-economics and world-politics as a strong and modernized nation or go down before the West. She chose the former alternative, bestirred herself in time and during the space of 50 years, emerged as a strong and modernized nation. By the time that a serious challenge to her independent existence came from a Western power, she was prepared. And her timely preparation saved her. In this hard world, only the fittest can survive.

Abyssinia is not a new problem. During the latter of the 19th century, the imperialist nations of Europe—Britain, France and Italy,—began to cast their eyes on her. All of them tried to grab that potentially rich country—but were baffled not only by the brave and warlike inhabitants but also by the mountains and impassable nature of the country. One cannot forget the abortive military exploits of Lord Napier of Magdala in Abyssinia (Magdala is situated in the heart of Abyssinia) or the overthrow of Emperor Theodore by the British in 1868. Failing to partition Abyssinia among themselves—as the rest of Africa had been partitioned—they took possession of all the surrounding tracts, cutting off Abyssinia from the sea. Thus a reference to the map will show that Abyssinia is surrounded by Sudan (British), Kenya (British), Italian Somaliland, British Somaliland, French Somaliland and Eritrea (Italian).

The liberation and unification of Italy took place in 1861—rather late in the day—while the unification of Germany took place in 1870. By that time the available colonial world had been practically divided up by the other imperialist European powers. Hence we find that among the imperialist have-nots, are Italy and Germany. Germany, under Bismarck, looked forward to some territories in South West Africa—while Italy cast her eyes on Abyssinia and her surroundings.

Italian penetration of Africa began in the eighties of the last century, when Abyssinia was not unified. The Northern part was ruled over by Emperor John and the Southern part by Emperor Menelik, while some other parts were virtually independent. The population of Abyssinia at that time was anything but homogeneous, either from the ethnic or from the religious point of

view. The death of Emperor John in 1889 during a war with the Dervish rebels, paved the way for the unification of Abyssinia under Emperor Menelik. Menelik who was crowned as "Negus Nagast" (King of Kings) was great as a soldier and as a statesman. Under his leadership the great fight with Italians took place, culminating in the complete annihilation of the Italian forces in Adowa in 1896. Since then Adowa has been remembered by the Italians as a defeat which has to be avenged.

Since 1896, Abyssinia has had respite for nearly 40 years. If she had been able to strengthen and modernize her people, within this period—as the Japanese did—then she would probably have survived. But she has unfortunately failed to do so and hence is doomed. The fault does not lie with the supreme rulers of Abyssinia, who have been patriotic, able and statesmanlike, but with the population. The present Emperor, for example, has shown proofs of wonderful diplomacy and statesmanship throughout the present crisis—such as one would expect in a first-class British politician. But dynastic and tribal jealousies unfortunately exist (the desertion of the Emperor's son-in-law, who is a descendant of Emperor John, to the Italians which was announced in the press on the 12th October, is an example of dynastic jealousy). The people are more illiterate and slavery still exists as an institution. Last but not least, the glorious victory of Adowa has lulled the brave Abyssinians into a false sense of security. This sense of security will prove to be their ruin on the field of battle where they will realize only too late that the Italians of 1935 are not the Italians of 1896 and that the art of warfare has advanced with rapid strides since they overthrew the Italians at Adowa.

Having failed to subjugate Abyssinia by force of arms, the imperialist powers commenced diplomatic intrigue from the beginning of this century. The story is told by the *New Leader* of London in its issue of the 23rd August, 1935. (To annotate this story I shall only add that Abyssinia was admitted into the League of Nations in September, 1923, in spite of the objection of the British Government.

Partition Planned

"Before this Britain had recognized Abyssinia as an Italian 'sphere of influence,' but the defeat of Italy was seized by Britain as an opportunity to stake her own claim. In 1906, the three Imperialist Powers—Britain, France and Italy—signed a treaty which foreshadowed the partition of Abyssinia between them. The Treaty contained the usual hypocritical formula about guaranteeing the integrity of Abyssinia, but, in fact, gave Britain the right to regulate the head waters of the Nile, made Italy paramount in Western Abyssinia, and put France in authority over her railway zone.

Buying Out Italy

The next stage of this story of Imperialist robbery came with the beginning of the World War. By Treaty Italy was allied with Germany and Austria, but France and Britain bought her off. They signed a secret Treaty under which Italian Imperialism was promised that the frontiers of her East African colonies should be extended at the expense of Abyssinia.

After the war Britain wanted to make sure of her control of the Nile by building a barrage in Lake Tsana. Italy offered to support this claim if Britain in return would recognize Italy's exclusive

economic influence in Western Abyssinia. But Britain turned the offer down. She was afraid of antagonizing France and believed that she was powerful enough to win through without Italian support. She self-righteously told Italy that the claim to exclusive Italian influence would be a violation of the Treaty of 1906 which had acknowledged the integrity of Abyssinia!

Six years later the position changed. The Abyssinian Government had resisted Britain's demands, and the British Government wanted Italian support. Britain forgot all about the promise to maintain the integrity of Abyssinia in the Treaty of 1906. She forgot all about her righteous indignation in 1919. She agreed to recognize Italy's claim to the whole of Western Abyssinia as a "sphere of influence"!

Then an unexpected rebuff took place. The Abyssinian Government rejected the arrangement between Britain and Italy, and threatened to expose this Imperialist design before the League.....

Baffled, Britain tried new tactics. It offered Abyssinia the bribe of a corridor of 600 square miles of territory through British Somaliland to the coast. The British Government was so sure that this offer would be accepted that maps were published in 1926 marking the Port of Zilia as in Abyssinian territory! To the surprise of the British Imperialists the Abyssinians rejected the offer. They were not to be bribed out of their independence.

To continue the story, in 1928, Italy and Abyssinia entered into a treaty of friendship providing for arbitration in all disputes for a period of 20 years. A further agreement was signed at the

same time whereby Abyssinia was granted a free zone at the port of Assab in Italian Eritrea. It is clear that up to this time the two countries were friendly to each other. Thereafter, a sudden change took place in the foreign policy of Abyssinia. As technical experts, political advisers and military officers, nationals of other European countries, like Belgium, France, Britain and Sweden were brought in and Italians were carefully excluded. When the year 1934 opened, Italian influence on the Abyssinian Government was practically nothing, while British influence was in the ascendant. Moreover, it was talked about that the British Government had come to a separate and secret understanding with the Abyssinian Government with regard to the waters of Lake Tsana, without the knowledge or support of Italy. As a countermove, Mussolini came to an understanding with Laval and the Franco-Italian Pact was signed which gave Italy a free hand in Abyssinia.

In all the writings that have so far appeared in the press, one rarely finds an answer to the question as to why Mussolini decided to launch his Abyssinian campaign just at this moment. Two reasons account for this. Firstly, Mussolini felt that British influence was rapidly growing in Abyssinia as it was growing on the other side of the Red Sea—in Arabia, and if it went on uninterrupted, then Italian influence would be eliminated from Abyssinia altogether. Secondly Mussolini felt that he would get a respite of two or three years before a European war broke out and that was the only opportunity for Italy to launch the Abyssinian campaign. In fact, historically the Abyssinian campaign stands towards the coming European war in the same relation as the Tripoly and Balkan wars of 1911-1913 towards the Great War of 1914-18.

To be continued

ORIGINAL CORRESPONDENCE

JEW'S AND ASIATICS IN SOUTH AFRICA

To The Editor "INDIAN OPINION"

SIR,—I was much touched by the kind reference to me made by Mr. Morris Alexander, K.C., M.P., in the article on "Jews and Asiatics in South Africa," appearing in your issue of October 25th last. I need hardly say that I agree with all he says on the principles involved. I should, however, like to add one more name to the list of Jews that he gives, who have helped and made great sacrifices for the cause of justice to Indians in South Africa. I do so the more readily because he is no longer with us and, owing to an omission due to temporary forgetfulness, his name

does not appear in Mahatma Gandhi's Autobiography or his South African book. I refer to Mr. Gabriel Isaacs, who rendered such constant and enthusiastic service, and who, both in private discussion and by public action, sought at all times to establish those principles to which Mr. Morris Alexander refers.

It should also be recalled that Mr. Gabriel Isaac was one of those who suffered imprisonment during the last phase of the historic passive resistance struggle; so far as I now recall, he was the only non-Indian in Natal to be so imprisoned, and his name and sacrifice

should be duly commemorated. I have reason to know that he never fully recovered from the difficulties and privations endured by him in gaol.

Yet another member of the Jewish Community whose incomparable loyalty and devotion should never be forgotten is Miss Sonja Schlesin, happily still among us. Of her, Mahatma Gandhi, in "Satyagraha in South Africa," speaks as "a noble girl," and he places on record the fine tribute of the late Mr. Gokhale, who gave her pride of place among all the leaders of the Indian Community, Indians or Europeans.

I am, etc.,
HY. S. L. POLAK.

South African News In Brief

Jewish Praise For Press

PROFESSOR Dr. J. L. Landau (Chief Rabbi) spoke at the Chanuka Day services of the South African Jewish ex-Servicemen's League on Saturday last and in reference to the persecution of Jews in Germany praised the South African Press for its attitude. "It is only fair to state that eminent representatives of the Church, prominent statesmen, especially in England, and important journals have repeatedly raised their voices in defence of the Jews in Germany. The protests published in the South African Press have been to us a source of deep gratification and moral strength. I take this opportunity of expressing the sincerest thanks of the Jewish community to the editors of these journals and to their contributors."

Sir Abe Bailey Sees Danger Ahead

The increasing danger of the international situation in Europe was stressed by Sir Abe Bailey in an interview with Reuter in Capetown last Monday. "I believe it to be an extremely critical time from now until the beginning of February when the question of the oil embargo will be decided," he said. "It seems extremely likely that the United States will impose this sanction and Italy will become desperate. There is a determination in England to see her part of the bargain through and though there is no alarm the people are not oblivious to the dangers that may be round the corner. France will stick to Britain in her effort to maintain the League principles and in the meanwhile Germany is arming to the teeth. They would not do this for nothing."

Empire Exhibition South Africa 1936

Besides the Governor-General, who has officially agreed to become Patron-in-Chief of the Empire Exhibition, General J. B. M. Hertzog has consented to become Vice-Patron, while General J. C. Smuts, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Justice, is the Honorary President of the event. Honorary Vice-Presidents include Mr. N. O. Havenga, M.P., Minister of Finance; the Hon. O. Pirow, K.O., M.P., Minister of Railways and Harbours and Defence; the Hon. A. P. J. Fourie, M.P., Minister of Labour, Commerce and Industries; the Hon. S. P. Becker, Administrator of the Transvaal; the Hon. H. J. Conradie, Administrator of the Cape Province, and the Hon. H. Gordon Watson, I.S.A., Administrator of Natal. Other acceptances are still outstanding.

New Postal Facilities

An extended air mail money service; an innovation whereby the Post Office undertakes to notify the payee of an in-

land telegraph money order, while the remitter may have a short private message included in the official advice telegram to the payee. Direct exchange of money orders between the Union and France. Period of currency of British and Union postal orders extended three to six months. Union postal orders to be used for remitting to Northern and Southern Rhodesia, Nyasaland, Kenya, Uganda and Tanganyika territory. These are some of the benefits to the public which the Minister of Posts and Telegraphs, Senator Clarkson, announces will come into operation on January 1. The innovations are the result of the Pan-African postal and telegraph conference recently held at Pretoria. The air mail money order service which at present is restricted to orders exchanged with the United Kingdom, is being extended to the Irish Free State, Australia, Germany, Nyasaland, Kenya, Uganda and Tanganyika territory. These money orders may be issued in the countries, or for advisal by air mail on payment by the remitters of the minimum rate of postage for air mail letters to the country of payment, in addition to the ordinary commission for each order. It is intended to extend the service to a number of other countries within a few months.

Huge Forest Fire At Capetown

Soldiers, convicts, rangers, holiday-makers and Natives, 800 men in all, were mobilised, says Reuter on Dec. 26, to fight the greatest forest fire known in the Peninsula—a fire which has already completely devastated 500 acres of pine and gum trees valued at about £150,000. More than 300,000 trees have been totally destroyed. Devil's Peak and the lower slopes of Table Mountain have been scorched with acres of burnt-out scrub and trees; Pflattlekloof Gorge, Farrowwood Gorge, Ascension Ravine and Newlands Ravine are gutted. Two houses were saved in the nick of time—one by the Capetown Fire Brigade and the other the Forestry Department station on Devil's Peak, by herculean efforts by rangers and the Defence Force men. Two holidaymakers had to run for their lives on the slopes of Devil's Peak and arrived at the station completely exhausted. Firefighters by the score were injured by falling red-hot stones and blazing cones and were treated by the military first-aid depot.

Coal Prices To Increase

There will be a slight increase in the prices of bunker coal and coal for local consumption from January 1, 1936, but the price of coal for export will be the same as in 1935. It was learned from Mr. J. Townley Williams, Chairman of the Natal Navigation Group of Collieries that the increase would not, however, be

large and it would only apply to certain parts of the Union. It is understood that the primary cause of the increase is owing to the new Employment Liability Insurance Act bringing an increased cost to the collieries.

Carnegie Grants For Stellenbosch

The Stellenbosch University authorities have been notified of several substantial grants from the trustees of the Carnegie Foundation of New York. The most important of these is a sum of £15,000 for the provision of library extensions. A further grant has been made for the establishment of a lectureship in physical education.

Chief Scout Making Progress

The condition of Lord and Lady Bidea-Powell, who are lying ill with dengue fever is about the same and the fever is taking its usual course. The doctor is quite satisfied with his progress. It is fully expected that the Chief Scout will be quite recovered for the January Jamboree. Lady Paden-Powell is very much better.

Commissioners Of Oaths

According to the recent Government Gazette Messrs. Ahmad Ismail of Tyns Street and Mahomed Ismail Dala of Hanover Street, Capetown, have been appointed Commissioners of Oaths for the District of the Cape.

Merebank Indians' Christmas Tree

The members of the Methodist Indian Church at Merebank held a Christmas tree on Wednesday, Dec. 25. Nearly 200 people were present among whom were Messrs Sampson Powys, J. K. Govender, N. S. Ochetty, J. C. Williams, J. N. Stephens and K. Reddy. Presents were distributed to about 100 children by Father Christmas. Young members of the Church assisted in the catering. A service was conducted by Mr. J. C. Williams assisted by Mr. J. L. Stephens.

Hindu Youth Club's Successful Bazaar

The Hindu Youth Club held its Grand Bazaar at the M. K. Gandhi Serthamil School Hall, on Monday Dinguana's Day, December 16, 1935. The Bazaar was formally opened by Mr. V. M. Maistry, one of the patrons of the club. A large and representative gathering was present, and the various stalls were well patronised. Members of the Durban Hindu Women's Association and the Greyville Barathy Mather Sangam, very kindly rendered assistance in the sales. The organisers are confident that a substantial sum will be handed over to the Soup Kitchen.

HIS HIGHNESS THE AGA KHAN

SIR Mohammed Iqbal's earnest plea for the solidarity of Islam and his protest against fissiparous tendencies led me to wonder as to where the line should be drawn. His Highness the Aga Khan is today considered the outstanding leader of the Indian Muslims. The Government treats him and honours him as such, orthodox Muslim leaders, whenever in trouble or faced with difficulty seek refuge under his sheltering wings. Even Sir Mohammad might, so to speak, be said to march under his political banner. From the point of view of orthodox Islam and its unity of conception, politics, sociology and economics can hardly be separated from religion. One would think therefore that the Aga Khan was the ideal representative of this unity and solidarity of religious belief.

Whether this is so I do not know and I should welcome wiser people to inform me. I have long had a vague kind of idea, however, that he hardly belongs to the inner orthodox fold, and I have admired him for the truly wonderful way in which he manages to combine, and gracefully carry in his own person, the most contradictory qualities and to take part in multifarious activities which appear to be mutually antagonistic and irreconcilable. He is the head and spiritual leader of a widespread and healthy sect and, I am told, that almost divine attributes are assigned to him by his devoted followers. He is said to derive a vast ecclesiastical revenue from the faithful, and one of his sources of income is supposed to be the granting of spiritual favours and indulgences. It is interesting to find these old-world practices being continued to day in an intensive form. But the really remarkable fact is that the spiritual head who supports and encourages these practices is a modern of moderns, highly cultured in western ways, a prince of the turf, most at home in London and Paris. Only a remarkable personality could successfully carry this double burden. The Aga Khan not only does so with supreme ease, but he adds to it many public and political activities as well as the leadership of the Indian Muslims. That is an astonishing feat which, even though one may disagree with the Aga Khan, fills one with admiration for him.

But the question that is troubling me, as a result of reading Sir Mohammad Iqbal's statement on the solidarity of Islam, is how all this fits in with that solidarity. It may be perfectly justifiable to spend the money of the faithful on racing; that after all is a minor matter. But is the Aga Khan's sect a partner in that Islamic solidarity or not? I remember reading long ago Mark Twain's account of a visit paid

By
PANDIT JAWAHARLAL NEHRU
In the "Modern Review"

by the Aga Khan to him in Bombay. Mark Twain's Indian servant burst into his hotel room one day in a state of extreme excitement and announced that God had come to pay a call on him. Many pray to God daily—and Mark Twain was a religious type of man—and each one of us, according to his early teaching or mental and spiritual development, has his own conception of God. But the best of us are apt to be taken aback by a sudden visitation of the Almighty, Mark Twain, after he had recovered from his initial surprise, discovered that God had come to him in the handsome and corporeal shape of the Aga Khan.



H. H. THE AGA KHAN

This characterization of the Aga Khan as God was no doubt a foolish error of Mark Twain's servant—and the Aga Khan cannot be held responsible for it. So far as I know, he does not claim divinity. But there seem to be a large number of foolish persons about who ascribe certain divine or semi-divine attributes to him. Some of the propagandists of the sect describe him as an *avatar* or incarnation of the divinity. They have every right to do so if they believe in it. I have absolutely no complaint. But how does this all fit in with the solidarity of Islam?

A story that has long fascinated me is the account of the Aga Khan giving 'chits' or notes of introduction for the Archangel Gabriel to his followers, or some of them. This so the tale runs, is to ensure their comfort and happiness in the next world. I cannot vouch for the truth of this story, but I do hope that it is based on fact. There is little of romance left in this drab and dreary world, and to correspond with an archangel is a captivating idea. It seems to bring heaven nearer, and even our life here down below assumes a rosier hue.

Then there is another story, not so attractive, but nevertheless extraordinary enough. I had heard of it previously and lately I read an account in a book by an American traveller, Colonel E. Alexander Powell in his 'The Last Home of Mystery' referring to the Aga Khan says:

"His sanctity is so great, indeed, in the eyes of his followers, that the water in which he bathes is carefully conserved and sold annually to the representatives of the various Mohamadan sects at a ceremony held once each year at Aga Hall in Bombay. The price paid for this holy water is the Aga Khan's weight in gold, the scales used for the weighing ceremony held being adjusted to the fraction of an ounce troy. As the Aga Khan is a plump little man, the price paid for his used bath water is a high one."

Colonel Powell has probably added some journalistic and fancy touches of his own to this account. But the story is an old and oft-repeated one and to my knowledge, has never been contradicted. If the Aga Khan can find a profitable use for his bath water and at the same time serve and exalt faith, surely it is no one's business to object. Tastes differ and it takes all sorts to make this world of ours. But again I am led to wonder if all this furthers the solidarity and democracy of Islam.

Another incident comes to my mind. It was after the war when Kemal Pasha had driven out the Greeks and established himself firmly in power in Turkey. His casual treatment of the new Caliph appointed by him, drew forth a protest—a very polite protest—from the Aga Khan and Mr. Ameer Ali. Kemal Pasha scented an English conspiracy and suddenly started a fierce attack on England, the Aga Khan, the Caliph and some Constantinople journalists. He was not very polite to the Aga Khan and drew all manner of unjust inferences from his long and intimate association with the British Government and ruling classes. He pointed out that the Aga Khan had not been keen on following the previous Caliph's religious mandate when war had broken out between Turkey and England. He even stressed that the Aga Khan was no true Muslim, or at any rate not an orthodox one, for he did not belong to a heretical sect? All this and much more he said, keen on gaining his end, which was to discredit the Aga Khan and make him out to be an accomplice of British foreign policy. And making the Aga Khan's move a pretext, the Ataturk put an end to the ancient Khilafat.

Kemal Pasha can hardly be said to be an authority on Islam, for he has deliberately broken away from many

of its tenets. His motives were purely political, but his criticism were not wholly without apparent force.

As I write this, another aspect of the Aga Khan's many-sided personality comes up before me. It is given in an intimate, every day account and is thus all the more valuable and revealing. It appears in the *London Bystander* and I have come across it in a quotation in *New Statesman*. This tells us that

"Although the Aga Khan loves the good things of life—he is a great gourmet and has his own cook—there is a very considerable spiritual side to his life. It is hard to pin him down exactly on this point. But he will admit to a strong feeling of the battle between

good and evil. At any rate he is a wonderfully good sportsman, and when Jack Joel offered him a blank cheque the other day for Bahram, he refused because he said he wanted in his decrepit old age to be wheeled alongside his Derby winner and say 'Well, that was a jolly day!'"

Much to my regret I have never met the Aga Khan. Only once have I seen him. This was in the early non-co operation days at a Khilafat meeting in Bombay, where I sat not far from him on the platform. But this glimpse of the attractive and remarkable personality was hardly satisfying, and I have often wanted to find out what curious quality he possesses which enables him to fill

with distinction so many and such varied roles, combining the 13th century with the 20th, Mecca and Newmarket, this world and the next, spirituality and racing, politics and pleasure. Wide indeed must be the range of Islam to include all this in its unity and solidarity. But looking at Sir Mohammad Iqbal's statement I am again led to doubt for Sir Mohammad seems to have little love for the non-conformists. He believes in the straight and narrow path of true orthodoxy and those who stray from this must forthwith remove themselves from his ken. How then am I to remove this doubt and difficulty? Will Sir Mohammad help in solving the riddle?

Things In General

Indian Boy Scouts In Camp

ABOUT 200 Indian Scouts and Cubs have been under canvas at Currie's Fountain since Friday last. They will remain in camp for 10 days till January 6. A lecture on the duties of a Scout was delivered by the Rev. Satchell on Saturday and in the afternoon boys in batches visited the museum. Miss Mary Ritchie accompanied the boys, explaining the different historical, geographical and other interesting objects. The evening was spent in a "sing-song" and concert. The following was the programme: Sunday: A lecture by Dr. Oswston on Palestine, illustrated with models; visits to the Museum and Beach.

Monday: A lecture on "Thrift" by Mr. J. G. Phimister (Secretary, National Thrift Association); visit to the grain elevator; bioscope, by courtesy of African Consolidated Theatres, Ltd.

Tuesday: A trip by ferry and a visit to the Lighthouse; Old Year's dinner given by Mr. A. K. E. Bux; camp fire and a sing-song; midnight New Year's celebration.

Wednesday: Breakfast given by Mr. K. Baijnath; easy morning; lunch given by Messrs. J. Maharaj Bros; motor tour by the courtesy of the Indian Bus Owners' Association.

Thursday: 9 a.m., sports; lunch given by Mr. L. Panday; 2.30 p.m., Scout demonstration and presentation of the Panday First Aid Shield; 6 p.m., dinner given by Mr. A. M. Jaek.

Friday: Lecture by Mr. S. R. Pather on "As Others See Us"; second party's visit to the grain elevator; lunch and motor drive to Brighton Beach, by courtesy of Mr. B. M. Singh.

Saturday: Tour by trams, by courtesy of the Durban City Council; visit to the Durban Station of the African Broadcasting Co. 8 p.m., variety entertainment at Currie's Fountain.

Sunday: Break camp.

Through the kindness of the Associated Wireless Co., Ltd., the Scouts are having an enjoyable time at camp with their radio.

The Late Lord Reading

Reuter reports the death of Lord Reading on Dec. 31 in London. (Rufus Daniel Isaacs was born in London in 1860, the son of a Jewish City merchant. His youth was full of variety for he was educated in London, Brussels, and Hanover, and at the age of 14, fired with a passion for travel and adventure, ran away to sea. In 1891 Isaacs was a K.C. In 1904 he became Liberal M.P. for Reading. In 1910 he was made successively Solicitor and Attorney-General; in the latter capacity he was given a seat in the Cabinet in June, 1912—the first instance on record of an Attorney-General being so honoured. It was early in 1921 that Mr. Lloyd George appointed him as the Viceroy of India.)

Mr. Partridge and District Arya Samaj

The annual general meeting of the Arya Samaj, Mr. Partridge and District near Edendale was held last Sunday in the Samaj Hall. The following officials were elected for the ensuing year:—Patrons: Sannyasi Swami Bhawani Dayal, Messrs R. B. Maharaj, F. Ramlogan, D. N. Bholla; President: Mr. G. Beshoon; Vice-Presidents: Messrs. G. Seetharam, B. Boran, S. Bucharam; Treasurer: T. Joshi; Secretary: R. Sewrathan, Assist. Secretary: Poetham; Committee: Messrs. S. Ramoath, T. Jugdhaw, S. Baijoo, B. Chatterpal, K. Sookdhaw; Delegates: G. Beshoon, R. Sewrathan, G. Seetharam, T. Joshi. Among the speakers at the meeting were Messrs. R. B. Maharaj, F. Ramlogan, S. Pachay, Tommy Gudar and G. Beshoon.

Death Of Mr. H. Burton

A private cable received in Capetown reports the death in London on Christ-

mas night of the Right Hon. Henry Burton, P.O. K.C., former Union Minister of Finance.

Wools Social Club

At a representative meeting of the Indian employees engaged in the wool trade held recently, it was decided to form a social club under the designation of the "Wools Indian Social Club." The following office-bearers were elected: President: Mr. S. Brijbaaf; vice-president: Mr. P. M. Pillay; hon. secretary: Mr. J. B. Panday; assistant secretary: Mr. K. G. Abrahams; hon. treasurer: Mr. J. Naidoo; hon. auditor: Mr. S. Brijraj.

Tangyanika Gold Industry

The Tangyanika gold industry is expanding, and for the first nine months of this year the value of gold produced was £282,000, or only £9,000 short of the record figure for the whole of 1934.

Social And Personal

The headmaster and staff, assisted by the parents, gave the children of St. Patrick's Indian School, Umzinto, a picnic at Kelso Junction on Monday, December 16.

Mr. C. N. Chetty of Chettys Stores, Capetown, and proprietor of the Brassware Manufacturers, has arrived in Durban, accompanied by his wife and children, on a fortnight's holiday.

The marriage of Mr. V. S. Naidoo (Subramonie) son of Mr. and Mrs. Venkatswami Naidoo of Tongaat with Sita daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. Govindoo of Mayville will take place on Sunday January 5 at the Siva Subramaniam Temple, Tongaat.

Mr. Bejai Mansingh of Clare Estate who recently went to India on a short visit returned last Saturday.

The Sporting World

Greetings

I WISH all the readers of these sporting columns a happy and prosperous New Year.

Cricket.

Australia And South Africa—Second Test

By making 231 in the second Test against the Australians Dudley Nourse has created a new record for South African Cricket. He has beaten Aubrey Faulkner's record of 204 at Melbourne in 1910-11 and H. W. Taylor's 176 against the M.C.C. at Johannesburg in 1922-23. His brilliant innings, in which he was ably assisted by South Africa's new wicketkeeper, F. Nicholson, humbled an attack which is considered one of the greatest ever to leave Australia. There were streaks in it, but all the time Nourse played forcefully to bring South Africa within sight of victory when the first innings indicated a heavy defeat. The second Test ended in a draw. The scores were: South Africa (first innings) 157. Australia (first innings) 250. South Africa (second innings) 491. Australia.—Second Innings 274 (for 2 wickets).

The approximate gate receipts for the Second Test between South Africa and Australia at the Wanderers totalled £6,500. H. F. Wade has been again chosen captain of the South African team for the third test.

A Proud Father

"I have derived a great deal of pleasure from my long association with Cricket, but I think this is the proudest moment of my life," said Mr. Dave Nourse when interviewed on the magnificent feat of his son Dudley in scoring 231 for South Africa against Australia in the second Test at the Wanderers. "What is particularly gratifying to me," said Mr. Nourse, "is the fact that Dudley made his runs when they were sorely needed and when South Africa, having lost three wickets for 90, was in a desperate position. I am glad to think that my son played a big part in what should go down as one of the finest recoveries made by any side in the history of Test Cricket."

Verulam Indians' Congratulations

The following telegram was despatched to A. D. Nourse (jun) from the Verulam Indian Temple C.O. while his grand innings for South Africa in the second Test against Wanderers was still in progress.

"Congratulations on double century praying for triple"

By "Rambler"

Cricket At Sea View

On Sunday Dec 22 1935 The Verulam Temple Cricket Club travelled to Sea View, where they played a friendly game with the Sea View Indian C.O. The visitors compiled 76 runs. R. Nunkoo 20 and Juggath 13 in their first innings. The home team after a good knock collapsed in face of the deadly bowling and were all out for 59. B. Sham took 6 for 20 and J. Juggath 4 for 22. In their second innings the visitors lost five valuable wickets for 12 runs but B. Sham with chanceless 21 not out helped to carry the score to 43 before the whole side was dismissed. Mr. B. K. Naidoo who bowled very well for the home team captured 6 wickets for 15 runs. The home team were thus left with 60 runs to win the game, but they were dismissed for a mere 26. J. Juggath bowling against the wind captured two for 10. The Temple C.O. were thus victorious by 34 runs.

Tarrant's Team In India

The match between Tarrant's Australian team and Bengal and Assam was continued on Saturday last at Calcutta, when in reply to Bengal's first innings of 136 the Australians in their first innings scored 308 (Morrisby 76, Macartney 85; Bannerji five for 53). At the close of play, Bengal and Assam had scored 36 for two wickets in the second innings. On Sunday Tarrant's team won by nine wickets, the scores being Bengal and Assam 136 and 184; Tarrant's team, 308 and 13 for one. In Bengal's second innings Leather took four for 31 and Oxenham four for 40.

Intertown Team

Tomorrow will see Durban and Maritzburg meet in their intertown fixtures at Curries Fountain. Under the new arrangement the game will commence at half past two on Saturday afternoon and continue the next day from 9.30 a.m. to 6.30 p.m. The local men are in fine fettle and the following are selected to represent Durban. M. D. Barmania (Muslims), capt.; O. H. Backus (Greyville), G. H. Doerat (Ottomans), O. Joona (Sastri College), Goolam Mahomed (Muslims), D. Rajoo Pillay (Greyville), M. I. Yusuf (Sastri College), A. K. Yusuf (Muslims), J. Qhengiah (Municipal), D. E. Asmal (Muslims), and E. I. Akoojee. Reserves: D. E. Parak and S. A. Emsamally. The winners of this match will play Northern Districts on the grounds of the victors.

Estcourt Notes

(From Our Correspondent)

The timely action of Indians on the Estcourt Railway platform averted what may have been an unpleasant experience for an Indian woman and her baby on Sunday last. The woman was travelling from Vereeniging to Estcourt by the passenger train that arrives at 11.30 a.m. On its arrival at Estcourt the woman first saw that her small children detained safely. She then proceeded to arrange to have her luggage passed through the window of the train. In her arms she held a baby which accounts for the alight delay that was caused in getting off the train in time. While in the act of handling some of her luggage the train moved off, leaving the helpless woman waving in excitement for the train to stop. Her screams, were apparently not heard, and the train's pace increased. How she, a woman, with a baby in her arms would have felt can be well imagined. A few Indians ran at a terrific pace towards the fast moving train and their shouts, fortunately, attracted the guard's attention who promptly signalled to the driver to stop. The train eventually stopped a good way off the station and with the aid of the Indians present the excited and terrified woman was brought to the station from where she was conveyed to Weenen by car. It is the duty of those responsible to see that all passengers are safely off or on train before it is signalled to move. The strict observation of this rule will tend to avert unpleasant incidents such as these.

The usual enthusiasm amongst the Moslem section in Estcourt for the celebration of Ramzan Eid, on Saturday last was marred by unprecedented cold weather. After prayers the gay crowd dispersed to their homes while the poorer ones were entertained to sumptuous meals in the homes of the more fortunate.

The Indian and coloured children attending the Sunday School of the St. Mathews Church were recipients of many gifts at the Christmas tree organised for them by the Principals of the school.

The Pirates Cricket Club beat the Hot Spurs C. O. in a League match on Dec. 22 by seven wickets, thus becoming the League Champions for the season.

A congratulatory telegram to Dudley Nourse on his scoring a valuable double century for S.A. against the Aussies at the Wanderers was sent by the Pirates Indian C.O.

Mrs. Patrick James, of Eshowe Zululand, accompanied by her little daughter Gladys, is on a visit to her parents Mr. and Mrs. Augustine of Estcourt.