

INDIAN OPINION

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NOTES AND NEWS

Segregation Move In The Cape

THE Cape Provincial Council last week passed a motion requesting the Executive Committee to introduce at this session legislation empowering municipalities, village management boards and other local authorities "to allocate separate residential quarters for coloureds and for Europeans in order to terminate the ever-increasing crowding together of Europeans and non-Europeans in cities and towns in the Cape." The motion seeks, further, that local bodies be empowered also to apply the principle of segregation in other respects. The mover, Mr. P. J. H. Hofmeyr (Nat., Bellville), said that the principle of segregation had already been recognised, especially as regards provision for separate recreation facilities and in the allocation of seating accommodation in public vehicles in cities and towns.

The Cape was the one Province which was, up till now, saved from being infected by race prejudice. It was considered to be the most liberal Province and all the distinguished visitors from India were happily amazed at the contrast between the liberalism of the Cape and the strong race prejudice of the other Provinces. That the Cape is now coming into line in this respect with the other Provinces, is a sign of a change of heart among the White people towards non-Whites, not for the better, as it is so often stated by ultra-optimists in our community, but rather for the worse.

D.R. Synod Oppose Mixed Marriages And Birth Control Policy

The annual meeting of the General Committee of the Cape Dutch Reformed Synod was held in Capetown. Moving the adoption of the motion submitted by the Rev. T. J. Kotze to instruct the committee for the combating of social evils to investigate the activities of birth control clinics, Rev. J. F. Mentz, of Paarl, said that the Church should express its views on these clinics. The Church knew that certain instruction was given by these clinics and the question arose whether instruction was given only to married people and if so whether the knowledge remained with married people. "These foreign prac-

tices are not under the control of the Church and they will become canker in the life of the people," declared Mr. Mentz. "I therefore feel justified in proposing an investigation and report either to the General Committee or to the Synod." The motion was adopted without discussion. A motion by the Rev. F. J. Minnaar and Rev. G. E. Brewer to urge Kerkerade immediately to take steps to "create sound and enlightened public opinion for preventing mixed marriages" was stated by the Rev. Mr. Mentz to be so important as to require immediate attention and he suggested that it be referred to a special sub-committee for report during this session of the General Committee. Mr. Mentz's proposal was carried unanimously. He said it was time something was done to show the world that the Church do not approve of the mixing of races.

The Cape Dutch Reformed Synod are to be congratulated on the manner they are combating social evils, but what about the race prejudice which is the worst in the Dutch Reformed Church. Have they a new Bible which sanctions hatred towards the coloured races?

Native Legislation

The Very Reverend W. A. Palmer, Dean of Johannesburg, writes as follows in *The Parishioner*:

"Fusion may or may not have benefited the white people of this country, but in any case they have ways of protecting their own interests. It is difficult to think it has meant anything but repression to the Natives, in spite of much lip service which has neither deceived the Natives nor those who know them best. The abolition of the Cape Native Franchise was justified on the ground that now that it "was out of the way" the Natives would have another form of representation. But before the representatives are elected, or can take their seats, we have seen another Bill rushed through Parliament, about which the very most that can be said is that it is hoped its conditions will not be applied too harshly. I think it is true to say that, except a brief intervention by Mr. J. H. Hofmeyr, no Johannesburg member spoke

during the whole passing of the Bill. (I shall be very glad to be corrected if I am wrong.) I do not think one member voted against it in the final division. I am told that some were actually not in the House at all on a momentous occasion like this. It is not policies we are to fear, but the politicians who make them, and politicians are happily removable. Johannesburg must demand a higher standard from its members. It is far too apathetic even at election times, and if an apathetic constituency is served by an apathetic member it reaps as it sows. But it is a tragedy where great issues are involved and Christian ethics are being challenged as in some recent legislation."

The Agent-General In Durban

The Agent-General, Sir Syed Raza Ali, accompanied by Lady Ali and Miss T. Sammy, arrived in Durban on Tuesday. He will remain in the City for the next four months. In the course of an interview with a Press representative, Sir Raza said he was not able to express an opinion at present on the announcement made in Parliament concerning the appointment of two commissions. "All I would allow myself to say at present is," he said, "that some highly important matters connected with the Feetham Commission's report are still pending though the Commission was appointed as long as 4½ years ago." Sir Raza considered that if one or both commissions were to be appointed Indian opinion would certainly demand the appointment of a judicial commission for the inquiry into the question of the refusal of trading licences to Indians. Another question which also required an exhaustive inquiry was the manner in which the choice of certain important municipalities had fallen on Indian localities for action under the Slums Act. No responsible Indian wanted Indian slums to continue but it was the discriminating spirit shown by certain municipalities to which strong objection was taken. But there was something which was as important as European goodwill and that was the need of unity among Indians.

A Responsible Minister's

Utterance

We reproduce elsewhere the reference made to the Asiatic question by Mr. Pirow, Minister of Railways and Harbours, in the course of his speech at Bothaville. It is as bad as Colonel Deney's Reitz who recently openly declared that owing to the temper and temperament of the White people of South Africa the lot of the Indian community will for ever be a tragic one for the White people are determined to keep this a White man's country. Mr. Pirow has said that the so-called Asiatic question was actually an Indian question stretching far beyond the boundaries of the Union and confront-

ing Southern African territories from Nairobi to Durban. He said it was a question that had to be tackled determinedly but gradually and after thorough investigation. These are significant words giving an idea of the long vision of the Statesmen of South Africa as to the manner in which they propose, in the near future, to tackle the Indian question. This isolating the "Indian" from the "Asiatic" is an insult to the Indian nation, the seriousness of which seems little to be realised by the Government of India. In the face of such statements by responsible Ministers is the so-called Capetown Agreement worth anything but a scrap of paper?

Indian Opinion

FRIDAY, JUNE 4TH, 1937

Interpretation Of New Immigration Act

INDIAN VIEWS' which has been our avowed opponent and which was, at one time, the avowed opponent of the South African Indian Congress, as its past record would go to show, but which now, ever since we have had to strongly criticise the working of the Congress, claims to speak on behalf of that body, has described our criticism on the Immigration Amendment Act of 1937, which has just been passed by the Union Parliament, as being foolish and misleading. At least one thing our criticism has succeeded in doing is to bring to light what the Congress and the Agent-General have done in regard to the introduction of the new amendment in the Immigration Act. For this is what our contemporary has to say:

"It may be added here in reply to OPINION writer's diatribes that the new Immigration amendments were thoroughly scrutinised and discussed with the Government both by the Agent General and the Congress before they became law, and both of them are satisfied that the bogies raised in the INDIAN OPINION are of importance only as illustrative of the vagaries of stupidity and ignorance."

We do not propose to empty the English vocabulary of all its choice adjectives to indulge in literary fireworks. That can well be left in the able hands of our contemporary. One thing, however, we must remark, before coming to the point, and it grieves us to the extreme to do so, that it ill-becomes those of us who are expected to guide our countrymen in regard to their rights and interests in this country to be fighting among ourselves to the point of losing our heads as to who is right and who is wrong while the community is left en-

tirely in a state of confusion. It helps nobody more than our enemies who are watching with glee this tomfoolery on our part and is fast forging weapons for our annihilation. It shows what bad times we are in for. Let us now come to facts:

If our countrymen have not understood quite clearly the terms of the new Immigration Amendment Act as explained in our article in our issue of May 21, we will try to explain it more lucidly. Of course we cannot, nor do we, claim to write with the authority of a legal practitioner. We interpret the Act from the viewpoint of the layman.

Persons who shall not be deemed prohibited immigrants are defined in Section 5 of the principal Act of 1913. We are concerned with the definition of such persons given in paragraphs (e) and (g) of this Section. Paragraph (e) refers to

(1) a person born before the commencement of the Act in any part of the Union whose parents were lawfully resident therein, and

(2) any person born in any place after the commencement of the Act (either in or out of the Union, for instance, in India) whose parents were at the time of his birth domiciled in any part of the Union.

Paragraph (g) refers to any person who is the lawful wife, or the lawful child under the age of sixteen years of any person domiciled in the Union.

Now it is clear beyond doubt that paragraph (e) of Section 5 of the Act refers to the birth-right of persons born outside the Union of domiciled parents while paragraph (g) refers to the entry of the lawful wife and minor children of a person domiciled in the Union.

We had no occasion to make any reference to paragraph (g) in our previous article as that had not been affected by the new Immigration Amendment Act. Persons falling under the terms of that paragraph will still continue to have the right to bring their lawful wives and children under the age of 16 into the Union as heretofore with this proviso, of course, which was added in 1927, "that no child who is not accompanied by its mother shall be admitted unless its mother is already resident in the Union or is deceased, or the Minister in any special case authorises the admission of such child."

We are dealing here only with paragraph (e) with which we are particularly concerned, owing to the amendment under the new Act of 1937. Now, notwithstanding the vituperations hurled against us, we still maintain that by the amendments to paragraph (e) made in 1927 and under the new Act of 1937 our countrymen have been deprived of an existing right.

Under paragraph (e) of Section 5 of the principal Act of 1913, any person born outside the Union after the commencement of that Act, whose parents were at the time of his birth domiciled in the Union, was placed in the same category as a South African born. That is to say he could enjoy the same rights as those enjoyed by persons born in South Africa of domiciled parents no matter how long such a person remained outside the Union or whether the parents of such a person were subsequently living or dead or whether they had abandoned or lost their domicile.

This position was, however, altered in 1927 by a proviso being added to the said paragraph "that such person, if born outside the Union, enters or is brought into the Union within three years from the date of his birth."

Now we have the correspondence of the Congress with the Union Government on this subject which throws a flood of light on the object of the Government in adding the above proviso. *Indian Views* has certainly done a service to the community in publishing extracts of this correspondence but has done a grave disservice to Mr. Kajee, for the correspondence, if it depicts anything, it depicts his utter ignorance of the meaning of the Act, while the Government were too shrewd in their reply. In reply to Mr. Kajee's query the Government replied, we are told, that the object of the amendment to paragraph (e) was to limit the time of entry of persons born outside the Union of parents who were domiciled in the Union at the date of the birth of the persons concerned, but who have since died or abandoned domicile in the the Union..."

Mr. Kajee evidently was not satisfied with this reply but as he did not understand the meaning of paragraph (e) he again wrote to the Govern-

ment and he confused the interpretation of paragraph (e) with (g) and in reply to further correspondence the then Secretary for the Interior, we are told, replied as follows:

"Paragraph (e) of Section 5 of the Principal Act is, in the opinion of the Government, too wide in its application, and it was originally contemplated to eliminate the portion referring to persons born outside the Union entirely. It was, however, represented that a child may be born to parents while temporarily absent from the Union and who may both die while their domicile in the Union was still effective. The infant child might thus be left without any protection outside the Union. It was to allow the return of such a child within three years of the date to its relatives in the Union that the amendment in its present form was introduced."

The latter part of the above reply was to befool the fool. The fact was that the Government did not wish to confer on persons born outside the Union of parents domiciled in the Union the same rights as those enjoyed by the South African born Indians, and hence the wide meaning of the said paragraph was limited to the extent that such persons may enjoy those rights only if they entered the Union within three years from the date of their birth. This was a distinct curtailment of an existing

right enjoyed by our countrymen under the Immigration Act.

The position, however, up to the time of the passing of the Immigration Amendment Act of 1937 was, that the time limit only applied to cases since the passing of the amendment in 1927, but those persons born outside the Union between 1913 and 1927 of parents who were domiciled in the Union at the time of the birth of such persons could still enter the Union at any time as though they were South African born.

Now, under the new Amendment such a person must enter the Union, should he desire to protect his birth-right, before the first day of June 1937, failing which, he will never be able to enter and reside in the Union if he is over sixteen years of age, and even if he is under that age, if his father is dead.

If such a person happens to be under the age of 16 he will be able to enter the Union in terms of paragraph (g).

As we have already pointed out to our countrymen the Government, have by the new Amendment deprived, with a stroke of the pen, persons who have acquired a birth-right in this country in terms of paragraph (e) of section 5 of the Immigration Act. If it was the desire of the Government to protect the rights of such persons they would have at least taken steps to give them sufficient notice to enable them to enter the Union in time before that right was taken away. Instead of which, they

have without notifying the persons concerned, made it physically impossible for them to protect their rights. What is worse still is, that the Congress and the Agent-General, both of whom claim to have been aware of what was being done, kept the people in the dark. A strange way indeed of watching the rights and interests of Indians in South Africa!

Indian Views, who is charging us for misleading the people, tells the people that the object of the amendment is merely that of ridding the Immigration Act of a verbal flaw which might be capable of clouding its acknowledged spirit and intent. One must come to the logical conclusion then that all amendments to the laws of the Union directed against Asiatics are merely to remove the flaws in them and that they are quite justifiable as they are in keeping with the spirit and intent of those laws, and that it would be utter stupidity on the part of the Indian community, according to *Indian Views*, to protest against such action on the part of the Government. If we were to accept *Indian Views* as our Guru, we are afraid we will be sooner sent to Hell than to Heaven and the present instance only leads us to exclaim: Heaven help the Indian community of the Union from damnation if ever it allows itself to fall into the clutches of the Holy Trinity composed of the Congress, the Agent-General and *Indian Views*.

COLOUR BAR IN SPORTS

The following appears in *The Star* (Johannesburg) which speaks for itself:—

SIR,—The visit of the Aberdeen Football Club has aroused considerable interest among non-European soccer enthusiasts, and more particularly among the scholars of this city. The authorities in charge of the affairs have done a gross injustice to the non-European scholars. I will not say that they have done so deliberately, but they have charged the European school going child the sum of sixpence for admission and they have charged the non-European child 1/-. Is it sport I ask?

I have appealed to the authorities to make no difference in the charges as far as the children are concerned, but the only satisfaction I received was that it was too late to do anything. Another point which is a source of considerable irritation to non-Europeans is that there is only one enclosure for all non-Europeans.

There are persons among them who are in a position to pay for a better seat

instead of being herded like a lot of sheep and goats in one fold. If separate enclosures are to be erected then there should be graded enclosures and prices that the better class of person among the non-European may go to them. It is a blot on the fair name of sport to see how this bias of prejudice is introduced at the Wanderers. European sportsmen have always been treated and will always be treated as courteously and kindly on the non-European grounds in order to show them what true sportsmanship is, and the same time to convert those in charge. If it were not for the exception made, even the Agent-General will be forced to go into this enclosed area. Can there not be justice even in sport? It is just as painful for me to write in this strain as it will be for those in authority to read it.

REV. BERNARD L. E. SIGAMONEY,
Ex-president South African Indian Football Association, and president Johannesburg Indian Sports Association.

The facts contained in this letter were referred by *The Star* to Mr. Arnold Smith, secretary of the Southern Transvaal Football Association, who said that lack of accommodation accounted for the admission price for non-European school children being higher than that for non-European school children. Non-European school children would be charged 1/- with the school-ticket, and the European children, 6d. with a school-ticket.

He was approached two days ago for additional accommodation for 500 Indians but was unable to do anything in the matter in the short notice given him. If he had been approached a month earlier, he might have been able to secure additional seating space. The Wanderers could only seat 28,000 persons comfortably, and he considered that the association would have difficulty in seating all European visitors on Saturday. No additional accommodation would be provided for Indians, coloureds, or natives, and the section seating 500, next to the score-board and used by them in the past, would be the only space available for them.

UTTERANCES OF SOUTH AFRICAN STATESMEN

GENERAL SMUTS, Acting Prime Minister, addressing an open air meeting at Hoopstad, O. F. S., on Friday, May 28, is reported by Reuter to have made the following reference to the Coloured and the Asiatic question:

On the subject of liberalism, General Smuts pointed out that there had been no departure from the policy of the National Party in respect of questions affecting colour. He explained how in 1926 Dr. Malan shelved a proposal from Mr. Tielman Roos that the immorality law prohibiting relations between white and black should be supplemented by prohibiting mixed marriages. In those days, of course, Dr. Malan was out to catch the native vote for his party, just as the South African Party was out to catch that vote. At election time Dr. Malan had sent a telegram to natives congregated at Queenstown, telling them that they were just as good Afrikaners as the Europeans and should be on the same footing.

Mixed Marriages

Why now this accusation of liberalism against the United Party? Why had there been no accusation of liberalism against Dr. Malan in the old National Party? Dr. Malan and his followers could jump about as they wished, but when he came down to the facts, one saw that there was no departure to-day from the policy followed by Dr. Malan and his followers in the old National Party.

General Smuts emphasised again that there was no difference of opinion whatever in the United Party that mixed marriages were absolutely undesirable. The difference existed in the best means of stopping such marriages. There were several schools of thought on the subject; not only among the people generally, but also in the United Party. Some considered that legislation was the best means of approaching the problem; others preferred public opinion and looked to education and enlightenment, while others again considered it a disgusting insult to suggest that legislation was necessary to prevent Afrikaners from marrying black persons.

Into this question of mixed marriages has now been drawn the Asiatic. Explaining the far-reaching ramifications of this particular aspect of the question, General Smuts pointed out that South Africa had to do not only with its own Asiatic population but with the antagonism of powerful countries such as India and Japan. As an independent country, which could no longer shield behind "Ouma England's" apron, which had to maintain a fence of responsibility, South Africa should be careful

not to create an antagonism that even the great Powers of the world do their best to avoid.

Dr. Malan and his party were trying to force the Government into precipitate and dangerous action when he himself did nothing about the matter when he had the opportunity.

On the contrary, Dr. Malan, as Minister of the Interior, had been responsible for an agreement with the Indian Government in which it had been agreed that if certain differences were settled it would be the policy of the Government in the Union to uplift the Indian population in this country to a high pitch of civilisation by means of education, material assistance and the like.

Without any knowledge of the number of marriages that were being contracted between Asiatics and Europeans or of the actual position in respect of the Asiatic question generally, an agitation had been set afoot groundless of facts. In contrast to this the Government had decided to take the responsible course of getting at all the facts and figures and to decide on these what should be done. There were only a few marriages between Europeans and Asiatics and they affected only Europeans whom one could hardly look upon as Europeans. The Government would investigate the whole position in a thorough and unimpeachable manner and Parliament would say what course should be adopted to put the whole position to rights.

Native Policy

Dealing with the purchase of land for natives, he pointed out why this was in the interest of the white man and of white civilisation.

General Smuts also pointed to the dire results that would accrue to the Europeans themselves if they adopted a policy of blind hostility towards the natives. It would be a black day for South Africa, he said, if the black man was treated with ill-feeling and injustice. While it was imperative to build up among the European section a spirit of co-operation and unity, it was also imperative to create a spirit of trust and goodwill as far as the natives were concerned.

In reply to a question as to whether the provision of land for natives would not deprive farmers of labour, General Smuts pointed out that those natives who flocked to the urban locations were for ever lost to the farmers. If, however, these natives with their families lived in the reserves, the farming restrictions there would compel many of them

to go out to work for the European farmer and other employers from time to time.

Mr. Pirow

Speaking at a meeting at Bothaville on the Asiatic question and the two Commissions that the Government intended appointing to investigate the possession of land by Asiatics and mixed marriages, Mr. Pirow, Minister of Defence, is reported by Reuter to have said that this was a bigger and more difficult question than most people realised.

The "Purified" Nationalist in Parliament and outside had clamoured for post haste legislation without realising the implications and ramifications involved. The so-called Asiatic question was actually an Indian question, which would confront South Africa with as great a problem in the future as the native question had been in the past. It stretched far beyond the boundaries of the Union and confronted Southern African territories from Nairobi to Durban.

It was a question that had to be tackled determinedly but gradually and after thorough investigation. A solution of this question could not be precipitated any more than a solution of the native question could be. This question being greater and deeper than appeared superficially, a thorough investigation would be instituted before action would be taken and after the investigation the Government would act radically and determinedly.

Mixed Marriages

In referring to mixed marriages, the Minister described as "a disgusting insult" the statements by the Opposition that the Afrikaner nation stood in imminent danger of bastardisation. The Afrikaner had kept his race pure for centuries and it was sheer nonsense to suggest that the race would be polluted before the proposed commission could investigate the matter and the Government could see what could be done.

When Mr. Tielman Roos had asked Dr. Malan, who was the responsible Minister at the time, to legislate against mixed marriages, Dr. Malan had considered the matter of so little urgency that he simply pushed Mr. Roos's request aside.

In reply to a question, Mr. Pirow said that the land to be released for native settlement would be hired by the natives and never sold to them.

Mr. F. C. Erasmus

Mr. F. C. Erasmus, M.P., Moorreesburg, spoke at a public meeting at Queens-town held by the Nationalist Party. Referring to the Asiatic question Mr. Erasmus is reported to have declared that the policy of the Nationalist Party was one of race purity. They did not favour the idea of whites and Asiatics rubbing shoulders, and when the Na-

tionalists pressed for segregation in this matter the United Party voted against it. Nationalists did not like to see white girls mixing with coloured and Asiatic men.

Colonel Deneys Reitz

Colonel Deneys Reitz, during his recent tour of the Eastern Free State spoke at Vrede. Asked whether he

favoured legislation to prevent mixed marriages, Colonel Reitz is reported to have said that this was a stick with which the Malanites hoped to chase the people apart. Every one depreciated mixed marriages. The problem was to find the best means of preventing such marriages and that was why a commission had been appointed.

ORIGINAL CORRESPONDENCE.**WHAT IS THE AGENT-GENERAL DOING?**

TO THE EDITOR "INDIAN OPINION"

SIR,—Let me say, in the first place, that your leading article, appearing in your issue of May 21, in connection with the Immigration Act of 1937, rightly and aptly pointed out to the Indian public of South Africa the loss, by a mere stroke of the pen, of the vital birth-right of our people.

Knowing the "temper and temperament" of the white public towards our people, we cannot hope for acquisition of new rights, and it is rather tragic that the rights we now possess are being taken away from us gradually. Pray, what is the Agency here for? Is it not for the Agent-General to be an alert watch-dog of our rights and interests? If it were not for the above, why should the Government of India spend thousands of pounds per year for the maintenance of the Agency in this country? Of course, the money spent on the Agency comes out of the pockets of the poor, half-starving peasantry of India, and they should have, at least, the satisfaction of knowing that their money is well spent in attempting and striving hard to protect the rights of their brethren overseas.

It appears to me that the Agent-General for India must have failed to make proper representations to the authorities when the Immigration Bill was about to come before Parliament. Possibly it might have escaped his notice, or it may not have occurred to him, that it was going to affect the birth-right of our people; for, otherwise, he would have taken the trouble to inform the Indian public about it. Did he even mention of this impending Bill to his pet so-called Congress Leaders? If he did, why did they not inform our people or Press? Were our Congress leaders so ignorant as not to know that our birth-right was in jeopardy or were they so wise as to believe in their abilities to protect our rights without informing us, or were they confident that their beggars' bowl will be filled by the liberal-minded Acting Minister of the Interior? We only know now at our cost that despite the Agent-General's pleading, if any, or despite the so-called Congress leaders'

policy of begging and compromising, our birth-right has been taken away for ever. Now that the Immigration Bill has become an Act, the Agent-General appears to consider in his wisdom not to press the Minister for extension of time beyond 1st June 1937 because he seems to feel and fear that the Minister concerned would be adamant on the point. I, for one, refuse to believe that the liberal-minded Acting Minister of the Interior would be so unjust and hard-hearted as not to grant the opportunity to those who can come to this country for preserving their birth-right. It is the established practice of all civilized States not to punish without giving the persons concerned a chance or an opportunity to defend themselves before a just tribunal. It is, therefore, not yet too late for the Agent-General to appeal for and try to secure extension of time.

Many self-appointed wise men in our community are under the misapprehension that because many people were not aware of the existence of the birth-right which has been taken away by the Act, it is not necessary to press for its preservation. I must say that ignorance on the part of the general public is no excuse for our leaders, and our leaders' leader, the Agent-General, to treat this matter as of little significance, and not worth bothering about. The right was there, and the Immigration Officers must have been aware that quite a number of people were taking advantage of it, otherwise its limitation would not have been put in the Immigration Act of 1937. It is, therefore, all the reason why the Indian press and public should unitedly raise a protest against the iniquitous taking away of the birth-right of our people without any semblance of a chance for its preservation for those Indians who are affected by the Act. If we once let go any of our existing rights without protest, it not only creates an undesirable precedent, but it also would create in the minds of our people a false sense of security in handing over destinies in the hands of our leaders without being vigilant about what the leaders do or do not do,

In conclusion, I trust that throughout the Union, the Colonial-borns and the home-borns will unite in protesting against this monstrous snatching away of our birth-right, as well as against the Agent-General who keeps mum and reticent about it.

OLD CONGRESSMAN.

Tamilians And Telugus

TO THE EDITOR "INDIAN OPINION"

Sir,—Your correspondent L. K. Naidoo's article in your issue of May 21, betrays his ignorance of ethnological science. He gives two reasons which, to his mind, appear sufficient to prove that Telugus are not Tamils. It is admitted that the Andhra language has moulded its phonetical system according to Sanskrit from which it has borrowed words indefinitely. This is not proof at all that it is a Sanskrit language. English, for example, though it has borrowed 95% of its vocables from Latin and other languages, has not ceased to be a Teuonic language. Telugu, in its foundations, is Tamil and in its superstructure, Sanskrit. I need not expatiate upon this at large for a cursory perusal of the works of scholars such as Dr. Caldwell and Mr. Kanagasabai, Mr. Aiyengar etc., who have delved into the origin and perfection of the Dravidian languages, would suffice to substantiate my statement. The latter argument can be explained by a fact similar to that one used to prove why the Tamilians celebrate Divali a day earlier than the Northerners. Telugu, I admit, is a language of wide amplitude and which affords ample scope for intellectual, moral and spiritual attainments. But, because a changed and borrowed idiom had been introduced into a language, provincialised through the influence of Sanskrit, the people among whom the same language exists in its pristine purity, what difference of habit or custom does your worthy correspondent find between a Tamil and a Telugu. It is high time that sections of the great Tamil race ceased

qurelling over their petty differences and claiming superiority over each other on groundless reasons which they have gleaned from their smattering of ancient mythologies, which are no more reliable than the shifting sands of the desert. They should disregard the differences of their languages and rally under the exalted banner of patriotism, unity and love as children of our Ancient Tamizhagan.

Yours etc.,
A TAMIL NAYUDU.

Sir,—From the recent letters to the Editor of OPINION it seems that the true significance of the difference between the Andhras and Tamilians is not understood at all. Mr. Krishnayya Naidoo was absolutely justified in pointing out that the Telugus and Tamils were different and distinct peoples. He attempted elucidating and refuting a statement which appeared in a previous letter in reference to Mr. Peters' Coronation Broadcast.

Let it be remembered that from time immemorial the Andhras have remained a mighty people. The history of ancient India will tell us that after the fall of the Mauryas, two Andhra dynasties—one of which was the famous Suthyavahana dynasty—ruled the entire Hindustan from 25 B.C. to 419 A.D. when the Dravidas—Tamils—were a subject people. During this time the Andhra language came into so close contact with Sanskrit and, being so akin to this ancient language in structure it took unto itself the style of the Rig Veda with all the poetic eloquence of the Ramayana and, perhaps, even of the Mimansas. It is now so full of the beauties of Sanskrit and, what is more, 67% of its vocabulary is composed of pure Sanskrit words. It can be said

to be the purest living descendant and representative of the ancient Sanskrit. There are, of course, numerous off-shoots of the Prakrit prevalent in Northern India but no language shows closer relationship to Sanskrit than modern Telugu.

Tamil, on the other hand, although influenced by Sanskrit through the advent of the Ramayanas of 1013, and although the words expressing abstract thoughts and emotions have come from the Sanskrit, has, as is claimed, remained purely Dravidian.

By this I do not intend to intimate that both owe their origin to one common source. Most authorities hold that the Andhras were the first Aryas to enter India—hence their name, from 'Andhra' and 'driha,' meaning to dispel the darkness, referring to the darkness of India being dispelled by the culture of the first invaders. On the other hand Tamil is, as most say, the modern form of the ancient language of the semi-civilised Dravidians who inhabited India prior to the invasion of the 'first Aryas'

If we take into consideration the homes of the two peoples we find them, although there is a region of transition, quite distinct. The Krishna, in earlier times the Godavari, proved to be the Southernmost boundary of the Andhras whereas this is north of the northernmost boundary of the country inhabited by the Tamils, there being the intervening Kannadas.

Even in physical characteristics there is a marked difference easily discernible even to the casual eye; the tall, fair Andhras of clean cut features as contrasted with the dark, squat, small-limbed Tamil,—there being, of course, natural exceptions.

I am, by no means, contending that the Andhras and Tamils belong to entirely

different races as Mr Vardarajulu Naidoo would have us believe—it is an obvious fact that both are Hindus and Indians. But let him remember that they are as distant from each other as a Marathi would be from a Malayali or a Kashmiri from a Kannada.

There are a number of Andhras in Madras who speak only Tamil owing to the fact that they lived so long in a Tamil country. Look at the descendants of the Malay slaves of the Cape to-day who speak no language other than Afrikaans as a result of the fact that they lived so long with Afrikanders. This does not remove the fact that the Malays are a different people from the Afrikanders and neither does Mr. Vardarajulu Naidoo's point remove the fact that the Andhras and Tamils are different peoples although belonging to the same race. Should Mr. Naidoo confess that he knows no Telugu then little inference is needed to tell us that he has lost his mother-tongue.

In South Africa conditions have been somewhat modified by intermarriage whereby the line of division between the Tamils and Andhras has, to an extent, been removed. To the chagrin of the Andhras they must confess that such intermarriages result in the adoption of Tamil as the mother tongue of the off-spring. It is indeed pitiful to see so beautiful a language undergoing so much neglect. Vemanna has been oft-quoted:

"Bandhi burudha mechhu, baneeru mechhuna?
Visvad abhi rama, vinura Vema."

Yours etc.,
D. NAIDOO.

[Although we have several letters before us on the above subject, we must now declare it closed.—Ed. I.O.]

Things In General

Shooting Outrage Near Verulam

MR. DAWOOD VAVDA, brother of Mr. Ebrahim Vavda of Verulam, was shot by Natives at his residence five miles away from Verulam on Tuesday evening at about 7 p.m. Three Natives were involved and were seen d-camping. The injured man was rushed to the King Edward Hospital where he died the same night. The motive of the crime is unknown. It does not appear to have been robbery, for no attempt was made on the store nor was anybody else molested. We extend to the bereaved our heartfelt sympathy.

Yuvak Arya Samaj

The fifth anniversary celebration of the Yuvak Arya Samaj, of Clairwood, was held on Sunday afternoon, May 30,

and the populace in general, wherever displays have been given.

There was a large gathering present. Mr. R. B. Bhooshan presided. After the reports of the secretary and the treasurer were submitted and adopted, it was announced that the Samaj had bought land at the cost of £120, where it was intended to erect a school. An appeal was made to the public to donate freely towards the building fund.

Professor Yashpal

A welcome was accorded to Professor Yashpal, by the Arya Pratinidhi Sabha on Thursday June 3, at the Hindu Tamil Institute, Cross Street, Durban. Professor Yashpal hails from India. He is a professor of the Yoga Philosophy and, it is said, he can completely control his pulses, while his feats of Archery have astounded Rajahs and Maharajahs

Port Elizabeth Indian Congress

A general meeting of the Port Elizabeth Indian Congress was held recently at the Spot Bioscope. A large number of members was present. Mr. S. R. Naidoo took the chair. After the chairman had explained the object of the meeting, the following officials were elected for the ensuing year: President: Mr. Dhallabh-bhai Fakir (P. Daya); vice-presidents: Messrs. S. R. Naidoo, M. H. Begg and M. E. Bhattay; joint secretaries: Messrs. A. H. O. Begg and O. K. Pillay; treasurer: Mr. Mahomed Ismail; committee: Messrs. P. B. Umley, R. G. Varma, G. Doraswami, K. Ismail, M. Cassim, S. Vanda-

(Continued on page 271)

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India Letter

(EXTRACTS FROM A. I. C. O. FOREIGN LETTER)

Civil Liberties

THE state of civil liberties in the Indian States can only be likened to that under fascism and disclosures are rare. In the State of Cochin, the Government has in recent days banned a students' union and a daily newspaper and ordered the arrest of the President of the Civil Liberties Union. Police arrests and subsequent third degree methods are quite frequent. P. S. Nambudri, a Congress worker who had associated himself with a Tin Factory Workers' strike, was very badly beaten by the police. In the State of Bikaner Laxmidas and Magharan, Secretary and President respectively of the Prajmandal (State Peoples' Association) and Satyanarain Shroff and Muktaram, Advocates, were served with externment orders as they were "acting in a manner prejudicial to the public safety and in a manner deemed contrary to the public safety" and whereas their "presence in the State is undesirable."

The Maharaja of Cochin has ordered the purification of a temple in its territory which has been "polluted" by the officiating of priests from Travancore. Travancore, it will be remembered, had thrown open its temples to all Hindus, and Cochin, a sister State, could not bear to see the "untouchables" being accorded equal civic rights with the other Hindus. Shankar has a cartoon in the *Hindustan Times* of the Maharaja of Cochin, disfigured with rage, holding an uplifted broken rod, standing in the middle of a railway track, when an upsurge of masses is awaiting a "Social Reforms Special."

Total Sentence Of 117 Years For 17 Persons

"Seventeen persons have been sentenced to aggregate imprisonment of 117 years in the Titaghur Terrorist Conspiracy Case. One has been awarded transportation for life, three others get more than 10 years, eight others are given more than 5 years while none of the persons convicted—including a young girl—gets less than three. The charges against them were of waging war against the King and of being in possession of explosives. Possession of explosives, though serious enough, does not invite such sentences—especially when the accused were young persons. The savagery of these sentences, the callousness towards the Jute strikers, detention of thousands without trial, the recently constituted Third Communist Conspiracy Case, repression against the Kisan workers all go to show the temper of the Bengal Government." (Congress Socialist). Of those acquitted, four have been arrested under

the Bengal Criminal Law Amendment Act, and are now detained without trial.

May Day

The orkers of India displayed remarkable enthusiasm on May 1 and the Police were very active and precautionary measures were taken. At Delhi and certain other places, posters and handbills calling upon the workers to join the May Day demonstration were seized by the Police. At Calcutta, specially stringent measures were adopted on the declared ground that the Jute strike and consequent labour unrest necessitated special precaution. First, the Local Government banned all processions and meetings without licence and, when a licence was applied for, it was allowed on the express condition that not more than 450 persons will join the procession and not more than 1,000 persons will attend the meeting. In spite, however, of such interference, the demonstrations were successful. At Bombay, the celebration was held jointly by the Bombay Provincial Congress Committee, Provincial Trade Union Congress, Congress Socialist Party, the National Indian Trade Union Federation, the Kissan Sangh, the Press Workers' Federation and other organisations. Similar meetings were also held at Delhi, Karachi, Patna, Allahabad and other places at which resolutions were passed reiterating the solidarity of the workers, denouncing Fascism and capitalism, congratulating the Spanish people in their struggle against Fascism and sympathising with the Jute strikers of Calcutta.

Dr. Tagore's Call To Youth

This year's convocation of the Calcutta University showed a marked departure from past traditions in more than one respect. For the first time in the annals of the University a distinguished person, not officially connected with the University, was invited to deliver an address. And Dr. Tagore created another precedent by delivering his address in Bengali. In a clarion call to the younger generation of the country he called upon them to view the problems confronting them in their proper perspective. "Well-nigh insoluble problems are rising to confront our country one after another," he said. "The solutions of these problems may not be easy; but if not found we shall descend lower and lower into the abyss. It is for you to think out where the remedy lies—but not by means of ignorant imaginings, not by dint of tearful outbursts. Defeated you may be, but you must vow that defeat shall not

come by your deserting the helm in fright or because you foolishly deem it glorious to commit suicide by jumping into the raging waves. I call upon you to take up your country's burden manfully in the light of your own intelligence freed from the vagueness of unrealities, facing and knowing the folly, the ugliness, the imperfections that beset you for what they really are, and not exaggerating them according to your particular bias.

India And The League

"India has been associated with the League for the last 16 years. It may be pointed out that during this long period the training which the League has vouchsafed to us has been quite negligible and there is no knowing that the scope of such training will widen in the future," writes Dr. Naresh Chandra Roy in a recent number of the *Calcutta Review*. "It may be pointed out here that if India has not gained much in this field by its long connection with the League, for that the Government of India and the Indian people are largely to blame. The Indian people ought to have brought pressure to bear upon the Government of India, and the Government of India in their turn ought to have brought pressure, whenever necessary, to bear upon the League authorities.

Mr. Sastri's Report On Malaya

After an extensive tour of Malaya, the Rt. Hon. Mr. V. S. S. Sastri has submitted a report on the conditions of Indian labour with special reference to the rates of wages, hours of work provision for residence, medical treatment, education, etc. It is a well documented report, crammed with facts and figures pertaining to the life of the Indian labourer in Malaya. After a careful study of the situation, Mr. Sastri offers a number of suggestions with a view to improve the economic status of the Indian emigrant and provide him with more educational facilities. These suggestions are so modest and reasonable that one may fairly hope they will be accepted. He concludes that given an assurance of active and sympathetic consideration of the improvements suggested, and in particular of steps being immediately taken to restore the standard rates of wages fixed in 1928, non-recruited assisted emigration should be permitted to continue. The report, however, confines itself merely to the problem of labour and dismisses the broader issues of social and political status as wholly irrelevant under the present circumstances. Problems of labour can hardly be thus isolated for long, and one need not be surprised that even after these improvements are carried out, the demand for political rights that go with settlement will become well-nigh irresistible.

THINGS IN GENERAL]

[Continued from page 268

yar, B. R. Ebby, N. F. Bansda, E. Goul Farris, M. I. Longat, K. S. Choochan, O. R. Pillay, G. S. Chetty, N. Lalla, K. J. Khan, N. Pon, N. Makan, S. I. Moodley, Dawood Moosa, Abdool Fakir and Soma Bava. At the conclusion, Mr. C. K. Pillay moved a vote of thanks to Mr. A. E. Haffjee (the retiring president) for services rendered to the community during the past 15 years. Dr. A. H. Allam and P. K. Pillay were thanked for bringing about a reconciliation. Mr. D. Fakir, the new President, thanked the members for having placed confidence in him and said his motto would be to serve the Indian community.

Indians Involved In Strike

350 Indian and Native labourers in the Durban Falkirk Iron Works at Jacobs had gone on strike on Wednesday last week and were officially dismissed by the management on Friday for having done so. On last Tuesday morning they turned up to work notwithstanding their dismissal but the management refused to allow them to start work unless they signed on as new hands. The majority refused to do so, contending that they were still employees of the firm and had merely been looked out. They state that if they signed on afresh they would be admitting that they had been dismissed and would be surrendering their principles. They submit that while the dispute was on the management should take them back and allow the Industrial Council to decide the issue. While this is being penned the management were adamant as a result of which not less than 1850 souls are suffering from want of food.

Scout Movement Formed At

Dannhauser

An inaugural meeting convened by Messrs C. Gopaul, C. R. Naidoo, and D. V. Moodley for the purpose of forming a Scout Movement was held at the Madressa Hall, Dannhauser, on May 18. It was decided to name the new body as the 1st Northern Natal Indian Scout Troop. It is interesting to note that this is the first movement of its kind for Indians in Northern Natal and Mr. H. S. Done, Commissioner for Indian Scouts in Natal congratulated the organising members on their efforts. The following office-bearers were elected for the ensuing year:—Patrons: Messrs. Sheik Abdool, C. S. Vawda and Dr. I. Friedman; president: Mr. C. Gopaul; vice-presidents: Messrs. Sheik Ameer, R. Loganathan, D. V. Moodley, C. Laloo and I. D. Vawda; Joint Hon. Secretaries: Messrs. D. S. Maharaj and S. Ruthra; Hon. Treasurer: Mr. A. Gaffoor; Committee: Messrs. S. A. lam, H. Naidoo, C. R. Naidoo, L. Gorden and the president and the joint secretaries. Scoutmaster: Mr. D. V. Moodley; Troop Leader: Mr. C. Laloo; Auditor: Mr. R. G. Maharaj.

Burma's Heaviest Man

A claim to be the heaviest man in Burma has been put forward by Mr. Teddy Gregory of Kado, Lower Burma. He weighs 27½ stone. An Anglo-Burman, Mr. Gregory submits his measurements to support his claim. Here they are: Wrist, 10½ inches; chest, 58 inches; neck, 18 inches; thigh, 41 inches; calves, 22 inches. He is 5 feet 9 inches in height.

Longest Bridge In The World

San Francisco, United States of America, has built the longest bridge in the world known as the Golden Gate Bridge. It is 250 feet above the swift tides that sweep back and forth through the entrance to San Francisco's famous harbour, and 9,200 feet long. The cost of this great work, which was started in February, 1933, has been £7,500,000. The bridge has an annual "capacity" of at least seventy million motor-cars.

The New British Cabinet

Mr. Neville Chamberlain's Cabinet consists of 15 Conservatives, four National Liberals and two National Labour. The

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Junior Ministers

There are several changes among junior Ministers, including the following: Sir Philip Sasson, former Under Secretary for Air, is appointed First Commissioner of Works, without a seat in the Cabinet; Captain Egan Wallace, who

led the British delegation at the Montreux Conference on the regime of capitulations in Egypt, leaves the Department of Overseas Trade to become Parliamentary Secretary to the Board of Trade, and is succeeded by Mr. R. S. Hudson, former Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Health, a position which is taken by a new-comer to the Ministerial Ranks, Mr. R. H. Bernays (Liberal National); Lord Cranborne and Lord Plymouth remain Parliamentary Under-Secretaries for Foreign Affairs; Lord Winterston, who was not in Mr. Baldwin's Government, has joined the new administration as Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster; The Law Officers and Scottish Law Officers remain unchanged, as also the Postmaster-General, the Minister of Pensions and the Financial Secretary to the Treasury. Captain Margesson continues as Chief Whip; Under Secretary for Colonies: Lord Dufferin; Under Secretary for India: Lord Stanley; Under Secretary for Air: Colonel Muirhead; Civil Lord of the Admiralty: Colonel Llewellyn; Parliamentary Financial Secretary to the Admiralty: Mr. Geoffrey Shakespeare; Parliamentary Secretary to Board of Education: Mr. Kenneth Lindsay; Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Labour: Mr. R. A. Butler; Lord Commissioners of the Treasury: Mr. James Stuart, Colonel C. Kerr, Captain Waterhouse, Mr. R. Cross, Captain Dugdale; Treasurer of the Household: Sir Lambert Ward; Controller of the Household: Sir George Davies; Vice-Chamberlain of the Household: Mr. A. Hope; Paymaster-General: Lord Hutchison.

Social And Personal

MISS M. M. KRIEL, Secretary of the M. Y. W. C. A. who has been very popular among the Indian community as a God fearing woman and as one who has sincerely been working to break the racial barriers which she considers to be un-Christian has left her post for a few months from last Monday. Miss Kriel intends spending her holiday for a time with her sister in the Cape and then proceeding to Europe. Miss Kriel takes with her the best wishes of all her friends.

Miss F. Sutton has recently come from England to relieve Miss Kriel. Miss Sutton has been associated for years in London with the welfare of Indian students, principally in connection with the Students Christian Movement headquarters at No. 32, Russel Square, and is also one of the secretaries of the East and West Friendship Council. Miss Sutton has since her arrival come in touch with a number of leading Indians. We heartily welcome Miss Sutton and wish her every success.

The Sporting World

Senior Intertown

THE senior intertown between Durban and Maritzburg has been set down for June 5 at Currie's Fountain. It is a great pity that this date clashes with the Aberdeen visit but the intertown was set long before the dates of the Aberdonians were published.

Results At A Glance

Senior Natal Cup: Stella 5, Collegians 0; Shamrocks w.o., Pirates scr.; Daffodils 0, Stars 0. Junior Natal Cup: Victorians 4, Daffodils 2. Junior League: All Blacks 2, Red Rovers 1; Shamrocks 2, Sastri A 2; Stella 3, Sastri B 0. Second League: Avondale 2, Sydenham 1. Juvenile Natal Cup: Sastri A 1, Flamingoes 1.

Monday's Games

The semi-finals of the senior Natal Cup matches were played on Empire Day, Avondale and Shamrocks going out to Daffodils and Star respectively. Daffodils won by three goals to one. On the main ground Star beat Shamrocks by four goals to nil. Junior matches: Stella beat Sastri College A. by five goals to three, but it is understood that the losers have lodged a protest on the grounds of an unqualified player having played for Stella. Victorians overcame Shamrocks in the replay by two goals, while Daffodils routed Red Rovers by 11 goals to one. Sparks beat Parkhill by two goals

By "Rambler"

to nil. In the juvenile section Flemingoes beat Avondales by four goals to nil, while Stella defeated Sastri College B. by five goals to one.

Alfred Davis Challenge Shield

Natal tennis competition for the Alfred Davis Challenge Shield was played on Sunday between the Moonlighters and Clairwood Tennis Clubs, and resulted in a win for the Moonlighters Tennis Club by 5 matches to 4.

Central Lawn Tennis Club

The fourth annual general meeting of the Central Indian Lawn Tennis Club was held on Sunday May 29, at 309, Umgeni Road, Durban, resulting in the following election for the ensuing year:— Patrons: Dr. G. M. Naicker, Dr. K. M. Seedat, Messrs. Popalal Kara, Thakerase Damoder and R. K. Kapitan; President: Mr. C. C. Govender; hon. life vice-president: Mr. V. R. Chetty; vice-presidents: Messrs. J. Vesram, N. Gopaul and T. M. Moodley; hon. secretary: Mr. G. S. Samuels; hon. treasurer: Mr. P. C. Soni; hon. auditor: Mr. P. Morarjee; captain: Mr. J. Jivan; vice-captain: Mr. T. M. Moodley; committee: Messrs. S. S. Pather, J. Vassan, S. R. Govender, M. Rajh, S. T. Chetty, G. Naicker and B.

Lutchmans; Delegates to the Natal Indian Tennis Association: Messrs. N. Gopaul and C. C. Govender.

Wrestling Challenge

Puckree Pillay accepts the challenges of A. K. E. Bux and G. C. Naidoo, and intimates that he is prepared to wrestle both of them in one night, and will forfeit the purse if he loses either of the matches.

Van der Walt's Matches

Johannes van der Walt, the South African wrestler, is expected to have his first match in Paris this week against Henri de Cleynne. The bout will be held at the Palais de Sport. He will have a second match in Paris, and then proceed to Athens, where, according to Henry Irallinger, he expects to have a £4,000 house. From Greece he will return to France, and then go over to London for a match or two there.

Schools Competition

The Sir Karma Raddi Government-aided Indian School was the winner of the Mahatho thrift group for the past two years, 1935-36. Mr. A. Gray, chairman of the National Thrift Organisation, Mr. J. G. Premister, the secretary, and the Rev. O. J. Lander, school manager, were present to grace the occasion. The Rev. O. J. Lander presided at the function.

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