

# INDIAN OPINION

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## NOTES AND NEWS

### Reuter's Messages About India

**A** REUTER'S message from Amritsar reports a serious communal situation, following the funeral of a Sikh musician, Sunder Singh, who was killed at Alla by Moslems. The Moslems are alleged to have attacked the funeral procession and the Sikhs retaliated. One Moslem has been killed and 48 wounded. Two Sikhs have been wounded. British troops were called out to restore peace and order.

We certainly do not congratulate Reuter's Agency in India upon its selection of news items to be transmitted abroad. That such incidents would take place in a population of three hundred and thirty-five millions is nothing to be wondered at. But what of the great movement which seems to be speedily advancing of the two communities joining hands in the fight for India's independence. We read of these things only when the exchanges reach us. The object of Reuter's Agency, in transmitting news about petty communal riots is, therefore, quite obviously, to show to the outside world only the black side of India so as to prejudice it against her. How long will this last? Truth must prevail in the end.

### No Restoration "Cuts"

#### For Native Teachers

While European teachers in the Transvaal are about to receive substantial cheques in payment of the cuts effected in their salaries during the depression, no such restoration is being made to native teachers, who also suffered severely during the depression. The total amount being paid to European teachers exceeds £300,000. Mrs. Bertha Solomon (U.P., Bezuidenhout) has now been told by the Administrator, Mr. S. P. Bekker, that the amount that would be required to restore cuts to native teachers would be £49,000. Many of the European teachers, who are about to receive these extra cheques, have received letters suggesting that they should donate these windfalls to the Pretoria University.

This is ample proof that the authorities want to keep the black man eternally down-trodden.

### Slum Clearance Or

#### Village Scheme For Indians?

Out of a half a million pounds to be spent by the Durban City Council on Durban's housing scheme for aged poor Europeans, coloured people, natives and Indians, the sum of £8,662 is to be spent on 50 houses to be built at Cato Manor for Indians. These houses, we are told, will be of concrete slabs on half-acre plots, each house estimated at £150. There will be communal taps, but no roads. "The Council is well aware that Orient Lane is the worst slum quarter in Durban," it is said, and, therefore, "Indians in this lane will be accommodated in the new village at Cato Manor."

### Mr. A. H. Eaton M.P. On

#### Slum Clearance

Slum clearance in Durban's "black spots" were severely criticised by Mr. A. H. Eaton, M.P., at a fairly well attended United Party meeting in the Masonic Hall, Red Hill, on Tuesday last. "I am sure that, if public opinion is behind it, we will see these 'black spots' in Durban cleaned out," Mr. Eaton declared. "We cannot hold up our heads until they are cleared away." At Sea Cow Lake, in a portion of Overport, in the vicinity of Sydenham Road, and even at Prospect, they would see Europeans living cheek by jawl with Natives, and children of the different races playing together.

The reader can well judge from this what is actually meant by slum clearance.

### No Wonder Mental Defectives In

#### Union Exceed Other Countries

Speaking at a meeting of the Society for Mental Hygiene in Capetown, Dr. G. Key, superintendent of the Valkenberg Mental Asylum, quoted figures to show that the percentage of mental defectives was higher in the Union than in many other countries. The annual number of cases admitted to asylums in the Union was 2,500, of whom about 50 per cent. were new cases. The total number of patients in institutions in the Union was 12,000, of whom 6,000 were Europeans. In South Africa 296 out of 100,000 of the population were mentally defective. The figures for America and

England were 276 and 313 out of 100,000 of the population respectively. In South Africa £600,000 was spent annually on mental defectives.

### Indians In Northern Rhodesia

Sir Leopold Moore, who represented Northern Rhodesia at the Coronation, had a conference in London with the Secretary of State for the Colonies, Mr. W. G. A. Ormsby-Gore, at which the Governor of Northern Rhodesia and Colonel Gore-Browns, the other unofficial representative of Northern Rhodesia, were present. Among other things Sir Leopold Moore states in his newspaper, the *Livingstone Mail*, that he emphasised the desire in Northern Rhodesia for the control of Asiatic immigration, and asked whether a conference would be held while Mr. Huggins, Prime Minister of Southern Rhodesia was in London. The reply was that this depended on Mr. Huggins. This shows which way the wind is blowing in so far as Indians in Rhodesia are concerned.

### Licensing Laws

In the Transvaal Provincial Council Mr. P. A. Ackerman (U.P., Heidelberg) moved:

"That the Executive Committee be requested to introduce legislation so as to amend the existing Licensing Ordinances;

"That Licensing Boards should have the power to refuse existing licences when the business was conducted in such a manner that it was a danger to public health; and

"That Licensing Boards should have the right to hold inspections from time to time."

The motion was accepted.

### S. A. Indian Question

#### At The Imperial Conference

Sir Zafrullah Khan, the Indian delegate to the Imperial Conference, said in an interview with Reuter at London that at the conversations all the Dominion Prime Ministers had in every case given the assurance that India's representations would be sympathetically considered. He had conversed with General Hertzog on several occasions concerning Asiatic legislation in the Union.

**Trading Licences Decisions**

Sitting as an Appeal Board on trading licences last Monday the Durban City Council upheld the Licensing Officer's decision to refuse a furniture manufacturer's licence to Chookary Beepath, of 412 Randles Road, Durban; Mr. Bolton who is conducting an active propaganda to kill Indians out of the Furniture Industry took an active part in this case. The Licensing Officer refused the application on the ground that he did not consider the applicant to be a fit and proper person to hold such a licence. The Council upheld the Licensing Officer's decision granting a boot and shoe repairer's licence to A. E. A. Taylor, of 29 Noble Road, Berea, Durban; and upheld the Licensing Officer's decision refusing a

general dealer's licence to Mangee Noor Mahomed, of Zeekoe Vallei, Quarry Road, Durban.

**Refusal Of Licence In Potchefstroom**

Two petitions have been presented to the Town Council in regard to the recent refusal of a trading licence for a large modern shop in King Edward Street says the Potchefstroom correspondent of the *Star*. One supports the Licensing Committee's action and the other protests against alleged discrimination. The second petition is signed by the majority of property owners in the central business block and is claimed to represent owners of £100,000 in rateable values. They say the refusal will have a detrimental effect on property values in the business area.

It is not stated whether the licence in question is an Asiatic one or not.

has said in a letter to *The Natal Advertiser* is true, and we have no reason whatsoever to believe it to be otherwise, every person with the slightest sense of justice must fully sympathise with the cause of these Indians. This is what Mr. Harry says:

"We workers of the Falkirk Iron Company do not know what Communism means. We are entirely unorganised. We were not accepted as members of the Amalgamated Engineering Union. We had our grievances. Some of our men were paid a mere 6s. a week when the minimum wage according to the industrial agreement was 18s. Our men had to go to the factory between four and five in the morning, although according to the industrial agreement work should not start until 6.50. Our men were not supposed to work for more than eight hours a day, yet no matter what time in the morning they commenced work they were not given overtime pay unless they worked after 4.30 p.m. Some of our men, myself included, have been performing skilled or semi-skilled work, for which we should have been paid 1s. 6d. to 2s. 9d. an hour, but we have only been paid unskilled labourers' wages. Some of our men have lost an eye and suffered other injuries in the service of the company and have received no compensation...When we wished to protest against the action of the management, we acted strictly within the letter of the industrial agreement, an agreement in the drawing up of which we had absolutely no voice...All that we want is that our grievances should have an impartial and reasonable hearing. If, as a result of this dispute, we are admitted as members of the Amalgamated Engineering Union, we shall be fully satisfied, and our union will have served its purpose and will immediately

**Indian Opinion**

FRIDAY, JUNE 25TH, 1937

**Falkirk Factory Dispute**

**T**HE dispute between the Falkirk Factory Management and their Indian employees still stands unsettled. The allegation against the Indian employees now is that they have been led by communistic influences. In that case perhaps all the strikes that take place and the disputes that arise between the employers and employees in this country must have a good deal to do with Communist agitation. But they are never for that reason allowed to remain unsettled. The reason, of course, is that the European workers are well organised and the labour leaders can make their voices heard, in and out of Parliament. They can bring the whole industrial system to a stand still. Indian workers, on the other hand, however much they may be united, cannot wield so much influence and notwithstanding the fact that so much fraternity is professed among the labouring class irrespective of race or colour, Indians in South Africa, at least, can little rely upon unstinted support in their cause of the European workers. If they could we would have seen the European workers moving heaven and earth to see

that justice was meted out to their fellow-Indian workers in the Falkirk Iron Factory.

Indians generally need to take a warning from this that they should not, unless they have an unchallengeable case, try to follow each and every example of the European workers nor allow themselves to be thoughtlessly led by them and to put into use the same weapon as is used by them. It will not pay them to do so, unless they have made up their minds before taking up the weapon to welcome, without a murmur, whatever consequences they may be faced with, and those might include being thrown out of employment altogether and starvation. We sound this warning note in all earnestness to all Indian workers for we have noticed now and again a tendency among them to mimic the White worker. They could well afford to do so if the conditions in which they are placed would be the same as those governing the White workers. But that, unfortunately, is not the case.

Now about the Indians of the Falkirk Iron Factory. If what Mr. P. M. Harry, chairman of the Iron and Steel Workers Union,

be disbanded. It is most regrettable that Mr. Malcolm Barker should have anticipated the report of Mr. Tobias. He said that Mr. Tobias was confident that Communistic influences were at work. He knew that Mr. Tobias had been sent to Durban by the Minister in order to ascertain the full facts and submit a report to him on his return. The Minister obviously wished to know whether, from the facts thus obtained, it was necessary or possible for him to take any action. Mr. Barker, therefore, has been unfair to us

by raising the bogey of Communism, and thus trying to alienate public sympathy from our cause. The public should know, too, that the management from the very beginning shirked an inquiry. They have assumed that they have been entirely in the right, and the men entirely in the wrong. In fact we hear that the offer of the Minister of Labour to appoint an unofficial mediator was turned down. If Mr. Malcolm Barker thinks that we have been misled by Communists, why shouldn't he agree to an inquiry by some impartial

person in order to clear the air?"

If the conditions of work described by Mr. Harry represent the true state of affairs we must say that such conditions, if they were to exist in an Indian owned factory they would never have been tolerated. The whole thing now rests on Mr. Tobias' report to the Minister and what action the Minister deems fit to take. In the meantime the workers, who are out of employment, have the fullest sympathy and the moral and material support of their fellow countrymen.

## THE IMMIGRATION AMENDMENT ACT 1937

IN describing the amendment introduced by this statute as the deprivation of "a birthright," has the Editor really been guilty of misleading his public? I think not. The expression may perhaps be somewhat colourful, but is not unjustifiable.

If the amendment at all deprives the community of any pre-existing "right"—and the Agent-General would appear to have considered that it does—the term "birthright" not inaptly describes the nature of that deprivation.

It is observable that the Acting Minister expressed his own view in carefully guarded language. "It was not clear whether such a right really existed!" No express denial; merely that "it was not clear." "Arguable perhaps," one might add, "but in any event not admitted or recognised, and in any case if it ever did exist, be assured that it exists no longer."

Obviously there was room for differences of opinion; obviously it was feared that the existing law, without this amendment, left some loophole it

By

L. W. RITCH

was necessary to close up, some contingency that required anticipating, something of the nature of a legal claim that might successfully be asserted. Nor is it foolish or even illogical to infer that this new requirement to do something "before the 1st day of June, 1937" presupposed the possibility of that same something being done after the 1st day of June, 1937, but for the new statutory prohibition.

Mr. Mistry's considered opinion seems well-reasoned and well-argued. There may, of course, be an answer—as between lawyers there almost is!—but his contention, like that of the Editor of I.O. deserves to be treated at least with respect, certainly not with ridicule, much less abuse.

To me, the matter of a loaf or a fish more or less is a matter of comparative unimportance. Whether a few more or a few less Indians obtain entrance to this land of much gold and much desti-

tution, the fact will remain that the brand-mark of racial undesirability is officially stamped in them all, that in the eyes of the law they are no better than *pariahs* whose existence has in some measure to be suffered, but, who, since their presence has to be tolerated at all, must be made to know their places and submit to segregation, restrictions upon movement, and restraints upon opportunities.

A people laying claim to any measure of dignity, would, I should imagine, refuse to enter or remain in a land in which the acceptance of helotry was their portion and the price.

To those of us who love the Motherland and what India stands for, the whole picture—helotry imposed; a people content to accept it—at a price—is saddening enough. But sadder still is the spectacle of personal bickering, and spiteful attacks by one upon the other indulged in by those who should be the champions and servitors of a common cause and common need, and whose first concern should be the enlightenment and unification of their less informed brethren. A state divided against itself is easily overcome and enslaved.

## THE VICEROY SPEAKS

THE Viceroy's eagerly awaited statement on the constitutional position in India is published.

Lord Linlithgow describes it as an effort to dissipate finally some of the difficulties that have emerged from the recent constitutional changes.

Three months' experience of the new constitution, he says, has shown, from a practical point of view, that the assurances sought by Congress are non-essential to its smooth and harmonious working.

It has also shown that the apprehensions that the Governors would seek occasions for interfering with their Ministers' policy have no shadow of justification.

After pointing out that Ministers have the duty of advising the Government over the whole range of executive government within the Ministerial field, including the area of special responsibilities, the Viceroy goes on to deal with what could occur when a "serious disagreement" arose.

"I readily agree that where no agreement could be reached," he says, "then the Ministry must either resign or be dismissed. As between resignation and dismissal, normal constitutional practice leans very heavily to the side of resignation. Dismissal might seem to carry a suggestion of inferiority, a suggestion we are concerned, at any cost, to eradicate from the new constitutional arrangements."

"Let me at once assure you," Lord Linlithgow says later, "that, in my judgment and given goodwill on all sides, this constitution will work, and that in experience it will be found to work well."

### Mahatma Gandhi Silent

Mahatma Gandhi, interviewed by Reuter at Bombay, declined to comment on the Viceroy's message, but added that the Congress Working Committee would finally decide the "grave issue" on July 5.

The reception given the message by the Indian Press is mixed, but the greater part expresses satisfaction at its conciliatory nature. Members of Congress, however, stress their disappointment that it represents no advance on the position already set by Lord Zetland.

# RIGHT AND DUTY

**A**N Indian Christian Missionary had a long talk with Gandhiji recently during which he put to Gandhiji questions arising from Gandhiji's recent criticism of a joint manifesto issued by several influential Indian Christians. It will be remembered that Gandhiji in his article commented at length particularly on the portion of the manifesto wherein the manifesto made this claim on behalf of the Christian Church: "The Church will cling to its right to receive such people into itself from whatever religious group they may come. It will cling to the further right to go about in these days of irreligion and materialism to awaken spiritual hunger in all."

"I have been following," said the visitor, "your comments on the statements regarding mass movements made by the Indian Christians. I wonder if those who made the statements were thinking of anything in the nature of a 'legal' right. It is, I think, a moral right they claim here rather than a legal one."

"My criticism would apply even if they had used the word 'moral right'. But it is clear that they mean a legal right, because for one thing there is no such thing as a moral right, and secondly because in the very next para of the manifesto, in which they have referred to the Karachi Resolution on Fundamental Rights, they make it clear that they mean by 'right' legal right. A moral right, if there is any such thing, does not need any asserting and defending."

"The main purpose of the manifesto was to check the agitation that is going on in certain quarters. I admit that if it was meant to be a protest, it was not properly drafted."

"That is why," said Gandhiji, "I have called it 'an unfortunate document.' And is there anything like a moral right? Give me an illustration."

"Have I not a moral right to speak?"

"It is not a moral right but a legal right. There is no right but is legal. Divorced from legality moral right is a misnomer. And therefore you either enforce a right or fight for it. Whereas nobody asserts one's duty. He humbly performs it. I shall take an illustration. You are here. You feel like preaching to me the Gospel. I deny the right and ask you to go away. If you regard praying for me a duty, you will quietly go away and pray for me. But

if you claim the right to preach to me, you will call the police and appeal to them for preventing my obstructing you. That leads to a clash. But your duty no one dare question. You perform it here or elsewhere, and if your prayers to God to change my heart are genuine, God will change my heart. What Christianity, according to my interpretation of it, expects you to do is to pray to God to change my heart. Duty is a debt. Right belongs to a creditor, and it would be a funny thing indeed if a devout Christian claimed to be a creditor!"

## Spread Your Perfume

"You have objected to Christian propaganda on the ground that Harijans are illiterate and ignorant. What would you say of propaganda amongst non-Harijans?"

"I have the same objection, because the vast mass of people of India would not understand the *pros* and *cons* of Christianity better than a cow. I repeat this simile in spite of the fact that it has been objected to. When I say I do not understand logarithms any better than my cow, I do not mean any insult to my intelligence. In matters of theology the non-Harijan masses can understand no better than Harijans. I would take you to Segaon and show you that there is no distinction so far as capacity to understand such things is concerned, between Harijans and non-Harijans. Try to preach the principles of Christianity to my wife. She can understand them no better than my cow. I can, because of the training that I have had."

"But," objected the friend, "we do not preach any theology. We simply talk of the life of Christ and tell them what a comfort his life and teaching have been to us. He has been our guide, we say, and ask others also to accept Him as their guide."

"Oh yes, you do say that. But when you say I must accept Jesus in preference to Ramkrishna Paramahansa, you will have to go into deep waters. That is why I say, let your life speak to us, even as the rose needs no speech but simply spreads its perfume. Even the blind who do not see the rose perceive its fragrance. That is the secret of the Gospel of the rose. But the Gospel that Jesus preached is more subtle and fragrant than the Gospel of the rose. If the rose needs no agent, much less does the Gospel of Christ need any agent."

## The Mental Reservation

"But then your objection is to the commercial aspect of the Christian propaganda. Every true Christian will agree that no baits should be offered."

"But what else is Christianity as it is preached nowadays? Not unless you isolate the proselytizing aspect from your educational and medical institutions are they any worth. Why should students attending Mission schools and colleges be compelled or even expected to attend Bible classes? If they must understand the message of Jesus, why not also of Buddha, Zoroaster and Mahomed? Why should the bait of education be offered for giving education?"

"That was the old way, not the modern way."

"I can cite to you any number of modern examples. Is not the Bishop of Dornakal a modern? And what else is his Open Letter to the Depressed Classes of India. It is full of baits."

"He represents a type of Christianity which I do not approve. But where there is no compulsion to attend the Bible classes, and only education is given, what objection is there to educational institutions run by Missions?"

"There is a subtle kind of propaganda when you expect students to attend Bible classes."

"As regards hospitals, I think philanthropy without the dynamic of some religious teaching will not tell."

"Then you commercialize your gift, for at the back of your mind is the feeling that because of your service some day the recipient of the gift will accept Christ. Why should not your service be its own reward?"

"But leave alone these. I think I can cite instances of exceptionally fine people who attract people to them by the example of their lives."

"I too can cite such instances. Andrews is one such. But they are exceptions."

"But then you must judge Christianity by its best representatives, and not the worst."

"I am not judging Christianity as a religion. I am talking of the way Christianity is being propagated, and you cannot judge it by exceptions, even as you may not judge the British system of Government by some fine specimens of Englishmen. No, let us think of the bulk of your people who preach the

Gospel. Do they spread the perfume of their lives? That is to me the sole creation. All I want them to do is to live Christian lives, not to annotate them. I have come to this view after laborious and prayerful search, and I am glad to say that there is a growing body of Christians who accept my view."

### Personality Of Jesus

"Then, I should be obliged to hear from you your attitude to the personality of Jesus."

"I have often made it clear. I regard Jesus as a great teacher of humanity, but I do not regard him as the only begotten son of God. That epithet in its material interpretation is quite unacceptable. Metaphorically we are all begotten sons of God, but for each of us there may be different begotten sons of God in a special sense. Thus for me Chaitanya may be the only begotten son of God."

"But don't you believe in the perfection

of human nature, and don't you believe that Jesus had attained perfection?"

"I believe in the *perfectibility* of human nature. Jesus came as near to perfection as possible. To say that he was perfect is to deny God's superiority to man. And then in this matter I have a theory of my own. Being necessarily limited by bonds of flesh, we can attain perfection only after dissolution of the body. Therefore God alone is absolutely perfect. When He descends to earth, He of His own accord limits Himself. Jesus died on the cross because he was limited by the flesh. I do not need either the prophecies or the miracles to establish Jesus' greatness as a teacher. Nothing can be more miraculous than the three years of his ministry. There is no miracle in the story of the multitude being fed on a handful of loaves. A magician can create that illusion. But were worth the day on which a magician would be hailed as the Saviour of humanity. As for Jesus raising the dead to life, well I doubt if the men he

raised were really dead. I raised a relative's child from supposed death to life, but that was because the child was not dead, and but for my presence there she might have been cremated. But I saw that life was not extinct. I gave her an enema and she was restored to life. There was no miracle about it. I do not deny that Jesus had certain psychic powers and he was undoubtedly filled with the love of humanity. But he brought to life not people who were dead but who were believed to be dead. The laws of Nature are changeless, unchangeable, and there are no miracles in the sense of infringement or interruption of Nature's laws. But we limited beings fancy all kinds of things and impute our limitations to God. We may copy God, but not He us. We may not divide Time for Him, Time for Him is eternity. For us there is a past, present and future. And what is human life of a hundred years but less than a mere speck in the eternity of Time?"—*Harijan.*

## SHAW'S ADVICE TO INDIAN STUDENTS

### ANGLICIZATION IN ENGLAND IS MORE USEFUL ON RETURN TO INDIA

INDIAN students in Great Britain and Ireland have decided to start a quarterly journal as a result of the conference that was held in January last, when a Federation of Indian Students' Societies in this country and Ireland was inaugurated says the London correspondent of the *Hindustan Times*.

The objects of the Federation are: (1) to bring together various Indian students' societies, (2) to promote contact between Indian students in various parts of Britain and Ireland, (3) to safeguard rights and privileges of Indian students and to look after their general welfare, (4) to keep in touch with students organisations in India, and (5) to co-operate with other national and international student movements.

The first issue of the quarterly "Indian Student" is now available. Priced 4d. it is a well got-up magazine which does credit to the Indian student community in this country. The editor-in-chief, Mr. P. P. Singh, a student at King's College, London, has been well advised in the choice of material collected for the first number. For an average Indian student "Indian Student" will be most valuable for its record of youth activities at home and abroad. It also chronicles the activities of Indian and other youths in defence of democracy and peace in Spain.

### Shaw's Advice

Such a venture should receive the blessings of everyone who is genuinely interested in the welfare of Indian students in this country. Mr. Bernard Shaw is one of the well-wishers. In his opinion objects Nos. 3, 4 and 5 are quite sound. But, objects No. 1 and No. 2 are fatal. "Instead of bringing together Indian students in England (or any other western country and promoting contact between them," writes G. B. Shaw, "the Federation should impress on them that the student, instead of trying to form a little India in England by associating with Indians, should make a solemn vow never to speak or to meet any Oriental. If he returns to India exactly as he came he might just as well have preserved his caste and stayed at home.

What he comes here for is Anglicization; and more complete it is the more useful he will be when he resumes his nationality. Even those who dislike English culture and object most strongly to the Anglicization of India cannot know too well what they are repudiating."

### Jawahar Concurs

Pundit Jawaharlal Nehru thinks that Mr. Shaw is perfectly right in laying stress on the desirability of Indian students developing contacts with non-Indians and of trying to understand the spirit of European culture "that indeed should be the objective of every Indian," emphasises Pundit Jawaharlal

Nehru, "who goes abroad to Europe for only thus can he widen his own horizon and understand to some extent the modern world, and thus make himself fit for the future service of the Indian people and of humanity."

"But this emphasis, right as it is," continues Pundit Nehru, "does not in any way lessen the desirability of Indians who go abroad meeting each other, co-operating with each other, and acting together whenever such joint action is called for. Indeed Mr. Bernard Shaw himself approves of your aims which necessitates joint action. This joint action can only come if you have an organisation which brings Indian students together to discuss among themselves their common problems. These problems are the problems of India and the world. If Indian students do not give thought to these larger problems during their studies abroad, they do not learn much, and they return to their country with vacant minds, or minds which are full of useless lumber, for which there is no demand in this country."

Pundit Nehru, therefore, welcomes the attempt to organise Indian students abroad. Of course since he does not know anything about the Federation and how it is likely to shape itself, he says "the time for congratulations will come later when you have justified yourselves by your good work,"

# American Events

(BY H. STEFAN SANTESSON)

## Gobind Behari Lal Honoured

**D**R. G. B. LAL, Science Editor of the Hearst newspapers, has been honoured by the award to him of the Pulitzer Prize for Science-Journalism. Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler, President of Columbia University, was the chairman of the awarding committee. The various groups in the Hindustani community are combining to honour him jointly at a dinner this month. A preliminary conference to plan details was held at the Park Central Hotel on May 13. Mr. N. R. Checker presided. Messrs. F. Venkatakrishniah, Satish C. Mondal, Ganesh Prachad and H. S. Santesson, were among those attending.

## Indian Labour Representative Honoured

Mr. Bakhele, of the Servants of India Society, representing the Indian Textile Workers at the recent International Labour Office Conference in Washington, was honoured at a dinner given by the India Club of America in New York recently. The Club, an organization of businessmen headed by Mr. N. R. Checker, has been recently organized. Mr. Bakhele urged, during the course of his remarks, that the industrial captains of India should put their industry on a sounder basis. Japan's organization of her industries was cited as superior to that of other countries. Mr. Bakhele, while attacking the constitution as having been thrust on the country against its wishes, felt that the situation might be complicated by the Congress doing something that would create confusion. Labour Party leaders had assured him in London that India would be a side issue in the event of Labour's returning to political power.

A Dr. Werthein, one of the other speakers, referred briefly to the 150 years of democratic rule enjoyed by India under England—and suggested that the partial abandonment of Gandhi's programme might well "be a lesson" to others interested in such ideas.

## Indian Educator Leaving

Dr. G. M. D. Sufi, former Registrar of the University of Delhi, who has been in New York for the past few months engaged in research, is to leave shortly for the West Coast. Dr. Sufi was the guest of honour at a Tea arranged at the International Institute in Brooklyn, at which Mr. H. Stefan Santesson presided. Mr. Aumar Ghose, locally prominent artist, sang Indian songs. Those present included Dr. B. V. Mukerji, Mr. N. R. Checker, Mr. Ranjit Roy etc. Organized effort on the part of the community to honour the Pulitzer Prize winner, Dr. Lal, was urged by Dr. Sufi.

## Taraknath Das And The Academy Of Political Science

Dr. Taraknath Das, attending the semi-annual meeting of the Academy of Political Science at the Hotel Astor, stressed the fact that the industrial development of India would be the deciding factor in the future British real-politic. At the present time—India ought to be treated as a nation of three hundred and fifty millions of people—not as Great Britain's farm! Senator Key Pittman remarked on Britain's wartime contempt for international law in the course of his speech. Other speakers, including the Hon. W'm S. Culbertson, discussed further features of Britain's past politico-economic policy.

## Young India Dramatic Society

A new organization has been formed, among the workers and students in New York, for the purpose of presenting classical or modern Indian plays. The group has been formed "in order to enlighten the Occident with a more factual representation of India's contributions to World Culture and Civilization." In this way they "hope to correct certain false impressions of India which have placed her at a decided disadvantage in the eyes of the world."

The elected Executive Committee consists of Mr. F. Venkatakrishniah, President; Mr. Ganesh Prachad, Vice-President; Mr. H. Stefan Santesson, Secretary; and Mr. Sew Persad, Treasurer. Mr. Satish Chandra Mondal is acting as Publicity representative. A conference was held with Miss Ruth, St Dennis, on May 13, to enlist her aid on behalf of the organization. Members include Messrs. Mirza Jaffer, Wana Singh, Mayoure Ali, Shudhangshu Biwal Bhattacharji, Miss Anna Persad and others.

## Manly P. Hall On India

Mr. Manly P. Hall, prominent Californian lecturer on Occult Philosophy, addressing a group of 1,200 persons in a recent lecture, prophesied that 1937-38 would see a still more powerful nationalist movement in India—that there would be further famines and pestilences—that there would be much political excitement, with popular enthusiasm perhaps obstructing intelligence. In a later lecture Mr. Hall hailed Mahatma Gandhi as a precursor of the coming World Teacher.

## World's Fair And India

The High Commissioner for India was in New York before and after the Textile Conference, but it was impossible for the heads of the World's Fair to see him. That is one aspect of that situation.

Great Britain has finally agreed officially to participate in the forthcoming 1939 World's Fair in New York—but official India, the High Commissioner, has as yet given no word. In the meantime twenty scouts have left for India to "hunt" for possible exhibits—unofficially, of course,—and the official Commissioner for Asia nears India from via the Far East. Plans for the Indian exhibit call for the bringing over of a regiment of the picturesque Sikh Lancers (it is believed that they will be as much of a box office attraction as was the similar exhibit at Wembley); some Indian Princes have already offered to exhibit their jewels. All exhibits will—however—be first arranged for officially. Private persons or groups may, however, also exhibit. It is suggested that correspondence regarding this be addressed to Mr. Edwin Roosevelt, Chief, Foreign Participation Department, Worlds Fair Inc., Empire State Building, New York City.

Mr. H. Stefan Santesson, in a personal interview with Mr. Roosevelt, urged the importance of exhibits describing the life of the Indian villagers—the life of the people of India. Mr. Santesson mentioned as an example of this the Village Industries Exhibit of last year—and urged that the National Congress and other representative bodies be contacted.

## American League For India's Freedom

The American League for India's Freedom, an organisation headed by Roger Baldwin of the American Civil Liberties Union, and the Rev. John Haynes Holmes, reports intensified interest in Indian affairs on the part of its members. Readers of their recent bulletin were appalled at the health statistics given—and showed their deep interest in other aspects of the Indian situation by writing to the Editor of the bulletin, Mr. H. S. Santesson, for further information. As a result the League will continue to issue further news bulletins from time to time.

# Things In General

## Trinity College Of Music

It is pleasing to note that at the recent examination held in Durban by Dr. Ford of the Trinity College of Music, (London), there appear the names of a number of Indians. Amongst the successful candidates in the junior division (Violin) is included the name of Miss Prodhun Parmasir of Durban. Our hearty congratulations are extended to Miss Parmasir and to her teacher Mrs. H. F. Payne L.R.A.M. (Medalist) London, of Bonamour Avenue, Durban.

## New Tamil And Telugu Teacher

In *Incomati* on June 29, will arrive Mr. S. N. O. Varadacharyulu to teach Telugu and Tamil languages in the vernacular school conducted in Tongaat under the auspices of the Tongaat Hindu Samarasa Bodha Andhra Association. This new teacher is qualified in Sanskrit and Telugu at the Andhra University and in Hindi at the Dakshina Bharat Prachar Sabha of Madras. Mr. Varadacharyulu has been called by the above-mentioned Association with the recommendation of Doctor P. Varadarajulu Naiduguru of the Tamil Nadu Ltd., Madras. A public reception will be accorded to Mr. Varadacharyulu at Tongaat on Sunday, July 4, at 2 p.m. by the Association at their Hall, to which the public are invited by the chairman and secretary, Messrs. G. V. Naidoo and S. T. Naidoo respectively.

## Execution Of Du Plessis

The execution of Andries Stephanus du Plessis is reported to have taken place last Saturday in Pretoria Central Prison. Du Plessis was not quite 21 years of age. He was sentenced to death on March 31 for the murders of Mr. and Mrs. Barney Liebowitz and Sam Berman at Sandspuit, near Volksrust, in November last, and for the murder of Spiros Paizes. He was also found guilty of being responsible for the murder of Pericles Paxinos.

## Schedule Of New Empire

### Airmail Postage Rates

The following are the new rates of postage for the new Empire Air Mail Service which will operate from July 1:

- (1) For destination in the Union, South-West Africa and the Protectorates: letters 1d. per half-ounce, and postcards 1d. each.
- (2) For other countries in the African Postal Union, comprising Southern Rhodesia, Northern Rhodesia, Nyasaland, Tanganyika, Kenya, Uganda, Angola, the Belgian Congo and Mozambique—letters 1½d. per half-ounce, postcards 1½d. each.
- (3) Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the Irish Free States, Anglo-Egyptian Sudan, Mauritius, Zanzibar: letters 1½d. per half ounce, postcards 1½d. each.

## Sentence On Cape Attorney

Sentences totalling four years of imprisonment and a fine of £25, or three months' hard labour, were imposed on June 16 on Abdul Hamid Gamiet (28), a Malay attorney, who had been standing trial at the Criminal Sessions at Capetown for 7 days for stealing £1,300 of his clients' money, for not keeping proper accounts and for extortion. After retiring for an hour, the jury found Gamiet guilty on three of the eight counts of theft; they found him guilty of not keeping proper accounts; and by a majority of eight votes to one, they found him guilty of extortion.

## Pathmajuranni Andhra Sabha Of Clairwood

The fourth annual general meeting of the above Sabha was held recently at the Clairwood Government Indian School. The secretaries in their annual report paid a high tribute to all those members who showed much enthusiasm in discharging their duties, and stressed upon the urgent need of a school building for providing free Andhra education. With this aim the committee humbly appeals

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to the general public to support this worthy cause, by donating liberally. Contributions may be sent to the Secretaries 75, Recreation Road, Rossburgh, and will be acknowledged through the Press. The following officials were elected for the ensuing year:—Patrons: Messrs. Papiah Naidoo, T. Vardia Naidoo, N. Venketruthnam, Sooba Naidoo and B.R. Moonasamy Naidoo; President: Mr. M. N. Chetty; vice-presidents: Messrs. Manghi L. Naidoo, M. Ramenah Naidoo, M. R. Naidoo, S. P. Naidoo and S. A. Peter; joint hon. secretaries: Messrs. M. A. Naidoo and R. J. Ruthaum; hon. treasurer: Mr. C. R. Reddy; hon. auditor: Mr. C. C. Naidoo; committee: Messrs. K. A. Phillip, D. K. Naidoo, S. N. Naidoo, A. V. Naidoo, V. J. Naidoo, S. Chellia Naidoo, M. Seethanna Naidoo, M. P. Naidoo, R. Appal Naidoo, D. L. Mutchia, V. C. Naidoo, N. Govender and M. V. Naidoo.

## Bhajan Mandal

At the annual general meeting of the above Mandal, which was held at the Hindu Sangathan Girls' School, Mayville, Durban, on Sunday, June 20, it was noted that the previous year was a very prosperous one and up till now

members have shown keen interest in their duties. The following were elected as officials: President: Mr. B. Rughunanan; vice-president: Mr. U. Sewjathav, secretary: Mr. G. Beepath; assistant secretary: Mr. R. Rughubeer; treasurer: Mr. B. Soondersingh; committee: Messrs. J. Hurfew, K. Jungbahadur, P. S. Mungal and B. Jugernath.

## Sawoti Sanathan Dharma Sabha

The foundation stone laying ceremony of the Quembe new school, P. O. Sawoti, took place recently under the auspices of the Sawoti Sanathan Dharma Sabha. There was a fair gathering and the following were among the speakers: Messrs. R. D. Chowthee (manager of Sawoti Government Aided Indian School, and leader of the body), R. Gopaulsingh, who laid the foundation stone, H. Kisson, Seebooram, Pandit Kalideen Maharaj of Merebank, Pandit Ramnuthen of Braemar, L. Mahas, J. J. Hammond, M. Greebsingh and Lalloosingh.

## Glenco-Indian School Society

The Glenco Indian School Society, Natal, thankfully acknowledges receipt of the following donations to its school building fund. The Society is grateful to Messrs. Mahomed and Hoosen Jajbhay, Vrededorp, for their hospitality and to Messrs. M. D. Bharoochi and J. M. Mathir for accompanying the collectors: Messrs. Suleman Ismail Mia & Co. £10, Amod Jajbhay £10, Mahomed Ebrahim & Co. £10, I. C. Ashabhai & Co. £7, Japan Bazaar £7, Moosa Hassen & Co. £5, Dadabhay & Sons Ltd. £5, M. S. Coovadia & Sons £5, H. D. Mall £3 3s., A. M. Desai £3 3s., Master Bros. £3 3s., Bookhari (Pty.) Ltd., £3 3s., Naerullah Khan £2 2s., F. Hassen £2 2s., A. S. Parak £2 2s., Saley Ebrahim & Co. £2 2s., Teikandas Bros. (Tvl.) Pty. Ltd. £2 2s., C. Vorarjee £2 2s., E. M. Akhalwaya & Sons £2 2s., M. E. Bulbulia £2 2s., Ebrahim Yusuff & Co. £2 2s., E. M. Matwadia £2 2s., H. S. Mia and S. M. Nana £2, A. Sewbajan £2 15s., I. Dukhi £5 5s., M. Morar £1 1s., S. J. Mohideen £1 1s., K. Khan £1, A.B.C. Bazaar, Newclare £1 1s., Johannesburg Government Indian School £1 1s., B. Bhagat £1 1s., N. Prema £1 1s., S. Nerpath £1 1s., L. Govin £1 1s., B. M. Singh £2 2s., B. Kathawardo £1 1s., R. Bhayroo £1 1s., D. Dayal £1 1s., J. G. Vanllayar £1 1s., L. Mistry £1 10s. 6d., Modern Millinery Manufacturers £1 10s., Mahomed Omar £1 1s., B. Parbhoo £1 1s., E. S. Dangor £1 1s., H. Dadabhay £1 1s., F. E. Matwadia £1 1s., E. I. Akoodie £1 1s., A. Beharie £1 1s., J. Singh £1 1s., I. Singh £1 1s., M. M. Akhalwaya £1 1s., L. L. Dass £1 10s. 6d., K. N. Varan £1 1s., Bombay House (Roodepoort) £1 1s., Joosab Ebrahim Gardee £5 5s. Total—£140 14s. 0d. The collectors have an assurance from Mr. Joosab Ebrahim

(Continued on page 307)

# India Letter

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

## Congress And Muslims

THE Congress influence is penetrating the Muslim masses all over the country. Slowly but steadily, the Muslim masses, so long hypnotised by the communalist leaders, are coming to their own. Steady pauperisation under a regime of imperialist exploitation has been opening their eyes to the reality of the situation and the consciousness is dawning upon them that hitherto they have been used as mere tools for furthering the selfish designs of their so-called leaders. A press controversy, a few days ago, between President Nehru and Mr. Jinnah, clarified the issues for the masses. Mr. Jinnah had nothing to offer to the Muslim masses beyond empty platitudes regarding Muslim interests while President Nehru offered the Congress programme of radical social amelioration. The latter emphasised the issue of independence while the former would not even utter a word about ending the constitution. The controversy brought out so forcibly the difference between Mr. Jinnah's programme of job and place hunting and President Nehru's assurance regarding a radical reorganisation of society that an awakening of the Muslim masses from a spell of hypnotism followed as a matter of course. Tangible indications of this awakening are now daily reaching the A.I.C.C. office where reports are pouring in regarding steady enrolment of Muslims as primary members. An informal conference of Muslim Divines and secular leaders that met recently at Allahabad, came to the unanimous decision that "the only right policy and correct attitude for Muslims to act upon and adopt, is to unconditionally join the Indian National Congress and participate in the struggle for the freedom of the country." It should be noted that the unity of the two major communities which is now reaching fruition under the banner of the Congress is not at all based on pacts regarding distribution of the loaves and fishes of office. It is the urge for the economic emancipation of the masses of both the communities which is bringing them together in opposition to the forces of exploiting feudalism strengthened and supported by British Imperialism.

## Strikes In India

An official communique gives interesting statistics regarding strikes in British India in 1936. The total number of strikes during the year including four in progress in December, was 157 and the total number of workers involved was 169,000. The total number of working

days lost was 2,358,000. Cotton textile mills accounted for 37 per cent. of strikes. In 67 strikes (or 61.7 per cent.) demands related to wages or bonuses. In approximately 49.3 per cent. of the total number of strikes occurring during the year, workmen were successful in gaining some concessions.

## Indo-European Trade

The report of the Indian Government Trade Commissioner in Hamburg, just published, gives some interesting figures regarding India's trade with the European countries during 1936. France's total imports from India during the year increased by 28 per cent, as compared with 1936. Belgium increased her imports by 40 per cent. The total imports into Holland from India were 31 per cent. higher than in 1935. Czechoslovakia increased her intakes of India's goods by 5 per cent, while Switzerland's share rose by 14 per cent. Germany's total imports from India during 1936 increased by 17 per cent. as compared with 1935. Denmark and Austria, however, reduced their imports by 33 per cent. and 15 per cent. respectively. On the whole, Indian goods found their access into the European countries far easier in 1936 than in the previous year. It should be noted that the improvement was spontaneous and was not stimulated by any such elaborate design as the Ottawa Pact. The two conclusions that emerge are, firstly, that the Indian goods have an appeal of their own and, secondly, that India has a better market outside the British Empire.

## Britisher's Abuse Of Indian Hospitality

India is seething in indignation at the unprovoked attack made by Lord Baden Powell, who passes as the Chief Scout of the world. He came to India in the last winter in furtherance of the scouting campaign and received abundant hospitality wherever he went. But no sooner did he return to his home than he started a vile, cowardly and malicious campaign against India. Addressing a group of journalists in London he had the impudence to say that India lacks character. The remark has raised a storm of protest in this country. The *Leader*, the organ of the Indian Liberal Party, has characterised the remark as a "libel." The remark, however, has done one good to India. While unable to lower the Indian in the estimation of the informed opinion of the world, it has hardened Indian opinion against the Scout Movement which the Indian nationalists regard as a subtle move-

ment to teach the young boys and girls loyalty to British imperialism under cover of instruction in discipline.

## Released After 27 Years

Mr. V. D. Savarkar of the early days of India's struggle for freedom, was released on May 10 after 27 years of imprisonment in an internment. The details of his life and experiences are not known to the public, but the few facts that have filtered down through the vigilance of the police read like romance. At a comparatively early age he had jumped into the struggle for freedom with his life in the palm of his hand and neither temptation nor repression could swerve him from his path. He was arrested in London and while being brought to India he jumped from the ship and swam to the French shores where he was arrested by the British police. The French did not insist upon the question of jurisdiction as they would have done in the case of a European political. Eventually he was brought to India. Since then till May 10, his movements had been under restriction. He has now been released an old and broken man with perhaps very little energy left in him for an active and useful public life. He presents one of the striking instances of fine spirit and strong manhood crushed in India under bureaucratic repression for the crime of patriotism. He is the author of two remarkable works, "War of Indian Independence," describing what is known as the Sepoy Mutiny and "Hindi Pad Padshahi," describing the history of Maharashtra. The former was proscribed by the Government soon after its publication. The ban still remains.

## A Glimpse Into Police Methods

A case of suspension of two officers of the Intelligence Branch attached to the military camp, has just been reported from Chittagong. It throws a flood of lurid light on the police methods in that district. The allegation against the suspended persons was that in March last they entered a class room in a school without even bothering to take the permission of the headmaster, and ordered the boys to report to the military camp on the following day. When, accordingly, some of the boys reported to the camp, they were cudgelled, kicked and beaten with hunters which resulted in serious injuries on their persons.



## THINGS IN GENERAL]

[Continued from page 305

Gardee for a very large donation when they will next call for Glenco Madressa building fund collection.

**Licence Refusal Set Aside**

A refusal by the Town Council of Zeerust to grant a cycle dealer, Essop Ahmed Rajee a certificate authorising him to move his business to different premises was set aside by Mr. Justice Murray in the Supreme Court at Pretoria on June 18, and the Council was directed to reconsider the application on "proper grounds"

**Indo-European Council**

Sir Syed Raza Ali, Agent-General for the Government of India, will deliver an address at the M.K. Gandhi Library, Queen Street, at 8 p.m. on Tuesday June 29, on "Some aspects of legislation affecting Indians during the 1937 season." All interested are cordially invited by the secretaries to attend.

**Death Of Mr. K. K. Pillay**

The sad and sudden death of Mr. K. K. Pillay, of Greenwood Park, last Monday, removes from the life of the Tamil community in particular and the Indian community in general, an old and highly respected personality. The late Mr. Pillay was 70 years of age. He arrived in Natal in 1884 from the Madras Presidency as a young man, and first settled in the Victoria County, and when the great gold rush to the Rand took place, he was one of the earliest Indians to enter the Transvaal. During the Jameson Raid he had the privilege of attending to the comfort of the late President Kruger. He had travelled widely throughout South Africa, but settled down in Greenwood Park some 40 years ago. He was of a highly hospitable and charitable nature. In public life, Mr. Pillay identified himself with many movements for the uplift of his community. The funeral, which

took place on Tuesday afternoon, was very largely attended by all sections of the community. The late Mr. Pillay leaves behind his widow, six sons, seven daughters and 33 grand-children. We extend to them our heartfelt sympathy.

**Russians Fly Over Top Of World**

By the completion of an epic flight of approximately 5,500 miles over the top of the world, three Soviet airmen. Chakalov, Baydukov and Belyakov, have demonstrated the possibilities of a new air route via the North Pole. Leaving Moscow at seven o'clock on Friday night last week, they landed at Vancouver Barracks at 4.22 p.m. on Sunday. The greater part of the journey was over frozen Arctic wastes. Chakalov, interviewed by Reuter after landing, said that the plane behaved perfectly. Nothing went wrong, but they landed owing to poor visibility. They had enough petrol for a further 750 miles and would carry on to Oakland when the weather clears.

# The Sporting World

**Tennis.****Inter-Provincial Tennis Tournament**

THE South African Indian Inter-Provincial Tennis Tournament for M. M. Govender's trophy is to be held at Durban this year commencing on Sunday July 4, at the Durban Indian Sports Ground. The Transvaal held their trials on the 6th and 13th of June. The selectors did their utmost to select a really formidable combination and chose the following: Meerza Hoosen Jajbhay (captain), Mahomed Jajbhay, M. Hajee, K. Thambi, and P. L. Patel (reserve). The team will leave Johannesburg by the mail train on Friday afternoon July 2.

**Transvaal Indian Tennis**

A new club was formed on Sunday last at Newclare, Johannesburg, when the newly erected court was opened by Maulvi Valliullah. The name of the club is Coronation Tennis Club, the court is known as the Coronation Tennis Court. The following members who formerly belonged to the Rangers Tennis Club have been instrumental in the formation of this new club viz:—Messrs. Chothai Bros., Bhikoo and I. Hasaam the energetic secretary who did all the spade work in this connection. A large number of Indians were present at the opening of the court, among the present were Advocate Minty, Messrs. K. Naransamy, M. S. Patel, E. Surtee and representatives of the Kohinoor, Rangers and Newclare Coloured Clubs. Various speakers congratulated the club and wished them every success at the way the enthusiasm prevailed.

By "Rambler"

**Cricket.****Cricket Visit To India**

Although it is rather early for anything definite to be known about the cricket team Lord Tennyson will take to India next winter, a good deal of preparation work for the trip is being carried out privately. India is anxious that the visiting team should be the strongest possible. They feel that on their own grounds they will be better able to give a good account of themselves than the side which visited England last summer. Lord Tennyson is doing his best to collect a strong team to give the Indians a chance of proving how good they are on their own wickets. Fifteen or 16 players

will be invited to make the trip, and it is hoped that among them will be Hammond and Barnett (Gloucestershire), Leyland (Yorkshire), McCorkell and Creese (Hampshire), I. Akers Douglas (Kent), James Langridge and James Parks (Sussex), Holliss (Warwickshire) and Gover (Surrey). Hendren and Woolley are not likely to be included, as they have other business to attend to. The Kent left-hander has the obligations of his flourishing and well-run coaching school as a tie, while Hendren will be anchored at Harrow-on-the-Hill at the end of this season.

**Soccer.****Inter-District Junior Final**

The inter-district junior final soccer match, which was played at Sea View on Sunday between the Maritzburg County I.F. Association and the Indian Soccer Association, resulted in a win for the latter by 6 goals to 1.

## "RESISTO"

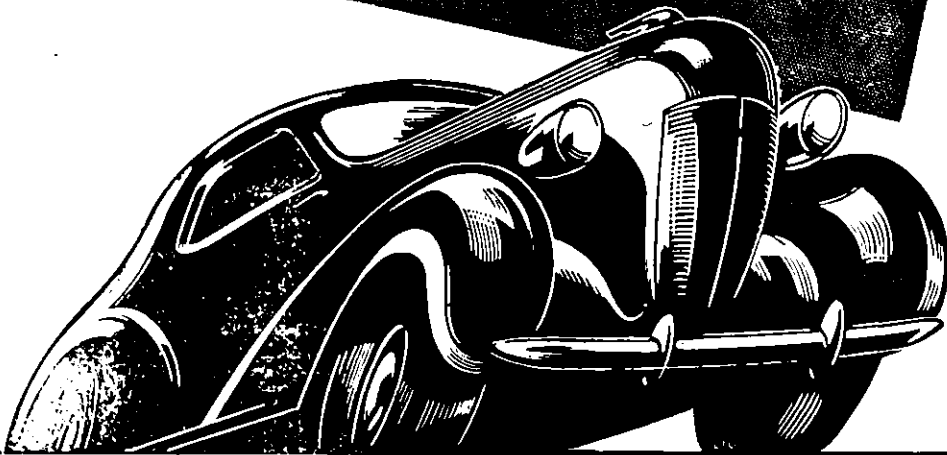
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