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NOTES AND NEWS

Duty Of Indians As Indians

THE following is the concluding portion of a beautiful message given by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru to Indians in Malaya during his recent tour. Every word of it should be taken to heart not only by our brethren in Malaya but in whatever part of the world they may be settled:

"I should like to remind all my countrymen that if they wish to share in the honour and privilege of being India's children, they must be prepared to shoulder the responsibilities that always accompany privileges. Wherever in this wide world there goes an Indian, there also goes a bit of India with him, and he may not forget this or ignore it. By his actions India will be judged. He has it in his power to some extent to bring credit or discredit to his country, honour or dishonour. Let him keep this in mind always and let him bear himself with dignity in good fortune and ill fortune alike. India wants freedom and friendship with the world and for that we labour; we are no humble suppliants for anybody's favour. We are no citizens of a mean country but of a noble land with a great past and, let us hope, with a greater future. That future beckons to all of us. Who will not answer that call?"

Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru's

Sympathy For Indians Overseas

In a press statement recently issued by him, calling upon the public of India to protest against the proposed anti-Indian legislation in Zanzibar, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, the Congress President, made the following observation:

"During my recent tour in Burma and Malaya I was brought very near to the problems of Indians overseas. More and more I felt that we in India must not neglect our countrymen abroad. If we will not succour them in time of need, who will? It is true that our ability to help is limited but the desire and will to help must not be limited."

White Race Prestige Must Go

In the course of an article on the recent deadlock in India created as a result of the Congress Party refusing to accept office in the Provincial Legislatures in the Provinces where they had gained a majority of votes in the recent elections, unless the Governors gave an assurance that they would not use their special powers, the Rev. C. F. Andrews referred to the false sense of the white man's prestige, which deserves to be taken note of by the white people of this country who have a false notion of their superiority which is evidenced by their treatment of the non-white races. "The leaders, such as Gandhi and Nehru will never admit for a moment" writes Mr. Andrews, "that Indians should be treated in any way inferior to Europeans in everything that may be proposed in the future. This should be taken as axiomatic. There is no desire to humiliate India, or to treat Indians as inferiors. But there are others among the British especially when they go abroad, who are determined to make just that distinction. They still hold what I have called a "white race" religion. Just as the Nazis are taught the pure "Aryan" doctrine, so Englishmen abroad are taught assiduously that the "white" race must always be superior, and must never tolerate equality. It is, perhaps, too wide an assumption to make, but 33 years residence in the East has taught me to believe that if once this arrogance of the "white" race could be overcome, all other difficulties might be removed and a settlement might be reached. We are followers of One Who said these words to us for our example: "The Kings of the Gentiles rule over them, and their authorities, take the name of "Benefactors;" not so with you, He who is greatest among you must be like the youngest, and he who is chief like a servant. Which is the greater, guest or servant? Is it not the guest?" But I am among you as a servant!" (Luke xxii, 25 Moffatt).

"When we have learnt that prestige, the Indian problem can be easily settled."

This applies just as much in the case of South Africa in dealing with the

non-white races as it applies in the case of India.

Reverend Andrews' Activities

The Rev. C. F. Andrews has been commissioned to write a life of Christ. His book will be related to the East as well as the West, and will be translated into the languages of a number of the principal countries of the Near and Far East. Mr. Andrews left England for Bombay a few days ago. After a short stay in India, he will go to Palestine to start his book. He will stay in Palestine for a year.

Hopes Of Federation In India

Rapidly Diminishing

Hopes of introducing a Federation of India under the new constitution by April, 1938, are rapidly diminishing despite the amazing energy with which the Viceroy is labouring for the Federation plan. According to a reliable authority quoted by *The Morning Post* the Government of India has decided to postpone Federation, and owing to current political events its inauguration even in April, 1939, may not be feasible. Although the Congress decision to form Ministries suggests there may not be insuperable obstacles to the inauguration of Federation no one is in a position to count definitely on the Provincial constitution working without a breakdown. On the contrary well-informed circles consider there is an immense risk of Congress hostility forcing a breakdown.

Had Enough Of 'Divide et Impera'

Furthermore, Congress in the six Provincial Legislatures, it is believed, will make every attempt to checkmate the inauguration of Federation. The newly formed Congress Cabinets all over India are making a gesture of unity to India's Moslems. In each Cabinet one or more Ministries are reported to have been deliberately left vacant for Moslems to fill if they wish. Prominent Moslems in many parts of the country have already responded by resigning from sectarian organisations and signing the "Congress pledge to work for Indian independence. Congress leaders advance the view that Britain had too long profited by applying the principle of *divide et impera*, encouraging differences between Hindus and Moslems states the *Natal Advertiser's* London correspondent.

Indian Opinion

FRIDAY, JULY 23RD, 1937

Indians In South Africa

IT is time that the leaders of the Indian community in South Africa indulged a little in introspection. For, if they themselves are not right the community will never be right. It is the leaders who are to blame for the backwardness or the downfall of the masses. We hold the strong view that in recent years demoralisation has set in among the leaders to a very large extent. They are working more for glory than with an idea to serve. They seem to make big things of insignificant things where they find their own interests are served or some glorification is to be had. They will ignore big things where simple service is required without any glorification.

The rich are concerned about safeguarding their own interests. Their services for the poor are only to the extent that they can gain their support in getting their own interests served. Those high principles that we cherished when Mahatma Gandhi was in this country and were prepared to stake everything to stand by those principles, are now, one by one, being thrown over-board by our present leaders. They are eloquent in talking about those principles, they are eloquent in denouncing the authorities for the insulting treatment meted out to their brethren, but when the actual time for sacrificing for upholding those principles comes they will blame the community for not being prepared to fight and will enter into compromises which are dishonourable to themselves, to the community, whom they are supposed to lead, and to the whole Indian nation.

The segregation idea is crystallising in South Africa, said Senator Rheinallt Jones the other night

at a meeting of the Joint Councils of Europeans, Coloured, Natives and Indians. What are we Indians doing to fight that scourge? We had fought all these years but we are tired of persevering any longer and the authorities are taking advantage of our weakness and we have been almost conquered. Our leaders in the Transvaal have been lured by the bait of the right of ownership of property in segregated areas and, leaving aside the question of principle, they have begun bargaining with the authorities over the right of ownership of land; and if at all feasible, a few magnates in our community would be quite prepared to form a syndicate and buy out the whole area proposed for the segregation of Indians and relieve the authorities of the burden of running it. And the result would be, as it already is to a certain extent in the Transvaal, that the poor would be at the mercy of the rich. We are not stating things on assumption. These are actual facts taking place in the Transvaal. At an informal meeting of some of the Johannesburg City Councillors and the Indian community on the question of the proposed areas for the segregation of Indians, the discussion took place on these very same lines. Some of the leaders suggested that they should be given unfettered rights to own land in those areas while others expressed the fear that in that case all the land would go in the hands of the rich and the poor would be at their mercy.

We have been rather outspoken but with the best of intentions. These thoughts have sprung in our mind by pondering over the anxious thought given in regard to our destiny in this country by our people in the Motherland as

represented in Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru's messages reproduced elsewhere in this issue. Says Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:

"We in India must not neglect our countrymen abroad. If we will not succour them in time of need, who will?"

Are we entitled to all this love, all this care from one who is overburdened with anxiety in moulding the destiny of the three hundred and thirty five millions of our poor brethren in India? A drop in the ocean as we are in this country, have we merited this love and care from the Motherland? What heroic deeds, what anxious thoughts, what material sacrifices have we undergone to merit any help from anyone? No, we have merited scorn and kicking; we have merited all the humiliations that are inflicted upon us by the Union Authorities but we have not merited any love and care from our Motherland.

In another message Pandit Jawaharlal reminds us:

"Wherever in this wide world there goes an Indian, there also goes a bit of India with him, and he may not forget this or ignore it. By his action India will be judged. He has it in his power to some extent to bring credit or discredit to his country. Let him keep this in mind always..."

Have we kept this in mind? Have our deeds been such as to create a feeling of respect for India in the minds of the people of this country? It is very doubtful.

All these things require serious thought and introspection. Unless we can shed all arrogance and hypocrisy from within us and determine to unite and work with a spirit of sacrifice for our salvation, we see a very dark future for our countrymen in South Africa.

Fountain of Wisdom

When politicians bid for the votes of certain classes by offering them special advantages at the public expense, they are committing treason against democracy.

—MR. HENRY SOMERVILLE.

SENATOR RHEINALLT JONES ON RACIAL LEGISLATION

SENATOR RHEINALLT JONES, who has been elected as one of the Senators in the Transvaal by the Natives to represent their case in Parliament, addressed a meeting of the Joint Council of Indians, Natives and Coloureds held at the Bantu Social Centre, Victoria Street, Durban, on Monday night. Mr. D. G. Shepstone, Chairman of the Joint European and Bantu Council, presided and prominent members of the European, Indian, Coloured and Native communities were present.

Senator Rheinallt Jones dealt with all legislation that had been passed during the present year dealing with racial discrimination. The Aliens Bill, he said, had introduced the Jewish people as a special racial block into South African politics for the first time. The Senator dealt in detail with the Native legislation which had caused so much commotion throughout the country, and explained how several sections had been somewhat modified. Senator Jones also referred to the Mixed Marriages Bill, the White Women Employment Bill, the Transvaal Asiatic Land Bill and explained how they had been dropped after a great deal of criticism and he also referred to the Marketing Bill and the Unbeneficial Occupation of Land Bill, which, though not directly racial, were capable of being racial in their administration.

The Senator said there were indications that racial divisions were beginning to harden and this should be carefully watched.

The Agent-General On Race Segregation

Sir Syed Raza Ali, the Agent-General for India, who was also present at the meeting strongly criticised recent efforts in South Africa to increase race segregation.

He said that recently a motion had been passed by the Cape Provincial Council advocating the residential segregation of the Coloured community and expressing the view that legislation should be framed for the purpose.

"When I read that I thought the last flickering ray of liberalism was going out. But Capetown, that home of liberalism, has given some hope. At a recent meeting of the Capetown City Council a resolution was passed saying that the City Council did not stand in need of any such resolution and that if legislation on the subject was passed the City Council was not in a position to make use of it. That was a slap in the face for the Provincial Council. I hear that there is little likelihood of the subject being dealt with until January next year, and until then the sword must hang over our heads. It is to be hoped that places like Port Elizabeth, East London and Kimberley will support Capetown, in which case it will be extremely difficult for the Provincial Council to continue."

"Every citizen of South Africa must consider how far the principles of segregation are going to apply in South Africa. My study of the position is this:—

"Considerable material progress has been made in South Africa since I first

knew it. The main European political parties have managed to solve—or should I say patch up—their difficulties and to give a lead to the country. But the real problem remains unsolved.

"It seems that a certain section of the community has made up its mind that it cannot be happy or have a place in the sun unless the principle of segregation is pushed from the depths of the earth to the heavens above. It is not a question of political rights.

"What will be the consequences of provision of a separate register for Native voters in the Cape I shudder to think. At the time of the controversy I refrained from making any statement because the people I am here to represent were not involved. But I have had experience of dual registration.

"In my country we have two registers, one for Mohammedans and another for Hindus. That happens to favour the Mohammedan community, of which I am a member, but I must say that this suppression of interests of the various communities whose real interests are identical has brought great conflict and is not leading to the consolidation of India as a whole nation.

"You will find that the benefits you expected will not be within your reach and there will be greater separation between the Europeans and the Natives. Segregation is extended to schools, technical colleges and industry—in fact to all spheres of corporate life which go to make up the community."

Several questions were asked from the audience which were answered by the lecturer, and the very interesting meeting terminated at 10.30 p.m.

S. AIDAN'S HOSPITAL

PERSONS passing S. Aidan's Hospital, Centenary Road, Durban, will be surprised to see additional new buildings in course of erection. By the generosity of the R. K. Khan Hospital and Dispensary Trustees, a large ward to be known as the Rahim Karim Ward, is being built, and private wards are being provided by Messrs. M. A. and M. D. Motala, and by the Trustees of the late Mr. Miankhan's Estate.

The old hospital in Cross Street had accommodation for 15 beds. When the buildings now under construction are completed, the present hospital will accommodate 63 beds. This generosity

on the part of the members of the community is most praiseworthy. Among the outstanding gifts made when the hospital was being built two years ago, were Misses Godfrey's gift for Children's Ward, fully equipped; a Private Ward donated by Mr. Devshi, and generous gifts from Sir Maharaj and Lady Kunwarani Maharaj Singh, Mr. Mahomed Ebrahim, and the late Mr. B. M. Singh. On behalf of the hospital authorities we desire to express our deepest sympathies with the relatives of this large-hearted friend who has now passed to his rest.

It is a matter of deep gratitude that hospital facilities in Durban have im-

proved in the last two years, almost beyond recognition. The King Edward VIII Hospital and Clearing Station are doing excellent work, yet the demand for more and more beds at S. Aidan's Hospital ever increases. This is a most welcome sign of the confidence placed in hospitals by the community.

More than £10,000 has been expended in the building of S. Aidan's Hospital and we desire to express our grateful thanks to those whose generosity has made this possible.

W. H. SATCHEL,

Priest-In-Charge.

COLOUR BAR ACT CONDEMNED

"UNCHRISTIAN AND UNFAIR"

A STRONG plea was made by the Rev. Frank Oldrieve in his sermon on "The Nation God Wants" at the Baptist Church, Maritzburg, last Sunday, that the churches should take a definite stand against discrimination on account of colour. Mr. Oldrieve said that the Bible had a great deal to say about nations and what they ought to be and do.

There must first be the recognition of several facts such as these—that God was not interested in the colour of a man's skin. "God hath made of one blood all nations of men to dwell on the face of the earth," was what the apostle Paul said at Athens. God was not interested in language, for originally all men spoke one language; nor was He interested in racial characteristics, nor in national customs, differences of food or clothing—things which generally depended on the climate of the country in which an individual lived. But God was interested, however, in what nations were, and He had de-

finitely said what He wanted nations to be.

Three things were to be noted. Not legal justice only—of course there would be that—but individual and corporate justice. In every community there was bound to be differences between the members of the community, due to birth, education, work, as individual tastes. There were also difficulties due to prejudice, interest, rights and privileges. These difficulties were specially noticeable in South Africa, where there were the four great classes.

The figures in the 1936 census were: Europeans, 2,003,512, 20.9 per cent of the population; Natives, 6,597,241, 68.8; Coloureds, 767,984, 8.0; Asiatics, 219,928, 2.3. There was considerable tension between these sections of the community, and the racialism prevalent was unchristian.

Dr. Dube, the Zulu leader, speaking in Durban last week, had pleaded for justice and a fair opportunity to make progress; the natives were not expecting social equality. The ideal, so the speaker

said, was that every racial group should have full and free opportunity to develop. The aim should be to create in our land a Christian civilisation in which men can live without fear of poverty, social ostracism, or insult on account of what they cannot alter, the colour of their skin.

Mr. J. H. Hofmeyr, also speaking in Durban recently, had said: "In the Bible you find the conception of white and black living side by side in harmony as useful citizens of a country, and that conception is the only solution to the native problem."

That conception, said Mr. Hofmeyr, of the white and black man side by side, living in harmony and working for the common good of South Africa, was the only conception that could prevail, and in bringing it about there was no stronger factor than the Bible.

Mr. Oldrieve stigmatised the Colour Bar Act as unchristian and said that it was working against the Native and the Indian most unfairly.

COLOUR MANIACS

The *Bombay Sentinel* dated June 18, contains the following leading article under the above caption:

THERE is much justified dissatisfaction among South African Indians at the weakness exhibited by the Government of India in dealing with questions which have an intimate connection with their status, rights, self-respect, honour and even their very existence in South Africa.

The Government of South Africa have shown themselves incapable of honouring their own solemn agreement known as the "Gentleman's Agreement," into which they entered with the Government of India. There are constant, deliberate and flagrant breaches of it, and the sooner it is publicly repudiated the better it will be for Indians.

Mean Devices

As *INDIAN OPINION* pertinently points out, though the Indian community in South Africa is "recognised as part of the Union's permanent population" and promises have been given "to assist them in becoming full-fledged citizens of South Africa," mean devices are employed to deprive them of their existing rights.

That is apparent from the two committees which are likely to be appointed at the behest of Mr. Pirow, though Mr. Hofmeyr himself, the Minister of the

Interior, is fully satisfied with the attitude of Indians.

We agree with the South African journal that the timidity displayed by the Government of India only gives Indians in South Africa "a false sense of security, while in reality the position is hopelessly being undermined." The journal very properly asks Government for "frankness and fearlessness and not timidity," as they will pay in the end. There is little difference between the Indian public and the Government on this question but the Government must take a bolder attitude in their dealings with men who are temperamental colour-maniacs. That is apparent from the speeches of Mr. Pirow, an implacable enemy of Indians and all coloured peoples. Speaking the other day, he said: "The policy of South Africa was to give the native every opportunity of development, but under no circumstances would he be given social or political equality, which, in its turn, would result in the creation of a bastard race."

Lynching

Obviously Mr. Pirow has a considerable following behind him and he was not speaking for himself alone. In considering the position of Indians in South Africa one has to take into account the attitude of such men, which is growing worse everyday. As it is, two millions of whites have been keeping back more

than six millions of coloured people in South Africa, and such an unnatural position cannot and ought not to last. The only result of such insensate policy is that it inflames the minds of the lower strata of whites, who are unable to think for themselves and who take their cue from men like Mr. Pirow. There has already been a case of lynching a Negro, because he was charged with murdering a white man.

These white farmers are setting a dangerous example to the coloured people in South Africa by their contempt of and disregard for law and the more civilised methods of dealing with the accused. If they thus take the law into their hands, they are placing a similar temptation in the hands of the virile, though more numerous but unarmed, black races.

Playing With Fire

If this is not causing bitter race antagonisms in South Africa, a country which belongs to the coloured races, then we wonder what else it is. Mr. Pirow and his other friends are playing with fire. We would ask the Government to deal with the position firmly, for they are up against people whose mind is wholly warped by their colour prejudices and become incapable of doing justice to Indians.

TWO OLD FRIENDS MEET AFTER TWENTY-THREE YEARS

"SHED YOUR CATSKINS"

The following is the continued description given by Mr. Mahadev Desai in *Harijan* in connection with Mr. Kallenbach's visit:—

I forgot to tell the reader that Mr. Kallenbach is a princely giver, and believes in earning in order to give. Nothing impresses him so much as giving away what one prizes most, and he wants to listen about those who can thus give away. During his itinerary in Europe two of the many places he visited as places of pilgrimage were the birth-place of Ruskin, and Ferrugia and Assissi hallowed by the name of St. Francis. His longest stay was in Palestine hallowed by the footsteps of the Prince of Peace who demonstrated to the world that greater love hath no man than he that gives away his life for the sake of his fellowmen. That giving oneself away is perhaps the finest thing that he has seen about Gandhiji, and that constitutes his strongest link with him. Almost the very first thing he did on arrival at Tithal was to place a score of orders with me for a set of volumes of Gandhiji's Autobiography to be sent to various friends in all parts of Europe and South Africa. Do a trifling little good turn to him and he would embarrass you by returning it tenfold. The simple lines of Shamalbhatt the Gujarati poet, which left an indelible impression on Gandhiji, would almost seem to be Mr. Kallenbach's motto:

For a bowl of water give a goodly meal;
For a kindly greeting bow thou down with zeal;
For a simple penny pay thou back with gold;
If thy life be rescued, life do not withhold.
Thus the words and actions of the wise regard;
Every little service tenfold they reward.
But the truly noble know all men as one
And return with gladness good for evil done.

And perhaps the vividest impression left on his mind by some of the incidents in Gandhiji's life was by Mir Alam's attack on Gandhiji and how Gandhiji reacted to it, and by Gandhiji's various fasts, the earliest of which he began almost under Mr. Kallenbach's roof. (I may mention in passing that Mr. Kallenbach also fasted all the days of that 'epic fast' of 1932.)

But when you express your surprise at the way in which he gives away

things, he tells you a story he heard from Gandhiji and which he says he has repeated hundreds of times. And this is the story:

Years ago there was a man who had retired to a cave where he lived untroubled by all cares, unencumbered by any belongings. When he wanted food he went out in the forest in search for it, and when he was thirsty drank it from the nearest spring. One day he was visited by his brother who left him a present of rich catskins. They were so smooth and soft that they captivated his imagination. He could think of

his body when he went out. His son however, knew better, he found out why his father was so sore distraught. He told him: 'It is these wretched catskins that have deprived us of all happiness. It is they that came to cast a shadow of misery over our care-free life. Why not shed these bringers of misery?' And so they chucked them.

"I happen to have numerous catskins," says Mr. Kallenbach with a twinkle of humour in his eyes, "and I go on shedding them." Verily the rare souls that laid down their lives for their fellowmen did not regard the human tabernacle as any better than a catskin.

Why Congress Party Accepts Office Mahatma Gandhi Clears The Air

A Reuter's message from Poona states:

WRITING in his weekly paper, *Harijan*, Mahatma Gandhi states that the acceptance of office by Congress does not mean that the Party intends to work the India Act.

It is a serious attempt, on the one hand, he says, to avoid a bloody revolution, and, on the other, to avoid mass civil disobedience on a scale hitherto unattempted.

It is possible to construe the Act as an attempt, however limited and feeble, to replace the rule of the sword by the rule of the majority.

The Congress's objective can easily be achieved and by refraining from the use of the Act in the manner intended.

nothing else and when the next morning he went out to hunt for his food he could not make up his mind to go without taking proper care of keeping the catskins secure from possible thieves. Before when he went out he left the cave open, for he had nothing to protect. Now he had to place a huge stone at the mouth of the cave to save the catskins from thieves. And though he did go out, his heart was not in the hunt, but in the catskins. He wondered whether it was at all proper to have left the catskins behind and why he should not have rather worn them on

The Gospel Of A Simple Life

That is why the gospel of a simple life appeals to him most—simplicity not for its own sake but for the sake of a higher purpose that life has to fulfil. He has lived in the lap of luxury, has travelled through Europe to Asia in his own car, and earned a lot and spent a lot. But his life is incredibly simple. "Those of you," he says, "who in imitation of Westerners take to clothes and fashions of dress for which there is no excuse in the Indian climate are sorely mistaken. A better thing than the flowing *dhoti* allowing plenty of fresh air in every pore of your body was not devised for the Indian climate." And he has learnt how to wear a *dhoti* properly and remains bare-bodied and bare-footed for practically the whole day. He has been a teetotaller, a vegetarian and a non smoker ever since he met Gandhiji, and does not care for either tea or coffee or any of the Western amenities that we thought we should provide for him. The music of the spinning wheel has fascinated him, he has almost learnt to spin, and whilst he thinks of spinning as a recreation from the tedium of office routine when he goes back to South Africa, he is going to arrange for someone from Palestine to come and study the whole process of khadi-making in order to be able to introduce it among the indigent Jews there. He is a Jew and has, among other things, pledged himself to work for the welfare of the Jews. He is proud to call himself a Jew, but would prefer not to be known as a German. Like Toller, I suppose, he would say: 'I was a German.'

(To be continued)

PANDIT RISHIRAM

A WELL-KNOWN VEDIC MISSIONARY VISITS SOUTH AFRICA

PANDIT RISHIRAM, a prominent Hindu Vedic Missionary, who attended the World's Congress of Faiths held in London last year, after a lengthy tour of Europe, and after having established in the course of his missionary activities a cultural centre in London, has arrived last Sunday in Durban. He is the honoured guest of Mr Otmal of Messrs Bombay Bazaar. A welcome reception was held in his honour under the auspices of the South African Hindu Maha Sabha at the Parsee Rustomjee Hall, on Sunday afternoon. Mr. B. M. Patel, president of the Sabha, presided over a packed gathering. After delivering his welcome speech, the president garlanded the Panditji. Other speeches of welcome were made by Messrs. V. S. C. Pather, M. B. Naik, R. B. Chetty, Padam Singh, B. D. Lalla, P. G. Desai, M. M. Gandhi, Manickum Pillay, A. I. Kajee, B. N. Naidoo, F. Satyapal, S. R. Naidoo, C. R. Naidoo, S. Rustomjee and S. K. Pather.

Pandit Rishiram, in the course of a very interesting speech, said it was to the great credit of the South African Indians that though separated by thousands of miles from the mother country they still cherished Indian ideals and were prepared to assimilate them.

He was in Europe for a year and he had seen gatherings of people of different religions who had felt that mere political or social adjustment would not take them far in the solutions of world problems, but a spirit of unity emanating from true religion was very necessary. In this they needed the help of India. Mahatma Gandhi was a world figure to-day which was not a small credit to India. He was admired for his high and noble principles by all. Panditji spoke on the dignity of human personality. He said: "We cannot fortify ourselves with barriers. There was a common humanity, not only White or Brown or Black. There was a goodness of human nature and Indians should

show to the rest of this country that by their right conduct and right living Indian traditions and culture would be appreciated in this country. There was not light but one's own self. Elevate yourselves by your own exertions."

Concluding the Panditji said he was very pleased to have been able to visit his countrymen in this land. He did not come for any collections. He did not believe much in making speeches. He would wish to meet people individually and whatever services he was capable of rendering were at their disposal during the short period that he would be staying amongst them.

Pandit Rishiram delivered lectures on Wednesday and Thursday on "The Great Urge of Human Personality" and "The Essential Nature of Human Personality" at the Parsee Rustomjee Hall, Queen Street, Durban, and his third lecture on "The Development of Human Personality" will be delivered at 5-30 p.m. tonight at the same place when Mr. Maurice Webb will preside.

Things In General

Woman Cabinet Minister In India

MRS. VIJAI PANDIT, sister of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, is included in the new Congress Ministry in the United Provinces. Mrs. Pandit will be the first woman Cabinet Minister in India.

This should open the eyes of Europeans in South Africa who, in defence of their ill-treatment towards Indians, very often compare treatment Indians get in their own country. Does it not appear strange that when an Indian woman can become a member of the Cabinet in India, Indians in South Africa are deemed fit to enjoy the franchise. In fact when Indians were deprived of the Parliamentary vote the reason given for doing so was that they did not enjoy the franchise in their own country. Well, it could at least be said that times have now changed and, in fact, South Africa stands, in this respect, backward of India in that there is no white woman here as a member of the Cabinet.

Natives On The Mines

At the end of June 30, some 311,905 Africans were in jobs on the gold, coal and other mines of the Transvaal. Of these, 295,869 were on the gold mines; 15,520 on the coal mines, and 516 on other mines.

Rhodesia Builds New

Military Air Base

A military air base, which will be of great strategic importance to the Union Air Force in time of war, is being constructed a few miles from Salisbury. This airport will be the base of the Rhodesian air fleet which, at present, consists of six machines on loan from the British Government.

Officials Free Rides Cost

Johannesburg £40,000 A Year

In spite of the fact that Johannesburg spends almost £40,000 on locomotion allowances for its Mayor, councillors and officials, when the next Estimates are being considered, this amount may be even larger. Each year the sums voted for motor allowances and travelling expenses increase, because, it is stated, work is increasing. At present motor car expenses for officials alone amount to about £16,000, and some heads of departments receive sums exceeding £15 per month. Allowances are only for travel in or near the city.

Young Men's Muslim Association

A general meeting of the Young Men's Muslim Association will be held at the Star Restaurant (apstairs), Gray Street, Durban, at 7.30 p.m. on Sunday July 25. Agenda: Annual accounts and reports; election of officials, and general.

Indian Society's Loyal Message

To The King

The following message has been received by Mr. R. V. M. Padayachee President of the Vannikula Sathriya Sangam Society:—"The Private Secretary is commanded by the King to convey an expression of thanks to the officials and members of the Vannikula Sathriya Sangam Society, Maritzburg, for their messages of loyal assurances on the occasion of their Majesties' Coronation."

Train Disaster In India

Hundred and seven persons are officially reported to have been killed and 66 injured when the Punjab-Howrah express was derailed near Patna. While the cause of the disaster has not been ascertained sabotage is suspected. Upraised rails indicate that the lines were probably tampered with. All Europeans on the train were safe states Renter from Calcutta.

Nizamia Muslim Society

A committee meeting of the Nizamia Muslim Society was held in Maritzburg on Wednesday, July 17. It was unanimously decided to give a farewell reception to Moulana A. R. Ansari, Patron and foundation member of the society, who will be leaving for India shortly. The reception will be given on Sunday, July 25, at the Madressa Hall, Maritzburg.

Scheme To Clear Beggars**From Streets**

A scheme for dealing with beggars, professional mendicants and in many instances deserving people who have not the means of maintaining a reasonable standard of living by their own efforts, is being tested in Johannesburg by a branch of the Social Service Association of South Africa. It is believed that the system will eventually clear the streets of a considerable number of mendicants. Circulars have been sent to business houses and to individuals stating that they will be provided with 50 numbered notes addressed to the branch, and that all that is required of them is that an applicant for assistance should be handed one of these notes. It is believed that professional beggars, knowing that they will only receive another note if they make a second application to the same source, will fail to do so. In return for this service the Branch requires that the business house or individual served in this way should pay 10s. a year for membership of the Branch. Applicants to the Association's Branch will be assisted with food, clothing and, if necessary, employment.

Eid Stamps

In connection with the forthcoming issue of the Eid stamps, the Young Men's Muslim Association wishes to announce that it has been decided to change the design of the current stamps. It welcomes the co-operation of the public in the way of suggestions or new designs. These designs should be commemorative of the Eid; they may, for instance, contain crescent or hands raised in prayer or some symbol of Islamic Brotherhood.

**Unemployment At Its Lowest
In Britain**

Unemployment in Britain is at its lowest now since December, 1929. There are even 50,000 jobs "going begging." Employers throughout the country in the five weeks up to May 24 asked employment exchanges to fill 283,450 vacancies. The number filled was 232,498, which means that suitable workers could not be found in the districts where the jobs were, or that workers in other parts of the country were not prepared to move their homes. The latest total of unemployed, issued by the Ministry of Labour, is 1,451,330. This is 3,113 fewer than a month earlier.

Rand Native Poll Tax

This month £39,000 has been collected in Native poll tax in Johannesburg at £1 per head. Prosecutions for failure to pay tax and for breaking the pass laws have risen sharply in the Native Criminal Court. While the average number of prosecutions a day in Johannesburg is about 100 for these offences last month the average soared to 297.

**British Colonies And The
"Have-Not" Nations**

Speaking at the West Indies dinner in London at which the Duke of Kent was the principal guest, says Reuter, Mr. Winston Churchill referred to the modern talk of giving away Colonies to "have-not nations," or an international committee. He said he hoped before any decision was taken by Britain that the wishes of the various colonies would be ascertained. He was confident that they would unite in saying that they would use every scrap of energy to remain under the nationality and freedom of the British flag.

S. AIDAN'S BOYS' SCHOOL (SYDENHAM)

THIRTY-FOUR years ago pioneers in the field of Indian education were busy at Sydenham, erecting buildings to accommodate the growing number of boys seeking education. Dr. Booth, Mr. S. Godfrey and others had been at work in the field many years earlier, but it was not till 1903 that a really solid building was erected. The buildings, known for years as S. Aidan's College, were built at a great cost to the Mission. For more than three decades they have served generation after generation of scholars. Builders in those days built well, but they had not then such liberal ideas about light, ventilation, and floor space as we have now, and the Education Department closed its eyes when

over-crowding became necessary. Now, things are different and it has become necessary to make great structural alterations. Since the scholars went home in June the old walls that in holiday time have become so accustomed to their holiday sepulchral silence, have resounded to the music of hammers and saws: iron, concrete and bricks are replacing wood, and new windows and doors are appearing in solid walls.

Middle-aged and old men are to be found in all parts of the Union and far beyond the shores of South Africa who look back with gratitude and affection to their early days at "the College," their Alma Mater.

A sum of £500 is needed for this work of re-construction and extension. The Manager and Staff of the School make an appeal to old scholars to help in raising this sum. Please show your appreciation of the old "College" by sending a donation to the Headmaster (Mr. W. S. Seethal, 168, Kenilworth Road, Durban) or to the Manager, (Rev. W. H. Satchell, 13, Bewsey Grove, Durban.)

The Editor has kindly consented to publish a list of the names of all donors of sums of £1 and upwards.

W. H. SATCHELL,
Manager S. Aidan's Schools,
Sydenham.

DEATH OF MR. B. M. SINGH

A GLOOM was cast over the Hindu-stani section of the community especially when the sad news of the death of Mr. B. M. Singh was flashed out last Friday night. Mr. Singh had been ailing for the last few months and his death took place at "Lions' Den", his Mayville residence. He was a prominent member of the Indian community and being one of the descendants of Indian immigrants he had always at heart the welfare of those poor people. Very few funerals have been so largely attended by all sections of the community both rich and poor including a number of Europeans, as was Mr. B. M. Singh's, last Saturday afternoon, at the Cato Manor Cemetery where his remains were cre-

mated. The procession was about half a mile long and was evidence of the deceased's popularity among his people. His many activities in the interests of his community included the establishment of the Aryan Benevolent Home, and the Arya Yuvak Sabha Government-aided Indian School, of which he was a manager. He was a trustee of the Durban Hindu Temple, Somtseu Road, and recently gave a large sum towards the building of an orphanage and school buildings. He was a chairman of the committee of the Cato Manor Indian Cemetery. Liberal contributions were made by him to Sastri College, St. Aidan's Hospital, the Aryan Benevolent Home and other institutions. Socially,

he entertained liberally, receiving important deputations and notable visitors from overseas. In business, he had interests in Singh's Mutton Market, the Cato Manor Quarries, the African Cartage Company and the Estate B. B. Singh's wood and coal yard.

Educated at the Boys' Model School, Smith Street, he completed his studies at the Higher Grade Indian School. As a young man he was an accomplished athlete, winning several cycle championships, and taking an active part in soccer and cricket. A floating trophy was given by him to the Natal Indian Football Association. Mr. Singh leaves a wife, brother and many other relatives to mourn his loss. We offer them our heartfelt sympathy.

India Letter

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

How Did The Present Crisis Of The Constitution Arise?

WHITEHALL had previously answered: (1) The Congress was ignorant of the scope and provisions of the Government of India Act and, so, made an impossible demand; (2) The principle of responsible self-government was new to the Indian people and they were, therefore, impatient at the manner of its organic growth. It was soon felt that these arguments will not serve the purpose; (3) A third was advanced to show that the Congress was bullied into the position of deadlock by President Nehru and the Left. All these arguments are sheer propaganda and therefore no help in the understanding of the origin of the present crisis. In fact, the origin is very simple. The crisis of the constitution arose because the constitution was utterly unacceptable. The Congress had absolute majorities in provinces embracing two-thirds of the entire population and, in these provinces, the unacceptability of the constitution led to its crisis.

Why Is The Constitution Unacceptable?

(1) It is framed by the British Parliament. The Congress stands by the principle of the full sovereignty of the Indian people and a Constituent Assembly incorporating this principle can alone frame the Indian constitution; (2) The Executive (Governors etc.) representative of British sovereignty, is armed with special powers and responsibilities. The Governors can effectively interfere with the activities of the provincial cabinets and so set at naught the will of the Indian masses; (3) The constitution provides for a franchise and a composition of the Legislatures which are both limited, sectional and reactionary. Participation in the elections had to be even on such a basis and yet the Congress succeeded as few other organisations of world democracy had done before. All these elements of unacceptability of the present constitution are also such as perpetuate the exploitation of the Indian masses in the interests of British Imperialism. Behind the demand for assurances from the Governor that he will not set aside the advice of his ministers in regard to their constitutional activities lay the fight of the Indian nation against the special powers of an executive representative of British Imperialism. Consequent upon the huge majorities in the elections, that was the only possible development in the struggle for freedom. A fight on the issue of British supremacy versus Indian sovereignty is the culminating

point and this may be reached after certain preparatory stages have been got through. But even in regard to the special powers of the Executive, there are two possible courses of action; the one that Congress adopted and the other would have been an absolute denial to accept office and thus force the suspension of the constitution.

Why Did Congress Agree On Conditional Acceptance of Office?

We may take up first the answers of the bureaucracy and its associates both here and in England. (1) The spoils of office and the power of patronage and these two would have materially improved the condition of Congressmen as also extended their influence in the country; (2) There is a considerable section in the Congress which wants to cash its sacrifices, for howsoever short a time. These answers may be dismissed as inadequate, for, howsoever enlightening they may be as to the motives of a

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few men, they do not explain the real nature and implications of the Congress policy of office-acceptance; (3) The Congress wants to do some immediate good to the masses. There is but limited or no scope for it under the new constitution. Consistent with the Congress policy of liquidating British Imperialism, if this good is likely to be effected, a trial should be given; (4) The country is not yet prepared for civil disobedience or mass direct action. The suspension of the constitution already forces such a programme of civil disobedience. Between now and such a suspension, a period of conditional office acceptance must elapse. This will prepare the country; (5) A partial transfer of power from Parliament to the Indian people can perhaps be effected through this constitutional castration of Governors' powers. This, of course, is, therefore, in the interests of "peace and friendliness."

Why Does Not Government Give The Demanded Assurances?

There are surmises (1) A considerable section of the Congress organisation is likely to split away from the Congress, if it does not abandon its present stand

on office-acceptance; (2) The Government is prepared to meet the crisis, when such arises, of civil disobedience. The first surmise is unfounded and, as regards the second, no government except at the point of abdication or surrender ever thought its collapse likely; (3) The demand for assurances goes both against British prestige and the principle of Parliament's sovereignty. The crisis of the constitution is expressive of the major crisis of Indo-British relationship. To-day it is restricted to the special powers of the British controlled executive. But there is no knowing when it may pass over to the wider plane.

When Japan Invades India

Some people are beset with the anxiety about what will happen to India when the British evacuate India or are forced to leave and Japan carries out an invasion. President Nehru had to answer this anxiety during his Malaya tour. Once before, in a conversation at Allahabad, he had occasion to go thoroughly into this question and in the course of his reply he said: (1) The evacuation or surrender of the British in India presupposes an advanced stage of organised strength of the Indian people. Free India will also have broad-based its defences on the will of the entire people. In place of a limited mercenary army, we will have made beginnings with a people's army. Japan cannot therefore have it her own way; (2) The thrust of the Japanese imperialist drive has not and cannot surmount Chinese opposition. No doubt, the Tanaka Memorandum of Japanese ambitions to overlordship of the East is widely supposed to govern Japanese military policies. Japan, however, is too late in subduing China. One may not expect the Japanese to project their drive into India with such a vital gap in the continuity of their communications; (3) The aggressive policies of a nation are greatly dependent on delicate balancing of international relations. Japan may cast covetous looks on Free India but other Powers may not permit her to launch on a career of aggression. There are many independent States like Switzerland and Holland and their defences may be no match to the armed might of Germany or Italy and yet violation of their territories may involve serious consequences. There are other Far Eastern interests besides those of Japan and they will not stand by and permit another Manchukuo in India. These arguments must not be taken singly. Their force consists in that they hang together.

The Sporting World

Chetty Knocks Out Wolhuter

IN the non-European boxing at the Durban City Hall on Saturday last, Seaman Chetty knocked out Cecil Wolhuter, of Capetown, in the fourth round of their fight for the fly-weight championship of South Africa. The local fighter showed speed and a good punch. He opened a cut over Wolhuter's eye in the second round and dropped him for a short count before the gong. Wolhuter fought southpaw with a rugged, firm-footed style. In the third round the pair went hammer and tongs at each other. There was much wild hitting and considerable excitement among the crowd. Kid Vengan beat Kid Singh on points in an attractive fly-weight match, Remilly beat Thomas, and Kid Kahn beat Joe Aaron in a light-weight bout.

Thanks

Mr. R. L. Beharee, secretary, of the Verulam Temple F.C., wishes to thank the officials and members of the Stanger United F.C., for the kind hospitality and the enthusiastic reception which was accorded to his team which visited Stanger on Sunday last, and the match that was marked by a spirit of fine sportsmanship. He wishes also to thank Messrs. Balchoo and Soni, both, teachers of the Stanger Indian School, who took great troubles in

arranging the cars, and also to the drivers of the three cars NT626, NT266, and NT73.

Springboks Defeat Australia

South Africa defeated Australia by 26 points to 17 in the second Test of rugby last Saturday. The Springboks played brilliant open rugby in the first half, when they scored 26 points, but injuries and the fact that Craven was playing forward and not always showing in the scrums caused a slackening in the second half. The Australians took full advantage of this tiring of the Springbok forwards and thrust splendidly, scoring 11 points in that period, while the Springboks failed to add to their half-time score. There were some wild moments among the forwards, when boxing seemed the object rather than rugby, but these were checked and the game ended on a high note.

Indian Team For New Zealand

The Bengal Hockey Association has wholeheartedly welcomed the invitation of the New Zealand Hockey Association, extended to the Indian Hockey Federation for an All-India Team to visit the Dominion in 1938. This decision was reached at a Council meeting of the Bengal Hockey Association, held at C. C. C. Pavilion recently with Mr. G. C. Fletcher in the chair.

Tilden's Offer To Visit India

The All-India Lawn Tennis Association has received a cable from Tilden offering to visit India with Cochet and two other players during the coming cold weather. The matter is being considered by the Central Council of the Association.

Has Walked 116,900 Miles For A Bet

Captain Francis Butler, has been hiking for 17 years, during which time he has visited 14 countries. He has covered 116,900 miles and worn out 180 pairs of boots. Captain Butler is collecting material to write books. In 1919 he took up a bet with a fellow officer to hike in 14 countries and accept no lifts. In five months he will return to Canada to collect his wager, which was for £640.

Origin Of Cricket

Cricket is probably an adaptation of the now extinct game of stool-ball. This game was very popular during the fifteenth to eighteenth centuries. Two teams played, the equivalent of a batsman trying to stop the bowler from hitting the stool with his ball by catching, by no means an easy task. Scoring was according to the number of throws the bowler took before he hit the stool.

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