

# INDIAN OPINION

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## NOTES AND NEWS

### A Wise Decision

WE are happy to note that Mr. Joe Soobiah has at last withdrawn from the Municipal elections in Maritzburg where he was opposing Mr. R. S. Williamson in Ward VIII. We heartily congratulate Mr. Soobiah on his very wise decision and hope that his enthusiasm to serve his countrymen from within the Council will not in any way abate by his not entering the Council but that it will continue to grow and that it will enable him to serve them as actively from without.

### Union's Trade Agreement

#### With India

While the question of the status of Indian nationals domiciled and born in the Union still remains unsolved and is becoming increasingly serious it is strange to hear of trade agreements between India and the Union. The preliminary agreement, which was tabled in the House of Assembly, provides, for most favoured nation treatment. Hitherto no trade agreement whatever existed between the two countries in spite of the common membership of the British Commonwealth, throughout which a network of preferences has been established; and in consequence commodities traded between them have been subject to even heavier duties than those applying to countries enjoying most favoured nation treatment outside the Commonwealth.

The present preliminary agreement is a general one, applicable to all commodities passing between the Union and India. The final agreement will specify particular commodities on which the duties will be even less than they are to be now under the most favoured nation clause. This clause provides that duties on any articles from the country concerned shall not be more than the reduced duties on those articles levied under a trade agreement with any other country. But it excludes special agreements for preferential treatment such as those concluded between the Dominions of the British Empire.

### Admission To Vice-regal Garden Parties Will Lead Us Nowhere

Referring to the invitation extended to a few leading Indians to the annual vice-regal garden party in Durban the *Statesman* of Calcutta remarks:

"Formal invitations to garden parties do not get very far. The anomalous treatment of Indians has been strongly resented by the population in this country, including its resident Europeans."

### What We Do Badly In The Union

Speaking on "What's Wrong With South Africa?" in the Baptist Church at Maritzburg, last Sunday, the Rev. Frank Oldrieve referred to the good and the bad sides of South Africa. As a Christian he tried to bring the true Christian spirit in his congregation. Dealing with the bad side the speaker said, "It was deplorable to think of the racial antagonism that was prevalent in the country. He reminded his listeners of what St. Paul said when he went to Athens, "God hath made the world and all things therein.....and hath made of one blood all nations of men to dwell on all the face of the earth." This was undoubtedly true, he said but our actions were all so un-Christian. He pointed out that racial antagonism and colour prejudice was not a natural thing, it was not evident among children. Children played and worked together whatever the colour was, and colour prejudice was something that was acquired. Mr. Oldrieve stressed that in God's sight all men were alike, all were of value, whatever their race or colour, and that "the differences there are differences within a fundamental unity and are intended to minister to the fulfilment of a common social and spiritual purpose." There was a place for every person in the community, that was the Christian view. Referring to the colour bar the speaker urged that we should think of people as individuals and not to turn against them because of colour. Another wrong thing about South Africa the speaker mentioned was too much greed; too much money in the hands of a few people while many had practically none. Greed was seen in those who were all out for increasing the sales of liquor, to the

detriment of the individual and the loss to the home and the community. It was sad to note that the excise receipts, for the year 1937-38 were up by over £200,000, an increase of 20 per cent. on the previous year. Let those who sold liquor remember the words of the Old Testament prophet Habakkuk, "Woe unto them that giveth his neighbour drink, and maketh him drunken." Let South Africans remember that the country poses as a predominantly Christian State. In the Union constitution there was put this new clause. "The people of South Africa acknowledge the sovereignty and guidance of Almighty God." "Do we?" Mr. Oldrieve asked. And so do we. But let it be remembered that the politicians of South Africa do not believe in mixing up religion with politics. We would be surprised if the Rev. Oldrieve's words would have any more effect than pouring water over duck's back.

### New India Assurance Co.

Mr. Manekshaw K. Billimoria, who arrived in Durban last January, to open the Life Department of the New India Assurance Co., is leaving for India by the *s. s. Karanja* on July 31. The Indian community wishes him Bon Voyage and trusts that he will be able to convince the Directors of New India that Indians in this country would like the Company to place their Principal representative Mr. Jalbhoy Rustomjee in a position to accept life insurance of Indian children from the age of 10 years. Indians feel that they should have facilities to insure their children from their infancy and it is hoped, therefore, that the New India will extend the same facilities in this line of insurance to Indians in this country as other European Companies do.

### Ordinances To Come Before

#### Provincial Council

Among the eight Ordinances to come before the Natal Provincial Council which meets on August 8, are included "The Provincial Hospitals Ordinance, 1938," and "The Licences (Control) Amendment Ordinance, 1938." The first one mentioned above provides for the better administration of Government

and non-Government Hospitals. It also establishes a colour bar in that it provides for the setting apart or reserving of any hospital or any portion of a hospital for persons of any particular class or classes, whether according to race or colour or otherwise, and "any such hospital or portion of a hospital shall be restricted to the use only of persons of the class or classes for which it has been so set apart or reserved." The second aims at putting the Natal Licensing Laws on a sounder footing by consolidating the various laws into one and repealing the existing ones wholly or portions thereof.

#### 10d. A Day For Indian Women Employees

Here is something very interesting culled from the daily papers:—

Vigorous criticism of the paltriness of the daily wages paid by the Corporation to its Indian women employees who cut grass and trim gardens, was voiced at a meeting of the Durban City Council when it was decided to increase the wages from 8½d. to 10d. a day. Mr. H. D. Capell opposed the recommendation on the ground that it was scandalous for the Council to consider paying any human being 10d. a day for their services. This amounted to paying slave wages. The Council, he said, had the audacity to speak of sweated labour.

Mr. S. J. Smith, in reply, pointed out that the women concerned were the wives of Corporation Indian labourers who were paid 1s. 8d. a day and who are in receipt of free rations and free accommodation. Although the wage of 1s. 8d. a day is disgraceful, the other conditions had also to be taken into account.

Mrs. V. Burnside considered the matter deplorable and suggested that the wages should be increased to 1s. a day. Mr. H. L. Buzzard, Chairman of the Finance Committee, pointed out that in January the women were only getting 7½d. a day. They were having a jolly good time, he said, for their work was literally not much more than a social gathering.

Those Europeans who constantly preach to the Indians to improve their standard of living and adopt the White man's standard before they can claim any rights in this country, would do well to ponder over the above lines. Some of the City Councillors have described the treatment meted out to the women employees concerned as being "scandalous"

"disgraceful," "deplorable." But in the end the poor women have been granted an increase of 1½d. and their wage is now 10d. a day! Indeed the City Council's generosity has no bounds!! The Chairman of the Finance Committee who said they were having a jolly good time for their work was literally not much more than a social

gathering, we wonder if he would dare to suggest the same thing if White women were similarly occupied? Quite obviously laws relating to working conditions, wages etc., are only meant to apply to the people, and that too particularly the Indian employers. The authorities themselves are exempt from them.

## Indian Opinion

FRIDAY, JULY 29TH, 1938

### Segregation Policy In The Cape

THE Cape has always been known to be the most liberal of all the Provinces of the Union in regard to its treatment of its non-European section of the community. The various Agents-General for India have been delighted with their experiences in that Province as compared with the other Provinces and have paid high tributes to the Europeans there for their enlightened and liberal outlook. The present Agent-General, however, we fear, will not be able to do so. For so it would appear from the recently published draft residential segregation ordinance which has aroused a feeling of great indignation among the non-Europeans generally.

So far there has been racial discrimination in the Cape but it has been restricted only to private places. The Province has, however, been free from any legalised colour-bar and one found no distinction based on either race or colour in any of the public places controlled by the authorities. Being fagged out by their bitter experiences of invidious distinctions wherever they moved in the other Provinces, Indians considered the Cape peninsula to be a blessing. It is blessed with beautiful scenery, healthy climate and one of its

additional blessings was that it had not been infected with the plague of race hatred. It will be a thousand pities if the Cape will now allow herself to be besmirched and ranked among the rest of the unenlightened Provinces.

The draft ordinance referred to empowers local authorities to lay down separate residential areas for non-Europeans and also to introduce segregation in public places of entertainment and recreation and also public conveyances within their control; it further lays down that any person married to a non-European shall also be deemed to be a non-European. The measure is called the "local authorities (further powers) ordinance." The first clause empowers any local authority to define and set aside by notice in the *Provincial Gazette* any area for occupation for residential purposes by Europeans or non-Europeans only. It is laid down that any person who occupies a building in an area belonging to another class, shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding £50 and also to a penalty of £1 for every day his offence continues after notice has been served upon him. The courts may issue an ejection order against a person found guilty of occupying a building forbidden to him.

We cannot imagine a dirtier and a more offensive piece of legislation and it is more than surprising that it should emanate from the Cape.

We are glad to note that the Capetown City Council has disapproved of the proposed ordinance and that Mr. G. M. H. Barrell, a member of the Executive Committee of the Council, who has strenuously opposed the measure, feels that it will never come before the Cape Provincial Council.

There is, however, a determined propaganda on the part of a section of the Europeans represented by the so-called Joint Council of European Residential Societies in the Peninsula, who are holding meetings to continue the agitation in favour of separate residential areas, at the same time denying the fact that the movement has been caused by hatred of the non-Europeans.

We have no doubt the Agent-General for India will lodge the strongest protest of both the Government and the people of India against this fresh insult indirectly hurled at Indians and in this we hope that he will be backed by a united voice of the Indian community of South Africa.

### Republicanism On The Ascent

REPUBLICANISM in the Union seems to be gaining ground by leaps and bounds. Notwithstanding all the talk of General Hertzog and General Smuts about the strength of their United Nationalist Party there is very little doubt left in the minds of the public that the Republican Nationalist Party led by Dr. Malan is continuously winning the day.

From the moment Parliament opened Dr. Malan has held the

ring and has been scoring point after point. The first thing the Government has given in to the Republicanists is that the foundation stone laying ceremony of the Voortrekkers, which was to be a great State occasion will now be treated as a private affair "in order to avoid racial strife;" but the Government still agreeing to carry out the financial obligations it has assumed in connection with the erection of the Voortrekker Monument at Pretoria. But the Governor-General will not attend the ceremony; neither "God Save The King" nor "Die Stem" will be played there and the Prime Minister will not lay the foundation stone.

The second point is that an inquiry will be made into some alleged corruption in the Railway Department to which Dr. Malan drew attention.

The third point is, which is to be the Union's national anthem? Dr. Malan has demanded that there should be only one single purely South African and officially recognised national anthem and that "any policy, declaration or action on the part of Ministers which is inconsistent therewith will be considered as being a disparagement of South Africa's independent status and as affecting South Africa's national honour."

Notwithstanding the fact that "God Save The King" has always been treated as being the national anthem and that "Die Stem van Suid Afrika" has lately been sung together with that in order to satisfy the Republicanists, the Prime Minister has had to make a statement that, "until such time as all are agreed on a national anthem our English speaking people will have the satisfaction of knowing that "The King" will continue

to be played as an invocation to the Almighty, and the other section will have the privilege of hearing "Die Stem" played as the national anthem of the Afrikaans speaking section." If this is agreed to by Parliament it surely means a gain on the part of the Republicanists.

Republicanists first succeeded in removing the King's head off the Union stamp; then they succeeded in having both languages recognised as the official languages of the Union. But English stood always first and Afrikaans second. Now Afrikaans has become the principal one and English takes the second place! Then came the flag issue and the Republicans scored in getting the Union flag hoisted together with the Union Jack. Then came the question of the Governor-General being a South African. They have even achieved that; and now, though he is the representative of the King in South Africa he is denied being greeted with the national anthem that greets the King! And now since the question of recognising a single South African national anthem is raised it follows that before long the question of a single language and a single flag will also be raised. Thus it would appear that the Republicanists are fast advancing, and at this rate it will not be long before South Africa is declared a Republic.

### What The British Prime Minister Says?

"Let no one either in this country or elsewhere for one moment imagine that though we seek peace we will be willing to sacrifice British honour, or British vital interests."

# INDIA'S PLACE IN THE EMPIRE

## MR. SASTRI SPEAKS OUT

"INDIA'S place in the Empire" was the subject of a lecture delivered by Mr. F. E. James, M.L.A., recently under the auspices of the Y.M.I.A. Parliament at the Gokhale Hall, Madras, the Rt. Hon. V. S. Srinivasa Sastri presiding.

In the course of his lecture, Mr. F. E. James, explained at length the meaning of "Empire" and "Commonwealth," and India's status in the Empire. India, he said, was intimately associated with the United Kingdom, which was India's best single market, while India was one of Britain's best customers. As a part of the Empire, India formed one of the sterling groups of nations, whose monetary policy had on the whole made for financial and economic stability and international co-operation.

Adverting to the problem of Indians overseas, Mr. James was of opinion that it would be unwise to imagine that an advance in India's constitutional status would necessarily affect advantageously the position of Indians in the colonial empire. "All one can say is that continued discrimination against Indians in the colonies will continue a source of profound irritation to India and a sorrowful embarrassment to those who believe in the Empire as the home of ordered liberty and racial equality."

### Indian Defence

One of the most important problems of the Empire, continued the speaker, in which India was vitally concerned was the matter of defence. The United Kingdom accepted full responsibility for the security of India from foreign aggression by land or sea. There was no doubt that the strategic position of the Empire had undergone a radical change in the recent years and that there were dangers to day which were not thought of some years ago. The rise of Germany, Italy and Japan as potential and hostile allies against Britain, the breakdown of the League of Nations and the development of air arm had laid open new points of danger to the Empire's security. The objectives of India's military policy had changed, and there was at present a great need for a re distribution of her forces throughout the Empire, and for the efficient development of new types of fighting units.

"As far as the army is concerned," the lecturer added, "this means mechanisation and an increase in its mobility. In this, India is definitely involved, as the only considerable of active troops in the Empire is in India. The new perils emphasise the fact that the strength and efficiency of the British army in India is no longer only an

Indian concern, but is also an imperial concern. The dangers now confronting the Empire call for a really determined attempt both on the part of India and on the part of Great Britain to understand the essential of this problem of imperial defence and India's part therein. There is an urgent need for some arrangement thereby, without any sacrifice of efficiency or adequacy, the desire of India to make her defence more a matter for her own responsibilities and pride can be achieved. There are many difficulties in the way of such an agreement, political, strategic and financial. But there is military genius and wise statesmanship still within the Empire and I am convinced that they will discover a way of more intimate and friendly co-operation in these matters than has been possible in the past."

At present the need for a clearer understanding of the resources of the Empire was great, added Mr. James. He referred to the problem of supplies of foodstuffs, raw materials, ammunitions and aeroplanes and said that in these questions India could play her part, but he cautioned, there should be some mutual understanding of the parts she would be called to play and of the way in which her own interests would be safeguarded while her resources were developed.

Proceeding, Mr. James observed that although Great Britain was still perhaps the most powerful nation in the world, she was less powerful in relation to other nations and groups than she was in the 19th century. She was no longer super-eminent; she was *primus inter pares*. Yet it was essential that the Empire should be kept alive as the greatest active force of civilisation; that it should be kept strong so as to maintain its diplomatic power; that it should be prepared to make concessions and promote appeasement in the world; a policy to which Britain had long been accustomed; and that its strategy should be accommodated to a realistic appreciation of its actual strength. Such a strategy should be mainly defensive and should be based upon a concentration of its diverse elements in the danger spots of the world.

"The Empire stands for liberty, ordered progress and democratic institutions," he concluded. It believes in some association of nations free from the cumberance of the Covenant of the League of Nations. In a world re-arming it believes in the justification of strength, used not in provocation but in defence and in pursuance of objects consonant with the principles of the League. The things for which the Empire stands are being threatened

almost daily by dominant and domineering Powers. It is, therefore, increasingly important that India's association with the Empire should be happy, voluntary and beneficial for the Empire's strength will depend upon its unity. India's position is, therefore, not only of moment to the Empire but also to the world. If the final conflict of ideals ultimately comes, it is important that India should be found strongly and willingly by the side of those who stand for liberty, ordered progress and democratic institutions."

### Rt. Hon. Sastri's Speech

The Rt. Hon. Srinivasa Sastri at the outset remarked that Mr. F. E. James occupied a high position in the public life of India and that it was difficult to conceive of a person better qualified than he to speak about 'India's place in the British Empire.' He was a man of profound thought and although they might differ from him in many respects, his general friendliness to the Indian cause was well known and highly appreciated.

Alluding to Mr. James' observation that the treatment of Indians in the Colonies was by no means satisfactory and that the members of his community had always stood by the Indians in their struggles, Mr. Sastri said that the statement was true. It was further true that in recent years even the Government of India had always stood by the Indian people in the different parts of the Empire. But this had not been of much use to the Indians, because of the bitter prejudice and hostility felt by the ruling races in the different parts of the Empire. When he (Mr. Sastri) visited several colonies 15 or 16 years ago he had observed a curious phenomenon. Just as the Europeans in India thought that their compatriots abroad were not treating the Indians properly and that they should mend their ways, the Europeans in those parts thought that their compatriots in India were not giving to the Indians in India that share of the Government and the opportunities of public life they were entitled to. Europeans in India had stated that Europeans abroad were all tiresome people. In their turn, he had it dinned into his ears in the Dominions and Colonies that the Europeans in India were about the worst specimens of their race. If they (Indians) thought about all these things, it was a saddening and by no means an encouraging feature to contemplate about the future of the Empire. True, they got some sympathy here and there and made no progress either here or there (laughter). Let them not flatter themselves because Mr.

James and a few Englishmen here said that Indians must be supreme in their country or that their destiny should be placed in their hands. Very nice to hear it and it was loudly said when there was some danger to the Empire. (laughter). They were in one of those critical situations. Nobody could say how soon the Empire would be out on its defence. Any day that might happen. And so they must not be surprised if even a hard-baked Tory in England spoke nice and affectionately and sometimes called them comrades and what not. (renewed laughter).

### In Event Of War

In the last war, continued Mr. Sastri, tremendous efforts were made by the British in India to get the Indians stand by them. They gave full hopes and the Indians did many things for the Empire, which were handsomely and gratefully acknowledged. But the Indians lost a good deal of ground they thought they gained then. Once more, war threatened the Empire and they heard questions of defence brought forward. The Englishmen in the War Office were exceedingly able people. They would show in hundreds of ways that the contribution the Indians made to the defence of the Empire was by no means proportionate to the interests that were protected in India and to the losses India would have to bear if the war ended in a failure.

"I do not deny all these things" observed Mr. Sastri, "but I wish to tell you that of all the institutions that form a network in the British Empire there is none which approaches the War Office either in thorough conservatism or in the refusal to listen to reason or in the determination whenever there is any difficulty to wrest from Britain's posts abroad the last advantage that could be wrested."

Mr. Sastri next referred to Mr. James' observation that the next war might help towards the equitable solution of the intricate problem and that as a result of it, India might be treated in accordance with the principles of justice and fairplay and self-sufficiency; that is to say, that India might be taken a few further steps forward in being able to entirely protect herself in times of trouble. Mr. Sastri entirely differed from Mr. James in this view. The Indians had during the last 35 or 40 years been pressing on the authorities of the British Empire at the headquarters the immense need to put India in a proper position as regards her self-defence and that it was unfair to keep her still in this vital matter dependent upon the Empire, and especially upon the War Office whose rapacity was a byword in international relations. But as in times of peace they all went to sleep they let the difficult problem lie over. They would not listen to the Indians. He did not remember any Congress session in which this problem was not vigorously and most emphatically brought to the notice of the British people. And yet, nothing was done.

"And now, if this problem is going to be tackled in time of danger to the Empire, do you believe, gentlemen, that it is going to be settled in the interests of the people of India or in the interests of the Empire." (Applause).

Of course, it was said that the interests of the Empire and India were inter-dependent. But they knew also they were separable, that they had been separated in the past and that they ought to be separated, if both were to receive their proper share of the resources of other parts of the Empire.

War is the last occasion at which this problem could be settled effectively. During the next war, I take leave of Mr. James to say most emphatically that from India everything will be taken that can possibly be taken. Ordinances, bad and hasty laws and arbitrary exactions will be resorted to. I do not blame Britain for it. Britain will be terribly in the balance and she cannot be blamed if when her own life is in danger she does her best to save herself. Not even our Congress Governments can give adequate protection to your interests. We shall have to suffer with Great Britain. But as you know the capacity of India to suffer is exceedingly small, however great her willingness may be, and her willingness now is not so great as it was during the last war. These are hard facts which it is unpleasant to narrate in all their nakedness. But we may not forget them, and the British people may not forget. The world, if it knows about India, may not forget them. When the final account between Britain and India is written, there is much that will stand to Britain's credit and a great deal that will redound to the generosity of her heart. But one thing will stand against her to such an extent that I do not know whether both the sides of balance sheets will be really found to be equal as they should be. And that is, the condition in which India has been left during all these years of British connection, in a state of abject, helpless dependence upon Britain, especially upon the War Office, and of even greater abject dependence upon this agency at the end of the war. In keeping us where we are, in matters of defence, Britain has not been fair to us and perhaps it will be found in the end that she has not been even to herself, considering her own larger interests."

## SEGREGATION POLICY IN THE CAPE

**S**PEAKING at the Coloured Welfare Convention on the Draft Ordinance empowering the local authorities to segregate non-Europeans, Dr. A. Abdurahman is reported to have said:

"A necessary preliminary to peace and harmony between the white and coloured is the restitution of the political rights of which the coloured people in the Cape were deprived by the Act of Union in 1910."

There was no doubt but that Ordinance 50 of 1828, the magna charta of the coloured people, was responsible for the great trek, and it was noteworthy in view of the present virulent agitation for compulsory residential segregation that this ordinance gave coloured persons the specific right to purchase or possess land without restriction. Coloured people were allowed equal rights in the matter of local government and coloured people participated freely with

Europeans in the agitation for representative government at the Cape. The final decision of the Imperial Government to grant the colony representative government was predominantly influenced by the assurance from the colonists that coloured people would enjoy political rights on an equal basis with the Europeans and that all His Majesty's subjects would be united in one bond of loyalty and common interest. This position stood until 1910 in the Cape. Meanwhile the trekkers had left with the gospel of "no equality," and they founded the various enactments to that end. It was thought by coloured people that after the South African War those in the Transvaal would be raised to the position of those in the Cape. However, Englishmen in the Transvaal broke their word, and when responsible government was granted the Transvaal in 1908 the Imperial Government abandoned those

coloured people whom they had promised to protect.

Then at Union came the greatest blow to the political position of the coloured people when "white South Africa betrayed its trust." The inequalities existing in the north were perpetuated and a new inequality was introduced to the Cape. There followed one colour bar after another.

"Well-nigh 30 years have now elapsed since that huge betrayal, 30 years of further humiliation in the Cape, and coloured people, once happy and contented, now stand to day before the world as a people branded as wholly unfit for an honourable place in the framework of the constitution of their country, a constitution conceived in a spirit of irrational and arrogant racial prejudice and based upon inheritance and privilege, fear and aggression," said Dr. Abdurahman.



A resolution asking the convention to record its opinion that the policy of segregation was contrary to the interests of both white and coloured, and to ask Provincial councillors to

vote against the draft ordinance "in loyalty to the old Cape tradition" was passed.

Various resolutions dealing with the political rights of the coloured people

were passed. One asked that the former rights possessed by them be restored, another that adult franchise be granted, and another that the Cape privileges be extended to the other provinces.

# ESSENTIAL OF GOOD BROADCASTING

## MADRAS PREMIER'S FIRST RADIO TALK

The following is an interesting and instructive broadcast talk by Mr. Rajagopalachari, Premier of Madras, when he recently opened the 10 kilowatt short-wave transmitter and 25 kilowatt medium wave transmitter of the All-India Radio:—

"I AM talking to you from a great distance and my voice is slightly spoilt by the very good but not yet perfect instrument through which I am speaking. I am speaking from the Madras All-India Radio Broadcasting Station. I have been given the honour of inaugurating this "Hindustan Akash Vani" in Madras.

"When anyone speaks, the vibrations, taking shape according to each articulated sound, are transmitted across the air and, touching the membrane in the ear set it in corresponding vibrations, which, in turn, produce changes in the brain that give us a perception of what our friend is saying. A very complicated and mysterious process, but it is so quick and we are so used to it that we call it by the simple phrase of "hearing," and do not consider it anything very much until by some misfortune we become deaf.

"The air vibrations can reach only a limited distance after all, which varies according to the strength of the speaker and the ear sensitiveness of the listener. Few people can address an audience of over ten thousand, even though they all keep perfectly silent and listen with rapt attention. Now, there are instruments through which if a man speaks he can be heard a thousand miles away or even further off. Wonderful but true; the music of Berlin and New York can be heard here where you are, while they are playing it there. A joke cracked at London you can hear and laugh in response here.

### How It Is Done

"The sound vibrations at broadcasting stations are carried not by air, but by the ether in space. A river of electro magnetic force is first set flowing from the broadcasting station to the receiving station. The sound waves produced by a speaker or singer at that station are made to impinge on this river. Every articulation and modulation of voice of the speaker or singer sets going characteristic ripples at that end of the river, which ripples

are carried on by the river and reach the receiving station at the other end in the same shape, intensity and frequency. These ripples vibrate the thin membrane in the receiving instrument, which, therefore, exactly reproduces the speech or the music which brought about the original ripples. Thus, the speech or music is "heard" at the receiving station, and, through a magnifying instrument, is made louder and transmitted all round, so that many may hear. The "akash" or ether exactly conveys all the vibrations modified by each minute modulation and the second picture is thereby faithfully reproduced at the other end, at distances millions of times greater than the ordinary air could take them.

### A Simple Analogy

"We can further explain this process by a simple analogy. The light of the Sun, though it is so natural and common that we do not ask any questions about it, is just such a continuous river of vibrations similarly set going by the Sun ninety millions of miles away from us, and when it reaches us, it produces effects on our nerves which we call light and heat. Anything that intercept the straight course of this river of Sun vibrations, like, for example the leaves and branches of a tree, interfere with the flow of rays, and cast a shadow—which is just a picture of the tree that intercepted the rays. If the leaves move in the breeze, the shadow also moves just correspondingly. The speaker or singer at the broadcasting stations just casts a shadow like this across the beam of electro magnetic waves. Only, instead of a picture for the eye, it is a sound shadow for the ear. We get an exact reproduction of the song or speech at the receiving station.

"This conquest of "akash" as a substitute vehicle for sound is wonderful. Whereas the air carried sound like a bullock cart, the "akash" carries it across enormous distances like a railway train or steamship.

"But all this will do us no good unless the sounds conveyed are good and useful. What good is it if you hear the donkeys braying at a great distance instead of being disturbed only by the donkeys of the neighbourhood. Bullock carts are even better than railway trains if the trains carry robbers

and rogues or only rubbish. Broadcasting is, therefore, valuable only if the programmes are good and useful and add to the people's wisdom or joy, and thereby serve to make them better and happier. The Director hopes with the help of good men to make his programmes such as to make us all better and happier.

### Need For Sensitive Personality

"Merely conveying good and correct advice will not produce any effect. Just as a good receiving station is necessary for the music or the speech to be heard, a further good and sensitive receiving station in the human personality of the listener is necessary to convert what is heard into good human activities. Husbands will be told not to get drunk or beat their wives. Wives will be told not to expect too much from husbands and to make the home pleasanter than the world outside for the toiling man who comes back home. Boys and girls will be told to be sensible, industrious and amiable. Everybody will be told to be clean and regular in habits and to help the village and town to be clean and orderly and nice to live in. But, unless there is a good 'receiving station,' as I call the brain of the listener, it will only be words and electro-magnetic achievement, but nothing more. Husbands should hasten to be good, and wives hurry up to be wise and people generally to be truthful, industrious, clean and tidy and gentle to one another and should not quarrel unnecessarily making a good world into Hell.

"The "akash" patiently suffers a great deal of disturbance and like the ocean resumes its serenity. It simply conveys the ripples and falls back into the serenity of its eternal calm. Let us by our character and serenity deserve this great "akash" in which we live.

"Goodbye! May your receiving station be always in good order and serve you well. Behind that receiving station is the soul which is served well or ill as you are good or bad.

"I am an old fashioned man still clinging to the methods of personal instruction and not taking very favourably to things modern. Still, if we use this new discovery wisely and well, we can make it go very far in certain directions."—*Indian Express*.

# Things In General

## Governor-General's Cup Air Race

THERE were excited crowds present at the Durban airport last Saturday afternoon anxiously waiting to watch the results of the Governor-General's Cup Air Race. Mr. Carl Erasmus, the young Margate pilot, was the first to arrive at 12½ minutes past three and had received the ovation of the whole crowd. But to his great misfortune he was informed three and three quarter hours later by the Racing Committee of the Aero Club of South Africa that he was disqualified on account of the fact that modifications were made to the engine of his machine which should have been disclosed on the entry form and were not disclosed. The coveted Governor-General's Cup and £500 therefore passed to Mr. J. J. Oosthuisen, whose plane arrived 7½ minutes after him. The other prizes of £200 and £100 were won respectively by Mr. H. H. Hull and Mrs. Peall.

## Union Maintenance Will Apply In India

Provision was made under the Maintenance Orders Act, 1932, to facilitate the enforcement in the Union of maintenance orders made by Courts in any other parts of his Majesty's Dominions or in British protectorates or in British mandatory territories. From August 1, 1938, according to a notice in the Government Gazette, maintenance orders were made by the Courts of the Union will apply in British India.

## Electrification On Rand

Fourteen electric railway units, costing approximately £200,000, are to be used between Germiston and Pretoria when the electrification of the line is complete. The electric service will start in the middle of October and the electric units, which are the first of their kind to be used on the Rand, will be brought into operation a month later. Part of the scheme to facilitate the entry and despatch of trains includes the building of new platforms at Germiston. The service will be gradually speeded up as the public becomes more accustomed to the trains, so that eventually the journey, which at present occupies about 80 minutes with a fast train, will be cut down to less than an hour.

## Royal Commission On Rhodesia

Mr. A. I. Kajeer and Mr. D. Bramdaw, Indians from the South African Congress who went to give evidence before the Royal Commission at Lusaka, over the proposed amalgamation of the Northern Rhodesia and Nyasaland, were not allowed to speak on behalf of Northern Rhodesian Indians. Local Indians there giving evidence did not favour amalgamation but agreed to closer co-

operation on essential services. The Indian community addressed a letter to the Commission lodging an objection to the Chairman's refusal, stating that owing to their limited knowledge of the English language and the subject matters of the Commission's inquiry they were not able to do full justice in the presentation of their case.

## Britain's Problem Of Unemployment

A warning of the growing menace of unemployment was uttered by Mr. Anthony Eden in a speech at Kenilworth. He said that the problem in special areas was not disappearing, indeed it was spreading. Special areas and long term unemployment were a national problem which could not be solved by local effort alone. "In certain parts of England we are slipping ever further from what should be a constant aim in statesmanship, namely, the abolition of poverty. If that process is allowed to continue unchecked, what is true to-day of special areas must in time become true of the whole country," he declared. Mr. Eden pointed out that at present there were 1,800,000 people unemployed in the United Kingdom, and it would be optimistic, he said, to maintain that the figure would not approach 2,000,000 this winter.

## Dr. S. Appavoo To Return In August

A cable message from Edinburgh states that Sanmoogum, a brother of Messrs. Appavoo Bros., of De Aar, (Cape), had passed his final medical examination at Edinburgh University, and has now qualified for the M.B., Ch.B. degree. Dr. Appavoo is the third son of the late Mr. V. Appavoo of De Aar, and before leaving for Europe matriculated at Fort Hare. He is at present completing a special course of Midwifery at Dublin, and will return to South Africa towards the end of August. It is expected that he will commence practice at Port Elizabeth.

## Another Indian To Study

### Medicine

A farewell reception to Mr. A. H. Sader, who sailed on Thursday in the *Capetown Castle* to study medicine at King's College, Newcastle-on-Tyne, was given at Ladysmith by El Haj E. M. Asvat. About 200 guests were present from all sections of the community, and a number of presentations were made to Mr. Sader on behalf of Mr. Asvat's family, the Young Moslem Society, Sastri College hostel members and Young Moslem Debating Society.

## Union Parliament Opens

The first session of the Eighth Parliament of the Union of South Africa was opened amidst the usual pomp on Friday July 22, by the Governor-General, Sir Patrick Duncan. For the first time "God Save the King" and "Die Stem van Suid Afrika" were accorded an equal share in the ceremony both inside and outside the Houses of Parliament. Mr. B. Rama Rau, Agent-General for India, was seated among the Minister Plenipotentiaries of the various countries. Mrs. Rama Rau, wife of the Agent-General, attracted great attention by her exquisite sari of fine black silk georgette, the edges of which were encrusted with a leaf design hand-embroidered in silver, and the whole sari was scattered with silver embroidery in a leaf design. A beautiful diamond brooch clasped the folds of the sari on one shoulder and Mrs. Rama Rau's jewellery consisted of a fine gold chain necklace, and gold drop earrings and bracelets.

## New School In Maritzburg

### For Indian Girls

Tenders have been called to build a new school for Indian girls in Maritzburg. The school, it is estimated, will cost about £4,000 and will accommodate nearly 150 pupils. There are to be five classrooms, a domestic science hall, staff room, headmaster's office, and numerous outbuildings. Money for the school was voted in 1936, but it was not until this year that a suitable site could be found. The new school, a two-storey building, will occupy two stands between Berg and Boom Streets.

## Johannesburg Hospital Extension

Hospital extensions unprecedented in the history of any city in the Union are now taking place in Johannesburg. The extensions, it is said, will benefit every section of the community. Building schemes with extensions to the existing buildings will cost nearly £700,000.

## Obituary

### Death Of Dennis Abrahams

The sad and untimely death, after a brief illness, of Dennis, a lad of twelve years of age, son of Mr. S. W. Abrahams of Durban, took place on June 20 at the St. Aidan's Hospital. The funeral was very largely attended by relatives and prominent members of the Indian community. The remains were interred in the West Street cemetery. There were a large number of wreaths and messages of condolence to the parents.

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Everything appearing in this issue of a political nature has been written and edited by Manilal M. Gandhi to express the views of INDIAN OPINION.

# Doings In India

## He Carried Country From Victory To Victory

A PUBLIC meeting was held on June 16 at the Keoratollah Burning Ghat, Calcutta, on the occasion of the thirteenth death anniversary of the late Mr. C. R. Das. The imposing memorial shrine at the Burning Ghat was decorated with Congress flag, flowers and foliage and in front of it, was set a huge pandal for the meeting. Mr. Akhil Chandra Dutta, Deputy Speaker of the Central Assembly, presiding at the meeting appealed to his countrymen to sink all their differences and present a united front to their political opponents. He exhorted young men to pursue the ideals of Deshbandhu Das whose record of service and sacrifice, he said, had hardly any parallel in this country. Deshbandhu's political life was not of a very long duration, but during that short period he carried the country from victory to victory and his activities were watched with wondering admiration by the entire nation. Garlands and wreaths were offered at the memorial shrine on behalf of the Calcutta Corporation, the Bengal Provincial Congress Committee, different District Committees in Calcutta and numerous other public organisations in the city and suburbs. Mr. Subhas Chandra Bose, Congress President, who was on tour, in the course of a message said: "Thirteen years after his death Deshbandhu's memory is as green as ever; his unique life still affords unceasing inspiration to his countrymen. Deshbandhu's reckless self-abandonment, fighting stamina, creative genius, power of organisation and above all, his full-blown personality—harmonising diverse qualities of head and heart—are an example for his countrymen to emulate. Of Deshbandhu's dreams and ideals we are the heirs, let us, therefore, solemnly resolve to fulfil in our own lifetime what he had set out to achieve."

## Fast Moving World

At a recent meeting in India before he left for Europe Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru said: "Events are moving fast in the world. One does not know when the world map might be altered. India cannot stand aloof. We should establish better contact with other countries and more of us should visit them." He added that he was worried by the foreign news—wars and the goondaism of certain countries. These countries did not even attempt to conceal this goondaism. One did not know when a world war might take place. What would India do then? The Congress was the only strong body, no other would be able to face such circumstances; therefore, the Congress

should further strengthen itself lest it should be left behind.

## Nehru On Freedom

Referring to the recent speech of Lord Zetland, Pandit Nehru observed in the course of a recent speech, that Lord Zetland had apparently forgotten the new spirit in India. If there was one subject on which all Indians were united it was in their opposition to the Federal scheme. The Congress position had been reiterated time and again in unambiguous words. It was not that the Congress was opposed to a Federal system of Government. The question was what kind of a Federal system did India need. The Federal scheme, as envisaged in the Government of India Act, left all the main powers with the British and had given a few crumbs for Indians to play with. Referring to the weightage granted to the Indian princes in the proposed Federation, Pandit Nehru said that the states acted more as a mill stone round the necks of British Indian provinces than anything else. The States subjects were nowhere in the picture. How could the British Indian Provinces and the Indian States, which were like race horses and turtles, respectively, march together? Continuing, Pandit Jawaharlal said that Lord Zetland and the British Government should clearly understand the Congress position towards Federation. Even in the minor matter, like the appointment of a subordinate official as a Governor, the Congress was prepared to risk to the last. How could the Congress be expected to keep quiet in the matter of the imposition of the unwanted Federal scheme. Pandit Nehru concluded: "The world problem could not be solved till the Indian problem is solved, and the Indians will not rest content till that is done."

## Indianisation Of Calcutta Fire Brigade

A resolution requesting the Government of Bengal to frame a scheme for completely Indianising the Calcutta Fire Brigade, within a definite period of time and to send up the scheme to the Corporation at an early date was adopted by the Corporation on June 15. The resolution, which stood in the name of Mr. Subhas Chandra Bose, Congress President, was moved by Mr. N. C. Sen in Mr. Bose's absence. The Corporation also accepted the motion that for the purpose of Indianisation Anglo-Indians be regarded as statutory natives of India. Europeans did not vote. Mr. G. U. Pottinger moved an amendment that the words "in consonance with the maintenance of the efficiency of the

service" be added to the above resolution. His amendment was, however, lost, only Europeans supporting it.

## To Be Insured With Indian Insurance Companies

It is understood that the Government of Bombay have passed orders that all the Government controlled buildings in the Presidency should hereafter be insured with Indian-owned and Indian-managed insurance companies. It is further gathered that instructions also will be issued that the reinsurance by these companies with whom Government-controlled buildings are insured should be with Indian-owned and Indian-managed companies only. The total amount of premium paid in this connection is about Rs. 1 lakh a year.

## Madras Prohibition Act

The extension of the provisions of the Prohibition Act to the districts of Chittoor and Cuddapah with effect from October 1 is notified in the Gazette. Under the provisions of the Abkari Act the Government prohibit in all the areas outside these districts the possession by any person of any quantity of spirits or toddy outside the premises licenced to sell in retail such spirits or toddy as the case may be except under a licence or permit issued under the Act.

## Communalism Will Die In One Year

The next seven years are among the most calamitous for the world. Wars, floods, earthquake and pestilence will ravage the countries. This is the ominous forecast of Pundit M. S. Sharma, Karachi astrologer for the cycle ending 1944. Almost three-fourths of the population will be wiped off during this period, he fears. For India, the forthcoming years hold mixed promise of blessing and misfortune. The united will of the nation will bring her Swaraj and communalism will die within a year. But a few of the greatest actors in the drama of her struggle for freedom would not live to enjoy the fruits of their labours. 13th June 1939 is particularly ominous as on that date India is likely to lose one of her greatest and noblest sons. An Asiatic power will be in the ascendant but Japan's intervention in China is not destined to triumph. The end of the period however, is marked with a silver lining and peace and plenty will prevail.



# The Sporting World

## All-Indian Soccer Tour

THOSE who retain memories of the All-Indian soccer tour in South Africa in 1934 will be glad to learn that the first representative All-Indian football team to visit Australia left on Sunday, July 17. It is understood that the tour will be completed in six weeks' time.

## Intertown Soccer Finals

At Currie's Fountain, Durban, last Saturday afternoon, three intertown soccer finals were played between the Maritzburg District Indian Football Association and Durban and District Indian Football Association. In the senior division, Durban beat Maritzburg by four goals to one. The Durban junior team had a runaway victory over Maritzburg by nine goals to nil, and the Maritzburg juveniles also lost, the score being 2-1.

## Soccer At Ladysmith

In the final round for Naidoo's Cup, played last Saturday at Ladysmith, between the Rangers and the Oriente, the formers won by 6-4. A match played between Ladysmith Ottomans and Pietermaritzburg Moslems, last Saturday after-

By "Rambler"

noon, at Ladysmith, was won by the latter team by 4 goals to 2.

## Five-A-Side At Richmond

On Sunday, July 17, the annual five-a-side soccer tournament was played at the Richmond Indian Football Ground, when nine teams took part. The competition was played on the knock-out system, and the finalists were the Temple Halt "A" and Richmond "B." The results were: Temple Halt "A" 4, Richmond "B" 1. As winners the Temple Halt "A" received the Worsley floating trophy, and Richmond "B," the runners-up, the Gibbs Cup.

## Box Of Chocolates Fetches £6 14s.

The Durban and District Non-European Taxi Owners' Association sold a box of chocolates for £6 14s. by American auction recently at their general meeting. The auctioneer was their Vice-Chairman, Mr. R. Ramdharie, and the buyer was Mr. M. Pillay. The proceeds will be used by the Association's Football Club.

## Arizona Tennis Club

At a meeting, held recently, of the Arizona Indian Tennis Club, Pietermaritzburg, the following officials were elected:—President: Mr. V. Kristy; hon. secretary and treasurer: Mr. V. G. Naidoo; captain: Mr. G. Vasuthevan; committee: Messrs. M. Kristy, S. Rathanam, V. O. Dayanand, G. Vasuthevar, G. R. Reddy, C. Doorsamy, K. K. Moodley, S. Athes Padayachee, and Sukra Pillay.

## Vengan Wins On Points

Kid Vengan, the Indian South African fly-weight, boxing in England, scored a good win recently over Peter Miller in a 10-round contest. Vengan started off well by winning the first two rounds. He lost the third, and was checked again after punishing his opponent in the fifth and sixth by a fine rally from Miller in the seventh. Vengan won on points.

## World's Swimming Record

Mrs. Thompson, formerly Miss Katharine Rawls, the Olympic swimmer, established a world's one mile free style swimming record in 23 minutes 47 4-10 sec. The previous best was 24 minutes 7 2 10 sec.

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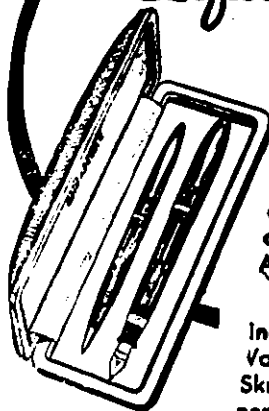
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