

INDIAN OPINION

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NOTES AND NEWS

Death Of Prince Arthur Of Connaught

THE death of Prince Arthur of Connaught, only son of the Duke of Connaught and an uncle of King George VI, took place on Monday. He was Governor General and Commander-in-Chief of the Union, and High Commissioner for South Africa, from 1920 to 1923 in succession to Lord Buxton. The funeral will take place to-day (Friday). In the name of the Indian community of the Union we express our deepest sympathy at the great loss sustained by their Majesties and members of the Royal Family.

Grave European Situation

The situation in Czecho-Slovakia is causing considerable anxiety to the whole of Europe. So much has been done to avert a crisis, but while these lines are being penned war clouds seem threatening to burst at any moment. Following Herr Hitler's speech last Monday in which he expressed his determination to stand behind the Sudeten Germans in their fight for self-determination, rioting has taken place in many places in Czecho-Slovakia resulting in the proclamation of a state of emergency which, it is stated, is a milder form of Martial Law. The Sudeten German leaders have telegraphed an ultimatum to the Czecho-Slovak Premier demanding the withdrawal of the Government police who had been operating a state of emergency. The Czech Government has refused the terms of the ultimatum while leaving the door open to further negotiations. In the meantime the British Cabinet is meeting in consultation with the high officials of the Defence Department. Clashes between Czech troops and Sudetens are reported from various parts including Eger where treacherous acts have been committed. The report states that numerous persons, including school children, were fired upon in the Market Square. One man was killed while eight other persons including two children, were injured. All shops and offices in Eger were closed immediately, and all school children sent back home. By order of the Sudeten German Party the streets of the town have been completely evacuated by the civilian population.

Place Of Non-Europeans In Pirow's Defence Plans

Mr. O. Pirow, Minister of Defence, plans spending £6,000,000 in preparations for inland and coast attack against South Africa. It is interesting to note what place the vast non-European population is to be given in this defence policy.

"The possible training of our non-European population for purposes of war has frequently been mentioned in the Press," said Mr. Pirow. "While I feel certain that our people will never sanction the training of non-Europeans in the use of arms, they can be of very great assistance in other ways. The coloured population could provide a number of very necessary transport battalions. The natives could be trained into camp service units, to relieve the white man of all but his actual military duties, and to act as ammunition carriers right into the front lines."

It is very gratifying to note that Mr. Pirow will not require at any time to harness the vast non-European population of the Union for active service. He is quite ambitious in thinking that the White-man power will alone be enough to defend the country against a prospective enemy however formidable he may be. The non-Europeans, we are sure, will not begrudge the White man. What, however, occurs to us is the Defence Minister's omission of the Union's Asiatic population. Do the Asiatics not come in the picture at all?

"Anti-Semitism—New Barbarism Of Our Day"

Addressing the inaugural meeting of the Capetown Society of Jews and Christians in the Zionist Hall last Friday, Mr. J. H. Hofmeyr is reported to have said: "Anyone who has a real regard for what Christianity stands for must band himself against anti-Semitism; it is also in conflict with all that is of value in our culture and civilisation. It is not to be wondered at that anti-Semitism has been called the new barbarism of our day. We in South Africa can claim to be a liberty-loving people. We are descended from national stocks where great sacrifices have

been made in the cause of freedom. To the extent to which a nation shows intolerance, to that extent it weakens its claim to freedom. My conception of the South African nation is not based on uniformity; it is based on unity. It is based on a unity based on diversity. I, as an Afrikaans speaking South African, do not expect my English-speaking fellow-citizen to be assimilated with me, to become uniform with me. What I do expect of the English-speaking South Africans is that they should put their devotion to South Africa first and foremost."

Since There Is No National Anthem?

Since South Africa has no National Anthem, according to General Hertzog's recent statement, the Malanites have raised the question as to whether the Government will now amend its military regulations to abolish court martials for uniformed men who refuse to salute when "The King" is played in public. The Government have evaded the answer. The political correspondent of the *Natal Mercury* states that "the country is faced once again with the distasteful possibility of the Government doing something behind closed doors which, if done openly, would rouse the ire of the English-speaking section."

Indian Elephant Not For Indians?

"Durban has an Indian elephant, presented by an Indian Prince from Indian stock—yet Indian children never ride on her, and Indian children are chased away by the parkkeepers from Durban parks." These anomalies were referred to by Mr. A. H. West, at the 17th annual meeting of the M. K. Gandhi Library and Parsee Rustomjee Hall Committee which took place in Durban last week. "This is but one of the hundreds of pin pricks that Indians have to suffer in their daily life," said Mr. Manilal Gandhi. He asked the Mayor who was present at the meeting to give his serious thought to it and to use his good influences in remedying the situation.

Indian Opinion

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 16TH, 1938

For The Sake Of A Principle

QUITE a sensation was created during the last week end in the Union Cabinet by the resignation of two of its most distinguished members, Mr. J. H. Hofmeyr and Mr. F. C. Sturrock, owing to the Prime Minister's step in appointing Mr. A. P. J. Fourie, who was defeated at the General Election in May, as a member of the Senate representing the Natives with the intention of bringing him back in the Cabinet. The objection of Mr. Hofmeyr, with whom Mr. Sturrock agreed, was not to the appointment but to the method by which the appointment had been made.

There is no doubt that General Hertzog has trampled over the principle of democracy in getting Mr. Fourie in the Cabinet against the will of the people by a back-door policy. No, he has even gone a step further. He has taken advantage of the provision in the Constitution for nominated Senators to look after the interests of the Natives, and has, as it has been quite rightly described by Mr. Hofmeyr, treated the natives as pawns in the European political game. He has thus established a precedent that these Senators can be made use of for political jugglery.

We cannot do better than to quote below extracts from Mr. Hofmeyr's own statement:

"It is perhaps hardly necessary to say that it is not easy to break an association of five and a half years' standing, and I think the House will accept my statement when I say that I only do so because I believe that, in the circumstances, it is the only proper course for any man of principle and conscience to pursue....."

"I wish to make clear my attitude in regard to the return of Mr. Fourie to the Cabinet and to Parliament. I may say at once that I would welcome his return to the Cabinet. I have always deprecated the personal attacks made upon him. He and I have been colleagues and we have worked harmoniously together. Our relations have always been of the best. I would welcome his return to the Cabinet and I would have been prepared, if he had been fighting a by-election, to render the utmost assistance in my power.

"The question at issue was purely a question of the method of his return. I would have had no objection to his coming back as a Member of the House. I would have had no objection to his coming back as an elected member of the Senate. But I do object in every fibre of my being to the suggestion that he should come back in the way he is now being brought back.

"Let me remind the House of the situation. Four members of the Senate are nominated by the Government on the ground of their thorough acquaintance, by reason of official experience or otherwise, of the reasonable wants and wishes of the coloured races of South Africa. I at least cannot lay my hand upon my heart and say that Mr. Fourie is being nominated on those grounds.

"I know and everybody else knows, that Mr. Fourie has been nominated because it is desired to have him back in the Cabinet. I don't want to emphasise the letter of the Constitution. There is something more important than the letter of the Constitution and that is the spirit of the Constitution.

"That provision which I have quoted was put into the Act of Union as part of the arrangement made with regard to the representation direct and indirect of the non-European people of the Union. It is part of the solemn pact of Union. I consider it as nothing less than a prostitution of a Constitution that the provision should be used to assist the Government out of a temporary political difficulty.

"This issue is not merely a constitutional issue. It goes deeper than that. It touches what I regard and most people regard as the ultimate political issue in South Africa. It touches the whole question of the relations between Europeans and the non-Europeans in South Africa. The issue is simply this: Are we going to allow the non-European people to be made pawns in the white man's political game?"

"One constitutional safeguard goes to day. Another will go to-morrow. I for my part cannot accept that. I have no doubt that all who have the feelings that I have with regard to this matter will say that they cannot accept it also. An attempt has been made to excuse this violation of the Constitution on two grounds.

"One is that a position with regard to the representation of non-Europeans has changed since the Act of Union was passed in 1910, and that in any case, this is a minor infringement of the Constitution. It reminds one of the classic defence to the charge of misconduct, that it is only a little one.

"Has the constitutional position with regard to the representation of natives changed since 1910? In my opinion it has changed not for the better but for the worse. That is no ground for interfering with the one remaining safeguard in the Constitution. This House in its wisdom decided that, with regard to the Representation of Natives Act, this provision would remain. That provision is there to-day.

"It must be respected by every on-

of us. Though I may not be a lawyer I still have a little respect for the sanctity of the Constitution. The other excuse has been made for this violation of the Constitution is that it has been done before. It has been said that two blacks can be held to make a white. It was done before nine years ago. It was done in the case of Mr. Pirow. He also was nominated in this way.

"When the Prime Minister was asked to say why he was nominated, he replied that he had that acquaintance with the non-European people of South Africa which every enlightened son of South Africa had. I presume a similar statement may possibly be made now.

In fact it has been made by the Prime Minister, but he has admitted that while Mr. Fourie has experience of the Coloured people he has not the same of the Natives. Indeed it is really to serve the interests of the Natives that the Senators are nominated, and don't we non-Europeans of South Africa know too well how fit Mr. Pirow is to serve our interests? If he could have his own way he would not, we presume, hesitate to put to the gallows every one of us. For does he not stand for a White South Africa?

Mr. Hofmeyr said he recalled how as an ordinary member of the public nine years ago he was revolted by the appointment simply because of the breach of the Constitution. "I am not prepared to-day to take or to share the responsibility for a similar breach of the Constitution.

"May I make this absolutely clear. The appointment of a Cabinet Minister is a matter for the Prime Minister. The appointment of one of those nominated Senators is a matter for the Governor-General, and he must act on the advice of the Cabinet as a whole. Every member of the Cabinet is personally responsible for that action. I cannot accept that responsibility, and I propose to go.

"I realise that my action will be criticised. I have already been told that I am unbending and rigid. I confess to a constitutional incapacity to make the worst appear the better reason. I have been told that this issue is not big enough for resignation. Of course, to those whose primary concern is political expediency no issue is ever big enough.

"I have been told that I am not enough of a realist. But I have found that so-called realism in politics is all too often a cloak for adverting arguments based on political consequences in order to justify a course of action one has taken for one's own ends....."

"I leave my colleagues on a matter of conscience and principle, without rancour or bitterness of any kind. May I take this opportunity to do what I have done personally to express to the Prime Minister my appreciation of the courtesy he has always shown me as a colleague. Sometimes, I fear, I have been a very difficult colleague. But there has never been any lack of goodwill on either side.

"I would also express my regret if I am no longer a colleague of the

Deputy Prime Minister. With him my association has been even longer. It has been a very close association and I hope it will continue in the years to come to be as close. I regret my going on personal grounds—personal grounds in relation to my colleagues. I have no regrets in regard to myself.

"In any case more than personal issues are involved in the issues of a sound Parliamentary tradition of constitutional propriety of our responsibility towards the non-European people of this country. There is also a moral issue involved."

A few weeks ago, not expecting what was to follow, he had made some remarks to members of the Union Chamber of Commerce in Cape-town on the dangers of public life. One of the dangers to which he referred was cynical opportunism.

He had said then that South Africa had suffered in the past and was in danger of suffering in the future from cynical opportunism and of men who

set personal advantage above public service riding roughshod over the rights of others. He had said that the greatest asset a public man could have was his principles, honesty of purpose and sincerity.

He had told those young men to build up for themselves fundamental, clear and definite principles and to be prepared to stand by them in the face of misrepresentation and contumely. So only would they be assured that in public life they would still be masters of their fate and captains of their souls.

"I am glad I have had the opportunity of suiting my actions to those words of mine. May I express the hope that that action will be a clarion call to the younger generation to set principle above expediency in public affairs."

While the loss in the Cabinet of Mr. Hofmeyr will be deeply regretted by all non-Europeans including Indians throughout the Union, not only they—but all right-thinking people

of the world cannot but look with the profoundest admiration the courageous stand he has taken to uphold truth and righteousness. Mr. Hofmeyr's sacrifice is great. He could not have rendered greater service to the cause of the non-Europeans in South Africa. He has set a noble example to the country but the country's consciousness is dead to appreciate the value of it. It will be realised when it has awakened. We, Indians, have a great lesson to learn from this noble act of Mr. Hofmeyr. If Mr. Hofmeyr can undergo such personal sacrifice for the sake of a principle, for justice to the non-Europeans, how much more personal sacrifice should we be prepared to undergo to uphold our national honour in this country? Mr. Hofmeyr has taught us, if we care to learn, that there is something much higher, much nobler to live for than we seem to be living for in this country.

INDIA IN THE COMING WAR

A TALK WITH JAWAHARLAL NEHRU

I DO not know how many years it is since I have known Jawaharlal Nehru as a friend. As I write I think of him in my own home before he returned to India to take part in the Civil Disobedience movement and to face long imprisonment. I think of him visiting me in the General Hospital at Madras, despite his heavy duties as the newly-elected Chairman of the National Congress, which I was prevented from attending by a motor accident. I think of many treasured letters, of his autobiography (which makes him the friend of any Socialist), of his wonderful World History written in the form of letters to his daughter while he was in prison, and of his bold presidential speech to the Indian National Congress, which deserves to rank among the historic speeches of all time.

Recently I had an hour and a-half with him again. He is one of those men whom one meets after months of absence and yet understanding without any barriers remains. His personality is charming, yet one senses underneath a resolution and determination which will go through fire.

Nehru is the last man in the world who wants such things said about him. He thinks in terms of principles and causes, and not of individuals. The other day two great meetings were held in London to welcome him. Several of the speakers poured forth eulogies (the most eulogistic was denouncing him two or three years ago as a "bourgeois") Nehru was obviously impatient.

By
FENNER BROCKWAY
In "Monday Morning"

Our talk travelled over the whole field of politics, but particularly directed itself to the war danger and to the policy which Socialists should adopt. Nehru's words on this matter are important, and should be considered by all British Socialists, and specially by members of the Labour Party and the Communist Party.

He laid down two principles which have been endorsed by the Indian National Congress. First, the Indian people must themselves decide whether they will participate in any war. It will not be enough for a British Government in London to declare war and to expect the Indian people to support it. Second, so long as the Indian people do not enjoy independence they will regard any war in which the British Government is engaged as an Imperialist war and an occasion to intensify the struggle to throw off Imperialist dictatorship.

Nehru was emphatic that the Indian National Congress is vigorously opposed to the present foreign policy of the National Government. Its sympathy was with the people of Abyssinia in their struggle against Fascist Italy, and is with the peoples of China and Spain in their struggles against Japanese Imperialism and European Fascism. The National Congress certainly will not support Neville Chamberlain in any war which follows from his foreign policy of pro-Fascist alliances.

"But what would be your attitude if either the National Government or a succeeding Government went to war with Fascist Germany?" I asked.

Nehru replied that there is no doubt that the Congress is anti-Fascist, but it is also anti-Imperialist, and the Indian people will not line up with British Imperialism even in a war with a Fascist Power. Such a war would be described as a war between Democracy and Fascism, but Britain is only democratic to a certain extent in the domestic sphere. It is anti-democratic in regard to its Empire.

Nehru remarked with a smile that, so far as the Indian people are concerned, British Imperialist dictatorship is their constant companion. If Britain were on the victorious side in a world war it would be British Imperialism that won and British hold on India would be strengthened.

"On no account, therefore, can we be parties to India helping in such a war even against Fascist Powers," said Nehru definitely. "If Democracy is going to fight Fascism, then Democracy must live up to its name and be democratic in relation to the Empire as well as at home."

Nehru recognised that in Britain's Labour leaders and democrats will find it difficult to understand India's attitude. He held that this shows how a dormant Imperialism colours the outlook of even those who call themselves Democrats and Socialists. They view with equanimity the continuance of British Imperialism in India whilst outraged by the similar practices of a

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WHAT INDIA MEANS TO ENGLAND

WHEN I visited Europe the prospect of visiting the British Isles created in me no enthusiasm. I felt a certain heaviness, a sort of unwillingness to go "Home." And yet, I knew the English language; I had quite a number of friends in England; in my suit case was a neat parcel of letters of introduction. I could meet any number of persons I chose and talk of India, of England, of foreign affairs. So I arrived to try and discover the lay of the land here and even abroad. And all the time anxious to know the reactions of an average Englishman to an Indian and his point of view.

I believe that my colour does not very much matter here. The Negro's may. It is only in France that the people are colour proof. In England they are used to the "Brownies" and do not mind becoming a shade more brown as we wish to become a shade more white. In fact, when I asked a friend about it he said, "Why, when I look at my white colour I think it is not quite natural. I like the brown, for I think that should be the natural skin colour. In fact many of us like the colour you wear and, to be frank for some of us the colour of your fair sex has a greater appeal....."

Dress Does Matter

But my dress matters a little more than my colour. On the road very little children cannot help saying "Hallo" and I like it ever so much. I wish I could lift up and kiss these children. I have not touched one for the last many months. And may be they would like it too. Older children just whisper, "I say, John, just look at that gentleman." Then we all smile and go our ways. The older people are extremely polite and incurious but feel in me some interest. But all my friends tell me that the European loves the Indian ladies' saris, that more Indians ought to wear my dress which is quite proper and suitable to the climate. In time it will be liked too.

I talk English and it surprises many. They cannot help asking me, "How often I had been to England" and "Who taught me such good English." In fact, they have reason to be surprised. The Japanese and Chinese talk little and poor English. They do not need to know more. The Europeans pick it up to do business with this nation of shop-

By
Prof. N. R. KALKANI
In The "Indian Express"

keepers. They do not wish to know more. We take it up more seriously for service is a serious affair. And, quite a large number learn it for its literary value and do remarkably well. Hearing me talk English, the Englishman suspects I am more civilized than he imagined, for now I look a little like him. Talking English and behaving English is "interesting"—whatever that word may or may not mean to the English. The meaning of that word varies in direct relation to the mood of the person or the quality of the weather.

The Gandhian Way

I may be "interesting" but I find that the average Englishman has little interest in India. To be short, the working class knows nothing and wants to know nothing about India. The middle class knows a little and its intelligent part wants to know a little more about India but the press will not let him know more than is considered proper.

The ruling class rules and gets its knowledge and opinion about India from the "man on the spot," the white bureaucrat who dies hard when he returns to England. I have not met the working class or any member of the ruling class. But I have been told interesting stories about Gandhiji, and Jawaharlalji who met them.

This is what a well-informed person told me about the former. "Gandhiji should have addressed groups of middle and upper middle classes here. The sort of thing he did at Mr. Horrabin's was very effective. There was a large gathering of intelligent and interested persons. They all put him searching questions and he gave them not convincing but straight and satisfactory answers. The men knew what he wanted and why. They liked him. Such gatherings would have done a great deal of good by creating an enlightened public opinion which the Government could have ignored. He could have gone to the Cambridge and Oxford Universities oftener and spoken to the Unions. It is there that the future rulers are educated. They would have welcomed him, respected him,

some of them would have stories for home where the rulers live. Papers would have reported and there would have been a stir. Even the B.B.C. may have been sounded. I am sure they would have liked to invite him to talk, if they had dared.

"But he lived at Kingsley Hall and made some friends among the poor there. He visited Liverpool and made some impression. I remember how a policeman who heard him come to me gasping, saying "It's great. Never heard any one else talking like that, in my life." Now that is the Indian way of doing propaganda. It is the Gandhian way. But it was terribly slow and time was too short. I think Gandhiji's stay in Kingsley Hall was wonderful but did positively negative propaganda. It made the ruling class vary and uneasy.

"Of course, he met many members of the ruling class. Perhaps he liked Hoare best. Hoare did not mince matters like Macdonald. He meant what he said and it was an experience for Gandhiji to meet a Britisher who genuinely "ruled India for its good." Hoare was a sincere Imperialist but can you convert such as he?"

The Pandit's Methods

About Jawaharlalji there is a different story:—"In England when he comes he meets Indian students and what are known as the Leftists. These students need no conversion. They are already radical and know much about India. One need not waste much time on them. The Leftists, specially the Communists do not matter much in English politics. More so now. It is not a very revolutionary Left but they make some noise and, I believe, use Panditji for their own purposes. There is some enthusiasm and a few meetings. But I call it the wrong audience for Jawaharlal. The men of the Centre, the intellectuals, the no-party men do not see him. And, of course, the ruling class think he is an extremist and difficult to deal with. They do not even try to meet him privately.

"I hope it will be otherwise this time. For believe me many of us wish to see him and meet him. There is ever some genuine desire to know more of India...."

(To be continued)

WHAT IS THE MATTER WITH MONEY?

Money Harms Economic Relationships

BECAUSE money is both an impersonal tool and a necessary medium of exchange, it has caused our economic relationships to become impersonal. We trade with people of whom we may not approve morally, or of whom we are perfectly ignorant, or to whom we are personally wholly indifferent. This fact, together with the great scale of modern industry, has deprived the relation of employer and employee of most of its human element. The relationship has in great measure become mechanical and impersonal. Adding to that fact the driving power and speed of modern machinery, the time-table scheduling of productive processes and transportation, plus the pressure for money profits, we find we have created an industrial discipline as severe and rigid as that of the army. The employee must obey order strictly and be quick about it or he loses his job. He feels himself to be, and in fact is, only a cog in the vast machine. He is only a means to an end. That fact is a humiliation and insult to his personality. Some are too callous to feel it, but the rise of labour unions is evidence of the depth and strength of employees' resentment. Money must bear its due share of responsibility for this feeling and the ensuing conflicts.

Inasmuch as money, because of its mingling of functions, has come to be regarded by most people as the supreme value, we must not be surprised that employers under pressure of keen competition set money above human values. We must not even resent it. If we rig our economic system so that, in order to keep going, a business has to show a profit on the books in terms of our present kind of money, inevitably employers will in time of stress cut wages rather than profits. They *must* do so, and can hardly be blamed for it. Some few employers, by exceptional efficiency and unusual wisdom, can postpone this step, but not permanently. In the long run, if we retain our present form and mingled functions of money, this sort of exploitation probably cannot be prevented by governmental or socialistic controls of any sort. By those means exploitation may be delayed a few years, but the intrinsic character of money, acting upon human nature, *must* work out in spite of exterior restrictions. Since the Soviet Republic has not altered the internal structure and functions of money, we shall, in course of time, I believe, see these results come there also. The use of this kind of money tool determines the eventual nature of the economic system.

By
RICHARD B. GREGG
In "The Modern Review"

(Concluded from last week)

Man Is Governed By Ideas

Man lives by truth as he sees it. He always has done so and always will. His sentiments and even his emotions are always coloured or moulded, by a thought element. He is the only animal whose action is controlled by thought, whose nervous system is so organised that discriminative movement is initiated not from the lower nerve ganglions, nor from even the thalamus or striatum, but from the cortex, the forebrain, the part of the brain where thinking is done. Because of this anatomical fact, man is governed by his ideas and necessarily seeks the truth. When he makes big intellectual mistakes, the result in conduct is gravely harmful. The violence and disillusionment of the present day is probably due to the gaps and misconceptions of Darwinism and earlier physics. Because of the usual time lag, the great majority of people have not absorbed the implications of recent biology, paleontology and physics, and so the concepts of Darwinism still prevail. Misconceived Darwinism justified war. So even the terrors of war and breakdown of civilisation show that man follows the truth as he sees it.

We are following our vision of the truth, and we have created money, an intellectual tool necessary to our present mode of existence, but it is inadequate, inaccurate, ambiguous, and false. It has betrayed us.

II

Now We Can Understand Our Troubles Better.

We all of us use money and we are all affected by its qualities. Since in our kind of civilization money is a means to power and economic security, the desire of practically all men for power and security makes them go after money. Since it is a store of value which all men recognize and also since it has all those other functions above-mentioned, it plays upon whatever tendency man has for acquisitiveness, and by frequent and prolonged repetitions of slight stimuli it makes that acquisitiveness grow. Growth is inevitable from a great many repetitions of suitable slight stimuli. That is a law of life, which applies to intangible qualities or powers as well as to living

tissues. All of us have impulses towards selfishness. Money plays upon and develops them.

Frequent, regular and prolonged use of tools (tangible or intangible) constitutes the most highly effective way of forming definite habits,—for example the military, industrial, scientific, and religious disciplines. So the steady use of money creates in us a strong habit of acquisitiveness, the less polite name of which is greed. This happens to the little man as well as to the great man. Other things being equal, the man who uses money most is subject to the strongest stimulus and tends therefore to have his acquisitive instincts most strengthened. Greed develops not because the rich man is bad but because the instrument we all use is defective. We are all directly affected by money in different degrees. In the absence of strong contrary stimuli, it affects us according to the extent of our possession and use of it. Some form of money is necessary, but the present form is very dangerous.

Few Of Our Ills Are Caused By Wicked Rich Men

Our troubles the,—community, class and national, both economic and social,—are not due to the original, inherent wickedness of scheming financiers and big industrialists, but rather to the defects of our economic counters and symbols. If those who do not possess much money could realize this fact, they could avoid any attitude of personal resentment against individual rich people, or the rich as a class. On the other hand, these same considerations should enable rich people to understand more easily how and why it is that they are blamed for the ill-effects of money. The fault finding is not all due to envy. Further more, if some sensitive rich men are troubled by the effects of their wealth or by the grave faults of our economic system, they may better understand the causes of these evil and join with others to make effective improvements. Such realizations, if they can become widespread among all kinds of people, should help to lower the tensions of class feeling from both sides, and thus reduce danger of occasional violence.

Rich men are caught in and adversely affected by the same economic tool which we all must use. They are not to be personally blamed for the results, nor are they to be considered as devils. Of course not all rich people are noticeably affected adversely by their wealth. Some are very generous, simple, sensitive and possessed of sympathetic imagination. Nevertheless, with even the finest and strongest of them, money is a strain on their character, just as the sooty air of cities is a strain on the

health of city dwellers, or as working in cold, damp places predisposes people to rheumatism.

I am not trying to excuse the abuses of power; the crimes and breaches of trust committed by some rich men; I am trying to explain the causes. Just as slum environment and impairment of family life are the predominant causes of some kinds of crime, so the defects of money are a direct and predominant cause of other kinds of crime. Of course the slums themselves and some impairment of family life are caused by the lust for money profit, and so we may say that indirectly or directly the desire for money profit is a cause of a very large part of all crimes.

Yet again, I am not saying that the acquisitive urge is wholly evil or that we should try to suppress it completely. Just as with most of our elemental urges, it is within limits, natural and beneficial to mankind, excepting a few saints not subject to ordinary rules. But if any natural powerful tendency or activity of mankind,—for example, sex or eating,—is constantly overstimulated so that it becomes gigantic or out of all proportion to the others, then there is trouble. That is our difficulty with money. It constantly overstimulates the normal and healthy tendencies of man toward acquisitiveness, and develops an economic system which facilitates the exercise of every

degree of avarice. It over-stimulates men's fears.

Don't Look For A Scapegoat

In this situation no good is done by trying to allocate blame and place responsibility upon any particular group of people. We are all of us jointly responsible for our failures to overcome our intellectual and moral laziness, for our failures to analyse more clearly, and to keep our judgment from being warped by selfish advantage. We ought to understand, to endure against temptation, to invent and apply economic instruments which will produce better moral results.

(To be continued)

South African News In Brief

Personal Tax

THE Personal Tax was due on July 1. If it is not paid by October 6, the penalty is 10 per cent. for every month or part of a month in arrear. Every male adult who is not required to render a return under the Union Income Tax Act must fill in the form and pay his personal tax on or before October 6. Women who are liable for personal tax are those who are over 21 and pay Union normal or super-tax. Those who are sent income tax forms need not pay their personal tax until their incomes are assessed. The tax is £1 for incomes under £450 a year and £2 for incomes over £450. Married people or those who are widowed or divorced and support a child or stepchild, or unmarried people who are the sole support of a parent, pay 10s. if their income does not exceed £250.

Faster Trains To The Rand

As a result of the electrification and straightening of the tracks between Glenco Junction and Volksrust, the Express train from Durban to Johannesburg will reach Johannesburg 25 minutes sooner, and the train from Johannesburg to Durban will arrive in Durban 20 minutes sooner, from December 5, next. When the accelerated schedule is in operation the train from Durban will leave at 3.25 instead of 3 p.m. and from Johannesburg 3.40 p.m. instead of 3.20 p.m. No change is to be made in the present times of arrival—9.15 a.m. at Durban and 9.8 a.m. at Johannesburg. East Griqualand passengers on the morning train from Franklin will then be able to connect with the northbound express, which will leave Maritzburg at 6 p.m. and be in Johannesburg the next day at 9.8 a.m. At present passengers from the branch for the Rand have to wait until 10.39 p.m. at Maritzburg and do not arrive in Johannesburg by a slower train until 5.48 p.m. the next day.

Durban Motorists Kill 56

And Injure 1,326

According to the report of the Chief Constable, Mr. J. A. Smellie, for the year ending July 31, 56 people were killed and 1,326 injured by motorists in Durban during the year under review, compared with 64 killed and 1,132 injured during the previous year. During the year 21,336 people were prosecuted for all types of road and traffic offences. This figure represents 86 per cent. of the Durban population, which means that one person in every 12 in Durban committed an offence against road and traffic laws last year.

The Durban Corporation's

Slum Clearance Scheme

The Orient Lane area at Mayville which was once inhabited by 400 Indians and 200 Natives is being expropriated so that the inland entrance to Durban can be beautified. The development scheme which is to cost about £65,000 is to include the building of a new main road in a straight line from the top of Berea Road, Toll Gate, thus eliminating the wide curve of the main road from Toll Gate to Randles Road. The building of a recreation ground and swimming bath and the filling in of the deep hollow in the area.

Mrs. Rama Rau To Preside

Over H.Y.M.A. Anniversary

Mrs. Rama Rau, wife of the Agent-General for India, has accepted an invitation to preside at the 33rd anniversary celebration of the Hindu Young Men's Association, Maritzburg, which will take place on October 16.

Warning To Motorists

Many thefts from cars are being reported to the police in Johannesburg. The District Commandant has issued a warning asking motorists to lock their cars to prevent pilfering. During the

week-end articles valued at £60 were stolen from nine cars which had been left unlocked. Six cars were stolen. In some of them switch keys had been left in the locks.

Corporal Punishment Resented

By White Men

A Reuter's message from Ndola states:—It is reported that A. H. O'Connell, the European youth of Mufulira who was sentenced to six strokes of the cane for assaulting a native and who appealed against the sentence, has refused to sign the grounds of appeal, which has consequently been annulled. Sentence was imposed on Thursday last week. It is proposed by certain Mufulira citizens to draw up a petition to present to the Governor requesting that corporal punishment be debarred in cases where the conflict is between a native and European.

[No such petition, of course, would have been proposed had a native been the guilty party.—Ed.]

In Aid Of Durban Indian

Child Welfare Society

The Clairwood Orchestral Club will stage "Kovilan" in the Victoria Picture Palace, Victoria Street, Durban, at 1 p.m. on Sunday, September 18. The play, we understand, is being staged for the fourth and last time in response to numerous requests and the proceeds are to be given in aid of the Durban Indian Child Welfare Society. Apart from the interest in the play itself we would strongly advise our brethren to patronise it as they will thereby be supporting a deserving cause.

—oOo—

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

INDIA IN THE COMING WAR]

[Continued from page 339]

dictatorship in Germany. The obvious contradiction in a policy based on democracy at home and Imperialism abroad is not seen.

"But the contradiction exists none the less, and the inevitable consequences will flow from it," said Nehru. "These consequences are that the Indian people will on no account assist British Imperialism, and that our primary objective is to get rid of that Imperialism. Every Socialist, as well as everyone desiring world peace, must, if he under-

stands the implications of his creed, support us in this attitude, and strive to end Imperialism in India and elsewhere."

Nehru had just returned from Spain, and he was horrified, as everyone is horrified, by the bombing of civilians.

"But the Indian people cannot but note the difference when British citizens are bombed in Spain and when Indian people are bombed on the North West Frontier," he said. "I do not say that the bombing in India is comparable in extent to the bombing in Spain, but the

same principle is involved. Perhaps if British people will think over this point they will realise why in India we cannot regard the British Government as a symbol of democracy and cannot be enthusiastic about fighting in a war for democracy against dictatorship."

I assured Jawaharlal Nehru that the I. L. P. entirely endorses his attitude on this matter and will give support to the Indian people in their struggle against British Imperialism, whether in circumstances of peace or of war.

Things In General

Mr. Hofmeyr's Sacrifice

BY resigning as Minister of Mines, Social Welfare and Education, Mr. Hofmeyr gave himself one of the biggest salary cuts on record. His salary was £2,500 a year, for that is the allowance of a Cabinet Minister. To-day as just an ordinary member, his salary is £700 a year—a sacrifice of £1,800 a year and a reduction of 72 per cent. Neither does Mr. Hofmeyr now get the use of the Ministerial car and the services of a private secretary.

The Tec At Tongaat

Under the auspices of the Tec, a Mock Trial was held on Saturday, September 10, at the Tongaat Indian Boys' School, at 7 p.m. A fairly large crowd had assembled. The accused, Mr. G. Hurbans was charged for having contravened certain sections of a Motor Ordinance and was found guilty of one of four counts, having been discharged on the remaining three. Mr. E. J. Oboonoo, head teacher of the Tongaat School, acted as Magistrate whilst Mr. M. Hurbans appeared for the defence and Mr. K. P. Desai in conjunction with Mr. S. Paramunsee prosecuted.

Dakshina Bharat Hindi Prachar Sabha

Mr. S. N. C. Vardacharyulu, teacher at the vernacular school at Tongaat, has arranged for 15 enthusiasts of Tongaat to write the Hindi Prathamik Examination of the Dakshana Bharat Hindi Prachar Sabha of India. This Examination will be written on Sunday, September 18, at the T.H.S.B.A. Hall, Tongaat, under the supervision of Mr. G. V. Naidu, chairman of the Association, who has shown a very keen interest in this direction since the initial move made by Mr. Vardacharyulu. Of the 15 appearing for the Examination 13 are male and 2 female and amongst these are Messrs. K. P. Desai, G. Hurbans (Branch Congress secretaries) and S. Paramunsee. Mr. Vardacharyulu wishes to inform those interested to study India's National

language Hindi that he will always be willing to assist and advice them with a view to its promotion.

Sparetime Classes For Non-Europeans

A scheme of night classes for non-Europeans wishing to pass their matriculation examination is to be organised by a committee interested in the education of non-Europeans in Durban. At present the facilities for Indians, natives or coloured people who cannot go to colleges are limited. They are dependent upon correspondence courses for coaching, but under the proposed system classes will be organised in any subject for which there is sufficient support among the students. The scheme was discussed at a meeting in the Carlyle Street Indian School on Saturday afternoon. Mrs. Mabel Palmer took the chair and Mr. R. Warriner was elected chairman of the committee. Nearly 20 non-European students attended the meeting, 15 of whom entering their names on the list of those wishing to join the classes. It is hoped that 20 members for the classes will be found, for then, it is thought, the scheme will be adequately financed. The students will pay for the teaching, as far as can be ascertained at present a course of three subjects for two hours each one night a week will cost each student about 10s. a month. The subjects which it has already been decided to inaugurate are English, Afrikaans and agricultural science. If sufficient support is found for any other subjects, they will be included. The committee will be responsible for appointing the teachers. It is hoped that the scheme will start immediately after the Michaelmas holidays. Mrs. Palmer wishes to appeal through the Press to anyone who has matriculation set of books for which they no longer have any use to send them to the committee. Any contributions should be sent to Mr. S. D. Reddiar, care of the Carlyle Street Indian School, Durban.

Debate On Fascism V. Democracy

The members of the Natal University College Students Union were the guests of the N.U.C. Debating Society at Commerce Buildings, Durban on Saturday last, when a debate was held between the two bodies, the former speaking for Fascism, and the latter for Democracy. Miss Paipembaum led the debate with a strong plea for Fascism and dwelt on the achievements of the Fascist States. The other supporting were Messrs. R. Hulley, B. Price and K. Burne. The President of the N.U.C. Students Union, Mr. Ashwin Choudree led the opposition and outlined the origin of Democracy, and made an eloquent plea for its existence as the only safeguard to world peace. The other supporting speakers were Messrs. N'Tuani, B. A. Maharaj and Joseph Gabriel. A verdict in favour of the non-European team was announced, the judges being Dr. Coblans and Mr. C. R. Warriner. Mrs. Mabel Palmer presided.

New Time-Table For Mail Planes

The revised South African Airways time-table came into operation on September 15. On Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays the mail plane will leave Durban for the Rand at 2.30 instead of 3 p.m. The Cape plane will arrive in Durban at 1.30 instead of 2.30 on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. On Wednesdays the Cape plane will arrive at 4.50 instead of 4.15, and on Fridays it will arrive at 4.15 instead of 3.45. The closing times for posting mails will be changed accordingly. On Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays air mail from Transvaal, Rhodesia, O.F.S. and the Cape via the Rand must be posted by 12.45 instead of 1.15.

Memorial Service

An impressive memorial service in memory of the late Mrs. R. R. Moodley was held in the Tamil Institute, Durban, on Sunday, September 11 under the auspices of the Indian Women's League.

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Doings In India

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

The Central Provinces Ministerial Crisis

WITHOUT the permission of the Parliamentary Sub-Committee of the Congress Working Committee, the Chief Minister of C.P. tendered his resignation and formed a new ministry at the instance of the Provincial Governor. At its meeting on July 26, the Working Committee decided that the Prime Minister, Dr. Khare, had been guilty of gross indiscipline and had thus proved himself unworthy of holding positions of responsibility in the Congress organisation. In this connection it is notable how the Provincial Governor busied himself on two different occasions in the night or the small hours of the morning, thus, for instance, at 5 a.m. on July 27 when he called Dr. Khare to form a new Ministry. The Working Committee have also come to the reluctant conclusion that H. E. the Governor of the C.P. has shown by the ugly haste with which he turned night into day and forced the crisis that has overtaken the province that he was eager to weaken and discredit the Congress in so far as it lay in him to do so." At a meeting of the C.P. Congress Parliamentary Party Shri Ravishanker Sukla was elected leader in place of Dr. Khare. Shri Shukla has since formed the C.P. Ministry.

Prohibition In Ahmedabad

Gripping drama accompanied the inauguration of prohibition on July 20 in the city of Ahmedabad. A huge procession walked through the streets of the city displaying placards such as, "The demon of liquor is going away to-day," "For the prosperity of labourers," and carrying a big effigy of the "drink demon" which was later bon-fired. A batch of 100 Deshasevikas (women volunteers clad in saffron saris) and ten motor lorries fitted with loud speakers formed the vanguard of the procession. At the meeting which was attended by about 100,000 people, Sirdar Vallabhbhai Patel described how, if the wage increase obtained under the Congress government had given the workers of Ahmedabad Rs. 40,00,000, the Government was saying for them through prohibition another sum of Rs. 40,00,000. Out of the total population of 500,000 of the city, only 205 persons had asked for permits to be allowed to drink foreign liquor. Of these 128 were Parsis and 12 Europeans, while not a single labourer or Harijan had applied. Everyone was free to apply for a permit and detractors had guessed that as many as 50,000 applications for permits would be submitted.

The Ahmedabad experience has shown that public opinion in the country can turn a legally partial prohibition into a complete prohibition.

Gandhiji's Wardha Education Scheme

Gandhiji's Wardha scheme of 7 years basic education through a vocation course has now received official recognition. A committee appointed by the Central Education Board of the Government of India has accepted its broad and basic principles. The C.P. Ministry is now training a batch of teachers for its Vidya-Mandir scheme. As soon as the teachers are trained, about 200 schools will be opened on the basis of the Wardha scheme. The lands for these 200 schools have been gifted by the villagers. U. P. Education Committee has made the following recommendations: (1) Free and compulsory education should be provided for 7 years (from the age of 7-14) on a nation wide scale at as early a date as possible; (2) Medium of instruction must be Hindustani, definitely combating tendencies towards over-Sanskritization and over-Persianization; (3) Throughout the period education should centre round some form of manual and productive work and all other activities to be developed or training to be given should as far as possible be integrally related to a central handicraft chosen with due regard to the environment of the child. A Syllabus Committee has been appointed to draw up the syllabus for the basic schools. Two training centres to train the new teachers are being opened for men at Allahabad and for women at Benares. Refresher courses of 3 months duration are to be organised all over the province to give the teachers training in-crafts to be introduced and in the basic idea of new schools as well as in the technique of co ordinated teaching.

Hartal In Delhi

The Delhi Provincial Congress Committee organised a hartal (general strike) on July 22 to protest against the repressive policy of the Delhi authorities. The city observed an almost complete hartal. All the chief markets and bazaars were closed down. The Birla Mills and Delhi Cotton Mills could not start work due to the absence of workers. The transport workers also joined the hartal. Sixty-nine Congress workers including nine women were arrested while persuading some shop-keepers to close down their shops. Sixty-six persons were convicted and fined to varying terms of imprisonment ranging from

one month to a week. Mrs. Vohra the president of the Delhi Provincial Congress Committee on her release after a week congratulated the people on the peaceful observance of hartal.

No Cast Discrimination

Desiring to put an end to the discrimination against the Harijan or untouchable castes, the Bombay Government have issued instructions that Superintendents of Police should see that the rules which forbid any discrimination against the members of the scheduled classes in respect of the use of public service conveyances and buses are strictly enforced and that instances of the breach of these rules brought to their notice are severely dealt with. It has also been represented to Government that some hotels refuse to cater for members of the scheduled classes. Government desire that no such distinction should be made on account of caste or creed in places of public entertainment. The attention of the public is now invited to a new rule, which provides that no person keeping a place of public entertainment under a licence shall refuse admission to such place to any member of the Harijan castes or scheduled classes on the ground of his being a member of such castes or classes.

Congress Administrations

An idea of the Congress legislative reforms can be had from the report of the working of the Madras Debt Relief Act. During the month of March, 1938, the pre depression debts, incurred before October 1932, were scaled down from Rs. 115,000 to Rs. 59,000 and the post-depression debts from Rs. 43,000 to Rs. 28,000. During the month of April 1938, the pre-depression debts were scaled down from Rs. 244,000 to Rs. 115,000 and the post-depression debts from Rs. 88,000 to Rs. 65,000. The reductions, therefore, in the pre-depression debts have averaged around 50% and those in the post-depression debts, around 30%-35%. The interest claims have in most cases been reduced by 80% of the original amount. Among the first few problems of the Indian peasantry, the problem of agricultural debts is perhaps the acutest and even while it may not completely solve it, this considerable rate of reduction will go a long way towards it. It is of course true that the debt amounts reduced during March and April are insignificant fractions of the total debt-volume of the peasantry. But this is yet the beginning and the number of suits pending at the end of April, 1938, was 13,000 or more than four times as many as at the end of March 1938.

THINGS IN GENERAL]

[Continued from page 343

The large gathering which represented the various societies engaged in Indian welfare work was an eloquent testimony to the esteem and regard with which the deceased lady was held by the Indian women of Durban. The chairlady, Mrs. R. K. Naidoo, opened the service with prayers. Dr. Goonam, Mesdames. Chetty, Sundram, Messrs. K. R. Nayanah, A. Christopher and R. K. Naidoo paid striking tributes to the disinterested and unostentatious life and work of the late Mrs. Moodley and exhorted the ladies present to emulate the splendid example of self sacrifice set by her. The service ended with prayers by Mr. Nayanah Raj and Holy songs were sung by Mrs. V. S. Pillay. For the first time in the history of Durban, members of the Indian Women's League followed the hearse of the late Mrs. Moodley thereby breaking down the long held convention by the Indian community.

Death Of Mr. B. R. Singh

The Indian community in Durban lost a well-known figure in the person of Mr. Bikram Ramnihora Singh (grand-son of Babu Talwant Singh of Verulam), at his residence 71 Brown's Avenue, Sydenham, Durban, on last Saturday afternoon, at the age of 28 years, after a long illness. The funeral took place on Sunday, at the Umgeni Crematorium, and was attended by a large gathering of relatives and friends from all over the Province. Mr.

Singh was highly respected by all sections of the community. He was well-known in sporting and social circles in Natal, and held a number of official positions. He was headmaster of the New Guilderland Indian School, and taught at schools in Verulam, Greytown, Pietermaritzburg and at the Depot Road Government Indian School, Durban. He was married in February 1937 to the only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Parihoo Makenjee, of Pietermaritzburg. He leaves a widow and a large number of relatives.

B. I. Shipping Companies Denial Of Theft Allegations

The *Natal Mercury* dated September 13 writes: Our issue of June 22 last contained an article in which an Indian, Hajee Ismail Ahmed Bhabha, on arrival at Durban from India, complained of the frequency of thefts from passengers when ships were in harbour on the East African Coast, mentioning in particular the ports of Mombasa, Zanzibar and Dar-es-Salaam. This statement has recently come to the attention of the Mombasa Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture which repudiates the assertion so far as it applies to Kilindini. At a recent meeting of the Chamber it was stated by the Port Manager, Commander Stacy-Marks, that he had approached all the shipping companies at Mombasa asking if recently any complaints of thefts while their ships had been in harbour had been received. In every instance, he stated, the replies had been that no complaints whatever had been received by the shipping companies.

Malaria Takes Annual Toll Of 2,000,000 Lives

Malaria is still to-day one of the great problems of humanity, and the most important problem of tropical regions, said Dr. Alberto Soeiro, physician of the central hospital at Lourenco Marques, in the course of his paper on "Some Aspects of the Anti-Malaria Campaign in Tropical Africa," read to the public health section of the South African Medical Congress, at Lourenco Marques. After pointing out that it would not be far from the truth to affirm that one-third of the population of the globe was the victim of this scourge, he remarked that about 2,000,000 lives pay an annual toll to malaria. In British India alone it has been calculated that the yearly losses sustained through malaria amount to £8,000,000.

Drama In Maritzburg

An Indian play, "Asoor Sungaram" will be staged by the Arya Navajivan Natak Mundal of Pietermaritzburg for charity, in the H. Y. M. A. Hall, Church Street, Pietermaritzburg, on Saturday, September 17. The whole of the proceeds will go towards the new school and hall fund of the Veda Dharma Sabha, Pietermaritzburg.

Mr. B. Parmasir and Mr. Mahomed Ebrahim will arrive in Durban by the *Capelown Castle* on Wednesday, September 21, from Europe after a long and extensive holiday tour.



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Indian Opinion

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23RD, 1938

Rising Of Demons In Europe

THE eyes of the world were focussed during the last few days on Czecho-Slovakia. The daily happenings ever since the interview the British Prime Minister had with Herr Hitler were watched with keen anxiety. At last we have seen the result, and no one can be too happy over it. All that military manoeuvre on the part of Herr Hitler on the border of Czecho-Slovakia was not in vain. It has had its result and it will give that Nazi leader courage to proceed with more firmness and confidence on his forward march in land robbery at the threat to those who refuse to part with it of blowing them off.

Whatever talks may have taken place between the British Prime Minister, Mr. Chamberlain, and Herr Hitler last week, the world only knows what it sees and is fully justified in passing judgment from those facts.

A fortnight ago the British statesman waxed eloquent of Britain's power and declared that she would stand by Czecho-Slovakia. This was in reply to Herr Hitler's threatening speech at Nuremberg. Then followed unrest in Czecho-Slovakia and clashes between Czechs and Sudetens. Sudetens gave an ultimatum to the Czech Government to withdraw all police forces and emergency orders. Herr Hitler declared his readiness to back the Sudetens with his great military force all arrayed ready for destruction. At this critical moment the Prime Minister of Great Britain humbly requested Herr Hitler to grant him an interview and expressed his readiness to go to him anywhere where it suited the Dictator of Germany. He is received with great pomp and loving hospitality by the people of Germany. He returns to England within a few hours and the next thing the world has to see rubbing its eyes is the presentation to the Czecho-Slovakian Government of a plan agreed by the British and the French

Governments for its submission. That plan is:

- 1 the attachment of the Sudeten German areas to the Reich, not by plebiscite but by direct negotiation under the control of an international commission,
- 2 a guarantee of Czech independence within the new frontiers by Germany, Poland, Hungary, Rumania, Britain, France and Italy under a sort of new Locarno Treaty.
- 3 Renunciation by Czecho-Slovakia of her mutual assistance pacts with Russia and France.

The Czech Government protested. It was flabbergasted to find that those who professed to be friends and had pledged to stand by Czecho-Slovakia had suddenly become cold. The Czech Government was compelled to accept the plan and was told that neither France nor Britain would assist in the case of Czecho-Slovakia being involved in a war. Czecho-Slovakia was confronted with two alternatives, either to surrender or be crushed by Herr Hitler's military force. The latest report, while these lines are being penned, is that Czecho-Slovakian Government has completely accepted the British and French recommendations with no reservations or stipulations.

What the world sees is that a great demon has arisen in Germany who is bent on devouring whomsoever he chooses. Austria has been devoured, next comes Czecho-Slovakia. Britain and France, friends of Czecho-Slovakia, have left her in her hour of peril and even though with trembling legs Britain still maintains that she is ready now as in 1914 to face any peril in a just cause, and that if such a call should come Germany or any other country would find the British spirit resolute, reckless of consequence and invincible.

The world has heard sufficiently these bombastic words and when it thinks of what was allowed to happen in Abyssinia, at the hands of Mussolini, what was allowed to happen in Austria at the hands of Herr Hitler and what is now being allowed to happen in Czecho-

Slovakia, it wonders with dismay what sort of a time is still in store for it yet to see and when it will actually come. Evidently these are but trifling things for the "British Lion" to take notice of!

The fact is that Britain has so long played the part of a demon by keeping in subjugation and exploiting vast numbers of her subjects in the name of law and order and in the name of protection of the weaker nations. Demons that would out-demon Britain have now arisen in Germany and Italy and Britain is now lacking the strength of character to face them boldly and to strike awe into them because of her own misdeeds.

We are advocates of non-violence. We cannot therefore view with favour any act of violence. But the creed of non-violence does not allow of any act of cowardice, any shirking from the issue even though the heavens may come down. If Czecho-Slovakian issue was just a small quarrel as it is now stated to be Britain ought not to have waited all this while and allowed Germany to confound the world with her great military manoeuvre. She could have intervened long before now and persuaded Czecho-Slovakia to settle the issue.

The World cannot but believe that that Dictator of Germany has stricken awe into Britain and France which has led them to do what they have done; and Heaven alone knows who is the next on the list to be devoured. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru has truly said "to abolish war we have to remove the causes and roots of war. We have failed and we shall fail again and perhaps perish in that failure if we continue to ignore those roots of war. It is the imperial idea, functioning as Imperialism or Fascism, that is a potent cause of war and till this goes there can be no true or enduring peace." We are afraid Britain's troubles are of her own creation. This sense of false prestige has gone too far, perhaps beyond reparation. The fate of Europe is hanging in the balance. One shudders to think what dramas we shall have yet to witness before there is calm on the horizon.

FEETHAM COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS

DEBATE IN PARLIAMENT

THE Minister of the Interior, Mr. R. Stuttaford, moved on September 20 in the Union House of Assembly a resolution exempting areas already scheduled from the restrictions on Coloured occupation, contained in the Transvaal Gold Law, and also cancelling any discrimination against Coloured persons which might be contained in the title deeds of any land included in the schedule. The Minister explained that the motion dealt only with areas on proclaimed land already occupied by Coloured persons. He hoped that this step would, once and for all, solve a problem which had occupied the attention of successive Governments for the past 30 years.

Mr. Stuttaford pointed out that the Feetham Commission had recommended that certain provisions should be enacted and these had been incorporated in Act 30 of 1936.

The Act made a distinction between two types of land. It laid down that certain exemptions from the Gold Law in connection with Asiatic and Coloured occupation of land should be permanent and absolute and that others should be at the discretion of the Minister. The

present motion dealt only with those areas which would be permanent, and these had to be accepted and passed by resolution of Parliament.

All the areas recommended by the Feetham Commission were not included in the motion. He had to consult with the Minister of Mines and the local authorities with regard to the areas which were to be recommended for exemption, and in the course of these negotiations certain arrangements had not been finally completed, and therefore he did not include these areas in the resolution.

Mr. B. J. Schoeman (U.N.P., Fordsburg) said he was unable to accept the Minister's motion. The Feetham Commission sat six years ago and since then Johannesburg had developed considerably and conditions had changed. If the recommendations of the report as put forward by the Minister in his motion were carried out segregation would not be given effect to.

Conditions in Fordsburg were very bad. Europeans and non-Europeans were living cheek by jowl and were constantly mingling and non-Europeans

were making their way into areas which had previously been occupied by Europeans only.

The present recommendation would make no provision for a buffer between Europeans and non-European and the same intermingling would take place.

Mr. Van Den Berg (Lab., Krugersdorp) also refused to accept the motion, stating that the most important sites in the centre of Krugersdorp had been set aside for Indian and Coloured occupation. If the motion was carried it would mean that the Indians would have three important residential and trading areas in the heart of Krugersdorp.

Mr. H. Van der Merwe (U.N.P., Potchefstroom) said they should not deviate one inch from the direction adopted in connection with the occupation of areas by Asiatics and Coloured people. He saw no reason why they should not adopt in respect of these people a segregation policy similar to one which governed Natives.

Mr. Van der Merwe moved the adjournment of the debate, which was agreed to without a division. The resumption was set down for Thursday.

N. I. CONGRESS (MARITZBURG BRANCH)

ANNUAL REPORT

MR. I. A. Haffjee, Hon. Secretary of the Natal Indian Congress (Maritzburg Branch), in his report from November, 1937 to date states that the Indian Soup Kitchen which was opened in 1934 is still being continued. The Education Department makes a grant of 10s. per day. There were in all 348 school days from November 1936, to 31st August 1938, and the number of children who were supplied free meals was 18431.

Several matters connected with the convenience and comfort to Indian passengers on trams and buses were brought before the Transportation Officer and relief in some instances, were given.

The matter of Technical education requires immediate attention and although a small committee was formed nothing in the shape of putting the classes into being has been done. Unless a definite move is made, it is feared the grant of £240 from the Government may be withheld. There is also a possibility of a grant from the Carnegie Trust being made for the initial equipment.

With regard to Camps Drift Housing Scheme in spite of repeated requests to

the Town Council to receive a deputation no such facility was granted. The Congress thereafter communicated with the Central Housing Board, Pretoria. An interview was arranged, and Mr. S. R. Naidoo with Mr. A. G. Pillay was appointed to represent the Congress and to lead the deputation. Subsequently Mr. Walton Jamieson a member of the Central Housing Board visited the City in connection with the Housing Scheme. Full information was placed at his disposal, and Mr. Jamieson was favourably impressed with the views of the Congress. He assured the Congress that everything possible would be done to bring about the solution of the problem.

New Trade By-laws

The Congress opposed a set of new trade by-laws framed by the City Council. These By-laws were very carefully scrutinised. The Congress obtained Senior Council's Opinion and with the assistance of Junior Council submitted a long memorandum to the Provincial Administration. The Congress succeeded in most of its objections, to the new by-laws.

The Dairy Control Board had as a result of Congress representation agreed to the free supply of milk to Indian children attending school. There has, however, been some difficulty in obtaining sufficient milk during the winter months, consequently at times there is no milk available for distribution. In its stead a supply of cheese is being given.

The Congress interviewed the Mayor and the Town Clerk in connection with reservation of seats for 'non-Europeans,' at the Alexandra Park and Town Gardens and as a result of Congress representation it was assured that the sign for 'Non-Europeans' would be removed, but that seats for Europeans would be labelled "Europeans Only," and that Non-European seats would be left unlabelled.

After protracted delay the celebration of the Centenary of the City has now been definitely fixed from the 23rd October to the 30th October 1938. The Council has voted a sum of £150 for Indians, and asked the Congress to co-operate and bring the celebration to a success.

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