

Indian Opinion

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THE ASIATIC INVASION BUGBEAR

AS illustrating the effect of the panic produced by the Japanese attitude over the anti-oriental legislation of California and the absurd extremes to which the bugbear of an Asiatic invasion would take even thoughtful writers, we reproduce from the London *Daily Mail* the following article contributed by Mr. Lovat Fraser, the author of "India under Lord Curzon":—

Japan will not fight about the invidious treatment of a few fruit farmers in California. Of that we may be sure. She is only menacing when she is excessively polite and rather silent, and she has not been very silent about the Californian Land Bill. Most of her Elder Statesmen have gone, but those who remain have not lost all their influence, and prudence has become their tradition. The excitability of the Japanese populace has not yet passed beyond official control.

A conflict between Japan and the United States at this juncture would mean the ruin of Japan. The late comer Lea's fantastic visions have little relation to reality. Japan could not run the risk of an invasion of the Pacific slope, because she would soon be ejected. She might take Hawaii and the Philippines, but how long could she hold them. The United States would press forward the completion of the Panama Canal, spend her vast resources in building an invincible armada of Dreadnoughts, and devote all her incomparable energies to winning back her lost possessions. The ultimate outcome of the struggle would never be in doubt, so far as the near future is concerned, for Japan could get no more ships and no more money.

World-Supremacy of White Races

A temporary success would be of no avail in such a mighty conflict. Japan fought herself to a standstill in the war with Russia. Had fighting continued a few months longer the verdict might have been reversed. She knows full well that the United States would never accept transient defeat. She is equally well aware that the Western world will not give her more ships and money to prosecute a war based upon such an issue as the Californian Land Bill. It would be a war deliberately fought to challenge the world-supremacy of the white races, and in such a cause the white races would instantly unite. They would not all fight, but they would not help Japan. The welfare of America means more to the white races than the welfare of Asia.

We may take it for granted, then, that the present differences between Japan and the United States will in some way or other be composed. The quarrel is comparatively trivial. The issue which lies behind it is not trivial, and is probably destined to become one of the greatest problems of the twentieth century. It

will not disappear, and as the years pass will grow more and more insistent. Asia demands intercourse with the white races upon terms of equality. At present the demand is only pressed by Japan, who claims special and preferential treatment; and says that her people are not as other Asiatics. When China has regained stability and cohesion, as assuredly she will, the Chinese will advance the same appeal. The educated classes in India are already claiming rigid equality of treatment, and it will soon be difficult not to hearken to them. The time must come when these appeals cannot be evaded.

The Claim for Equality

Equality of treatment, in the form in which the claim is being advanced by the more progressive people of Asia, connotes something more than relief from disabilities under the special laws of the white races. It means that the tacit assumption of the white races that it is their privilege to inherit the earth is directly contested. The yellow races are beginning to insist upon their right to spread outwards. The overspill of the population of Europe pours into the American continent. Japan and China do not see why they should not move outwards also, especially as they breed faster and much of their soil is already over-peopled.

The little colonies of Japanese and Chinese scattered about over the American continent only represent the vanguard of this great movement. Japan does not find in Korea all the opportunities for expansion which she had expected. She knows that by mere weight of numbers the Chinese will eventually fill up the vacant spaces of Manchuria. China will ultimately people all the great northern territories south of the Amur River as far as Lake Baikal. Already her industrious peasants are absorbing the fringes of the Gobi Desert. The myriads of Southern China are turning in other directions. They are overrunning the Malay Peninsula and even ousting the Burmese from Rangoon. Their craving for fresh outlets is insatiable, and behind them come the eager people of Japan, triumphant, sensitive, clamorous for recognition, but still more avid of room to expand.

An Invasion of America

California is the new boundary wall of the white races. The day of Asiatic invasions of Europe is over. We have just seen the Turks driven from their last European possessions. The peoples of Asia have turned their faces eastwards again, and they look across the Pacific towards the light of the morning sun. America, with her millions of negroes and her masses of half-civilised immigrants from Eastern Europe, rejects them. She does so with good reason. The indomitable industry of the Asiatic enables him to "under-live" any of the white races. A large influx

of Asiatic labour upon the Pacific slope would soon create an economic problem of the gravest kind. Treaties or no treaties, the United States cannot afford to permit a widespread Asiatic invasion.

What, then, will happen? Two things. In the first place, the yellow races will persist in their demand for greater equality of treatment, not necessarily accompanied by any new right to enter lands which are not theirs. They will base their request upon their adoption of Western civilisation and methods of government, though while adopting Western terms their ancient spirit remains unchanged.

In the second place, we may take it as absolutely certain that the yellow races will not for ever sit down tamely and endure the spurning they have received at the hands of America and other countries. They will not retaliate, but they will follow the line of least resistance. South America will not sufficiently serve their purpose. They seek new lands and will continue to seek them. In my belief, when they have amassed enough wealth and armaments, they will ultimately profess to have found the outlets they desire in the Australian continent.

The Future of Australia

Australia, and not Western America, seems destined to become the scene of the next phase of that interminable conflict between Europe and Asia, between the white races on the one hand and the brown and yellow races on the other, which is the oldest and most persistent factor in human history. The entire present population of the Australian Commonwealth could be comfortably and prosperously established in the Northern Rivers district of New South Wales, which is only just being opened up. The rich coastal belt of Northern Australia, with its deep rivers, fine harbours, and untailing rainfall, could maintain thirty millions of people. Its present inhabitants number less than a thousand white folk. We have painted it red and left it vacant.

At its present rate of progress, Australia will not a century hence have population enough to stem the flood of a yellow invasion. The course which the outward movement of the yellow races must eventually follow seems automatic and irresistible. Fleets in the North Sea cannot stop it. The only chance for Australia's salvation will be if the mastery of the Pacific passes into the hands of the United States, and that is an issue which may have to be fought out first.

Education of the Depressed Classes

At a recent Bengal Council meeting Dr. Nil Ratan Sircar moved the following resolution:—

That this Council recommends to H. E. the Governor in Council

(a) that special facilities be provided for the education of the depressed classes, principally at the primary stage, by opening ordinary 'patshalas' and schools and establishing night schools wherever necessary; and that a sum of Rs. 5,00,000, be ear-marked for the purpose;

(b) that special accommodation be provided for students of the above-mentioned classes wherever necessary in hostels attached to secondary schools or colleges, and that special stipends, scholarships or prizes be offered to students belonging to such classes; and

(c) that the expenditure which may be incurred for the purpose of giving effect to the above proposals be provided from the lump sum grants made by the Government of India under the head of Education.

Modern Civilisation

"Self-depreciation is little to the taste of the people of the modern world. They are wont to regard with complacent pride the achievements of their generation, and to speak with enthusiasm of the wonderful advances made in all the arts of civilisation," says the *Morning Post*.

"There is an almost general agreement that civilisation is advancing by leaps and bounds, and that with the development of science and invention the gulf between the untaught savage and the citizen of the rich and powerful States of the Western world is growing ever wider. Yet even those who realise all that knowledge and enterprise have done in adding to the fullness, richness, variety of life in the modern community must wonder whether the advance in the material side of civilisation has increased the happiness and comfort of the average individual.

"Modern medicine, for instance, is far better equipped to-day than it was forty or fifty years ago to heal sickness and assuage pain. It has almost extirpated many diseases which once ravaged the community. But are people, therefore, more free from pain and suffering than they used to be? Has not the average man become much more sensitive and delicate, so that he feels keenly to-day an ache which his forebears would have despised, and surrenders weakly to illness which would never have seized upon their tougher constitutions?

The Demand for Comfort

"Bodily comfort receives greater attention every year. But it is very doubtful whether the growth of luxury has really made life easier and more pleasant. So much is expected that the slightest defection from the accustomed standard leads to impatience and irritation. Those who travelled by stage-coach in the depths of winter no doubt suffered severely from cold. But they grumbled much less than would the passengers of a modern express who had to put up with a badly-warmed carriage. The tendency to-day is for people to demand that life shall run smoothly, easily, and pleasantly. If it does not, they soon become dissatisfied and unhappy. Their ancestors were accustomed to a simpler and rougher existence, and so met troubles patiently and cheerfully. If they had no hardships to bear they had infinitely greater capacity for endurance.

Some Unfulfilled Expectations

"If it be doubtful whether greater bodily comfort is enjoyed as civilisation advances, it is still more doubtful whether greater peace of mind is attained. A visitor from another planet on being told of the wonderful development of means of communication during the past twenty or thirty years would perhaps assume that this development must have greatly eased the strain and stress of the busy man's life. If a man can conclude in a few minutes over the telephone a piece of business that once would have cost him hours and even days, he ought, it would seem, to be able to get through his work much more rapidly and to have much more leisure on his hands.— If he can obtain by cable from the other end of the world news for which he would once have had to wait one or two months he ought to be spared much suspense and to be able to lay his plans with greater confidence and certainty. If by means of train and tube he can live in the country and yet get to his office in time for the full day's work, he should be able to enjoy an easier and healthier life than if he were tied down within the limits of the four-mile radius. But are all these expectations fulfilled in fact?

Telephones and Nerves

"Few men find that the advent of the telephone has enabled them to shorten their hours of business. The more general experience is that their works grow steadily more arduous and exacting. If each trans-

action takes much less time than formerly they are drawn irresistibly into an ever-increasing number of operations. No one can afford to hold back lest his rivals oust him from his hard-won position. And since each piece of business has to be concluded more rapidly, the necessity for swift decisions introduces a new element of anxiety and strain into the merchant's life. The greater the pressure under which work is done the more exhausting it becomes.

"The man of the West often marvels at the endurance of the man of the East. But those to whom the passing of time is a matter of little importance, who see no great difference between to-day and to-morrow, can easily work for long hours at a stretch without any sense of fatigue. Free from the torment of nerves, they can persevere until sheer physical exhaustion calls a halt. No one living in a world where the telephone is regarded as a necessary of life can be free from nerves.

From the Editor's Chair

WHAT IS WANTED

As there appears to be some prospect of a settlement of the Indian question in so far as the Immigration Act is concerned, it may be well to examine the points of difference between the Government and the passive resisters. There are other features of the Act which we do not propose to examine at this juncture, though they are also open to serious objection. They are, however, objections which will not warrant a re-opening of the passive resistance campaign. Even if a settlement is arrived at, the smooth working of the Act will largely depend upon the wisdom with which the regulations are framed and the manner in which they are enforced. The points, then, from a passive resistance standpoint, are:—

- (1) The right of residence in Natal of the Indians indentured after 1895 seems to be taken away by the new definition given to the term "domicile."
- (2) The right of residence of the children of such parents is also taken away even though they may be born and brought up in Natal.
- (3) The right of South Africa-born Indians to enter the Cape by virtue only of their South African birth seems also to be taken away.
- (4) The marriage amendment leaves the status of non-Christian Indian wives, married in South Africa, in the position in which the Searle judgment leaves it.
- (5) The Free State clause appears to subject an Indian immigrant, allowed to enter under the Act, to the necessity of having to make the special declaration required by the old Free State Ordinance.

Let us consider these points a little closely and see, too, whether it is possible to grant relief in a simple and easy manner.

As to the first point, then, we observe that the Indians who were introduced into Natal before 1895 are left undisturbed. But it is sought to bar the residence as free men of Indians indentured after 1895, by bringing them within the scope of the phrase "otherwise than under terms of conditional or temporary residence permitted by this Act or any other law," occurring in the definition of the term "domicile," given in Section 30 of the Act. We have seen the text of the best legal opinion that was obtainable in Natal, which says, unequivocally, that Indians who were introduced after 1895 did not enter "under terms of conditional or temporary residence." It will be remembered that the Natal Government tried hard to persuade the Government of India to agree to the residence being made temporary or conditional, but

the latter would not yield. It was then that a compromise was effected, that these Indians should pay a tax of £3 per year, if they elected to stay in Natal as free settlers, and that non-payment of the tax should not render them liable to imprisonment at all. (That the Indian defaulters are, by enforcing the small debts Act against them, sent to gaol is a breach of trust and a disgrace to the Administration.) Thus the question of the right of these Indians only arises because Mr. Fischer stated in the Assembly that these men were meant to be affected by the definition of "domicile." If, now, the Government do not wish to do the injustice of making these men prohibited immigrants, all they need do is to admit that the definition does not bear the meaning given to it by Mr. Fischer. No amendment of the Act will then be necessary. Not to make the admission is to betray a desire to take away an existing right. The Natal Courts have decided that the men who pay the £3 tax cannot be treated as prohibited immigrants.

The second point is a corollary of the first. If the Government make the admission we have suggested, the question of the right of the children does not arise. We have mentioned it as a separate point, as the injustice of banishing Indian children, born and brought up in South Africa, is even more glaring than that of treating their parents as prohibited immigrants.

The third point needs no comment. South Africa-born Indians can never accept the deprivation; passive resisters dare not sell this right of their brethren. If the Government intend to recognise the right, they can grant relief simply by not applying the "economic" clause to South Africa-born Indians so far as their entry into the Cape is concerned. It is a most ingenious and subtle method whereby the Government have taken the power to prevent the entry of such men into the Cape Province. But the highly technical subtlety (into which we cannot go in the course of a newspaper article) makes it extremely simple to settle this important point of difference.

The fourth point, *i.e.*, the marriage difficulty, does not lend itself to treatment without a legislative act. But it is quite clear that it is an omission which the Government must set right. They cannot surely desire that the wives of Indian settlers, married in South Africa, can be treated as concubines. Mr. Fischer was wrong in saying that he could appoint Indian priests as marriage officers for all non-Christian marriages. This power is possessed only in respect of Mohammedan and Jewish marriages.

The last point is capable of adjustment without resort to the Legislature. It appears that Section 7 of the Act is capable of an interpretation which renders it unnecessary, because superfluous, to require the declaration contemplated under the Free State Ordinance, for all necessary declarations are already provided for under another section of the Act.

We hope we have shown clearly that, if the Government wish to settle the matter in terms of the arrangement of 1911, they have no very serious legislative difficulty. We would, before quitting the subject, add that, if the settlement does not come, passive resisters will certainly not be bound to restrict their resistance merely to the defects we have set forth. Indeed, they would be justified now, for instance, in taking up the £3 tax matter and including it in their programme.

About 20,000,000,000 gallons of beer, wine and alcohol are annually consumed in different countries. What does this huge figure mean? (asks a writer in the *Hyndustan Kacra*). It means that about ten billion bushels of pure food, the life blood of farmers, is converted into poison, not for the good of society, but degrading and ruining it. What a vast amount of capital and labour must be engaged for producing this poison! The value in money of this vast quantity of drink is at least £6,000,000,000.

A London Street Incident

The following report, sent to us by a friend, shows the brighter side of the English character of which we often see only the other side, and it serves, too, as a pattern for those who occupy judicial positions in the midst of mixed communities:—

At West London Police Court Samuel Lucas, 40, described as a director of a public company, of Ranelagh-gardens, Stamford Brook, was charged before Mr. Fordham with using insulting behaviour, whereby a breach of the peace might have been occasioned. There was a similar charge against Claud Robinson Lucas, 44, a medical practitioner, of Hammersmith-road, but the defendant did not appear.

P.C. Poole stated that he saw the defendant and Dr. Lucas go up to two coloured men, catch one of them by the arm and neck and march him through the Broadway, Hammersmith. Witness followed them and asked them to explain their conduct, and Dr. Lucas said: "Constable, observe the colour of this man."

Mr. Fordham: He was drunk—must have been?

Witness: They had had some drink.

Mr. Fordham: A man must be very drunk to talk like that to a British subject, though he may be of dark colour.

The witness said he told them they must go to the station, and the defendant said: "What! Over a nigger!"

Evidence was given by the two Indian gentlemen, and the defendant declared that he did not speak or touch them.

Mr. Fordham: I think you behaved in a very disgraceful way, and the only excuse is—and it is a bad excuse—that you had been drinking. These Indian gentlemen are members of the same State as ourselves and are entitled to be treated with extreme civility by us. In my view, a dark gentleman is preferable to a white cad, and you certainly behaved as a cad. You will be fined 40s. or one month.

His Worship directed that process should be issued against Dr. Lucas.

The Colour Line in America

The New York correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph* wired on June 18:—

Ten million American citizens of African descent are furious to-day because of the decision of the United States Supreme Court pronouncing the Federal Civil Rights Act illegal. This decision removes the only ground upon which coloured persons in America could contend for equal accommodation with whites when travelling by train and boat, when seeking hotel quarters, in desiring to be served in restaurants, drug-stores, and other places, and in demanding other equal privileges. Some years ago the Supreme Court held that Congress had exceeded its powers in passing the Civil Rights Act, and declared that, so far as it interfered with the rights of a State, it was repugnant. Mary Butts, a negress, bought a first-class ticket on the Merchants and Miners Transportation Lines from Boston to Norfolk. During the trip she claimed that she had 12 times been denied equal accommodation. Under the Civil Rights Act she brought a suit to recover £1,200. She declared that she had been refused the same eating and sleeping accommodation as was furnished to white people, and was required to take her meals at the second table and sleep on the lower deck.

In many American towns negroes are assumed to possess equal privileges with the whites, but if they were to present themselves in a fashionable restaurant, for example, and ask for a small steak, the price charged would be five guineas or thereabouts, so that the blacks usually keep away.

The Question of a Settlement

The *Natal Mercury*, in its issue of the 11th instant, comments editorially as follows:—

The position set up among the South African Asiatics by the Immigration Act has been out of sight for a time, owing to Parliament having been prorogued, but developments since do not appear to impart very much reassurance to it. At various intervals during the course of the passage of the Bill through the House of Assembly and through the Senate, the Indian organizations in Natal and the Transvaal announced, and have since repeated, their determination to prosecute a campaign of organised passive resistance against the Act unless the Ministry undertook to carry out some ameliorative steps with regard to the measure when the next session of Parliament gives them the opportunity. We are sorry to learn that these negotiations with the Government have failed of result. The objection to the Act as it affects the Asiatics lies in the deprivation it inflicts upon Indians resident and regularly domiciled in the country of the rights they already possessed. The matter was scarcely one at all of the bearing of the Act upon further Indian immigration into South Africa, for the leaders of the community were prepared, as long as the measure did not trench upon existing rights, to agree to differentiation as between themselves and Europeans, provided the differentiation was carried out by the administrative powers with which the Government were equipping themselves under the Act, and not specifically by legislation. The Act does not fulfil the Indians' hopes in this respect. It embodies the policy of the racial bar, particularly with regard to the entry of Colonial Indians into the Free State, it destroys the "existing rights" of the Indian to free admittance into the Cape Province secured to him by the previous legislation of the Cape itself, and there are serious doubts as to whether the domicile privileges of the Asiatic which he enjoyed in the Transvaal under the statutes of the late Colony are not considerably imperilled. There is, moreover, the question of the marriages which has been thrown into so much controversy by Mr. Justice Searle's recent judgment at the Cape, and there is also the failure of the Government to carry out what was evidently a distinct promise on their part to Mr. Gokhale last year that they would remove the £3 annual tax upon ex-indentured Indians in Natal. . . . The result is that emissaries are being despatched on their behalf to England, and we are now confronted with the very probable outlook of the troublous political affairs of this country being complicated by a further and most unwelcome recrudescence of the Asiatic problem.

Emigration and Immigration.

The Indian Board of Revenue has submitted its report on Emigration and Immigration for the year 1912 which is recorded in G. O. No. 585, dated 10th May, 1913. Emigration to Natal is not allowed and there was practically no Emigration to Mauritius, the Seychelles or Trinidad during the year under report. But Fiji seems to have attracted a large number of emigrants throughout the year. Four shipments were made to the colony, two of which, however, were joint shipments (Calcutta and Madras). On the whole the number of emigrants despatched to the colony during the year was 2,546 as against 1,971 in 1911, the increase being probably due to the non-registration of labourers for other colonies. The management of the various depôts was good and the report adds that the emigrants were well treated and contented. The general health of the emigrants was reported to be good. Four shipments from Natal brought 1,422 emigrants and two separate shipments, one from Mauritius and the other from Fiji, returned 268 and

ively. As in the previous year, migration to the French Colonies and returned from La Reunion. So far emigration is concerned, there has been an increase in the number of passengers to the Colonies, especially from Tanjore, which is a fertile agricultural prospects in the district. Ceylon and Ceylon are two important parts of the Empire which afford ready labour for emigrants, but during the year under review, there has been a distinct increase in the number of persons going to Burma from the districts of Ganjam, Vizagapatam, and Godavari, due, it is said, to the favourable character of the season. On the other hand, there has been an increase in the number of passengers to Ceylon, as a result of the relaxation of rules prevailing last year with reference to the shipping of passengers coming from plague or cholera affected parts. The number of persons who emigrated to other parts of British India during the year under report was 11,312 as against 15,976 during the previous year.

A Teacher's Indian Pilgrimage

Mr. F. J. Gould, who recently visited India at the invitation of the Bombay Government in order to give public illustrations of methods of imparting moral and civic instruction, has contributed his impressions to the *Postivist Review*. He believes "that there is no fundamental division between the hearts of East and West, and is convinced that India will contribute as substantially to the upbuilding of the final Religion of Humanity as any other nation on Earth."

Having taught classes of young people in three continents, he says, I am struck with the similarity of minds. The same difficulties puzzle, the same humour amuses, the same appeals to good sense succeed, the examples of valour, generosity and self-denial kindle admiration. A like conclusion holds valid with regard to the audiences. Questions familiar to me in many a debate in England, Scotland, and America, emerged in identical terms in India.

The discussions were occasionally very lengthy and animated, especially in Karachi and Hyderabad, where debaters seem to feel a sort of Scottish joy in philosophical analysis and the art of heckling. On the strength of such experiences, I am prepared to affirm that teachers in the Bombay Presidency are as keenly interested in the vital problem of character-training as their fellow workers in the West.

An Indian gentleman surprised me by saying: "Ah, you people in England are able to support school influence by good home influence; but here, in India, home influence is declining."

I replied that it was matter of common lament in England that the family no longer held the moral position it occupied in former times.

A few days later, in another city, another Indian gentleman spoke to me to the same general effect. I was so perplexed that I made a point of putting the problem before an experienced lawyer and author at Surat.

"Yes," he replied, "it is true. The old family bonds, legal and moral, are loosening; and sons no longer entertain the ancient respect for a father's views on social and religious questions."

I cite these conversations without further comment. Nothing during my pilgrimage delighted me more, says Mr. Gould, than a scene in Baroda. The Gaekwar's State has established some 300 schools for the Depressed Classes, and one of the best has been erected on the outskirts of Baroda city. It is known as the Antyaj Boarding-school, and accommodates fifty girls and boys. They are neatly clothed and efficiently instructed, and they have a bright, alert manner. The buildings are in all respects cheerful and con-

venient. No fee is charged. The place is a harbinger of a great liberation of "the people that sit in darkness."

California and Japan

At a time when Imperial Federation is becoming a live question the present situation in California (says *United Empire*) is of exceptional interest, giving a concrete example of one of the problems which Imperial Federation involves. In the United States the Federal Government is, of course, exclusively responsible for foreign relations, but the States remain sovereign in respect of land laws. At first sight there is nothing unworkable in that very natural division of authority. Yet it has created a dilemma for the statesmen at Washington. Desirous of checking the permanent establishment of a Japanese population, the California legislators introduced a Bill which would render incapable of acquiring land those who are ineligible for citizenship. Under the American law the Japanese are ineligible owing to their Mongolian origin. The Japanese Government at once protested vigorously against the California proposal, as an infringement of their treaty rights. President Wilson sought to escape from the quandary by the rather humiliating expedient of sending his chief minister, Mr. Bryan, to remonstrate at Sacramento. The line taken by the Federal authorities was that which Mr. Chamberlain adopted when dealing with the exclusion Bills of the former Colonies in Australasia, viz., that any restrictive legislation should be general in its application, not discriminatory as between races. They suggested that the law might be framed so as to prohibit aliens in general, without differentiating those ineligible for citizenship. Some modification of that kind was effected. The law has been passed, and the Government of Japan has continued to protest, but the practical result is the same. Although sensational rumours as to the state of feeling in Japan are to be discounted, yet the question raised is one that cannot permanently be met by diplomatic evasion, and it affects many portions of the British Empire. The right to regulate immigration into its territory is one which will certainly not be waived in any young community, but at the same time the contingencies must be faced which such discrimination may involve. Most people who have studied the question at first hand would allow that the average Japanese or Chinese immigrant is a more valuable citizen on his arrival in a new country than many who come from the slums and ghettos of South Europe. But it is quite another question when it comes to their descendants and the possibility of incorporating them into an homogeneous nation. It is the very fact of the high cultivation and specialisation of the Japanese, during centuries of isolation, which increases this difficulty, and while the surface objection is that they are likely to lower the standard for white labour, the roots of racial prejudice lie far deeper. The present difficulty is not very far-reaching, for the Japanese community in California is as yet small, but the principle involved is of the greatest importance. Japan, after fifty years of extraordinary progress under the guidance of wise and self-sacrificing statesmen, is entering a new phase, in which the popular voice must play a far greater part. Her democracy is less likely to be guided by counsels of prudence and patience and certainly feels strongly on the question of national prestige. One fact, however, must not be lost sight of—that Japan herself pursued an exclusion policy for centuries, and that even to-day she does not extend excessive privileges to foreigners. She might curtail them still further if she wished, and thus vindicate her dignity as a great Power by meting out to the stranger within her gates the same measure which she gets.

News in Brief

Mr. Gandhi has returned from the Rand. Owing to the critical situation arising out of the recent strike, General Smuts has not been able to consider the proposals Mr. Gandhi has submitted to him.

From reports received from London, it appears that the Hon. Mr. Gokhale is still far from well and that his health continues to cause serious anxiety to his friends. Mr. Gokhale, notwithstanding the serious nature of his health, continues to attend the sittings of the Public Services Commission. He has been much touched by the probability of the Passive Resistance struggle reviving; and he has been seriously thinking of going to India in August, should the struggle begin. A cable has, however, been sent to him, asking him not to go to India at the risk of his health.

Mr. Abraham Fischer, Minister of the Interior, sailed for England on a health trip, on Monday last.

Regulations under the Immigration Act have now been gazetted. There are 31 sections. They have been received too late for us to give a fairly accurate analysis of them. We notice that, in some respects, they will require amendment from the Indian standpoint, and we feel, too, that they are not exhaustive and that it is evident that the Government intend to frame further and supplementary regulations.

Advice from London shows that Lord Amp'hill is just as busy as ever on the Indian question. He has given notice of a motion in the House of Lords "To call attention to the complaint of the British Indian community in South Africa that the Immigration Bill, which has just passed the Union Parliament, fails to embody the provisional agreement of 1911, and to enquire whether His Majesty's Government will afford an opportunity for the discussion of this question before the Bill is submitted for the Royal Assent."

The Secretary of the Indian Women's Association advises us that the memorial for the late passive resisters, Narayansamy and Nagappan, is to take the shape of scholarships, tenable at least for four years, at the rate of £15 per year, for education in India of South Africa-born Tamil youths. The conditions attached to these scholarships are that the male scholars should be over the age of 12 years and up to or under 18 years; secondly their qualification should be tested by a Committee to be appointed by the Indian Women's Association; thirdly the scholar or scholars that might be selected by the Committee shall remain during their educational course in India under the guidance of those whom the committee may appoint, and that any independent action on the part of the scholar shall forthwith disentitle him to any payment after the exercise of such independence. The fare for the outward and return passage shall be paid out of the Memorial Fund. The scholars shall be selected out of the children of parents who are unable to find the expenses of the education in India of their children. The character of the children will be the final test. The number of scholarships will be announced in due course. Application should be made, with full particulars, to the Secretary of the Indian Women's Association, Box 6522, Johannesburg, on or before the 31st day of August next. Parents are requested to supply all the particulars available regarding the boys whose names they wish to submit as Narayansamy and Nagappan scholars.

Mr. B. M. Patel, of Maritzburg, writes to say that the Hindus of Maritzburg have subscribed about £42 in aid of the Nadiad Hindu Anath Ashram—an institution established at Nadiad, Bombay, for Hindu orphans.

A Reuter telegram from Brisbane states that both Houses of the State Legislature have passed the Bill prohibiting the employment of labour in the sugar industry. The Bill provides for the exclusion of coloured labour from the industry, requiring both the cultivators and the employers to pass a dictation test.

An amusing story is to hand, which speaks very for the zeal of the Immigration Department. "Indian Juggler" was advertised to appear at the Orpheum Theatre, Johannesburg. Shortly before the hour advertised for the performance, several representatives of the Immigration Department repaired to the Theatre to investigate who this Indian was and in virtue of what permit or certificate he had entered the sacred territory of the Transvaal. The feelings of these worthy officials may be better imagined than described when they discovered that the gentleman on whose track they had come was an Australian.

The breaking-up ceremony and prize-distribution of the Sathyajana Sabha Tamil School, Durban, was held on the 6th instant, in the Africa Bio Hall, when about 700 persons, including about 200 Indian ladies, were present. This school was started in 1897 with 18 children; the present attendance is 114. It is supported by voluntary contributions from a few prominent Indians who believe in the value of vernacular education in schools.

The *Transvaal Leader's* London correspondent cables to his paper as follows:—The action of a small Californian town in arming for the expulsion of Korean fruiterers has made acute the situation created by the attitude of California towards Asiatics. From advices received from trustworthy sources, I understand that, should President Woodrow Wilson take action against Californian opinion, there will be a serious danger of a concerted movement on the part of other States in support of California, since there are several millions of anti-Asiatics throughout America.

The Hon. Mr. Fazuibhoy Currimbhoy Ebrahim, of Bombay, who is a member of the Imperial Legislative Council of India, has had the order of Knighthood conferred upon him on the occasion of the King's birthday.

Mr. M. KRISHNAMACHARYA, B.A., L.T. in some "Notes On Moral and Religious Education," contributed to the *Indian Review*, says:—The system now obtaining in schools and colleges cannot be said to be complete as it does not tend to develop all the faculties in the individual, as it lays too much stress on the acquisition of knowledge, and too little on the building of character. The present system does not provide adequately even for bodily training. It unduly elevates physical above mental and moral sciences. It breeds selfishness, irreverence, cynicism; and deserves therefore to be corrected immediately in individual as well as in national interests.

African and Asiatic troops of the French Army figured for the first time in the great Fourteenth of July review at Longchamps on the 14th instant. They were cheered. President Poincaré presented them with colours, a most warm enthusiasm.—Reuter.

Messrs J. McNeil and D. Chimman Lal, the Commissioners sent out by the Indian Government, to report on the condition of the East Indian immigrants in the West Indies and British Guiana, arrived in Jamaica at the latter end of May and proceeded to make their investigations. They were formally welcomed to the island and presented with an address by a delegation of Indians.