

Indian Opinion

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DEPARTURE OF PHOENIX SETTLERS

ON Sunday evening an interesting event took place in connection with the impending departure to India of Mr. Maganlal K. Gandhi and family together with the students of the Phoenix Settlement school who will re-join Mr. Gandhi in India. The Reception Committee formed in Durban to arrange the reception and farewell festivities in connection with Mr. Gandhi's departure had invited about three hundred guests including a goodly number of ladies, to a fruit and sweetmeat banquet in honour of the occasion. The gathering was held in Mr. Rustomjee's spacious hall which was prettily decorated with evergreens, flowers and flags, whilst a band gave selections. Mr. Omar H. A. Jhaveri presided and amongst those present were Swami Mangalanand Purijee, Miss Schlesin, Mr. Polak and Mr. Medh who arrived that afternoon from Johannesburg specially for the occasion, Messrs. Dawad Mahomed, Parsee Rustomjee, G. H. Miankhan, Hajee Ismail Abboobaker, Imam Abdul Kadir Bawazeer, P. V. Sanghavee, G. D. Hansraj, A. Christopher, L. and B. Gabriel, J. M. Lazarus, C. V. Pillay and a fully representative gathering of all sections of the Indian community as well as a sprinkling of Europeans.

The Chairman expressed, on behalf of his Committee, hearty goodwill to the departing guests and hoped that their going to India would be of benefit not only to themselves but to the people of India and the Indians of South Africa. He referred to his close relationship as a trustee with the Phoenix Settlement and spoke very highly of the settlers who were, in his estimation, doing a great and useful work. He then asked Mr. Polak to say a few words.

Mr. Polak referred in cordial terms to the work of those who were about to leave, recalling how some of them had gone to gaol at a critical moment, taking or sending their wives there too, whilst others had fulfilled their duty by remaining at the Settlement in order to devote themselves to the issue of INDIAN OPINION, and in this connection he especially spoke of the quiet and self-effacing work of Mr. Maganlal Gandhi. He made a spirited appeal to those present to appreciate the meaning to the community of the Phoenix Settlement. The settlers had never performed their task selfishly. They had worked solely for the advantage of others. Their ideal had been to bring together more effectively the various sections of the Indian community in South Africa and to bring Europeans and Indians into closer and more fraternal relations. They might not have achieved the whole of their ambition, but it was not for want of trying, and if the ideal was a lofty one, it was rarely achieved in one's own lifetime. Nevertheless, the settlers might take pride in having done a great deal to realise their ideal. They had been excellent passive resisters and he claimed for the Settlement that it had been the heart and soul of the Passive Resistance movement (applause). He was sure that those who were about to depart would carry with them the good wishes,

the blessings, of those present. But the settlers who were remaining even more needed their friendship and sympathetic help. Mr. West and Mr. Chhaganlal, with their fellow-workers who were remaining behind, were carrying on the work that they had taken up with their great leader Mr. Gandhi. Phoenix was not to be deserted. It would and must grow. Those of them who were present, and who could not settle at Phoenix, could do something to spread the Phoenix ideals outside the settlement. But there was room at Phoenix for more settlers and he hoped that they would be forthcoming, in order to carry on the national and patriotic work, the work of social reform and self-sacrifice, for which Phoenix stood and from which it derived its peculiar meaning.

Other speakers followed including Mrs. K. R. Naidoo on behalf of the Hindu Women's Sabha, Miss Sigamoney on behalf of the Indian Women's Association, Messrs. Dawad Mahomed, Swami Mangalanand Purijee, Dulabhbhai, A. Christopher, Parsee Rustomjee, Imam Abdul Kadir Bawazeer, S. B. Medh and C. V. Pillay. All the speakers dwelt upon the work of the settlers as passive resisters and otherwise, and expressed their appreciation of the ideals for which the Phoenix Settlement stands. The references were of a touching character in which the spirit of brotherliness was largely evident. Special mention was made by the speakers of the excellent example set by the young boys in going to gaol in the public cause and the no less useful work of the younger children who helped in no small degree in sharing the burden of extra work that fell upon those who were left to carry on the duties of the Settlement.

The Chairman then asked Mr. Polak to hand over a present to each of the departing guests and perform the pretty ceremony of garlanding. To Mrs. Maganlal Gandhi was presented a beautiful silk shawl enclosed in a carved and embossed sandalwood box of Indian workmanship. Mr. Maganlal and each boy and girl received a suitable book. Mr. Fakira, who accompanies the party to India also received a book.

Mr. Maganlal Gandhi, in thanking the Reception Committee for the very kind reception and the company for their presence, referred to the many kindnesses he had received at the hands of the people of Durban. He thanked them on behalf of his wife, who did not consider that she had done any more than her duty in going to gaol, and when she considered how the Tamil community had suffered and how they had lost by death that brave young woman, Valiamma, she did not feel that she had done anything to deserve so much praise. In regard to his own work at Phoenix and especially his duties in taking care of the children whilst their mothers were in gaol, he could not take the praise. Miss West, whom they all loved to call Devi Bahin, and who, he was sorry to say, was not with them that evening, was the one who did most and worked so unselfishly at all times in acting as a mother

and sister to those remaining under Mr. Gandhi's roof. He would also like to say a word for young Devdas Gandhi who worked quite equal to a man in the press and the house and never seemed tired of doing something to help. Amongst the many friends who had been kind and helpful to them at the Settlement he would like to mention Mr. Omar Haji Amod Jhaveri, one of the trustees. He was much more than that for he had on many occasions shown his keen interest in the welfare of the Settlement by visiting them and becoming a brother to them. Of Mr. Rustomjee he could only speak in the most affectionate terms. To them he was their revered uncle, their *Kakaji*, and he had no hesitation in describing him as the "Grand Old Man" of the Indian community of South Africa. (Applause.)

Mr. West, on behalf of the Phoenix Settlers, said he wished to thank most heartily the Reception Committee for arranging such a splendid banquet in their honour. This was the first occasion on which they had been the subjects of so much honour and he could assure those present that they appreciated it very much indeed. In the departure of Mr. Gandhi and now a number of the Phoenix Settlers there might be an inclination to regard such events as a calamity to the community. But such should not be the feeling. He could say, so far as the Phoenix Settlement was concerned, that the work would proceed. And after all, many who were going to India were students who would join Mr. Gandhi in India to continue their training under his direction. This was necessary and he hoped that some day they would prove worthy sons of India. As for Mr. Maganlal, whom he regarded as a brother as well as a fellow-settler, he did not consider that he was in any way severing his connection with the Phoenix Settlement and its ideals. Some day he would return still better fitted to do the work which he had been doing. His stay in India would be in the nature of a wider and more thorough training for the future. They all regretted the departure of Mr. Gandhi, and it seemed almost impossible to fill his place, but, he maintained, it was the duty of all to fit themselves for leadership. All could be leaders in a sense and exert their influence in their own circle, and so to some extent fill the gap and be of service to the community. In looking round the room he saw so many faces of those who had visited the Settlement and whose kindly interest they appreciated. He hoped and believed that they would continue their interest in Phoenix. Their sympathy and help was needed. Those who could not join them in the work at Phoenix could at least show their appreciation of the work which was being done by visiting the place and offering advice and exchanging ideas. That he and the Phoenix settlers certainly expected of them and he had no doubt that they would not disappoint them.

Mr. Shaikh Mehtab and his pupils sang in their best style original songs in Hindustani and a specially-composed song in English in honour of the Phoenix Settlers and their friends.

The gathering terminated with the singing of "God save the King."

On Monday afternoon the Phoenix settlers gathered together to bid farewell to those departing for the Motherland. Some hymns in English and Gujarati were sung and a few words spoken suited to the occasion. Mr. Polak was present and expressed his regret at losing such a brother and sister as Mr. and Mrs. Maganlal had been to him, but at the same time rejoicing in the knowledge that their departure would only mean a temporary separation. Similar sentiments were expressed by Messrs. West, Chhaganlal Gandhi, Imam Abdul Kadir Bawazeer, S. B. Medh and Pragji Desai. The party, which numbers about thirty, sails by the s.s. *Pundua* to-morrow morning.

A Passive Resister Honoured

On Sunday, the 26th ultimo the Koli community of Johannesburg held a meeting at Mr. Morgan's Bioscope Hall in honour of Mr. Fakira, (an eight-times gaol-bird) on the occasion of his departure for India. Amongst those present were Mr. and Mrs. Polak, Miss Bush, Mrs Murgasa Pillay, and Miss Schlesin. The guest was garlanded in time-honoured fashion, and after speeches eulogising his work had been made by Messrs. Premabhai Jogi (Chairman), Mithabhai (Secretary), Polak, Ramjee, Medh, Chhibha Gopal and Bhanabhai Chanabhai, a cheque was presented to Mr. Fakira by the Chairman. Mr. Fakira suitably responded. A presentation was made to Miss Schlesin at the same time.

Mr. Fakira left the same evening for Natal, whence he leaves for India with the Phoenix party. He was seen off at the station by a large number of friends and well-wishers.

The Press on Mr. Gandhi's Departure

The *Pretoria News* of the 16th ultimo contains the following leading article:—

The articles which have recently appeared in the Johannesburg papers on Mr. Gandhi are as amazing as they are amusing. The whole of the South African press indeed seems suddenly to have discovered his virtues and the righteousness of his cause. Since we ourselves discovered both some years ago, we may perhaps be forgiven for exclaiming, "We told you so." And yet this man who is acclaimed by the *Transvaal Leader* and *The Rand Daily Mail*, and other educators of public opinion as a saint, one living upon a higher astral plane than it is possible for us to conceive, an ascetic, is one of the men that, according to our Municipal By-laws, may not walk upon our footpaths, ride in our trams, or reside in our town.

Like the old Indian priest in "Kim," Mr. Gandhi is about to forsake the turmoil of the political arena, and devote his time to "acquiring merit."

He has gained all he fought for; he has beaten General Smuts by tact, diplomacy and decision, perhaps because the heart of the Minister of the Interior was never really in the fight, since, having the judicial mind, he must have recognised the injustice of his cause. Nevertheless, Mr. Gandhi has won, and won without exciting or leaving behind him any bitter feeling, as witness the eulogies bestowed upon him by the papers.

The policy which we advocated eight or ten years ago has now been brought to consummation, that is, the policy of excluding Indian immigration and treating the Indians in South Africa not only with justice, but with generosity. There still remains something to be fought for. There is the question of the franchise. The Labour Party have enfranchised prostitutes and criminals and loafers municipally. The only qualification for municipal voters is that they shall have resided in the town for three months, and shall be white in colour. The most respected and honoured Indian, no matter how long he may have resided in the town, no matter how deeply he may be involved in the town's destiny, no matter his education, his wealth or his high character, is not permitted a voice in our affairs while, on the authority of the Labour Party, the lowest degenerate criminal brought here to serve his sentence from the slums of Johannesburg or elsewhere, is entitled to a voice and a vote, if he be white. Mrs. Gandhi, an ascetic, a woman of the highest character, could not under any possibility vote for the election of Town Councillors but Doll Tearsheet, light o'love and disreputable, may do so.

Isn't it a little hypocritical to suggest that the Indians have nothing left to fight for? Certainly a truce

has been called. The passive resistance movement has ceased, and the Government has granted all that Mr. Gandhi asked, but so long as injustices of his sort exist we have not finished, and cannot finish, with the Asiatic question.

From the Editor's Chair

THE NEW REGULATIONS

DURING the last fortnight, the Government, in accordance with the undertaking given by them to adopt in full the recommendations of the Commission, have issued new regulations on three of the matters dealt with therein. The Indians' Relief Act provided for the issue of regulations setting forth the requirements to be fulfilled by those desirous of validating their marriages under the Act. These are now published, and appear to call for no special comment. Simultaneously, section 21 (1) of the Regulations issued in terms of the Immigration Act of 1913 is amended by the reduction of the fee for identification certificates, issued to those desirous of obtaining them prior to leaving the Union, from £1 to half-a-crown, and the alteration of the covering period from one year to three years. We understand, however, that the Darban Immigration Officer has commenced to make a demand for photographs from applicants, in addition to thumb-prints, failing which he "exercises his discretion" by refusing to issue the certificate. Such a demand is purely arbitrary, for the thumb-print system was instituted because that of photographs was avowedly unsatisfactory. Only recently, a finger-impression expert of the Government, in giving evidence before the Immigration Board at Pretoria, declared on oath that the risk of two persons possessing the identical thumb-print was one in a million—or, in practice, negligible. To demand, therefore, in addition a photograph as a condition of issue is to demand more than common-sense and the law require, and we earnestly recommend those who value their self-respect to decline to accept these documents on the conditions that the local officer seeks to impose. Moreover, we would suggest to the Natal Indian Association to take urgent steps, if it have not already done so, to draw the Minister's attention to this new requirement, for it was surely never the intention of Parliament that his discretion should be exercised by him or on his behalf against an applicant save in exceptional cases, such as those that have been brought to our notice certainly are not. Lastly, the system of visiting passes to individual Asiatics desirous of paying brief visits to neighbouring Provinces has been reverted to, the charge being reduced to a nominal figure, and the issue being in the hands of magistrates as well as of immigration officers. These documents should be a matter of great convenience to the travelling public and business men generally, but we wish to warn all applicants therefor to refuse to pay the unlawful charge of rs. 6d., presumably the commission on the transmission of the deposit, that is now being made by the Volksrust officer. The matter is, we understand, being brought to the notice of the authorities.

WAR I

THE grisly spectre of war has not crept, but rushed, upon a startled Europe, and we now may see the dreadful spectacle of millions of armed men let loose upon each other like so many ravening brutes. All appeals to reason seem to have fallen upon deaf ears, and at the beck and call of the few who dominate Governments, masses of men are driven against each other in sanguinary frenzy, with all the attendant horrors of carnage and miseries of armed strife. Russia, Austria, Germany and France are at death grips, the Balkan Peninsula will soon be an inferno once more, the neutrality of at least one small state has been

invaded, and whether Italy and Great Britain can escape from the threatening maelstrom no-one dare prophesy. The civilisation of Europe is once more in the melting-pot. What will emerge from it, God alone knows. All that is best, noblest, and most aspiring in the West is about to be submerged, if only temporarily, in the stream of blood that is even to-day flowing—for who can tell what purpose? We are told that this is a conflict between Slav and Teutonic ideals of civilisation. We wonder what conceptions of racial culture the German *bauer* and the Russian *moujik* have been allowed to develop by their rulers! The bloodiest war that Europe can wage cannot destroy Teutonic civilisation or stay the advance of that of the Slavs—if either has any real basis in fact; but Western civilisation is certainly doomed if brute-force is allowed to dominate over and crush reason and wisdom. The only possible hope to-day is that the horror of the cataclysm that has befallen the Western world may even at this late hour give pause to statesmen and thinkers, or, if even this poor comfort may not be granted, that this may be the last great organised murder of which the nations of Europe may be guilty. The brain reels at the mere thought of the outrage against religion and mankind with which they have burdened themselves, and it behoves those who retain any control over themselves to protest with all their might and vigour against a display of criminal folly that may well cause the peoples of the East to stand aghast in shocked dismay.

Transvaal Indian Women and Mr. Gandhi

On the evening the 15th ultimo, at the Ebenezer Church Hall, Johannesburg, Mr. Gandhi addressed a meeting of the Transvaal Indian Women's Association. Mr. and Mrs. Polak were also present. Mrs. Rama Moodaley, the President of the Association, was in the Chair. She said they had met that evening to bid farewell to their leader, Mr. Gandhi, but she did not know whether she should call him leader. He was their Protector. He had protected them as a mother protects her children and that day, the eve of his departure, she felt as if both her arms were broken. She did not know what was in store for them in the future and she did not know how they would carry on life there without Mr. Gandhi. Before the arrival of Mr. Gandhi there had been no Indian Women's Association. He had opened their eyes, he had shown them a standard. That they must never depart from, but they must always remember the advice Mr. Gandhi had given them all that time. Mr. Gandhi in the body would be away from them, but in soul would be with them, and it was their bounden duty to conduct the Indian Women's Association according to the wishes of Mr. Gandhi. In conclusion, she thanked Mr. and Mrs. Gandhi for all they had done for them and prayed that they might be given long life.

Mr. Gandhi said that they had spoken of him that day as a Protector and a *Guru* but he felt that he was undeserving of either title, but if they would accept him as their devoted brother, it was the highest honour that he could claim from them, and he knew that it would be a precious privilege to him to think of them, wherever he might be, as his sisters. And as their co-worker and fellow Passive Resister, but with greater experience than they possessed, he could only tell them to continue the work they had commenced, and that the work they had done was noble. They should hold together as one woman, and, if the call to duty came again, they should not fail to respond and should not fail to do even as Valiamma had done. They should not forget Mrs. V. gl. She had done much selfless work. They could still receive her assistance in taking sewing-classes and much other work. Her companionship too was worth catering for. She was

a true woman who felt for them. She would do more if she could, and she would never fail to do all she could. They owed her a great deal, but the best honour that they could pay Mrs. Vogl was not to pile gifts upon her, but to follow her advice and receive her assistance, which she was most anxious to give in connection with classes and such other matters. In India sisters gave their blessings to their departing brothers, whether younger or older than they. He hoped that his sisters there would give him their blessing, no matter in what part of the world he might be placed.

Additional Regulations under the Immigration Act

The following Government Notice is published in the *Union Gazette*, signed by E. H. L. GORGES, Secretary for the Interior:—

No. 1238.] [28th July, 1914.

His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government has been pleased, under the powers vested in him by section *twenty-six* of the Immigrants Regulation Act, No. 22 of 1913, to approve of the accompanying additional regulation and Seventh Annexure to the regulations issued under the said Act, published by Government Notice No. 1079 of 1913.

REGULATION NO. 24A.

24A. (1) Visiting permits in the form and subject to the conditions set out in the Seventh Annexure to these regulations may be issued to Asiatics who, on reasonable grounds, to be stated to the satisfaction of the issuing officer, desire to proceed from the Province in which they are lawfully resident to another Province of the Union for a temporary purpose or visit. In respect of each such permit a fee of two shillings and sixpence shall be paid, and such person shall further be required to deposit a sum not less than ten pounds as security for the observance by him of the conditions imposed under the permit. The deposit shall only be refunded upon the fulfilment of such conditions and upon such persons returning to the Province in which they are lawfully resident within the period for which the permit is issued.

(2) No such certificate shall be issued unless there be lodged with the issuing officer a properly completed declaration in the prescribed form.

SEVENTH ANNEXURE.

D.I. No..... No.....

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA.

IMMIGRANTS REGULATION ACT, 1913.

VISITING PERMIT.

Fee, *Half-a-Crown* (2s. 6d.).

Sum deposited £....., which will be refunded on compliance with the conditions under which this permit is issued.

This permit is granted to..... to enable him to visit..... in the Province of..... subject to the following conditions, viz:—

(1) It shall remain in force for a period of..... only, shall expire on....., on or before which date the said..... is required to return to this Province;

(2) In the event of the said..... not returning before the date specified in (1) above the

deposit will be forfeitable, and the said..... will render himself liable to be dealt with further according to law;

(3) The said..... on his return shall surrender this permit to the officer by whom it was issued.

Magistrate / Immigration Officer.

Date and office stamp.

I/We..... clearly understand and agree to the conditions under which this permit is issued.

Signature of Holder.....

Signature of Depositor.....

Witness.....

General Description of Holder.

Age.....

Build.....

Physical peculiarities.....

(Holder's thumb prints to be affixed on space provided.)

Left Hand. Right Hand.

Mr. Thambi Naidoo Honoured

On his return from Capetown where he had gone to see Mr. and Mrs. Gandhi off, Mr. Thambi Naidoo, Chairman of the Tamil Benefit Society of Johannesburg, travelled *via* Kimberley, where he spent a few days. The local community held a reception in his honour, Mr. P. M. Dawson presiding, when addresses were presented, one in Tamil and the following in English:—

Kimberley,
23rd July, 1914.

Mr. C. K. Thambi Naidoo,
Chairman of the Tamil Benefit Society,
Johannesburg.

Dear Sir,—It is with joy that we, the undersigned, on behalf of the Indian community of Kimberley and Beaconsfield, hail this opportunity of extending to you a most cordial welcome to this city and of paying our respects to one for whom we entertain the profoundest esteem and regard.

We are deeply conscious of the deep and abiding interest you have taken in the welfare of your countrymen, not only in the Transvaal, but also throughout the whole of the Union of South Africa, and of the great assistance you have rendered to Mr. Gandhi throughout the prolonged passive resistance struggle and in the recent Natal strike which resulted in the recent settlement.

Your record of public work and your self-sacrifice and patriotism is certainly a striking and encouraging example to all of us to follow and merit the highest commendation, and your action in recently devoting your four well-beloved sons to the service of India compel our admiration and envy.

We hope and trust that you may long be spared to continue to bestow your devotion and co-operation towards the building up of that national structure of which Mr. Gandhi with your valuable assistance has already laid the foundation.

We are, Sir,

Very gratefully yours.

On behalf of the Indian community of Kimberley and Beaconsfield,

P. M. DAWSON, President.

T. VEDIA PILLAY, Secretary.

V. K. PADAYACMI, Treasurer.

Mr. Gandhi and the Tamil Community

On the 15th ultimo, at the West End Bioscope Hall, Johannesburg, Mr. Gandhi addressed a meeting of the Tamil Community, including many ladies. Others present were Mrs. Gandhi, Rev. Chas. Phillips, Rev. Phillips, Rev. Rodgers, Mr. Polak, Mr. Kallenbach and Miss Schlesin.

Mr. Gandhi said that he felt, in coming to meet the Tamil brothers and sisters, as if he came to meet blood relations. That was a sentiment which he had cherished now for many years, and the reason was quite simple. Of all the different sections of the Indian community, he thought that the Tamils had borne the brunt of the struggle. The largest number of deaths that Passive Resistance had taken had been from the Tamil community. They had that morning gone to the cemetery to perform the unveiling ceremony in connection with the two memorials to a dear sister and brother. Both of these had been Tamils. There was Naryansamy whose bones lay at Delagoa Bay. He had been a Tamil. The deportees had been Tamils. The last to fight and come out of gaol had been Tamils. Those who were ruined hawkers were all Tamils. The majority of the Passive Resisters at Tolstoy Farm had been Tamils. On every side, Tamils had shown themselves to be most typical of the best traditions of India, and by saying that he was not exaggerating in the slightest degree. The faith, the abundant faith in God, in Truth, that the Tamils had shown had been one of the most sustaining forces throughout those long-drawn years. The majority of women to go to gaol were Tamils. The sisters who defied the authorities to arrest them and had gone from door to door, from barracks to barracks at Newcastle, to ask the men to lay down their tools and strike work—who were they? Again, Tamil sisters. Who marched among the women? Tamils, of course. Who lived on a pound loaf of bread and an ounce of sugar? The majority were Tamils: though there he must give their due also to those of their countrymen who were called Calcutta men. In that last struggle they also had responded nobly, but he was not able to say quite so nobly as the Tamils; but they had certainly come out almost as well as the Tamils had, but the Tamils had sustained the struggle for the last eight years and had shown of what stuff they were made from the very beginning. Here in Johannesburg they were a handful, and yet, even numerically, they would show, he thought, the largest number who had gone to gaol again and again; also if they wanted imprisonment wholesale it came from the Tamils. So that he felt when he came to a Tamil meeting that he came to blood-relations. The Tamils had shown so much pluck, so much faith, so much devotion to duty and such noble simplicity, and yet had been so self-effacing. He did not even speak their language, much as he should like to be able to do so, and yet they had simply fought on. It had been a glorious, a rich experience, which he would treasure to the end of his life. How should he explain the settlement to them? They did not even want it. But if he must he could only tell them that all that they and theirs had fought for had been obtained and obtained largely through the force of character that they had shown; and yet they did not want, they had not wanted to reap the reward, except the reward that their own consciences would offer them. They had fought for the Cape entry right for Colonial-borns. That they had got. They had fought for the just administration of the laws. That they had got. They had fought for the removal of the racial taint in the law with reference to the Free State. That they had got. The £3 Tax was now a matter of the past. And, with reference to the marriage question, all those dear sisters who had gone to gaol could now be called the wives of their husbands, whilst but

yesterday they might have been called so out of courtesy by a friend, but were not so in the eye of the law. That was one of the things they had fought for and had got. Truth was what they had been fighting for and Truth had conquered—not he or they. They might fight to-morrow for an unrighteous thing, and as sure as fate they would be beaten and well-beaten. Truth was unconquerable, and whenever the call to duty came he hoped they would respond. There was one thing more. They had sometimes, as every other section of the community had, jealousies amongst themselves. They had petty jealousies not in connection with the struggle, but in matters which had nothing to do with the struggle. All those petty jealousies and differences he hoped would go, and they would rise higher still in the estimation of themselves and of those who at all grew to know them and the depth of character which they had. They had also, as all sections of the Indian community had, not only those jealousies but sometimes many bickerings also, and petty quarrels. He felt these also should be removed especially from their midst, because they had shown themselves so fit to give themselves to the Motherland. And here, of course, it was a Tamil who had given his four sons to be trained as servants of India. He hoped Mr. and Mrs. Naidoo knew exactly what they had done. They had surrendered all right to those children for life, and they could not possibly do anything to advance their material well-being, but had always to remain servants of India. It was no joke, and yet Mr. and Mrs. Naidoo had certainly done that. He could not appeal to them too strongly that they of all sections should rid themselves of all those bickerings, petty jealousies and quarrels amongst themselves. He would also ask them whenever they chose a President or a Chairman to obey him, to follow him, and not always listen to the views of this or that man. If they did that their usefulness would be curtailed. And then too they should not worry if others and not they might reap the reward. Their reward would be all the greater if it was not of this earth; they were not fighting for material reward, and a true Passive Resister never thought of material reward. They should not worry about material prosperity, but always have higher things before them. Then indeed they would be like the leaven working in the community which could raise the community as one to look up to. The privilege was certainly theirs and time also was at their disposal, and if they make good use of that time it would be a splendid thing for the whole of South Africa, and would certainly be a splendid thing for them; and if he heard in India that all those little things to which he had drawn attention had also been got rid of by the Indian community he would indeed be rejoiced. One thing more. He had known something of Madras, and how sharp caste distinctions were there. He felt they would have come to South Africa in vain if they were to carry those caste prejudices with them. The caste system had its uses, but that was an abuse. If they carried caste distinctions to that fatuous extent and drew those distinctions, and called one another high and low and so on, those things would be their ruin. They should remember that they were not high caste or low caste, but all Indians, all Tamils. He said Tamils, but that was also applicable to the whole Indian community, but most to them because most was certainly expected of them.

Mr. Kallenbach also paid a glowing tribute to the Tamil community, and referred to his experiences when he accompanied the first party of ladies to Viljoen's Drift and also at Newcastle, where most of his co-workers had been Tamils. He also urged them to adhere to their simple national customs, and not to adopt the cheap display of the West.

Mr. Phillips next spoke. He said that the community had got all it wanted under the settlement, and what was more the Passive Resistance Movement had put an end to all further repressive measures on the part of the Government. In conclusion, he said that,

if ever the community wanted assistance of any kind, they would find in himself and Mrs. Phillips ready helpers.

Mr. Polak and Mr. P. K. Naidoo also spoke.

Mr. Thambi Naidoo, the Chairman, in closing the meeting asked those present to remember Mr. Gandhi's remarks, and added that it had been said that, if the community here were ever in trouble again, Mr. Gandhi should come back to them, but they should remember also that if they ever heard that Mr. Gandhi was in trouble in India they should immediately pack up and go to India and show who were the followers of Mr. Gandhi and follow him to death.

Transvaal Gujaratis' Farewell

On the afternoon of the 16th ultimo, the Gujarati Hindu community met Mr. Gandhi at the West End Bioscope Hall, Johannesburg, and amongst others present were Mrs. Gandhi, the Rev. Chas. and Mrs. Phillips, Mr. Cachalia (Chairman of the British Indian Association), Mr. Thambi Naidoo (Chairman of the Tamil Benefit Society, a number of the members of the Transvaal Indian Women's Association), Mr. Dantu (Chairman of the Coloured People's Association), and Messrs. Aswat, Baroochi, Lalbahadursing, Amod, P. K. Naidoo, Moosajee, Bhikjee, Joseph Royeppen and Miss Schelsin. Mr. Gopal Patel was in the chair and delegates attended from many of the country districts. After the usual garlanding, Mr. Gandhi addressed the meeting at length in Gujarati, other speakers being Rev. Chas. Phillips, Mr. Dantu, Mr. Cachalia, Mr. Lalbahadursing, Mr. Vassarjeebhai, Mr. J. P. Patel, Mr. Shelat and Mr. Ramjee. The Germiston community and the New Clare Dhobi Society took the opportunity to present purses to Mr. Gandhi.

The European Committee and the Settlement

On the 14th ultimo Mr. Gandhi met the European Committee, which was established several years ago with the object of advising the passive resisters. The terms of settlement were discussed. It was decided to write a letter thanking the Government for its conciliatory attitude in regard to the passive resisters' grievances, and further, to address a letter to Mr. Gandhi congratulating him upon the settlement. The following is a copy of the letter to the Prime Minister:—

Johannesburg,
16th July, 1914.

The Private Secretary,
Right Honourable General Botha, P.C.,
Pretoria.

Sir,—The European Committee of sympathisers with the Indian community that has met from time to time to aid in procuring a settlement of the Indian troubles out of which the Passive Resistance movement arose, desires me to convey to the Government, through the Right Honourable the Prime Minister, its sincere and grateful appreciation of the settlement that has now been reached so patriotically, and with such an earnest regard for the importance of the Imperial principles involved.

My Committee, which has on various occasions made representations on the subject of Indian grievances to the Union Government, takes this opportunity of tendering to the Government its respectful congratulations upon the removal of real and serious grievances of many years' standing, and trusts that, with the passing of the Indians' Relief Act, and the fulfilment of the Government's undertaking of administrative reforms, an era of peace will have arrived enabling the resident Indian community to take its proper place in assisting to promote the welfare of South Africa.

My Committee is confident that with the sympathetic spirit that has been created by the settlement the Government will have the most loyal co-operation of that community.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

CHAS. PHILLIPS,

Acting Chairman.

News in Brief

In reply to a cablegram of condolence sent by the British Indian Association, the Private Secretary to the Viceroy of India cables as under to Mr. Polak:—
"Viceroy sends his grateful thanks to Transvaal Indians for their kind message of sympathy."

Mr. Gandhi has sent the following wireless message:—
"May I convey on behalf of Mrs. Gandhi, Mr. Kallenbach and self our deepest thanks to hundreds of senders of telegrams from all parts of South Africa which awaited us upon our arrival on board. These telegrams containing messages of love and sympathy will be an additional reminder to us of what South Africa has meant to us. We trust that the goodwill shown to us personally by so many European friends will be transferred to those to whose cause our lives in South Africa were dedicated."

A meeting of Indians at Port Shepstone, convened by Mr. Anthony D. Pillay, was held recently, with the object of establishing a school for Indian children in the district. After discussion, it was resolved to form a society called "Port Shepstone Indian Society," to undertake the management of the proposed school.

A number of articles and lectures by Mrs. Annie Besant have appeared in the *Christian Commonwealth* from the 13th May to the 8th July inclusive on the following and other subjects:—*A Plea for India—The Indian National Congress Deputation,* and *India's Plea for Justice: Shall India be a Buttress or a Menace to the Empire?* We regret that, in our issue of the 10th June we reproduced inadvertently without acknowledgment a considerable part of an article contributed by Mrs. Besant exclusively to the *Christian Commonwealth*.

Sir Ian Hamilton's Speech

The Times, referring to Sir Ian Hamilton's famous speech in New Zealand, says:—"He pictures the Pacific as 'the meeting place, not of nations, but of continents.' 'Here,' he says, 'it may be decided whether Europeans or Asiatics are going to guide the destinies of the world.'"

"He glances at China and sees a vast and mysterious upheaval of new forces which threaten to break the immemorial indifference of its millions. No longer is the East prepared, in Matthew Arnold's phrase, to 'let the legions thunder past,' and to 'purge in thought again.' In the United States, in Canada, in South Africa, the problem of the Asiatic immigrant is acute. He lives, as Sir Ian Hamilton rather brutally puts it, on rice, and monopolises business. The white trader cannot exist in competition with him. He makes 'corners' in all the merchandise of petty trafficking. He can live where the white man would starve. He knows no need of recreation. His hours of work are limited only by legal compulsion. His whole being is one struggle to hoard infinitesimal profits against his return to his own country, free because he is rich.

The *Nation* regards Sir Ian's speech as "a blazing indiscretion."