

# Indian Opinion

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## INDIA'S PART IN THE GREAT WAR

**N**O more striking evidence of the success of British methods of Government has ever been given than is contained in the remarkable story of India's loyalty (says the *Rand Daily Mail*). For several years past Indian news in the English papers has consisted mainly of reports of discontent. Even experienced observers on the spot began to doubt whether British rule in India had achieved the results once claimed for it. A feeling of anxiety was abroad in Anglo-Indian circles. The loyalty of the country began to be questioned. Yet the outbreak of a war threatening the destruction of British rule has provided a magnificent answer to pessimism. In a moment the voice of the malcontents was drowned by a great shout of loyalty. No part of the Empire has out-distanced India in the generosity of its gifts, or the unanimity of its peoples. The land supposed to be dissatisfied has showered offers of assistance upon Great Britain with true Eastern munificence. Seven hundred native rulers, not one of whom need have contributed a farthing to England's cause, have come forward with assurances of support of the most practical kind. Men and money, horses and ships, have been offered from all sides. . . . That the Indian soldiers will do splendid service for the Allies is certain. They have magnificent traditions. Their bravery and self-control on the battlefield have been proved in many a campaign. But their presence in Europe is particularly noteworthy because it testifies not only to the loyalty of India but also to the complete faith which the princes and peoples of that vast country have in the absolute justice of England's case. The spirit which has inspired the self-governing Dominions to make great sacrifices for Britain, also animates India. When the greatest Empire in the world stands thus united, the end of the struggle, however far distant it may be, and whatever efforts it may demand, cannot be in doubt.

The following letter, signed "K," appeared in the *Transvaal Leader* of Wednesday the 16th instant. It is from the pen of a European gentleman who, at one time, was very intimately associated with the fortunes of this paper, and it indicates that his sympathies lie, as they have always lain, with the Indian people:—

I venture to differ from your correspondent "Anglo-Indian," who regrets the use of Indian soldiers in the present war. In my opinion, it is the finest thing the British Government has done in this crisis. In satisfying the passionate desire of India to participate in the defence of the Empire, the Home Government has shown the same clarity of judgment that it has exhibited in other ways. It is not generally realised that India feels itself very vividly a part of the Empire. India has been called the brightest jewel of the British Crown, and India knows that this is true—not as a matter of conquest, but as a matter of fact. It is numerically more than two-thirds of the Empire. Just

as this crisis has solved the Irish question, so has it solved the greatest problem of the Empire India, and soon after the war is over it may perhaps be found then possible to give self-government to India. It should be remembered that as this war has consolidated the British Empire and has shown it to be one not only to ourselves, but to all the world, so neither ourselves nor the rest of the world will ever conceive of the British Empire as before the war. The proof of its strength and unity, the universal respect and goodwill evoked by its stand for truth and honour against the powerful conspiracy of treachery and deceit, has given every member of the Empire, consciously or unconsciously a new and a higher viewpoint. We have already got beyond the parochialism of pre-war days. We have reason to feel proud of our Empire, of which India is so great a part, and we must not forget that India feels proud, too. In our great Empire, where every part has shown its patriotism, the magnificent proof of India's loyalty and devotion is unsurpassed, and deserves a juster appreciation and a clearer recognition of its meaning than is expressed by your correspondent.

Mr. J. Smith, late 11th Hussars, writes to the papers:—As an ex-cavalry man who has seen a good deal of active service on the north-west frontier of India, . . . I have fought by the side of these Indian boys, and I know their worth on a battlefield. I have stood and ridden side-by-side with them in the following campaigns; 1894, Black Mountain; 1895, Chitral; 1897-98, Tirah; and I can assure . . . that braver men never stood on a battlefield. They are good swordsmen and crack shots, and I know from experience that they will fight to the last man.

### A Picturesque Incident

As a sidelight on the patriotic spirit of all classes (says the *Rand Daily Mail*), a picturesque incident occurred at the Camp on Sunday, when no less than forty veteran soldiers of the Indian (native) Army offered their services to the Commandant. One stately figure, with numerous ribbons on his breast, was a retired Subadar-Major of the Bengal Lancers, and he wore the medals of the Relief of Chitral, Burmah, Atbara and Omdurman, the Egyptian and Khedive's medals, and the South African medal with seven bars, a fine fighting record of a warrior of the Empire.

### More Gifts from India

London, September 12th.—The Press Bureau announces that further magnificent gifts have been received from India, including a hospital ship from Madras, a field hospital from the Mussulmans, while the Maharajah and Maharani of Bhartapur offer all their resources. The Maharajah has in addition offered his personal services in the field. The Rajah of

Pudukomta has made a similar offer, and three other princes express their willingness to serve personally.

British Indian residents of every class have made loyal and generous gifts.—Reuter.

### Prince Ranjitsinghi's Offer

The Maharajah Jam Sahab of Bawanagar (better known as Prince Ranjitsinghi), addressing his subjects, announced that he had promised to raise a force of a thousand men to fight for the Empire, and also to give two hundred horses, fifteen motors, and two squadrons of Lancers.—Reuter.

### India's Vast Resources

The Aga Khan says that India is absolutely unanimous in regard to the war. Whatever differences there may have been in the past, there are none now. The people of every class and every religion are enthusiastic. "If 70,000 soldiers are not enough," he added, "we shall send 700,000. We can even send 7,000,000. Whatever the Empire demands we shall supply to the fullest extent of our resources."—*Rand Daily Mail's* London Correspondent.

The Paris correspondent of the *London Daily Mail* states that an Indian and a couple of Egyptians have enlisted in the French Foreign Legion for service at the front.

Indian refugees from German East Africa are arriving in Bombay (says a *Times* telegram) and bringing with them harrowing stories of spoliation and ill-treatment. They were robbed of all their possessions and subjected to great indignity and suffering. They were helpless save for the protection of the British Consul. Indians in East Africa are praying for the success of the British and enlisting as volunteers.

### Ambulance Classes

Dr. Francois is lecturer to the Classes formed by the Natal Indian Association. The classes are now held every Wednesday in the St. Anthony's Schoolroom, Victoria Street, Durban. Commencing at 8 p.m. sharp. Mr. V. Lawrence performs the duties of Secretary to the Classes.

### A Gift of Provisions

The Minister of Defence has gratefully accepted the offer of Mr. Abdool Rahman, of Ventersdorp, to supply five bags of mealies and fifty pounds of cut tobacco for the Defence Force. The Secretary of the Red Cross Society has been informed by the Minister of Mr. Abdool Rahman's further offer of 360 fresh eggs to that Society.

Ladysmith Indians are rehearsing a drama (says the *Natal Mercury*), the proceeds from which are to be devoted to the War Relief Fund. The performance will take place on Saturday, October 3rd.

On the 16th instant, in the Pinetown Mahomedans' Hall, a meeting was held to consider the question of opening a subscription list in aid of the Governor-General's Fund. Mr. S. Vahed, President of the Society, presided. A subscription list was opened.

The Indians of Umzinto have formed a committee to collect for the War Relief Fund. About £100 has been collected.

The Natal Indian Association has received a letter of thanks from the Governor-General in return for the message of welcome on his arrival. The Association has also received a grateful acknowledgment from the Prime Minister of the message of condolence to Mrs. De la Rey.

## Food Hawkers and the War

From a report published in the *Eastern Province Herald* (Port Elizabeth) we find that the Health and Licences Committee reported having gone very fully into the question of the issue of certificates for Food Hawkers Licences for the year ending 31st December, 1914, and reports that applications for certificates have been received from 251 persons, classified into the following nationalities; 160 Indians, 135 Chinese, 34 Cape Coloured, 26 British (including Dutch Colonists), 4 Europeans (other than British), 11 Malays, 2 American Negroes and 1 Native. The storage places of all these applicants have been thoroughly inspected and it was the Committee's intention to recommend refusals in 72 instances, and the holding over of another 31, but in view of such measures possibly causing much hardship and suffering at the present juncture in consequence of the European war, the Committee recommended that registration in terms of the regulations framed under Section 9 Sub-section 5 (d), of the Public Health Amendment Act, 1897, and certificates to enable the holders thereof to obtain Food-Hawkers Licences for the year ending 31st December, 1914, be granted to all but three applicants.

The reason for refusing the three was, we learn, not racial.

Mr. Young asked if the Committee had taken into consideration the effect of their recommendations on the proposed Retail Market.

Mr. Mackay said the hawkers were only going to hawk Colonial produce and foodstuffs—not merchandise. Under the present circumstances to have refused all these people licences would have been little short of a calamity. They felt it would affect the retail market scheme but while the bad times were on they determined they would assist these people.

The report was adopted.

## Boksburg Bazaar Regulations

On the 24th instant, at Boksburg, before Mr. Britten, A.R.M. Bhaga Lalla, Ranchhod Bhaga and Fakir Valla, were charged with contravening section 26 of the Municipal Asiatic Bazaar Regulations, Mr. Rigg prosecuted on behalf of the Municipality, and Mr. Polak defended. The case of Bhaga Lalla was taken first to test the validity of the By-laws. Mr. Stirton, Location Inspector, gave evidence to the effect that the accused had not applied for and had not received a Bazaar Permit in terms of the section. He admitted that he was a thoroughly respectable person, and that he had been resident in the Bazaar between 4 and 5 years. No complaints had been made against him.

Addressing the Court, Mr. Polak admitted that the accused had no such permit, but held that the regulation in question was *ultra vires* of section 10 (1) of the Transvaal Municipal Amending Ordinance No. 17 of 1905 under whose provisions it purported to be framed. That section gave authority for the framing of regulations for the control and supervision of Asiatic Bazaars. He argued that it did not give authority for the demand that all Asiatics resident in a Bazaar above the age of 16 years, other than the registered lessee of a lot, his wife, or minor children under the age of 16 years, should be compelled to apply for a Bazaar Permit to the Inspector, the issue of which could be confined to three months, and its renewal to be at the option of the Inspector, provided that adult Asiatics at the age of 16 years or over, held registration certificates. Moreover, the provisions of the section were in restraint of trade. The words "control" and "supervise" did not imply a right of identity. Moreover, the Bazaar Permit, a copy of which was attached to the record, went further, and required, in cases of renewal, that the applicants should satisfy the Inspector

that he or she was following a lawful calling, and in itself it was, therefore, an unlawful document. Moreover, section 131 of the Gold Law required Asiatics, amongst other coloured persons, to reside in Bazaars in the Boksburg area, whereas these regulations made it impossible for the Bazaar Inspector to drive any Asiatic, who failed to provide himself with a Bazaar Permit, out of the location. Finally, Mr. Polak argued that even supposing the section were *intra vires* and the permit in due form, section 40 of the regulations, which provided a penalty, was *ultra vires*. In view of the fact that the Transvaal Local Government Ordinance of 1912 had repealed all the penal sections of the Ordinance in pursuance of which these by-laws purported to be published, and that section 107 of the Local Government Ordinance did not apply, in that these regulations were not in force at the time when the Local Government Ordinance came into force, nor were they issued under the provisions of that Ordinance, but of an entirely distinct one.

Judgment was reserved.

## From the Editor's Chair

### BOKSBURG BAZAAR REGULATIONS

WE publish elsewhere in this issue the report of a case brought by the Boksburg Municipality in the Magistrate's Court for an alleged breach of one of the Asiatic Bazaar regulations (which we intend to reproduce next week). It is quite clear from a perusal thereof that the whole object and aim of the Municipality has been to reduce Indians resident within the confines of the Municipality to the level to which they have degraded the native population. Apparently Indians are required to submit themselves to the will of a petty official known as a Bazaar Inspector, who, at his option, may allow them to reside in the Bazaar or not. No self-respecting community can tolerate a condition of affairs of this kind. Indians are not Natives. They have never yet successfully been treated as Natives, nor do they intend that such treatment shall be accorded to them. It is uncertain what the result of the particular case in question will be, but if it is against the accused, the matter should be taken to a higher tribunal. The case cannot be allowed to remain where it now is, for if the Boksburg Municipality succeeds, other Municipalities will naturally take their cue from its action, and the end will be worse than the beginning. We trust that the British Indian Association is keeping its eye on this matter, and that it will take such action as circumstances dictate.

### CAPE LICENCES

A CORRESPONDENT from Port Elizabeth writes to us complaining of the recent action of the Port Elizabeth Town Council, in arbitrarily refusing to consider applications for certificates under the new Cape General Dealer's Ordinance enabling General Dealers and others to trade. He points out that the new Ordinance creates new licences the issue of which may be refused to those who previously were carrying on their trade in Colonial Produce, and that such licences may be refused to those who desire to continue this trade. It is, therefore, with considerable relief that we are able to publish in this issue the report of the Health and Licences Committee in which it appears that, in regard to the issue of licences for hawking food-stuffs only, a decision has been come to which, for the time being, relieves anxiety. About 250 licences, which were under consideration by the Council, are to be granted up to the end of the current year and the intention of the Committee to recommend refusals in 72 instances and the holding over of another 31 has been changed into a recommendation that, "in view of such measures

possibly causing much hardship and suffering at the present juncture in consequence of the European war," these (with the exception of three) be granted. We are glad to note that the refusal of the three was not made on racial grounds. We have to thank the war for this improved spirit and we congratulate the Port Elizabeth Town Council on adopting the recommendation. We only hope that, when the war is over, the Council, having had time to think over the matter, will see that, to refuse large numbers of such licences on any but the most serious grounds of insanitation (and even that is a matter within the power of the Municipality to remedy) would be a calamity. "Live and let live" should be the motto of every community, and consideration should be extended to poor men like hawkers who undoubtedly render a great service to householders of all races.

## A Reception in London

(Concluded)

At the reception to Mr. and Mrs. Gandhi and Mr. Kallenbach in London, reported by us last week, Mrs. Sarojini Naidu, the Indian poetess, said:—"Though we are under the shadow of a great and terrible war such as the world has never seen, we felt it incumbent upon us not to let Mr. Gandhi's visit pass without recognition of the great triumph he has achieved for our Motherland, in fighting for the Right. We, too, owe responsibility to the Right, and are, therefore, all the more able to justify this occasion, when we record our appreciation of those who have stood out heroically in the fight.

"To you, Mr. Kallenbach, first, I, in the name of all India, would express our deepest gratitude for the indispensable help you have rendered; it is such friends as you who prove that there is no difference of East and West but rather a common Brotherhood when there is a common cause to serve, a common ideal to realise.

"To Mr. Gandhi, I would say that we honour you not only for your work in South Africa but as a great inspiration to India—the welder of India peoples, carrying through your fight to the bitter end. A great woman of South Africa, whose name is known throughout the world, Olive Schreiner, said to me when she came to see me in a London Nursing Home last winter:—"Tell your young Indians that Mr. Gandhi is the greatest spirit that has ever come to South Africa; he is the Mazzini of the Movement."

"To Mrs. Gandhi, I have even more difficulty than Mr. Basu in saying what I feel; he spoke as a man; I, as an Indian woman, realise that she has given, not only to Indian women but to all women, the ideal of wifehood, the woman who followed her husband to the very gates of death. I make no difference between the women of legend and of reality. I am proud that, through all the centuries, we have kept the historic continuity of our ideals of womanhood—women who light the fires of inspiration which do not die out of the race. Woman is the lighter of the hearth-fires in the day of peace; she is the peace-bearer in time of struggle. In the name of Indian women, I thank Mrs. Gandhi. She stands before the women of Europe as an example of courage in the darkest hour, always cheering others on to success and victory. If to-day, in time of war, we Indians do not do more to help the Cause of Right, at least we have given one Indian woman to cheer the fighters on their way in the battle for Right and Truth. In accordance with our old time custom, the loveliest in the world, I have the joy of garlanding each of you.

### Mr. Gandhi's Speech

Mr. Gandhi said:—"To you, Mr. Basu, and to Mrs. Sarojini Naidu, I can only say that you have both overwhelmed me; I do not even know that I can struggle through what I have to say. I would make

the briefest reference to the tremendous crisis which has overwhelmed the Empire. Since we reached England and heard the news, I have been reading and thinking about it. I think of husbands and sons who have gone to fight, of mothers, wives, and sisters left weeping behind. I ask: What is my duty? I am an exile of 21 years from my Motherland, so cannot speak as the representative of the imaginary India which my friends tell me I have pictured. If I were in South Africa I should certainly speak as the representative of my people. I have not yet come to any conclusion, but trust we can do something in concrete shape. I hope those of you who are as young as I am, those who are fellow-students of mine—I am still a student—will think what can be done, consult with our elders and follow their advice if it commends itself to our consciences.

"It is impossible to express in adequate terms the sense of gratitude which Mrs. Gandhi and I feel to you all. We come among you almost as barbarians. We have lived isolated on a little farm, cut off from the cities. That is why I said we were 'barbarians.' We have worked in the limelight, and you have seen what we have done in exaggerated form. If we merit any approbation, how much more those behind us, who went into the battle with simple faith, with no thought of appreciation.

"What will you say to Harbatsingh, an ex-indentured Indian, 75 years of age, who was with me at Volksrust Gaol? He was 6 feet tall and of noble carriage. 'Why have you come?' I asked. 'How could I help it?' was his reply; 'in the evening of my days I am content to pass the rest of my life in prison to deliver my countrymen.' He remained in gaol and died there.

"What do you think of the young lad, Narayansamy, whose parents came from what is falsely called the Benighted Presidency, Madras? He had never seen India except as a deportee; he starved for some days when he returned. He died.

"And what of Nagappan, another lad from Madras, who suffered imprisonment. He worked as a prisoner on the African veldt in the bitter cold of winter in the early morning when there was no sun. You know what the cold of a London winter is like but few of you know the biting cold of the early mornings of winter on the veldt. Unfit for work, he still held on, but at last he died.

"Then there is Sister Valliamma, a girl of 18. She went to prison and was only discharged when she was very ill. I remember well when Mr. Polak and I went to see her; how we lifted her with greatest care on to her carpet, and tended her to the best of our powers. She died, leaving thousands of Indians in South Africa to mourn the less.

"There were 20,000 strikers who left their tools and work because there was something in the air. People said that they did not know why they had struck. There was a half-truth in that saying; they went out in faith. Violence was entirely eschewed. These men and women are the salt of India; on them will be built the Indian nation that is to be. We are poor mortals before these heroes and heroines.

"But victory is due not only to their work. They quickened the conscience of the Empire and of South Africa. Success was due also to the help given by the Motherland in the hour of trial of her sons and daughters, led by that saintly politician, Gopal Krishna Gokhale; to the stand made by India; and to the action of that great Viceroy, Lord Hardinge. Success would, however, have been impossible had not the conscience of South Africa been quickened, had not the people realised the moral force which Indians could bring to bear against brute-force.

"Marching over the veldt last November, Europeans came to our aid. I have spoken elsewhere of unreasonable and unreasoning prejudice; but the masses stood aside; they never worried us; and during the march they helped us and showed us practical sympathy.

"The Botha Government, too, 'played the game.' Mr. Smuts said to me: 'We do not want any misunderstanding; we want all the cards on the table. Take these documents; read them; come to me again and again if you are not satisfied; we will make changes.' And he did.

"You see many things conspired to enable the settlement to be made. But I must mention one more; Mr. Andrews. You have no notion what he did; how he worked in selfless zeal, preaching love for India through his Master—the poet-saint at Bolpur, whom I have come to know through Mr. Andrews—Rabindranath Tagore.

"I have called the settlement the Magna Charta of the British Indians of South Africa; after due deliberation I repeat my statement. It is the Magna Charta of British Indians, not only because of its substance, which is great enough, but for its spirit, which indicates a change of attitude on the part of South Africa and the South African Government. The sufferings of our countrymen sealed the settlement. The discovery was made that the ancient force could be applied in South Africa; conviction came after the sufferings of eight long-drawn-out years. They saw that Indians, when in earnest, were irresistible; that they would not take a bit less than the minimum they demanded.

"Mr. Cartwright is here; he has been our staunch friend throughout and I honour him for his help. But I tell him here that he almost tried to weaken us. I remember, and he will remember, how he came to me in Johannesburg Gaol, and said: 'Will not this letter do?' 'No, Mr. Cartwright,' was my reply; 'not until this alteration is made.' 'But everything is achieved by compromise,' he urged. 'There can be no compromise on principles,' I answered. There never was any compromise on principles from 1906 to 1914.

"The settlement is final on all the points of our passive resistance, but not of all our grievances. Grievances remain which will have to be redressed in no distant future. But I hope it will not be by way of passive resistance. They are capable of settlement by pressure of Indian public opinion, by pressure from Downing Street, and from Delhi or Calcutta. The attitude of South Africa has changed; that is our greatest asset. On our behaviour depends the future settlement in South Africa.

"I thank again, on behalf of Mrs. Gandhi and myself, Mr. Basu and Mrs. Naidu for all their kind words. But you have only seen the bright side; you do not know our weaknesses. Indians are altogether too generous; they overlook faults and magnify virtues; this has led us to incarnating our heroes. I think of what is written in our scriptures that it is our duty to fly away from praises, we must lay them all at the feet of the Almighty. I hope we have enough courage, and courage to lay them at His feet, in whose Name and in the name of Mother India we have endeavoured to do our duty, but nothing but our duty."

#### Mr. Kallenbach

Mr. Kallenbach said: "You have coupled my name with Mr. Gandhi's; that is not justified; I cannot accept it without a protest. He formed the material in South Africa by which the victory has been won. The Rev. Mr. Doke, of Johannesburg who, during his life, was so good a friend to the Indian Cause, said that Mr. Gandhi had lighted candles in the hearts of his South African compatriots; he has done the same for all who came near him. He has lighted my heart candle, and because I do not want to let it go out, you see me here. My Indian friends and myself are, as it were, two parties coming from the North or South Pole or *vice versa*. After forty-three years of life I have found that modern western civilisation has not helped me to make progress towards the goal we have to reach and towards which my friend is making such great strides. Western civilisa-

tion, which is supposed to be so superior, has brought us to what we see to-day. Having tasted what one of India's sons could give; having seen what thousands of indentured Indian labourers could do, I cannot repress the desire to go and see India. I have nothing to give to India, but I expect her to give me much. I thank you all most sincerely for your kindness and goodwill."

Mr. Syad Husein, in moving a vote of thanks to the Chairman, said that the organising Committee welcomed the co-operation of Mr. Bhupendranath Basu and suggested that, as his services to Indians were so great, he should be forcibly detained in this country and not allowed to go back to India!

It was touching to notice how eager the guests were, British and Indian, to speak with Mrs. Gandhi. This is her first visit to England; everything is strange to her; but her innate dignity and sincerity keep her herself and give her the power to meet every new situation that comes. The little party, Mr. and Mrs. Gandhi and Mr. Kallenbach, are, as it were, prisoners of war. They intended to remain but a short time in London, but their departure for India, whither all three are anxious to go, is necessarily delayed. India's loss is our gain, for it gives us the opportunity for further intercourse with them.

## Mrs. Besant on National Education

In the columns of the *Madras Standard* Mrs. Besant writes:—

Let an Englishman imagine what Eton and Harrow, Oxford and Cambridge would be if they were held and administered by Germans; would they any longer be nurseries of English heroism, of English patriotism? Would English boys brought up on German history, on biographies of German heroes, on the lives of Blucher and Bismarck, become the Englishmen who carry the English flag to every quarter of the globe? Let them then realise how Indians feel, who have behind them a civilisation of thousands of years, and whose sons are now brought up on lives which make them regard their fore-fathers—who produced the Upanishads, the Mahabharata, the dramas of Kalidasa, the commentaries of Shankaracharya, Ramanuja, and Madhva, the devotion of Tukaram, Kabir, and Guru Nanak, the valour of Pratap Singh, the statesmanship of Akbar—as a crowd of superstitious dreamers and unpractical visionaries, while they are taught to look to Nelson and Wellington as heroes, and to regard important Indian history as beginning with Clive and Warren Hastings.

If the Government will not charter a national University, we bow to its decision; but we will not accept a bondage gilded with "a liberal grant-in-aid." Our birthright is more precious than this mess of pottage, and we cannot mortgage our future for this temporary load. The interest demanded is too high. What, then, shall we do? Reject the Government offer and work out our own scheme. Let us found the Benares Hindu University and the Aligarh Musalman University. Let us make our own curriculum, appoint our own men, trust to our own resources.

It is probable that our diplomas will not at first be recognised as qualifying for Government service, for the learned professions. Let it be so. Is there not enough public spirit in India to face the temporary difficulty? If we can so arouse the spirit of the nation that it will send to us its most brilliant children, renouncing for a few short years the gilded bait of Government service, we shall compel recognition. Government requires first-rate men, and ought to have them. If we can capture the first-rate boys, Government must, ere very long, accept them at our hands. Besides, we can send over the pick of our students with our diplomas, to take degrees in British Universities,

and so open to them Government posts in this country. Edinburgh, Aberdeen, Birmingham, Sheffield, Manchester, will welcome our men if Oxford and Cambridge reject them. We need only courage, endurance, patience, patriotism, and we shall win. Can India furnish these?

Let the Hindu University Committee reject the Government offer, and at once set to work on its University. Let Paichayappa's College in the South become the Southern University, hand in hand with the Northern at Benares. Cannot Bombay initiate a similar movement in the West, Bengal in the East? It does not matter if we advance slowly, making one University at a time, but for India's sake let us advance. Let the Hindu University Committee keep its funds, and apply them to the cause for which they were collected. There must be no cowardice, no paltering with duty, no handing over to a Government University of funds collected for National use. Many of India's noblest sons are on this Committee. India trusts them to do their duty.

## Coloured People's Patriotism

The City Hall, Cape Town, was packed on the 31st ultimo with Coloured citizens who had assembled to express their loyalty to King George and their determination to support the Government during the present crisis (says *A.P.O.*).

Sir Frederick Smith, who presided, thought the Coloured people had taken a wise course in calling that meeting to tender their assistance to the Government while Britain was engaged in war. He was confident that that demonstration would receive the grateful appreciation of the Prime Minister, his Cabinet and also of H. M. King George.

Dr. Abdurahman said the Coloured people had met in public meeting on many occasions, but never in the history of South Africa had they been called together on a more solemn occasion, nor at a more critical juncture, and never when the issues were fraught with greater consequences.

The Coloured people had many grievances, but all that must be forgotten while danger was threatening the very existence of the Empire. They had met that night to decide the following resolution:—

"That the Coloured citizens of Cape Town, in mass meeting assembled, under the auspices of the A.P.O., hereby express their loyalty to H.M. King George V., and take this opportunity of placing on record their recognition of the fact that the security that they at present enjoy is due primarily to the supremacy of the British navy; and further, they pray that Britain's efforts during the war will be crowned with success. That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to H.E. the Governor-General for transmission to H.M. the King." (Applause.)

Mr. J. C. Carelse seconded the resolution, which was adopted with enthusiasm.

Mr. N. R. Veldsman appealed to the Coloured people to assist those who as a result of the war might suffer. He moved the following resolution:—

"That, in order to alleviate the suffering which inevitably accompanied war, an appeal is hereby made to the Coloured citizens of the Union to contribute to a fund to be administered by the following committee:— Rev. Bishop Johnson, Mrs. Wooding, Mrs. Abdurahman, Mrs. Gow, Dr. Gool, Dr. Abdurahman, the Rev. F. Gow, Messrs. C. J. Carelse, S. Reagon, N. B. Veldsman, S. F. Geyer, P. Grever, H. Hartog, B. Baron, H. Cressy, A. Arendze, H. J. Gordon, R. Hoedemaker, W. A. Roberts, M. J. Fredericks, Fred Hendricks, H. A. Gamildien, Pfeffer, and George Fite."

The Rev. Mr. Gow seconded the resolution, and said that although the spirit of war was in the air, there was also a spirit of helpfulness in the air. They should at this period forget race and creed and contribute to the fund.

Mrs. Wooding, who spoke in support of the resolution, remarked that the Coloured women would be found ready to do their duty whenever the call went forth. The resolution was unanimously adopted.

Dr. Gool said that another way of giving practical assistance to the Empire was by raising volunteer corps for active service. He moved:—

"That the offer made through the A.P.O. to raise 5,000 volunteers for active service at home or abroad be approved, and that this meeting tenders to the Union Government its loyal support during the present crisis."

Mr. S. Reagon, who seconded, said he hoped an opportunity would be given the Coloured people to take a part in the fighting line. The resolution was agreed to.

Dr. Abdurahman moved a vote of thanks to Sir Frederick Smith, who in response announced that as a result of the meeting the sum of £37 had been raised during the evening.

## Obituary

It is with much sorrow and a great sense of loss that we record the death, in Durban, on Monday morning, of Mr. T. R. Haddon, of Johannesburg. Mr. Haddon has been in a weak state of health for some months and died of heart troubles. The Indian community has lost a friend. The funeral takes place in Johannesburg. We sincerely sympathise with the family.

On Sunday, at Stamford Hill, Durban, the wife of Mr. Abdool Kadir passed away. Mr. Abdool Kadir, who was for many years partner of Messrs. M. C. Camroodeen & Co., is a well-known man in Durban and Johannesburg. The funeral took place on Monday morning when a large number of Indians attended. On behalf of the community and ourselves, we extend our hearty sympathy to the bereaved relatives.

## The Prestige of the White Man Again

The *East Rand Express* (Boksburg) thus unburdens itself regarding the employment of Indian troops in the war:—

The news that Great Britain intends to employ Indian native troops against the Germans has come as a shock to many South Africans. We can but hope the news is incorrect. In our opinion it would be a fatal mistake to use coloured troops against whites, more especially as plenty of whites are available. From the English standpoint there is probably nothing offensive in the suggestion. Most Home people do not seem to see anything repugnant in black boxers fighting whites, but they have not had to live in the midst of a black population. If the Indians are used against the Germans it means that they will return to India disabused of the respect they should bear for the white race. The Empire must uphold the principle that a coloured man must not raise his hand against a white man if there is to be any law or order in either India, Africa, or any part of the Empire where the white man rules over a large concourse of coloured people. In South Africa it will mean that the natives will secure pictures of whites being chased by coloured men, and who knows what harm such pictures may do? That France is employing coloured troops is no excuse. Two blacks in any sense do not make a white. The employment of native troops against Germany will be a hard blow to the prestige of the white man,

## European Overseer Fined

A fine of £5, or 30 days' imprisonment, was inflicted upon a European named Louis J. Pierus, when charged, in the Borough and District Court on the 22nd instant, with having assaulted an Indian employed on the Illovo Sugar Estates (says the *Natal Mercury*). Accused is an overseer at the place in question, and complainant alleged that on August 19th Pierus said something about his not being a good worker, and with that commenced to beat him. The blows were of a serious nature.

Accused said that the Indian had been his kitchen boy for the last three-and-a-half years, but since the last Indian strike had been a different boy altogether. He had been insolent, and had neglected his work. On the day of the complaint complainant frightened his horse, and when remonstrated with made an attempt to strike accused, who then, so he said, hit the Indian in self-defence.

The Magistrate, in inflicting the penalty mentioned, commented upon the prevalence of complaints from Indians as to having been beaten on sugar estates.

## News in Brief

The Veda Dharma Sabha, Clare Estate, passed a resolution of condolence with Mrs. De la Rey and family.

The Hon. John G. Maydon has been elected a member of the Indian Immigration Trust Board in place of Mr. C. G. Smith resigned.

The Transvaal British Indian Association has received a telegram from the Governor-General appreciating the message of welcome from the Association and sending his best thanks.

We acknowledge with thanks receipt of the "Rosh Hashona" number of the *S.A. Jewish Chronicle* which is published at the Jewish new year. To all our Jewish friends we tender our hearty greetings for the new year.

Last week the Lord Bishop of Natal attended the new Indian Church at Maritzburg, and consecrated the extension which has been provided. The edifice is known as St. Paul's and it will now provide adequately for the needs of the Christian Indians. Large numbers of Indians attended the service.

Mr. Gokhale is staying with Sir William Wedderburn at Meredith, and we are glad to learn that he has much improved in health (says *India*). Sir William himself, who has been indisposed, is now convalescent.

The *Englishman* (Calcutta) has an interesting article on the "Drain of Labour from India." The gist of the article may be found in the opening sentence which runs:—"While other parts of the world are drawing their supply of labour from India, Indian industries are starving for want of labour."

At a largely-attended meeting of farmers of Lichtenburg district at which General Beyers, late Commandant-General of the Union Defence Force, and Mr. De Wet made speeches in opposition to the operations in German West Africa, and at which resolutions of protest and demand for withdrawal of the troops were passed, the Rev. Mr. Du Toit said the present position was nothing but the fruit of the Conciliation Bill. He urged that a policy of passive resistance, in which lay the strength of the Africander people, should be decided on.