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DURBAN'S WELCOME TO LORD BUXTON

AT the Town Hall on Friday evening, a very large gathering of Indians met to honour Their Excellencies, Lord and Lady Buxton. The proceedings were under the auspices of the Natal Indian Association. His Worship the Mayor presided. Their Excellencies were accompanied by the Hon. Phyllis and Hon. Doreen Buxton and Lord Carlton. As they alighted from their car they passed through a fine body-guard of Indians bearing flags, and in the main vestibule were introduced by the Mayor, Mr. W. Holmes, accompanied by Mr. W. P. M. Henderson, town clerk, to a number of prominent members of the Indian community, including Messrs. Haji Dawad Mahomed, chairman Natal Indian Association; Omar H. A. Jhaveri and L. Gabriel, secretaries, Natal Indian Association; G. H. Miankhan, Parsee Rustomjee, R. K. Khan, A. Dookan, V. Lawrance, R. Bughwan, Poonasamy Pather, C. V. Pillay, Gurnasamy Chetty, Rev. Koil Pillai, Suliman J. Javeri, M. Thangavalu, M. B. Lazarus, T. C. Moodley, Baldev Sing, R. Dehaloo, B. M. Sing, Gopal Pather, S. Emmamally, G. D. Hansraj, P. V. Sanghavee, M. B. Naik, A. M. Shaik, R. K. Naidoo, J. M. Lazarus, Bryan Gabriel, L. E. B. Ephraim, Lutchman Panday, Albert Christopher. The party then proceeded to the hall, where a magnificent greeting ensued. At the close of the National Anthem the Mayor made a few introductory remarks. He said he had very much pleasure in presiding over that gathering of Indians that evening. When they welcomed Their Excellencies the other day to Durban the Indian population were included in that welcome but the Indian population and the gentlemen before him that evening were very anxious to go a step further, and they wished on their behalf as representatives of the influential Indians of Durban to make a presentation to his Excellency.

Mr. Haji Dawad Mahomed then addressed the audience in Hindustani, after which Mr. Christopher read the following speech on his behalf:—

Chairman's Speech

Your Excellency, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

To-day we rejoice to be able to welcome Your Excellency and Her Excellency to Durban, but, our pleasure is the greater in that you have graciously consented to meet not a deputation of my countrymen but the community itself, and now in its name I wish to extend to Your Excellency, Lady Buxton and family a hearty welcome.

We are beholden to Your Excellency for this opportunity of once more demonstrating our loyalty to the King-Emperor under whose sway here in South Africa we venture to hope we will one day be enjoying an honourable position in the life of this country.

It has been a matter of pardonable pride to us that our princes and our people in our motherland have been privileged to share in the responsibilities of British citizenship by fighting shoulder to shoulder with the other members of the British Empire on the

Battlefields of Europe, Asia and Africa and that our women are tending and nursing the sick, the wounded and the maimed from the wars in the Indian Hospital Ships.

We rejoice with the other members of the general community in South Africa at the early and successful termination of the campaign in German South West Africa. But we regret that we were not given the opportunity to bear our share in the expedition against the King-Emperor's enemy although we offered our services to the Government upon the outbreak of hostilities. We desire respectfully to suggest that my countrymen feel that some provision may be made under the Defence Scheme for their training and equipment so that if an emergency arose they would be able to defend their homes and hearths for their King and country here, where most of them are born, or wherever they may be called upon to do so in the name of the Emperor. We wish Your Excellency and family's stay in Durban will be a happy and restful one and that on your return to the Administrative Capital you will carry away with you pleasant recollections of Durban and its suburbs and the Indian residents therein.

It is the time honoured custom of the East to garland those whom they wish to honour as an expression of their love and respect for them and it is in accordance with that custom I now have great pleasure in garlanding your Excellency, Lady Buxton and the members of your distinguished family and our worthy Mayor.

The usual ceremony of garlanding followed. The flowers used were very choice. Lord Buxton, the ladies and the Mayor each were honoured and in addition four little girls presented bouquets and baskets of flowers to the ladies.

The address, which was contained in an album, bound in purple silk velvet, with clasps, corner pieces, and an engraved and pierced device and medallion in centre engraved with a cipher, was then presented to Lord Buxton the text of which reads as follows:—

Text of the Address

To His Excellency The Right Honourable Viscount Buxton, a Member of His Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, High Commissioner for South Africa, Governor-General and Commander-in-Chief in and over the Union of South Africa. May it please Your Excellency:

In the name and on behalf of the British Indian community we desire respectfully to extend to Your Excellency and Her Excellency Viscountess Buxton and family a most hearty welcome to Durban, the most populous Indian centre in the Union.

We beg to offer our congratulations to Your Excellency upon your appointment as our King-Emperor's representative in South Africa and to assure Your

He proposed the following resolution:—

"That the Mahomedans of Delhi express their sympathy with Mr. Mahomed Ali and Moulvi Shauqat Ali on the order passed by the Government for their internment." Seconded by Mr. Ahmed Kaman—carried unanimously.

II. Proposed by Mr. Abdul Kasim, late Municipal Commissioner, Delhi, and seconded by Shiekh Kasim:

"That the Mahomedans of Delhi pray that the Chief Commissioner of Delhi be pleased to reconsider his order and release Mr. Mahomed Ali and Mr. Shauqat Ali from their internment."

III. Proposed by Haji Abdus Samad and seconded by Sheikh Abdus Samad: "That the Mahomedans of Delhi request their Mahomedan brethren that at such a critical time they will unite and make their voices heard by submitting an all-India memorial to the Viceroy."

IV. Proposed by Hakim Mahomed Ali and seconded by Nasar Ali Mirza:—"That a copy of these resolutions be submitted to the Viceroy and to the Hon. the Chief Commissioner and be wired to the newspapers."

At the close of the resolutions the President requested Dr. Ansari to say a few words. He was vociferously supported by the whole meeting.

Dr. Ansari said that he had no intention of making a speech, but he thought he was bound to obey the people's demand and would say a few words. He said:—Mr. Mahomed Ali was not an ordinary or an unknown man. He had dedicated his life to the cause of his country. His internment would not only cause regret and sorrow to the Mahomedans, but he could state with emphasis that it would have a prejudicial effect on the Government. Both these gentlemen were not only of great help to us, but would prove of greater service to the Government, and they should, therefore, be kept among us, so that they may keep us away from all harm and misunderstandings by educating public opinion in these critical times. He would, therefore, ask them to request Government by all constitutional means to liberate the two popular representatives of the Mahomedan community.

The proceedings terminated by a prayer by Moulvi Haffz Ahmed Said Sahab for the restoration to health and liberty of Mr. Mahomed Ali.

A Second Delhi Meeting

A Second Meeting of the kind reported above was held at Delhi in connection with the internment of Mr. Mahomed Ali with Haji Abdur Ghaffar in the chair.

The chairman in his opening speech said that the meeting was convened for the purpose of giving expression to their views with reference to Messrs. Mahomed Ali and Shauqat Ali's internment, to approach the Government with due respect and to request by constitutional means that Mr. Mahomed Ali and Mr. Shauqat Ali be dealt by with justice and mercy. There was no occasion for agitation and disloyalty. They had maintained their position by patience and silence. They were not in any way against the Government and he surmised that their internment was the result of the poisoning of the ears of the Government by interested persons. "It is incumbent on us," he said, "to request the Government in justice and mercy to release the two brothers."

After this, four resolutions, all bearing on the injustice of the internment, were passed.

Moulvi Abdul Majid then addressed the public in the following terms:

"Mahomed Ali and Shauqat Ali's services were not of an ordinary nature, and were not confined to the Mahomedans only. They were possessed of such qualities that their thoughts fill my heart with grief. I can say before the Government that Mahomed Ali and Shauqat Ali were true leaders, and we cannot bear them to be separated from the people. Their misfortune and trouble is ours also."

He reminded his audience that the voice of Mr. Mahomed Ali and Mr. Shauqat Ali were the first to be raised for the sufferers of the Balkan War. Mr. Mahomed Ali was the first to visit Cawnpore. "Our benefactor, leaving his wife and children in a state of ill health, departed for England to fight our cause."

Mr. Shauqat Ali likewise left his wife in illness, and proceeded to Bombay to serve the Haj pilgrims, and therefore their hearts wept for these men. "Now I will take my coat off (a sign of mourning) and will not wear it till these lovers of our nation are released from internment." (Here the speaker took his coat off, handed it to the Chairman and asked him to give it away in charity to any one he pleased.)

Maulana Kutb-ud-deen then addressed the audience: "You are all aware," he said, "that this is not the first incident that has occurred to Islam. If you look back into the History of Religion you will find that no other religion has suffered so many vicissitudes and trials as Islam. But the great Founder of our religion has taught us to bear patiently all the calamities that may befall us. You all are aware what the effects of such meetings have been—nil. When the honour and the reputations of the leaders of the nation were seriously jeopardised, then only these meetings proved effective. Till such time that the Viceroy is not made aware of the real state of our feelings, and our waitings—directly or indirectly—no result could be expected. In the Panjab also a leader was interned. The release of our co-religionists from the Cawnpore Jail was really the result of our common efforts. You may call it political, or call it by any other name, but my opinion is that every person should send letters separately to the Viceroy submitting his prayer and showing his sympathy with Mr. Mahomed Ali. From all sides I hear, 'Yes' to my suggestion, and not a single 'No.' If only the Government heard these voices! It would melt the hardest heart."

Three Duties

Sh. Abdur Rahman, pleader, then addressed the meeting. He said, "Before we consider whether Messrs. Mahomed Ali and Shauqat Ali's internment will prove beneficial or otherwise, we must see what everybody's duty is toward himself, to others and to his Government.

"1—His Duty to Himself—That no one should be dealt with unjustly on our account. If we see injustice done to others on our account we should endeavour to prevent it. Mr. Mahomed Ali has done nothing for his personal gains, his crime lies in the fact that he fearlessly expressed his views and impressions. He gave vent to his feelings, not for his own, but for the nation's benefit. It is therefore every Mussalman's duty to come forward and do his utmost to prevent this injustice being done to him.

"2—His Duty to Others.—If we should see any innocent person unjustly in difficulty it is our bounden duty to get him out of that trouble. He would use the word "unjustly" in connection with this matter. We know Mr. Mahomed Ali better than the Government does, because we see him with our naked eyes and the Government only sees him through coloured glasses. (Loud and prolonged cheers)

"3—His Duty to Government.—If Government has interned Messrs. Mahomed Ali and Shauqat Ali without substantial cause, it is our duty to draw the attention of the Government that the information which reaches them is incorrect and the hearts of the people were pained by it, especially at a moment when the Government itself was involved in difficulties. As loyal subjects of the Crown it is incumbent on us to save the Government from falling into error and difficulties. Therefore when we are convinced of the innocence of a man, it should be our endeavour to see that justice is done to him. If this matter is considered not only from an ordinary but a political standpoint also, it becomes evident that this action of the Government is improper."

Licensing Case

Mahomed Hoosan, New Hanover, on the 12th instant, applied for a transfer of a licence from York to New Hanover. Mr. H. C. Wynne-Cole, Licensing Officer, heard the application. Mr. R. J. Harrison, solicitor, Maritzburg, appeared on behalf of the applicant, and Mr. W. D. Stewart for Mahomed Jaffer, store-keeper, who opposed the application. Mr. Smythe, solicitor, represented the landlord of the York store, from which the applicant sought to have the licence transferred. Several residents in the district were examined on behalf of the objector. At the close of the case Mr. Harrison addressed the Court on behalf of his client in a very able and forcible manner. Mr. W. D. Stewart followed in support of the objection, and quoted decisions given in the Free State and Natal, as regards the construction and completion of the premises prior to application for the licence. Mr. Smythe also addressed in support of the landlord. The Licensing Officer, having reviewed all the evidence produced, said he came to the conclusion that the applicant was entitled to renew the licence for the said premises. — *Times of Natal.*

India's Contribution to the War

Discussing the question of India's contribution to the war, the *Modern Review* states the position thus:—

The help rendered by India should not be measured only by the money and men contributed by her since the war began. Other facts should also be taken into consideration. India has for long years before the war given opportunities to English military officers to obtain invaluable experience of warfare and paid them handsome salaries and placed ample resources at their disposal to acquire this experience. It will not be denied that though Lord Roberts did not take an active part in this war, he was very useful during the months of the war that he lived through. Lord Kitchener is now at the head of affairs, having supreme control of the operations in his hands. India had a great part in the making of his experience here. India paid him to acquire this experience and placed vast resources at his disposal to enable him to do so and make for himself a name. We suppose this should be considered part of India's contribution to the war. We need not mention the names of officers of lesser note.

As regards the actual contribution in men, ammunition and money made during the war, it should be remembered that if the Indian army were larger and if there were more money in the public treasury India's contribution, too, would have been larger. The Indian people are not to blame that the contribution is not more than it has been, nor would it have been to their credit if it had been more. For it is not for them either to give or to refuse to give. The rulers of India have not been able to make a larger contribution in men and money and ammunition, on behalf of India, not because India stood in the way—she has no power to do so—but because it was not possible for the men in power to take more from her, for the very simple reason that she is poor and her standing army in her present pecuniary condition could not be very much larger. It is not the object of the present note to discuss why she is poor in spite of an industrious and teachable population, a fertile soil and vast mineral resources. Suffice it to say that part of the explanation lies in what the ruling caste does and refrains from doing. So, while it is a fact that those Indians who have been able to make themselves articulate in the matter have supported the employment of India's resources to further the cause of the Empire, the real fact to be remembered is that India neither did nor had the power to set a limit to her contribution—she having no effective voice in either giving or not giving.

The actual strength of her standing army and the state of her public treasury set the limit automatically.

As for private contributions by the princes and people of India, the *Review of Reviews* for October said: "Rich men [of England] are indeed bestowing alms, but when compared with the donations of Indian Princes these contributions sink into insignificance."

We have already said that the help rendered by India should not be measured by the contribution she has made since the beginning of the war; we must look into past history, too, to form a correct estimate. History teaches us that but for India the British Empire would not have been the wealthy and powerful state that it is. And in acquiring India, Great Britain did not spend a single pice of her own. India was won entirely with Indian money and mainly by Indian soldiers. Indian soldiers have fought in other parts of the Empire, too. We suppose these are contributions. We do not and cannot say that India placed her resources at the disposal of the British people out of generosity;—India cannot take any credit for it. We mention it simply as a fact which nobody can truthfully gainsay, that India has been the making of the British Empire.

Readers of Mill's History of India as continued by Wilson know that England could not have derived any advantage from the invention of the power-loom if Indian money had not enabled her to work them. Indian money thus lay at the foundation of her manufacturing progress and prosperity. We need not enter into the history of the decay of Indian industries on the one hand and the rise of British industries on the other in the days of the East India Company.

India's wealth has made Great Britain rich in various ways. India's wealth has found its way to Great Britain through various channels. It has been the practice, held to be justified by the past and existing laws of war, of conquerors in all ages and countries to appropriate to themselves the portable wealth of the conquered as far as practicable. This took place in these parts of India which were acquired by conquest. That is one channel and though this is a matter entirely of past history, the untold wealth which thus became Britain's has continued to fructify in British hands up to our own day. Another channel is that of commerce and manufacture. The bulk of the export and import trade in food-stuffs, raw materials and manufactures and of the manufacturing industries of India are in British hands. That means hundreds of millions every year for British pockets. The means of inland, river, canal, coasting and trans-oceanic transport are almost entirely in British hands. The highest and most lucrative public appointments are held by the British, and only a few of the next highest are held by Indians. With quite insignificant exceptions here and there, the British men who obtain wealth from India by public service and pensions, and by trade, manufacture and dividends, spend the bulk of their gains outside India.

Under all these circumstances, it is deep-dyed ingratitude to accuse India of niggardliness in her war contributions, as some Anglo-Indian papers and Mr. Abbot have done. If England is spending most, most of her wealth has been directly or indirectly derived from our shores. We, however, take no credit for making Great Britain rich. She has grown rich by means of her sons' manhood, enterprise, business capacity, patriotism and some other qualities of a different kind. It should also be remembered that if England spends most it is she who stands to gain or lose most by success or failure.

One more observation and we have done. It is a just principle that responsibilities should be proportionate to rights. It will be clear from what we have said above that India has done more for the Empire than any of the Colonies. But if she had done less, could anybody justly demand more from her? The Colonies are treated as partners in the Empire. They can treat Indians just as they like, an openly declared opposite Imperial policy notwithstanding.

ing. But while they are looked upon as partners, India has been hitherto looked upon as a property. The hope has been held out that after the war her position would improve. When she comes to have that promised higher status, it would be graceful to demand contributions from her equal to those of any other parts of the Empire, though the demand may betray shameful ignorance of contemporary and past history.

Indians in American Universities

Professor C. L. Cory of the California University addressed the Hindu students as follows on a recent occasion:

"It is not only a pleasure but exceedingly interesting and instructive for one like myself, experienced to some extent in engineering and its manifold uses and relations to the life of the people of America, to meet here with you this evening and learn at first hand of the problems to be given consideration so that a great people, the inhabitants of India, may be truly and permanently benefited.

"No industry in the world is of greater importance than agriculture; but to be successful in the largest degree, thoroughly organized methods, both scientific and practical, must be put into use. We in this country have surely been slow enough to appreciate this fact and the consequent loss to the country as a whole in the meantime has probably been so great as to be beyond even approximate estimation.

"But of late years great progress in this country in scientific and intensive farming, as well as in the manufacture of special agricultural implements, has been made with the result that not only are larger crops of better quality produced but many new lines of agricultural development hitherto unknown and undeveloped have been established.

"In India, with the industrious character of its people, the future opportunities in the development of agriculture are enormous and we may have some conception of the great and lasting good which it is hoped may be achieved by you when we consider the similarities between the geographical and topographical conditions in India as compared with the Pacific Coast of America.

"In India, as upon the western slope of this continent, broad fertile valleys of enormous extent, through which course great rivers from the mountains to the sea, are all subject to intensive cultivation by the adoption of modern methods of irrigation and soil fertilization. These valleys are surrounded to a large extent by many mountainous ranges, the tops of which are covered with perpetual snow, thereby producing a water supply to the valleys for irrigation unlimited in its extent and at such an elevation that for the most part irrigation may be carried out by what are known as gravity systems.

"You men, who have come among us from your native land to perfect yourselves in the work to be done, are most welcome in our American universities. No higher patriotism is conceivable than yours. The work to be done is of enormous extent. The difficulties are many. The glorious end to be attained, however, is commensurate with the endeavour necessary. Results cannot be expected immediately but will surely come in the future.

"To prepare yourselves thoroughly in the study of engineering, as well as agriculture, is not only proper in principle but in method, and should equip you with the additional practical experience that is possible, most thoroughly to undertake the work which you will be called upon to do upon your return to India.

"From our standpoint it will not be difficult to adapt and modify our general engineering and agriculture courses to your needs. To have a part in assisting

you in your well-planned and unselfish work can not but be an inspiration for us of the University of California, and it is certain that the work of the next few years will be in many ways as great an advantage to us as it will be to you." (Specially reported for the *Modern Review*).

Indian Passengers' Difficulties

We have been furnished by Mr. Osman Hajee Abdool Latif, of Johannesburg, with copies of letters sent by him to the Railway Administration regarding overcrowding of and lack of accommodation for Indian first-class passengers on the Transvaal railways. Thirteen Indians with first-class tickets applied to the conductor for seats in a train going from Johannesburg to Germiston. One "reserved" compartment, seating eight passengers, was given them with the remark that there was no more accommodation. Consequently five of the passengers had to occupy a second class compartment although they paid for first-class tickets. The same thing happened on the return journey. In one second-class compartment there were as many as thirteen passengers crowded. It was noticed that there were several first-class compartments empty, but, as these were not marked "reserved," the conductor refused to allow the Indian passengers to occupy them. A further complaint is made that an Indian second-class passenger travelling from Potchefstroom was forced to travel in a third-class compartment.

Another complaint has regard to the supply of refreshments to passengers. It appears that seven Indian passengers were travelling from Johannesburg to Pretoria by the early morning train. Feeling like taking some refreshments, the bell was rung, but the attendant did not appear. One of the passengers then went towards the dining saloon and ordered seven cups of tea. The attendant took the order but never brought the tea.

The Chief Traffic Superintendent and the General Manager respectively are asked to inquire into these matters.

News in Brief

Mr. Polak will attend at 110 Field Street, on Saturday evening, from five o'clock, to meet those who desire to see him.

A gang of natives visited the vicinity of Bishopstowe on Saturday night (says the *Times of Natal*) and held up two Indian stores in a thorough fashion. They ransacked the premises and got away with a considerable amount of booty, after badly assaulting one of the Indians.

Such a robbery as the above would probably not have been carried out against European storekeepers for the simple reason that every European living in a country district is well-supplied with firearms whereas Indians, except in rare cases, are not allowed to possess any means of self defence.

We cannot love the unlovable but we can wish them to become lovable, and mentally urge them to be so, instead of hating them for their repellent qualities.—
ELLA WHEELER WILCOX.