

# Indian Opinion

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## NOTES AND NEWS

**T**HE Hostel for Indian students from up-country was opened on Wednesday last the 1st September. It is a new house situated on Umgeni Road which has been taken for this purpose. Miss West has undertaken the duties of Matron to the Hostel which has now about 11 students in residence.

The Committee is grateful to a number of friends who have kindly contributed towards the initial expenses of the institution which it is hoped will serve as a home in Durban for students who are attending the Matriculation classes at the Carlisle Street School.

Much of the success of the Hostel will depend upon the conduct of the boys.

Reuter in a cable dated 26th August states that owing to the activities of the Khilafat Committee in urging Moslems to emigrate to Afghanistan on the ground that it is a Moslem-ruled country, thousands of Moslems are endeavouring to enter Afghanistan. The Ameer recently forbade 7,000 pilgrims to enter Afghanistan, but they proceeded on their way, overcoming all efforts to detain them. Two thousand Maharajin pilgrims have now returned to Peshawar from Kabul full of tales of the hardships endured. They were robbed on the road, there were no shelters on the journey, and heavy prices were demanded for food and water. A number of deaths occurred from sunstroke, and exhaustion, and about 400 pilgrims were arrested as spies at Kabul. The Afghans attempted to bar the progress of the returning pilgrims, and killed several, whilst a poll tax of four rupees was levied on the return journey.

These facts are having a marked effect in India, where pilgrimage is practically at a standstill.

The Stallholders and Squatters in the Indian Municipal Market closed their places of business for the day on Monday last in protest against the passing of the Durban Corporation Extended Powers Ordinance which empowers *inter alia* the imposition of a licence on the businesses in the Market.

The Indian community of Newcastle at a Memorial Meeting on the death of the late Mr. B. G. Tilak passed resolutions of regret and condolence. A cable was sent to "Kesari" Poona. It was resolved to enlarge the portrait of the late Patriot and present it to the Newcastle School.

A number of Christian Missionaries now in India have written to the Press protesting against the horrible crimes committed under the name of law and justice in the Punjab. They say:—"As Englishmen, we regard 'Prussianism' wherever practised, as damnable and futile; for no empire can be securely built on a foundation of terrorism and hate. As Christians, we hold that condonation of such methods would involve the repudiation of the teaching and example of Christ and the rejection of those Christian principles of co-operation and friendship without which there can be no true progress for the peoples of the world."

The Durban Indian Sportsmen are much disturbed at the attempt of European Sportsmen to deprive them of the playing grounds which have been in their use and occupation for over 30 years.

The special sessions of the Indian National Congress meets at Calcutta from 4th to 7th inst. Mr. Lala Lajpat Rai is the President-elect.

The day of Bakri Eid was notable for the formation in Durban of a local Khilafat Committee.

Mr. Geo. Lansbury, editor of the *Daily Herald*, who recently visited Russia, says that under Lunacharsky's rule it has established 62,238 first-grade schools and 3,780 higher ones, distributed 7,800,000 primers and school books among the scholars; and provided them with 9,450,000 pairs of boots and 2,458,000 suits of clothes. That is rather a splendid feat of Bolshevik production; and there are others. It has taught 65 per cent of the Red Army to read, as against 15 per cent. of literates in the hosts of Czarism. And its ideal, which it may quite possibly realise, is a *universal popular culture*, including free travel and a free choice at the close of the school period, and subject to the teacher's discretion, between a university course and industrial life.

## THE TRANSVAAL BRITISH INDIAN ASSOCIATION

**I**N our last issue we had the pleasure of publishing a report of the activities of the Transvaal British Indian Association for the past three years. We wish that it had not been so brief for it barely reflects the work of the Association. It makes no mention of the 2nd South African Indian National Conference that was held in Johannesburg in August of last year—a Conference that was thoroughly representative of South African Indians interests—and it makes no mention also of the work that fell to it in the presentation of the Transvaal Indian Case on the land and trading questions before the Asiatic Inquiry Commission. We can give other instances of its activities:

But we would remark that it would be helpful to the public were a succinct statement made by the Association so that it may be known in what respects in the Transvaal during the period under review the rights of Indians have been taken away—in whole or in part, what further disabilities have been imposed upon them, what rights or privileges have been extended to them, and so on.

The Association has done much in the past and we are not sure that it has not yet more to do to win recognition in the Union of South Africa for the Indian community.

## SPEECH BY THE VICEROY

## SOUTH AND EAST AFRICAN QUESTIONS

Simla, August 22.—In opening the autumn session of the Legislative Council the Viceroy made an important speech. He extended a hearty welcome to the Duke of Connaught on his forthcoming visit and expressed the hope that the Prince of Wales would be restored to full vigour for a visit next year.

After dealing with domestic problems the Viceroy referred to the question of immigration and status of Indians in the self-governing colonies and dominions which had been engaging his earnest attention. His Excellency pointed out that the position generally accepted at the Imperial War Conference and embodied in the "reciprocity resolution" was that while each country, including India, must retain the right of deciding itself what class of permanent immigrants it would admit, facilities should be given for the admission of the wives of persons already domiciled in a country, and tourists, students, business men, and other temporary visitors. Negotiations on these points had been proceeding with the different self-governing Dominions, and many outstanding points had been settled in a satisfactory manner.

Proceeding, the Viceroy said, "Where, however, the question of status becomes acute is in countries in which already there are large bodies of resident Indians, as in South Africa.

The Asiatic Inquiry Commission has now been sitting for several months, but I do not anticipate that its report will be published before the end of the year. But the Indian case has been effectively placed before the Commission by Sir Benjamin Robertson, and I, therefore, think I am entitled to say that Indians in South Africa have nothing to fear and everything to gain from this impartial investigation of what is often called the South African Indian menace.

I feel sure that much of the feeling unfortunately displayed against Indians in South Africa is due to the fear which has been sedulously fostered by propagandists, that the white population of South Africa generally, and the Transvaal in particular, is in danger of being swamped by the Indians. Nothing but good can come from an inquiry in which those responsible for exaggerated statements such as the one above, are compelled to substantiate them publicly, and likewise submit to cross-examination. There is every reason to believe that the Commission will address themselves to this point to which Sir Benjamin Robertson attaches much importance. I anticipate that the Commission's report will show up how unfounded these fears are. Once the true facts are known I hope and believe the agitation will finish and the way be paved for a peaceful statesmanlike solution of the Indian problem in South Africa."

The Indian Government, proceeded his Excellency, had not been consulted regarding the scheme for assisted voluntary repatriation in South Africa. The Government did not regard the scheme as being in any sense a solution of the Indian problem in South Africa, and had cabled for assurances that it was a purely voluntary scheme; also that Indians would not be pressed to accept repatriation.

Alluding to the vexed question of the position of Indians in East Africa, the Viceroy declared that great anxiety had been caused in India by the brief summary of a speech by the Governor of Kenya indicating that the decision of his Majesty's Government had gone against India on some points to which India attached most importance. He regretted that a telegram from Mr. Montagu confirmed the report of this speech. He had informed the Council that he adopted the attitude that there was no justification in a Crown Colony or Protectorate for assigning a status in any way inferior to that of any other class of His Majesty's subjects to British Indians. The Indian Government urged that Kenya Colony's franchise should be a common franchise with

reasonable discrimination. If the Imperial Government's decision was unfavourable it would be a matter for serious consideration what action the Indian Government must take in order to secure the legitimate rights of Indians in Crown Colonies.

Fiji and British New Guinea had consented to give certain guarantees regarding the position of emigrants to those colonies. Deputations would, therefore, be sent to both colonies as soon as the personnel was satisfactorily arranged.

The Government had advanced a strong claim for India's inclusion among the eight leading industrial countries of the world, whilst the Council had impressed the necessity for reducing strikes and lockouts to a minimum. It was essential that machinery be devised to re-establish under modern conditions personal contact and good understanding, and he was gratified that the idea of committees was commending itself to leading employers in India.

Regarding the position of the North-West Frontier, operations against the Mahsuds were practically closed, but, said his Excellency, their whole policy has been reviewed, and the Government has decided that continuous gratuitous provocations by Waziris and Mahsuds should no longer be tolerated. For that reason, with the approval of the Imperial Government, the Indian Government has decided that troops should remain in occupation of Central Waziristan.

Dealing with domestic affairs, the Viceroy said, he did not deny there were disquieting symptoms of uneasiness and unrest in India, but identical symptoms existed throughout the world as the aftermath of great upheaval. India was returning to normal conditions at a pace greatly in advance of the rest of the world as regards prices, financial problems and industrial development. In spite of political bitterness India had inaugurated within a year of the signing of the armistice a reformed constitution which gave great scope of personal activities and introduced Indians to a progressive measure of real co-operation and responsibility.—Reuter.

## INDIA AND AFRICA

The *Natal Mercury* writes editorially:—

The problem of the immigration and status of Indian subjects of his Majesty the King in the self-governing Dominions and the African Crown Colonies is one of the most difficult and delicate problems arising in connection with the internal relations of the Empire. It is impossible to conceive that its solution will be brought any nearer or made any easier by the speech reported in which the Viceroy took up a political attitude. The speech was no doubt made primarily to an Indian audience, and it was perfectly legitimate and correct for the Viceroy to give the Indian public through the Legislative Council a fresh assurance that the Indian case had been effectively placed before the Union Asiatic Inquiry Commission by Sir Benjamin Robertson. But he came very near to the border-line when he expressed the view that "Indians in Africa have nothing to fear and everything to gain from the impartial investigation of what is often called the South African Indian menace." The sentiment is correct enough; no one who is convinced that he has a good case need ever fear an "impartial investigation," but the phrasing was not happy and conveys an implication of pre-judging the case. And the border-line was definitely crossed when Lord Chelmsford went on to express his opinion of the anti-Asiatic agitation. We all know in this country that a proportion of the feeling displayed against Indians in South Africa is due to the sedulous propaganda of agitators, honest and otherwise; but to determine whether this proportion is "much" as Lord Chelmsford declares, or little, whether the anti-Asiatic agitation is mainly artificial or is a genuine movement of the South African people inspired by

the instinct of self-defence, lies in the first place with the Asiatic Inquiry Commission and ultimately with the Union Government and Parliament. Even those South Africans who agree with Lord Chelmsford's estimate must recognise that his statement was wholly out of place in a speech by the representative of the Sovereign in India. We cannot see that any good purpose would be served by burking the fact that Lord Chelmsford has been guilty of a grave abuse of his position.

The passage which follows is still more political in tone, though his Excellency did not take upon himself, but threw upon "the Indian Government," the responsibility for questioning the Union Government's scheme of voluntary repatriation. The Indian Government, he said, had not been consulted regarding the scheme. Possibly that is true; but why should it be necessary for the Union Government to consult the Indian Government regarding a scheme that was essentially voluntary? If a much over-burdened Government in this country had thought to inform the Indian Government of its intention to offer encouragement to Indians to go back to their own country it would have been an act of courtesy to do so; but there was not even an obligation of courtesy. And, even though he did not accept personal responsibility, we do not think that the Viceroy should have permitted himself even to refer without deprecation to doubts entertained by "the Indian Government" regarding the good faith of the Union authorities. Such doubts were obviously implied in the request of assurances that the repatriation scheme was purely voluntary and that Indians would not be pressed to accept repatriation. Lord Chelmsford and Mr. Montagu have been, in the view of many responsible people, playing into the hands of the enemies of the Empire in India. They might at least refrain from making things easy for the enemies of the Empire in South Africa.

The Viceroy was guilty of another flagrant indiscretion in giving expression to his personal opinions regarding the policy of the Government of Kenya Colony. In this question the Union is not so directly concerned; but it cannot be wholly indifferent to population developments in Kenya Colony or any other neighbouring British territory. Already there is some talk of a great confederation of British States in the distant future which will embrace both the Union and Kenya Colony. If the possibility is considered too far off to be worth reckoning with there remains the unquestionable fact that, as means of communication extend and the intervening countries are increasingly developed there will be much commercial, social and even political communication between the Union and the British territories to the north, at least as far as Kenya Colony. For that reason we are entitled to protest against the adoption by the titular representative of the Crown in India of a political attitude in regard to the policy of the Crown Colony Government. Lord Chelmsford admitted, indeed appeared to take pride in fact, that he had informed the Council "that he adopted the attitude that there was no justification in a Crown Colony of Protectorate for assigning a status in any way inferior to that of any other class of His Majesty's subjects to British Indians." Without discussing the *pros* and *cons* for this idea, it may be pointed out that it is essentially a political view; and as it concerns not only the claims of Indians but also the rights indeed, the very constitution, of the Crown Colony in question it is certainly a matter in which the Viceroy, as the representative of the Crown, should have maintained strict neutrality. We do not know what Lord Chelmsford meant when he said that if the Imperial Government's decision was unfavourable it would be a matter for serious consideration what action the Indian Government might take in order to secure the legitimate rights of Indians in Crown Colonies; but we are quite sure that whatever he meant it was a

thing that he had no business to say. The Government of this country and the people at large, whatever may be the attitude of a comparatively small number, are willing to take into consideration the difficulties of the Imperial Government in India. Indeed, General Sainis and his great predecessor and their colleagues have given us more unimpeachable evidence of their loyalty to the Empire than is their manifest desire to find a solution of the Asiatic question which would be acceptable to reasonable opinion in India. British statesmen therefore undertake a very grave responsibility when they transgress the legitimate limits of their offices in a manner which can only exacerbate South African feeling and place fresh obstacles in the way of a good understanding.

### MR. KASTURIRANGA IYENGER ON PRINCE OF WALES' VISIT

Mr. S. Kasturiranga Iyengar has sent the following letter to His Excellency Lord Willingdon as President of the Prince of Wales Entertainment Committee, Madras.

Your Excellency,—I beg to resign my membership of the Prince of Wales Entertainment Committee (of the General Committee as well as of the Executive Committee) and I feel that I should not continue to be member of the same and take part in the arrangements relating to the reception of his Royal Highness after the manner in which the House of Lords have adopted Lord Finlay's motion in the matter of the Punjab massacres and after the expression of similar opinion on the subject by a vast majority of Englishmen and English women residing in this country.

I entirely disagree with Mr. Montagu in his view that Mr. Gandhi's proposal not to take part in the reception of the Prince of Wales is a disloyal one and I feel that the strictures made on Mr. Gandhi by Mr. Montagu and Lord Sinha in the House of Commons and the House of Lords, respectively wholly unwarranted and undesired and ought not to have been made.

### NON-CO-OPERATION

#### MR. MONTAGU AND MR. GANDHI

Mr. Gandhi writes in *Young India* :—

Mr. Montagu does not like the Khilafat agitation that is daily gathering force. In answer to questions put in the House of Commons, he is reported to have said that whilst he acknowledged that I had rendered distinguished services to the country in the past, he could not look upon my present attitude with equanimity and that it was not to be expected that I could now be treated as leniently as I was during the Rowlett Act agitation. He added that he had every confidence in the central and the local Governments; that they were carefully watching the movement and that they had full power to deal with the situation.

This statement of Mr. Montagu has been regarded in some quarters as a threat. It has even been considered to be a blank cheque for the Government of India to re-establish the reign of terror if they chose. It is certainly inconsistent with his desire to base the government on the good will of the people. At the same time if the Hunter Committee's finding be true and if I was the cause of the disturbances last year, I was undoubtedly treated with exceptional leniency. I admit too that my activity this year is fraught with greater peril to the Empire as it is being conducted to-day than was last year's activity. Non-co-operation in itself is more harmless than civil disobedience; but in its effect it is far more dangerous for the Government than civil disobedience. Non-co-operation is intended so far to paralyse the Government, as to compel justice from it. If it is carried to the extreme point, it can bring the Government to a standstill.

A friend who has been listening to my speeches once asked me whether I did not come under the sedition section of the Indian Penal Code. Though I had not fully considered it, I told him that very probably I did and that I could not plead 'not guilty' if I was charged under it. For I must admit that I can pretend to no 'affection' for the present Government. And my speeches are intended to create 'disaffection' such that the people might consider it a shame to assist or co-operate with a Government that had forfeited all title to confidence, respect or support.

I draw no distinction between the Imperial and the Indian Government. The latter has accepted, on the Khilafat, the policy imposed upon it by the former. And in the Punjab case the former has endorsed the policy of terrorism and emasculation of a brave people initiated by the latter. British ministers have broken their pledged word and wantonly wounded the feelings of the seventy million Mussalmans of India. Innocent men and women were insulted by the insolent officers of the Punjab Government. Their wrongs not only remain unrighted, but the very officers who so cruelly subjected them to barbarous humiliation retain office under the Government.

When at Amritsar last year I pleaded with all the earnestness I could command for co-operation with the Government and for response to the wishes expressed in the Royal Proclamation, I did so because I honestly believed that a new era was about to begin, and that the old spirit of fear, distrust and consequent terrorism was about to give place to the new spirit of respect, trust and goodwill. I sincerely believed that the Mussalman sentiment would be placated and that the officers that had misbehaved during the Martial Law regime in the Punjab would be at least dismissed and the people would be otherwise made to feel that a Government that had always been found quick (and rightly) to punish popular excesses would not fail to punish its agents' misdeeds. But to my amazement and dismay I have discovered that the present representatives of the Empire have become dishonest and unscrupulous. They have no real regard for the wishes of the people of India and they count Indian honour as of little consequence.

I can no longer retain affection for a Government so evilly manned as it is now-a-days. And for me, it is humiliating to retain my freedom and be witness to the continuing wrong. Mr. Montagu however is certainly right in threatening me with deprivation of my liberty if I persist in endangering the existence of the Government for that must be the result if my activity bears fruit. My only regret is that inasmuch as Mr. Montagu admits my past services, he might have perceived that there must be something exceptionally bad in the Government if a wellwisher like me could no longer give his affection to it. It was simpler to insist on justice being done to the Mussalmans and to the Punjab than to threaten me with punishment so that the injustice might be perpetuated. Indeed I fully expect it will be found that even in promoting disaffection towards an unjust Government I had rendered greater services to the Empire than I am already credited with.

At the present moment, however, the duty of those who approve of my activity is clear. They ought on no account to resent the deprivation of my liberty, should the Government of India deem it to be their duty to take it away. A citizen has no right to resist such restriction imposed in accordance with the laws of the State to which he belongs. Much less have those who sympathise with him. In my case there can be no question of sympathy. I deliberately oppose the Government to the extent of trying to put its very existence in jeopardy. For my supporters, therefore, it must be a moment of joy when I am imprisoned. It means the beginning of success if only the supporters continue the policy for which I stand. If the Government arrest me, they would do so in order to stop the progress of non-co-operation which I

preach. It follows that if non-co-operation continues with unabated vigour, even after my arrest, the Government must imprison others or grant the people's wish in order to gain their co-operation. Any eruption of violence on the part of the people even under provocation would end in disaster. Whether therefore it is I or any one else who is arrested during the campaign, the first condition of success is that there must be no resentment shown against it. We cannot imperil the very existence of a Government and quarrel with its attempt to save itself by punishing those who place it in danger.

## PUNJAB TRAGEDY

### PARLIAMENT'S FAILURE

The following telegram has been forwarded by the Council of the Bombay Presidency Association to the Prime Minister and Secretary of State for India:—

"The Council of the Bombay Presidency Association while appreciating the clear enunciation of the principles on which all civilised Government rests and the attitude of the Imperial Government during the recent debates in connection with the Dyer incident deplores the unashamed condonation by the Lords of the brutal outrages perpetrated by him and the action of the minority in the Commons in trampling upon all considerations of justice and humanity."

"The Council further deplores the utter failure of both the Houses of Parliament to consider the entire situation both before and after the proclamation of Martial Law in the Punjab and to pronounce an emphatic condemnation of the outrages which disfigured it, and in particular, of the action of the Government of India and Sir Michael O'Dwyer."

"This failure has disastrously affected public feeling in this country and has greatly prejudiced harmonious relations between Britain and India; and the Council submits that unless Indian demands on the Punjab question are satisfactorily met the orderly progress of constitutional Government in this country will be seriously imperilled."

### INDIAN ASSOCIATION'S PROTEST

The President of the Indian Association, Calcutta, has sent the following telegram to the Private Secretary to the Viceroy:—

"The Indian Association express emphatic condemnation of the resolution passed by the House of Lords regarding the conduct of General Dyer in the Punjab. It is their firm conviction that the decision of the House of Lords, on this important question is subversive of the principles of justice and humanity professed by the British people."

### POET TAGORE SPEAKS OUT

The *Hindu* publishes the following message from its London correspondent:—

On the afternoon following the close of the Dyer Debate in the Lords, I asked Dr. Rabindranath Tagore what he thought of the situation.

Speaking with the deepest emotion, he said that he thanked the friends who braved the wrath of their countrymen and courted failure by chivalrously championing the cause of an unfortunate country. But he felt grieved and insulted at the unashamed condonation of the brutal outrage by the very class from which our rulers were recruited.

"This makes us", he said, "realise the futility and humiliation of relying for every boon of any value from those who hold us in contempt. Only by removing the inner sources of weakness, organising our social, educational and economic life, can we rise out of our present position of degradation. Be prepared for many sacrifices to undergo suffering for common cause. Sink differences of all kinds, promote the spirit of concord and co-operation. The present shock of disillusionment, if accepted in the right spirit,

will prove a blessing in disguise and form the basis of the new era of the career of national self-respect, spiritual emancipation and material progress. Only by freeing ourselves from the spirit of dependence and mendicancy, casting out far and guarding ourselves against the wasteful distraction of impotent anger and vengeful resentment, can we rise to the true measure of greatness."

**EAST AFRICAN INDIANS**

**BOMBAY'S PROTEST**

Under the joint auspices of the Imperial Indian Citizenship Association, the Bombay Presidency Association, the Indian Merchants' Chamber and Bureau, the Indian Home Rule League, the All-India Home Rule League, the National Home Rule League, the Bombay National Union, and the Bombay Provincial Congress Committee, a public meeting of the citizens of Bombay was held at the Excelsior Theatre, Bombay, to consider the Indian situation in East Africa and Fiji. Sir Narayan Chandavarkar presided and there was a very large attendance.

The following resolution was adopted unanimously:—

(a) "That this meeting views with alarm and grave apprehensions the growing agitation in the East African Protectorate against the British Indian settlers residing in that Protectorate and hopes that, in view especially of the fact that the Imperial Government has direct control over the Protectorate and that the Indians emigrated to East Africa before the European advent, the Government of India will guard the Indians against any encroachment upon their rights whether by legislative or administrative measures and that the Government will secure complete equality of status for them by requiring the Protectorate to remove all legal and administrative inequality at present existing.

(b) "This meeting emphatically protests against the undesirable authority placed in the hands of the administrator of the occupied territory of German East Africa, now known as the Tanganyika territory empowering him to deport persons without trial, being power virtually aimed against Indians; and views with great concern the other grievances of Indians resident therein, such as want of Police protection, artificial financial disabilities due to the invalidity of pre-war interim German currency Notes, the exchange of imbroglia, travelling restrictions, and the like. In the opinion of this meeting the disabilities make the position of British Indian Settlers worse than during the German regime, and this meeting trusts that the Government of India will secure early relief of the Indian situation from the grievances complained of."

(We intend publishing Mr. Andrews speech in our next issue.)

**REPATRIATION SCHEME**

Mr. Gandhi writes in *Young India*:—

There is something uncanny about the repatriation scheme of South Africa. I had never dreamt that the interim report had the slightest connection with the Indians Relief Act of 1914. I have now read the full text of that Act and had a discussion with Mr. Andrews also. Till the latter drew my attention to the fact, I had even forgotten, that there was a section in the Act itself regarding the granting of free passages against forfeiture of domicile. The Government communique confirms Mr. Andrews' information. What puzzles me is the fact that it has been found at all necessary to have an interim report in order to enforce the free passage section of the Relief Act. That section takes the place of the several sections of different Acts of the Natal legislation repealed by the Act. These sections provided for the grant of free passage to those who

were under liability to pay the £3 tax, if the latter wanted to escape the payment of the tax or re-indenture. The section in question though designed to affect these people was made generally applicable. But the debate in the Assembly made perfectly clear the scope of the section. The contention at the time was that those who paid the £3 tax really did not become domiciled, and if after they ceased to pay the tax, they wanted to take advantage of the free passage section, they should forfeit the right of domicile which was at that time considered to be an equitable settlement of the very hotly debated question of the removal of a tax which had been in vogue for nearly twenty years. The interim report somewhat alters the scope of the section, but I am personally not afraid because the section requires a written application for a free passage which is a difficult thing to obtain from any Indian in Natal, and it can only happen in the case of those indentured Indians who having become free are at the present moment unable to support themselves. Not many Indians are likely to take advantage of the section and forfeit their domicile; at the same time I cannot help feeling that an illegitimate use is being attempted to be made of the section that was designed not to meet cases of poverty but to meet cases of doubtful domicile i.e. cases in which it was open to the Anti-Asiatic party to argue that domicile had not been acquired. To-day six years after the repeal of the tax every Indian under liability to pay that tax has acquired statutory domicile. It is against my idea of right that a government should take advantage of distress of men and seek to deprive them of a precious right. It would be better not to issue the scheme under unequal conditions. However I derive satisfaction from the fact that inspite of the machinery that is being set up not many Indians would take the doubtful advantage of the scheme.

Mr. Rooknooden has left by the s.s. *Karagola* for India on a short visit. We wish him a pleasant time.

Last Wednesday at the new formed Indian Y.M.C.A. Mr. Burns gave a Magic Lantern exhibition of Indian scenes which was interesting. The Y.M.C.A. proposes to hold debates, musical evenings and other forms of education and entertainment every Wednesday.

જેલના કાબ્ય	૧	૬
કાયદા સામે યવાની દુરબ	૦	૬
સત્યાગ્રહ	૦	૬
સુધારાના ભાવાડા	૦	૬
જીવનદોરી	૧	૦
સર્વોદય	૧	૬
શરીર સંપત્તીનો વધારો અને તેની સંભાળ	૦	૬
મુરખરાજ અને તેના બે ભાઈઓ	૧	૦
એક સત્યવીરની કથા	૧	૦
નીતિના કાબ્ય	૦	૬
મુસ્તફા કામેલ પાશાનું જીવન ચરિત્ર	૦	૬
મુસ્તફા કામીલ પાશાનું ભાષણ	૧	૦
હોદ સ્વરાજ	૧	૩
માલુસ કેટલી જમીનનો માલિક હોઇ શકે	૦	૬
સલવીના ખીલું કયું નથી	૦	૬
બાળ અંગ્રાધર તીલકના મત અને વિચાર	૧	૦
પુરવ અને પશ્ચિમ	૦	૬
ભગવતગીતા અથવા દોરડસ સોમ	૧	૦
ગીરમીટના સવાલ ઉપરની ચર્ચા	૧	૧
દરખાન ચહેરનું વર્ણન	૦	૬

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