

Indian ^{Dr. M. M. M.} Opinion

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NOTES AND NEWS

THE Honourable, the Prime Minister, suggests that, as has been done in past years, the anniversary of Armistice Day should be suitably observed by having a silence of two minutes, commencing at 11 a. m. on Tuesday, Nov. 11.

A motion was recently passed at the Men's Nationalist Party Congress, held in Maritzburg, asking the Government to give immediate and earnest consideration to the Indian question as they were ousting whites socially and economically and asking that

- (a) Indians should be segregated;
- (b) That the issue of trading licences should be limited to areas set aside for Indians, that no new licences should be issued before the establishment of such areas, and that existing licences in white areas should not be transferable to Indians but shall expire at the death or insolvency of the Indian holder;
- (c) That the lease or purchase of land by Indians should be prohibited;
- (d) That Indians should not have the franchise in future;
- (e) That no Indian shall employ European women;
- (f) That no European firm shall employ Indian clerks or assistants;
- (g) That no Indian shall be allowed to have shares in any limited or unlimited business in a European area.

The Minister of Justice as a result of a protest or protests which have been lodged with him in connection with the growing practice of Indian clerks attending Courts for the purpose of filing processes against Europeans has naturally caused a considerable stir among the legal fraternity, and recently an inquiry into the whole matter was conducted at the Courts. The proceedings were not open to the Press.

The other day the Minister of Justice on behalf of the Prime Minister of the Union of South Africa opened and welcomed the delegates at the Native Conference held at Pretoria. He further announced that it was the intention of the Government to bring in legislation imposing a general Tax of £1 and a local tax of 10s on every male adults in the Union.

The Native Conference decided in favour of the reduction of the general tax in the proposed bill from £1 to 15s., and with regard to the local tax of 10s. the Conference agreed to this by 18 votes to 6, with the provision that there should be no local tax when a local council is not in a location or reserve.

The result of the general election in England indicates a complete defeat of the Labour Government. The Conservatives have gained such a majority that there might be staple Government for many years in England.

As we go to Press, the different parties stand as stated below. Conservatives 402, Labour 154; Liberal 47; and others 6. The Conservatives have gained 151 seats; Labour gained 21 seats and the Liberals have gained 9 seats; besides which the Conservatives have lost 6 seats; Labour has lost 63 seats and the Liberals have lost 112 seats.

Mr. H. H. Asquith, the leader of the Liberals has been defeated in a straight fight at Paisley, where Liberals held the seat safe for 92 years.

Parsee Saklatvala, has been elected for Battersea North.

The "Rand Daily Mail" understands that the Prince of Wales will come to South Africa in a cruiser, arriving about April 20.

What scant consideration Government gives to the resolution passed by the various Legislative Councils in India is once more illustrated by a reply given to the question of Dr. Gour in the Legislative Assembly. It was stated that "the Government of India had framed no rules under the Immigration into India Act of 1924 (otherwise called the Reciprocity Act) nor did Government consider it to be in the public interest to frame those rules at present." The old Assembly passed last year the Reciprocity Bill giving Government discretion to make rules to enforce the principle of reciprocity as a protest against the Cabinet's decision on the Kenya question. But now Government declines to do anything in the matter.

Can our progress go any further? says the *Praja Bandhu*. Our countrymen in Kenya are subjected to the most insulting treatment, and yet we cannot do unto them as they do unto us. We must patiently submit to whatever insults that are heaped upon us. If we ask Government to do anything by way of retaliation, it refuses to do so. What else can it say irresponsible as it is to us? It is sheer folly to ask it to do anything. We must do ourselves whatever we wish to do. But where is that strength and unity among us whereby we can make our efforts effective? While one Party goes in one direction, another goes in another direction. We must put a stop to this chaos, and evolve some order. It is this that Mahatma Gandhi has of late set his great energies to accomplish. We have no doubt that ere long his efforts will be crowned with success, and we shall be not only a united but liberated nation respected both at home and abroad.

Mahatma Gandhi under the caption "Loss of a Comrade", writes, in the *Young India* :—

We in India know nothing of our South African heroes. They are unknown to fame like

'Some village Hampden that with dauntless breast
The little tyrant of his fields withstood.'

I have just received a cable from Johannesburg

announcing the death of P. K. Naidu from pneumonia. He was one of the truest of Indians and the stoutest of hearts. He suffered the hardships of a prison-life many times. His wife followed suit. He was ready for all work. He got ready on an hour's notice to take charge of a party of deportees who were banished by General Smuts to India. He counted no cost too dear for the sake of his country's freedom. His death at the present moment, for our countrymen in South Africa, is a tremendous loss. He was capable single-handed of hurling defiance against the mighty South African Government. Indeed only a few weeks ago I had a letter from him describing his plan of campaign. Alas! cruel Nature had planned otherwise. Naidu is dead; his work will live for ever. Mr. P. K. Naidu was a fair English scholar. He knew Hindi, Telugu, French and Zulu. He was self-taught. He had a powerful build. He was no mean pugilist. But he had learnt the secret of non-violence. He was therefore able to control himself under the gravest provocation. He was a born toiler. He never refused any work. He was an expert barber and, because he would not become a clerk, he had chosen to be a barber and carried on a hair-cutting saloon. When, at Tolstoy Farm, we took to sandal making, he became a finished sandal-maker. He was a true soldier. He knew how to obey. I tender my humble condolences to Mrs. Naidu and our countrymen in South Africa.

Mr. William Cox at the National Party Congress addressed the women on the Asiatic question, prefacing his remarks by pointing out the growing danger of the Indian penetration as artisans, land-owners and agriculturists. If the Indians were allowed to get hold of the trade of the country, they would eventually rule the white people. He pointed out that 2,000 trading licences were issued to Asiatics in the Transvaal and 4,000 in Natal in 1919. In the printing trade Indians were ousting the Europeans, and Mr. Fahey had stated that there were more Indians in the printing trade in Durban than Europeans. Tailoring was also passing into their hands. Twenty years ago there were 240 European tailors in Durban, and to-day there were only 44. Indians were also employed on the coal mines and the railways in the small towns. The Indians had practically seized the trade, and he instanced Dannhauser and Stanger. Regarding the matter from a social aspect, Mr. Cox insisted that the Indians were becoming a moral danger. On the question of who was responsible for bringing the Indians to Natal, Mr. Cox pointed out the attitude of the Imperial Government, who forced the Indian labour on the Colony. He concluded with a strong appeal to the delegates to give their serious attention to this question and to show by their motion that they were in earnest about it.

We had never heard before that the Imperial Government had forced Indian labour in this Colony; we know as a matter of fact that Natal Government forced, begged and went on their knees before the Imperial and Indian Government for Indian labour or as they pointed out then that the country would go bankrupt if their wishes were not acceded to. We wonder where Mr. Cox got this incorrect information.

The sixth annual general meeting of the Durban Municipal Indian Employees' Union was held on Sunday at the municipal barracks, Depot Road. Mr. D. Satyadev presided over a large gathering of members. Members presented many grievances, including the quality of rice supplied, the withholding of firewood ration, sick pay, public holiday pay, etc.

Owing to the lateness of the meeting it was decided that the election of officials be held over to another meeting.

MR. KEMP'S BLUSTER

WE have very carefully watched the antics of Councillor Mr. Kemp in his endeavour to starve and oust out the Indians in this country. He has no compunction for the feeling of others so long as he is secured in his seat. To satisfy the voters he comes out with his bluster from time to time. He tries to hatch up some plan for the total annihilation of the Indians. He does not spare them but paints them as black as possible. He does all this to gain popularity or to remain in the good books of the voters. There is one consolation that he is not consistent and therefore he is not taken seriously by his voters and fellow-councillors. He preaches that the Indians should not remain in the Borough of Durban. They should not be allowed to own land or live as they are doing to-day huddled together in certain marked areas. He thereby shows the European community that he is their saviour. Let us go a little further and what do we see, a number of Councillors decide to purchase a block of land outside the Borough boundary to send the Indians gradually to settle there, our Mr. Kemp puts a spoke in their scheme; and hence forces the Indians to remain in the Borough. We ask is he consistent? On the one hand he advocates that the Indians must go; and on the other he obstructs his fellow-Councillors from purchasing land for an Indian village. We, of course do not agree with any of his plans which are not based on justice and equity to the other races; we merely point this out to show that how he blows hot and cold in the same breath. We leave it to the European community and his voters to decide whether or not this modern white champion is consistent? Let us closely examine his recent outburst on the Indian question. He, a Rhodes' disciple recently stated that the Indians employed by the Corporation are selling their rations which he considers they ought not to do, because the rations are given to them to eat and not to sell. We would ask Mr. Kemp whether he is serious or is it merely bluster to hoodwink the Europeans for the next big election. In the first place let Mr. Kemp find out what these poor Indians get in wages from the Corporation and whether it is sufficient for them to keep body and soul together. Next, whether they could possibly live up to the European standard on that wages? Then, do the Indians live on rice, dhol and meal-meal only? We are certain that no Indian could live solely on the rations supplied by the Corporation; they must have besides what they get such things as, chillies, tamarind, flour, ghee, spices (masalaas), and what about some vegetables? Is it any wonder that some of them sell their rations to buy some of the things we have mentioned above for a change. The ration is theirs like the wages they receive at the end of the month and what right has anybody to question them over the things that belong to them; if they do not give satisfaction in their work they would not remain in the employment. But then it is Kemp's bluster and by such means he keeps the pot

of the anti-Asiatic boiling. We published in our last issue the storm raised by this representative of Ward No. 1. We think comment is needless and that the other Councillors will not take Mr. Kemp seriously; this is one of his annual jokes at the expense of the unrepresented people of the Borough of Durban. We are a little surprised at our afternoon contemporary who gave such prominence to this question without endeavouring to get the Indian opinion also. We wonder what would be the next move of this leader of the party of three, in trying to wipe out the Indians his fellow subjects from eking out a living in this country by giving their valuable labour for the mere pittance they receive from such bosses as Councillor Kemp and others.

INDIAN SLUMS

CONDENSED BY HEALTH COMMITTEE

Members of the Public Health Committee have at last got right down to the work of personally inspecting the Durban houses alleged to be dirty, insanitary, overcrowded, and generally "unfit for human habitation."

The results of a first tour by this Committee, when six places in the Umgeni Road and Grey Street areas were inspected, reveal a deplorable picture of squalor, insanitation and other conditions well calculated to breed disease.

The dwellings visited are the "homes" of Indians and coloured people.

Upon what they saw at these places the ladies and gentlemen constituting the party—namely, the Mayor (Councillor Wadley) with Councillors Mrs. Knight, Mrs. Benson, Mrs. Siedle, Mrs. Fahey and H. H. Kemp—will probably base a strongly-worded report to the Council, with such recommendations as may seem to them practicable and proper.

NO "THROUGH" VENTILATION

To say that these human rabbit-warrens are an actual menace to the health of the borough is in no sense an exaggeration. It is plain fact. "Heaven help Durban," said one member of the visiting party, "if a serious epidemic got properly started here!"

The facts as to the first six cases investigated may be briefly summarised here. There will be many more places visited, of course, before the Public Health Committee collates a full report on the subject. Nos. 1 to 5 of the premises described hereunder are in the Umgeni Road area; No. 6 is a house in one of the streets leading off Grey Street. In fairness to surrounding properties it is not desirable to locate them more closely than that.

(I.) A building consisting of two shops with 12 bedrooms behind, surrounding a paved yard. There is accommodation for 11 Asiatic families totalling 35 persons—21 adults and 14 children. There is one dilapidated bathroom, and the four w.c.'s are of the Asiatic type. For these wretched rooms rents of 25s. and 30s. per month per room are exacted. The premises are condemned for general disrepair, overcrowding and absence of proper ventilation.

(II.) Two separate brick buildings on the one site, accommodating 24 persons, coloured and Asiatic, in six rooms. Several of the rooms are "back-to-back", the lighting and ventilation are insufficient; there is deplorable overcrowding.

MINGLING OF RACES

(III.) Here there is a double-storey house of six rooms, two of them vacant at present. In the other four are housed two European, one Indian and eight coloured persons. The rooms are inter-communicable, but several of the doorways have been permanently closed for privacy's sake, owing to

occupation by different families. Two of the rooms, one of which is occupied by Europeans, have no windows whatever, a little light and air (of a sort) being derived from fanlights. Several of the rooms are verminous, and there is general dampness owing to a leaking roof.

(IV.) A four-roomed house inhabited, as to three of its rooms, by seven Asiatics, the remaining room being vacant. There is no through ventilation; water is only obtainable from a tap in the yard. A monthly rental of £5 15s. is obtained for a building valued in the municipal roll at £480.

(V.) Here, in a five-roomed wood and iron dwelling, four Asiatic families consisting of 17 persons (11 of them adults) are huddled together. The roof is leaky, the floors are dry-rotted and decayed, several windows are broken and in some cases boarded up, and the one lavatory used in common by all the tenants is 46 feet distant from the house.

(VI.) A wood and iron shack of two rooms; in which six adult Indians are living. A flagrant case of defective lighting and ventilation, lack of proper drainage, and overcrowding.

RAPACIOUS INDIAN LANDLORDS

Not the least serious of the revelations in the reports drafted by the Health Committee is the gross and unconscionable rack-renting by Indian proprietors. Rentals of £1 to £1 10s. per month are being extorted from Indians of the coolie class and others for accommodation, not merely unfit for human habitation, but actually dangerous to health. The average Indian, who has little notion of cleanly living, and has no great use for currents of fresh air, needs not only to be saved from himself but from his rapacious compatriots, the small Indian property-owners of Durban.—*Natal Advertiser*:

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The Indian population of the Union of South Africa is roughly 163,000 divided as follows:—

1. Cape Province	6,500
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Total ... 163,250

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TRANSVAAL

Law 3 of 1885.—This is an old Republican law which deprives the Indians of the right of ownership of landed properties in the Transval. It limits residence to particular wards, streets and locations that may be appointed by the Government. It was never enforced, but the Government intended enforcing it under the "Class Areas Bill".

Ordinance 17 of 1905.—This Ordinance empowers the Municipal Councils to establish locations and to frame regulations for the management of same. It is often too zealously interpreted. Indians are subjected to great humiliation and hardships thereunder.

Act 27 of 1907.—This Act deprived all Indians and coloured people from residing and trading in the European Vrededorp.

Act 36 of 1908.—This Act regulates the entry and residence of Asiatics into the Transvaal and also the issue of trading licences. No Asiatic, unless he produces a registration certificate duly issued to him, can obtain a licence. Those who hold exemption certificates are not entitled to trading licences. (The Asiatic Amendment Registration Act).

Act 34 of 1908.—(The Townships Amendment Act). This Act provides for the insertion of restrictive clauses in all deeds of grant of leasehold properties in private and Government townships and causes no little hardship.

Act 35 of 1908.—(The Gold Law). This law restricts Indian from trading and residing on all mining grounds.

Act 13 of 1910.—This law empowers the Receivers of Revenue and Licensing Officers to refuse to issue trading licences to all coloured persons even in locations specially laid out for them.

Ordinance 9 of 1912.—This Ordinance vests unlimited powers in Municipal Councils with regard to Municipal licences. Indians have suffered heavily under this Ordinance.

Act 37 of 1919.—This Act deprived the Indians in the Transvaal of the right of acquiring fixed properties through private limited liability companies and European trustees.

UNION

Act 22 of 1913.—This is the Immigrants Regulation Act of the Union. It is harshly applied to Indians in particular. It restricts inter-provincial movements. Where an Indian has dual domicile *i.e.* rights in any two Provinces excepting O.F.S., he can exercise it but not his children.

ORANGE FREE STATE

In the Free State the Indians have no rights at all. They can live there as domestic servants *only* and that on sufferance.

The "Class Areas Bill" intended to deprive the Indians of even of that little in the Transvaal, and make their position impossible.

"Many politicians of our time are in the habit of laying it down as a self-evident proposition that no people ought to be free till they are fit to use their freedom. The maxim is worthy of the fool in the old story, who resolved not to go into the water till he had learnt to swim. If men are to wait for liberty till they become wise and good in slavery, they may indeed wait for ever."

—LORD MACAULAY.

ASIATICS IN THE MERCHANTS CONGRESS

Mr. Perry (Benoni) moved drawing attention to the Asiatic menace, and recommending:—

(a) That legislation be introduced forth-with to prevent Asiatics from transferring their licences and that such licences as are at present held by Asiatics lapse in the case of their removal or death of the licensee;

(b) That the granting of trading licences to Asiatics be left entirely to the discretion of the local authority;

(c) That no further trading licences shall be issued to Asiatics except for such areas as are set aside for Asiatics trading centres.

Mr. Cooper Krugersdorp) said that the population of Indians was as follows:—

Natal, 140,871; Transvaal, 14,867; Cape, 7,726; and the Free State, 220. Those figures showed an increase in the Transvaal since 1911 of 21 per cent. Ten years ago the Indian population of the Province was 11,075. During the same period the whole increase in the Transvaal was 29 per cent.

On the suggestion of Mr. Dunkerton, the mere fact of removal of address was deleted from the proposition as a reason for the lapse of a licence.

Mr. Gundelfinger said that if the Indians knew that their licences would lapse on death they would arrange to live for ever by floating their business into a company.

Mr. Mushet proposed as an amendment: "This Congress is of opinion that with a view to terminating the encroachment of Asiatic trading the Government should immediately introduce legislation on the lines of the Asiatic Enquiry Commission's report of 1921." This was rejected and the motion was agreed to.

BRITAIN AND INDIA

1914-1924

Mr. Barjorji Framji Bharucha, writing in the *Bombay Chronicle* states:—

London papers are giving illustrations of the scenes that took place in that city on 4th August, 1914 and 4th August, 1924—the former was the day that Britain declared war on Germany; the latter is the day when the German delegation arrived in London for the Allied Conference! During this interval of ten years, how was Britain disposed to Germany?

(1) Between 1914 and 1917 Germany was dreaded and despised!

(2) In 1918 she was hated, foiled and humiliated!

(3) From 1919 to 1923 she was dispossessed of her colonies and left in partial subjection and isolation!

(4) To-day, she is admitted in the Allied Conference and is recognised as an equal in the comity of Nations!

From Germany, please return to India, and see how Britain, her perpetual trustee, has treated her ward!

(1) Between 1914 and 1917 India was trusted and admired and her loyalty and devotion were eulogised!

(2) In 1918 a pressing call was made by Britain's Premier for India's manhood and money, munitions and materials and India gallantly and generously responded! Visions of freedom and equality, of faith and fraternity were raised before India by British propagandists!

(3) But lo! From 1919 began the policy of suppression, repression and exploitation, which was manifested in the Rowlatt Act, the Jallianwalla Bag Massacre, the Reverse Councils, etc.! A Reformed Constitution was given in 1920, which has proved to be such a mockery, that every Minister, that has held office under it, denounces it and de-

mands the abolition of dyarchy and responsibility in the Central Government. The bureaucracy in India sent to jail over 60,000 patriotic Indians in 1919-23 and has treated them or less as criminals! It has deported and interned people without trial! It has treated the Akalis ruthlessly and even inhumanely!

(4) And to-day, there is more autocracy, more taxation, more exploitation, more repression in India than there was before the War! Visions of freedom and equality coming from the British have vanished; and a wave of self-help, self-suffering and self-sacrifice is sweeping over the country, determined to sweep off this crushing, killing domination. How strange that Britain that has to acknowledge the Freedom of Ireland and Egypt—hostile to the British during the War is now denying to India—her right-hand helper during the war—the right of self-determination, which was promised to her so often! Is this equity? Is this sanity? Is this humanity? No, certainly not.

Sir, Empires are not eternal institutions. We have seen how before our very eyes, Russia and Germany, Austria and Turkey have crumbled between 1914 and 1919! Is British statesmanship so bankrupt, that it cannot perceive the dark clouds that are thickening in India? May Britain realize in time and avoid bitterness and violence! Amen!

Meanwhile, let Indians carry on the struggle of non-violent non-co-operation under the banner of our Guru Mahatma Gandhi, unceasingly and unfalteringly.

INSULT TO INDIAN WOMANHOOD

MORE LYTTON-TAGORE CORRESPONDENCE

The following further correspondence has passed between Dr. Rabindra Nath Tagore and His Excellency Lord Lytton. The poet wrote on the 31st August:

Your Excellency,

I hope you will read the following letter in the spirit in which it is written, for it is not meant in any way to embarrass you, but to help you in clearing the atmosphere of misunderstanding, which has not yet been dispelled even from the minds of those who wish to be generous and just. I do not think that the correspondence can remain as it stands now without giving a false impression with regard to the whole position. It also appears to me impossible to ignore the claim of the public which demands that further points should be cleared up. For these reasons, I hope you will see the necessity of this second letter of mine being sent to the press, along with any reply which you may choose to give.

It did not need any long explanation to convince fair-minded persons that it was impossible for you to impute to the generality of Indian men and women laxity in truth and chastity. But what became hurtful to the cause of justice was the time and the occasion of the utterance of your opinion about the unscrupulous methods of a certain group of politicians in their effort to bring the police into trouble. Even though such incidents are rare, as Your Excellency admits, yet to give such prominence to any generalization based upon them, just at a time when the Chairmanar case was greatly disturbing the public mind, could not but lead our people to apply your remarks to that case. In consequence a considerable number of my countrymen; who are honestly hurt at such an untimely expression of faith in the police department and sympathy with its individual members, are ready to challenge your Government to produce trustworthy evidence in support of your statement even about these rare cases of a particular type of conspiracy against public officials;

Personally, knowing your frank and noble nature I believe that you did not realize at the time what effect your remark in your Dacca address would have upon the Indian public; now perhaps, when you are aware that your emphasis was exaggerated,—possibly because of your immediate surroundings at that moment, you must be genuinely sorry for unwittingly hurting the susceptibilities of our people in a matter about which they are excessively sensitive.

GOVERNOR'S REPLY

September 3, 1924.

Dear Dr. Tagore,

I have received your letter of August 31. I feel sure that it was written in a spirit of friendship and I could not read a letter from you in any other spirit.

You say that our correspondence unless further supplemented will give a false impression with regard to the whole position. I am not aware what false impression can be conveyed either by your letter or by my reply, but it is sufficient for me that you should fear such a result and I, therefore, accept your invitation to dispel the atmosphere of misunderstanding from the minds of those who wish to be generous and just.

I have already explained that not only am I incapable of slandering the women of India whose reputation for chastity and modesty needs no apologist but also that my words in the context in which I used them are incapable of the meaning which has been upon them in the first instance by persons whose object in misrepresenting me are sufficiently obvious and afterwards accepted in all innocence by many who have probably not read another word of the speech in which they were spoken. I now gather from your second letter that what was "hurtful to the cause of justice" was not so much the opinion which I expressed as "the time and occasion" chosen to express it. I would ask you to remember that the occasion was the one opportunity available to me in the year of addressing the whole Police force of Bengal. If my speech and those which I have delivered on two former occasions are read, it will be seen that I warned the police of the special responsibility which rests upon them. I have not concealed from myself and from them that lapses from the high standard of conduct imposed upon them are not uncommon. I have impressed upon them the discredit which is brought upon the whole force and upon the Government which employs them when a single individual fails in his duty. I have expressed my determination not only in public but official orders to stamp out corruption, whenever I find evidence of its existence. I must protest, however, against the assumption so often made in the Press that the Police authorities are not to be trusted to investigate honestly and impartially charges brought against individual members of the force, and the assertion that when charges are proved to be unfounded the accuser and not the investigating authority is to be believed.

Whilst I have not hesitated to recognise faults where they exist and to exhort the police to uphold the honour of the service to which they belong, I consider it to be no less my duty to recognize the difficulties under which they work, to protest against the prejudice with which they are regarded, to remind the public of the debt of gratitude which they owe to the police, and so assure the Police of protection and defence when they are unjustly attacked. I cannot, therefore, admit that an expression of mine "faith in the Police department" or of my "sympathy with its individual members" can ever be "untimely" and I deny that any prominence was given in my speech to a generalization based upon incidents which are admittedly rare.

In conclusion, I thank you for your generous tribute to my own character and I hope that this

incident may now be closed. I have expressed my sincere regret that my reference to incidents which must be familiar to almost every judicial authority should have been so worded as to be capable of mis-interpretation and to cause pain to anyone, and I would conclude—as you propose to publish my letter—with an appeal to all those who desire to maintain the credit of the police force in Bengal to refrain from vilifying the force as a whole and to assist me in my efforts to purge it of the defects the existence of which I have never denied.

News in Brief

Dr. Malan, at a Maritzburg meeting, commented on the gravity of the unemployment question in the Union. The Government was making strenuous efforts to carry out the policy of substituting white labour for black wherever possible. Schemes would be made to absorb the blacks thus thrown out in other ways. The policy of the Government was to give the fullest facilities to the youth of the country to obtain technical education. Thus equipped it would help the capitalist to employ them. Dr. Malan said he was against the policy of paying people higher salaries simply because of their white skin. To get more pay the white people must make themselves more useful. Touching on the Asiatic question, the speaker said he could not make any statement at that point. The Government were weighing carefully each factor, and having thoroughly investigated the question they would then act. He would say, however, that the doubling of the bonus to Indians who consented to repatriation had worked wonderfully well. Instead of half a shipload of Indians as usual, the last shipment had been one of two ships full of Indians who had availed themselves of the better offer.

Simple, Oct. 25 (Reuter).—A Gazette Extraordinary has been issued announcing the arrest of three of the right-hand men of Das, namely, Bose, Mitter and Roy, the last-named being secretary of the Nationalist Congress. The arrests followed the promulgation of an Ordinance by the Viceroy (Lord Reading) under the emergency powers supplementing the ordinary Criminal Law of Bengal. The Viceroy declares that the Ordinance will in no way touch the liberties of peaceful citizens. He has hitherto been reluctant to invoke his special powers until he was convinced that all other means of dealing with the emergency had been exhausted. But he was now satisfied that the anarchical movement was deep-seated and dangerous, and that plans for criminal outrages had developed to a dangerous extent. The Viceroy adds that permanent measures to remedy the situation will duly be presented to the Bengal Government.

Following on the arrest of three of the right-hand men of Das, 24 others have been arrested, including 13 under the new Ordinance. The Police Commissioner, interviewed by Reuter, emphasised that the evidence of an organised plot necessitated the arrests.

Hitherto 56 persons have been arrested in connection with the political situation.

Arrangements for the forthcoming visit of Prince and Princess Arthur of Connaught to India are taking shape and Prince Arthur and his wife expect to sail in about November. They are to be the guests of their Excellencies the Earl and Countess of Reading, at Delhi, and will visit several of the principal cities, including Calcutta, before they return to England in the early part of the next year.

It is understood that their son, the young Earl of Macduff, will remain with his grandmother, the Princess Royal, during their absence.

The recent cases in which Natives and Europeans were concerned have very clearly not only opened the eyes of the Natives but also of some Europeans who are not intoxicated with colour-prejudice. Among others the Standerton case has very forcibly brought to the notice of the world the glaring injustice done to the Aborigines of this country. The *Imvo* while dealing with this subject, asks very pointedly, "Give us British justice and not South African justice."

The East London Hindu Society which was formed during Mrs. Sarojini Naidu's visit to South Africa was organised by Mr. G. S. Devan. The objects are to unite the Hindu community and to render assistance in deserving cases. The officials are, President, Mr. G. S. Devan; Vice-President, Mr. Kushall Govindjee; Hon. Secretary, Mr. M. Renga; Committee Members, Messrs. G. Morar, Lalla Gopal, G. Cooper, Daya Jeevan, Dullap and Kanjeer.

Speaking at the Nationalist Party Congress in Maritzburg the Minister of the Interior, Dr. Malan, referring to the Indian question, said the first step the Government took was to double the bonus for repatriation, and he was glad to state that this had found a great response. They had been afraid that they would not have half a shipload for repatriation, but found when the ship was to sail that they were two shiploads. This first action had, therefore, proved a great success. The Minister appears to be unduly optimistic, for the figures do not reveal that general exodus of Indians that he suggests. Since the inception of the repatriation scheme till the end of 1923, the number of repatriations was 8,599, this figure including 4,205 men, 1,914 women, 1,171 boys and 1,219 girls. The figures of this year are: January to March, nil; April, 175 men, 84 women, 46 boys, 44 girls, a total of 349; May and June, nil; July 87 men, 27 women, 30 boys and 16 girls, a total of 150; August and September, nil; October 89 men, 45 women, 22 boys, 28 girls and 11 infants, a total of 196. It is understood that a further shipment will leave during the month, while the usual course of repatriation, apart from the voluntary bonus scheme, continues.

A Dublin newspaper offered a prize of 50 guineas for a poem suitable for an Irish national anthem. The judges announce that not one of the poems submitted was worthy of the prize. In rejecting them all the judges say that most of the verses submitted were imitations of "God save the King."

Mr. Narbeth gives some most interesting comparative statements of areas of land which are devoted to University work in other towns in South Africa:—

Capetown	100 acres.
Johannesburg	100 acres.
Pretoria	80 acres.
Bloemfontein	100 acres.
Maritzburg	40 acres.
Durban	2½ acres.

The last figure is astonishing, and the Town Council hesitates to give more!

Calcutta, Oct. 28 (Reuter).—Up to the present 72 arrests have been made under the new Ordinance. The Bengal leaders have appealed to the whole country to observe Nov. 1 a hartal, or a day of mourning, as a protest against the Ordinance.