

Indian Opinion

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NOTES AND NEWS

THE second session of the Fifth Provincial Council of Natal was opened on Tuesday the 24th instant and, as we had expected, the Draft Ordinance to amend the Township Law, No. 11 of 1881 which aims at depriving Indians of the vote in Townships was rushed through all the stages and passed.

The Natal Provincial Gazette of the 19th of March contains a Draft Ordinance "for the establishment of Townships." It is divided into eleven chapters and consolidates the different legislative acts concerning Townships into one. In the chapter dealing with the qualification of voters a similar clause is contained as that contained in the Boroughs Ordinance and the Townships Franchise Draft Ordinance indirectly disqualifying Indians from being enrolled as voters. Among the various Laws and Ordinances which the present Draft Ordinance seeks to repeal are included the Townships Law No. 11, 1881 and the Townships Franchise Ordinance 1925.

The Volksrust Town Council have granted the local Indian Sports Club a portion of ground for sports on condition that there should be no Sunday playing. The Council's warning having been repeatedly disregarded by Indians the former is reported to have passed the following resolution:—"The Indian Sports Club having disregarded the warning of the Council re Sunday sports on municipal lands, the privilege granted the club be withdrawn for a period of three months. Any person found trespassing by playing on the ground in question will be prosecuted." In reply to Councillor Payne's question as to why Sunday sports were prevented, the answer was: "Because the Municipality has steadfastly upheld Sunday observance, and refused to sanction Sunday games on Municipal ground. People could play on their own ground if they chose.

The Volksrust Town Council being a staunch follower of Christian principles we are hopeful that if properly approached and given an assurance that the Sunday rule would not be broken in future the Council will forgive the Indian Sports Club and rescind the above resolution.

Here is a remarkable case showing clearly how the black man gets justice in this country —

"I cannot understand how some parents bring up their children," said Mr. Atkinson, when an umfaan was charged with having assaulted a little European boy of 4 years of age by throwing a stick at him. The child stated that he said "voetsak" to the accused, who threw a piece of wood which struck him on the head. "This child evidently thought he was quite entitled to say "voetsak" to anyone," remarked the magistrate. At this stage the child's father, who evidently resented the Magistrate's remarks, interrupted the proceedings, and was even-

tually ordered out of the Court. The accused, who stated that the child had told him to "voetsak" and had called him a "blooming nigger," was ordered to receive four strokes with the cane."

By punishing the Native the Magistrate has established it as a principle that even a European child may use abusive language towards a black man but the latter may, under no circumstances, retaliate. We should have thought the parent of the child deserved to be punished, rather than the Native, for bringing his children up so badly. But, of course, where there is a question of white prestige to be considered, the question of justice, even in the Courts of Justice, is completely thrown over board.

At a farewell luncheon given to the Prince of Wales at Savoy Hotel under the presidentship of the new Union High Commissioner, Mr. Smit, replying to the toast the Prince of Wales is reported to have humorously referred to his habit of bringing back anything to which he took a fancy, and pictured himself blocking the traffic of London by driving an ox wagon through the streets. He is reported to have concluded by expressing the hope that "he would gain first-hand knowledge of South Africa's problems, and see for himself how these were being faced by the two great virile peoples constituting the great Union."

In the Indian Legislative Assembly the debate on the Finance Bill, which was carried by 75 votes to 40, was very animated, says Reuter, the Swarajists violently attacking the Government's policy, saying the present administration must end, as it was condemned by the majority of the people. Sir Alexander Muddiman (Leader of the House) severely reproved an Indian member for alluding to the Government as "a devil's Government." Mahomed Alli Jinnah had a brisk duel with Pandit Motilal Nehru, who declared he intended to obstruct and wreck the Government. Mr. Jinnah argued that the country could not make the Government's position impossible while the Indians themselves were disorganised and powerless. He challenged Pandit Nehru's statement that the Swarajists had a mandate from the majority of the country.

Sir Alexander Muddiman announced in the Indian Legislative Assembly that his Majesty-in-Council had assented to the Bengal Ordinance Act for the suppression of crime in Bengal. The Assembly carried against the Government by 71 votes to 40 Mr. Patel's Bill proposing the repeal of certain special enactments, including the Bengal Regulation of Seditious Meetings Act the Swarajists and Independents voting together.

The Earl of Oxford and Asquith (Lord Asquith) has been appointed a member of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council.

A London message published in the *Natal Mercury* states:—

Lord Reading's return to England may mean his retirement or renewal of office for another period of two years, but it is considered improbable that even if a renewal is made he will remain for the full period of the extension. Two names have been prominently mentioned regarding the appointment—Lord Ronaldshay, who was Governor of Bengal, and Sir George Lloyd, a former Governor of Bombay, and a prominent Conservative member of Parliament. A third name being mentioned is Lord Birkenhead, who is credited with a desire to succeed Lord Reading in India.

LORD CURZON

THE death of Lord Curzon after a brief illness, which was announced by Reuter on the 20th instant, is no small blow to the British people and the British Parliament. His Parliamentary career is considered to have been very brilliant. He entered Parliament in 1889 as Conservative member for the Southport Division of Lancashire and speedily made for himself a reputation in the House of Commons. He was Under-Secretary of State for India 1891-92 and Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs 1895-98, both of which posts gave him experience for the two spheres in which he made his name famous in later years. He held office in various capacities during the War and in 1919 became Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs in Mr. Lloyd George's administration. After the downfall of the Coalition he accepted the same office under Mr. Bonar Law, and earned wide renown for the manner in which he conducted the negotiations with the victorious Turks at Paris and Lausanne. He was one of the strongest speakers in his party.

The name of Lord Curzon is closely connected with India and her people owing to his viceroyalty in 1899. Unfortunately he was looked upon as a terror. Never, perhaps, it is believed, has there been a more disappointing regime in India than that of Lord Curzon. Notwithstanding his undoubted good qualities of heart as well as his unquestionable ability the feeling in India has been that he had trodden under foot every principle of sober statesmanship and very often justice, tact, and foresight in dealing with the great Dependency. His final Act was the Partition of Bengal. At the time of the Partition, the people of Bengal reasoned with Lord Curzon, but in the pride of power, he disregarded all their prayers—he took it for granted that Indians could only prattle, that they could never take any effective steps. He used insulting language, and in the teeth of all opposition, partitioned Bengal. However ungracious his act may have appeared to be at the time there is not the least doubt that in later years it has proved a blessing. For, it was that very act that roused once again the national feeling in India which was put to almost ever-lasting sleep after the advent of the British rule. The sternness, the unkindness of Lord Curzon has, whether consciously or unconsciously been like that of a teacher to his pupils and the loss of Lord Curzon to India can be likened that of a preceptor.

WARNING TO FARMERS

MAIZE SPECULATORS METHODS

Pretoria, March 20 (Reuter).—The following official statement has been issued by the Land Bank:—It appears that speculators are at present travelling round the maize producing districts, purchasing from the farmers their prospective crops.

It is believed that, in certain cases, they purchase the crop outright, but in most cases they offer so much per bag for the crop when reaped.

Farmers should be very careful as to the nature of the agreement they enter into in this connection, as past experience has shown that the farmer is very liable to lose on the transaction. It is known that, in many cases the farmer has sold in advance, say, at 10s. a bag. The crop is estimated at, say, 500 bags at 10s. a bag. This would mean £250. The buyer pays the farmer, say, £50 on account.

When the crop is reaped the buyer comes along with a bag of what he calls good maize, probably the best he can buy. He compares it with that of the farmer, and says: "No! Your maize is not up to standard. I can only give you 6s. for it." And the farmer frequently has to accept it.

The obvious remedy is, of course, for the farmer to co-operate. He can then get an advance as soon as his crop is reaped, but if he does not co-operate, he should be very careful about selling in advance. If he is offered a good price, let him sell by all all means, but then he must be sure that he gets a written contract with the buyer, making it clear that the maize sold is maize reaped from certain lands, and not maize of a certain quality.

The contract should also bind the buyer to take delivery and pay for the maize by a certain date, on pain of cancellation of sale and forfeiture of any amount paid in advance.

It seems that these speculators are urging farmers to sell now, on the ground that maize will be cheaper later on. If that is so, why do they buy? They argue that there will be a big surplus for export this year, and that the overseas price will fall, consequently local prices will be low.

As a matter of fact, whether the exportable surplus is 4,000,000 bags or 14,000,000 bags, it will make no appreciable difference in the world's market price for maize.

INDIA AND SELF-GOVERNMENT

The *Tribune* (Lahore) in commenting on Dr. J. T. Sunderland's new book, "India, America and World Brotherhood," published by Messrs. Ganesh and Co., of Madras, gives prominence to the author's reply to the two usual arguments against the grant of self-government to India. One is that India is a land of many races and communities and of a variety of languages. "Why do these numbers make it necessary for the land to be ruled by foreigners and strangers?" says Dr. Sunderland. "The need seems to be just the opposite," and he proceeds to show that the existence of the same or even greater diversity has never yet been made an argument in other countries for depriving their people of self-government. The specific cases cited by him are those of Russia, of the United States and of Canada. The first two, he says, have demonstrably more languages and nationalities than India, while third has a greater diversity, considering the number of its population. And yet in none of these cases does any one assert that the people concerned are on this account incapable of exercising self-rule. The other argument is that if the British withdrew from India the whole peninsula would become a chaos of bloodshed and violence. This would undoubtedly be so, says the writer, if the British were to go suddenly and to-morrow, without making any provision for successors, or for any Government at all to take their place. But the same would be the

case in the same condition in London and New York.

The *Tribune* has also reproduced from Dr. Sanderland's book the opinions of two eminent authorities who have dealt with the question of preparation for self-government either with direct reference to India or in a general way. One is the German-American statesman, Mr. Schvrz. "One of the most interesting experiments of my life," he says in his reminiscences, "was the observation of the educational influence exercised upon men by the actual practice of self-government. What is sometimes called the art of self-government is not learned by masses of people theoretically or even by the mere representation of the other people's experiences by way of instructive example. Practice is the only really effective teacher." Again: "There is not any instance in history of a people having been taught to govern themselves by a tutelary power acting upon the principle that its wards should not be given the power of self-government until they have shown themselves fit for it." The other quotation is from the historian Charles Francis Adams. "I submit" says this authority, "that there is not an instance in all the recorded history from the earliest times until now where a so-called inferior race or community has been elevated in its character or made self-governing or even put on the way to that result through a condition of dependency or tutelage. I might without much danger assert that the condition of dependency even for communities of the same race and blood always exercises an emasculating and deteriorating influence. I would undertake if called upon, to show that this is invariable—that from the inherent and fundamental conditions of human nature it has known and can know no exceptions." Speaking with particular reference to India, Mr. Adams added in the most explicit terms that notwithstanding any or all material or other improvements made in the country by the British since the East India Company began its career of exploitation and conquest of the land, British Rule has been an absolute failure as a means for increasing the capacity or fitness of Indian people for self-government; it had not increased that capacity or that fitness in the slightest degree but on the contrary it had actually lessened it.

THE PROBLEM IN EAST AFRICA

This is what Dr. Norman Iey, an Englishman writes in his lately published book on "Kenya" on the nature of the problem in that Colony:—

"European immigration has not filled and cannot fill the spaces in Africa left empty by the slave wars and by the kind of exploration which since slavery was abolished has prevailed in the French and Belgian Congo as well as in Kenya Indian immigration could fill these empty spaces. Also, our Empire contains immense scantily populated areas in Canada and Australia which Asiatics may not enter. Second, it is necessary to warn the reader against the usual explanation of the state of mind prevailing among people of British descent in the colonies. It is often said to be economic in nature. It is urged that an Asiatic or an African can subsist on far less than a European, who would thus, under free racial competition, be crushed out. That is not true. The quantities and ingredients of food necessary to health are identical among Europeans, Asiatics and Africans. There are millions subsisting in European cities to-day on less than the inhabitants of the more prosperous parts of Africa get to eat. Race feeling furthermore is never so fierce as when the race formerly content with inferior conditions of life demands food and wages as good as those enjoyed by Europeans. In Kenya, race feeling reached

boiling point only when Indians demanded the removal of all the disabilities, whether legal or customary, which prevent Indians from reaching, among other things, the standard of living in such things as housing and wages, enjoyed by Europeans. No doubt certain fallacious economic ideas are enlisted in support of race feeling such as that the greater the amount of labour needed to produce what the world needs the better. But the true cause of race feeling is not economic. The thing itself is an emotion, definable only in dogmatic terms and expressed in economic life like every other dogma which people really hold."

OUR LONDON LETTER

[BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT]

26th February 1925.

It was a pleasure to meet Mr. B. L. E. Sigamoney in London. His stay in England is giving him opportunities not only to travel through Great Britain but to study the country and the people in it. He is looking well and already speaks of his experiences. At present he is at St. Paul's College at Burgh in Lincolnshire.

To the old boys of the Higher Grade Government Indian School, now called the Carlisle Street Indian Government School the news that their old Headmaster, Mr. F. B. Conolley lives, will, as it did to the writer, be a source of happiness, for it was at one time reported that he had passed away. Subsequent enquiries neither confirmed the report nor disproved it.

After many enquiries in London, the writer was enabled to get in touch with Mr. Conolley. He lives far from London and owing to ill-health desires to remain in oblivion. Mrs. Conolly is with him while Miss Conolly is nearer London. They look with happy thoughts at their association with the Higher Grade School and all that it stood for.

The recently amalgamated British Indian Union and the Northbrook Society gave a luncheon at the Hotel Cecil in honour of Sir Atul Chandra Chatterjee, High Commissioner for India. Lord Willingdon, the chairman of the amalgamated Societies presided and in proposing the toast of the guest referred to the record of Sir Atul in the Civil Service of India which he said provided an assurance that he would do full justice to the responsibilities of his office. There were over 2000 Indian students in the country and there were certain clubs and hostels for their recreation and leisure. There were centres of social recreation for visitors from overseas. And his hope was that some such centre would soon be established for Indian visitors, which would be of value in cementing the friendship of the two countries. Sir Atul Chatterjee said that he had been assured of the value of the work done by the British Indian Union by Indian visitors to Wembley and that nothing would give him greater pleasure, as High Commissioner, than to assist the Society in its efforts to promote good understanding between the peoples of India and this country.

The British Empire Exhibition, popularly known as the Wembley, will be opened during the first week in May and kept open until the end of October of this year. India is taking part unofficially and Burma, which had declined to participate, is now reconsidering its decision in view of the subsidy offered by the Wembley Exhibition Committee.

Claims to the Dukedom of Somerset are being heard by the Committee of Privileges of the House of Lords.

In the House of Commons, in reply to Col. Wedg-

wood (Newcastle-under-Lyme, Labour), who asked whether the Secretary of State or the Government of India had made any representations as to the proposed colour bar legislation in South Africa and the possible effect upon the amicable relations of the Union and India, Earl Winterton said, my noble friend, Lord Birkenhead, has authorised the Government of India to communicate with the Union Government on the subject.

Earl Winterton in reply to Sir F. Nelson (Stroud, Unionist) said the pending legislation necessary to give effect to the findings of the Lee Commission would take the form of an amending Bill to the existing Government of India Act.

In the course of the discussion on Trade Facilities, Mr. G. Pilcher (Pewryu and Falmouth) said there were only two instances of money advances towards Indian schemes. He knew of at least one very big scheme waiting for development in India and if the Indian authorities were approached by the India Office on behalf of the Trade Facilities Committee, they would find a really good reception for any proposal they put forward. He referred to the Howrah Bridge Scheme in Calcutta. The only obstacle to the erection of this very necessary bridge was the lack of mobile capital. The Bengal Chamber of Commerce had discussed the possibility of getting money under the Trade Facilities Scheme, and if that initiative for which Mr. Milton had pleaded for were forthcoming from the India Office on the suggestion of the Overseas Trade Department something of real advantage to both India and our unemployed in the iron and steel factories would accrue.

The decision of the House of Lords to remove the Statue of Queen Victoria from its present position in the House to make room for the proposed War Memorial to the Peers and their relatives has brought forth an opposition to it with the result that at the invitation of King George the Lords are re-considering their decision.

A controversy is in progress over the proposed demolition of the Waterloo Bridge, which has been a pride of Londoners. Unless before July next those who are against the destruction of the Bridge bring evidence to rebut the opinions of experts which London County Council hold, Waterloo Bridge will go. Meantime a temporary bridge is being built alongside it.

Moneylenders are the curse of the people here. Daily the papers publish cases of victims to the wiles of the moneylenders. And the Magistrates and Crowners are ever commenting upon the sufferings of the victims and the methods of the moneylenders. Even they do not seem to be free from the circulars of the moneylenders. Lord Haldane is introducing a Bill in the House of Lords dealing with the subject.

The appeal of Robinson against the decision in the "Mr. A" case in which he sued the Midland Bank and the cross-appeal of the Bank comes before the Appeal Court on Monday next and on that day also W. C. Hobles who was implicated in the case stands his trial on criminal charges.

Cambridge at Goring and Oxford, at Henley are in training for the great boat race that takes place on the 28th March next. Oxford with an unchanged team has been preparing for over a month while Cambridge has had to change its team already several times.

WORDS OF WISDOM

Press your demands forcefully and insistently, and if you are not heard, your cause being righteous you will prevail in the end.—SYED HASAN IMAM.

IN THE HOUSE OF LORDS

QUESTION OF SWAZILAND

Earl Buxton, a former Governor-General of South Africa and High Commissioner over Natives, in the House of Lords raised the question of Swaziland in relation to the Union of South Africa. He is reported to have asked the Government whether any negotiations were in progress with regard to the transfer to the Union of South Africa of Swaziland and of the Bechuanaland Protectorate, and, if so, what conditions would be attached to the transfer and what steps would be taken to give the natives and the white population an opportunity of expressing their views before any final decision was made. He also moved for papers. But before putting the question, Earl Buxton protested against the fact that the Colonial Office was not now represented in that House by either the Secretary for the Colonies or an Under-Secretary for the Colonies. With regard to his question, he said he was not in any way hostile to the spirit of the proposal to transfer these Protectorates. The transference was foreshadowed by the Act of Union relating to South Africa, which provided that when such transfer took place adequate protection should be given to the interests of the natives. Basutoland and Bechuanaland were purely native Protectorates, but Swaziland was partly native and partly white. Looking at the past history of Swaziland, its former connexion with the Transvaal, its contiguity to it, and its economic dependence on it, successive British Governments had recognised that if the Union desired the transfer of Swaziland, and the moment was opportune and proper conditions were fulfilled, they would acquiesce. When the South Africa Act, 1909, was going through Parliament it was clearly laid down by the Government that if the transfer of any territory to the authority of the Union was contemplated, full notice of it would be given to the natives and full opportunity would be afforded them of expressing their views with regard to the matter before it was initiated. Successive High Commissions had endorsed that. It was essential that that obligation of the Government should be honoured to the full. The natives of the territories concerned were very hostile to transfer to the Union. They were content to be under direct Imperial rule, and were nervous and anxious regarding what might happen if a change took place. It was, therefore, essential that they should have ample time for consideration of the matter, that full explanation should be given to them, and that their anxieties should be removed and opportunities of speaking fully should be granted them. It was equally important from the point of view of the Union that the Union should not have its heavy burdens increased by difficulties which would arise if the transfer was an unwelcome one. The Imperial Government would also have to consider whether the present was an opportune moment to transfer. The last few months had completely changed the political position in South Africa. The present Government was predominantly Dutch, with a certain element of Labour, and the natives had no particular reason to be grateful to Labour in the past. That had undoubtedly accentuated the uneasiness of the natives.

The Earl of Onslow, Under-Secretary War Office, replying for the Government, said that the fact that certain deputations had waited on the High Commissioner for South Africa and the Prime Minister of the Union had given rise to the belief that the question of the transfer of the Protectorate of Bechuanaland and the district of Swaziland had advanced a great deal farther than it really had. No other step had been taken towards transfer. The South African Government had published a statement in the South African Press in which it was

stated that it was not proposed to proceed with the question of transfer during the present Session of Parliament. That, he thought, disposed of the question at the present time. The matter had not yet reached the stage at which his Majesty's Government could announce any decision. It was obviously premature to make any statement as to what conditions should be attached to any transfer, if and when any such transfer as was referred to in the question took place; but, generally speaking, he could assure Lord Buxton that the provisions of Section 151 of the South Africa Act would be carefully adhered to. A pledge was given when the Act was being passed that, in the event of any proposed transfer, steps would be taken to ascertain the views of the population, both native and white, in the territories affected. To that pledge the Government adhered. They would not make any decision in regard to any transfer until the population had had a full opportunity of expressing their views, and any representations which they wished to make would receive the most careful consideration of the Government before a final decision was given.

Lord Arnold said he desired to press on the Government the extreme importance of making quite sure that the natives themselves, and not merely the chiefs, were given the opportunity of expressing their views before any decision was made, and that their interests in the land, labour conditions, and so forth were safeguarded.

The motion for papers was by leave withdrawn.

And in the House of Commons in reply to Colonel Wedgwood (Newcastle-under-Lyme, Lab.), Under-Secretary for the Colonies, Mr. Ormsby-Gore (Stafford) said:—In accordance with the pledges given when the South Africa Bill was before Parliament, the House will have the fullest opportunity of discussing, and, if they wish, of disapproving any proposed transfer of Bechuanaland, Basutoland, or Swaziland to the Union.

ASIATIC IMMIGRATION TO AMERICA

(BY V. V. OKA, CLARKE UNIVERSITY,
WORCESTER, MASS.—U.S.A.)

There has been a considerable misunderstanding in India about the Immigration Act that was passed in this country this year. This misunderstanding is further heightened by a few misleading articles appearing in some magazines. I intend to deal with this question in all its aspects, because I do believe there is no country in the world which offers such a nice place for students as this country.

EARLY HISTORY

Had it not been for the rise of modern Japan, the eastern nations would have been regarded as entirely unfit for Self-Government on the lines of western political theory. The awakening of Turkey has also enhanced the prestige of Asia, known in this country as a "land of mysticism, witchcraft, orthodoxy, polygamy, etc."

During the closing decade of the last century, and following the discovery of gold mines in California when the new land on the Pacific coast was to be changed from "wild deserts" into "smiling farms," not only was Asiatic immigration not prohibited, but it was directly encouraged. But as soon as this was done and all cultivable land was occupied by the Americans, they began to show a hostile attitude towards the Asiatics because of the gradual attempts made by them to rise from their low status to that of farmers or business-men. On account of their industrious and thrifty life their low standard of living and their exceptional agricultural skill the Japanese and the Hindus became a menacing economic factor. As early as 1882 anti-Chinese laws were passed but by 1907 a strong anti-Asiatic agita-

tion was launched on the Pacific coast which is the main centre of Asiatic immigrants. A law was passed in that year prohibiting the entry of Asiatic labourers into this country. Japan, to save her face from the humiliating imposition of being barred as unfit for entry into the United States, agreed of her own accord not to grant passports to any labourers or otherwise undesirable persons to come to this country. This compact was known as the "Gentleman's Agreement."

LATER DEVELOPMENTS

In 1916, attempt was made to exclude all Asiatics, including even travellers and students, from entering into the States, but thanks to the efforts of Lala Lajpatrai and others who were here at that time, the Bill was modified, allowing students, travellers, and businessmen to enter freely for a temporary visit. The "Gentleman's Agreement" with Japan was not cancelled.

Last year, however, California, one of the Pacific States, once more started the anti-Japanese agitation. She passed a law in the State Legislature prohibiting any alien, ineligible for citizenship, to own land in that state or acquire a lease over three years. This cannot be at all called a drastic measure as is often sought to make. The State of California was perfectly justified in not granting right to own lands to aliens who had been debarred already since 1907 from becoming citizens of the United States by the Federal Government, and which alone had the power to grant or refuse citizenship to aliens. The Supreme Court upheld California's decision, which thus forced the Japanese and Hindu farmers to sell their lands away. (United States of America has a federal form of government and each State, or province as we might call in India, has full powers to manage its internal affairs so long as the State does not trespass the activities of the Federal government.)

RECENT LEGISLATION

America needed a permanent immigration policy not only with reference to the Asiatics, but also with reference to the European immigrants. Just before the war over, America was in danger of being flooded with a swarm of immigrants from Europe. To protect herself from this danger, she passed a law in 1920 by which only 3% of the aliens of each European nationality residing in this country in 1910 was allowed to enter this country as immigrants. This was meant to be a temporary measure which was to expire finally by June 30 of this year. To prevent a flood of immigrants that was likely to come here after that date, an Immigration Committee was appointed whose recommendations ultimately became the basis of the new Immigration Act. All Asiatics other than those who were allowed to come here for study, travel, etc. were debarred from entry and no special recognition was given to Japan. The quota of annual European immigrants was limited to 2% of nationality residing in this country in 1890.

From the terms of the bill it will be clear that so far as India is concerned there has been no change in America's attitude, either good or bad. This bill affects the honour of Japan as it does not any longer recognise the "Gentleman's Agreement." Till now, any Japanese was admitted into this country on the word of honour of Japanese government to the effect that he was not a labourer or otherwise undesirable alien and was visiting this country for a temporary sojourn. By the provision of the new bill, Uncle Sam refuses to rely any more on the word of honour of Japan, and desires to take upon himself the responsibility to find and investigate the status of each immigrant. The Japanese contention was that the new bill was an insult to her national honour. On the other hand the supporters maintained that Japan had broken her "Gentleman's

Agreement" by allowing labourers to come over to this country under the pretext of students or travellers. Furthermore, they claim that it is improper to show preferential treatment to only one eastern nation while denying to China and India. They point to the fact that even Japan has passed prohibitive immigration laws against the Chinese. It is the sovereign right of each nation to decide as to who may or may not enter the gates and Japan has no reason to "kick" about it. Against this contention Japan had nothing to say. In my next letter I will deal with a few more pertinent facts re the actual condition of the Hindu labourers and also the status of the Indian students under the new Act.—*The Mahrala.*

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS

Amicus Homini Gentis,—Sorry cant be published.

Visit of H. R. H. the Prince of Wales.

MASS MEETING

A Mass Meeting of Indians under the auspices of the Natal Indian Congress will be held on Sunday the 5th April 1925 at Rawat's Bio Hall, Victoria Street, Durban, at 2.30 p. m. to discuss the offer of the Durban Corporation to the Indian community to celebrate this event.

As the matter is of utmost importance all Indians are earnestly requested to attend.

AMOD BAYAT, Chairman.

SORABJEE RUSTOMJEE
V. S. C. PATHER

Jt. Hon. Secretaries.
N.I.C.

ના. શાહબદાની આવતી મુલાકાત

માસ મીટીંગ

નાટાલ ઇન્ડિઅન કોંગ્રેસના આશ્રય હેઠળ હીંદી-ઓત્તી એક માસ મીટીંગ રવીવાર તા. ૫ મી એપ્રિલ ૧૯૨૫ના રોજ રાવત આયો હાલ, વીક-ટોરીયા સ્ટ્રીટ, ડરબનમાં બપોરે ૨-૩૦ વાગે આ મસંગ ઉજવવાને હુમતની કોરપોરેશને હીંદી કોમને આપવા કહેલી રકમના સંબંધમાં વિચાર ચલાવવાને મળશે.

આ બાબત ઘણીજ અગત્યની હોઈ દરેક હીંદીને હાજર થવા ખાસ વિનંતી કરવામાં આવે છે.

અહમદ લાયાત,

પ્રમુખ.

સોરાબજી રુસ્તમજી,

વી. એસ. સી. પથર,

જો. સેક્રેટરીઓ,

તા. શ્રી રેવિસ.

શ્રી ટી. શ. ઇન્ડિઆ સ્ટીમ નેવી ગેશન કુ.

વીસ દિવસમાં મુખર્ષ પહોંચાડનારી સ્ટીમરો

સ્ટી. "ખંડાસા"

તા. ૩૦ માર્ચના મુખર્ષ જવા ઉપરથી.

સુચના—ઉત્તરઓએ પોતાના મેટા દાંગીના રાનીવારે ૧૧ વાગા અગાઉ ઇસ્ટમમાં પહોંચતાં કરવાં.

ટીકટના ભાવો

સેકન્ડ ક્લાસ: ૫૭૬ ૨૪-૦-૦

ઇન્ટર: પા. ૧૫-૦-૦

ટેક પા. ૭-૧૦-૦

મુસવમાની વીથી રા. ૪૦; વિંદુ વીથી રા. ૩૪.

સેકન્ડ અને ઇન્ટર માટે એ: મદિન આપાકેલી બદોબસ્ત કરવો.

દરેક હીંદીને જણાવવામાં આવે છે કે તેમણે પેતાની સ્ટીમરની ટીકટ વિગેરેના બદોબસ્ત કરવન આવી કરવો. દરેક ઉતાર માટે જગ્યા અને સામાન વિગેરેના બદોબસ્ત અમેા અમારી જાતે કરી આપીએ છીએ.

વધુ ખુતાસા માટે લખો યા મળો.—

શેખજી હીમદ,

Tel. Add. ૩૭૭ પાર્શન સ્ટ્રીટ, ડરબન.

"Karamat Durban."

ભાડે આપવાની છે.

દુકાન ૩૭૭ પાર્શન સ્ટ્રીટમાં મી. એ. એ. મહમદ હાલ વેપાર કરે છે તે.

મળો:

આમદ દાઉદની કુ.

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નવા અને જુના લાકડાના વેપારી

ધર બાંધવાનાં લાકડાં, ટીન, તથા તેને લગતા સધળા સામાન રાખીએ છીએ. તેમજ આગવાનાં લાકડાં દરેક મોટીસે ધર અથવા દુકાને પહોંચાડીએ છીએ.

ફૂલ અને નાચીસના બાકસ વિક્રાયત બાલે ખનાવી આપીએ છીએ. આગલ કીટક મગાવી ખાલી મળે. વેલિંગ્ટન ૩૫૧૬. પારક ધર, પીરીયા ફાલ્ક, ડરબન.