

INDIAN OPINION

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ONE PENNY

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SECONDARY EDUCATION

We cannot but view the notice in the Official Gazette limiting the number of students at Queens College to four hundred, with great concern and alarm.

The only secondary education for boys in the colony provided by Government is at Queens College and we cannot but express our great disappointment and disillusion in the policy of the Governor in Council to have taken such a retrograde step.

We have stated time and again in these columns the inexplicable policy of Government with regard to education in the Colony.

We know that it is common knowledge that the Government has contrived every conceivable means to keep out as many boys as are possible from gaining entrance to Queens College and as many girls as are possible from gaining entrance to the Bishop High School for Girls.

In the United Kingdom every measure is being adopted to encourage education among all classes of the population for as little cost as possible and in British Guiana the reverse is being enforced by the same parent Government. What a paradox? We ask that Government make a public statement on the subject.

IS GOVERNMENT RESPONSIBLE FOR CRIMES THROUGH RUM? IT IS IMMORAL OF GOVERNMENT TO GO ON CLOSING ITS EYES ON RUM DRINKING.

By R. SINGH

The Government of British Guiana is telling the Public that they are interested in the welfare of the people here and are not telling them that they are collecting large sums for disorderly behavior through rum.

How absurd is Government's policy, it legalises the manufacture of rum for the sake of revenue, thus causing the people to commit crimes, diseases, poverty etc, and then makes a noise about too many crimes, and how foolish are the individuals who tamper with alcoholic beverage, seeing the damage it is doing to so many homes seems inexplicable. How long will intelligent men and women, thinkers and leaders continue to be blind, unconcerned and inactive regarding the whole detestable liquor question.

I have seen in Rose Hall Village, even long after closing hours men coming out of the door drunk; some with bottles in hand; policemen can be seen nearby on the road doing nothing and completely unconcerned. Then who is responsible for crimes committed by rum drinking?

What is the good of Government offering Social Welfare Services when Government is facilitating the drinking of rum for the more rum is consumed the more revenue comes into the treasury; whether the drinkers steal or kill or do any crime that does not worry Government. All the Government is interested in is more money.

Taking all into consideration this social welfare is only tomfoolery. It is immoral of Government to go on closing its eyes on rum drinking. Government seems to want money without caring as to how the people of the colony are affected.

Dr. A. N. Donaldson, Professor of medicine said: Every honest doctor today admits that alcohol is a narcotic poison, DONT DRINK: Rum did not merely commit crimes, but makes broken-bodies, broken-homes, broken-hearts, sorrow, agony, despair, etc. How long oh Lord, how long will this continue.

Editor's Note:—

The B. G. E. Indian Association passed a Resolution at their last Conference condemning the over indulgence in rum and has placed the matter before the Legislative Council and the Government.

The Editor,
Indian Opinion.

Kindly permit me through your columns to draw the attention of the Government to a very painful situation that I see every Sunday around the Public Hospital Georgetown.

Hundreds of persons gather around the hospital for several hours before visiting hours and can be seen all along the parapets whether it is raining or shining.

Very many of these people come from the country districts and have no where to wait and in consequence have to go through a lot of inconvenience.

I am asking whether it is not possible for Government to provide some place to await visiting hours; or maybe the authorities can arrange for visiting hours to be all afternoon on Sundays.

I do hope that something will be done in the matter.

Yours

Dharamraj.

East Coast
Demerara.

WAKENAAM SECONDARY SCHOOL

On Friday 15th June, the Wakenaam Secondary School was opened with Mr. Burnet (matriculant) as Principal. This School would prepare students for the following examinations:

- (1) Cambridge Local Junior and School Certificate Examinations.
- (2) Commercial Examinations: Book-keeping and Accountancy, business training and management, Typewriting and shorthand.

Parents desirous of enrolling their children may consult or write Ibrahim, secretary, Good Success, Wakenaam.

READ THE

Indian Opinion

\$5,000,000 Govt. Loan Chance For Guianese Investors

The Government of British Guiana invite applications for \$5,000,000 three and one half per cent Debentures to be issued at par on the 1st day of January 1946 under the provisions of the General Local Loan Ordinance No. 25 of 1941.

The loan is required to defray in part the cost of War Services and for such other public Purposes as the Secretary of State and the Legislative Council may from time to time approve, as well as for the redemption in part of outstanding 4% bonds of the 16th and 18th issue under Loan Ordinance No. 6 of 1916.

The Loan is secured on the general revenues and assets of the Colony, and the principal will be repaid at par on the first day of January, 1986, but the Government of British Guiana will have the option of redemption at par on or after the first day of January, 1976, on giving six calendar month's notice in the Official Gazette.

Debentures will be of the denominations of \$1000, \$5,000 and \$10,000, will bear interest at the rate of 3½ per cent per annum payable half-yearly, and will be transferable by deliver. Each debenture will have attached thereto coupons for the half yearly interest payable thereon. Repayment of the debentures and payment of the interest thereon will be made at the Colonial Treasury, Georgetown.

Application will be closed on 1st November 1945 or on such earlier date as may be notified in the Official Gazette.

Prospectuses and application forms may be obtained from the Treasury, Georgetown, or from any Post Office.

[For full particulars see prospectus published in Daily Newspapers of 3rd June].

PAUL LUKAS. GEORGE BRENT. HEDY LAMAR
Are Coming in

“Experiment Perilous”
Soon at the ASTOR.

THE NEW ORDER

By DAVID DHARRY

Whilst we are here there is one other wound that needs immediate healing... soup kitchens for school children. It is maintained and it is felt strongly by folks of respectable communal standing, that if Government be earnest to assist there are other ways more feasible than that operating presently. Though the intent and purpose may not be there, yet it is strongly urged that such measures may implant baneful notions in the youthful minds of these innocent children; to the effect, that their circumstances in life have become so miserable

that they actually have to beg their food. There is no reason why a charge should not be laid against Government for the attempt to murder the pride and self-respect of our poor and unfortunate children. If the children of today are our hopes of tomorrow, then the existing situation is by no means hopeful, and a solemn duty is devolved upon the caretakers of humanity to see that nothing is being fostered that may perpetuate the servile and slavish mentality; traces of which are yet apparent.

Father Fenn would also recall that sometime

ago when his only home and citadel was threaten, when missiles flew from nearly every direction, and when practically every educational outpost of the colony revolted against the existing educational system, and when he perceived that a torch in the powder magazine would explode and cause a huge conflagration, and in which he and his all might have been consumed and vanished into thin air, unhesitating the priesthood of the colony was summoned and there was presented the invulnerable 'UNITED CHRISTIAN FRONT'. Embittered devolutionists were soon transformed into appeasing pacifists and the programme of the United Christian Front became the inevitable programme of the opposing factions. A good many fell in with this band of Christian workers and whatever share they took they did so with an unalloyed Christian conviction that UNITY AND HARMONIOUS WORKING, HAVE AT LAST FOUND A TRUE SETTING. And let it be said here in the most emphatical terms that if only the churches get together and work in unison and harmony the world over then at no time in the history of the world would there ever be a need for a GENEVA or even a San Francisco. Facism, Nazism and all other 'isms' of the world rose directly and indirectly on the prostrate forms of the DIVIDED CHURCH. Divide and Die' preached Gautama Buddha 8000 B.C. Today nothing is seen or felt of the U.C.F. apparently the contents of the bottle is changed but the label remains intact. Advisedly, this point should not be pursued any further for fear that it would entail an unending controversy. And so let us again to the business at hand. The hope is expressed on every side, and it is well founded too, that if the leaders of the several denominations set their hearts to the task and present a common programme for human prosperity, then it will be assured that this day of small beginnings may yet prove to be the dawn of mighty ones and the most cherished goal would ultimately be reached the emancipation and the unfettered liberation of those that yet be in the base bondage of Vested Interest'.

On very many occasions the question has been asked what was it that drove the opposers to remain silent and acquiescent at the various polling booths of the United Christian Front? These are the answers. They saw in such a body, men specially set aside, called and designed by Almighty God to serve humanity and lift souls. They saw a timely leeway of denominationalism and visualised a hopeful turn towards harmony, symmetry and power for the common progress of all. They calculated that as a United Body with its illimitable spread and its growing influence, capable of touching practicably every home in the colony, the future of a magnificent British Guiana would be assured if only a common humanitarian and progressive programme is adhered to and launched out. And moreover it is particularly felt, that with the churches own bitter experience of the wails and woes of their several parochial units, and witnessing for themselves the hydra-headed economic deprivations confronting the masses and which have eventually affecting the very life of their work, they (churches) should arise from their slumber and move forward vigorous. Forget for all time the squeal and squalor of a touching few as regards secularisation. Rather think of this rare privilege, think of the magnitude and the magnanimity of the Christian Spirit and Charity which could encompass and be expressive in the Spiritual as well as the secular make up the individual. It is one of the most urgent duties of the Christian CHURCH of the modern today to see that the people's relationship with the State be such that they are awarded their just share of the loaves and fishes of life. A cause such as this when openly championed would throw open the portals of the home wherein the CHURCH would triumphantly enter and the programme of the CHURCH would become the inevitable programme of the home, and of the community etc: etc: and of the Nation. What is true of an individual is true of a nation.

(To be Continued)

READ THE
Indian Opinion

Letter to the Editor

Pln. Uitvlugt Denies Freedom of Worship

American Aryan League,
D'Urban and Vlissengen Road,
Georgetown,
26. 6. 45,

The Editor,
"Indian Opinion"
Dear Sir,

I would like to draw your attention to certain difficulties that are being experienced by our religious body in the administering of and the performing of religious rites that pertain to the Arya Samajists of this Colony. In this connection I would like you to publish the attached letter which Professor Bhaskarnand had to write to the Colonial Secretary in connection with the denial by the Estate Authorities of Pln. Uitvlugt to permit him to enter the estate in order to perform certain religious Hindu rites. Thanking you.

Yours faithfully,
Ramkhelawan.

SECRETARY AMERICAN ARYAN LEAGUE.

The American Aryan League,
D'Urban and Vlissengen Road,
Georgetown.
25th June, 1945.

The Honourable M. B. LAING
Colonial Secretary [Acting],
Public Building,
Georgetown.

Sir,

I have the honour to state that on Sunday last, 24th June, a religious service was

arranged at Plantation Uitvlugt by the Aryans, when a Katha, a wedding and initiation were to be conducted by me (as the Minister of the Aryans). When, however, I reached the estate yesterday about 10 a. m., I was stopped by an official of the estate, saying that he was asked by the Manager and the Directors of the Plantation to ask me not to enter the estate on pain of immediate arrest in case of resistance to enter it.

The Aryans in a body went to the Manager to ask him the cause of his doing so and interfering with their religious observances. The Manager gave them no satisfaction.

This morning some people have come from the said Plantation to me with the message that the bride's father (an Aryan) died this morning and that unless I go there the burial rites would not take place.

I really don't know what to do. I can state definitely that there is no religious disturbance at Plantation Uitvlugt. As a matter of fact about eleven months ago I officiated at an eight day religious function at the said estate when the people behaved very nicely. Even after that I visited the estate two months ago.

I don't know the cause of the Management's attitude towards the Aryans and their religious services and rites.

In these circumstances I am putting the case before you and pray that you do the needful and enable the Aryans to enjoy the freedom of their way of worship, marriage, burial and other rites, which are time and again guaranteed by various Royal proclamations,

Soliciting an early guidance and action,
I have the honour to be

Sir,

Yours obedient servant,
Professor Bhaskarnand.

Congratulations to Pandit Deodat Sharma

PLN. VERSAILLES LAKSHMI SABHA MARCHES ONWARD!

The newly organised Lakshmi Sabha of Pln. Versailles is doing exceptionally well under the good instructions and management of its young and energetic founder, Pandit Deodat Sharma, resident Priest of Pln. Versailles.

The Sabha held its First Geeta Yag at the Hindu Temple on Monday night 25th instant, when the Pandit seized the opportunity of reading and explaining to the Sabha and hundreds of others that were present, some of the glorious teachings of one of the world's most oldest Religion "SANATAN DHARMA".

It is understood that the Membership enrolment of the Sabha is swelling every day and the prospect of a cultural and educational Lakshmi Sabha is already evident.

Praise must be given to the Young and enthusiastic Pandit Deodat Sharma, who is doing all that is humanly possible for the cultural and spiritual upliftment of his Sanatan brothers and sisters of Pln. Versailles.

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No Future For The People of - B.G. Class Legislation Resented

The outlook for the People of British Guiana, is doomed; The British Government wants sugar alone to live, and not by nationalising it. Why should we suffer such sacrifices when the profits do not go in the interest of the Community. Must we suffer from deprivation when it goes not to benefit us or our people? when their is no opportunity for our children? whether they have any qualification or not it makes no difference with Government; as if their are special instructions against our people to keep them down. Has Government realised that the produces in this land are those that this colony depend on; for its existence yet I cannot understand the policy of Government towards the Indians. The Government should make it clear and let us leave the County. If the Government of India now send a ship I can get it fill to overflowing ten ships would not be enough now as the people feels. The British Government seems disloyal to it subjects here.

What has the Government done for us, nothing; we have helped by contributing to the war effort in our own humble way and today the war in Europe is over; The British Guiana has been somersaulting over the principles for which they were fighting (Democracy) Must we remain in such a County. when the very laws in the country has been made against our rights; against our safe guards; Why? Does the British People feel we are not part and parcel of them; why is class legislation introduced here why is their no Election, when the very members in the Legislative Council is against us; when only a few have the colony and the peoples interest at heart.

R. SINGH

Port Morant
16/6/45

NOT SO SECRET TRIP TO INDIA

By Watch Dog

According to the Daily Chronicle of Saturday 16th it is reported that the Honourable Ayube M. Edun and Mr. E.A. Adams nominated member of the Legislative Council and Town Council respectively, and member and chairman of the Indian Publicity Committee wrote to His Excellency the Governor, suggesting that a large sum of money be granted to them from the Immigration Fund in order that they may travel to India to ask the Indian Public for donations in the interest of primary education in British Guiana.

I am surprised at this being done, and I am certainly very surprized that Mr. Adams should have been a party to this form of a request for public money as far as Mr. Edun

is concerned he should make a public statement on this matter as rumours of every description is going around.

I am looking forward with interest to see the next move of the Indian Publicity Committee. It is rumoured that this committee is endeavouring to get the Governor to transform it into an INDIA ADVISORY COUNCIL to the Government, the members to be hand-picked by the Governor. Is this Democracy? Has the Legislative Council any voice in the matter of the Immigration Fund? What has the general Indian Public to say in this matter? I propose to enquire and say something further later.

Letter to the Editor

Goedverwagting East Coas:
Demerara 14th June 1945

The Editor
The Indian Opinion
British Guiana East.
Indian Association

Sir,

Let it be conceded that honest men in every nation have done their best to erect a satisfactory Government. It must also be admitted that some of them have failed. Nations are made up of many people and controlled by a few men. Where the supreme power of control is in the hands of the populace, that government is called democracy.

It follows therefore that before a righteous and ideal government can exist the supreme and unlimited power must be vested in and exercised by one who is just, wise, and wholly unselfish, and that power must be exercised for the general welfare of all and for the special interests of no class. This principle cannot be successfully gainsaid by any honest man. Such a government is what the people have desired for centuries.

Such a righteous government is exactly the kind of government that God long ago promised to establish for man and which he is now beginning to establish for the benefit of man. He will remove all power from the invisible evil ruler so that evil cannot any more influence man while he is striving to reach an ideal condition.

Both the invisible and visible influence of God's government upon man will be for good. The peoples of earth have reached a point of dire extremity.

Yours

F. SUKRA

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