

INDIAN OPINION

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The population of British Guiana is taxed to such an extent that its development is strangled in every direction.

The average poor person pays indirect taxation which easily amounts to fifty cents in the dollar and consequently can hardly make any headway, in whatever walk of life he is engaged in.

When we take in consideration the average weekly wage of a Sugar estate labourer, as hardly ever exceeding three dollars, we shudder to think, that any Government would be cruel enough, as is this Government to collect half of that three dollars in its coffers as tax.

The very poor Indian Sugar estate labourer, who today have been deliberately denied the Fran-

The Atlantic Charter

IS THE CHARTER DEAD WITH PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT?

People Of The World Stunned At The Calous And Inhuman Attitude Of The Imperialistic Nations Towards Colonials

BY FOUR FREEDOM

Recent events prove that the Imperialistic Nations Great Britain France and Holland are making every effort to establish themselves in their prewar status quo as far as their hold on their respective colonial possessions are concerned and to continue their inhuman treatment to the colonials.

The faith of colonials have been shattered to the dust in their belief of the good intentions of their Lord and Master the British, the French or Dutch; for centuries these colonials have received slave-like treatments and the end is nowhere in sight.

The hopes of these people rose high when the Atlantic Charter with its now much mocked "Four Freedoms" was declared to the world after the meeting of President Roosevelt and Mr. Churchill; colonials the world over had great faith in the U. S. A. and swallowed the pill without water and did not choke; today the faith of these self same colonials is being challenged and their solid faith in freedom loving America is weakening to such an extent as to discredit the belief of men in her ideals. It is hoped America is realizing what a mess she is making for her future hold on the minds of mankind the world over.

There is no doubt to the fact that America is losing her Goodwill among the colonials and other peoples; and that Russia is part substituting her in the souls of these people.

Most certainly from the look of things the United Nations have hopelessly failed to impress the minds of the people of the world, that they are interested in promoting the general welfare of humanity, solving the wants of the world and bringing about everlasting peace. The war seems to have been fought uselessly and the stage seems to be now set for a catastrophe which will most certainly obliterate this diabolical civilisation, which is based on the inhuman exploitation of the majority of the people of the world; by but a handful of men.

chise, by machinations of the Government and Sugar Capitalists should devise other means to balance its budget than by creating starvation, misery and nakedness among people by a system of taxation, that has no parallel in the world. In another part of this paper one of our contributors have made a few statements with respect to the Atlantic Charter. We would like to see the promising Nations of the Charter, Great Britain and United States of America make a start at least in the direction of Freedom from want.

INDIANS ABROAD

Indian Government Has Every Right To Represent Indians Of British Guiana

Impertinence Of Men Without A Nationality To Challenge The Status Of Indians In This Colony

The Editor.—
Indian Opinion

Sir, Please allow me to congratulate you on the very excellent way you have dealt with the Indian hating Guiana Graphic newspaper, and the Hon Vincent Both on their uncalled for attacks on our Motherland.

The Indian Government has a perfect right to represent the case of Indians living in any Crown Colony and only prejudiced people will deny a Government the right to look after the welfare of their Nationals.

All true Indians must now awake from their sleep and let all the other sleep if they do not care. Their birthright and their tradition have been endangered. Those who can afford to work for themselves must refuse to work for the Capitalists. Those who can plant sugar-cane, rice, and other crops on their own lands and Government lands must do so. No one should plant any kind of crops on lands belonging to capitalists if they can do better.

Every effort must be made to get Government to irrigate and drain lands for our people to plant all kinds of crops including sugar-cane, which must be purchased from the farmers at a reasonable price by the sugar factory owners as it is done in Trinidad to a very large extent.

Every effort must be made to get Government to make arrangements for ships to come from India, to repatriate Indians who are entitled to return to their homeland according to the terms of their introduction into the Colony.

The Hon. J. A. Luukoo, K.C., and Mr. M. B. Laing C.M.G., gave an opinion dated 23rd August, 1943 on the question of Return Passages, as under:—

"All immigrants introduced into the Colony at the expense of the Government or of the Immigration fund, previous to the 1st day of September, 1895, are entitled to be registered free of charge to a return passage if they have completed a continuous residence of ten years."

Other conditions of return to India are applicable to immigrants who have been introduced after 1895, but they and all their dependents are entitled to return to India.

Is it not clear therefore that Immigrants and their children are not 'natives' of this Colony?

I have no intention to reply to the biased and illogical comments made by O.S.W. in the Daily Argosy of 30th September. The Indian leaders and the Hon. O.R. Jacob are quite capable of taking care of themselves. But it is not out of the place to mention a few points here for the enlightenment of some members of the public.

May I ask "O.S.W." (Mr. Oscar Wight) where is his homeland, that is, from which Continents his ancestors have come? Perhaps they came from Europe and Africa, so it may be difficult for him to adopt one or the other Continent. Will he be good enough to explain? Sir Alfred Sherlock was born in British Guiana from European parents yet he considered England as his home. He has always said this.

The Hon. F. J. Seaford, Consulting Engineer to Bunker Bros, Mc Connell and Co Ltd., was born in this Colony, yet he has his children in England and he has adopted England as his homeland. It is not necessary to give further details. And so I can mention several other prominent European and Coloured men and women who own Europe, not only England, as their homes.

Why should not Indians who are imbued with their National heritage think of India, where they have a legal right to return as their home. I am certain that ninety percent and more Indians in this Colony look up to India for inspiration and when our Motherland gets Home Rule or self Government with the right to secede it will be seen how many Indians will remain as out caste. Perhaps those who are looking for favours or acting in a treacherous manner will disown their National heritage.

After all, what is Guiana? Is not a suggestion made by several people including our Governor to change the name of the Colony to British South America? Are the Indians to change the suggested Guianese nationality to South Americans when the change is effected?

I expected something better from Mr. Oscar Wight. I am disappointed, that's all. I cannot say the same of the Editor of the Guiana Graphic, and the Hon. Vincent Roth. They are incapable of clear thinking, and may be are they thinking of other things.

I therefore call upon all true and full-blooded Indians to awake, and take up the challenge and do not let our inferiors humiliate us further.

Yours etc.
NATIONALIST.

Georgetown, Demerara,
1st October, 1945.

Letter to the Editor

The Editor,
Indian Opinion,
P. O. Box 43,
Georgetown.

Dear Mr. Editor,

I intend to contribute as time permits, "a thought," each week for the benefit of our Indian (Arya) masses. I cannot claim much, for I am weakling in writing, but, I trust, my periodic contributions will be appreciated. Thanking you in anticipation.

Sincerely Yours,
G. R. Banerjee

A Noble and Peaceful Race

A thought today:—

"Walk down the steep borders
of the natural path, and mould
thy sentiments in Rationality."

Govinda Ramanand Banerjee,
Stewartville,
West Coast,
Demerara.
8/10/45

Mahashai Jenarine Singh!
Lend me thine ear,
Though I'm a weakling.
Be of good cheer.
For our brother domiciled everywhere
A thought each week, from one so
lonely
Present to them with care.

If a mistake spoils the broth,
Never blow it like a froth.
But do lend a hand,
And let each descendant, of our
Argan band
A joy, imperishably bear!
And may never exhausted, stand our
stole to state
But be ever flowing, to offer more to
share.

Govinda Ramanand Banerjee,
Stewartville,
West Coast,
Demerara.
8th October 1945.

General Provision Merchandise

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INDIA

Broken Feet

The fertile Satara district of Bombay Presidency was gripped by fear. Bands of terrorists, who had proclaimed an underground *patri sarkar* (government of broken feet) in opposition to the Raj, terrorized and looted for 14 months. In the villages, their courts executed eight suspected informers, mediocally mutilated another 74. Last week 1,500 Bombay police had finally shattered the reign of dread, arrested one of its principal leaders.

Hyphens and Dashes

Britain was ready to try again. Last week, in parallel broadcasts, Prime Minister Clement Attlee (from London) and Viceroy Lord Wavell (from New Delhi) tendered the Labor Government's new plan in fulfillment of its election promise to offer India Dominion status. Based on the abortive Cripps and Wavell Plans, both of which foundered largely on the failure of India's 256 million Hindus and 92 million Moslems to agree, the new plan promised self-rule [i.e., Dominion status] by degrees:

Elections are to be held for the Central Assembly and the eleven Provincial Legislatures. Some 35,000,000 Indians will vote in provincial elections, 1,500,000 in the central election, between November and February.

Thereafter the Viceroy, in consultation with representatives of the chosen legislators, will set up a body to draw India's new constitution. If the new proposals are not acceptable, the British will consider "some

alternative or modified scheme." The 562 autonomous native states [pop. 95 million] will be invited to take part. Meantime the British Government will proceed independently with the drafting of a treaty to be concluded between Great Britain and the projected self-governing Dominion of India. As an earnest of its good intentions, Britain will publish a draft of the treaty before India starts to write her constitution.

"Foolish Man!"

The Committee of the All-India National Congress, which speaks for most of India, was meeting at the foot of Bombay's Malabar Hill. Hundreds of workers had toiled day and night for a fortnight to erect a *pan-dal* [tent] big enough to seat the 300 delegates and 25,000 visitors: Gandhi was, absent with a high fever, but his deputy Jawaharlal Nehru, was conspicuously present. Embittered Moslem League supporters signaled Nehru's arrival by waving black flags, which Congress supporters promptly tore to tatters.

Congress met on a day edgy with temper. Speakers and audience alike were tense. Outside it rained. Inside the crowd was jam-packed in steamy heat. The speeches began, but nobody heard them—the loud-speaker system had failed. Electricians fingered frantically while tempers rose. Finally Nehru began to talk. After a few words the loudspeakers failed again. The Pandit raged at a frightened Indian electrician: "Foolish man!" The day fizzled out in fiasco.

Chink in the Door

Next afternoon the Committee resumed its work. It castigated the new India plan as "vague, inadequate and unsatisfactory." At the same time it left the door to settlement open a chink by agreeing to contest

the coming elections and negotiate with the British Government. On the prickly problem of Pakistan (a separate Moslem State) the Working Committee had already hedged: Congress would oppose partition, but, if unsuccessful, it would not compel seceding Moslems to stay inside a Hindu India. From the Moslem League and its canny, cagey president, Mohamed Ali Jinnah, came no comment. He was too busy preparing his campaign in the northwest, heart of the hypothetical Moslem state.

A week of suggestions and rejections, solutions and resolutions had merely befogged the fundamental issue: until Hindu and Moslem agreed, they could scarcely expect to agree with Britain. Probably the compromise which neither side was now willing to accept might look more feasible once the electorate had pronounced on Pakistan. Then Indians might find more truth than poetry in the words of Dr. Pattabhi Sitaramayya, the Congress Party official historian: "Differences in India are byphens that unite, not dashes that divide."

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Nazism In British Guiana

PRINCIPLES OF NAZISM BEING FOSTERED SECRETLY IN THE COLONY.

By LIBERTY

I hardly ever thought that the local nazis would have had the audacity to start operation in this colony so soon after their defeat in Europe, but it seems that the Nazi loving Sugar Capitalists have started to play ball in British Guiana with their usual calous outlook towards suffering humanity. They have started to bowl from every direction at the East Indians and Africans with the intention of dividing them into separate camps so that they (the nazis) may gain their ends easily.

Of course I am familiar with the local Nazi tricks, they hate the very bones of every man that is not white and have started a policy of destroying any harmony that exists among them (the Indians and Africans) but for the information of the stinking Nazis, things are different here than they are in Europe, here the Nazis are in the minority and let them be careful or else they will be treated in the same manner as the Jews of Europe and would be outcasts.

I wonder how the Nazi paper the Guiana Graphic will react, to try and get rid of the East Indians from British Guiana. I would be happy if it would only but try. There is India you know?

foothold. Look at the spaces in between the teeth and the pits and grooves, the chewing surfaces and will at once realize why decay inevitably starts these areas. These are what dentists call "unclean areas". If these "unclean areas" are not cleansed there is formed on the teeth a thin film--bacterial plaques--which the organisms gain a foothold. They soon begin to produce acid by the action of starchy foods, and soon decay of the tooth begins.

It is for this reason that it is important to learn a correct brushing technique brush all surfaces of the teeth thoroughly. It is imperative that the teeth be brushed immediately after every meal. Half an hour or one hour will be too late, because by the time the acid-producing bacteria would have acted on the starchy (sugary) foods around the teeth and produce lactic acid. The modern practice of eating and not bothering even to wash the mouth after meals is to be discredited. Eating candy, sweets and other foods containing sugar in between meals is likewise to be discouraged. This includes sugar-coated chewing gums. If you must chew gum there is a variety of paraffin gum with no sugar. Most children seem to love sweets. Parents should encourage other good substitutes such as peanuts and fruits. If they must have sweets, let them be taken at meal time followed by immediate brushing. Sweets and sandies that are dissolved and swallowed quickly are to be preferred to those that stick to the teeth or are continually sucked for hours. It is only by observation of these simple rules that you can control dental decay and thus preserve your teeth.

"Spend Less On Marriages" Dental Caries

BY CHEDDI B. JAGAN, B.Sc., D.D.S.

(Continued from last week)

SCRIPTURAL AUTHORITIES

"Maharattas being Rigvedies, they believe in Ashwalayan Grihyasutra. It is clearly stated in the Ashwalayan Grihyastura that marriages can be performed at all times of the year. It is also stated in the Apstamp Grihyasutra that marriages can be performed in all seasons of the year. In Baudhayan Grihyasutra it is said that marriages can be performed in all months of the year. Similarly in-jotinirbandh, all sages beginning with Gautam say that marriages should be performed at all times of the year. From the above facts, it is evident that marriages can be performed in any season or month of the year, not only by Maharatta soldiers who have returned from war but by all other Hindus irrespective of war service.

ESSENTIAL MARRIAGE CEREMONIES

Moreover, it is not considered desirable that Maharatta soldiers who have returned from war and are now on leave should spend large sums of money from their savings on their marriage ceremonies. As a matter of fact, sacred religious ceremonies--marriage sacrifice and eight sacred songs, a walk of seven paces and sacrificial performance on entering a home--are the only indispensable religious ceremonies to

Dental caries or tooth decay is one of the most widespread of diseases. It is usually associated with the period of childhood and early adult life. It is essentially a dissolving of the substance (calcium salts) of the teeth by an acid (lactic acid). Various theories were put forward, but it is now generally agreed that there is present within the mouth micro organisms [lacto-bacillus acidophilus] which are capable of producing acid from starchy foods (sugar). Look inside the mouth. You will observe that there are certain areas which are always kept clean by the action of saliva, lips, tongue and cheeks. These are the clean areas where decay usually does not begin because the organisms cannot gain a

solemnize marriage. These religious ceremonies can be accomplished within the infinitesimal sum of Rs. 2 or 3 only. In course of time, other religious ceremonies came into existence by custom and usage. These ceremonies, which have merely formed a mode, can undoubtedly be dispensed with.

"It is therefore, most undesirable on the part of Maharatta soldiers who have saved their earnings by endangering their lives to spend money on these customary ceremonies."

(Concluded)

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Indian Opinion

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