

Indian Opinion

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NOTES AND NEWS

AFTER according a hearty welcome to His Highness the Sultan of Zanzibar last Sunday the whole town of Durban was out in the afternoon to welcome the returning Mecca pilgrims, among whom were included Messrs. Hajee Ahmed Dawood, Hajee Abdool Hack Kazee, and Hajee Ismail Haffejee all of whom are prominent Indian merchants. They were garlanded at the Point by Mr. Sorabjee Rustomjee, president of the Natal Indian Congress, who congratulated them on their return from pilgrimage. They were swarmed with visitors until late at night. We welcome home our friends and congratulate them on their successful trip and safe return.

Mr Shaikh Himed who is a prominent merchant of Durban and an active official of the Congress has sailed aboard the Karagola last Monday on a short visit to India. The president of the Natal Indian Congress took the opportunity of presenting Mr. Shaikh Himed with a garland and wishing him bon voyage at the function held in honour of the Sultan of Zanzibar. The President of the Orient Club of which Mr. Shaikh Himed is also an active member wished him a happy voyage and safe return on behalf of the members of the Club. We join in the good wishes to Mr. Shaikh Himed.

Mr. C. T. Loram, of the Native Affairs Commission, who has now returned to London from his important visit to South Africa, has much of public interest to say regarding the trend of the Union's native policy, says the London correspondent of the *Natal Advertiser*.

In the course of an interview following his arrival, he said that great progress would be made in European relations with the aboriginal population of South Africa if the tribal psychology were studied; it might even be possible to make educational use of those dances with a ritualistic significance for the native. The economic life of the native should be taken into consideration in devising systems of education for him. We would make greater progress if we added to the course of instruction some of the aspects of our own civilisation, thus enriching their civilisation. Although many Europeans imagine there is nothing to be learned from the natives, Mr. Loram says they are capable of giving something in exchange for the culture of the white man. Eventually the African language must go, but African terms of thought will enter the South African and English languages. Mr. Loram contends that the natives have a moral claim on cultural assistance from the Europeans in South Africa. The adoption of segregation would be a blunder, because it would retard the development of the natives and react detrimentally on the whole population of South Africa.

What a blessing it would be if Europeans in South Africa could only see this?

A novel advance in Motor Car finance has been made in the registration at Pretoria of the Union Mutual Motor Hire Purchase Society (Pty) Ltd, with a nominal capital of £2,000 which, we understand, has been fully subscribed. The objects of the Company are to supply to subscribers to the Society new motor cars on hire purchase terms without any initial deposit against pay-

ment of equal monthly instalments. The first directors are:—Dr. J. J. de Waal, M.R.C.P., D.P.H., D.T.M., J. P. Couss, B.A., L.L.B., W. H. Shirley, J. H. A. Mathews, L. Luyt (Managing Director) with P. J. Rousseau as Secretary. The society is presently housed at 42-44 Sauer's Buildings, Johannesburg.

INDIANS IN FIJI

FIJI has a population of Indians numbering 70,000. It was fifty years ago that they first migrated to that Colony. Recent papers from Fiji the *Vriddhi* and the *Vedic Sandesh* bring interesting reports of the jubilee celebrated on the 14th of June which was declared a public holiday by the Government. *Vriddhi* takes note of the services of many prominent Europeans who worked in making the celebration a success, which goes to show that it was not merely an Indian affair but was made a colonial affair. The Acting Governor Mr. Seymour presided over the function to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the advent of Indians to that Colony. In the course of his speech His Excellency acknowledged the services of the Indian community in the present prosperous condition of the Colony and is further reported to have said that "they have linked up these Islands over the seas with that great country of India." All this is very interesting to us in this country.

Our brethren in Fiji have not in the past enjoyed a very happy lot. They have passed through very harsh administration. They were brought to the Colony to slave and as slaves did the European colonists wish them to remain. But that could not be, Amidst trials and tribulations they made progress and they are now somewhat able to hold their own. The European colonists too seem to have realised that their prejudice does not pay and they are now more sympathetic in their treatment to those whom they owe their prosperity.

Notwithstanding, however, our brethren in that Colony are not without disabilities. One wonders if the day will ever come when those

of us who have settled in the various Colonies will ever be entirely free from disabilities. Yes, the time will come, we think; but only when the West begins to understand the East better than at present. Our brethren in Fiji have the same educational difficulties as we have in this country but improvements are gradually being made. They have done much independently in the advancement of education. They have now been given three seats in the Legislative Council. The Acting Governor in his speech said: "The Great War left the Colony unable to give you a full measure of education and opportunity for development. We are only hoping to push ahead, but it will be for your people to combine together and strive to help us to carry through the new schemes to the best advantage." These are hopeful words as coming from His Excellency. Our brethren, we feel sure, will not be found wanting in their efforts to ameliorate their conditions. They have now formed an Indian National Congress of Fiji. The Congress has passed a resolution seeking affiliation with the Indian National Congress and similar Congresses in other Dominions and Colonies. We in South Africa are watching with keen interest the activities of our friends in Fiji and while congratulating them on their fiftieth anniversary we wish them a happy and prosperous future.

Durban's Great Welcome To Sultan Of Zanzibar

His Highness the Sultan of Zanzibar who arrived in Durban from Capetown last Sunday and embarked for Zanzibar on Monday morning was received on board the Windsor Castle by Mr. Gordon Watson, Administrator, and Mr. A. Eaton, Mayor of Durban, and a civic reception was given in his honour at 10 a.m. in the Town Hall. This was, it is said, the first occasion when a civic reception was held in the Town Hall on a Sunday. The Natal Indian Congress also participated in the function. The hall was full with a mixed gathering of Indians and Europeans. There were also present members of the Sultan's subjects residing in Durban who entertained the gathering with Arabic songs and sang the praises of the Sultan.

The Mayor welcomed the royal visitor who was accompanied by Prince Abdullah and his secretary Sheikh Bin Suleiman, on behalf of Durban and garlanded him on behalf of the Indian community. Mr. Sorabjee Rustomjee, president of the Natal Indian Congress, in an address of welcome then said:—"The fact that His Highness has, among his subjects, a large population of Indians, brings the Indian community of Natal and Zanzibar closer together. It has always been a pleasure to us to learn that the Indians under His Highness's rule are a contented people. It is a striking tribute to his benign rule," he said.

The Sultan returned thanks in Arabic, which was translated into English by Mr. Rooknoodeen and in Hindustani by Molvi Fateh Mahomed.

"I am well aware of the history of Durban, and I will remember, so long as I have breath, the honour you have done me this morning," he said. "Zanzibar is a small place, but always its doors have been open to all races. They may come to trade and live with all their liberty. We always will be glad to welcome any of you to our island.

"I am glad to see that many of you still dress as do your people at home, and that you still follow the teachings of Mahomed and the other religions of India, and I pray God's blessing for you."

A large crowd gathered outside the Town Hall to see the Sultan.

Lunch At The Orient Club

His Highness was entertained to lunch at the Orient Club at Isipingo. Many a distinguished gathering has assembled at this Club to entertain prominent visitors of both the Indian and the European communities. "It is in fact a place where the East and West have had an opportunity of exchanging views." But last Sunday's gathering was the largest ever assembled numbering not less than a hundred and fifty people. Included among the guests were His Highness the Sultan, Prince Abdoola and the Sultan's secretary, Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Watson, Mr. A. Lamont, Deputy-Mayor of Durban, the Chief Magistrate, Captain Louis Byron and others. Many representative Indians were also invited.

The Lunch consisted of an elaborate menu and was served on the beautiful lawns of the Club.

Brief welcome speeches were made by Mr. Omar H. A. Jhaveri, president of the Club, and Mr. Gordon Watson who wished the Sultan a safe and happy return voyage to his dominion.

The Sultan replying in Arabic thanked the Government and members of both the communities for the very hearty welcome accorded him in Durban, the gate-way of the Union, which was rich in climate as well as in minerals, and said that his Island though small in size was large at heart and was free to all:

A group photo was taken after the function.

Tinkering With The Asiatic Question

Wholesale Repatriation Suggested

Benoni On The War Path

The following from *Rand Daily Mail* is interesting:—

The problem of Asiatic traders was discussed at a meeting of the Benoni and District Chamber of Commerce, presided over by Mr. Harry Sheinbaum (president).

It was desirable for the country's future that the activities of Asiatics be curtailed as much as possible. They were simply playing with the Asiatic question in this country. If it was desired to repatriate all the Indians now in South Africa, he thought it would require £170,000,000. They kept on tinkering with the question, and year by year it became worse.

Mr. Sheinbaum declared that the question of Indian trading was an important one. Members of the Chamber had heard that one Indian was trying to obtain a licence to trade within the Benoni municipal area. A certain section of the European traders was very much upset about it. It had been suggested that if a licence were granted in this instance, people would make purchases in Putfontein and other places in the municipal area instead of in Benoni itself.

The speaker read a long letter from a local storekeeper

who stated some of the conditions alleged to exist in certain Indian stores in the neighbourhood.

"The Benoni Town Council had done everything possible in the matter," remarked Mr. L. Dingler. He thought the best course was for the Town Council to put the case before the local trading community.

It was subsequently decided that the matter of an application made by an Indian for a trader's licence in the Benoni municipal area be referred back to the executive committee of the Chamber for further consideration and report.

Coloured People On Norwood Stand

Restrictions In Title Deeds

A Petition To Be The Summons In Action

Described by the judge as an important case, because it raised the issue of the rights of coloured people to occupy stands in the northern suburbs of Johannesburg, the application of the North-Eastern Districts Association (Proprietary), Ltd.; for an interdict restraining Surkhey, Ltd., and others from allowing coloured people to reside on a Norwood stand is to go to trial.

Mr. Justice Gey van Pittius issued in the Rand Division of the Supreme Court a written judgment on the application. The judgment had been given by Mr. Justice Greenberg.

Mr. Justice Gey van Pittius, in delivering the judgment, stated that it concerned the application by the association for an interdict restraining Surkhey, Ltd., from allowing the second respondent, Mahomed Kamroodeen, also the third respondent, Yuk Lee, or any coloured persons other than domestic or menial servants, from occupying portions of Lot No. 96, Norwood Township, which was owned by Surkhey, Ltd.; also for an interdict restraining Kamroodeen and Lee from occupying the lot.

The association, his lordship said, was a limited liability company registered in October, 1927, for the chief object of enforcing the restrictions contained in the title deeds of owners of lots in Norwood and adjacent townships. Norwood was a private township laid out in 1902 by a syndicate. The syndicate sold freehold lots to the public, and every transfer made it clear that no coloured people other than servants would be allowed to occupy the property.

Transfer In 1918

Surkhey, Ltd., was a company registered with limited liability, and was the registered owner of portion of lot No. 96 by transfer dated January 21, 1918. The deed contained the conditions of restriction referred to. The directors and shareholders of Surkhey, Ltd., were all coloured persons.

It was alleged, stated his lordship, that the condition in the title deeds was a material and important one which the North-Eastern Districts Association was anxious to enforce, and that the breach of the condition had caused serious deprecations in the value of property in Norwood. Surkhey, Ltd., let a shop on the portion of their lot to Matavadia, Ltd. a company also registered with limited liability, and consisting entirely of coloured directors and shareholders. Mahomed Kamroodeen, a coloured director of Matavadia, Ltd., occupied a shop and resided on the portion of the lot. He controlled the business of Matavadia, Ltd.

It was clear, remarked the judge, that the town-

ship was laid out with the object stated, and it was admitted that all the title deeds contained the condition against occupation by coloured people. Such people had been carrying on business in Grant Avenue since 1904. It was alleged by the respondents that this was done openly, and with the full knowledge of the lot holders.

"Acquiescence" As Defence

The defence to the application was based upon acquiescence by the syndicate, the lot holders, and by predecessors in title. It was alleged also that when the applicant company bought a lot it had full knowledge of the existing facts, and of the acquiescence by its predecessors in title.

Another ground of defence, stated his lordship, was failure by the holders to exercise their rights—namely, to take steps against coloured persons infringing the conditions for a period of about twenty years. Further, the respondents contended that the locality of Grant Avenue had been so changed in its character by the trading of coloured people that the restriction in the title deeds was no longer capable of attaining its object. It was true that most of these allegations were denied by the applicant company. Regarding some of them, his lordship thought that the respondents would find it difficult, if not impossible, to prove them, in view of the affidavits filed on behalf of the applicant company.

"But," continuing his lordship, "the question is whether I should on the affidavits filed grant a perpetual interdict on motion, or whether I should order the applicant company to proceed by way of trial, as it is contended on behalf of the respondents. The ordinary procedure to adopt in cases of this kind is by way of action. This case is an important one for all the parties, and I do not think the Court should be called upon to give decision except upon ascertained facts; and a proper way in which all the facts and circumstances can be placed before the Court is by way of action. I am prepared to allow the petition to stand as summons in the action, declaration to be filed within two months, and if not filed the petition to be dismissed with costs."

Mr. C. T. Blakeway (instructed by Mr. H. A. Wilford) appeared for the appellant, and Mr. N. E. Rosenberg (instructed by Messrs. Abelheim and Bowman) for the respondents.—*Rand Daily Mail*.

Vicious Circle Of Impotence

Stumbling Block To Swaraj

Mahatma Gandhi writes in *Young India* :—

Our disbelief is an extraordinary phenomenon. We have no faith in our ability to do anything. If it is total prohibition it is regarded as impossible. Hindu-Muslim unity is a day-dream. Removal of untouchability in the face of Sanataniist opposition is unthinkable. Boycott of foreign cloth through mills we did not achieve, through Khadi we cannot achieve. There thus remains nothing that we can possibly do. Hence Swaraj is an impossible proposition and slavery our natural condition. This is a most debasing state for any one to be in.

Our disbelief is the greatest stumbling block in our march towards Swaraj. Let us just examine the proposition that boycott cannot be achieved through Khadi. It is said that Khadi production is not enough for our wants. Those who talk or write thus do not know the A B C of Khadi. Khadi is capable of infinite expansion because it can be as easily made as bread if we have the will. I need not go into the economics of Khadi for the purposes of boycott. Supposing England and Japan ceased to send us their cloth and our mills somehow or other could not work, we would not think of the economics of Khadi but we would simply manu-

facture the required quantity in our own homes. The merchants who had lost their piecegoods trade would all be occupied in Khadi production. It is only because we have created a vicious atmosphere of impotence round ourselves that we consider ourselves to be helpless even for the simplest possible things. But for our hopelessness, there is no reason why we should not feel that what Bijolia has been able to do without the stress and incentive of boycott, we should certainly do under the great and patriotic incentive. It is being done to-day in Bardoli on such a scale that the technical department is unable fully to cope with the demand for wheels and accessories.

Undoubtedly the movement will fall flat if every body becomes a critic and bystander and nobody says, "It is my business." This movement depends for its success upon the willing and organised co-operation of millions. This co-operation can be had for the asking if the thinking class will put their hands to the wheel with the fixed determination to succeed. Let them remember that this is a movement which has a growing and vigilant organisation with a modest capital. It has only to be worked by the nation to its fullest capacity and success is a certainty.

Let it be remembered that there is no other constructive scheme before the nation for effective action on a universal scale. I have repeatedly pointed out in these pages how production of Khadi can be indefinitely increased. I have described the three methods, viz., spinning for hire, spinning for self and spinning for sacrifice. Once the spirit of true sacrifice seizes the nation, it is possible to inundate the market with handspun yarn. And I have shown that the secret of Khadi production lies in increased production of yarn. There are over 97 lakhs of pupils studying in all the schools of India. It makes a miserable percentage of less than 4 per cent. of the total population, but the number is enough for easy organisation of sacrificial spinning. This figure takes no account of several other institutions that can be also similarly organised without much effort, if the determination is reached that we must achieve boycott through Khadi.

Young Men's Arya Samaj

First Anniversary

The first anniversary of the above institution was celebrated at the Hindu Tamil Intisante, Durban on the 21st July. Pandit Bhawani Dayal Sanyasi opened the proceedings. Amongst those present were Dr. Bhagat Ram Sahgal and Messrs B. A. Maghrajh, B. M. Patel, R. K. Kapitan, Satya Dev, B. A. Tilakdharee and others. A number of ladies were also present.

Pandit Bhawani Dayal in his opening speech wished the Young Men's Arya Samaj every success and hoped to see the Samaj celebrate many more Anniversaries. Other speakers were Dr. Bhagat Ram and Mr. Satya Dev.

Farewell Reception To Dr. Bhagat Ram Sahgal

A farewell reception was accorded to Dr. Bhagat Ram Sahgal who left for Capetown whence he will proceed to England. The President Mr. J. K. Singh spoke at length and wished the Doctor a happy and successful voyage. A bouquet was presented to the Doctor on behalf of the Young Men's Arya Samaj. Songs and musical items were rendered by Mr. P. R. Singh.

Annual General Meeting

The first annual general meeting of the Samaj was held the same evening and the following new officials were elected.—Pandit Bhawani Dayal Sanyasi Patron,

P. Itaguvir Singh President, Vice Presidents H. J. Maghrajh, Manilal Parshotam, J. K. Singh, P. Sugdevan and R. Regnath, hon. Secretary Mr. H. Maghrajh, Assistant Secretary Mr. H. Mahabhar, Treasurer Mr. Nathoo V. Morar, Committee: Balirajh Maghrajh, M. Vallabh, G. Lalla, M. Harriesing, G. S. Gokool, S. V. Banjee and P. D. Hargovan, Hon. Auditor R. Bhagai.

White Supremacy

Views Of Carnegie Travelling Fellow

The following interesting extracts are given from an article in the *Natal Advertiser* by J. A. L. Ager-Hamilton, M.A., B. Litt., lecturer in Modern History, Transvaal University College:—

South African politics has always suffered from the absence of any standard of comparison. The problems with which they deal are in many ways peculiar to the Union, and their too close proximity renders a true judgment difficult and popular opinion misleading. But 7,000 miles away it all seems clearer. The trees no longer obscure the wood, the details merge into their background of the whole, and the South African often finds that in Europe he gets a glimpse of problems in their entirety that become obscured as soon as he returns to the dust cloud of local politics.

In South Africa much is heard of the native question. Seven thousand miles away the fact stands out that there is no native question at all... Looked at *sub specie aeternitatis*, as one incident in the great stream of world history, the problem of South Africa reveals itself as a "white question," the problem as to how a little white aristocracy is to maintain its supremacy over a great submerged proletariat, not yet conscious of its powers, but whose first unconscious stirrings are enough to induce something perilously like panic in the minds of the masters.

For South Africa is an aristocracy. Few countries can pay so much lip service to the democratic ideal; there is none in which precept is so clearly denied by facts. South African economic life is founded (and the Colour Bar Bill merely set the fact down in black and white before an unseeing public) upon the economic subjection of some six million natives to one and a half million whites.

It is no use shirking facts. Here the writer must confess frankly that, personally, he finds the position of aristocrat not unpleasant, but the fact of that aristocracy must be admitted, and its implications recognised, before the first step forward can be made to the solution of the native—or white—problem.

But history teaches the grim lesson that aristocracies, least of all when they shut their eyes to facts, do not endure. Even in South Africa there are signs of change. In times past the native, still in the primitive stage of culture and quite unskilled in the management of machinery, was no sort of economic rival to his lord and master. Gradually, however, the laziness and greed of the white man have shown him how simple are, in fact, most of the operations of modern civilisation, and his own inherent adaptability has done the rest.

The problem is, in fact, a white problem.

The competition of the native means little or nothing to the skilled white artisan, still less to the intellectual worker or the professional man, but the white aristocracy has its Achilles heel. It is obliged to carry a large number of whites who, whether through their own fault or through inherited disability, have proved themselves unable to play their part in the modern world and are a standing refuta-

tion of the white man's claim to a natural superiority.

The "poor white" problem is by no means new. The poor, shiftless, incompetent fringe has been a feature of South African politics for a hundred years or more, but so long as there was game to be shot or cattle to be plundered from the natives they need never starve. When land was to be had for the asking it would be hard if the least competent of men could not exist somehow on what his cattle could pick up on 3,000 morgen, more but never less, of first-class grazing ground.

Men of this type brought the Voortrekkers a bad name through their predatory habits. It was these men who were guilty of such deeds in Bechuanaland 50 years ago that anyone who is jealous for the white man's name can only be silent for very shame. These are the men who, having no sort of claim to the respect of their fellows, protest their white blood and clamour for the privileges of hereditary caste. They insist that they shall be protected from the competition of those whom they grandly name their inferiors, but who, as the very outcry for the future of the white race in South Africa bears witness, have belied the claim in fact.

The point to be emphasised is that, in order to maintain a white aristocracy which admittedly has been disproved by the facts, white South Africa not only saddles itself with the heavy burden of the support of these indigents, but is endeavouring also to check the natural progress of the native races of the country. It is sitting on the safety-valve of the evolutionary machine. The former is its own affair, and may be defended as a moral duty, but what sort of moral justification can be adduced for the traditional policy of native repression? It is possible to go further and to say that any attempt to interfere with the natural laws of progress can only lead to disaster. The present generation may live and die secure in its aristocratic privileges, but retribution is surely piling up, and it will have to answer at the bar of History for the troubles of its descendants.

The problem is a white one.

What is to be done with this great mass of "poor whites"? If it be true that a portion, if only a small one, can be classed definitely as mentally degenerate, then drastic step should be taken at once to prevent the propagation of what is a far more deadly menace to a white South Africa than any number of native artisans. Sterilisation is not a pleasant remedy to propose, but something of the sort seems necessary. At very least there must be a rigid segregation of these unfortunates in places where they can be cared for, and where their example will cease to have its appalling effect upon the native races.

But there must be many of those roughly classified as "poor whites" who are by no means beyond salvation, who need only some spur to their self-respect to make them take their place as useful citizens of South Africa. Are men of this type assisted by being told that their inherent nobility and value to the State are such that the whole county must be taxed to preserve them from the results of their own incompetence? It does not seem likely, and has not worked in fact. These men must be brought face to face with their own inadequacy.

Here is a beginning. Let every able-bodied white man who is in receipt of poor relief in any form be deprived of his franchise until he plays his part once more as a useful member of society. Let it be clearly understood that no one can be a "free-man" of the community in its old sense so long as he is dependent upon it to be saved from starvation.

Here is the necessary spur. If such a man is, in fact, an asset to the community, and has indeed the feelings of an aristocrat, he will soon work to support himself and win his place among his fellows. In a democratic country the vote should be a privilege worth this elementary test.

The principle is by no means new and, in fact, holds the field in the Cape Province, but it may not prove acceptable in the north. Some may even claim that deprivation of the vote would reduce the disfranchised white to the level of the native. Well, why not? The mere need for Government support shows that he is already on a lower plane than the hard working native. It is nonsense to say that the native has any respect for the white man so incompetent as to need a Government subsidy to enable him to compete with native labour in laying drains and repairing roads. The poor white problem is a standing menace to the white supremacy in South Africa and unless it is treated swiftly and skilfully that supremacy is doomed to early extinction.

The Story of My Experiments With Truth

[BY M. K. GANDEY]

Part V. Chapter XXIII.

THE KHEDA SATYAGRAHA

No breathing time was, however, in store for me. Hardly was the Ahmedabad mill-hands' strike over, when I had to plunge into the Kheda Satyagraha struggle.

A condition approaching famine had arisen in the Kheda District owing to a wide-spread failure of crops, and the Patidars of Kheda were considering the question of getting the revenue assessment for the year suspended.

Sjt. Amritlal Thakker had already inquired into, and reported on, the situation, and had personally discussed the question with the Commissioner, before I gave any definite advice to the cultivators. Sjts. Mohanlal Pandya and Shankarlal Parikh had also thrown themselves into the fight and had set up an agitation in the Bombay Legislative Council through Sjt. Vithalbhaji Patel and the late Sir Gokuldas Khandas Parekh. More than one deputation had waited upon the Governor in that connection.

I was at this time President of the Gujrat Sabha. The Sabha sent petitions and telegrams to the Government and even patiently swallowed the insults and threats of the Commissioner. The conduct of the officials on this occasion was so ridiculous and undignified as now to appear almost incredible.

The cultivators' demand was as clear as day-light and so moderate as to make out a strong case for its acceptance. Under the Land Revenue Rules, if the crop was four annas or under, the cultivators could claim a full suspension of the revenue assessment for the year. According to the official figures, the crop was said to be over four annas. The contention of the cultivators on the other hand, was that it was less than four annas. But the Government was in no mood to listen and regarded the popular demand for arbitration as *less majeste*. At last, all petitioning and prayer having failed, after taking counsel with co-workers, I advised the Patidars to resort to Satyagraha.

Besides the volunteers of Kheda, my principal comrades in this struggle were Sjts. Vallabhabhai Patel, Shankarlal Banker, Shrimati Anasuyabai, Sjt. Indulal Yajnik and Mahadev Desai and others. Sjt. Vallabhabhai in joining the struggle, had to suspend a splendid and growing

practice at the bar, which, for all practical purposes, he was never able to resume.

"We fixed up our headquarters at the Nadiad Anathashram, no other place being available which would have been large enough to accommodate all of us."

The following pledge was signed by the Satyagrahis:

"Knowing that the crops of our villages are less than four annas, we requested the Government to suspend the collection of revenue assessment till the ensuing year, but the Government has not acceded to our prayer. Therefore, we, the undersigned, hereby solemnly declare that we shall not, of our own accord, pay to the Government the full or the remaining revenue for the year. We shall let the Government take whatever legal steps it may think fit, and gladly suffer the consequences of our non-payment. We shall rather let our lands be forfeited than that by voluntary payment we should allow our case to be considered false or should compromise our self-respect. Should the Government, however, agree to suspend collection of the second instalment of the assessment throughout the district, such amongst us as are in a position to pay will pay up the whole or the balance of the revenue that may be due. The reason why those who are able to pay still withhold payment is that if they pay up, the poorer ryots may in a panic sell their dues, and thereby bring suffering upon themselves. In these circumstances, we feel that for the sake of the poor, it is the duty even of those who can afford to pay to withhold payment of their assessment."

I cannot devote many chapters to this struggle. And so a number of sweet recollections in this connection will have to be crowded out. Those who want to make a fuller and deeper study of this important fight are recommended to read the full and authentic history of the Kheda Satyagraha written and published by Sjt. Shankerlal Parik of Kathlal, Kheda.

Dr. Sun-Yat-Sen

Personal Recollection Of China's Saviour

A correspondent writes in the *Times of Ceylon* :—

My first meeting with the late Dr. Sun Yat Sen, dubbed by enthusiastic Nationalists and short-memoried Britons the "Saviour of China," was in Hongkong in 1922. Sun's star was falling fast. He had been driven from Canton by General Chen Chiung-ming and was flying for safety to the British Colony in a British steamer.

In company with a number of journalistic colleagues I was waiting on the Hongkong Canton-Macao Steamship Co's wharf for his arrival. It was cold, it was raining and it was late at night. Armed policemen were drawn up all along the wharf; the general public were excluded till Dr. Sun left the ship, for all prominent Chinese soldiers and politicians live in hourly danger of assassination; and it is not good that they should find their end in such a manner in British territory.

The ship arrived in a driving rain. Everyone was on the alert and the police increased their vigilance. Then the gangway was let down and a little group of Chinamen, swathed in thick padded clothing to keep out of the cold, walked hastily down the gangway under the guidance of a British police officer. As the group passed us, they stopped, and a small figure muffled up to the neck in a heavy fur coat peered at us from short-sighted eyes. It was Dr. Sun Yat Sen the greatest visionary China has produced in a century.

"Are you gentlemen from the Press?" he asked.

We replied that we were, and the almond eyes twinkled very slightly.

"I will see you at my hotel. It would be unwise, I think, to talk to you here."

At home we were seated in Dr. Sun's hotel

at West Point, the Chinese "West End" of Hongkong. Whisky-and-soda was placed at our sides, but Dr. Sun was content with a tiny cup of China tea. This he sipped from time to time through the tapering Chinese moustache which surmounted his upper lip. To look at him, few would have guessed that under his very ordinary exterior was hidden the fanatical visionary at whose orders thousands have been sent to their deaths at one swoop, both in Canton and elsewhere in China. His appearance was slight, his manner almost timid. His voice was quiet, and in ordinary conversation thin and monotonous. Only when he was roused and speaking of his enemies did his true character reveal itself. Then his voice strengthened and grew queerly impassioned, his hands trembled slightly and his eyes took on a certain fire. We asked him about General Cheng Chiungming.

"General Cheng," he answered angrily, "is a rogue and the enemy of his country. If he ever falls into the hands of my people I will have him shot."

Later in the interview Dr. Sun said:

"In six months' time, twelve months at the latest, I will be back in Canton," and, later, "My life's work will be to make China great among the Powers and I shall succeed in spite of this temporary setback."

Actually it was about nine months later that Sun went back to Canton and it was on his return from Shanghai that I met him again. He came by an American liner and I was fortunate in seeing him on board before his disembarkation. He remembered me and I found him jubilant.

"Again my star is in the ascendant," he said. "This time it will remain there."

In this he was right, and until the day he died some months later his position grew stronger and stronger and his prestige higher. To-day he is literally worshipped by the Chinese people. At all political and many social functions it is the custom for all the Chinese present to go down on their knees before his photograph, close their eyes and repeat reverently his famous "Three principles." Joss sticks are kept burning before his portrait and are never allowed to go out. Now he is almost a god, and that there is little doubt but that in half a century's time he will be completely a god in the memory of the Chinese nation.

On his return to Canton I got to know him more intimately, and on occasions was able to converse with him freely. On one occasion I tackled him concerning his anti-British proclivities and he looked at me with a slight smile.

"You are an Englishman?"

"Yes," I answered. "You know that well, Dr. Sun."

"And do I seem to hate you?" I grinned uncomfortably.

"No, of course not."

"Neither do I hate the British as a people. But I hate your Imperialism and the grasp you have on my country and on the trade of my country. If I seem to hate Britain most, it is because Britain is the strongest of the Powers which victimise China and it is because Britain has the strongest influence over the country. Once weaken the influence of Britain and the others will be weakened automatically."

At this point I reminded him, as tactfully as I could that on two occasions at least the British had been responsible for saving his life when his own countrymen would have killed him.

"That is true," he answered, "but you don't understand. My life is a personal matter, and personally I am grateful. But if your people saved my life a thousand times it would still make no difference to the harm they work in China. I have many friends among the British and I admire them intensely for many things. But the welfare of China overshadows all personal likes and dislikes."

It was some weeks later that Dr. Sun asked me tentatively whether I would consider editing his propagandist newspaper in Canton. I had no intention of doing so, but discussed the matter with him out of sheer curiosity. I asked him whether it would entail writing things which might be hurtful to Britain and he frowned at the question.

"You would be the servant of Nationalist China," he replied and I had sense enough not to pursue the point. When I suggested that I might consider it if he would lodge six months of my salary with the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, with instructions to pay me monthly, he grew almost angry and refused point blank. As I was aware of the parlous state of his Government's finances, and also of the equally parlous state of the newspaper's finances, I did not take his anger altogether to heart.

That was the last occasion on which I saw Dr. Sun before his death. When the news of that occurrence reached me I was sorry, for his was a singularly lovable personality and he swayed those with whom he came in contact in a manner that is rare among Chinese. Like all reformers, however, Dr. Sun lacked a sense of proportion and there were times when he allowed his fanaticism to carry him away. His own orders have been responsible for the deaths of far more Chinese than those of any Briton, but as that seems to be true of every militant Chinaman it would perhaps be unwise to blame him overmuch. Certainly, he succeeded, in infusing a spirit of nationalism into his own countrymen in a way Chinamen have ever done, and to-day he would be a brave man who would go among a group of Chinese patriots and breathe a word against the sacred memory of the great "Sun Wen."

News In Brief

Sir Samuel Wilson's report on the agreement reached by him at Nairobi in regard to constitutional changes in East Africa will be published early in September simultaneously in England and East Africa and a statement of action which His Majesty's Government propose to take will be made in due course after publication of the report.

Umvoloz is reported to have taken last Saturday 64 Indian repatriates under the Government's Assisted Emigration Scheme which included 37 men, 11 women and 16 children.

IN THE MAGISTRATE'S COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF DURBAN HELD AT DURBAN

No. 9906/1929.
In the matter between CHINNATHAYI, No. 127663, Free Indian woman, of Durban,—Plaintiff, and NATASA MUDALY, No. 127954, Free Indian Immigrant, lately of Durban, but whose present whereabouts is unknown to Plaintiff,—Defendant.
To the above-named Defendant:—

Take Notice that a Summons has been issued against you in this Court by CHINNATHAYI, No. 127663, of Durban for divorce a vinculo matrimonii on the ground of malicious desertion and costs of suit and that an order has been made that the publication of notice of such summons shall be deemed to be good and sufficient service of the summons on you. You are hereby required to enter appearance to the summons on or before the 30th day of August 1929 and if you do not do so judgment may be given against you in your absence.

Dated at Durban this 29th day of July, 1929.

V. ALBOROUGH,
Clerk of the Court, Durban.

A True Copy:—
S. P. JOSEPH.

JAS. W. GODFREY,
Plaintiff's Attorney,
437 Smith St., Durban.

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એચ. એમ. વા. મોડલ રેપોર્ટ કમિટી ૩૩ પાર્ટીકુલર
કેબલનેટ પ્રોમોશન
મર્ફી
અમારે ત્યાંથી જ રેકોર્ડ પ્રીન્ટનારને પ્રાથમ નંબરની પ્રીન્ટ આપવામાં આવશે. પહેલું પ્રાથમ ઉપલુ પ્રોમોશન અને ત્રણ પીસ પ્રાથમો નંબર હોય કરનારને આપવામાં આવશે. માટે જરૂર તમારું નસીબ આજ માવો.
અમારે ત્યાં એ સુધીના તમારે રેકોર્ડ આવી ગયા છે. રેપેરીયટ લાવ માટે હમારું હેતુનીલ વાંચો.
Agent of H. M. V. RECORDS.
E. A. TYEB & CO.
Phone 2447. P. O. Box 1130. 100 Field Street, DURBAN, Natal.

ઈન્ડિયન ઓપિનિયન.

પુસ્તક ૨૭ મું.

ફ્રીનીક્સ, શુક્રવાર, તારીખ ૨ ઓગષ્ટ ૧૯૨૯

અંક ૩૧

નોંધ અને સમાચાર

પાછા ફરેલા હાજીઓ.

અત્રેથી મક્કા શરીફ દબ પડવા ગયેલા હાજીઓ દબ પડી ગયે રવીવારે પાછા ફર્યા છે. તેઓમાં બહુશીતાઓમાં શેક હાજી અહમદ દાઉદ, હાજી અબદુલ હક કાઝી અને હાજી હસમાધન હાફેજ છે. તેઓને આર મહિનાપર કરપનના હોદીઓએ ભલી ફુવાઓ સાથે વિદાય આપી હતી અને હવે તેઓ પોતાની ધખ્ખા સફળ કરી સહીસલામત આપણી વચ્ચે પાછા આવી ગયા છે. અત્રે તેઓને અને ખીલ સખળા હાજીઓને આવકાર અને મુબારકબાદી આપીએ છીએ.

મી. શેખ હીમેદ

કરપનના બહુશીતા વેપારી અને કેરિસના એક ઉપયોગી કાર્યકર્તા મી. શેખ હીમેદ સ્કીમર કારાગૌલામાં ગયા સોમવારે ટુંકે સુદતને માટે હોંદુસ્તાન જવા ઉપડી ગયા છે. ના. સુલતાનના માનમાં મળેલી ટાઉનહોલની સભામાં કેરિસના પ્રમુખ મી. સોરાબજી રસ્તમજીએ મી. શેખ હીમેદને ભલી ફુવાઓ સાથે વિદાયગીરી ધખ્ખવાની અને કામ તરફથી પુલ્કને હાર બક્ષવાની તક લીધી હતી. ઓરીયેન્ટ કલબ કે જેના પક્ષે મી. શેખ હીમેદ એક ઉપયોગી મેમ્બર છે તેના મેમ્બરો વતી કલબના પમુખે મી. શેખ હીમેદને સફળ સફર ધખ્ખી હતી. અત્રે તેમને ભલી ફુવાઓ ધખ્ખવામાં સામેલ થઈએ છીએ.

યુનીયન સરકારની નેટીવો સંબંધી નીતી

નેટીવ એફેસ કમીશનના મી. સી. ટી. લોરામ ને સ.ઉચ આફ્રિકાની ટુંકે સુલાકાત પછી ઈંગ્લેન્ડ ગયા છે તેમણે યુનીયન સરકારની નેટીવો સંબંધી નીતી વિશે કેટલીક બહુવાજોએ ધીના કહી હતી. તેમણે બહુવાજું કે, “તેઓની કેળવણીની રૂઢી યોજતા તેઓની આયક સ્થિતિ સુધારવાના પક્ષ પગલાં લેવા જોઈએ. તેઓને કેળવણી આપવામાં કેટલોક આપણે સુધારો પક્ષ દાખલ કરીએ તો તેઓના સુધારાને પે.પક્ષ મળે. પક્ષ યુરોપીયનો માને છે કે નેટીવો પાસેથી કશુંજે થીખવાનું નથી પરંતુ ગોરાની સંસ્કૃતીના બદલામાં તે પક્ષ કંઈક ફાળો આપવાને સમર્થ છે. નેટીવોને સાઉથ આફ્રિકાના યુરોપીયનો પાસેથી સુધારણામાં મદદ મેળવવાનો નૈતિક હક છે. સેક્રેટરીની નીતી જીલબરેલી છે કેમકે તેથી નેટીવની પ્રમતીને હરકત પહોંચે એટલુંજ નહિ પક્ષ સાઉથ આફ્રિકાની આખી વસ્તીને તુકસાન પહોંચશે.”

આ વિચારો આ દેશના ગવિષ્ટ યુરોપીયનોના મનજમાં છે તે કવું સારું?

“ઈન્ડિયન ઓપિનિયન”

શુક્રવાર, તા. ૨ ઓગષ્ટ ૧૯૨૯

શીજમાં હોદી ભાષાઓની વસ્તી ૭૦,૦૦૦ ની છે. તેઓએ એ સંસ્થાનમાં પચાસ વર્ષ ઉપર વસાહત કરી શીજના હોદીઓ હતી. શીજથી હમણાજ ‘વૃદ્ધિ’ અને ‘વધવિક સદેશ’ પત્રો આવેલા છે જે સંસ્થાનના હોદીઓએ જીન તા. ૧૪ મીએ તેઓની આયાતની અર્થજતાબિંદ ઉજવેલી હોવાના રસીક હેવાલોથી બરેલાં છે. એ દિવસ સરકારે જાહેર તહેવાર તરીકે જાહેર કર્યો હતો અને એ ઉજવણીની ફતેહમાં બહુશીતા યુરોપીયન સંસ્થાનિકોએ પક્ષ આપેલા સુદર કાળાની ‘વૃદ્ધિ’એ સાબાર નેંધ લીધેલી છે તે ઉપરથી જોતાં એ ઉત્સવ કેવળ હોદીઓનોજ નહિ પરંતુ સમસ્ત સંસ્થાને પોતાનો કરી લીધેલો હતો. એકદાંમ ગવરનર મી. સીમોરે એ બલસાનું પ્રમુખસ્થાન લીધું હતું અને પોતાના ભાષણ ફરમીયાન હોદીઓએ એ સંસ્થાનની લાક્ષ્મી આપ્યાદી માં આપેલા કાળાનો ઉલ્લેખ કર્યો હતો. વધારેમાં તેમણે બહુવાજું હતું કે “આ ટાપુઓને તેઓએ દરિયાપાર હોંદુસ્તાનના મહાન દેશની સાથે જોડાયું કરેલું છે.”

આ સખળા હકીકતથી આ દેશમાં અમને ધજોલ આનંદ થાય છે.

શીજમાં આપણા ભાષાઓની સ્થિતિ જીનકાળમાં સુખી તો નહિજ હતી. આંત કરડા અમલમાંથી તેઓને પસાર થવું પડેલું છે. તેઓને પ્રથમ સંસ્થાનની ગુલાખી કરવાને બાવવા માં આવ્યા હતા અને એજ સ્થિતિમાં યુરોપીયન સંસ્થાનિકો તેઓને રાખવા માંગતા હતા. પરંતુ જે કંઈ બની શકે તેમ નહિ હતું. કુખો અને સંકટોમાંથી પસાર થઈ તેઓ આરજ વધી શક્યા અને આજે તેઓ કંઈક ફરજને પોતાના પગ પર ઉભતા થયા છે.

વળી યુરોપીયન સંસ્થાનિકો પક્ષ હવે સમજતા થયા બહુવાય છે કે તેઓની દેશની લામણીને પોખા કરવામાં ફામદો નથી અને હવે તેઓ પોતાની હાલની આપ્યાદીને તેઓને આભારી છે તેઓની તરફ વધારે દિલસોજથી વસ્તતા થયા છે.

તેમ છતાં પક્ષ આપણા ભાષાઓ શીજમાં સાવ મુસ્કેલી રહીત છે એમ તો નજ કહી શકાય. અને એ સ્થિતિ જીન જીન સંસ્થાનોમાં બંધ વસેલા આપણા ભાષાઓની કહી પક્ષ થશે ખરી એ સ્વાભાવિક પ્રશ્ન ઉત્પન થાય છે. અત્રે