

Indian Opinion

No. 2—Vol. XXIX.

Friday, January 9th, 1931.

Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.
Price Fourpence.

DEATH OF MOULANA MOHAMED ALI

S.A. INDIANS MOURN THE LOSS OF ONE OF INDIA'S MOST BRILLIANT SONS

A REUTER'S message from London on Monday morning announced the sad news of the death of Moulana Mohamed Ali, the Indian Moslem delegate to the Round Table Conference and one of the famous Ali Brothers closely associated with Mahatma Gandhi in the first non-co-operation movement in India, but was opposed to the present civil disobedience campaign.

Meeting At Durban

Immediately after the receipt of the sad news of his death in London a mass meeting of the Indian community under the auspices of the Natal Indian Congress was held in the Royal Picture Palace the same evening to express the sympathy of Natal Indians at the great loss which the Indian nation as a whole has suffered. Mr. Sorabjee Rustomjee, president of the Natal Indian Congress, presided.

Representatives of all sections of the local Indian community were present, and numerous tributes to the work accomplished by the dead Moslem leader were paid by the various speakers.

The Indian Chamber of Commerce, the Retailers Association, the Indian Merchants Association, the Anjuman Islam and several other patriotic, religious and social bodies were represented. Mr. Rustomjee referred to the great assistance the South African Indian deputation to India received from Moulana Mohamed Ali, and described him as one of India's most brilliant sons and said that his death was an irreparable loss to the whole Indian nation.

Hajees M. A. Motala, Abdul Hack Kazi, Ebrahim Jeewa, M. M. Haffejee, Advocate J. W. Godfrey, Mr. Amod Haffejee and Mr. Ismail Gora also touched upon his work for the causa of Islam and India.

Resolution Of Sympathy

The chairman then submitted the following resolution of sympathy, which was passed in silence:

"That this mass meeting of the Indian community, held under the auspices of the Natal Indian Congress, hereby records its profound sense of sympathy at the sad demise of the late Moulana Mohamed Ali, one of the ex-presidents of the Indian National

Congress, by whose death India has sustained an irreparable loss."

All the Indian stores in Durban were closed between 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. on Wednesday as an outward mark of sympathy and respect for the memory of the well known Moslem leader, Moulana Mahomed Ali. In the Municipal Indian market also business was at a complete standstill during the above mentioned period.

In the evening all the local mosques held special services at which prayers were offered for the repose of the soul of the departed Moulana.

Meeting At Dannhauser

A meeting of the Dannhauser Indian community was convened by Mr. Jamaloodeen Ahmed in the Mosque Sample Rooms, to offer prayers for the late Moulana Mohamed Ali. The following spoke on his life: Mr. D. Lazarus, Pundit Ramsoonder Patak, after which all joined in prayer.

The following cable was sent to Moulana Shaukat Ali, India Office, London:—

"Deeply grieved to learn of the death of one of the noblest sons of India. Moulana Mohamed Ali's death in the present critical situation is a tragedy to Muslim-Hindu unity. May Almighty bestow you, Begum Mahomed Ali and family with courage and patience in this irrecoverable loss."

Meeting At Capetown

The South African Muslim Conference, Capetown, representing Cape Malays, Indians, Arabs, and every nationality professing the Faith of Islam in South Africa and Lourenco Marques, passed a resolution expressing deep regret at the death of Moplana Mohamed Ali.

The life sketch of the late Moulana Mohamed Ali will be given in our next week's issue.

With this issue we present our readers with a photo supplement of the late Moulana Mohamed Ali with the hope that every Indian will treasure it and try to imbibe the spirit and devotion to duty that was possessed by Moulana Mohamed Ali.

CONCERNING JUSTICE

IN days when justice was administered by the King in person his judgments concluded with the fiat "Que le droit soit fait"—Let justice be done! Relativity obtains in the understanding and application of "justice" as it does in all things; our standards are limited by and represent the measure of *our* understanding of what is right or righteous. Man-made law purports to express and to apply man's consciousness and perception of the "Jus", the Right, the Real, the True, but is influenced by man's own weaknesses and defects.

Nature's law, which is but an expression of divine power, divine right or righteousness, would appear, in addition to its "creative" force, to be engaged with a sort of alchemical transmutation of the 'base' into the 'rare' and of the maintenance of equilibrium or harmony and of their readjustment or restoration when disturbed. The law of Nature, or divine Law is impersonal and impartial. It knows no favourites. It makes and unmake, breaking forms relentlessly as the needs of the ever-evolving life-force with which alone it is concerned call for their destruction and reconstruction, for its fuller expression. Qua humanity, who obeys, i.e. lives in harmony with the Law, gains; who disobeys, i.e. opposes, loses. What has to be evolved, unfolded, in Man, is his latent divinity—divine i.e. impersonal, impartial Love; divine understanding or knowledge; both these expressed in action. "Jus", Right embraces all three.

Man-made law is faulty, defective, for the reason that "folly darkens wisdom." Ignorance, whereby we "mistake these shows for real", and even when recognising their impermanence lust for them and cling to them, is the first aspect of this "folly". Fear is another. We fear where no fear should be—for the loss of that which our better understanding informs us has no real being, no real value, no permanence. Further, we profess to belief in divine Law and Order and Love expressed as Justice, yet our conduct gives the lie to our professions, proves that we lack Faith. We pretend to agree that righteousness alone breeds righteousness, and that Injustice reacts on the wrong-doer measure for measure, as indeed it does, yet we suffer ourselves to be cheated by false appearances, to lose sight of the substance in our eager chasing after shadows,

to become slaves to lust for possessions which but crumble to ashes, and finally to allow our lusts and our fears to arouse antagonisms bred of selfishness, envy, hatred and all "unkindness" to dominate our inter-human outlook and relationships.

We prate of a Fatherhood of God and its corollary the brotherhood of man, yet, lose no opportunity to emphasise unessential differences of race and colour and creed and to advance these as excuses for selfish exploitation at the urge of our egoism and greed. We indulge in empty phrases concerning an all-wise, all-just, all-seeing, all-protecting Providence, that marks the falling of even the meanest sparrow, yet we rarely hesitate to choose the bird in hand of worldly advantage rather than trust to the protection of Providence in an effort to do the right.

Our systems and our institutions do but reflect our mental outlook, constitute, as it were, a sort of synthesis of our character. They warn us that we are still idolators, still worshippers of the little "I", of the personality-self, and that the most-dissipating lessons Mahatma Gandhi is setting our deluded humanity are not being taught any too soon if we are to be saved from spiritual death.

ELEVENTH SESSION OF THE CONGRESS

THE proceedings of the Eleventh Session of the South African Indian Congress came to an end on New Year's day at Capetown amidst great enthusiasm. The delegates from the Cape and Transvaal provinces were present in their full numbers. From Natal twenty-four delegates attended. It is not exaggeration to say that the Conference was a huge success like the Emergency Conference held in October last at Johannesburg. The presence of Rev. C. F. Andrews gave great impetus to all the delegates and the spirit of courage prevailed at the Conference. The uppermost questions that engaged the minds of the delegates were the Asiatic Tenure Bill and Domicile. Since the passing of the resolution at the Emergency Conference regarding the Asiatic Tenure Bill the situation has remained just the same and hence it was felt that there was no necessity to modify the resolution in any form but to reiterate it with firmness. One after another the delegates declared that if

the Bill was not withdrawn and relief not granted to the Transvaal Indians by amending the restrictive legislations, they were prepared to sacrifice and start passive resistance. It is clear that important negotiations are going on between the Indian and the Union Governments. Sir Kurma Reddi in his address at the Conference said that "The Government of India have already cabled to me the outline of the matters on which I am to make representations to the Union Government. With a view to get one or two points cleared up I have cabled to India to obtain a few further instructions in the matter. I am expecting a reply shortly and when this is received I shall approach Dr. Malan as soon as possible." The officials of the Congress do not know the nature of these negotiations. When they showed the desire to know the nature of the negotiations Sir Kurma said that the instructions from the Government of India to him were to the effect that the representations that he will make to the Union Government are to be kept private and hence he is unable to reveal them unless he is authorised to do so by the Indian Government. It is a great pity that Sir Kurma's hands are thus tied down and frank discussion with the Congress officials on such a vital problem is prevented. It will indeed be a great wrong to blame Sir Kurma for this. We shall blame the system of the Agency of the Government of India. The President Mr. A. Christopher and other delegates strongly condemned the attitude of the Government of India and protested against the way in which the negotiations are carried on. The Congress passed a resolution to send a cable immediately to the Government of India to instruct their Agent to discuss with the officials of the Congress the nature of representations that they intend to make to the Union Government. The Congress did well in sending out the cable. The question of life and death is facing the Transvaal Indians. It is clear that the South African Indian Congress can never take the responsibility of accepting any compromise that may be arrived at between the two Governments if such a compromise is made by keeping the officials of the Congress in the dark. If the efforts of the Government of India are towards the direction of protecting the existing interests up to date, we warn the Transvaal Indians to beware against such compromise. We cannot sell away

the rights of the future Indian generation by accepting a compromise that protects the vested interests up to date. Our demands are definite and they are to the effect that the Tenure Bill must be withdrawn and relief should be granted to the Transvaal Indians by amending the Gold Law and the Township Act of 1908. We are glad to know that Mr. Andrews announced at the Conference that we can never accept segregation. India can never accept it nor can the Government of India. The S.A.I.C., together with Mr. Andrews will, we understand, issue a statement with regard to the policy of segregation. The question with us is not of getting a licence here or there or of protecting the properties here and there. With us the question is, what is the *Status* of our countrymen in the Transvaal? If the Government of India by keeping us in the dark arrive at a compromise with the Union Government and sell away our few rights that are now left, we urge our countrymen not to accept such a compromise but to come forward as brave men to protect not only their own self-respect but that of their Motherland India.

We have not sufficient words to express our feeling of gratitude and love on behalf of our countrymen to our worthy President Mr. A. Christopher and Mr. S. R. Naidoo the Secretary, for the services they have been rendering from the last two years to our countrymen. In the midst of great difficulties Mr. Naidoo has carried on his duties. The community is under a deep debt of gratitude to them. The treasurers Messrs. Iswarbhai and Lakhi saw to the financial side of the Congress well. The present officials have now retired and new election has taken place. Mr. Sorabjee Rustomjee is elected President of the Congress by the Conference. Owing to unavoidable circumstances he was unfortunately unable to attend the Conference. His election is therefore provisional and subject to his consent. Messrs. P. R. Pather and A. I. Kajee are elected as Secretaries and Messrs. O. H. A. Jhaveri and Cassim Adam are elected as Treasurers of the Congress. We hope these new officials will give good account of their future work to the South African Indian community.

GREETINGS FROM FRIENDS

(BY C. F. ANDREWS)

I HAVE been asked by Mr. Pragji Desai on my arrival in Capetown to write at once for INDIAN OPINION and I gladly accept the opportunity of sending through its columns my deep love and affection to all my friends in South Africa and Rhodesia and wherever INDIAN OPINION makes its long journeys—friends very dear to me, whom I can reach in no other way. Let me say at once that though it was with very great joy and satisfaction of heart that I was able at last to come to you, yet it was also with very great difficulty and some suffering to those whom I dearly love. When the first cable from the Transvaal came to me in America, I was with the poet, Rabindranath Tagore, whom now for nearly twenty years I have called my Gurudev. Every Indian who reads this article knows well, what this sacred word means and what it implies. Without his blessing, how could I possibly come? And yet, when the telegram came, he was so ill in America, with heart trouble, that even though he would have consented to my going immediately if I had pressed it, nevertheless I could not press it at such a time when he was seriously ill. Therefore I sent the cable explaining the difficulty of the situation and saying that I still hoped to be able to come out in January. It was with very much hesitation that I sent at last this message and after many days of prayer. It seemed to me that this would be too late and yet however much I tried to fit in the steamers from America I did not see how it was possible to arrive earlier. The answer from the Transvaal greatly relieved me when it reached me in New York, for the Congress did not press me to come at an earlier date and expressed also deepest sympathy with the poet, Rabindranath Tagore, in his serious illness. This showed me that you appreciated my difficulties. At last my plans were made to leave New York on December 12th and reach England in time to catch the Union Castle Steamer on December 26th. This seemed the earliest date I could arrange and it would have enabled me to render the full service which I ought to render to my Gurudev and also to spend the Christmas festival with my sisters. One of my sisters, who is very dear to me, has just lost her husband and she has been left a widow with her fatherless

children. She is in New Zealand, and we were going to remember her together very specially in our family circle in England where we should all meet on December 25, Christmas Day. Therefore I sent a cable to my sister in England: "Spending Christmas with you. Sailing next day for Capetown by "Winchester Castle." They were very delighted to know that after so many years we should thus, in a time of sorrow, be united together at Christmas time. Then, in God's mercy and goodness, a change took place for the better in the poet's health and I was able to receive his blessing and farewell and to leave New York on November 26th instead of December 12th. This would give me a little more time in London to see Mr. Sastri and obtain all the help I could from him and start by the "Carnavon Castle" on December 12th reaching Capetown on December 29th. There was great joy in my heart in the midst of anxiety when I could cable this news. For I knew that it would bring me just in time for the South African Indian Congress if (as I fully hoped) it would be held in Capetown. Only one disappointment remained which my sisters in England had to bear. For I had to send them the news that I could not keep Christmas with them. It was very hard to disappoint them at such a time of sorrow after raising in their minds the hope that I should be able to be with them. But they were very good indeed about it, when I told them that it was for their Indian sisters in *their* great sorrow that I was asking them not to delay my departure and they very gladly allowed me to go. You will easily realise that the greatest anxiety above everything else in my own mind was the Poet's illness. But he had told me that on no account should I ruin the work that had to be done in South Africa by the added anxiety about him which could do no practical good.

In London, I had many talks with our true friends Mr. Sastri and Mr. and Mrs. Polak. Our conversation about all those who were our mutual friends in South Africa was almost endless. Mrs. Polak especially (as I have always found) has kept up her interest in a most wonderful manner. Every name is well known to her and every phase of the subject. It was of very great importance to have her with us in our discussions; for she never left out the woman's

side of the question and laid stress on the fact that there could be no solution of the problem without their full help in all our difficulties.

I found Mr. Sastri's health very greatly weakened by his arduous life in England. Probably, in spite of all the strenuous work he had to undertake in South Africa he was never so happy and so well in health as he was out here in this land. I know well that his health here was very precarious indeed. But with his heart trouble that must happen wherever he is and certainly South Africa suited him. In the dark, cold, foggy atmosphere of London he was very unwell.

There was one whom I hoped to see with him, Mr. Kodanda Rao. He had rightly gained the affection of South African Europeans, Indians and Natives. But he was still in India, so I did not see him this time. I know he would have wished to send his love also.

South African Indian Congress

Eleventh Session At Cape Town

A Successful Conference

The eleventh annual session of the South African Indian Congress opened at the City Banqueting Hall on the 29th of December at Capetown. Conspicuous in the gathering of Indian and European notabilities on the platform were Sir Kurma Reddi, Agent to the Government of India, the Mayor, the Rev. C. F. Andrews and several Europeans and Indians.

Mr. A. Christopher, President of the Congress, was in the chair, and there was a large gathering of delegates from the Cape, the Transvaal and Natal. The following delegates were present from each Province:—

TRANSVAAL—Hajee Joosub Ebrahim Gardi, President T.I.C., Messrs. S. M. Desai, P. K. Desai, Rev. B. L. E. Sigamoney, S. R. Medh (Executive members), Messrs. Cassim Adam, Ynsop Essa, Lalbhai V. Patel, M. D. Bharoochi, Mavjeebhai P. Patel, Mahomedi Abed, Chhotubhai B. Desai, E. M. Patel, Ranchhodjee Valjee Patel, Dawood Bnlaveky, Ebrahim N. M. Patel, Morarjee D. Desai, Adam Essa, Dhyabhai Parbhoo, Vally Essop, Mooljee Master, I. E. Sheit, D. M. Nursoo, Shaikh Amod, Perumal Naidoo, Goolam Rassul Munshi, Coopunmy Moodley, S. I. Tickley, A. A. Billimoria, Hassan Sale Daya, Bandhoo Gangadin, Mahomed Goolam Patel, A. E. Akhalwaya, Fakir Ismail Dalair, D. N. Patel.

NATAL—Messrs. A. I. Kajee, P. R. Pather, G. R. John, Lachman Panday, Narotam Bhoola, R. A. Moodley, R. B. Chetty, Parbhoo Makarjee, A. Sookdeo, M. I. Kajee, E. G. David, O. H. A. Jhaveri, Shaikh Ahmed, Ragoonath Singh, A. Dookan, A. E. Shaikh, L. M. Lokhat, Dawood E. Parek, A. Shaikh, Suleman M. Parek, P. V. Pather, B. M. Ally.

CAPE PROVINCE—Messrs. H. K. Gool, A. Ismail, D. A. Nagia, S. Casoojee, M. D. Barmania, M.A., V. N. Pillay, D. Morgan, M. M. Gangat, V. Goppal, C. S. Pillay, M. S. Hoorzook, Parbhoo Patel, Ahmed Maliak, M. I. Khan, Adam C. Baximia, Hajee Hassan, Ahmed Khan, S. D. Hoorzook, Hakim Khan, C. B. Reddi, H. I. Hamdulay, Essak Buley, E. I. Patel, Dulabh Nathoo, Moosa Ismail, Abdul Hamid, Suleman Moosa, Jemail Vally, D. M. Chawda, H. M. Parker, Suleman Moosa, Ally Ebrahim, N. S. Chetty.

The proceedings of the Conference started with prayers by Moulvi Sahab, Mr. Pragji Desai and Rev. B. L. E. Sigamoney.

Messages of Goodwill

Messages of goodwill were read from the Acting Governor-General and from Mr. H. W. Sampson (Minister of Posts and Telegraphs) who is now on his way to Delhi.

Sympathy With Dr. Malan

The President expressed the sympathy of the Indian community of South Africa with Dr. D. F. Malan in the death of his wife.

Mayor's Welcome

The delegates were welcomed on behalf of the citizens of Capetown by the Mayor, the Rev. A. J. S. Lewis. He said that, while he was deeply sympathetic with their cause, much of their deliberations would be of a political nature, and, as Mayor of Capetown and the representative of all sections of the City's population, it was his duty to remain steadfastly aloof from politics. He urged them, however, to act always in a spirit of reasonableness and to speak in moderate terms. This, said Mr. Lewis, had been Sir Kurma's advice to them, and he was convinced that in the end they would get justice.

Reception Committee's Chairman's Speech

Mr. Khan Gool the chairman of the reception committee welcomed the delegates. Mr. Nagia read his speech which was as follows:—

"Mr. Mayor, Sir Kurma, Rev. C. F. Andrews, Mr. President and brother delegates:—

It is indeed a privilege and pleasure to me on this momentous occasion to extend on behalf of the Cape Indian Congress, and on your behalf a hearty and cordial welcome to Mr. Andrews who has arrived this morning from London.

Need I say that the name of Mr. Andrews is a household word in every Indian home in South Africa. He came to this country several times to assist us in our struggles. He, therefore, is no stranger to us. He is our true and trusted friend wherever Indians are. He became their friend, and has given much of his time in working for them. His presence here this morning will, I have no doubt, inspire us with that ideal, which he always espoused, namely to stand by and champion the cause of the oppressed. He has come to us at an opportune moment in answer to our call, and we have no doubt that he will co-operate with us, and will work with us in averting the grave crisis that is facing the Indian community today.

To my brother delegates, who come here from the Transvaal and Natal Provinces to attend this Conference, and to take part in its deliberations, I extend a sincere welcome. I am aware that they will be called upon to discuss and deliberate upon very important matters affecting the status and position of Indians in this country. I have no doubt that they will give their serious consideration to matters placed before them, but apart from this,

I hope and trust that they will enjoy their short stay in Cape Town, and I wish them all a pleasant time.

I am but voicing the sentiments of all those present here, when I say how highly we appreciate the presence of our Mayor here, who has formally opened the Conference this afternoon. We are thankful to him, and highly value the honour he has done us.

Lastly, ladies and gentlemen, we are pleased at the presence of the Agent to the Government of India (Sir K. V. Reddi) and the members of his staff. I also extend a hearty welcome to them, and trust that their stay in Cape Town will be a pleasant one to them.

I trust that you, my brother delegates will be unanimous in your resolutions and pray that the Great God will guide and direct you in your deliberations so that this Conference and its work may be crowned with success."

Reply To The Welcome Address

The Rev. B. L. E. Sigamoney on behalf of the Transvaal delegates, and Mr. P. R. Pather on behalf of the Natal delegates, replied in suitable terms to the welcome address and thanked the Mayor.

Sir Kurma Reddi's Address

Sir Kurma Reddi, Agent to the Government of India, delivered his speech as follows:—

"Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is with great pleasure that I take this opportunity of addressing you on this occasion of the general meeting of the South African Indian Congress at Cape Town. With all my heart I join the Mayor, in whom we are deeply grateful for honouring us with his presence today, in welcoming you here, I wish the Conference every success and I am sure that your deliberations will be profitable and useful.

Before proceeding further, I wish to take this opportunity of offering our heartfelt sympathy to Dr. Malan in the great loss which he has suffered four days ago. I am sure that every one in this hall and the entire Indian community in this country will join me in sharing with him his sorrow in this great bereavement. As you all know Mrs. Malan was a large-hearted and sympathetic lady and in her death South Africa has suffered a heavy loss.

As at the time of the meeting of the Emergency Conference in Johannesburg, the question uppermost in your minds must be that of the Transvaal Asiatic Tenure (Amendment) Bill. The depth of your feeling on the subject of this Bill was shown by the Resolution that you passed during that Conference. His Excellency the Viceroy and the honourable member in charge of the Overseas Department in India have taken from the beginning a keen interest in this matter and have been making constant enquiries on the subject. They are kept informed and are fully aware of your views on it. They have not only secured an adjournment of the discussion of this Bill in May last, but have bestowed their best and anxious attention on every aspect of the implications of the Bill. It would also appear that their representatives to the Round Table Conference have held informal consultations thereon with General Hertzog in London during his stay there. Sir Fazl-i-Hussain has made it clear in a statement made to Mr. Waiz, the representative of the Imperial Indian Citizenship Association of Bombay, that he fully understands your outlook. You may rest assured that during negotiations with the Union Government, the Government of India will constantly keep in view the depth of feeling

amongst you and the very great apprehension which you entertain concerning the Bill. Referring to a representation made to him, Sir Fazl-i-Hussain has replied that he yields to none in anxiety that no harm should come to Indian national self-respect or racial pride and also that the danger to the economic interests of the Transvaal Indians has been engaging their earnest attention. These two points will be constantly kept in view by the Government of India while conducting their negotiations with the Union Government.

Dr. Malan has expressed to me his willingness to hear the views of the Government of India during January. The Government of India have already cabled to me the outline of the matters on which I am to make representations to the Union Government. With a view to get one or two points cleared up I have cabled to India to obtain a few further instructions in the matter. I am expecting a reply shortly and when this is received I shall approach Dr. Malan as soon as possible. Sir Fazl-i-Hussain has expressed his belief that the question is capable of solution only in an atmosphere of reasonableness from all sides with due regard to the circumstances of the past and I am sure that this idea will commend itself to you.

Dr. Malan has, I believe, made it clear to the deputation of your Congress that owing to the fact that the Bill emanates from a Select Committee and is not a Government measure, it must be reintroduced next session and no alteration can be made in it except by way of amendments moved in the Assembly when the House is in Committee. You must therefore be prepared for the reintroduction of the Bill in its present form. However, before this takes place the Government of India hope to be able successfully to make representations for the alleviation of the hardships which you apprehend. In the meantime I must earnestly ask you not to make the task of the Government of India more difficult than it is at present. I trust that you will refrain from strong language, for such language cannot possibly help your cause and is inclined merely to draw attention away from real grievances. I do earnestly hope that your deliberations will be conducted with the moderation and restraint which the gravity of the situation demands and that you will bring to bear your political sagacity and considered judgment upon the questions at issue and suggest, if possible, some solution within the range of practical politics which may be of help to the two Governments in their impending negotiations. It is exceedingly important that your speeches and decisions should also be such as to make it easy for those in this country who sympathise with at least some of your claims, to support them. I myself have been from the beginning well aware of the importance of the crisis and of the seriousness of the situation. I have communicated all that I have been able to find out about the Transvaal problem to the Government of India and the members of that Government are now thoroughly informed as to your views on it and they fully understand the problem and realise its gravity. I wish to add, if I may, that I have faith in the statesmanship, sense of justice and generosity of General Hertzog and Dr. Malan. It may reasonably be hoped that these statesmen in their desire to meet as far as possible the wishes of a friendly Government of a sister State, and to do justice to a voteless population will find a way out, which, while protecting you against the hardships that you envisage, will yet be not inconsistent with the policy of their own Government.

There are two other subjects on your agenda which I wish briefly to mention. The first is that of the Domicile rights of those Indians who returned to South Africa from abroad before July 6th 1930, but who have been held to have lost their domicile under the Immigration Act of 1913 through going out of South Africa and remaining outside for a number of years and who therefore have been required to re-earn their South African domicile by three years continuous residence in this country. Both the South African Indian Congress and myself have made representations to the Minister of the Interior in regard to the hardship involved in the inability of these men either to bring their families into South Africa during these three years or to leave the country for a business visit. The Government of India have been making enquiries on the subject and I have kept them informed of all that has taken place here.

The other object which I wish to mention is that of educated emigrants. This is a highly controversial question and in regard to it I merely wish to bring to your notice the absolute necessity of your coming to a definite conclusion in the course of this Conference, since I understand that the Union Government will not allow any further time in which to discuss the scheme that is now before you.

Finally I wish once more to convey my best wishes for a successful Conference."

The President garlanded the Mayor, the Rev. C. F. Andrews and Sir Kurma Reddi.

Mr. Andrews' Address

The Rev. C. F. Andrews, when he rose to speak, had a very cordial reception. He addressed the gathering in both English and dialect.

Mr. Andrews, after conveying the greetings of Mr. Sastri from London, went on to pay a tribute of affection and respect to the memory of Mrs. D. F. Malan and of sympathy with Dr. Malan.

"Then I want to give you some good news, obtained at first hand from India," he told the delegates. "It is that Mahatma Gandhi is in good health, and we can feel assured that his sympathy is with us through our troubles here. There can be no question that if I had consulted him about coming out here he would have said: 'Charlie, you must go.'"

His second impulse to come to South Africa, said Mr. Andrews, was from the poet, Rabindranath Tagore. When the first cable of invitation arrived the poet had just had a serious illness, and when the cable was put before him he said: "At present do not go while I am in this condition." His health, however, improved so considerably as to allow the speaker to leave even earlier than he had expected.

Mr. Andrews recalled the stand he took at the time of a previous crisis, when the Class Areas Bill seemed likely to be passed; they trusted in Divine wisdom then and he was sure it would not fail them now.

"We are struggling once more to gain for ourselves a lawful and dignified position in this country as children of liberty."

We will give the President's speech and the resolutions passed at the Conference in our next issue.

A Renter's message from Bombay dated Jan 6, reports that Mahatma Gandhi's son, Ramdas Gandhi, has been sentenced to six months' rigorous imprisonment.

Indians In South Africa

The East London *Daily Dispatch* writes as follows in its issue of December 31:—

It was only to be expected that the Transvaal Land Tenure Bill would be the main item on the agenda of the South African Indian Congress, and one could have wished that Sir Kurma Reddi, the Agent-General for India in South Africa, had been more explicit in his references to the matter. From the telegraphed report of Sir Kurma's speech one does not receive the impression that he has framed definite objections to the Bill, and this is to be regretted, for in its present form the Bill is a piece of repressive legislation which, if it is put on the Statute Book, will cause unhappiness and ill-feeling. While we are in complete accord with Sir Kurma Reddi when he appeals to the South African Indians for moderation, we feel that at this stage the Indian case should be clearly and unequivocally stated, so that before the subject is raised in the Assembly all the members of that body may be acquainted with the arguments both of the Government and of the Indian community, and may thus be enabled to approach the matter with a full knowledge of the ideas of both parties in—we regret to call it so—the dispute.

Complete social equality between Indians and Europeans in South Africa is no more to be favoured than such a state of affairs between Natives and Europeans, but it is impossible not to feel that there is justification for the remarks of Mr. Christopher. "It is difficult for us," he said, "to know what we should do to win from the governing race recognition as permanent inhabitants of this country. You are familiar with the charge that we did not live as Europeans did. But the moment we began to live in the manner of Europeans, owning houses and, maybe, cars, we were then charged as being an economic menace to the Europeans." Mr. Tyson, when giving evidence before the Select Committee in his capacity as acting Agent-General, made the same point. "If you segregate the Indians from the Europeans," he said, "how are they to attain to Western standards? They are thrown upon themselves." It is surely difficult for the Government to offer an explanation of its attitude. If the objection to Indians was that they had not attained to Western standards, why look for further objections when they have done so; or why counsel segregation, so that they cannot do so?

What must be realised is that the Indians in South Africa do not want, and are not claiming, social equality with Europeans, but they are demanding equal rights, and there seems no valid reason for refusing to grant such rights. Immigration from India has ceased, so that in one or two generations all the Indians in the Union will be South African-born. They will be as truly South African nationals as any other members of the community. Are they even then to be relegated, definitely and irrevocably, to a position of complete inferiority? There can be no justification for treating them thus, and it will be unwise to do so. What is forgotten by so many Europeans in South Africa is the fact that the economic development of this country can never be complete until Europeans, Indians and Natives are recognised as being each of them factors in this development. To view matters economic in the Union without including Indians and Natives is not to put too fine a point on it, absurd, and shows a grave lack of business acumen. The present Government, as is well known, has never shown an understanding of economics, but what little knowledge of

the subject it has appears in this case to be completely overwhelmed by colour complex. There is apparently a firm conviction that the only way in which white supremacy can be maintained is by adopting repressive measures towards non-Europeans. There never was a more fatal error, and the sooner it is realised that the "wallop the nigger" tendency of Kruger days is intolerable under modern conditions and in a British Dominion, the better it will be for all concerned. Sir Kurma Reddi should lose no time in informing the Government that the Indian community cannot and will not submit to such treatment.

Late Moulana Mohamed Ali

(BY C. F. ANDREWS)

"My first meeting with the late Moulana Mohamed Ali was in the Press camp at the great Durbar at Delhi in the year 1911, when the King Emperor came out to India after his coronation.

"Ali was at that time the youngest member, and also the most brilliant journalist of the Indian Press. He had come out from England where he had passed a high examination at Lincoln College, Oxford, and had been famous as a speaker and debator at the Oxford University Union.

"His coming to India had brought new life into Indian journalism, and he developed a new style of his own in a weekly magazine called the *Comrade*, which at once became one of the most popular newspapers in India on account of Mohamed Ali's editorials. He took up from the first the strongest possible national position and became on the Mohammedan side the leader of the young Mohammedan National Party.

"His brother, Shaukat Ali, joined him in this and their great opportunity came when the whole Mohammedan community roused at the end of the war by what was called the Khilafat question.

Religious Leader

"From this time forward he became easily the most prominent religious leader among the 70,000,000 Moslems in India, and among the national heroes of those days he was only second to Gandhi himself in popular esteem. During this crisis his own religious life became much deeper and his enthusiasm for Islam led him to make journeys both to England and also to Arabia and Egypt in furtherance of the Islamic cause. He was quite unsparing in his utter devotion and self-sacrifice in the cause of his religion. Though suffering from an incurable disease, he never gave himself a moment's rest when the cause of his religion was at stake.

"When I met him in London, only a few weeks ago, he told me with his own lips in a whisper that his days were numbered. But his old spirit of devotion to Islam remained the deepest thing in his nature to the very end, and even in his acute suffering he would daily rise from his bed and say his prayers at the five appointed times.

"He asked to see me the moment he heard that I had landed in England and told me that the one wish in his heart for which he was prepared to sacrifice life itself was to see his country a free country, and his religion honoured through the world.

Ideal Of Unity

"He talked long and earnestly about the cause of Hindoo-Moslem unity, and more than any one

present at the round table conference in London he himself was prepared to give up life itself for that great cause. It is not unlikely that he left before he died some message to his fellow countrymen, and I feel certain that it would contain an urgent prayer that whatever happens, Hindoos and Moslems in India should remain friends and work out together their common salvation as free citizens, gaining for their country at least its full Swaraj.

"To me, personally, he was always a very dear friend and he received me on all occasions with deep personal affection. His own character was full of generosity and good nature and he was the last man in the world to bear a grudge against any one who had done him an injury. His life will remain to me as a memory of what a great patriot has to endure in the cause of his country and religion."

Pretoria Asiatic Bazaar Regulations

(Under Section 10 of the Municipal Amending Ordinance No. 17 of 1905 (Transvaal) and Section 10 of the Municipal Amending Ordinance No. 26 of 1906 (Transvaal))

(Continued from last week)

ANIMALS IN BAZAAR

33. No occupier shall bring to or have or keep on his lot in any Bazaar any pig, cattle, sheep, goat, horse, mule, donkey or poultry. The Council may assign a place or places in or in the neighbourhood of any Bazaar for the erection of kraals enclosures sheds or buildings for keeping such stock (other than pigs) as aforesaid as may be owned by the inhabitants of a Bazaar and may make such charges for the rental or use thereof as it may think fit and may from time to time make such orders as may be necessary and reasonable for the proper control and regulation thereof. The owners of any aforesaid stock or animals shall comply with such orders as the Council may issue as aforesaid and any failure to comply with such orders shall constitute an offence.

RIGHT OF ENTRY BY SUPERINTENDENT

34. The Superintendent or any other person authorised thereto by the Council shall at all reasonable times have access to all lots, dwellings, erections and buildings and every part thereof situate in a Bazaar for the purpose of inspection and no person shall at any time obstruct him in such inspection or refuse or interfere with such access as aforesaid.

PROHIBITION OF OBJECTIONABLE ENTERTAINMENTS

35. The Superintendent may prohibit any game or entertainment in a Bazaar which from its character is likely to create a disturbance, nuisance or annoyance to residents in such Bazaar or be indecent or subversive of good morals and may further prescribe the hours during which any game or entertainment may alone take place. The occupier of any lot on which any prohibited game or entertainment takes place or on which any game or entertainment takes place during prohibited hours as well as all persons taking part therein or present thereat shall be guilty of an offence.

OBSTRUCTION OF SERVANTS OF COUNCIL

36. Every person who shall obstruct the Superintendent or other servant or employee of the Council in the execution of his duty shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding £5. or in default of payment of such fine to imprisonment with or without hard labour for a period not exceeding seven days.

SERVICE OF NOTICES

37. Where any notice is required under these Regulations or otherwise to be given to the holder of a Permit or occupier it shall be sufficient if such notice is affixed in a conspicuous position on some part of the premises to which it refers.

NOTICES OF REGULATIONS

38. The Superintendent shall cause a copy in English and Afrikaans of all Regulations, orders or instructions relating to the control management and administration of a Bazaar to be posted and maintained in a conspicuous place in such Bazaar for the information of the inhabitants thereof and any person defacing removing or tampering with any such notice shall be guilty of an offence.

PENALTIES

39. Any person contravening or committing a breach of any of the provisions of these Regulations in respect of which a penalty is not specially provided shall upon first conviction be liable to a fine not exceeding £10. 0. 0. (TEN POUNDS STERLING) and upon second conviction to a fine not exceeding £15. 0. 0. (FIFTEEN POUNDS STERLING) and upon a third or subsequent conviction to the fine not exceeding £50. 0. 0. (FIFTY

POUNDS STERLING) or in default of payment of any aforesaid fine to imprisonment with or without hard labour for a period not exceeding three months.

COMMENCEMENT OF REGULATIONS

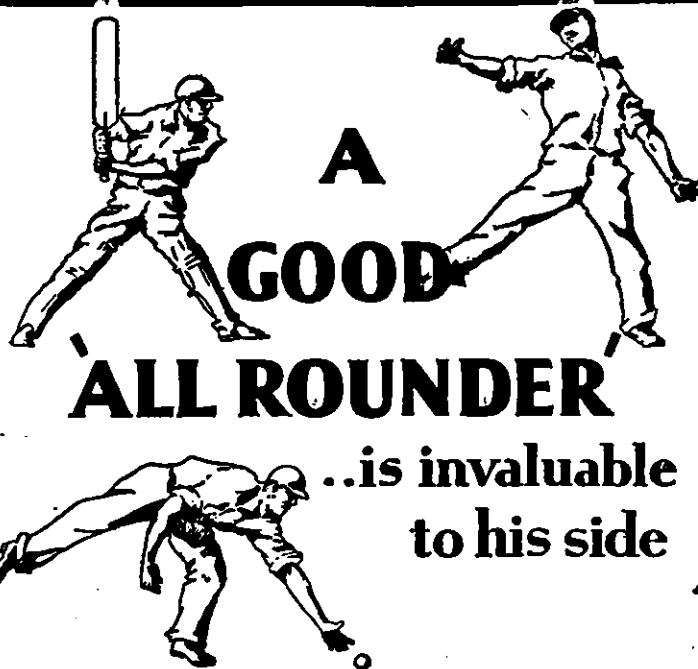
40. These Regulations shall take effect and be of full force as and from the date of the first publication of the same in the Government Gazette provided always that all persons then lawfully residing, carrying on business or trading in and occupying a lot in a Bazaar shall be entitled to continue their occupancy of such lot, under the same terms and conditions and upon payment of the same rental and other charges upon which they have theretofore occupied such lot or theretofore paid until the 31st. day of December 1930, from and after which date all such persons shall apply for and have issued to them new Permits or leases or tenancies as the case may be in terms of and subject to these Regulations.

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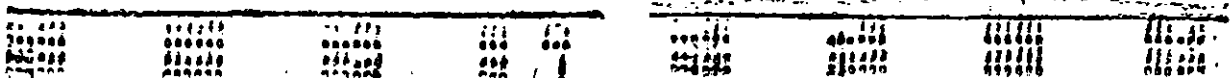
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ઈન્ડિયન ઓપિનિયન.

પુસ્તક ૧૯ મું.

શીનીકચ, શુક્રવાર, તારીખ ૯ જાન્યુવારી ૧૯૩૦

અંક ૨

મોલાના મહમદ અલીનો સ્વર્ગવાસ

સાઉથ આફ્રિકાના હિંદીઓનો શોક

અમારો મોલાના મહમદ અલીનો સ્વર્ગવાસ ખાસ્સા કે દોઢથી ત્રણ વર્ષ પહેલાં સુધી સુસ્તીમાં કેવીએટ તરીકે હાજરી આપવા ગયેલા મોલાના મહમદ અલી સ્વર્ગવાસ ખાસ્સા છે. તેઓ અણવી વયેલા અલી ખાનખાનના એક હવા અને કોઈના પહેલી સંવાદકની લડકમાં મહાત્મા ગાંધીજી સાથે ધણાજ નિકટના સમાગમમાં જોડાયા હતા પણ હાલની સલામતી પ્રસાદી વેળામાં જોડાયા હતા. જેટલાક વખત જ્યાં તેમની સંબંધિત સારી તો નહોતી રહેતી તેઓ "બુધ્ધીશીલ" ની ખીમતીથી ખીડાતા હતા. જે વખત તેઓ દોઢથી ત્રણ વર્ષ પહેલાં મોલાના મહમદ અલીના સ્વર્ગવાસ ખાસ્સા હતા તેમની તબીબત ધણીજ નાદુરસ્ત હતી છતાં તેઓએ લંડન જવાનું જોખમ ખેડ્યું તે બતાવી અમે છે કે હોલ્લી ધરી સુધી દેહ પ્રત્યેનો તેઓનો પ્રેમ ખીજ કોઈથી ઉલટતો નહોતો. તેઓનું અવસાન અણવાયું હતું. તેઓના સ્વર્ગવાસના સમાચાર વીજળીના વેગે અધેજ ફેલાઈ ગયા હતા જે અણી આખી હોલ્લી કોમમાં ધણીજ અમગીની ફેલાવા પામી હતી. અમારો સોમવારે સાંજે નાટાલ ઇન્ડિયન કોંગ્રેસના ક્ષાત્રપતિને હોલ્લીઓનો એક જાહેરસભા વિષ્ટોરીયા સ્ટ્રીટ પર આવેલા રાયલ પીકચેર પેલેસમાં મોલાના મહમદ અલીના સ્વર્ગવાસથી હોલ્લી પ્રખરે અણેલી ખોટ ગણવ હોય એ દર્શાવવા અણી હતી.

નાટાલ ઇન્ડિયન કોંગ્રેસના પ્રેસીડેન્ટ શ્રી. સેરામજી રસ્તમજી પ્રમુખસ્થાન લીધું હતું. દરેક જાતીના હોલ્લીઓએ હાજરી આપી હતી અને શરખાત ધંધર પ્રાર્થનાથી શરૂ હતી. ધણા મોલાનારાઓએ મરહુમની કાર્કીના વખાણ કર્યા હતા. ઇન્ડિયન ગેમ્મર એફ ડોમર, રીટેલર્સ એસોસિએશન, મરચંટ એસોસિએશન, અનબુમન પ્રસ્લામ વિગેરે સંસ્થાઓના અમલદારોએ પણ હાજરી આપી હતી.

પ્રમુખે મોલાના મહમદ અલીને સાઉથ આફ્રિકાના હિંદીઓના ડેપ્યુટી પ્રેસીડેન્ટની કહેલી આરે મદદતે વિષે જ્ઞાન ખેંચ્યું હતું, અને તેઓને હોલ્લીઓ એક મહાન સુખ તરીકે વર્ણવી જણાવ્યું હતું કે આખા દેશને, તેમના સ્વર્ગવાસથી ન પુરી સહાય તેવી ખોટ મળે છે. માદ સેસર એમ. એ. મેલાજી પાખીમ, હવડ મોખ મેચ. દરેક, હવડલક રાખીએ છીએ.

કાલ, ઇસ્માઈલ મોરા, અને એડવોકેટ મોરે વિગેરે અલસોએ મોલાના મહમદ અલીને પ્રસ્લામ અને ક્રીદ પ્રત્યે જાણવેલી સેવાની તારીફ કરી હતી ખાસ તીએ મુખ્ય ઠરાવ સર્વેએ ઉભા થઈ કાલિથી પસાર કર્યો હતો.

ડરાય
"રાષ્ટ્રીય સહાયતાના એક વખતના પ્રમુખ મોલાના મહમદ અલીના આકાશ અવસાન માટે કે જેમના સ્વર્ગવાસથી હોલ્લીને ન પુરી સહાય તેવી અણેલી ખોટ ગણવ નાટાલ ઇન્ડિયન કોંગ્રેસની આ સભા ખેંચી હોલ્લી લાગણીની નેધ છે છે."

માદ સભા વિસર્જન થઈ હતી.
ડરખનમાં દુકાનો બંધ રહી
અમારો મુખવારે બપોરના ૨ થી સાંજના ૫ વાગ્યા સુધી ડરખનમાં સર્ગ હોલ્લીઓની દુકાનો અને મુકીસીપલ ઇન્ડિયન મારકેટ પણ મહલાલો મહમદ અલીના સ્વર્ગવાસ ગણવ શોક દર્શાવવા બંધ રાખવામાં આવી હતી.

સંજના સર્ગ પ્રમાણિક પ્રસજ્જોમાં તેમના આત્માને શાંતિ ઇચ્છા ખાસ અણેલી કરવામાં આવી હતી.

ખીજ સલામો
ફરહાન, જોલાની મખર્જ, પ્રીટોરીયા, ડેનહાઉસર વિગેરે સાઉથ આફ્રિકાના દરેક ભાગોમાં મોલાના મહમદ અલીના સ્વર્ગવાસ થયા ગણવ શોક દર્શાવવા હોલ્લીઓની સભાઓ થઈ હતી. જેમાં હોલ્લીઓના ઠરાવો પસાર કરવામાં આવ્યા હતા.

આવતા અંક પર મુહુતવી
મરહુમ મોલાના મહમદ અલીનું જીવન વર્તા અમારે અનીવાર્ય સંજોગને લઈને મુલતવી શાખવું પડ્યું છે જે અણે હવે પુછીના અંકમાં આપશું.

આજના અંકનો મુખવારે
આજના અંકના મુખવારે તરીકે રાષ્ટ્રીય નેતા મરહુમ મોલાના મહમદ અલીની જીવન આમારા વાંકે મે બેટ આપીએ છીએ. જે છ મી હોલ્લી સંધરશે અને તેમના જોવા સ્વદેશ પ્રેમ અને દેશમક્તિ ખીલવા પ્રખવ કરશે. જોવી અણે હવે મેલાજી પાખીમ, હવડ મોખ મેચ. દરેક, હવડલક રાખીએ છીએ.