

# Indian Opinion

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## NOTES AND NEWS

THE largest number of Indians will be leaving the country this month under the assisted emigration scheme since the Agreement of 1927. There are 950 on the books reported to be waiting for passages out of whom about 120 are due to leave by the *Kathawar* on Nov. 21, and 430 adults and nearly 200 children making a total of 630 will sail for Madras on the s.s. *Umzumbi* on Nov. 28. The remaining will have to wait for the next ship chartered for the purpose. Shipments are made three or four times a year. All these Indians who are leaving the country are mainly of the labouring class from the mines and sugar estates and unemployment is said to be the cause that is driving them out.

THE following are comparative figures for 1930 and 1931 showing how great has been the move for repatriation:—

	1930	
March	295	
June	205	
September	133	
	<b>Total</b>	<b>633</b>
	1931	
February	194	
May	220	
August	345	
November	750	
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1,509</b>

Under the Government repatriation scheme, all Indians over 16 years of age are allowed £20 for the return to their country.

REPORTS have been received at the Congress office that this sudden exodus of Indian repatriates is due to false rumours being spread among ignorant Indians that, if they did not leave this country now, they would have no opportunity to do so after the end of this year for the repatriation scheme would be ended and no bonuses would be available. Rumours are also reported to have been spread that unless Indians left this country soon things would be made so intolerable for them that it would be practically impossible for them to live in peace. Who is responsible for these rumours it is difficult to say. It is easy for the Government to deny having any hand in it. Nor have we any authentic grounds for accusing the Government. But rumours are there nevertheless, and the Congress officials have very rightly deemed it advisable to take the necessary steps to dissipate them.

THE marriage between Fatimabibi, daughter of Mr. A. I. Kajee, and Mr. Ebrahim, son of Mr. Mahomed Ebrahim Barmania, was performed last Sunday at 11 a.m. at Isipingo. There was a very large gathering of Indians and many speeches were made

by the officials of the Congress and others and songs sung congratulating Mr. A. I. Kajee and his aged father Mr. Ismail Mahomed Kajee Bhaichacha, who was fortunate to see the wedding of his grand daughter, and blessing the couple with a long, happy and prosperous life. The happy couple was the recipient of many useful gifts from numerous friends and well-wishers. Over a thousand people partook of the wedding feast.

LORD Delamere died at Nairobi on Nov. 13. His name was well-known throughout East Africa favourably among the Whites and unfavourably among the Indians. Among the White settlers he was considered to be a patriotic person for he worked hard in the Legislative Council for the development of what is now known as Kenya Colony as a land for White settlers. He took a leading part in the agitation for reserving the high lands for White settlement against which Indians vainly protested. The White settlers of Kenya Colony have indeed lost a valuable friend.

GENERAL Smuts leaves London to-day Nov. 20 for South Africa. Reuter is authorised to deny the report that General Smuts has been asked to intervene in the difficulties of the Round Table Conference. A further report however states that he has been invited to arbitrate in the communal question.

INTERVIEWED by the *Daily Herald* with regard to the will of her mother Lady Slade, who had bequeathed all her property valued at £10,000, to her daughter Mrs. Vernon without mentioning Miss Slade (Mira Ben), the latter said that the omission was by her own request. Many years ago, when she first became a disciple of Mr. Gandhi she took a vow of celibacy and non-possession and therefore the inheritance of worldly wealth would be contrary to her code of living. She emphatically denied the rumour that she had been cut off or had been disowned by her parents or relatives.

THE Treasury, Pretoria, notifies officially that, with effect from Nov. 18, and until further notice, Treasury bills will be issued as follows:—90 days' currency at 3½ per cent. per annum discount; six months' currency at 4 per cent. per annum discount; 12 months' currency at 4½ per cent. per annum discount. The present rates for bills of the above currencies are 3 per cent., 3½ per cent. and 4 per cent. respectively.

THE Study Circle of the Society for the Advancement of Indian Culture meets on Monday the 23rd November 1931, at 6.30 p.m. at the M. K. Gandhi Library, 140 Queen Street, Durban, when the debate on the "Laws of Karma" will be continued. Members are requested by the Secretary to attend without fail.

### Words of the Wise

No one can be perfectly free till all are free; no one can be perfectly moral till all are moral; no one can be perfectly happy till all are happy.

—HALL Caine.

Let us start fairly with the great truth: for those who possess there is only one certain duty, which is to strip themselves of what they have so as to bring themselves into the condition of the mass that possesses nothing.

—MAURICE MAETERLINCK.

Every man who has more than is necessary for his livelihood and that of his family, and for the normal development of his intelligence, is a thief and a robber. If he has too much, it means that others have too little.

—ROMAIN ROLLAND.

If one man lives in laziness, another will die of hunger.

—Chinese Proverb.

### TOWN HALL MEETING

There will be a mass meeting of Indians under the auspices of the Natal Indian Congress at the Durban Town Hall to-morrow (Saturday). The object of the meeting is to once again ensure public confidence in the Congress so that the affairs of the community during the forthcoming Round Table Conference may be conducted with one voice. Important issues that are likely to be brought up at the Conference will also be discussed in order that a definite line of action may be taken in connection with them by the Congress. Propaganda meetings have been held recently by the Congress in the various districts of Natal and Saturday's meeting will be one of its kind but a much larger one where matters affecting the Indian community will be generally discussed. The lot of Indians in this country has not been any the happier for the Cape-town Agreement. Indeed the Sword of Democelus has been hanging over their heads just as ever and there has been increased distress owing to the present depression and unemployment. In view of this an exceptionally large audience is expected at the Town Hall meeting.

We cannot urge strongly enough the necessity for uniting all our forces at this critical period in the history of Indians in South Africa. We shall be called upon to make great sacrifices if we wish to acquire the status we are aspiring for. But the first and foremost thing needed is that we should be thoroughly united, and that, surely, requires not much effort if there is the will. If we are divided in our own ranks when the Indian delegates to the Round Table Conference are here not only will they not be able to help us but we will make a laughing stock of ourselves. It is therefore essential that we should, at least for the present, sink all the differences that we may have amongst us and join together to make representations with one united voice. If there is dissatisfaction with the present persons holding the reins of the Congress they can easily be replaced by others in whom the people may have full confidence. If, instead of taking this right and

manly course, we resort to methods of aloofness and create mushroom bodies with the hope of gaining selfish ends, we shall be only digging our own graves; and a comparatively small community as we are in this country, we will be wiped out before long at least as a self-respecting people. These are words of warning we offer to our brethren and we hope that they will be received in the spirit in which they have been offered. A time will come soon, if it has not already come, when we will have to rely on our own strength to fight for our legitimate rights in this country and not expect help from outside. But the very first step is to be united. We therefore hope that the Town Hall meeting on Saturday will be attended by every section of our community and that they will participate in the proceedings without striking a single jarring note.

### THE FATE OF INDIA

The fate of India hangs in the balance. News from London during the last week-end, published in the daily papers, if they could be relied upon, were somewhat distressing. Mr. Macdonald is reported to have asked all members of the minorities committee to sign a request to him to settle the question, and to pledge themselves to accept his decision.

Though some delegates have already agreed the likelihood of the necessary unanimity is very remote and failing it the British Government will produce their own solution of the problem and frame a constitution.

A protracted meeting of the Cabinet discussed Mr. Macdonald's coming statement of policy which is awaited with the keenest interest as it will be of the profoundest importance for the future of India.

Mahatma Gandhi is reported to have told the *News Chronicle* that he was not going to sign the request to the Premier to arbitrate in the Hindu-Moslem dispute, which seems now almost certain to bring about the failure of the Round Table Conference. Mahatma Gandhi said he had no objection to Mr. Macdonald, personally, as an arbitrator, but asking Mr. Macdonald to arbitrate would be tantamount to asking the British Government to do so for which he had no Congress mandate. The Government, he pointed out, would immediately consider itself in a position to bargain in matters such as the army and finance in which no bargain was possible. He added that his refusal to sign the request did not mean that Mr. Macdonald need be prevented from arbitrating. "I am sparing no effort to save the conference even at the 11th hour. If we go back empty-handed, the consequences to India will be deplorable."

Accordingly Mahatma Gandhi is reported to have seen Mr. Lansbury and General Smuts and conversed with Lord Irwin.

If the Round Table Conference ends in a failure it will indeed be a bad day for India as well as England. The latter will have no peace for the folly of her statesmen and the dark days of 1930 will be repeated in India in their worst possible form and there will be no end until India achieves her desired goal.

According to messages of Nov. 17 it appears that great efforts are being made to save the situation. Important meetings are being held and the greatest secrecy is observed. The message further states that Mahatma Gandhi delivered a speech, demanding for India control of the Army and foreign affairs, including negotiations with the Dominions, so that "if the Dominions will not have our countrymen to live there in perfect self-respect, we can negotiate with the Dominions."

Let us hope that these last hour efforts may succeed and that there would once more be peace and amity between both the countries.

## Responsibility Of Indians In South Africa

(BY PROFESSOR KARVE)

[At our special request Professor Karve has been kind enough to contribute the following message which we have no doubt will be read with interest and advantage by readers of INDIAN OPINION.—Ed.]

"When I was touring in East Africa, wherever I went I felt as if I was in India. It is quite different here. While moving in many parts of Durban I felt I was in a European town. Indians have to live and work among people of a highly advanced race and it is desirable that a sufficiently large number of Indians live and conduct themselves in such a manner as to evoke a feeling of respect for them from these people. Until this is achieved the Indian community cannot get proper status in the country. The consciousness of our defects has to be aroused among most of our people and a desire has to be created in them to remove these defects. Plain living is an admirable quality but that plain living should be a clear and decent or respectable living and this can be brought about with very little additional cost if there is a keen desire. Those who have no means have to do their best under the circumstances but people of means can live in better houses in better sanitary surroundings. We Indians have reached a very low stage of degeneration and we have to make very great efforts to get out of it. The whole outlook on life has to be changed and for this bold thinking and acting are necessary. Our short-sighted sectarian views should disappear and our attitude towards women must be respectful.

"All these things will require time, but time will do nothing by itself. Men and women have to work out these changes in themselves and they have to be persuaded to do so by earnest workers who should set examples in their own persons. India is already overcrowded and is not in a position to provide work for men who would go back or be sent back for being unable to eke out a living in this country. Fortunately Indians have in the past made settlements in East and South Africa but it is for the Indians here to retain and enlarge if possible these areas. This can be done only by spreading not only primary but secondary education among Indian boys and girls and improving the ways of living of the whole society. If this is not done in time Indians are likely to lose their foothold. The Swarajya movement in India is sure to give her a better status among the nations of the world in

the near future and there are chances of Indians here getting more recognition in the administrative affairs of this country but they must acquire fitness for the same. Progress towards this seems to be very very slow and there is the danger of the Indians' society being gradually wiped away before this can be achieved.

"This very urgent work of all-round reform cannot be satisfactorily done by leisure-time workers. Earnest whole time workers are needed who would be able to command respect and who would go round and din into the ears of men and women the necessity of reform. Well-to-do Indians should supply the necessary funds and enthusiastic workers should come forward to offer their services in a spirit of self-sacrifice. It is getting too late and I hope some such project is worked out before it is too late."

## Welcome Reception To Professor Karve

Natal Indian Congress Meeting

A meeting was held under the auspices of the Natal Indian Congress on Tuesday evening at the Parsee Rustomjee Hall, Queen Street, Durban, to welcome Professor Karve who is in our midst for the last few days. The hall was fully packed long before the time of the meeting with people representing every section of the community and a large number of Indian ladies were also present.

In the unavoidable absence of Mr. Sorabjee Rustomjee, president of the Natal Indian Congress, owing to his ill-health, Mr. A. M. Lokhat, one of the vice-presidents, took the chair.

### Chairman's Speech

After a few opening remarks from the chair, Mr. P. R. Pathar, Secretary, read the chairman's speech in English which was as follows:—

"We have met here many times to honour many of the distinguished sons of India—all of whom have done a great deal for the bettering of our people. We have had Statesmen, Educationists, and Social Workers who, in their own inimitable way, have rendered some service for their Mother country. This evening we have met to honour a gentleman from Maharashtra whose services to India are regarded as unique in the annals of her history. For Professor D. K. Karve, whom we are happy to welcome to this country, is the pioneer in the advancement of Women's Education in India. I say pioneer because it was the Professor who over thirty five years ago conceived the idea of providing education for Hindu widows and established the Hindu Widows' Home Association which prepared our women for the Matriculation Examinations. This Association was the nucleus for the formation of the Indian Women's University in Poona. Needless to say this is the first Women's University in India. To open a Women's University is required the courage of no ordinary person. But Professor Karve possessed the necessary courage and was equal to the occasion. Despite the long standing prejudices the Professor launched out a project which was not hitherto attempted and which was destined to fill a long felt want in India.

"Professor Karve belongs to that School of thought that believes in the emancipation of Indian

Womenhood. He believes that if India is to take her rightful place amongst the other nations of the world her women must be educated. He does not believe in the superfluous education that most modern women now receive, but he believes in the women receiving such education as would fit them in after life. Modern English education has a tendency to give the women the false idea of things. The Indian Women's University strives to give a sort of education that would make the woman a better woman in her house.

"The University commenced with a handful of Students but in 15 years it has done a good deal to justify its existence. In late years Indian women have occupied important positions in the political and social spheres. We have women delegates sitting at the Round Table Conference in London, we have a woman Deputy Speaker in the Madras Assembly and we have a few women Magistrates. These are instances which go to show that the women in India, despite the lack of facilities for their education, have done remarkably well. For it must be admitted that the Government of India, which spends fortunes on the Army and Civil Service, has not touched the fringe of the question of the education of our women. That Professor Karve receives no aid from the Government of India for his women's University is an indication of the love the Government has for women's education. Thanks to some of our philanthropists in India Professor Karve has been able to conduct the University without state aid. The education of our girls in this country is receiving our serious thought and the visit of Professor Karve is therefore most opportune. The establishment of a Girls High School last year marked a new epoch in our history in this country. As is the case in India so also is it in South Africa. There are certain prejudices against the higher education of our girls. Time will, we have no doubt, break these prejudices. I feel sure that the visit of the Professor to South Africa will be the means of arousing an interest in the education of our girls. The Cape Town Agreement provides for the attainment of western standard of living, and to attain that standard it is imperative that our girls must be educated.

"Professor Karve's service to our Motherland cannot be measured. In the Temple of education in India he has lit a niche the light of which will, I feel sure, never be extinguished. His contemporaries the late G. K. Gokhale and Lokmanya Tilak have served India politically as few patriots have served. Professor Karve serves India educationally as no other Indian has served.

"Once more on your behalf I extend a hearty welcome to Professor Karve and let us pray that when he leaves us he will carry with him very happy recollections of his visit to this country.

"Let us pray that he may long be spared so that his noble mission may gather strength."

### Other Speeches

Among other speakers who welcomed Professor Karve were Messrs. A. Christopher, Pundit Rallaram, A. Shakoor, Nair, O. H. A. Jhaveri, B. M. Patel and M. B. Maik.

Professor Karve was then garlanded by the chairman and bouquets were presented to Mrs. Noorben Jooma who has accompanied Professor Karve from Tanganyika in order to see this country, and to Pandit Rallaram who has recently come to this country as the guest of the Arya Samaj.

### Professor Karve's Speech

Prof. Karve was greeted with cheers on rising to reply. Notwithstanding his old age his voice was brilliant. He said he was very pleased to be able to meet his brethren in this far-off land. The speakers who said so many good things about him had unfortunately greatly exaggerated. He wished he were all what they had represented him to be. He knew, however, that in honouring him they were honouring really the great cause that he represented.

Professor Karve spoke on the need of more interest in education and especially female education and of selfless workers who could devote their whole time in doing social reform work among their brethren. If we wanted to have a better status in this country, the Professor said, we would have to prove ourselves equal in every respects to the ruling race. He advised Indians to take more interest in the affairs of their Motherland and to impart sufficient vernacular education to their children so as to be able to take an intelligent interest in Indian affairs. The Professor exhorted Indians to be self-reliant. We should not rely much on Government help in the matter of education, he said, but we should do as much as is in our power with our own efforts. Workers, the speaker said, should not be mere advisers or dictators but should set a practical example and they should be intelligent workers, and the well-to-do people should support them. Then only would our community be able to rise in this country and be fit for the rights they claim.

The above is only a gist of Prof. Karve's lengthy and eloquent speech a fuller report of which we hope to publish in our next week's issue.

## Indian Licensing Appeal At Ladysmith

### Indian Opposition Fails

A special meeting of the Ladysmith Town Council sitting as an Appeal Board, was held last week for the purpose of considering an appeal lodged by Mr. E. R. Rawlinson on behalf of an Indian eatinghouse keeper and fresh produce dealer, I. D. Mahomed, against the decision of the Licensing Officer who on October 15 granted a fresh produce dealer's licence to an Indian named Arulappen in premises adjacent to those occupied by Mahomed.

At the time of the granting of the licence, Mahomed objected on the grounds that there was no necessity for the licence, submitting that the reasonable requirements of the public were amply served by existing licences, and that applications for similar licences had already been refused by the Licensing Officer.

He further objected that the granting of the licence would materially affect his livelihood, particularly in view of the fact that the proposed Native village would take away many inhabitants from Illing Road.

Arulappen, represented by Mr. H. C. J. Johnson, said that he had been a fruit pedlar in Ladysmith for 16 years, but ill-health had compelled him to relinquish his calling. The building in which he proposed to trade was his own, and until recently was occupied by the objector. Mahomed had now built premises next door to applicant. Applicant considered he would make a living by the sale of fruit and vegetables and this was all he desired a licence for.

The granting of the licence was opposed by Mr. W. T. Hamp, chairman of the Chamber of Commerce, on the grounds that there were sufficient licences of this nature in the Borough.

Cross-examined by Mr. Johnson, Mr. Hamp said he did not know how many fresh produce licences there were in the Borough.

Mr. Johnson: Have any fresh produce dealers gone bankrupt in the last year?

Mr. Hamp: Yes, one, a European.

Have any Indians gone bankrupt?—I do not know of one.

When did your Chamber suddenly come to the conclusion that there were too many licences?—At the meeting on Sept. 23.

Why did not your Chamber object to the granting of a licence to Gangat in Murchison Street about that time?—It was overlooked.

After hearing argument on appeal, the Board agreed to uphold the Licensing Officer's decision and the granting of the licence was confirmed.—*Natal Mercury*.

## Unemployed Indians

### Meeting At Maritzburg

A meeting of the Maritzburg Indian Unemployment Relief Committee was held on Monday last in the H.Y.M.A. Library. Discussion took place as to the best method to be pursued to afford relief to cases of acute distress among the Indian unemployed. The Secretary of the Maritzburg Branch of the Natal Indian Congress reported that 193 men had registered as unemployed, and an analysis of their respective callings was made, which were as follows: 69 hotel employees, 44 gardeners, 17 shop assistants, 1 book-keeper, 17 labourers, 1 wicker-worker, 5 bakers, 2 builders, 4 laundry-hand, 3 bar stewards, 17 shoemakers, 7 Railway labourers, 7 billiard markers and 8 juveniles. Their dependents including wives and children numbered 515.

The Committee resolved to form themselves into sub-committees to collect funds, foodstuffs and to arrange concerts and the like to raise funds in aid of relief fund. An examination of figures of unemployed Indians revealed many distressing cases. People were on the verge of starvation, and many were not able to obtain work for a period extending 18 months to 2 years.

It was decided in view of the pressing situation to appeal to employers of Indian labour to employ as many men as they possibly could. It was further decided to appeal for funds and to enlist the aid of the *Natal Witness* to permit the publication of a subscription list in its columns.

The Committee authorised to collect funds will be grateful to receive subscriptions in aid of a cause which should touch the hearts of all. The full list of members of the Relief Committee is as follows:—

Messrs. O. Nulliah, R. B. Maharaj, R. N. Moodley, A. J. Ochoono, F. Gareeb, D. Anthony, R. P. Naidoo, Noormahomed Kamdar, S. R. Naidoo, P. K. Govender, E. G. David, R. Manickum, Hoosen Mahomed, Amod Ebrahim, T. Ramkalowan, R. C. Pillay, Suleman Rawat, S. Muthray, K. J. Moody, Umar Singh, Gabriel Zachariah, M. D. Pillay, D. N. Bhoola, R. Dookran, C. Hardey Singh, P. B. Singh and G. R. Singh.

## Friends In Need

Under the chairmanship of Mr. A. Fenner Brookway, the Independent Labour Party, the Gandhi Society and the Indian Congress League gave a frugal fruit lunch in honour of Mr. Gandhi's birthday recently in London. Replying to Mr. Brookway's speech, Mr. Gandhi said:

Ever since I have come to London I have experienced nothing but friendliness and genuine affection. I have been making new friends from day to day. But you, sir, have reminded me that you have been a friend in need, and friends in need are really friends in deed. When it appeared that India, or rather Congressmen, might be abandoned by nearly everybody on earth you stood by the Congress firmly and accepted the Congress position as your own. You have to-day renewed your faith in the Congress programme thereby you have lightened my labours.

It would be like carrying coal to Newcastle to deliver to you the message for which I have been sent here as the Congress representative. You know all about the merits of the Congress case and I am convinced that the Congress case is quite safe in your hands and you have by today's action set the seal upon the friendship, through the Congress, of the dumb and semi-starved millions of India's villages.

It is imagined that you have attended a luncheon. My sympathies are wholly with you. I am accustomed to English lunches not through the taste but through the eyes, and when I saw this fruit-laden table, I realised what a sacrifice it was for you to what is an apology for a luncheon. I hope that the spirit of sacrifice will forbear until tea-time comes and you provide yourselves with any little delicacies that English hotels and restaurants provide for you. But behind this apparent joke, there is also a seriousness. I know that you have sacrificed something. Some of you have sacrificed much for advocating the cause of India's independence—understanding the word "independence" in its full English sense. But it may be that you will be called upon, if you continue your advocacy of India's cause, to make much larger sacrifices. I entertained no illusions in my mind when I undertook to come here. You heard me say on the first day of my entry into London that one of the most potent causes of my having come to London was to fulfil a word of honour that I had given to an honourable Englishman and in pursuance of that word, without thinking what the result is likely to be, I am endeavouring to the utmost of my ability, to show to every Englishman and Englishwoman I meet that what the Congress stands for is what is deserved by India, and furthermore, I am endeavouring to show that the Congress is in earnest and I am here to vindicate the honour of the Congress, the honour of India by asking for everything that is included in the Congress Mandate. I should have no liberty to diminish anything from the Congress claim, save to the extent that is permissible in that Mandate and that being so, I feel the more I stay here that the task is difficult—almost superhuman. There is so much ignorance of the conditions that prevail in India. There is so much ignorance of true history. As a Quaker young friend reminded me when I was about to come here, that it was no use coming here so long as from childhood you were brought up, not on truthful real history, but upon false history and I see that truth uttered by that Quaker friend exemplified as I come into contact with Englishmen and Englishwomen.

It is terrible difficult, almost impossible, for them to realise that at least so far as Indians are concerned,

they believe that the sum total of the activities of British administration in India has been harmful rather than beneficial to the nation. It is no use pointing out the benefit that India might have received from the British connection. It is of vital importance to sum up the pros and cons and find out how India has fared.

I have placed two infallible tests: Is it or is it not a fact that India to-day is the poorest country in the world, having millions of people remaining idle for six months of the year?

Is it or is it not a fact that India has been rendered emasculated not merely through compulsory disarmament but also through being denied so many opportunities that members of a free nation are always entitled to?

If you find upon investigation that in these two cases England has failed, I do not say hopelessly, but to a very large extent, is it not time that England revised her policy?

As a friend said, and as the late Lokamanya Tilak said repeatedly from thousands of platforms: 'Freedom and independence were India's birthright.' It is not necessary for me to prove that British rule has been in the end British mis-rule. It is only enough for me to state that misrule or good rule, that India is entitled to her independence immediately there is a demand made for it on behalf of her voiceless millions.

It is no answer to be told that there are some in India who are afraid of the words "freedom" and "independence." There are some of us, and I admit there are some of us—who are afraid of talking about the freedom of India if the British protection—so-called—is withdrawn from India. But I assure you that the starving millions and those who have become politically conscious entertain no such fear and they are ready to pay the price for the sake of freedom. There are, however, well-marked limitations so long as the Congress retains her present workers and her faith in her present policy. We do not want the freedom of India, if it is to be bought at the sacrifice of the lives of others—if it is to be by spilling the blood of the rulers. But if any sacrifice can be made by the nation, by ourselves, to win that freedom, then you will find that we will not hesitate to give a Ganges full of blood to flow in India in order to vindicate the freedom that has been so long delayed, and I know, as you, sir, reminded me, that I was not a stranger in your midst, but that I was a comrade, I know that I have this absolute assurance that so far as you are concerned and those whom you represent are concerned, you would always stand by us and prove once more to India that you are friends in need and therefore friends in deed.

I thank you once more for the great reception you have given me. I know that it is not an honour done to me. You have done that honour to the principles which I hope are as dear to me as to you—if possible, dearer—and I hope with your prayers and your assistance I shall never deny the principles that I to-day proclaim.

## Natal Indian Congress

### Programme Of Meetings

The following programme for meetings to be held throughout Natal is arranged by the Natal Indian Congress. The officials of the Congress will attend each of these meetings and speak on (1) Repatriation (2) Round Table Conference,

Saturday 21st—Durban Town Hall.

Sunday 22nd—Verulam, Tongaat and Stanger

## Gandhi

BY HAROLD LASKI

From any angle Mahatma Gandhi is one of the supreme personal forces of the modern world. No living man has, either by percept or example, influenced so vast a number of people in so direct or so profound a way.

He embodies in himself all the passionate nationalism of his fellow-countrymen. They feel for him an affection and a reverence to which no other person can pretend.

His position of course is not wholly the outcome of his personality. He came in his own hour. The environment was ripe for a great move forward in Indian nationalism.

The soil had been well-watered. The war, Amritsar, the turmoil of the new epoch—all intensified the harvesting. Mr. Gandhi is only the culmination of a long series of remarkable figures who have awakened India to self-consciousness.

### Noble Work

But no one has done that work so remarkable as he, his asceticism, his directness, his power to disregard consequences have all combined to give him a place apart.

The nobility of his work in South Africa had already shown, over thirty years ago, his persistence, his selflessness, his devotion to the principle by which he is moved.

The history of India in the last fifteen years is largely his history. He has provided the basis upon which the development has taken place.

And he has certainly captured the imagination of the world. India, for Europe and America, has been a cockpit in which Mr. Gandhi has contended with the British Empire and won the victory.

### Sacrifices

Force has given away before the power of non-resistance. National freedom has triumphed over foreign domination.

Lenin apart, I doubt whether any post-war leader has aroused so wide or so profound an interest.

No one can seriously doubt his sincerity. The zeal with which he cares for his people is beyond discussion. He has a power of self-sacrifice, an ability to give himself, which are beyond praise.

Nor can anyone fail to see how completely he has identified himself with the movement he embodies. All his life has been built about it.

He has sacrificed to it health, domestic peace, comfort, riches. There is in the simple fanatic beauty such as makes Francis of Assisi the most moving figure of the middle ages.

Not that Mr. Gandhi is a simple man. The Indian, I think, tends to form a picture of him as a frail and wistful figure to whom nothing matters but the passion of the idea.

### Subtlety

That is I believe less complex than the facts warrant. Mr. Gandhi is an extraordinarily subtle negotiator. He has a power of refined distinction, an elasticity in discussion, a habit of paradoxical justification which are notable.

He preaches the evil of Western civilisation from a Rolls-Royce car. He lauds the glories (which are largely non-existent) of ancient Indian medicine, but he takes to Western surgery when he is attacked by appendicitis. He preaches a gospel of non-resistance which applies only when it does apply, and his compensation of prayer and fasting for it

failures is more impressive to himself than it is to the outsider.

He has a power of self-conviction which is certainly moving, but also ominous; for it means that he is less moved by reason than he is by private revelation. The India he seeks to call into being never can be on sea or land. No emotion for ancient handicrafts will stem the tide of the machine age. How far is he aware of the degree to which the support he has won for instance from the Bombay mill-owners is the result of their desire to be protected against the invasion of their market by British goods. How far does he really believe that the gospel of self-control provides any real solution of the problem of India's excessive birth rate? He has of course the power that comes to any man of noble character who keeps his eye steadfastly upon the goal, and is not deflected from his path by any outward circumstance. There is in him the strength Luther displayed at the Diet of Worms. Thus he can do and not otherwise.

And he has seen the immense moral advantage of the offensive in political conflict. Ever since the War Great Britain has been fighting a losing battle in India because the impalpable forces were solidly against her.

### False Fictur

Mr. Gandhi appealed to Indian self-respect. He made his own people the plaintiff in the contest; and once a people is plaintiff in its own cause no amount of force from a foreign ruler can prevail against it.

English die-hardes like to picture Mr. Gandhi as an irresponsible agitator whose power has come from British weakness. That is, of course, nonsense.

He did not create the Nationalist movement, he merely expressed its impetus in a peculiarly superb way. He is not in the least irresponsible.

Mr. Gandhi has been mistaken; he has been shrewd at times almost to the point of aliveness; he has that egotistic self-reliance which is the inevitable accompaniment of ascetic sainthood.

The Saint is also a tactician of the first order. That is not unnatural since there is a power of organisation essential to one kind of sainthood.

Mr. Gandhi has won his place in the history of the world and it will be a great place. He has known how to discipline a nation against a foreign ruler and so bring it to full consciousness of its nationhood. This, I think, has been the easiest part of his task.

The real test of his powers is going to come when the new India is at work. Will he be able to bind Hindu and Moslem into a united outlook? Can he break down the tragic barrier of caste?

Above all, when and as that inevitable industrial revolution develops in India, will he throw the weight of his influence on the side of the toiling masses against employers as harsh as any in the world?

And having won political freedom for India, what is he going to do for social freedom?

### Big Business

With great respect, I submit to Mr. Gandhi that talk of the spinning wheel will not help India here. The great industry has arrived in India and it has to be either master or servant of the common man.

So far, Mr. Gandhi has not chosen his path. Will he use his unequalled authority for the service of the common man? Will Indian big business contribute its support to him in that event?

It is not easy to answer these questions.

Luther was a great man until Protestant order was threatened. Cromwell fought magnificently against Charles, but he showed little sympathy with the poor deaconess.

## Natal Indian Congress

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The annual general meeting of the Natal Indian Congress will be held at the Royal Picture Palace, Victoria Street, Durban, on Sunday the 29th day of November, 1931 at 2-30 p.m.

#### AGENDA :

1. Minutes.
2. Secretaries' Report.
3. Financial Statement.
4. Election of Office Bearers.
5. Any other matter competent to be discussed at the meeting.
6. General.

**SORABJEE RUSTOMJEE,**

*President.*

**A. I. KAJEE** } *Joint Hon.*  
**P. R. PATHER** } *Secretaries.*

N.B.—Only those members who have paid their subscriptions for the current year will be allowed to participate and vote at the meeting.

Members of the Indian community are asked to enrol themselves as members of the Congress. Members may be enrolled either at the offices of Messrs. Pather & Co., Little Grey Street, Durban, or at the offices of the Congress, 175 Grey Street, Durban,

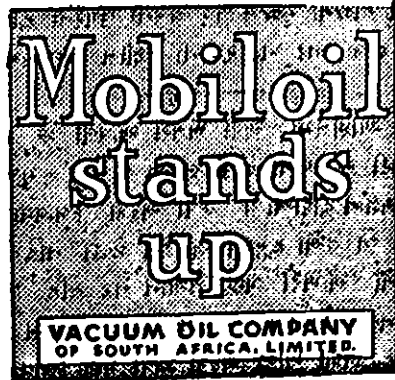
### Indian Child Welfare Society Centre

150, BROOK STREET, DURBAN

Open daily, Monday to Saturday, 8-30 a.m. to 11 a.m. Infants, young children, nursing and expectant mothers.

Lady doctors give free attendance.

Tuesday morning 8-30 o'clock. Friday afternoon 3 o'clock.



# ઈન્ડિઅન ઓપિનિઅન.

પુસ્તક ૨૯ મું.

ફીનીક્ષ, શુક્રવાર, તારીખ ૨૦ નવેમ્બર ૧૯૩૧

અંક ૪૭

## નોંધ અને સમાચાર



### રીપેટીએશન

૧૯૨૭ માં કેપટાલિન એક્ટિવેન્ટ થયા આદ એસીસ્ટેડ એમી-એશન સ્ટીમનો લાલ જે મોટા પ્રમાણમાં લેવામાં આવ્યો હોય તો તે ચાલુ માસમાં લેવાયો છે. કુલ્લે ૯૫૦ હોંદીઓ આ દેશ છોડી જવાને ઉમેદવાર થયા છે જેમાંથી ૧૨૦ નવેમ્બર તા. ૨૧ મીએ ડાહીયાવાડમાં ઉપડ્યો અને ૪૩૦ મોટા અને ૨૦૦ ઊંકરાં મળી કુલ ૬૩૦ નવેમ્બર તા. ૨૨ મીએ ઉપડનારી સ્ટીમર અમરુખીમાં મદાસ રવાના થયે. બાકીનાને બીજી સ્ટીમરની સહ જેવી પડશે. વર્ષમાં જેવી ત્રણ કે ચાર સ્ટીમરો જાય છે. આ પાછા જનારા હોંદીઓ મોટે ભાગે ખાણ અને સુગર એરેટેપરના મજુરો છે. અને એકરીના કારણે તેઓને આ પગલું લેવું પડેલું છે.

### ૧૯૩૦-૩૧ ના આંકડા

૧૯૩૦-૩૧ ના રીપેટીએટ થયેલા હોંદીઓના આંકડા નીચે આપીએ છીએ તે પરથી આ વર્ષમાં કેટલો વધારો થયો છે સહેજે જોઈ શકાશે:—

૧૯૩૦	
માર્ચ	૨૯૫
જુન	૨૦૫
સપ્ટેમ્બર	૨૩૩
	કુલ ૬૩૩
૧૯૩૧	
ફેબ્રુઆરી	૧૯૪
મે	૨૨૦
ઓગસ્ટ	૩૪૫
નવેમ્બર	૭૫૦
	કુલ ૧,૫૦૯

સરકારી યોજના મુજબ ૧૬ વર્ષની ઉપરના હોંદીઓને આ દેશ છોડી જવા માટે પા. ૨૦ ની બક્ષીસ આપવામાં આવે છે.

કેમિસ ઓફીસમાં જેવી ખમરો આવેલી છે કે હોંદીઓ આટલી મોટી સંખ્યામાં જવા લાગ્યા છે તેવું મુખ્ય મારણ એ છે કે અત્યંત હોંદીઓમાં જેવી અધવા ફેલાવવામાં આવી રહી છે કે જે તેઓ હમણાં આ દેશ છોડી નહિ જશે તો ચાલુ વર્ષની આખરી પછી તેઓને તક નહિ મળે કેમકે રીપેટીએશનની યોજના બંધ થશે અને બક્ષીસ આપવામાં નહિ આવે. વળી બીજી અધવા જેવી પણ ફેલાવવામાં આવે છે કે જે હોંદીઓ હમણાં પોતાને દેશ માથાં નહિ જાય તો

ભવિષ્યમાં તેઓની સ્થિતિ આ દેશમાં જેવી અસલ કરી દેવા માં આવશે કે તેઓને શાંતિથી રહેવું અશક્ય થઈ પડશે.

આવી અધવાઓ કોણ ફેલાવી રહ્યું છે એ કહેવું મુશ્કેલ છે. સરકારને તેમાં પોતાનો હાથ હોવાનો ધનકાર કરવતું સહેલું છે. અને અમને તેના ઉપર દોષ મુકવાને સમજ આધાર પણ નથી. છતાં અધવાઓ છે એ વાત તો ખરી જ છે અને કેમિસના અમલદારો એ અધવાઓ દુર કરવાને ઘટતાં પમવાં લઇ રહ્યા છે એ વાળખીજ છે.

### શાહીનો જલસો

મી. એ. આઇ. કાળના દુખતર કાતીમાખીખીની મી. મહમદ ઇસાહીમ બારમણીયાના ફરજદ બાઇ ઇસાહીમની સાથે ગયા સ્વીવારના સવારે ૧૧ વાગે ઇસીપીગિમાં શાહી થઈ હતી. લોકોની મોટી હાજરી થઈ હતી અને નિકાહ પાદ મી. એ. આઇ. કાળને તેમજ તેમના પિતા મી. ઇસ્માઇલ મહમદ કાળને (બાઇચાયા) જેઓ પોતાની વૃદ્ધ વસ્થાએ પોતાની પૌત્રીની શાહી જેવા પામ્યા તે બદલ મુબારકખાંદી ઇસ્ખનારા અને પરણેલાં જોડાને ભવિષ્યમાં સુખ અને આઆદીને માટે અનેક લલી દુવાઓ ઇસ્ખનારા કેમિસના અમલદારો તરફથી તેમજ અન્ય મહરયો તરફથી ઘણા ભાષણો થયાં હતાં અને ગીતો ગવાયાં હતાં. પરણેલાં જોડાને મીત્રો અને શુભેચ્છકો તરફથી અનેક સુંદર અને ઉપયોગી બક્ષીઓ મળી હતી. નિકાહના ખણમાં હજાર ઉપર હોંદીઓ સમૈદ થયા હતાં. અગ્રે મી. કાળને તેમજ તેમના પિતા મી. ઇસ્માઇલ મહમદ કાળ લાઇચાયાને મુબારકખાંદી આપીએ છીએ અને પરણેલાં જોડાને અનેક ભલી દુવાઓ ઇસ્ખીએ છીએ.

### લોડ ડીલામીયરતું અવસાન

નવેમ્બર તા. ૧૩ મીએ લોડ ડીલામીયરતું નયરોખીમાં અવસાન થયું છે. ઇસ્ટ આફ્રિકાના ગોરા વલીઓમાં મીત્ર તરીકે અને હોંદી વલીઓમાં શત્રુ તરીકે તે ઘણાજ જાણીતા હતા. ગોરા વલીઓ તેને ખરા દેશભક્ત ગણતા હતા કેમકે કેનીયા કોલોની તરીકે હવે ઓળખાતા એ મુલકને ગોરાનો બનાવવાને ધારાસભામાં તેણે જખરી ઝુમેશ ઉઠાવી હતી. નયરોખીના ઉબાલુના પ્રદેશ ગોરાઓને માટે ખાસ રખવાની ચળવળમાં પણ તેણે આગેવાની લીધી હતી કે જેની સામે હોંદીઓનો વિરોધ નબળ નીવડ્યો હતો. કેનીયાના ગોરા વલીઓને એક ડીમતી મીત્રી ખોટ થઇ છે.

