

# Indian Opinion

No. 49—Vol. XXXI.

Friday, December 8th, 1933

Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.  
PRICE FOURPENCE.

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## Notes and News

### Lord Clarendon Returns

WE heartily welcome back His Excellency the Governor-General, the Earl of Clarendon and the Countess of Clarendon who have returned to the Union on board the Carnarvon Castle last Monday after an absence of six months.

### Education Conference

FROM a report appearing elsewhere in this issue it will be seen that an important education conference is to be held in the Union next July with a view to discussing "how is education to meet the new demand made upon it by the rapid changes taking place in society?" And "how can education contribute to the improvement of society?" Great educationists from Europe and America will be present and one also is expected from India. Lectures will be delivered by these on various subjects pertaining to education. We heartily welcome this move and we hope India will send one of her ablest educationist who will not only be able to impress the Europeans but also elevate his own countrymen.

### Age Of Admission To Schools

The Natal Provincial Administration had for financial reasons restricted last year the admission of children to Government schools to those reaching the age of seven during the year of admission. It has now been decided to admit children at the beginning of the first term of 1934 who reach the age of six years before June 30 next, but those reaching six years of age after June 30, 1934, will not be admitted before the beginning of 1935.

### Acting Registrar Of Asiatics

Mr. W. H. Thompson, Senior Clerk in the office of the Commissioner for Immigration and Asiatic Affairs, has been appointed to act as the officer entrusted with the duty of keeping the Register of Asiatics as provided for under the Asiatic Law Amendment Act 1907 (Transvaal) and the Asiatic Registration Amendment Act, 1908 (Transvaal), during the absence on duty or leave of Mr. P. F. Kincaid and Mr. H. J. Andrews.

## THE WHITE LABOUR POLICY

THREE important resolutions were passed at last Sunday's mass meeting held in Durban under the auspices of the Colonial Born and Settlers Indian Association, the first and the main being to protest against the Government's white labour policy. Ever since the passing of the Minimum Wage Act Indian workers have had no peace in this country. In fact it has been the cause to no small extent of the present unemployment both among Europeans as well as non-Europeans, for the inevitable effect of having to pay a standard wage has been that one person has taken the place of two or three. That is to say, for instance, where three men could be employed at a £5 wage one has to be employed at £15 thus throwing two out on the streets. Then again while the standard of pay has been improved racialism has played an important part in the application of that standard. For instance when it comes to paying standard wages the white man is more often than not preferred to an Indian or a non-European. That preference may be given to a European where hitherto no non-European has been working is a little understandable but when Indians or non-Europeans have been in employ for a considerable number of years and have proved their efficiency, are thrown out and are replaced by Europeans just because they have to be paid a standard wage is totally inconsiderate, unjust and unexcusable. It cannot be denied that this has happened and is happening in many instances. Mr. Samuel Joseph of the Hotel Employers' Union quoted several instances in the course of his speech last Sunday where Indians, when they applied for standard wages were told that being Indians they could not be paid standard wages. In one instance a European in one of the Durban hotels getting standard wages as a barman had to go to an Indian barman to learn what a cogtail was and yet the Indian because he was an Indian was getting a lower wage. Such instances, of course, could be multiplied.

Indians who claim equal rights of citizenship in this country have never at any time refuted the fact that they must live up to the standard of this country. It was with this fact in view that they agreed to the principle of equal pay for equal work irrespective of race or colour. But where is that equality? It is no use asking the Indian to adhere to this principle when he is denied equality in every other respects. Trade unionists in other countries, we know, are sincere and are inspired with the desire of uplifting the worker but bitter experience tells us that that class of trade unionist does not exist in this country. Their weapon of equal pay for equal work is used here with a view only to oust the non-European. Men of the type of

Mr. Bolton who talk of racial war and bloodshed are, by indulging in such loose talk, only doing a disservice to their own race. While this is the case in so far as trade unionists are concerned the Government which is responsible for making laws regarding wages is most unconcerned about applying the laws to itself. It has thrown out of employment thousands of Indians to make room for white men and even in the relief work opened for unemployed the rate of pay for the white worker is higher than that of the Indian and non-European not to speak of the differentiation in the rates of pay and housing conditions in Municipalities, Railways and such other departments. And yet the cry is that the Indian is keeping the European out by his low standard of living. The fact is that the Indian is neither adequately paid nor is he given the opportunity to spend.

We have discussed here the question of unemployment generally. In so far as the Government's white labour policy is concerned we have to say only this that it is the duty of any civilized Government to treat equally every section of its permanent population and with more considerateness those that have no voice and no representation. While we are not unmindful of the unemployment among white men, as a result of which the Government is faced with the problem of poor whites, we must say that the white labour policy, however practical it may appear to be, to those who have enunciated it, is a short sighted and unjust policy unbecoming any people or Government that claim themselves to be civilized and is therefore bound to fail in the long run.

## True Loyalty

(By L. W. RITCH)

THAT "function precedes organism" is a recognised fact in nature, vividly illustrated in the humbler realms of organic life. Notable is the example of the tiny amoeba which performs the functions of assimilation, growth and reproduction without the possession of such appropriate organs as are normally associated with those processes in more highly evolved creatures.

The chief purpose of form—of the body—is to subserve the evolutionary growth of the central life informing it; to cradle that spark in its early infancy; to nourish it; to sustain its integrity during the stages of the unfoldment of its inherent powers; and, ultimately, with the perfecting of the life to become a radiant expression of that perfection.

The body must be made, and maintained as the servant of the life. The latter subordinated to the former, is a perversion, a reversal of the true order. The body must be and remain plastic and adaptable so as to respond to the growing needs of the life. When it can no longer do so effectively, the form must be broken up and be replaced by another more suitable to the increased needs of the informing life.

Such is the natural and proper function of all bodies, whether that of a single lowly organism such as the humble amoeba previously instanced or the complex form or body of a single human being, or

that of a congeries of humans called a race, a nation, an association or a congress. For, human institutions are no other than forms expressing corporately the common desires, thoughts and aspirations of their life, that is, of the human units involved in them. Such institutions represent the attainment, so to say, of the seekings wise or unwise, of the generations past and present responsible for them, the fruits, as it were, of what was thought to be desirable and profitable.

"The sesamum was sesamum; the corn was corn."

However, experience leads to discernment and that to discrimination between the truly "desirable" and the undesirable, and then wisdom impels to a re-constituting of the old body so that it may more truly express the advance in "consciousness" gained by experience, or, if needs be, a breaking up of that body and the building up of a new one. The former alternative is possible if the body is sufficiently to be made adaptable to the new requirements of the life; otherwise the life must abandon it for another body that will meet its larger requirements and so fulfil its needs.

Every hour of everyday and all about us we witness phenomena that illustrate the truth of the above, but by some remarkable freak of intellectual stogginess we cannot be brought to perceive that what is true of other forms of life is equally true of ourselves and our institutions. The bodies we have formed and informed and endowed with our own vitality, instinctively resist and, so to say, resent interference or destruction. We, for our own part, are frequently too weak-willed to enforce the one or the other.

Where, however, growth has brought about as it must do, a closer approximation of the man to truth, to reality, old forms and institutions that fail to subserve the truth as now perceived must be heroically abandoned, or if needs be, destroyed. Who views such action as betrayal or disloyalty is but confused or bewildered. Loyalty to truth, as one perceives it, is the only loyalty. Knowingly to adhere to falsehood from any motive whatsoever, is apostasy of the worst kind. The fate of Judas, the betrayer, illustrates the consequences.

The satyagrahi must, if called upon, "dare to be a Daniel; dare to stand alone." The satyagrahi must realise i.e. make real the commandment "Thou shalt have no other god before ME—the God of Truth; must be a devotee who has grasped the meaning of the behest "To pure devotion devote thyself." Self-idolatry in every and any of its various insidiousnesses must be holly and utterly rejected; profit or loss, honour or dishonour, the opinion of others, be powerless to deflect or affect. For the satyagrahi the fires of hatred, of misunderstanding, of contumely and abuse have no terrors. He must follow the light wheresoever it shall lead him. If his way be cheered by the company of others sharing his devotion, 'tis well; if he have to travel alone 'tis also well. For, only thus does he truly serve his God, and also best serve his kind.

## 'The Hindu' On Colonization Dispute

66 ACCORDING to our South African correspondent, whose cable is published elsewhere, the committee appointed by the Union Government to explore the possibilities of Indian colonisation is finding it difficult to discover "countries which would welcome Indians from South Africa as settlers," writes the well-known Madras Daily *The Hindu* in an editorial in the issue of October 27. "Our correspondent says," our contemporary goes on to say, "that the task is not proving as easy as it was first believed it would be. We are not surprised that it is so. For, as a writer in *The Cape Times* recently stated 'if South Africa for which Indians have worked so hard has no room for them, is it likely that any other country in the world for which they have done nothing will be ready to welcome them and offer them political and economic rights that have been and are being denied them in the country of their adoption and birth?' The only alternative therefore is to treat Indians in South Africa as members of the permanent population entitled quite as much as members of other communities to the rights of citizens. Why should then the Union Government waste time and money to continue an enquiry which is bound in the circumstances to prove a failure? We find that the Government of India are instructing their Agent in South Africa to persuade the Indian community there, which is now sharply divided on the question, to co-operate with the committee which has been appointed by Mr. J. H. Hofmeyr. A little examination, however, of the question will show that the investigation now started is quite different from the one which was acquiesced in by the South African Indian Congress. The document signed at Capetown stated as follows:

"The Congress agrees to co-operate with the Governments of India and the Union of South Africa in the former's mission to explore outlets for colonization in regard to her increasing population, and to ascertain whether there exist any good opportunities for South African Indians in the countries explored, provided that such co-operation on the part of the Congress is taken as inspired by patriotic motives and not on the score of Indians being deemed undesirable in the Union or that the Indian population is to be reduced; provided also that the assisted emigration scheme, which formed part of the Agreement, is eliminated and that the Congress will be free to oppose it as its policy."

The task of exploring outlets for colonization was intended to be for the benefit in the main of the surplus population in India and incidentally of those Indians in South Africa who might desire to go out of South Africa hoping to find better conditions in countries to which they migrated. At no time was it intended that the colonization enquiry should be conducted for the special benefit of Indians in South Africa. The preliminary investigation, however, started by Mr. Hofmeyr is for the purpose of investigating "into the possibilities of a colonization scheme for settling South African Indians in other countries and to ascertain to what extent Indians in the Union would participate therein." It will therefore be seen that the declared object of the South African Government in starting this enquiry is to send as many Indians out of the Union as possible, an object with which the Indian community is in strong disagreement because they feel they have a right to stay in South Africa and be treated as permanent members of the population. Of course it has been stated on behalf of the Union Government that this is only a preliminary enquiry and

that a commission on which the Government of India would be represented would be appointed later; but what has got to be emphasized is that the object of the Union Government as stated in the communication appointing the committee is quite different from the one which was in the mind of the Capetown Round Table Conference, when the agreement relating to colonization was decided upon. In these circumstances it is not at all surprising that the Indian community has become divided on the question. The Colonial-born and Settlers Indian Association, representing those who were born and bred in South Africa and constitute 80 per cent of the Indian population, has been started and is functioning with the object of organising "into one brotherhood all who are born here and who have permanent lawful homes here, namely, the settlers, to further educational facilities, especially technical, industrial, agricultural... to safeguard, protect and maintain existing rights and to win back rights taken away, especially the franchise." It is also the Association's task to oppose any scheme which has for its object the reduction of the Indian population. The Congress, in agreeing to be represented on the committee, has, however, distinctly stated that it would be no party to any attempt to reduce the Indian population. If that is so, then no purpose appears to be satisfied in assisting the enquiry, especially, as we have pointed out, as Mr. Hofmeyr's committee has a different object from that of the enquiry acquiesced in by the Congress at the time of the Capetown Agreement.

## 'Advertiser's' Report Wrong And Misleading

We reproduce the following report appearing in the *Natal Advertiser* dated Monday December 4:—

Indian Press opinion, according to the latest issues of papers which have recently arrived in Durban, fully endorses the South African Indian Congress's attitude in co-operating in the 'colonisation' inquiry which was recently instigated by the Government.

"Some of our countrymen in South Africa" the *Modern Review* states, "have taken up a very wrong line of action. They have formed a Colonial-Born and Settlers' Association. To divide the Indian community of South Africa into two parts, the colonial-born and the Indian-born, will be nothing short of criminal folly at this stage, and we wonder if the promoters of this sectional feeling among our countrymen in the Union realise the reactions that their attitude will have in other colonies."

"Our countrymen abroad have always looked up to South African Indians. Indeed, some of them have modelled their organizations on the South African Congress constitution, and they have undoubtedly received considerable inspiration from the Satyagraha movement there. It will be a real tragedy if this sectional feeling spreads far and wide, as it will do irreparable harm to the cause of Indians abroad. We shall request Mr. Christopher and his friends with all earnestness to desist from this suicidal policy. Mr. Christopher has been one of our finest workers, and it pains us a great deal that he of all people should have lent his support to such a line of action."

Another journal quotes the remarks of Mr. A. H. West, who edited *INDIAN OPINION* from 1915 to 1918, in which he refuses to support a policy of non-co-operation, and it agrees entirely with his sentiments, and joins in his appeal to the people in South Africa to stop holding public meetings of protest and to get down to business.

[NOTE:—The above report is wrong and misleading. The sentiments expressed above are not expressed by the *Modern Review* but by Mr. Benarasidas Chaturvedi a writer in the *Modern Review*. It pains us a great deal that of all the people Mr. Benarasidas who has been taking a keen interest in Indians overseas should have been so partial

in his criticism. He has carefully avoided the arguments advanced by the other side. When both sides are not thoroughly known the wisest course would be to adhere to the golden rule of silence. Mr. Benarasidas seems to forget that the Colonial-Born and Settlers Indian Association works in the interests of both the Colonial-Born Indians as well as those who have legally settled here. He also forgets that the Colonial-Born Indians form eighty per cent. of the Indian population and the Indian born will very soon be a thing of the past. We must totally disagree with Mr. Benarasidas when he says that it is criminal folly and a suicidal policy for those who are born and bred in this country and knows no other home in any other part of the world to work for their own interests. Is it not rather criminal folly on the part of the Congress, whose case Mr. Benarasidas is out to advocate, to neglect the interests of those who form the majority in this country. Are not the thousands of the suffering souls in India whose conditions Mr. Benarasidas has himself bemoaned not the fruits of that neglect?

The reference to the remarks of Mr. A. H. West in the above report is also misleading. Those remarks do not appear in another journal but in the same magazine of another date made by the same person, viz. Mr. Benarasidas. What most of the Indian papers have said editorially on the Colonization Inquiry has been published in our previous issues and in this issue will be found published the views on the subject expressed by *The Hindu* (Madras), one of the leading Dailies in India whose editor is Mr. A. Rangaswami Iyengar a well-known Nationalist leader, who has always taken a very keen interest in the cause of Indians outside India.

—Ed. I.O.]

## Mass Meeting In Durban

### Colonial Born And Settler Indians

#### Protest Meeting Against White Labour Policy, Repatriation And Colonization.

There were over six hundred Indians present at the Victoria Picture Palace, Victoria Street, Durban, last Sunday when a meeting was called under the auspices of the Colonial Born and Settlers Indian Association for the purpose of protesting against the white labour policy of the Government, as well as colonization and repatriation. Advocate A. Christopher was in the chair.

Before proceeding to the business of the meeting, the chairman referred to the sad and irreparable loss sustained by the community by the death of the Rev. A. Lamont, who had endeared himself to the Indians by the kindly interest he took in their welfare.

The chairman also referred to the recent death of Mr. C. K. T. Naidoo who had sacrificed in the services of the community not only himself but his wife and children. His death had caused an irreparable loss to the community. The meeting stood in solemn silence as a mark of respect.

The chairman then spoke at length on the Government's white labour policy which was, he said, having disastrous effect on the Indian working class. He referred to the fact that the community had agreed to equal pay for equal work, but the effect of it was that Indians were replaced by whites thus augmenting the number of Indians unemployed and practically nothing was done for their relief. Such Indian when he applied for a hawker's licence to eke out an honest living somehow, was even refused that. What was he then to do? His circumstances would naturally lead him to commit criminal acts. The chairman referred to one Mr. Bolton who has recently come on the scene and is agitating to oust Indians from the furniture trade which was once wholly in the hands of Indians. Mr. Bolton claimed that he was not working on racial lines but he was agitating for nothing else but the white labour policy. The chairman exhorted the Indian workers to

stand united and to organize themselves and to hold their own.

Speaking on the question of repatriation and colonization the chairman referred to the lot of the repatriated Indians in India and said that when their lot was so bad there it was hardly expected to be any better in an unknown land.

### Resolutions

The following resolutions were then passed unanimously:—

1. "That this mass meeting of Colonial Born and Settler Indians deploras the white labour policy of the State and of the Provincial and local authorities—a policy which is used not as a standard but as a means of displacing Indians and other non-European labour by European labour thus causing more and more unemployment amongst Indians and appeals to the State not to use or encourage the white labour policy to throw Indians out of the employment of the State and other authorities and in the industries and other avenues of employment." Proposed by Mr. Manilal Gandhi and seconded by Mr. S. L. Singh.

2. "That this mass meeting of Colonial Born and Settler Indians appeals to the Union Government to abolish the Assisted Emigration Scheme and also appeals to the Government, people and press of India to help put a stop to the repatriation of workless South African born and Settler Indians from South Africa to India."

Proposed by Advocate Bernard Gabriel and seconded by Mr. C. N. M. Khan.

3. "That this mass meeting of Colonial Born and Settler Indians reiterates its opposition to the colonization enquiry and will under no circumstances co-operate in any such enquiry and further condemns its action in instituting local Indian economic enquiry."

Proposed by Dr. Maurice Peters and seconded by Mr. Beethasee Maharaj.

## Big Education Conference

An important education conference will be held in the Union next July, when educationists from Great Britain, the United States, the Continent and South Africa will assemble at Capetown and Johannesburg to discuss the adaptation of education to meet the rapidly changing needs of society, with special application to South Africa. The conference has been called the New Education Fellowship, an international body with headquarters in London.

The following oversea experts have already signified their intention of attending: Prof. Pierre Bovet, of the University of Geneva; Dr. William Boyd, of the Glasgow University; Prof. Edmund Brunner, of the Columbia University; Prof. Mabel Carney, president of the Rural Education Association of America; Prof. Fred Clarke, of the McGill University, Montreal, and formerly of the University of Capetown; Dr. Chas. W. Coulter, of the Ohio State University, who visited the Union with the Carnegie Poor White Commission; Prof. John Dewey, of the Columbia University; Dr. I. Kapdel, also of Columbia; Mr. A. Lismer, educational director of the Toronto Art Gallery; Mr. A. Lynnefield, secretary of the New Education Fellowship; Dr. Malinowski, of the University of London; Miss Helen Pankhurst, founder of the Dalton Plan; Lord Eustace Percy, former Minister of Education in Great Britain; Prof. Harold Rugg, of Columbia; Prof. Frederick Schneider, of the University of Cologne; Dr. J. J. van der Leeuw, of the Leyden University.

### Two Main Questions

It is hoped that with the assistance of the Indian Government an eminent Indian educationist will also take part in the conference. The speakers from Africa will be announced later.

The conference will meet at Capetown on July 2 to 13, and at Johannesburg from July 16 to July 27. There will be lectures on the general theme as set out above. Under this, two questions will be discussed, namely, "how is education to meet the new demand made upon it by the rapid changes taking place in society?" and "how can education contribute to the improvement of society?" There will be sectional lectures on a variety of subjects, including the training of teachers to meet South Africa's needs individual methods of teaching, bilingualism, adult education, native education, etc.

The New Education Fellowship, which is non-political and sectarian, does not confine itself to the interests of the teachers, but rather taking the child as the centre it concerns itself with all the influences that bear upon him. As an organisation it seeks to draw together teachers, parents, social workers and others who realise that only by adjusting education to modern needs can many problems which confront the world be solved.—*The Star*.

## Indian State Subject Not Foreigner

### Important Rand Supreme Court Ruling

"Although the Native or Feudatory States of India from the constitutional point of view lie entirely outside British India, the Natives of these States cannot be regarded as foreigners in the sense that a German or a Frenchman is a foreigner in relation to a British subject."

This conclusion was reached by Mr. Justice Maritz in a judgment delivered in his absence by Mr. Justice Barry in the Witwatersrand Local Division of the Supreme Court in a case of considerable interest to Indians in the British Empire and to constitutional lawyers.

Ismail Essop Daya sued Jussub Ebrahim Gardee and his son for an account as to the disposal of a half share of the rentals received on a stand in the Malay Location, Johannesburg. The half share had been dowered on Daya's daughter by Gardee, but her marriage with Gardee's son had proved unhappy and the young people had separated.

Daya sued in his capacity as father and natural guardian of Aisa Ismail Daya.

It was alleged in the declaration that Aisa and Gardee's son had been since April 22, 1932, the joint owners of a certain stand in the Malay Location and that Aisa was entitled to half the rentals and income derived from the property. It was further alleged that ever since April, 1932, Gardee had been collecting the rentals and income from the property and had failed to account for them.

In his plea Gardee denied that Daya was the natural guardian of Aisa and that neither Aisa or Daya had obtained any rights to the property.

### Absolution Applied For

At the conclusion of Daya's case, Mr. Philip Millin, K.C., on behalf of Gardee applied for absolution from the instance. His first contention was that Daya had failed to prove his capacity to sue. Daya was born at Vesna and his wife at Dabhal, both of which were in the State of Baroda, one of the Native States of India but under the suzerainty of the British Crown. Daya married his wife at Dabhal in 1912, but since 1916 they were domiciled in the Transvaal, Aisa being born here in the following year. On Dec. 14, 1931, Gardee, by notarial deed, donated to his son and to Aisa in equal half shares all his right and title to a certain stand in the Malay Location, the consideration being a marriage according to Mahomedan rites between Aisa and Gardee's son.

Mr. Millin argued that because Aisa must be considered to be an illegitimate child, as her parents did not contract a marriage "valid according to our laws," Daya was not her lawful guardian. It was further argued that the marriage certificate was wrongly obtained as Act No. 22 of 1914 applied only to Indians who were British subjects while the plaintiff was not a British subject, but a citizen of Baroda.

### The Judgment

Mr. Justice Maritz after quoting legal references said that a reference to Halsbury (Laws of England) led to the conclusion that although the Native or Feudatory States of India from the constitutional point of view lay entirely outside British India, the Natives of those States could not be regarded as foreigners in the sense that a German or a Frenchman was a foreigner in relation to a British subject.

"India means British India, together with any territories of any Native Prince or chief under the suzerainty of his Majesty exercised through the Governor-General of India or any Governor.

"Only certain attributes of sovereignty belong to the Native States, for example, they possess no international character either as against foreign powers or as among themselves.

"In my opinion, therefore, the plaintiff and his wife are Indians within the meaning of Section 2 of the Act, and the plaintiff and his wife must be regarded as having been married at Dabhal in 1902, vide their marriage certificate. Aisa is therefore the offspring of a valid marriage and must be regarded as a legitimate child. The contention, therefore, that the plaintiff had no authority to act for the girl when he signed the notarial deed of donation and when he signed the power of attorney to institute these proceedings must fail."

In conclusion, Mr. Justice Maritz said that in his opinion the plaintiff had also furnished a prima facie case of Aisa's ownership. The application for absolution, therefore, would be refused and the question of wasted costs, if any, would stand over for argument at the conclusion of the case.—*Natal Mercury*.

## Indo-European Council

### Unemployment Discussed

There was an unusually large and representative audience to witness a very lively and interesting discussion on the unemployment question in the Hindu Tamil Institute, Cross Street, Durban, on Friday evening, Dec. 1st.

Mr. Reim presided. In the absence of Mr. McNally, both Messrs. Dougherty and Mr. Bolton addressed the audience.

Mr. Dougherty firmly maintained that there was plenty of room in the various trades for skilled and efficient workmen. If people found themselves unemployed it was due to their inefficiency.

Mr. Bolton's address was spirited and heated. He made several caustic remarks criticising the 'unfair' tactics employed by Indian employers. Whereas his Union was making every endeavour to raise the standard of the worker, the Indians, he averred, were doing exactly the opposite. It was undermining the western standard of life and if the Indians in this country did not cease utilising such tactics they would no doubt be put to the wall.

Some very heated and pointed questions were put to Mr. Bolton. In some cases very few constructive remarks were made.

During the course of the proceedings a letter was read from Mr. Moosa, of the Simplex Factory, stating the case of the Indian employer. Several interjections and bitter remarks were made.

tered during the course of its perusal.

Mr. Mabel Palmer was the first and only one to indulge in a deep discussion of the many-sided question of unemployment. She said her sympathies were both with the Indians and the Europeans. She also further brought out the fact that a Std. VI certificate was a necessary prerequisite for those desirous of entering any trade as apprentices. This was law. But as Indians often through financial stringency, were not able to attain this fairly high academic level, they had no other alternative but to work as unskilled artisans.

It was a pity, Mrs. Palmer continued, to make the problem a race one. In other countries the race aspect was totally absent. In South Africa the question of race only gave the problem a South African touch. But in reality the problem was really economic.

In conclusion Mrs. Palmer exhorted those present to look at the problem not through the spectacles of race or colour but with tolerance and broadmindedness.

The discussion terminated at 10.30 p.m.

## Original Correspondence

TO THE EDITOR "INDIAN OPINION"

### Congress And Its Constitution

Sir,—With reference to the article appearing in your paper two weeks ago about the Statement presented by the South African Indian Congress to the Provincial Finance Commission; I wholly agree with the writer that despite the fact that the Congress has a constitution; the officials have, at times in the past, and in this case over-ridden the constitution. Without holding an Executive Meeting, a few men, it seems, who imagine that they are dictators of the Mussolini cum Hitler type, have presented a Statement as coming from the Indian community. I do not in any way wish to deprecate their action, or the motives which inspired them to present the Statement, but I most emphatically wish to point out that without consultation of the Executive and the community, these few had no right whatsoever to present it.

My motive in pointing out this fault is due solely to the fact that in the past, on certain occasions, the officials have taken steps without calling a meeting. We, as a community, who have borne upon our shoulders the mistakes committed by the South African Indian Congress in their past dealings with the Government, such as in the matter of repatriation etc., do not wish to be subjected to a dictatorship, or to be again the victims of their folly. We have an Executive to whom matters of importance affecting the community should first be placed. Let not the officials take this to be a precedent, over-ride the constitution, and act as they choose, otherwise the goodwill and support that they still hold among a few will be lost. Speaking of the Transvaal Indian Congress, ever since the last Emergency Conference convened to discuss the question of Colonization, a section which disagrees with the Congress's attitude, and who has all along been opposed to the scheme, has come away from its fold. This, combined with other factors, has also affected the community. The officials hold meetings when, and where they wish, and no intimation is given to members. The Statement presented by the Transvaal Indian Congress to the Provincial Finance Commission was done so without consultation of the Committee, and without first

ascertaining the views and wishes of the community. The Committee were not notified of this step until it was read in the papers. It seems that the fever of Fascism or Hitlerism, as seen in the South African Indian Congress, has also infected its constituent body. The support that this body has had has dwindled during the year owing to actions of this nature. I may say, without fear of contradiction, that if a vote of confidence in the officials of the Congress was taken, they would surely get a vote of no confidence. I should advise the Congress to convene a meeting at the earliest, with the object of asking all officials to resign, then hold a re-election to put in real workers, not dictators or party men, otherwise they will lose the support of the few they now retain.—Yours etc.,  
"CORRIGENDA."

## Sporting News

(BY SPORTSMAN)

### Boxing

#### Kid Singh To Fight Peter Danker

The boxing fever, which only a short while ago took Durban by storm, shows signs of returning. It is learnt authoritatively that Kid Mottee Singh will fight Peter Danker, of Capetown on 26th December; the venue will be the Durban Town Hall.

Kid Singh who has returned from his short tour of the Union is now once more actively preparing for the last bout in accordance with his contract. He is most enthusiastic about victory and is certainly leaving no stone unturned in an attempt to gain a grand slam during his sojourn in this country.

There are also rumours current that Kid Singh may be requested to extend his contract till the middle of next year. During his stay he has become most popular throughout the country and news of extension of his contract will no doubt be hailed in all quarters with great delight.

In the coming tourney Bennis Singh will be pitted against an old rival Cecil Jonoskey, of Johannesburg, who beat him in their last contest by points. Bud Gengan, of whom little is heard these days, is to meet Willie Fogins.

In addition there will be other minor bouts but on the whole this Boxing Day Tournament ought to break all records in regard to attendance.

### Tennis

ALFRED DAVID SHIELD SEMI-FINAL

The grand semi-final for the Alfred David Shield was eagerly contested on Sunday, 26th November between the Spes Bona, who last year topped the league list and the Central. There was a slight departure from custom when it was decided to have the match played on a neutral court. As a result the Durban Indian Lawn Tennis Courts, Currie's Fountain, formed the venue of the match.

There was a very large crowd present, despite the broiling heat in which the match was contested. The usual Spes Bona team was also changed. In the absence of Mr. P. B. Singh, E. H. Amra served as substitute, in partnering W. Thomas the Spes Bona Captain, who undoubtedly was the star of the day, in bringing his side through to victory.

At the conclusion of the day's play Spes Bona had won by 5 matches to 2.

Mr. K. S. Pillay of Greenwood Park officiated as referee.

The Spes Bona will now meet the Moonlighters in the

final for the Shield on Dec. 10th. It is also understood that Currie's Fountain will be the venue of this match. Mr. S. M. Moodley will officiate as referee. After the match Mr. K. M. Seedat will present the Shield to the winning Captain.

"B" Division Tennis

In the "B" division, on Sunday, 3rd December the Derby team (Durban) travelled to Verulam and received the defeat of 6-3 at the hands of the local team.

Cricket

There was no cricket on Saturday, 2nd Dec. The Currie's Fountain grounds were loaned to the Natal Motoring Club for motor-cycle races.

News In Brief

The allegations of atrocities against the German Administration of her former colonies, which are contained in a Blue Book to the South African Government, were "lies and a swindle," which could not be proved, Dr. Schnee, the former Governor of East Africa is reported to have declared in an interview according to Renter from Berlin. Dr. Schnee said: "We treated the Natives more humanely and considerately than they are treated now and statements to the contrary by Native chiefs have not been made voluntarily. Germany's colonies were taken from her on a basis of lies, which must be wiped out as soon as possible."

An Indian play is to be staged on December 16 at the Victoria Cinema in Durban in aid of the Maritzburg Indian charity. The whole of the proceeds will go towards the erection of a new hall at the Veda Dharama Sabha School in Maritzburg. The play is written by Mr. N. Lalibadiar of Durban, and in it there are plenty of tense situations, thrills, humour and romance. The production is called "Nirdosh Atma" or "The Innocent Soul." It will be staged by the Arya Nava Jivan Natak Munda of Maritzburg.

Lord Irwin, the sole nominee, was elected Chancellor of Oxford University in succession to the late Viscount Grey of Faldoon, states Renter.

CONFERENCE

Colonial Born and Settlers Indian Association Preliminary Notice

A Conference of the Colonial Born and Settlers Indian Association will be held during the Christmas holidays in Durban on vital matters affecting Colonial Born and Settler Indians. A further notice will appear next week.

A. CHRISTOPHER, President.

A. HAFEEJHE

S. L. SINGH

D. S. CHETTY

Jt. hon. Secretaries C.B. and S.I.A.

South African Hindu Maha Sabha

It is hereby notified that a meeting of the South African Hindu Maha Sabha will be held at the Hindu Tamil Institute, Cross Street, Durban, on Monday, December 26, commencing at 10 a.m. for the transaction of the following business:

- (1) Report of Secretaries, (2) Affiliations and enrolment of members, (3) Revision of Constitution, (4) Election of officials, (5) Affiliation with the Hindu Maha Sabha—India, (7) General.

Institutions and Committees, not already affiliated are requested to do so without delay.

S. R. PATHER, T. M. NAICKER, Hon. Gen. Secretaries.

All communications to be addressed to 38 Madressa Arcade, off Grey Street, Durban.

ભહેર વિનંતિ

શ્રી. જી. બી. પટવર્ધન સાસી એમ્બેરીયલ એવી. સ્કૂલના નિલાય અધ્યક્ષ સરકારી સંસ્થાના એનરરી સેક્રટરી શ. નાથુભાઈ મકનજી નાયક સ્કૂલ ફ્રોમ ક્રાઉન હાલ, નારાઈ તથા કેપ પ્રોવીન્સ તેમજ રોડેશીયા વિગેરે ભાગેશા કરવાના છે તે આશા રાખવામાં આવે છે કે સરકારી વિદ્યાલયના કાર્યમાં ફરેક સાલ્થ આપવામાં હોવી ભાખીએ પુતાના કામ લાભાવી ઉદારતાથી મદદ કરશે. સરકારી સ્કૂલ મરોલી બી. બી. એન્ડ સી. આઈ. સેલવે લાખના એકન ઉપર આવેલી છે. શાલા માં શિક્ષણ લઈ આજે ફરેક વિદ્યાર્થીઓ કોલેજમાં અભ્યાસ કરે છે. તે આવા વિદ્યાલયના કાર્યમાં ફરેક હોવી ભાખીએ ઉદારતાથી પુતાના તરફથી મદદ કરવાનું સુકો નહિ એવી નમ્ર પ્રાર્થના છે.

નાથુભાઈ મકનજી નાયક, પ્રમુખ. રૂડીપુટ હોલિંગ સેવા સમાજ.

ખોલવડ વાસીઓની વાર્ષિક બનરસ સભા નં. ૨૭ મારકેટ સ્ટ્રીટ ઉપર આવેલા ખોલવડ કોલેજના મકાનમાં ખોલવડના ભહેર ખાતાઓની સભા તા. ૨૫ અને ૨૬ ને બદલે તા. ૧૬ સી ડીસેમ્બર ૧૯૩૩, શનીવારના સવારે ૯ વાગે શરૂ કરવામાં આવશે જે પ્રમુખે ફરેક ખોલવડવાસીઓને આમહુપુર્વક પધારવા વિનંતી કરીએ છીએ. મહેરસા અન્બુમન ઇસ્લામ મોડે ખોલવડ, આઈ. ઇ. ડાલબાઈ સેક્રટરી.

# ઇન્ડિઅન ઓપિનિઅન.

પુસ્તક ૩૧ મું.

શુક્રવાર, તારીખ ૮ ડિસેમ્બર ૧૯૩૩

અંક ૪૯

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### લોર્ડ કલેરેનડનનું આગમન

યુનીયનના નામદાર ગવરનર-જનરલ લોર્ડ કલેરેનડન અને કાઉન્સિલ ઓફ કલેરેનડન છ માસની ગેરહાજરી બાદ ગયા સોમવારે કારનારવન કાસલમાં યુનીયનમાં પાછા પધાર્યા છે તેઓને અમે અંતઃકરણથી આવકાર આપીએ છીએ.

### આંતરરાષ્ટ્રીય કેળવણી પરિષદ

ન્યુ એન્જ્યુકેશન ટ્રેકોશીપ નામની આંતરરાષ્ટ્રીય સંસ્થા જેનું મુખ્ય મથક લંડનમાં છે તેના આશ્રય હેઠળ આવતા ભુલાઇ માસમાં કેપટાઉન અને નેહલનીસબર્ગમાં એક આંતર-રાષ્ટ્રીય કેળવણી પરિષદ મળવાની છે જેમાં દેશ દેશોમાંથી નામાંકિત કેળવણીકારો હાજર થશે. હિંદુસ્તાનની સરકારની મદદથી હિંદુસ્તાનથી પણ એક કેળવણીકાર હાજર થશે. પરિષદમાં "સમાજમાં થતા ઝડપી પરિવર્તનથી ઉપસ્થિતિ થતી નવી જરૂરીયાતોને કેળવણીથી કેવી રીતે પહોંચી વળા શકાય?" અને "સમાજ સુધારામાં કેળવણીથી કાળો કર્મ રીતે આપા શકાય," એ બાબત ચર્ચા થશે. એ ઉપરાંત બુદ્ધા બુદ્ધા કેળવણીના વિષયો ઉપર ભાષણો આપવામાં આવશે. સંસ્થાનો મુખ્ય હેતુ કેળવણીની પદ્ધતિને આધુનિક જરૂરીયાતોને અનુસાર બનાવવાથી જ હુનીયાની સમક્ષ આવી પડેલા અનેક સવાલોનું સમાધાન શર્ધ શકશે એવું માનનારા સમાજ સેવકોને એકત્ર કરવાનો છે. અમે આ પગલાંને આવકાર હાયક ગણીએ છીએ અને આશા રાખીએ છીએ કે હિંદુસ્તાનની પ્રજા હિંદુસ્તાનથી પોતાના એક અહોશ પ્રતિનિધિને મોકલશે કે જે પોતાની હાજરીથી આ દેશના યુરોપીયનોપર સારી છાપ પાડવા સાથે હિંદીઓને પણ તેમની હાજરી લાલહાથી શ્રદ્ધ પડે.

સરકારી નિશાળોમાં બાળકો ક્યારે દાખલ થઇ શકશે નાટાલ પ્રાંતિક સરકારે ૧૯૩૪ની સાલમાં નિશાળોની પહેલી ટર્મમાં જે બાળકો તે સાલના જુનની તા. ૩૦ મીની પહેલાં છ વર્ષની વયે પહોંચ્યા હશે તેઓને દાખલ કરવાનો ઠરાવ કર્યો છે. પરંતુ જે બાળકોને છ વર્ષ તે તારીખ બાદ થયાં હશે તેમને ૧૯૩૫ની શરૂઆત પહેલાં દાખલ કરવામાં આવશે નહિ. ગઇ સાલ પ્રાંતિક સરકારે નાણાંની તંગીને લીધે બાળકોને માટે નિશાળોમાં દાખલ કરવાની વય સાત વર્ષની ઠરાવી હતી.

### વાચકોને

અનિવાર્ય સંજોગોને લીધે કેટલાક લેખો આ અંક માં આવવા બેઠતા હતા તે આવી શક્યા નથી તેથી દિલગીર છીએ.

## "ઇન્ડિઅન ઓપિનિઅન"

શુક્રવાર, તા. ૮ ડિસેમ્બર સન ૧૯૩૩

## ગોરી મજુરીની નીતી

કોલોનીયલ બોર્ન એન્ડ સેટલર્સ ઇન્ડિઅન એસોસીએશનના આશ્રય હેઠળ ગયા રવીવારે કરબનમાં મળેલી માસ મીટીંગમાં ત્રણ અગલના ઠરાવો પસાર થયા હતા જેમાંના પહેલો અને મુખ્ય ઠરાવ યુનીયન સરકારની ગોરી મજુરીની નીતીની સામે વિરોધ દર્શાવનારો હતો. ઓછામાં ઓછા પગારનો નીચમ બાંધનારો કાયદો ન્યારથી હસ્તિમાં આવ્યો ત્યારથી હિંદી કામદારથી આ દેશમાં કોઈ પણ જાતની શાંતિથી બેસાયું નથી. બલકે યુરોપીયનો તેમજ યુરોપીયનેતરોમાં હાલ જે એકારી વર્તી રહી છે તેનું મોટે ભાગે કારણ તેજ છે. કેમકે ધોરણસરનો પગાર આપવાની અનિવાર્ય અસર એ થઇ છે કે ન્યાં ત્રણ માણસો કામ કરતા હોય ત્યાં એકથી અલાવાય છે. દાખલા તરીકે ન્યાં પાંચ-પાંચ પાઉડના પગારે ત્રણ માણસોને રાખવામાં આવેલા હોય ત્યાં ૧૫ પાઉડ આપીને એકનેજ રાખવો પડે અને બેને રસ્તાપર નોકરી વગર રજાવું પડે. વળી પગારના ધોરણના અમલમાં વર્ષોદે આગળ પડતો ભાગ લજવેલો છે. દાખલા તરીકે ન્યાં ધોરણસરનો પગાર આપવાની વાત આવે ત્યાં મોટે ભાગે હિંદી કે યુરોપીયનેતરના કરતાં ગોરાને વધારે પસંદગી આપવામાં આવે છે. ન્યાં કોઇ પણ કાળો માણસ કામ કરતોજ નહિ હોય ત્યાં