

INDIAN OPINION

Founded by
MAHATMA GANDHI
IN 1903.

No. 12—Vol. XXXII.

Friday, March 23rd, 1934

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

NOTES AND NEWS

Bihar Relief Fund

WE are happy to announce that South Africa's contribution to the Bihar earthquake relief fund in response to the appeal made by INDIAN OPINION has reached the figure of over £1216 5 6 which is a sign no doubt that our appeal has not fallen entirely on deaf ears. We will discuss this question with further details in our next week's issue.

Average Native Student Equal To European

PROF. R. W. VARDER, Dean of the Faculty of Science of the University of South Africa in the course of his address to the congregation said, speaking from his own experience as an examiner, he had found the average of the Fort Hare student at least equal to the average in European colleges and on several occasions there had been found among them students of the first rank. This he said was true in regard to scientific training as well as in the department of mathematics.

Fort Hare Cannot Be Admitted

THE Witwatersrand University had some time back proposed that the Native University at Fort Hare should be admitted to the National Union of South African students. This was resented by various other members of the Union owing to the strong prejudice against Natives sitting together with Europeans. A commission was set up for the purpose of considering the question whether Fort Hare should be invited to join the National Union of South African Students, which, we understand, has come to the conclusion that the general opinion among South African students is that it would be impracticable to admit Fort Hare to membership. Fort Hare did not stand on the same footing as the various European universities and university colleges and was therefore not eligible for membership in terms of the present constitution of the Students' Union. The replies to a questionnaire showed that only a small minority found no practicable objections to admission. Barring that it is a University for Natives we do not know in what other way it is on a different footing to the other South African Universities. It is a case of colour prejudice pure and simple.

Warning To Storekeepers

Two Asiatics, a storekeeper and his assistant, were charged before Mr. J. G. van Alpen in the Magistrate's Court, Johannesburg, under the Foods and Drugs Act, with selling a quantity of sugar which was discoloured bad smelling and containing part of the dead body of a mouse. Both of the men were found guilty, reprimanded and discharged.

Indian Opinion

FRIDAY, MARCH 23RD, 1934.

WHY WE DIFFER

WHEN Mahatma Gandhi was repeatedly requested by the writer to express his considered opinion on the controversy which has unfortunately arisen on the question of co-operating with the Colonisation Inquiry Committee appointed by the Minister of the Interior to investigate into the possibilities of a colonisation scheme for settling South African Indians in other countries and to find out to what extent Indians would participate in such a scheme, Mahatma Gandhi most emphatically said he could not express any opinion unless he was on the spot. Similarly Mr. Andrews too wrote from India that he considered it wise to be silent on the question and that Mahatma Gandhi had endorsed that view. Mr. Andrews is now in London and he seems to have changed his mind and has made a statement which we publish elsewhere in this issue. We wish Mr. Andrews would have adhered to his former resolution till his arrival. We are sorry he has decided otherwise. We have always respected the views of Mr. Andrews and we would think twice before offering any adverse criticism. But on the present issue we are sorry to have to entirely differ from him. The question is complicated and so much misrepresentation has been made that it would nigh be impossible for one who is not on the spot to thoroughly grasp it. If anyone has really understood the question thoroughly in India we think it is *The Hindu* of Madras whose comments we have published in previous issues.

We wholeheartedly agree with Mr. Andrews that a pledge given should be considered sacred and should be observed as such. The verse in the Psalms quoted by Mr. Andrews: "He that maketh a promise to his neighbour and disappointeth him not, even though it were to his own hindrance, whose doeth these things shall never fall," is as sacred to us as it is to Mr. Andrews. We are fully prepared to discuss this question from this high moral plane without entering into the question of expediency.

Our contention is that those who have opposed the Congress co-operating with the Colonisation Committee are not guilty of having violated any sacred pledge. for no pledge to co-operate with a committee

of this nature was ever given. It should be the least necessary for us to explain that to Mr. Andrews because he had heated debate on the very question with the writer himself in Capetown during the Round Table Conference. Mr. Andrews is fully aware of the very strong resentment there was at that time against any substitution of the Assisted Emigration Scheme or the compromising of the rights of the poor Indians for any promised concessions. Mr. Andrews will also be able to recall the fact that it was only after it was explained by the Government of India delegation in explicit terms that *India* was going out on a mission to seek outlets for *her own teeming millions*, and an invitation was extended to Indians in South Africa to co-operate in that mission and to incidentally see if there existed any good opportunities for Indians in South Africa in such outlets *explored by India* and precisely not on the score of Indians being deemed undesirable or that their population was to be reduced, that the Congress representatives agreed to co-operate, and, that too, with certain reservations, namely, that the Congress would withdraw their co-operation if the assisted emigration scheme was not eliminated and if any matters discussed at the Round Table Conference or anything in the Agreement did not meet with their approval. On the score of these reservations alone the Congress was fully justified in withdrawing their co-operation with *India's mission to seek outlets for her own teeming millions*. By what stretch of imagination, then, the appointment of a local inquiry into the possibilities of a colonisation scheme for settling South African Indians in other countries and to find out to what extent Indians could participate in such a scheme could have any bearing with what is termed bombastically by the Congress leaders as their 'solemn pledge' is beyond our comprehension.

Mr. Andrews' statement would certainly be irrefutable if a pledge as he imagines would have ever been given but if Mr. Andrews were to examine carefully the undertaking signed by him in Capetown jointly with the Congress representatives, and compare it with the terms of the present inquiry, he would not fail to see in the latter a distinct departure from the original understanding.

Discussing the advantages and disadvantages of 'co-operation' with the enquiry committee, Mr. Andrews says: "I personally can see no hindrance coming to the Indian community.....on the contrary, distinct good coming from it instead of evil. For it ought to be possible for the Indian community, by sending a member to serve on the committee of enquiry, to prove by evidence once and for all to the Union Government, that there is clearly no place for any colonisation scheme abroad in the future; and that the Indian community in South Africa is solidly and unitedly against any such scheme." If the community is solidly and unitedly against any such scheme, as it no doubt is, we entirely fail to see what purpose is served by co-operating in investigating the possibilities of such a scheme. Again, if it is assumed that there is no place for any colonisation why could it not also be assumed that there is a place? And what if a place is found? Can the Government of India with any show of honesty shirk their responsibility in formulating a scheme

for settling South African Indians in such a place even as they formulated the assisted emigration scheme, for after all has not this colonisation idea arisen as a result of the failure of the assisted emigration scheme? Mr. Andrews seems to assume that nothing is going to come out of it at all; and the Government of India, according to their Agent, are not contemplating financing any colonisation scheme nor do they believe there is any available country where Indians could go. It would be pertinent to ask then, what is all this fuss about? Is it merely to delay the evil day? Discussing the question from a high moral plane is this not camouflage? Are we not trying to appear what we are not to the government and the European people of this country? Could we not win their confidence better by being true to ourselves and true to them?

Mr. Andrews who has been the father of the repatriation scheme and is regretting his action to this day would, in our humble opinion, be better serving the cause of Indians in South Africa by exploding the idea of repatriation or colonisation altogether and devoting all his energy to bringing home to the Government and the people of South Africa their duty to treat the comparatively small Indian community in their midst, eighty per cent. of which is South African born, with justice and equality.

Fountain Of Wisdom

Come what may through ill repute and good repute, whether others help us or hinder us, we will continue to the last to do our duty.—MADAN MOHAN MALAVIYA.

Ours is the right of freedom; we claim it, we take it, you dare not deny to us the birth-right of humanity.—SAROJINI NAIDOO.

Not by material, but by moral force are men and their actions governed.—CARLYLE.

Sacred Concert Incident

Mayor's Letter To C.B. and S.I.A.

(FROM OUR MARITZBURG CORRESPONDENT)

Mr. K. Soobramoney, Joint Hon. Secretary of the Colonial Born and Settlers' Indian Association (Maritzburg Branch) received the following letter from the Mayor of Maritzburg in connection with the incident at the Sacred Concert held at the City Hall:—

"Dear Sir,—With reference to your letter of the 8th inst. I am directed by the City Council to express its deep regret at and to apologise for the unfortunate incident which occurred on the occasion of the Sacred Concert on the evening of Sunday, the 4th March last. The Council feels that the position was due to exceptional circumstances which arose out of the visit of His Royal Highness the Prince George, and it is satisfied that there was no intention of doing anything derogatory to the feelings of members of the non-European section of the community. In an earnest endeavour to avoid any recurrence of a most unpleasant incident, the Council hereby gives its assurance that in so far as future public Municipal functions in the City Hall are concerned, suitable provision will be made for the accommodation of non-Europeans, provided of course that such public functions are open to all sections of the community."

Mr. C. F. Andrews On Colonisation Controversy

Mr. C. F. Andrews writes from London:—

I HAVE refrained hitherto from expressing any judgment of my own with regard to the controversy which has arisen in Natal, within the South African Indian community, because I was intending to come out immediately to South Africa; and therefore it seemed right to suspend my judgment till my arrival. Furthermore, I had wished on this occasion to come out for purely social and educational work, and not take part, if I could possibly help it, in political matters. I had already written to those whose judgment I valued most, both in India and South Africa, and they had cordially agreed with this proposal of mine that I should do social rather than political work.

But from various causes the time of my departure for South Africa has been delayed again and again. It was impossible to prevent this, and on each occasion I took the best advice of those friends who were nearest to me, before deciding.

During this interval of silence, I have had time to think more and more clearly concerning the controversy, and though I wish still to adhere closely to my resolution not to take part in political matters when I come out, it now seems to me only fair and reasonable that I should give frankly beforehand my considered judgment on the point which is at issue; and I am writing this statement for INDIAN OPINION, with that object in view.

I feel that the Indian leaders are right, who have strictly adhered to the pledge which they gave at the time when the new Agreement was made at Capetown and ratified afterwards. That pledge is a sacred pledge, and it should be observed as such. There is a verse in the Psalms which has always appealed to me; it thus describes one of the marks of a man of character and religion: "He that maketh a promise to his neighbour and disappointeth him not, even though it were to his own hinderance,—whose doeth these things shall never fall." (Ps. 15.4).

Even therefore supposing some hinderance were to come to the Indian community from keeping the promise made by Congress to the Union Government, this would not, in my opinion, settle the matter. The promise ought to be kept at whatever cost. But coming down from that high moral plane to the question of expediency, I personally can see no hinderance coming to the Indian community at this stage, from keeping the promise made at Capetown, but, on the contrary, distinct good coming from it instead of evil. For it ought to be possible for the Indian community, by sending a member to serve on the Committee of Enquiry, to prove by evidence once and for all to the Union Government, that there is clearly no place for any colonisation scheme abroad in the future; and that the Indian community in South Africa to-day is solidly and unitedly against any such scheme.

I am well aware how intensely in earnest South African Indian opinion is against opening the door to even the slightest compromise on this critical matter. I can also sympathise with the South African Indian community wholeheartedly in

feeling that children who have grown up in South Africa and learnt to realise that South Africa is their only home, should not be sent away, against their own wish, merely by their parents' consent. This treatment of South African-born Indian children clearly has become a serious wrong; and I deeply regret that I have not in the past more strongly objected to it, when the matter might have been brought up for settlement. But this does not make any weaker my conviction that we ought now to keep the pledge given at Capetown.

[NOTE.—The above question is discussed in our leading article.—Ed. I.O.]

Our Indian Letter

(By CASUAL)

The 'Quake

INDIA has more than its share of human misery. Nowhere is the problem of poverty more acute. Famine is almost synonymous with India. Foreign rule with all its attendant evils is also a big feature of ours. But we had always been congratulating ourselves on the absence of serious earthquakes. Our self-satisfaction, as all your readers know, has received the rudest shock possible. We will no longer read accounts of earthquakes in Japan and elsewhere as though they were fairy tales. We have now our own fairy tale to tell to every one who will listen with sympathy. We do not know what sort of accounts you have been receiving. But no fictitious story could possibly convey an exaggerated impression of the devastation caused by the earthquake in Bihar. All that remains of three or four big towns and scores of villages is heaps of bricks, iron and timber under which still lie buried hundreds of human bodies. The number of deaths so far ascertainable is in the neighbourhood of 6000. Both official and non-official agencies are working away at high pressure to bring relief to the sufferers. It is no easy task. It is bound to take six months if not more before we get a correct measure of the damage and the work of reconstruction to be carried out. Funds for this purpose are pouring into the hands of the well known Congress leader Babu Rajendra Prasad. It was indeed a divine mercy that his release from jail on account of ill-health should have come just a day or two before the earthquake on 15th January. He is one of those who enjoy the esteem and confidence of the entire nation. The big response therefore to the appeal for funds is not a little due to the personality of Babu Rajendra Prasad. His fund now amounts to nearly 14 lakhs of rupees. The Niceroy, who has also inaugurated a fund, has collected about 17 lakhs, most of his contributors being Princes or merchant-princes. But both the funds combined do not make up more than a flea-bite. Lakhs won't do where crores are wanted, excepting for the purpose of affording relief of a very temporary and urgent nature.

It does seem somewhat strange that Indians in South Africa have not so far come forward with the large donations some of them are undoubtedly capable of making. Never was there a greater need for money. It is not at all too late for them to wake up and once more fulfil the great tradition of their past.

Colourful Cricket

There are ever so many things about which one can write. There is the M.C.C. visit to India which has just concluded. It has certainly kept up keen interest and excitement. Our White visitors have been feted and garlanded all over India but unfortunately, however, they have left behind a poor impression of their sportsmanship, and their much-vaunted sense of fair-play. The last match Madras was characterised by the display of savage tactics on the part of the M.C.C. which nearly caused us a couple of lives at the wicket. We are told that it is not customary to grumble when the ball hits you because it is meant to hit you if you can't hit it. But that only reminds us that when some years ago our fast bowler Ranji proved troublesome to a M.C.C. team in an identical way quite a hue and cry was raised against him.

Mr. Jardine has made matters worse by raising an eleventh hour objection to an Umpire, who is an Englishman and a veteran cricketer himself. Why a winning and a superior team should show such desperateness it is difficult to understand. But this is not the worst. The parting at Madras was more in the nature of a "Good-bye" than an "Au Revoir." The colour question crept up at Madras and the Indian team found themselves unable to attend a dinner party at which both were invited. They complained of gross discourtesy and an utter lack of appreciation of the extraordinary hospitality lavished all over India on the guests. But I suppose the best thing is for people to try and forget these things until the next time. Then we can start all over again India and the Indians can hope for better luck both on and off the field.

I cannot afford to refer to other topics, if only because I am anxious that your readers should realise that there is no more burning topic at present than the situation with regard to the earthquake and that all efforts have to be directed towards the alleviation of distress in Bihar.

Welcome To Pundit Mehta

Jaimini

Large Gathering In Durban

A welcome reception was given in honour of Pundit Mehta Jaimini, B.A., L.L.B., M.R.A.S., Ph.D., last Sunday at the Royal Picture Palace, Victoria Street, Durban, under the auspices of the South African Hindu Maha Sabha.

Mr. B. M. Patel, President of the Maha Sabha, was in the chair, supported by Messrs. S. R. Pather and T. M. Naidoo, joint hon. secretaries.

The hall was fully packed to hear the distinguished visitor. There was a fair number of ladies present and a fair number of Europeans was also present.

The chairman cordially welcomed the Punditji and garlanded him. After several speeches were made suitable to the occasion the Punditji rose to reply and was greeted with applause.

Punditji said he was glad to see that Indians though they had come to this country very many years ago, when India had hardly any facilities for higher education, had still retained their ancient traditions. After expressing his thanks for the cordial welcome he had received the Punditji lectured both in English and Hindustani on "The Ideals of Hinduism."

The Punditji delivered another lecture on Monday night at the Parsee Rustomjee Hall and his lecture on Tuesday was cancelled owing to his indisposition.

CURRENT TOPICS

COMMENTS AND CRITICISM

(BY BHUSSMASOOR)

Englishmen Up In Arms

GENERAL HERTZOG, the Prime Minister of the Union of South Africa has disturbed the horret's nest by his new draft legislation which would soon be on the anvil in a few days. His Bill first of all seeks the right to declare South Africa's neutrality if Great Britain becomes involved in a future war. Secondly, only South African nationals may become members of the Senate or Assembly and thirdly to deprive the King of his power to veto any future amendment of the South African Act, as also abolishing or reducing the powers of the Provincial Councils. This is in a nutshell what he is aiming at and against which the Englishmen are up in arms.

All Tends To Republicanism

It is clear as daylight that this new move of General Hertzog backed by Dr. Malan and others is exactly what he laid down when he was thrown out of the Botha Cabinet and formed the Nationalist Party over twenty years ago. He was young then and his language was not clothed in the diplomatic garb nor was he or his party strong enough to force the Government to accept his principles. The position to-day is different and all the stars are in his favour and constitutionally he is in a far better position to carry out his life's dream. There should be no doubt that if this legislation is passed South Africa for all intents and purposes would be a republic, only, not in name. But then the next step after making England impotent constitutionally would be simply to declare this country a Republic and legally England could not then interfere. Did not General Hertzog with some of his present cabinet members go to England on such a mission and has not the way now been nicely paved for him to achieve his object without firing a shot? Are not the Englishmen in Natal and elsewhere already finding that they are beaten at their own game?

These are questions to be pondered over.

Indians' Invidious Position

The Indians who are observing this battle of wits between the Dutch and the British are placed in a most unfortunate position, not being enfranchised they do not know where they are. Their status is not declared, they are either British subjects or South African nationals, would that their position was once for all clearly defined and that they were made to feel that this was their home and they had their responsibilities as others in the welfare of the country in which they lived. I trust that the Prime Minister in his new legislation will clear this anomaly. Indians are here and most of them know no other country, their standard of living is more of the West than of the East and to leave them groping in the dark does not redound to the credit of any civilised Government.

Telling Facts

Mr. Philip Townshend of Mayville writes to the Natal Mercury in reply to a correspondent who had

stated that an Asiatic will never spend a penny in a European store if he can trade with an Asiatic. "Out of the 10,000 Indians," says Mr. Townshend, "who, at great expense have been repatriated, I claim that at least half were consumers, to some extent, of South African made footwear, clothing, finery, messemeal, milk, sugar, tobacco, jam, liquor, stationery, and numerous other things which civilized Indians use. To ship these customers away to another country, he continues, must surely have had a deleterious effect on local trade and industry." He then dwells on the question of "Asiatic penetration" which he respectfully submits has no meaning in view of the very large number of Asiatics born in South Africa and who, he suggests, should be considered Afrikaners like the rest of them if they pay their taxes. His letter hits the nail right on the head.

Can Never Be Beaten

The Mayor of Newcastle disappointed the Indian community during the Prince's visit when Mr. O. J. Christopher took up the task of running all the way to Johannesburg with the Newcastle Indians' garland to present to H. R. H. the Prince George. He has now issued a statement that he has succeeded in his mission. It is presumed that had the Mayor of Newcastle known this he would have allowed the two minutes out of the thirty which was allotted to his dorp. It is rightly told that there is none to beat the Indians in showing their loyalty and Newcastle now has proved it beyond doubt. The Mayor must be saying with regret, "O, they have done it."

Nothing For Indian Charity!

It was only the other day the late George Shearer Armstrong of Durban died at sea and left an estate worth £104,295. The late Leon Renaud, advocate has left an estate worth £19,549. Both these gentlemen made most of their money from the Indians, one by using Indian labour in the sugar plantation, the other by having Indian clients. I do not envy their estate but what I do feel is that when they are gone they have left nothing for Indian charity? A little this way would have helped the many poor and helpless Indians in Natal.

Work For Panchourie De

Police officers at Scotland Yard and also in the Union and Rhodesia are mightily puzzled over the trick whereby gold valued at £6,360, consigned from Bulawayo to a London bank, has been abstracted from a box and its place filled with cement and nails. It is stated that the seals on the box appeared to be intact—yet the gold was gone. There is a theory that the gold never left Bulawayo, but that a duplicate box was prepared and substituted for the treasure chest. This reminds me of the great mysteries solved by that expert Mr. Panchourie De of Calcutta. Would it be too much to suggest to Scotland Yard, Rhodesian or Union officers of the C. I. D. to drop a card to Mr. De. The famous Indian detective might prove his worth.

Colonial Born And Settlers' Indian Association

Maritzburg Indians' Protest

A mass meeting, under auspices of the Colonial-born and Settlers' Indian Association, Maritzburg branch, was held in the H. Y. M. A. main hall, Church Street, Maritzburg. The hall was full with Indians, Coloureds and Europeans, to protest against the action of the City Council on the proposed erection of a "Native Beer Hall" in Relief Street (between Berg and Boom Streets).

Dr. Maurice R. Peters presided, and those who were on the platform included Councillors G. C. Jolliffe, Mrs. A. E. Shirley, Mrs. W. A. D. Russell, and F. J. Lewis together with Mr. W. Walthew, Mr. G. Benjamin (representing the Natal and Maritzburg Coloured Welfare Society); Messrs J. Mreara, Thum, and E. Young (representing the European residents of Ward 8); and Messrs P. Thompson, M. K. Naidoo, V. Kristy, and K. Soobramoney, Secretary.

The Chairman after welcoming the Councillors and the other representatives, referred to the site where a Native Beer Hall is to be duly erected, and pointed out the inconveniences the residents in the proposed area would have to undergo. He was of the opinion that if the said Beer Hall was to be established it would certainly be harmful to the residents.

The following resolution was then moved by Mr. M. K. Naidoo, and seconded by Mr. V. Kristy, and passed unanimously.

"That this mass meeting held under the auspices of the Colonial Born and Settlers' Indian Association (Maritzburg Branch); assembled at the H. Y. M. A. Hall, Maritzburg on Sunday the 18th March 1934, do hereby strongly protest against the action of the City Council, in agreeing to the site in Relief Street, (between Berg and Boom Streets) to be used for the purpose of a "Native Beer Hall."

The following reasons were given by the various speakers for opposing the City Council's step:

—that the area concerned and thereabouts is mostly the residential area of Indians and Coloureds; and the erection and existence of a "Native Beer Hall" will tend towards adding more to the existing inconveniences, viz. prowlers, burglars, suspicious characters, disturbers of public peace, hooliganism, and the dreaded amaaleitas, and the like.

—that Wards 7 and 8 are pestered with the said characters, burglaries are on the increase, and amaaleitas are not uncommon.

—that whilst all the above add much to the terror and uneasiness of the residents in this area, the proposed "Native Beer Hall" (where natives of all characters will congregate) will without any doubt increase these disabilities.

A humble suggestion was made to the City Council to keep as foremost, the importance of the safety and peaceful atmosphere of the said area, and to choose a site preferably outside the immediate neighbourhood of the boundaries of the City proper.

The chairman explained that on behalf of the Association he and the Secretary interviewed the District Commandant for adequate police protection; and as a result of the interview he was glad to state that three extra police officers are on duty at the bottom end.

Sacred Concert Incident

The Chairman also referred to the several complaints that were made to the Association in connection with the ejection of Indians from the City Hall on the occasion of the sacred concert held on March 4, 1934 during Prince George's visit. Letters to and from the Council were read. Several speakers expressed their views on the matter. Eventually Mr. R. P. Naidoo moved the following resolution which was seconded by Mr. S. Rathnam.

"That at a Mass Meeting assembled under the auspices of the Colonial Born and Settlers' Indian Association (Mantizburg Branch) on Sunday March 18 1934 resolve in terms of a letter from the Mayor dated the March 16, 1934 in regard to the incident at the sacred concert to be forwarded to the local press for publication thereof."

The resolution was carried unanimously.

Hawkers' Test Case

The Chairman also referred to the Hawkers' test case in regard to the defined areas which is set down for the 9th of April 1934, and funds are required to meet the necessary legal expenses, and he made an earnest appeal to the public for donations.

The Meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the chair at 9 p.m.

Indian Buses

The Church Speaks Out

Writing to the *Natal Mercury* on the resolution of the National Council of Women suggesting that Indian buses should be restricted to feeding the various Durban tram routes at the termini Rev. W. H. Satchell says:

"Two reasons for this suggestion were given, namely, that the Indian buses are harmful to the road surface and that they cause loss of revenue to the Tramway Department. The fact that such a suggestion emanated from the National Council of Women should be a sufficient guarantee that whoever might benefit by the imposing of such a restriction, the poor would not suffer. There is no indication however, that anything but roads and revenue were under consideration."

"It is hard to believe that these ladies can have been so much perturbed about the road surface and the loss of revenue to the Tramways Department that they overlooked the untold hardship such a restriction would impose upon the poor in general and their poorer sisters in particular. There are at present over 100 Indian buses in Durban, conveying literally thousands of the poorest members of the community, Natives, Indians and Coloured people, in and out of town. The termini of these bus routes are from two to two and three-quarters of a mile beyond the tram termini. The charge for the complete journey is one ticket. If the suggestion of the National Council of Women were to be carried out, and passengers brought by Indian buses to the tram termini were to be transferred to the trams, the cost of the journey would, of necessity, increase.

"The great majority of those who use the buses are too poor to afford an increase. One result would inevitably be that hundreds of poor women who now get to town by bus would be compelled to walk half the distance. They would probably travel by bus to the termini and then walk into town, carrying their heavily-laden baskets."

Writing to the same paper Rev. J. M. Sundrum says:—

"Many Europeans profess sympathy for the lot of the Indians but lack courage to give open expression to their feelings; for one at least to come out openly with the courage of his convictions is worthy of commendation.

"His intimate knowledge of the sufferings of the Indian unemployed and the hundreds of ill-fed and

ill-clothed children—compassion has demanded a little sacrifice of his personal comforts to afford relief to them—probably impelled him to champion the cause of the Indian busdrivers against whom the National Council of Women is up in arms. How many of the members of the National Council of Women patronise the trams to save a loss of revenue to the Corporation? The discomfort experienced in the trams and the stigma attached to the six rear seats of the upper deck, which are invaded more often by the Europeans, drove the Indians to run buses. When they have thus voluntarily segregated themselves they are accused of being the cause of loss of revenue, and force is to be employed to bring them back to the discomforts and degradation of the trams. In certain shops the Indians who go there to help the revenue are rudely turned out and slighted, notwithstanding the representations repeatedly made by the Indian community. Would the National Council of Women intervene here and show their sense of "fairplay" by passing another resolution to remedy the wrong?"

THINGS IN GENERAL

POSTAL DIFFICULTIES IN SYDENHAM

The Sydenham Ward Indian Ratepayers' Association in reply to representations made by them have received the following communication dated Feb. 19 from the Private Secretary to the Minister of Posts and Telegraphs:—

"Dear Sir,—I am in receipt of your letter of the 7th February. The Minister of Posts and Telegraphs has caused inquiry to be made in connection with this matter. The main cause of difficulty in delivering correspondence in Sydenham was that the streets and houses had not been named and numbered. These requirements have now been met and arrangements have been made for correspondence to be delivered twice a day by European postmen. These officers are experienced and it is reported that they are finding no difficulty in effecting deliveries. I shall be glad to hear from you as to whether you have any complaint now in regard to the delivery of letters in specific instances so that they can be investigated by the Postmaster, Durban. The Minister suggests that you should interview the Postmaster in connection with the matter if you are experiencing any difficulty as it is within his purview to remedy matters."

SPRINGFIELD INDIAN SCHOOL

On March 17 certificates were distributed by the Rev. W. H. Stanton, manager of the above school, to the prize-winners in the arts and crafts exhibition organised by the Natal Indian Teachers Society held during the month of December, in which the Springfield Methodist Government-Aided Indian School excelled the other schools in Natal, having gained the trophy presented by Mrs. A. Christopher, for the second time in succession. The Headmaster of the school, Mr. D. P. Nundoo, in his opening speech, said that the success of the school in the recent exhibition was entirely due to two of the teachers, Messrs. S. R. Maharaj and S. Panday. He also pointed out that in the P. S. O. examination held last year, six out of ten passed, all having gained the continuation certificate. Vernacular was also taught free of charge. The Rev. Stanton appealed to the parents to take greater interest in both their children and the school. He paid tribute to the headmaster and staff. Among other speakers were Messrs. R. Ramdharie, R. Peramal and S. R. Maharaj.

NON-EUROPEANS ON RAND MINES

In the Union House of Assembly in reply to Mr. J. D. Heyns (Nat., Middelburg), the Minister of Mines said that 47,826 Natives, 668 Coloured persons and 118 Asiatics were employed in surface work on the Witwatersrand mines as at Feb. 28, 1934. The possibility of replacing such Natives, Coloured persons and Asiatics by Europeans had been discussed from time to time with the Chamber of Mines. There were, however, many occupations which could not justifiably be undertaken by Europeans and he was of opinion that it would be undesirable to employ Europeans at other than standard wages.

PREVENTION OF MALARIA

At a meeting of non-European land-owners of Plessislaer, Maritzburg, held at the school an interesting lecture on the "Prevention of Malaria" was given by Mr. Bayer. A voluntary committee of sprayers, comprising twenty three members who undertook to spray all Indian and native homes in and around Plessislaer was formed. With the assistance of Mr. Bayer very good results in Anti Malaria work is expected.

M. P. C. FOR GREYVILLE

By a bare majority of seven votes the South African Party has regained the Greyville seat in the Natal Provincial Council, rendered vacant by the death of the Rev. A. Lamont, who was elected as a member of the Home Rule Party. The result of the by-election, which took place last week was a victory for Mr. J. L. Farrell (631 votes) over his Town Council colleague and Labour opponent, Mr. J. Fyfe (624 votes).

O. B. AND S. I. A. EAST LONDON BRANCH

A special meeting of the Colonial Born and Settlers' Indian Association, East London Branch, was held at the Indo-African Traders Buildings, Argyle Street. There was a large gathering of members and intending members present. Mr. D. B. Parbhoo, the chairman, cleared up the misunderstandings and doubts existing in the minds of many present and explained the objects of the association and its undertakings.

Mr. R. S. Harry enlivened the work of the association and spoke briefly of the good results attained since its inception. Brief speeches were made by Messrs. A. V. Pillay, R. V. Chetty, B. Naidoo, G. Francis, J. T. Christian and M. D. Dass. The following officials were elected: Mr. D. B. Parbhoo, president; Messrs. D. Javan and M. D. Dass, vice-presidents; Mr. R. S. Harry, hon. secretary, Mr. B. Naidoo, assistant secretary; Mr. H. Karson, hon. treasurer; committees: Messrs. A. S. Pillay, K. M. Lal, V. Pillay, G. Francis, D. Bahana, W. Cuddamby and M. Ragaval.

H. Y. M. A. (MARITZBURG)

At the annual general meeting of the Hindu Young Men's Association, Maritzburg, which took place on Sunday last at the H.Y.M.A. Library, the following were elected as office bearers for the

ensuing year:—Patron: Bai Paramanand, M.A., President: Mr. R. R. Gopaul, Vice-presidents: Messrs. V. N. Kainn, B. R. Naidoo, and V. S. Naidoo, Joint hon. secretaries: Messrs. V. D. Pillay, R. N. Pillay, Committee: Messrs. K. Kataya Govinder, R. Ramsamy Pillay, R. P. Naidoo, P. M. Govender, V. Venba Padayachee, and P. N. R. Naidoo; Manager: Mr. K. Kailasa Moodley, Auditor: Mr. A. T. Moodley, Delegate: Mr. R. Ramalinga Pillay, Librarians: Messrs. K. Kasavaloo Moodley and S. G. Pillay.

THE CAPE INDIAN CONGRESS

A well attended meeting of the executive of the Cape Indian Congress, being the first since the re-election of officials, was held at the Fidelity Hall, Primrose Street, on Sunday, March 11. Mr. A. Ockim, the chairman of the executive, presided. After the preliminaries had been disposed of, the executive unanimously adopted the following resolutions which were referred to their respective sub-committees for consideration and report:—(1) Annual contribution, through the Congress, by members and supporters to local charitable institutions, more especially local hospitals; (2) The founding of two bursaries, one for an Indian scholar and one for a non-European scholar other than an Indian; (3) To render such assistance as may be necessary and to co-operate with the Western Province Football Association in welcoming to the Cape the Indian soccer team which is due to arrive in June; (4) To convene the Cape Provincial Conference. Sub-committees appointed are:—

Charitable Institutions and Bursaries:—Messrs. Ahmed Ismail, Yusuf Hawa, A. Ockim, B. Singh, Sheikh Adam, Hajee Khan Geol, Sheikh Amod and R. G. de Norman.

Cape Provincial Conference:—Messrs. Ahmed Ismail, Abdul Hamid, E. I. Patel, H. Khan Gool, A. H. Abdulla, A. Malick, M. I. Khan, C. O. Palsania, Sheikh Amod, D. Mansherjee, E. Mohamed, Zaver Khan, D. A. Nagia, R. G. de Norman.

DURBAN INDIAN SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB

Mr. Fishenden with Mr. Gilbert Reynolds saw the Indian Life Savers at work on the Ocean Beach on a Sunday recently and were well pleased with the progress the men had made. Both Mr. Fishenden and Mr. Reynolds spoke of the work of the life savers and that the Royal Life Savers' Society, which they represented, would be glad to help the movement on. Mr. Christopher on behalf of the Indian Life Savers replied explaining the difficulties under which the Indian Surf Life Savers' Club was working—difficulties largely the result of racial discrimination.

Mr. F. C. Fishenden, vice-president Royal Life Saving Society of England will be accorded a reception and will address on "The work of life saving clubs" at the Tamil Institute, Prince Edward Street, on Monday, 26th March 1934, at 7.30 p.m. Mr. Gilbert Reynolds, Life Governor, Royal Life Society, will also be present. A Demonstration by the club members will be given under the direction of Mr. J. C. Fishenden. The public is cordially invited.

Tips Bits From The Motherland

Gandhiji As Co-operator

Mahatma Gandhi appealed at a meeting of the Central Relief Committee for unstinted co-operation with the Government with the object of relieving the earthquake distress in Bihar. The Nationalist section demurred at the terms of the resolution proposed by him, "rendering respectful co-operation with the Government." Mahatma Gandhi urged that there was no question of fighting the Government when it aimed at relieving suffering. Pandit Malaviya echoed Gandhiji's sentiments. The resolution was adopted without further hitch.

Jaipal Singh For W. Africa

Jaipal Singh, the former Oxford Blue, who played for India during the European tour of 1928, and who made a name for himself during his two years in Calcutta, has accepted an appointment as Professor in Achimote College, West Africa. Jaipal Singh, who is a Master of Arts, was intended for the teaching profession, but was tempted into business (he was with the Burma Shell in Calcutta) because of his love for hockey. During his stay in Calcutta he improved Mohan Bagan's hockey team beyond recognition. He was a valued member of the Calcutta Hockey Umpires' Association and of the Bengal Hockey Association Council, and local hockey enthusiasts will hope for his return to Bengal in the near future.

Bihar Earthquake

One of the officers of the *Surat* told a *Natal Advertiser* representative that at the time of the earthquake which caused Calcutta to shake so badly they were at Madras but did not feel anything. A curious feature of the earthquake was that one of the high priests of one of the sects had prophesied its time and date. This statement was circulated in the Indian Press and there was considerable speculation among both European and Indians as to the correctness of the forecast, which was regarded by most as being little different from that of any other individual trying to tell of coming events. On this occasion, however, the quake came five minutes after the predicted time. Included in the forecast a statement that there would be another earthquake at a later date, and this, too, came to pass and both Chittagong and Bihar were extensively affected. In Calcutta the water in the locks and dry docks was credited with behaving in an astounding manner. Despite the severe shaking little damage was done, although many people were scared out of their lives.

Another Lakh

Maharani Janki Kant, Bettiah Estate, Champaran has donated Rs. 1,00,000 for the Bihar earthquake fund.

Military Training

Dr. B. B. Moonjee a prominent Indian leader who is reported to have collected Rs. 20,000 and has promised of a like amount for a Military Training School at Nagpur. It is also published that Capt. Modak will be its first Principal.

SPORTING NEWS

(BY SPORTSMAN)

Soccer

W. P. Indian Football Association

At the Annual General Meeting of the above Association held in Capetown on March 7th the following officials were elected:—

Patrons: Mahatma Gandhi, Kunwar Sir Maharaj Singh, Advocate M. Alexander, M.P., and Mr. A. J. MacCallum.

President: Mr. R. G. de Norman.

Life Vice Presidents: Messrs. A. E. Sam, F. Peters, J. G. Reddy, and Ahmed Ismail. Vice Presidents: Messrs. Louis Alexander, A. P. Williams, O. Tommy, C. M. Samuel, E. Mahomed, Essa Ali, and B. Singh. Hon. Secretary:—M. L. Paul, Match Secretary:—M. B. Reddy, Hon. Auditor:—Sundra Pillay. Delegates to S. A. Indian Football Association:—Messrs. R. G. de Norman and C. B. Reddy.

Natal Football Association

The Natal Football Association held its annual general meeting on Sunday last at Currie's Fountain sports grounds, when the following district associations were represented:—Durban, Maritzburg, South Coast Junction, Mayville and Durban Sunday League. The first two play on Saturdays, while the remainder indulge on Sundays. A letter of affiliation was received from Dundee District, but no intimation whatsoever was received from Klip River, Northern Districts, Weenen County and Maritzburg County. The minutes of the previous year together with the secretary's annual report and treasurer's financial statement were read and adopted. The question of headquarters next arose and a lengthy discussion ensued, as according to the rotation system, Maritzburg was the turn, but the majority of speakers stressed the necessity of allowing the headquarters to remain in Durban in view of the arrival of the All-Indian team and Sam China Cup tournament later in the year. The delegates of Maritzburg, while realising the importance of the question, notified the meeting that their district had insisted on headquarters being transferred to them, and under these circumstances could not agree to the majority wish.

The election next followed and the following officers were elected:—Patron, Mahatma Gandhi; President, Mr. B. A. Moodley; Hon. Life Vice Presidents, as hitherto, with the inclusion of Mr. A. Sookdeo, who was elected vice the late Mr. J. M. Francis; Hon. Secretary, Mr. I. A. Haffeejee; Hon. Treasurer, Mr. S. Muthray; Councillors to the South African Board, Messrs. S. J. Singh and R. A. Moodley; executive members on the S. A. Council, Mr. S. L. Singh. In view of the headquarters rotating to Maritzburg, it was decided that a representative committee be appointed to manage affairs locally, and this body was given wide powers to do everything to provide for the visitors during their stay in Natal. The following are the committee:—Messrs. A. Christopher, S. L. Singh, O. N. M. Khan, R. A. Moodley, E. M. Chish, P. M. Pillay, M. John, K. A. Chin, A. K. E. Bux,

R. N. Moodley, D. Fakir Yusuf, I. A. Haffeejee, A. Sookdeo and D. Anthony, with power to co-operate any other member.

On his retiral from the presidentship, it was decided to present Mr. Sookdeo with an illuminated address. A discussion took place on necessity of stabilising the finances of the association, as the balance sheet showed a deficit of over five pounds, but after a lengthy debate this matter was referred to the incoming officials to prepare schemes by which this state of affairs would be overcome.

Cricket

Intertown Match To Be Played

Though the Maritzburg team could not see their way to travel down to Durban to play the annual intertown, the President of the Durban Union, Mr. Iyadoo has made a sporting gesture by asking the Natal Union to re-set the match for the Easter holidays. It is most probable that the City team will travel down. The match will be played on Easter Sunday and Easter Monday, play starting at 10 a.m. each day. The umpires will be Messrs. A. Nair and A. I. Haffeejee.

Ottomans Final

The Ottomans C.C. of Durban were penalised by the Natal Union for the unsporting act of walking off the field in the final for the Pauday's Shield, against the Orientals of P. M. Burg. The match was played in the City. The match has also been awarded to the Orientals. Another matter arising from this match was the alteration of time without the consent of the Natal Union. For this offence both club were penalised.

Wrestling

Puckree Pillay Retains Title

A big crowd gathered in the Victoria Picture Palace, Durban, on Saturday afternoon March 17 to witness a variety programme including both boxing and wrestling.

BOXING

There were four small boxing bouts in which figured local amateurs. All the bouts were decided on points. The following is a *rebuté* of the results:

1. Kid Pillay beat Bob Slasher, 2. B. Pather beat Freddie Maistry, 3. Young Goolam beat Sooboo Rajah, 4. Jimmy Sookdeo beat Victor Spider (technical K.O.)

The wrestling items were more interesting and provided the house with numerous thrills. Young Hassan beat Shaik Ayob, V. S. Jimmy beat G. N. Kuan. The Shaik Abdool—Hero Barry contest was stopped by the referee, Mr. Ashe. The incident was very unsporting for after a warning from the referee, who is the Natal European Wrestling Champion, Abdool began a heated discussion with the referee. The referee had no alternative but to award the bout to Hero Barry. G. N. Kuan also beat Rombhar Maharaj on points.

Puckree Pillay Beats G. C. Naidoo

The main bout between Puckree Pillay and G. C. Naidoo was on the whole below expectation. Their respective weights were 12st 2lbs and 17st 10lbs. It was thought at first that Naidoo's weight would be

deciding factor but he evidently lacks grit. In spite of his plucky resistance Puckree Pillay had secured two "falls" prior to the end of the 2nd round. Pillay thus retains the welter and heavy weight championship of S. Africa.

R. M. PATEL BEATS SUNNY MOODLEY

This contest was by far the best and most inspiring of the day. This was a return bout. On the previous occasion Moodley had beaten Patel. From the commencement it was evident Patel had many supporters. Moodley secured a "fall" in the first round but Patel equalised in the second round and in the third round Patel secured the decisive "fall" to win. This bout was an excellent display of the art and S. Moodley, who apparently was dissatisfied with the decision has signified his intention to have another match with Patel.

Messrs. I. Manoor and Young Ramlogan were responsible for the promotion of the show.

Boxing

Mottee Kid Singh's Last Fight

A little while ago it was rumored that Mottee Kid Singh would in all probability meet Bud Gengan prior to his departure from South Africa. He was also prepared to fight with a side stake of £100. It now transpires that these arrangements have failed through.

On the other hand the promoters under whose contract Kid Singh is, have now definitely arranged that Kid Singh is to meet Manie Dixon on Saturday, April 7th, at the Durban Town Hall.

NEWS IN BRIEF

In Capetown there is a general belief that the rift between Dr. Malan and General Hertzog is re-opened. The Stellenbosch speech of the member for Calvinia has created an unfavourable impression, especially in its references to the nationality question and the statement that South Africans could not continue to be "merely British subjects." A definite break between Malan and the two Coalition leaders is thought to be imminent.

Southern Rhodesia, voting by referendum, has supported the principle of Government sweepstakes, subject to strict legislative safeguards, by 16,946 votes against 3,604. It is stated that this vote represents 75 per cent. of the entire electorate.

The Budget this year will not be introduced until after the Easter recess. The House goes into recess on March 28 and does not resume until April 9. The Budget will be introduced shortly after the resumption. The late introduction of the Budget this year is, of course, due to Mr. Havenga's absence from office owing to illness.

The annual festival of Shri Ram Nawnee will be celebrated on Saturday the 24th inst. at the Hindu Temple, Depot Road, Durban, Vishnu Temple, Longmarket Street, P. M. Burg, Veda Dharma Sabha, York Road, P. M. Burg.

Obituary**The Late Mr. K. Singh**

Mr. Kunjbehari Singh died at the age of 61 on Thursday at his house at Jacobs. His remains were cremated at the Umgeni Crematorium, according to Vedic rites which were performed by Pandit Mehta Jaimini.

Mr. Singh came to South Africa from Behar and took a prominent part in the upliftment of the Hindu people. He was one of the founders of the Hindi Ashram and was vice-president of various Hindi schools and societies. He was the brother-in-law of Swami Bhawan Dayal Sannyasi, and the father of Mr. J. K. Singh (President of the Young Men's Arya Samaj.) There was a large gathering present at the funeral.

The Late Mrs. K. V. Maistry

The death took place of the late Mrs. Kuppama V. Maistry, widow of the late V. V. Maistry, last Monday. She was greatly dejected since her husband's death which took place a few weeks ago. There was a large gathering of friends and relatives at the crematorium, Stehwood, where she was cremated according to Hindu rites.

Answers To Correspondents

MR. S. P. WILLIAMS.—We cannot entertain controversial religious treatise.

To Correspondents

Correspondents are requested to kindly send their matter in for publication to reach here not later than Wednesday.

Manager 'Indian Opinion'

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REPATRIATION! REPATRIATION!! REPATRIATION!!!

Why Go And Suffer In India!

MR. P. B. SINGH

our representative who has just returned from India will be welcomed in the Tamil Institute, Cross Street, Durban, on **SUNDAY, 25th MARCH, 1934, at 2-30 p. m.** and will speak on the condition of **REPATRIATES** in India.

A CHRISTOPHER, President.

**P. G. Nalcker,
M. John
Hon. Treasurers:**

**S. L. Singh,
D. S. Chetty,
A. Haffejee,
Hon. Secretaries.**

Colonial Born And Settlers' Indian Association.