

INDIAN OPINION

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NOTES AND NEWS

The Town Council's Scheme

THE need for caution in declaring certain areas in Durban under the Slums Act was stressed by Dr. G. H. Gunn, Borough Medical Officer of Health, when interviewed by *The Natal Mercury* in connection with the suggested proclamation of the Orient Lane area adjoining the main road at Toll Gate. It will be remembered that the Borough Engineer recommended that the whole of this area of 19 acres be cleaned up and relaid as a European residential district with recreation grounds and a Swimming bath. At the last meeting of the Public Health Committee, Dr. Gunn stated,

that it would be impossible for him to declare every house in the area as unfit for human habitation under the Slums Act.

When interviewed he pointed out that, although there were a number of buildings which he could condemn without any difficulty from a public health point of view, there were others of quite sound structure. He was of the opinion that,

the cleaning up of this particular area would be more in the nature of town planning than slum clearance.

The two major issues which had to be decided were whether the Council intended to rehouse the occupants in other portions of the Borough or whether the Council would give the present dwellers the opportunity to improve the housing conditions under which they at present exist. Dr. Gunn said that,

from a town planning aspect it was eminently desirable to remodel this particular area for European occupation and provide accommodation elsewhere in Durban for the Native and Indian occupants.

Not Without Ministers Backing

"WITHIN the next few days I intend to make a personal inspection of each dwelling in the Orient Lane area in order to ascertain the number that can reasonably be condemned under the Slums Act," Dr. Gunn said. Meanwhile the Borough Engineer is preparing a detailed report of a number of areas in Durban which it is desirable to

clean up. Armed with this information a deputation will then approach the Minister of Health to find out which schemes the Minister will definitely support. If we get this backing then the Council can go ahead with the cleaning up of the Orient Lane area after housing has been provided for the people living there at present. The Council will not however, pull down one brick until it is definitely established that the Municipality has the backing of the Minister."

Our Appeal To The Minister

THE fate of the Indian residents of the above Mayville area now rests entirely on the decision of the Minister of the Interior. We think the Minister should nip the evil in the bud by putting a restraint on the Durban Town Council misusing the Slums Act, the object of which, as we understand it, is to clear the towns of their slum conditions and *not* to establish residential areas back on racial grounds.

Sir Maharaj Singh On Slums Act

KUNWAR Sir Maharaj Singh in the course of an interview with Reuter at New Delhi said, he hoped the new Act dealing with slums would do something to ameliorate the condition of Indians, many of whom lived in poverty.

Licensing Difficulties In The Transvaal

AN application for an order instructing the Receiver of Revenue at Springs to issue a licence for the business of a general dealer was made in the Witwatersrand Division of the Supreme Court by Ismail Amojee Loonat and Moeajee Hasanjee, executors in the estate of the late Salejee Asmaljee. Included in the assets, the petitioners stated, was a general dealer's business, carried on by Salejee Asmaljee in Third Street, Springs until the time of his death, which occurred on March 3, 1934. They desired to carry on the business for the benefit of the estate, and contended that they were in law entitled to the issue of the licence. This had been refused by the Receiver of Revenue on the ground that until a municipal certificate authorising the transfer of the licence to the executors was produced, he was precluded from issuing the licence. Mr. Justice Greenberg said it was clear that the local

authority was given a discretion about the persons to whom a certificate was to be granted. It had been contended that the petitioners were entitled to carry on the business for only the unexpired period of the licence, and he was inclined to agree with that contention. The application was, therefore, dismissed with costs. Mr. V. Roenstein (instructed by Messrs. B. Alexander and Bros.) appeared for the applicants, and Mr. R. Honey (instructed by the Assistant Government Attorney) for the respondent.

Death Of Mr. Karl Gundelfinger

Mr. Karl Gundelfinger, the well known South African industrialist, fell 40 ft. from the promenade deck of the Italian liner *Dulio* at sea off Umkomaas at 7 a.m. on Monday Feb. 25. He was dead when his body was recovered by a lifeboat 15 minutes later. An inquest was held in the Durban Magistrate's Court and the verdict was that deceased jumped overboard from the ship *s. s. Dulio* while his mental balance was unhinged and probably met his death by drowning. Mr. Gundelfinger had been unwell for some time past, and this unhappily coincided with a period of great importance in his industrial activities. He played a major role in the recent £500,000 merger of South African textile interests, and actually directed negotiations from a bedside telephone in the Durban Sanatorium. He was returning to Durban from Capetown where he had recently spent a further period in hospital. Mrs. Gundelfinger was with him, but did not see him leave their stateroom on Monday morning. Mr. Gundelfinger was seen by a seaman falling from the bulwark of the deck immediately outside his stateroom. The cry of "Man overboard!" was taken up the length of the ship and the vessel was immediately put about and the lifeboat lowered. A very great loss has been sustained by the South African commercial and industrial world by the death of Mr. Karl Gundelfinger.

Early Morning Market

An additional block of latrines is to be built at the early morning market at Warwick Avenue, at a cost of approximately £650. As a result of representations made by the Indian community and the Borough Market Master,

Indian Opinion

FRIDAY, MARCH 1ST, 1935

EXAMPLE BETTER THAN PRECEPT

HERE is a general complaint against Indians in this country that they live in insanitary conditions and are a menace to public health. This, we must admit, is true in the case of the poor labouring and illiterate section of the community. The reason is not far to seek. The European masters in whose service most of these Indians have spent the best part of their lives have not taught them to live in better conditions.

The following appeared a few days ago in the daily Press:

Prompt improvement of the conditions under which some thousands of Indians are housed at the municipal "magazine" barracks on the Eastern Vlei has been recommended to the Town Council by a sub-committee of councillors which inspected the barracks.

Some years ago the Town Council agreed that £10,000 be voted annually for the replacement of the old wood and iron barracks by properly designed brick buildings. Good progress was being made with this work when, at the onset of the "depression" years, financial stringency necessitated a halt. This year the rebuilding programme was resumed, £6,000 being earmarked, with which a large brick block, housing over 40 families, has been erected. This new block is now ready for occupation.

Some hundreds of wood-and-iron rooms, however, are still in use, some being old and dilapidated. All lack adequate ventilation, being built "back to back" without provision for through air currents, and this although in many cases two rooms are occupied by one family. The sub-committee accordingly recommended that all rooms be connected by doorways and other necessary provision for ventilation made.

A further recommendation is that the Council appropriate £10,000 next year to build two additional brick blocks, and also an office and surgery, and a properly designed ration shed to replace the existing wood-and-iron shack.

Finally the sub-committee suggests that after 1936 £10,000 be voted annually until all the wood-and-iron rooms have been replaced.

To talk of slum quarters, these magazine barracks erected by the Durban Corporation to house its Indian employees are in no way better than the quarters, for instance, of the residents of Mayville district which have been condemned under the Slums Act as unfit for human habitation. The disgraceful conditions of these barracks were made known to the public years ago by prominent persons who had made it their business to make an independent inspection. It was only after that that the Town Council condescended to bestir itself to make some improvements, but even so, it has been moving at a snail's pace. "Financial stringency owing to depression years necessitated a halt," is the Town Council's convenient excuse. The depression years did not necessitate a halt in proceeding with the housing scheme for Europeans on a luxurious scale; they did not necessitate a halt in adding to the various amenities of the town only for luxury and nothing more, and we can quote scores of instances of extravagance in which the depression years did not necessitate a halt, while to clear up the Council's own hovels—a veritable danger to public health and a poor example of the observance of the rules of sanitation on the part of a governing body—they necessitated a halt! How much more leniency and time then, we would ask, are poor individuals, whose quarters are condemned, entitled to to improve their conditions when a responsible authority such as the Durban Town Council, which requires only to increase its rates and taxes to make its ends meet, needs years to clear the slums of its own creation. We have instanced here the Durban Corporation only but the very same conditions have prevailed in the railway barracks, and some of the sugar estates which have been subjected to the severest criticism by all those who have examined

them. It is for this reason that we have said above that Indians are not to be blamed for their insanitary mode of living. They have not been taught to live better by their European masters. It is a matter of consolation, however, that the Durban Town Council has once again awakened from its slumber and has realised the need for improving the housing conditions of its Indian employees. We fervently hope that nothing will crop up to necessitate another halt.

THINGS WE'VE FORGOTTEN

Twenty-five Years Ago

INDIAN OPINION.

Feb. 5th, 1910.

BRITISH LABOUR PARTY ON S. A. INDIAN QUESTION

IN reply to a leading article in *The Times* of Jan. 3, Mr. Ramsay MacDonald writes:—

In the leading article in your issue to-day you refer to criticisms I have made on Lord Curzon's actions as Viceroy of India, and you remark that if Mr Hardie and myself would enlighten our own followers and our friends in the Dominions regarding the feelings of resentment which Colonial policy creates in India, we would be showing our sincerity. I accept the test. Did you not yourself praise the attitude of the Labour Party in England in Parliament when the South African Constitution Bill was before us. We have, as a party and as individuals, done our best to persuade our Colonial friends that they are doing a grave injustice to Indians, and we shall continue to do so.

Fountain of Wisdom

"Cultivate the habit of thinking every one as your own self, and be helpful to all without distinction of caste and creed.

"Be religious in thought, word and deed. The wisest have not been able to explore the mystery of the world. Keep an attitude of reverence towards the unknowable. All religions are expressions of this attitude."

O. RAJAGOPALACHARI.

Do good if you wish good to be done to you,
ARABIC PROVERB

A man's true wealth hereafter is the good he does in this world to his fellowmen. When he dies, people will ask, what property has he left behind him? But the Angels, who examine him in the grave, will ask, what good deeds hast thou sent before thee?

THE SPIRIT OF ISLAM

THE AGENT'S ACTIVITIES

WELCOME AT JOHANNESBURG

THE Transvaal Indian Congress welcomed the new India Agent, Syed Raza Ali, C.B.E., on Friday Feb. 22. The Mayor of Johannesburg in the course of his speech of welcome, said he hoped to see one day every Indian, subject to the usual condition, fully-fledged citizens.

After various speeches of welcome, Syed Raza Ali replied. He said he appreciated the difficulty and delicacy of his task. His work lay with both sections, Europeans as well as Indians; in fact, more with Europeans than with Indians.

South Africa was one of the most important democracies in the British Commonwealth, as democracy, the real government of the country, lay with the people, the European people. Indians often complained of the unsympathetic attitude of certain statesmen, but the most powerful of these statesmen could not long impose his will upon the people. These men could not enfranchise them or give them privileges if the voice of the people were raised against such proposals.

"It will therefore be my duty to ascertain fully the grievances and aspirations of my people and to place them before the European voters who constitute the real government of this land," he said.

Major And Lady Astor As Agent's Guests

Maj. the Hon. J. J. Astor, M.P., and Lady Violet Astor and a number of other

delegates to the Imperial Press Conference were the guests of Syed Raza Ali at a luncheon party at the Langham Hotel on Monday, Feb. 25.

The Agent welcomed his guests in a happy speech in which he described himself as both an Indian and a South African owing to his previous stay in this country and to the rare hospitality which had been accorded to him in the short time since his arrival.

Maj. Astor, who replied on behalf of the guests, referred to his happy recollections of India and said that he was very glad to see that things had improved so much in Johannesburg and he hoped that the community would share fully in the prosperity and happiness of the city.

Lunch By Mr. E. I. Patel

The prejudice called the Colour Bar was discussed by the Mayor of Johannesburg, Mr. Maurice Freeman, in an important speech delivered at a lunch in honour of Syed Raza Ali given by Mr. E. I. Patel at the Langham Hotel on Feb. 26.

Mr. Freeman said that he spoke diffidently, in view of the fact that he was Mayor of the City, but he was not only the Mayor of the European section of the City's community but Mayor of the other sections as well, including the Indians. (Applause.)

Those who had been as long a time as

he had knew that undoubtedly there was a prejudice, called the Colour Bar, which originated as a protection for the White against the Coloured people. There was a section that could not possibly have a say in the Government of the country.

The Law laid down that there was to be no discrimination between Coloured and White. Was it not paradoxical that the Government had recognised that itself and yet adopted a policy of benevolent indifference?

They should follow the advice of their Agent and, with their persistence and patience, something would be done to give them what in the speaker's opinion they were entitled to, as they could not be true citizens when the franchise was denied them.

The Agent, thanking Mr. E. I. Patel, referred with gratitude to the Mayor's speech. The Mayor was not the only one in this generous land of true-hearted Englishmen and Dutchmen who held the same feelings, though they had not always been able to express themselves. India would not always remain as it was, but one day would occupy an honoured place in the British Commonwealth of Nations. (Applause.)

Among the many prominent Europeans present were the members of the delegation from India to the Imperial Press Conference.

FURTHER S. A. I. C. RESOLUTIONS

The following are further resolutions passed by the fifteenth session of the S. A. I. Congress which concluded its sittings on Tuesday night, Feb. 19:—

PRETORIA ASIATIC BAZAAR REGULATIONS

"**T**HAT this conference of the South African Indian Congress protests against the proposed Pretoria Asiatic Bazaar Regulations as a retrograde measure humiliating to the Indian community and requests the Minister of the Interior to be so good as to receive a deputation of the Congress before proceeding further with the matter."

APPEAL TO WEALTHY INDIANS

"This conference of the South African Indian Congress earnestly appeals to the wealthy members of the Indian community to consider the question of initiating and developing industrial undertakings in order to provide employment for Indians and thereby to some extent relieve the acute distress caused by Indian unemployment."

FACT-FINDING COMMITTEE

"This conference recommends the establishment of a fact-finding committee

for the purpose of investigating, collecting and collating all facts and figures relating to Indians within the Union, dealing especially with their economic, social and educational conditions, and suggests that the Union Government and the Government of India be respectfully asked to assist in this work in such a manner as is possible."

WIVES AND MINOR CHILDREN OF CONDONEES

"The conference empowers the executive to go into the question of the introduction of wives and minor children of the condonees into the Union and make such representations to the Minister as it may deem fit."

AFFECTION FOR MAHATMA GANDHI

"That this fifteenth session of the South African Indian Congress assembled in Durban records its profound sense of affection, gratitude and love to Mahatma Gandhi."

"That this conference places on record its deep sense of appreciation to the Im-

perial Citizenship Association and its Secretary, Mr. Waiz, for evincing a continued interest in the welfare of Indians in South Africa.

THANKS

"That this conference tenders its warm and sincere thanks to General Smuts for his kind and encouraging message and, in congratulating the General on his recovery from his recent indisposition, express the hope that the constant enjoyment of good health will enable him to continue his distinguished and invaluable services to South Africa and the world at large for many years to come."

"This conference of the South African Indian Congress expresses its high appreciation for the encouraging message which the Minister of the Interior, Mr. J. H. Hofmeyr, telegraphed to the conference and assures the Minister that the conference will always have the interest of its community as its paramount concern."

INDIA

ASSEMBLY'S DECISION ON REFORMS SCHEME

"WILL NOT SATISFY ANY SECTION OF INDIAN OPINION"

"FUNDAMENTALLY BAD AND TOTALLY UNACCEPTABLE TO THE PEOPLE"

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT)

THE following is the text of Mr. Jinnah's amendment, all clauses whereof were accepted by the Indian Legislative Assembly:—

"This Assembly accept the Communal Award so far as it goes until a substitute is agreed upon by the various communities concerned. As regards the scheme of Provincial Governments, this House is of opinion that it is most unsatisfactory and disappointing inasmuch as it includes various objectionable features, particularly the establishment of Second Chambers, extraordinary and special powers of the Governors and provisions relating to Police rules, Secret and Intelligence Departments, which render real control and responsibility of the Executive and the Legislature ineffective and therefore unless these objectionable features are removed, it will not satisfy any section of Indian opinion. With respect to the scheme of the Central Government called 'All-India Federation', this House is clearly of opinion that it is fundamentally bad and totally unacceptable to the people of British India and therefore recommends to the Government of India to advise His Majesty's Government not to proceed with any legislation based on this scheme and urges that immediate efforts should be made to consider how best to establish in British India alone, real and complete responsible Government and with that in view take steps to review the whole position in consultation with Indian opinion without delay."

Indian Princes' Conference

The Conference of Princes and their Ministers was held in Bombay on Monday, Feb 25, in the strictest secrecy. The Maharaja of Patiala presided. It is understood that after general discussion a resolution was moved favouring certain important amendments in order to enable the Princes to accept the Raj Bill. A communique, issued after the adjournment, says that the meeting considered the report of the Committee of Ministers on the India Bill and the opinion of counsel who were engaged and advised the Princes on the matter. Full discussion occurred in which the Maharajahs of Bhopal, Bikaner, Patiala and Rewa, Sir Akbar Hydari and Sir O. P. Ramaswami Aiyar participated. It was emphasized that before the Bill could be considered acceptable to the States it was necessary that it should be amended in

certain essential respects. Resolutions indicating the strong feelings of the States on the present proposals were also adopted. The decisions of the Conference have been conveyed to the Viceroy with a view to their communication to the Secretary of State for India. The Maharaja of Patiala, interviewed by Reuter, admitted the Conference had taken important decisions while the Premier of Bhavnagar State said: "The Federation scheme is unacceptable to us without vital modifications. Therefore we have decided to ask the Government through the Viceroy to make important amendments."

House of Commons Perturbed

The *Daily Mail's* political correspondent asserts that the Princes' resolution has created a new situation in the Government's India policy. He says that the Ministers specially concerned with the passage of the India Bill urgently met in the House of Commons to consider the position and declares that the Princes' attitude has greatly shocked the Cabinet. In a leader the *Daily Mail* says: "The India Bill must now either be completely recast or dropped if the Princes hold their ground. On the contrary the *Times'* correspondent at Bombay emphasizes that the resolution does not mean that the Princes will not co-operate in the Federal scheme. The Princes merely adhered to the position hitherto adopted, namely that the fulfilment of certain conditions is essential in their vital interests. If these are fulfilled the Princes are willing to join in the federation. The Princes do not desire to upset the federal scheme, but desire assurances from the British Government."

In the House of Commons on Feb. 26, Mr. Winston Churchill moved the adjournment in order to call attention to the resolution on the Government's India Bill passed by the meeting of Indian Princes at Bombay on Monday Feb. 25. Mr. Churchill contended that this constituted the definite rejection of Federation.

Sir Samuel Hoare's Assurance

Sir Samuel Hoare, replying, welcomed the opportunity of removing a misunderstanding. He said he believed that there were only points of detail between the Princes and the Government. Sir Samuel drew attention to the Princes' allegation that the Government had gone back on the agreement made. He said that he was unable to accept the justice of that charge. "As far as I know, we carried out every agreement made," he said. "If by mischance in drafting the Bill we failed to carry out these undertakings I will see that

they are carried out and the position made clear beyond shadow of doubt." Sir Samuel urged that if the Princes changed their views they should tell the Government clearly and categorically. As soon as the House knew, the better it was for all. Assuming that the Princes still favoured an effective All-India Federation, there was no reason why the points at issue should not be adjusted. Consequently there was no reason for delay in the consideration of the Bill. "But if at any time the differences between the Government and the Princes appear irreconcilable, I will immediately inform the House and undertake that we will reconsider the whole position," Sir Samuel concluded. Mr. Churchill's motion was defeated by 283 votes to 89.

S. A. Trade With India

The possibilities of trade relations between India and South Africa are foreshadowed in dispatches received by the Chambers of Commerce in Calcutta, stating that a few months ago the Union Government sent its Trade Development Commissioner, Mr. A. T. Brennan, who discussed mutual trade relations between the two countries with the Bengal National Chamber of Commerce. It was pointed out by him that the Union Government is considering whether it would be possible to have direct business with India rather than through London. He discussed with the Chamber officials the question of the export of gold and diamonds and the import of jute, rice and spices to and from India. According to the latest dispatch received by the Chamber from Mr. Brennan, he is placing all the suggestions by the Chamber before his Government. It is understood that he asked the Government of India to appoint trade commissioners in foreign countries, including South Africa for the purpose of introducing direct business there as against the indirect business which is done at present through London.

£6,000,000,000 Claim By Indian

An amazing claim for £6,000,000,000 is made against the Maharaja of Rewa, one of the ruling Princes of Central India, by Lal Ganga Prasad Singh, a landowner in the State. The claim is stated to be based on an allegation that about 150 years ago Maharaja Ajay Singh, the great, great grandfather of the present Maharaja, borrowed £10,750 from the claimant's great, great grandfather, for which he executed a bond, but the money was never repaid and the debt interest has reached the present enormous sum. The claimant bases his suit under the Rewa state laws, where the time limitation does not apply in cases of the recovery of arrears from state subjects. The claimant has asked the State Government to permit him to institute a civil suit against the Maharaja in the state courts, for the recovery of the money.

THINGS IN GENERAL

Duke of Kent for India

THE *Sunday Dispatch* understands that the Duke and Duchess of Kent may undertake a tour of India and take part in the King's Jubilee celebration at Delhi. The last time a member of the Royal Family visited India was in 1921 and 1922, when the Prince of Wales made a tour of India and Burma.

Anti-Indian Laws in Zanzibar

It is understood the Government of India has received the Colonial Office reply to its representation on Menon's report on the anti-Indian laws in Zanzibar. The Government is shortly summoning a meeting of the Standing Committee on Emigration.

Kunwar Sir M. Singh at Delhi

Kunwar Sir Maharaj Singh and Lady Singh were to arrive at Delhi on Tuesday Feb. 26 and to have luncheon with the Viceroy. Sir Maharaj Singh will then interview Sir Fazli Hussain (Emigration Member) and will give the Government of India an opportunity to ascertain first hand information on the situation in South Africa especially the attitude of the Union Government in regard to the report of the Colonisation Inquiry Committee.

Population of India Increasing

The population of India increased 10 per cent. during the decade ending 1931, compared with an increase of 10 per cent. during the three previous decades. The movement by several organisations for the establishment of clinics in industrial centres and also for propaganda of birth control is reflected in a resolution tabled in the Council of State by Mr. Hussain Imam for discussion on March 18 urging the Government to take practical steps to check the increase in the population.

India and Empire Defence

The incidence of Defence expenditure in India is 1 rupee 8 annas per head of the population as against the Dominions who spend from 3½ to 6 rupees and England 30 rupees. This was pointed out by the Commander-in-Chief in defending the Council of State military expenditure in India which Indian members said was higher than that of the Dominions.

Burmese Council's President Removed

The Governor, Sir Hugh Stephenson, has concurred in a motion by the Legislative Council for the removal of Sir Oscar de Glanville from office as President of the Council. The Governor adds that this does not mean that he approves of the action of the Council. The motion that the President be removed was carried on February 22 by 56 votes to 38, the reasons

given for the motion being Sir Oscar de Glanville's supposed inadequate knowledge of the Burmese language and his action in calling in the police to preserve order in the Council's last session. Representatives of the European and Indian

Sir Maharaj Singh And The Congress

THE future of South African Indians was safe in the hands of the South African Indian Congress, which was the strongest and most representative body of South African Indians, declared Sir Maharaj Singh in a statement to Reuter at New Delhi. He said the Congress was the only body recognised by the Union Government, the Raj and their Agent.

Mr. Christopher Replies

Advocate A. Christopher, President of the Colonial Born and Settlers Indian Association, in an interview with Reuter Durban, said that the statement above referred to made by the ex-Agent of the Government of India, Kunwar Sir Maharaj Singh is a misstatement of facts. The South African Indian Congress does not represent the entire Indian community of South Africa. The Colonial Born Indians who form 85% of the population, the bulk of which reside in Natal is represented by the Colonial Born and Settlers Indian Association. The partisanship of the Kunwar culminated in his election as President of the South African Indian Congress which accounts for his speaking for the Congress. The Congress represents only a minority and it was significant that when the Kunwar left these shores he received no reception to which the public was invited as has been the case with his predecessors. The tea party given in his honour was by special invitation. The Congress is not the only recognised body. The Colonial Born and Settlers Indian Association makes representations, both to the Union and the Provincial Governments, which give the same consideration as to any other organisation. The Congress is not a statutory body as to be the only body to be recognised. The Kunwar by his statement is endeavouring to throw dust in the eyes of the public in India.

communities are incensed at the Burmese attitude and pay warm tributes to the President. The Burmese stand was coupled with a threat to throw out the Budget unless the Governor consented to remove the President,

India Institute of the Deutsche Akademie

Dr. Franz Thierfelder, Hon. Secretary India Institute of the Deutsche Akademie, Munchen 8, Maximilianeum, Germany, writes:—

India Institute of the Deutsche Akademie notifies the Indian public that for the academic year 1935/36 research scholarships will be awarded by the Institute. This decision is due to the fact that most of the present scholarship-holders will only finish their work within the next year, so that their scholarships are most likely to be renewed. It is yet uncertain when again scholarship will be available, in no case before September 1936. Whenever there are any vacancies they will be announced in the Indian papers. Indian students desirous of information regarding studies in Germany may as before write to the India Institute of the Deutsche Akademie, Munchen 8, Maximilianeum, Germany. In this connection it may be mentioned that the German academic system is going to be transformed within this year. For this reason the summer session already begins by April 1st and ends by July 1st. On September 15th (instead of November 1st) the new term will begin.

India Institute of the Deutsche Akademie occasionally receives inquiries from Indian students as to the value of the German Dr. Ing.-degree (doctorate taken from a German Technical University). In order to remove all further doubts the senate of the Berlin Technisch Hochschule, on request of India Institute of the Deutsche Akademie, decided to hand out to every Indian student along with his Dr. Ing. certificate a testimonial to the following effect:

"This is to testify that the Dr. Ing. of a German Technical University is equal in every respect to the doctorate of a University faculty as well as to the Doctor of Science (D.Sc.) of an English University. Special attention is drawn to the fact that the admission to the Dr. Ing.-examination even presupposes the successful absolution of the "Diplom-Hauptprüfung," whereas no such condition exists for the doctorate from a University."

Choice Of Teachers

Professor A. C. Dutt of Bareilly College gave the following hints on the choice of the right teacher in an address delivered to the College Staff Club. He should

- (1) be an honest teacher.
- (2) have loving patience, sympathy and tact.
- (3) stimulate the thirst for knowledge.
- (4) have an eye to neatness and order—as to boys, books and classes.
- (5) should have no atmosphere of prejudice or partiality in schools.
- (6) have one aim—the good of the boy, as to education and morality.
- (7) be boys' ideal man as to purify of thought, word and deed.
- (8) hold high ideals before his boys.
- (9) be a mature and staid preceptor (for infants and young boys.)
- (10) be an 'English Gentleman' with all its connotations.

INDIA'S CONTRIBUTION TO WORLD

DR. MAUDE ROYDEN'S SERMON

THE following are extracts from a sermon preached by Dr. Maude Royden at the Guildhouse, London, recently.

I take a text to-night from the lessons that I read just now from St. Luke:—

"The kings of the Gentiles exercise lordship over them; and they that exercise authority upon them are called benefactors. But ye shall not be so; but he that is greatest among you, let him be as the younger and he that is chief as he that doth serve."

I perhaps shall not refer to that text again, but I want you to realise—that I have it in mind all the time, while I say what I have to say about Great Britain and India; and I want you to have it in mind also. "He that is greatest among you, let him be as the younger; and he that is chief, as he that doth serve."

I am not going to attempt to give you a political lecture, or to criticise or praise the work of the Report on the White Paper, which is expected to govern our relationship with India. I want to preach that kind of sermon which recognises the fact that every political issue, and every economic and social issue, has underlying it a spiritual issue, and it is there that we must begin to get right, if we are to get right at all.

Double Relationship

Our relationship with India is a double one. It is the relationship that we have with all men, if you would only recognise it, the relationship of human brotherhood and it is also a historical relationship. . . . There is another, and to my mind, a greater defect still in the Report. It is this; there is no consciousness, at least there is no expression of any consciousness, that India has something to give to us. India, the most profoundly spiritual of all nations, the

birthplace of more than one great religion! If we are great in science, and all that that means—and there is no one who has a greater reverence for the desire for truth which inspires the scientist, than I—is it greater than, or as great, as spiritual achievement? And this is India's gift to the world. What is the issue here? I think of India, of India on its noblest side, incarnated in the person of Gandhi. Gandhi is an incarnation of the spirit of India at its best. What then is the issue here? It is not an issue between Great Britain and India. The issue is between spiritual power and material force; between the spirit that unites, and the violence that divides and destroys. There are British people on both sides of that issue, and there are Indians on both sides. Do not let us be deceived; that is where the battle is waged, and that is where the spirit of India is at its noblest.

I am told that Mahatma Gandhi is human enough to have faults and to make mistakes. Since Gandhi himself has admitted that he has made mistakes let us suppose the criticism is just. But the point is that he embodies, at this stage in the World's history, the reality of spiritual power. One nation after another has fallen down and worshipped the god of material force. The glorious aspiration of Communist Russia have been corrupted and stained by material violence and belief in material violence. The nationalism of Italy and Germany and Austria—these are poisoned through and through by their belief in material force. We hold ourselves aloof from these hateful currents, and think ourselves superior to them. God grant that it may prove so. But on what side do we stand when we are some one whose belief is in spiritual power. Do we lament or rejoice when we are told that

the Mahatma is a spent force; that he no longer counts: that the younger people no longer follow him, or believe in him? Every person who rejoices to hear that, is, whether consciously or unconsciously, ranging himself on the side of force, because he is taking part against one whose entire creed, whose entire life, is based on belief in spiritual power. This is the issue. There is no man on earth—no, not one—who has so embodied belief in spiritual power as Mahatma Gandhi. There is, I am prepared to say, no nation in the world so spiritually mature, as even in part to understand what he is driving at, except India. Is this a service to the world or is it not? If Indians here and now, are convinced that Gandhi is wrong—and only events can show whether they will be so convinced or not—if they are indeed turning their backs on Gandhi; if the younger generation has decided, or is deciding that this is no way by which men can be governed; that the only way possible is the way of force; then it is not England that is defeated but humanity itself. It is suffering defeat, as it has suffered defeat again and again in its long history. That is the issue, and since there is no man who embodies that ideal, as Gandhi does, and no nation but India that has even begun to follow him, here is the service that India gives to the world. Here is one who believes in the power of the spirit, to overcome anger, and violence, and fear. Shall we rejoice when he is discredited? Or be glad if men turn their backs on him? If he loses, he loses for all the world, for he is fighting for all the world. If he fails, we all fail. And if he succeeds, then he and his country together, have given to mankind a greater service than any since Jesus Christ was crucified on Calvary.

MR. SASTRI'S OUTSPOKENNESS ON J.P.C. REPORT

IN the course of his recent historic Poona speech, the Rt. Hon. Srinivasa Sastri denounced the Joint Parliament Committee Report in forcible language. He said, "it is reactionary constitution, meant to forge stronger fetters than ever upon our growth, denying to us the right and the initiative to make necessary changes in the constitution at the centre as anti-national and as anti-democratic as possible."

Criticising Princes and others who come in the way of India's progress Mr. Sastri said, "They may be safe today, but one day India will be fully aroused and competent to express herself and

treat properly those that did not help but allowed themselves to be used as hindrances to her destiny."

Speaking of co-operation that Government needs from him and his party, Mr. Sastri gave expression to his feeling thus

"But co-operation with those who treat us with the utmost mistrust, who do not care for our most earnest representations, who frame a constitution in utter disregard and defiance of our dearest wishes what is co-operation with them, I ask? What word would you suggest? I do not know, but I call it suicide. If that is what we are asked to do, whoever else

may be willing—and there are to be many such in India—it is not the Liberal Party."

Other Liberals' Opinions

Boycott movement would be revived.
—SIR SETALVAD.

It is not self-government, but safeguards government.—SIR P. SETHNA.

Fight for India's freedom will go on.—THE HON. P. N. SAPRU.

India will be a lost Dominion.—SIR C. JEHANGIR.

We don't want it, take it back.
—MR CHINTAMANI M.L.C.

SOUTH AFRICAN NEWS IN BRIEF

A Strong Plea for Unity

A STRONG plea for unity among the Indian community in the Union was made by the Agent General for India, Syed Raza Ali, when addressing Indians at Johannesburg on Friday, Feb. 22.

Councillors Want Higher Salaries

Natal Provincial Councillors believe that their allowances should be increased from £120 to £180 a year, and at a private meeting held on Wednesday Feb. 20 sent that recommendation to the Executive Committee of the Provincial Council. It now remains for the Executive to pass on the request to the Government and for the Government to grant the increase by proclamation—or refuse it.

Budget In Figures

Mr. N. O. Havenga's first Budget under the Fusion regime disclosed an estimated surplus of £2,253,000. The main figures of the Budget may be summarised as follows:

1934-35	
Estimated Revenue	£38,053,000
Estimated Expenditure	£35,800,000
Estimated Surplus	£2,253,000
1935-36	
Estimated Revenue	£38,353,000
Estimated Expenditure	£36,098,000
Estimated Surplus	£2,255,000

Half Penny Postage Rate For Commerce

Mr. Havenga in his budget speech said he proposed to re-introduce the ½d. postage rate for all commercial papers, including accounts, receipts, invoices and consignment notes with effect from April 1 next. This will cost the Exchequer some £60,000. The Minister also proposed to reduce the annual rental of the small size boxes at country centres from £1-10s. per annum for the first year to £1 and thereafter to 15s. per annum. The cost of the proposed reduction is estimated at £4,000.

Union Medal For Royal Jubilee

The description of the South African Jubilee Medal, which is being struck to mark the 25th anniversary of the reign of King George and Queen Mary, has now been issued by Mr. R. Pearson, Deputy Master of the Pretoria branch of the Royal Mint. The medal bears the same effigy of Their Majesties and inscription on the obverse side as the British medal, but with the Union Coat of Arms, as appearing in the Seal of the Union, as the reverse design. The Union Government has decided to strike these medals in the 1½ in. diameter size at the Pretoria Mint in both silver and bronze. These medals will be available to the public at the following prices:—

Fine Silver Medal: 2s. 9d. each, in cardboard case, post free.

Bronze medal—"A" quality, specially toned, 1s. 6d. each, in cardboard case, post free.

Bronze medal—"B" quality, bright finish, 4d. each, in suitable envelope, post free.

Pietermaritzburg Indian Scouts Association

Under the auspices of the Pietermaritzburg Indian Scouts Association a conference of representative bodies, (non-political) was held recently at Mr. S. Mutbray's office, 143 Relief Street. Mr. S. Mutbray presided. After discussion the following resolution was passed: "That this Conference of local bodies (non-political) assembled under the auspices of the Pietermaritzburg Indian Scouts Association whilst appreciating the lead in connection with the formation of a local Indian Scouts Movement do hereby fully sympathise and afford all possible support and co-operation; and repose confidence in the proposal of the Pietermaritzburg Indian Scouts Association to start a local Indian scouts movement among Indians (other than those coming under the care and jurisdiction of the Indian teachers of Government and Aided schools)"

Port Shepstone Borough

According to the census of Port Shepstone which is now declared a borough the population is as follows:—

Europeans 772, Indians 167, Natives 484, Coloured 8—total 1,431.

National Thrift Committee

Mr. J. G. Phimister, secretary of the Natal division of the National Thrift Committee, spent several days among the schools in the Dundee and Newcastle districts lecturing at the schools and visiting centres to create interest among parents. Mr. Phimister said all schools were allowed to take part in the movement—Europeans, Indians and natives. In Natal there were 135 European school clubs, 45 Indian, five coloured and 20 native (special) clubs. Tongaat and Dalton were two of the schools he could remember where every child on the roll was a member of the savings club. An Indian school on the coast had 700 children on the roll and last year this school bought 700 Union Loan Certificates. Our real aim, said Mr. Phimister, is to make the child realise the value of money and how it should be handled. We would like him to know where and how to invest his savings and, above all, to spend wisely.

Teachers Tribute To Mr. Winterton

A farewell reception to Mr. O. K. Winterton, former Inspector of Schools, was given by the Natal Indian Teachers Society at the Carlisle Street Government Indian School. Mr. Winterton was presented with a silver cigarette box and Mrs. Winterton with a bouquet of roses. Mr. G. V. Naidoo, President of the Society paid a tribute to the great work Mr. Winterton had done for the Indian teaching community. During Mr. Winterton's term of office he had contributed largely to Indian education and assisted in raising the standard of Indian teaching, said Mr. Naidoo. The Indians owed a great deal to the Inspectors, who had been their teachers and instructors and improved their methods. Mr. J. A. Banks, Inspector of Schools, said that the most outstanding thing about Mr. Winterton was that he had always been the schoolmaster. Although he had been headmaster and Inspector of Schools he had never forgotten his craft, and when he entered a classroom he was the schoolmaster eager for his work. Other speakers included Mr. T. M. Naicker, ex-President of the Society, and Mr. A. D. Lazarus, Hon. General Secretary. He did not regret that his official career was at an end, said Mr. Winterton. He would now have time to meditate instead of being harassed by official duties. Indian education had made a tremendous advance and it was well to realise that it was not money or fine buildings that lay at the bottom of real progress, but the ability and qualities possessed by the teacher. He was happy to have been of help to the teachers. At first he had noticed that they seemed afraid—afraid of breaking some regulation. Happily the spirit had changed and improvement was taking place rapidly. It was very important, that self-confidence should replace the diffidence of the past.

Council Control Of Cemeteries

Full control of all cemeteries in the borough will be vested in the Town Council under powers embodied in the draft Extended Powers Ordinance (1935). The new legislation will ban burials in any cemetery, the use of which has not been authorised by the Corporation. It will provide further that the Council may: Prescribe the terms and conditions upon which such authority may be granted, withheld or revoked. Prescribe the conditions under, and the manner in which such burial ground, cemetery or crematorium shall be maintained, controlled, managed or kept up. Regulate, control and restrict burials and cremations at such burial grounds, cemetery or crematorium. Provide for the keeping of adequate records of burials and cremations and adequate methods of grave identification at such burial ground, cemetery or crematorium and for the inspec-

tion by its officials of such burial ground cemetery or crematorium, and such records and methods of identification. The necessity for closer control of private cemeteries and of preventing unauthorised burials of natives was emphasised some time ago by officials of the Public Health Department.

Indian Successes at Fort Hare for 1934

The following are the Indian examination results of the South African Native College, Fort Hare, for 1934:—

HIGHER DIPLOMA IN EDUCATION (University of South Africa): Somasundrum Cooppan (Durban).

SECOND YEAR B.A.:—Joseph S. Gabriel (Durban): English II, Politics I, History I.

FIRST YEAR B.A.:—A. N. Lazarus (Durban): English I, Psychology I, History I, Latin I, Chemistry I.

N. K. Sham (Verulam): English I, History I, Latin I, Chemistry I, Psychology I.

FIRST YEAR B.Sc.:—Leonard G. Christopher (Durban): Chemistry I, Zoology I, Botany I.

MATRICULATION (University): Class II.—Ivan C. Godfrey (Durban), Arumugan P. Govender (Plessislaer, Natal).

Class III.—Dawood S. Mall (Waschbank, Natal)

Young Muslim Society

A correspondent from Pietersburg states: At a meeting of the Muslims of Pietersburg (Transvaal) held on Sunday Feb. 17 under the chairmanship of Hafez Mahomed Eshak (the Imam of the Mosque) the following officials of the Pietersburg Young Muslim Society were elected: Patron: Rev. Hafez Mahomed Eshak. Chairman: Mr. Ahmed Bava; Vice Chairman: Mr. Ismail Ebrahim; Hon. Secretaries: Messrs. I. H. Hashim and Ahmed Tayob; Hon. Treasurer: Mr. O. H. Cassim; Hon. Auditors: Messrs. Moosa Abdul Gani, and Omar Tyoob; Trustees: Messrs. Abdul Hameed A. Tikly, Mahomed Abdul Gani, and Ismail Ebrahim. A sub committee was appointed for the purpose of having general repairs done to the existing building of the Islamic Madressa. Another sub committee was appointed for drafting rules and regulations for the Madressa. The personnel of the committee: Messrs. Ahmed Bava, I. H. Hashim and Ismail Ebrahim. The above Society took a prominent part in collecting the sum of £800 for the Indian hospital building. The aims and objects of the Society are to promote Islamic fraternity, and work for the betterment of the Muslim community on religious and social lines, to do humanitarian work in general, to promote good feeling and

better understanding with other sister communities.

Indian Rover Scouts Cruise Round The Bay

The 1st Springfield Troop of Indian Rover Scouts, formed by the Springfield School Old Boys who were formerly members of the 1st Springfield troop of Boy Scouts spent a Sunday, cruising in a large rowing boat. The crew of the "Adventure," as named by the Rovers, consisted of seven Rover scouts and two residents of Bayside, Daddy Ramsamy and Hassak, to whom they are greatly indebted for their kindness in loaning the "Adventure" free of charge. Landings were made on Round Bush and Salisbury Islands where tracking and other scout games were practiced. The usefulness of semaphore signalling was demonstrated to two boys when a Rover from Round Bush communicated with the other Rovers who were rowing against the S. E. wind far in the waters. Though the distance was a bit too great the messages were easily received by both signallers, all to the surprise of their friends. They really had a fine time writes a correspondent.

THE CRY OF WOES OF REPATRIATES IN INDIA

WE have received a letter from 76, Canning Street, Calcutta signed by Messrs M Chengiah, A. B. Naidoo, M. Veeranagadu and R. M. Chetty, all of whom had gone from Durban on a visit to India, describing the woes of the South African Indian repatriates. The letter which speaks for itself reads as follows:—

We visited the returned Emigrants at Akra Camp. On our arrival we were besieged by a large number of men, women and children. It was a painful sight indeed to see them in rags and to listen to their tales of woe with tears in their eyes. They begged us to enlist the sympathies of the South Africans.

One Guljar stated that he was in Verulam as a farmer and left for India in 1928 with a family of 20. He has now only 7 left alive 13 having died since their arrival in India.

Another Boodhoo who was a farmer in Umsundul P, M. Burg

Distriot, left Durban with a family of 6 and has lost 2 since landing here. We heard similar stories from almost every one of these repatriates.

We are told that over 54 deaths had taken place within 4 months mostly on account of starvation.

The Government of India have given them an empty piece of land over which they are to find their own quarters and food. They have managed to erect a few huts but very few have been able to find any kind of permanent employment since landing in India. At present 300 of them are to be found in Akra Camp begging.

May we appeal to the Editor of the INDIAN OPINION to open his columns and invite subscriptions from the South Africans to relieve the miseries of these unfortunate brethren of ours.

Social And Personal

The Chief Magistrate of Durban, Mr. W. A. Rowan, has booked his passage to leave for overseas on a six months' holiday in the Arundel Castle on March 21. During his absence Mr. A. C. G. Oaken will act as Chief Magistrate.

Mr. C. F. T. Boast, Public Prosecutor at Newcastle for the last four years has been transferred to Caledon square, Capetown. Mr. Boast was the recipient of a pocket wallet from the local branch of the Natal Indian Congress, represented by Mr. O. J. Christopher. On behalf of the Colonial Born and Settlers' Indian Association, Newcastle branch, Mr. G. M. A. Vawada wished Mr. Boast a safe journey to the Mother City, to which place he said they all felt he had well earned promotion and they wished him every success. As a token of their esteem he presented Mr. Boast with an electric table lamp.

Hajee M. E. Lakhi, of Greytown at present is in Mauritius. His son, Abdool Kader, is to marry Hawa daughter of Ahmed Ebrahim Brodie, a prominent merchant and landowner in Port Louis. Abdool Kader left with his parents and inmate friends early this month. Many congratulatory cables have been sent from well-wishers and friends of the bridegroom among Indians throughout the Union and from the Indian community of Greytown. Mr. Lakhi, jun., with his wife, is expected back in Durban by the Middle of this month.

RHODESIA NOTES.

BRITISH INDIAN ASSOCIATION

(FROM OUR BULAWAYO CORRESPONDENT)

A GENERAL meeting of the British Indian Association will be called soon to elect new officials for the ensuing year and for the adoption of accounts, in connection with the visits of the Rev C.F. Andrews, the Baroda Girl Guides and the Agent of the Government of India in South Africa.

MR. NAGRANI'S THANKS

Mr. Nagrani of Bulawayo wishes to thank Messrs Moosa and Jhaveri of Durban for their kind hospitality to Mr. B. K. Hormsme. The lady buyer of the Silk House of Nagrani. She was delighted with the visit to the Orient Club.

KING'S JUBILEE

Nothing has been done so far in regard to Indians' participation in the forthcoming King's Jubilee celebration.

SCHOOL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The following officials were elected for 1935 at a meeting of the Indian School Advisory Committee held on Feb. 20: Chairman: Mr. K. K. Vashee, Hon. Secretary Mr. V. B. Nagrani and Hon. Treasurer: Mr. V. N. Desai.

THOSE JUGGLERS

The four Indian jugglers and fortune tellers who recently entered Rhodesia and were allowed by the Immigration authorities to visit the country were put out of the border by the Immigration authorities. Another juggler named Ismail had come from Capetown but was not allowed by the Immigration authorities to enter.

IMPERIAL PRESS CONFERENCE DELEGATES

The delegates to the Imperial Press Conference paid a visit to Rhodesia.

The delegates from India, it was reported were anxious to know about the conditions of Indians. It is regretted that they could not meet any Indians here.

TENNIS CLUB

A general meeting has been called to arrange the tournament. Those who wish to become members are requested to apply to the secretary Indian Tennis Club, Mr. K. N. Rana, P. O. Box 431, Bulawayo.

PRESS DELEGATES BANQUETTED

One of the most notable banquets that Salisbury has known for several years, says the *Rhodesian Herald*, was held at Meikles's Hotel on Monday night, Feb. 18, when the Government of Southern Rhodesia entertained the Imperial Press Conference. His Excellency the Governor, Sir Herbert J. Stanley, G.C.M.G., and Lady Stanley attended. The Prime Minister (the Hon. G. M. Huggins) presided, and the company included the members of the Cabinet, members of Parliament, the Mayor and Mayoress and Town Councillors, and representative townspeople. Mr. A. A. Hayles (India) in the course of his speech said Rhodesia had avoided the mistake they made in India. Rhodesia was regarded as the place where they could make their homes and not merely a place for them to sojourn. Britishers in India were in thought still living at Home. If, in India, they had followed Southern Rhodesia's example and settled rather than sojourned, if they had settled in the tremendous uplands of India in the same way as Rhodesians had settled here, the position of India to-day would have been very different.

BULAWAYO BRITISH INDIAN ASSOCIATION

Rumour is going round that the old officials are intending to retire from active political life and duties are to be transferred to some active young men.

CRICKET

The match arranged at Livingstone between Europeans and Indians was, I hear, drawn.

The Bharat Club and Star Club are competing for the P. Jivan Cup. At the time of writing both clubs had equal points.

GENERAL

A gentleman wishes to donate £50 towards Indian charity and desires to know how best to do so. The reader is requested to kindly send their correspondence to P.O. Box 506, Bulawayo.

UNION'S EXPORT TO RHODESIA

In 1933 the Union's exports to Rhodesia totalled £853,882, of which the larger items were blasting compounds and explosives (£177,000), apparel (£70,000), furniture and other wood manufactures (£51,000). Among other exports, the manufacture of some of which takes place in Durban, were foodstuffs, confectionery, jams, condensed milk and soap and matches.

REDUCED AIR MAIL RATE

A notice in the *Government Gazette* fixes the combined air mail and postage rates from Southern Rhodesia to any part of India and Burma at 7d. per half ounce from February 1. Formerly the rate was 11d. to Karachi, and an additional 3d. to any point beyond Karachi. This appreciable reduction is part of the general scheme for reducing air mail rates within the Empire.

WEDDINGS

Harilal Maharaj eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Rameswar Maharaj of Ladysmith was joined in the bonds of matrimony with Kailas Devi the eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Becharie Majles Singh of Richmond on Saturday Feb 23 at the Bride's residence at 10. 30. a.m.

The third and fourth daughters of Mr. S. Majles Singh were also married at Richmond on Saturday 23 at 7 p. m. to Saran Singh only son of Mr. Gokool Singh of Hafa, Umsines, and to Pertab Singh youngest son of the late Kalika Singh of Sea Cow Lake, Durban.

There were numerous guests at the above weddings from all parts of Natal and even from the Transvaal. Richmond looked quite a busy town of no mean repute with number of motor cars running from one street to another. The guests were well catered for and entertained and there were many presents for the lucky Brides and Bridegrooms.

AT ESPERANZA

The only son of Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Bunka of Sea View was married on Saturday Feb 23 at Esperanza to the eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Saligram of Esperanza

Both the parents being prominent members of the community, there were over 800 guests present at the wedding. The married couple received many useful and valuable presents. After the wedding dinner, the guests, during the night were entertained with a splendid musical programme by many local talents.

AT RED HILL

The eldest son Bughbeer of Mr. and Mrs. Sorajbally of Kenilworth Road was married to the eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Boodhoo of Red Hill on Saturday Feb 23 at the Bride's residence. The guests were entertained to a fine selection of music, songs and dance.

ઈન્ડિઅન ઓપિનિઅન.

મહાત્મા ગાંધીજીના હસ્તે
સને ૧૯૦૩માં સ્થપાયું.

પુસ્તક ૩૩ મું.

ફ્રીડેસ, શુક્રવાર, તારીખ ૧ માર્ચ ૧૯૩૫

અંક-૬.

નોંધ અને સમાચાર

ટાઉન કાઉન્સિલની બગડેલી દાનત

મેવીલના ઓરીયન્ટ લેન વાળા સ્લમ તરીકે જાહેર કરવામાં આવેલ લતો કે જેના સંબંધમાં ડરબન શહેરના એનજીનીયર એ. ૧૯ એક્ટરના વિસ્તાર વાળા લતાને સાફ કરી નાખી આગ બગીચા અને હોબપુવારા સાથે યુરોપીયનોના વસવાટને માટે સ્વર્ગભૂમી બનાવી દેવાની ભલામણ કરેલી છે તે બાબતમાં 'નાટાલ મેરક્યુરી' એ ડરબનનો તંદુરસ્તી ખાતાના અમલદાર ડો. ગ્રાનની મુલાકાત લીધી હતી. ડો. ગ્રાને જણાવ્યું હતું કે સ્લમ એક્ટની રૂએ કોઈ પણ લતાઓને સ્લમ તરફ કે જાહેર કરવામાં ખાસ કાળજી રાખવાની જરૂર રહે છે. પબ્લીક હેલ્થ કમીટીની મીટીંગમાં ડો. ગ્રાને જણાવ્યું હતું કે ઉપલા લતામાં દરેક મકાનને સ્લમ એક્ટની રૂએ રહેઠાણને માટે રદ કરી નાખી શકાય તેમ નથી. મુલાકાતમાં તેમણે જણાવ્યું કે જે કે ઘણા મકાનોને જાહેર તંદુરસ્તીની દૃષ્ટિએ રદ કરી શકાય તેમ છે છતાં બીજાં તદ્દન સારી સ્થિતિના મકાનો પણ છે. તેમણે વધુમાં જણાવ્યું કે આ ખાસ લતાને સાફ કરવાનો અર્થ ખરી રીતે "સ્લમ કલીયરન્સ" યાને ગંદકી દુર કરવાનો નથી થતો પરંતુ "ટાઉન ક્લેનીંગ" યાને શહેરની ગોઠવણી કરવાનો થાય છે.

એ મુખ્ય વસ્તુ

એ મુખ્ય વસ્તુ વિચારવાની છે તે એ છે કે કાઉન્સિલ હાલના વસનારાઓને શહેરના અન્ય ભાગમાં રહેવાની સગવડ કરી આપવા માગે છે કે હાલના વસનારાઓને જ્યાં છે ત્યાં જ પોતાના રહેઠાણો સુધારવાની તક આપવા માગે છે. શહેરની ગોઠવણીની દૃષ્ટિએ, ડો. ગ્રાને 'મેરક્યુરી' ના પ્રતિનિધિને કહ્યું કે, હોદીઓ અને નેટીવોને અન્ય સ્થળે કાઢીને એ લતાની યુરોપીયનોના વસવાટને માટે ફરી ગોઠવણી કરવી વધારે ઈષ્ટ છે. થોડા દિવસની અંદર હું ઓરીયન્ટ લેનના દરેકે દરેક ઘરની બાંધતપાસ કરવાનો હું કે સ્લમ એક્ટની રૂએ વાજબીપણે તેમાંના કેટલાને રદ કરી શકાય તેમ છે. દરમિયાનમાં ડરબન શહેરના એનજીનીયર ડરબનના ડયા ડયા લતા સાફ કરવાની જરૂર છે તેની એક વીગતવાર યાદી તૈયાર કરશે. આર બાદ એ સવળી હકીકતો લખને એક

ડેપ્યુટીશન તંદુરસ્તી ખાતાના પ્રધાનની મુલાકાત લેશે અને ક્ષય યોજનાને પોતે ટેકા આપશે એ તેમની પાસેથી જાણશે. જે પ્રધાનનો ટેકો મળશે તો કાઉન્સિલ ઓરીયન્ટ લેનવાળા લતાને સાફ કરવાનું કામ આરંભી દેશે. પ્રધાનનો ટેકો તેને એકસ મળવાનો જ છે એ ખાત્રી કર્યા સિવાય કાઉન્સિલ મજબૂર લતામાંથી એક ઈંટ પણ ખસેડશે નહિ.

પ્રધાનને અમારી વિનંતિ

મેવીલના ઉપર જણાવેલા લતામાં વસતા હોદીઓનું ભાવિ હવે મુલકી પ્રધાનના ચુકાદા ઉપર લટકી રહેલું છે. અમારી પ્રધાનને નમ્ર વિનંતિ છે કે તેમણે સ્લમ એક્ટ, કે જેનો હેતુ, અમે સમજીએ છીએ તે મુજબ, શહેરો માંથી ગંદકી દુર કરવાનો અને નહિ કે જાતીય ભેદના આધારે રહેઠાણોના લતા સ્થાપવાનો છે, તેનો દુરપયોગ થતો અટકાવવા ડરબનની ટાઉન કાઉન્સિલ ઉપર અંકુશ મુકીને તેની બાંજીને મૂળથી જ કાપી નાખવી જોઈએ.

સ્લમ એક્ટ ઉપર સર મહારાજ સીંગ ન્યુ દિલ્હીમાં રૂટરને મુલાકાત આપતાં કુંવર સર મહારાજ સીંગે જણાવ્યું હતું કે હું આશા રાખું છું કે સ્લમ એક્ટને લગતો નવો કાયદો હિંદી ઓ કે જેઓમાંના ઘણા ગરીબ હાલતમાં પડેલા છે તેઓની સ્થિતિ સુધારનારો થઈ પડશે.

ટ્રાંસવાલમાં લાયસેન્સની સુશીખ્તો

મરહુમ સાલેજ અસમાલજીની એસ્ટેટના એકઝેક્યુટીવો ઇસ્માઇલ આમુજી લુણાત અને મુસાજી હસનજી તરફથી વીટવાટસરેન્ડની સુપ્રીમ કોર્ટમાં જનરલ ડીલરનું લાયસેન્સ આપવા સર્વોચ્ચના રીસીવર ઓફ રેવન્યુને સુચના આપવા અરજી કરવામાં આવી હતી. અરજદારો તરફથી જણાવવામાં આવ્યું હતું કે સાલેજ અસમાલજી પોતાની પુણમાં, ૧૯૩૪ ના માર્ચની તા. ૩૭એ પોતાનું મરણ થયું ત્યાં સુધી પોતે સર્વોચ્ચની થર્ડ ટ્રીટમાં જનરલ ડીલરનો વેપાર ચલાવી રહ્યા હતા તેનું લાયસેન્સ પણ મુકી ગયા હતા. અને અરજદારો એસ્ટેટ નાં કાયદાને માટે તે વેપાર ચલાવવા માંગે છે અને કાયદેસર એ લાયસેન્સ મેળવવાને તેઓ

હકદાર છે. રીસીવર ઓફ રેવન્યુએ આ લાયસેન્સ એ આધારે નામંજુર કર્યું હતું કે લાયસેન્સ એકઝેક્યુટીવોના નામ પર ટ્રાંસફર કરવાની સત્તા આપનાર મ્યુનીસીપાલીટી પાસેથી સર્ટીફિકેટ રજુ કરવામાં ન આવે ત્યાં સુધી તેનાથી લાયસેન્સ આપી નહિ શકાય. મી. જરટીસ ટ્રીનબર્ગે જણાવ્યું કે એટલું ચોખું છે કે કોને સર્ટીફિકેટ આપવું એ સ્થાનિક સત્તાધીશોની મુનસુફી ઉપર રહેલું છે. એવી દલીલ કરવામાં આવી છે કે અરજદારોને લાયસેન્સની મુદત પુરી થતાં સુધીજ વેપાર ચલાવવાનો હક હતો. એ દલીલ સાથે હું મળતો ધાઉ છું. આથી અરજી ખર્ચા સાથે ડીસમીસ કરવામાં આવી હતી.

મી. કાર્લ ગન્ડલર્ફીંગરનું મરણ

સા. આ. ના જુના અને જાણીતા મોટા વેપારી મી. કાર્લ ગન્ડલર્ફીંગર જેઓ કેટલોક વખત થયાં બીમારી ભોગવી રહ્યા હોય કે પટાઉન ગયા હતા ત્યાંથી સ્ટીમર રસ્તે પાછા ફરતાં ગયા સોમવારે અમકોમાસની નજદીકમાં સવારે ૭ વાગે ડેકપરથી ૪૦ ફુટની ઉંચાઈએથી દરીયામાં પડી જઈ મરણ પામ્યા છે. લાઇફ બોટ ૫૫ મીનીટ બાદ તેમની લાસ ઉઠાવી લીધી હતી. મીસીસ ગન્ડલર્ફીંગર તેમની સાથે હતા પરંતુ ડેકપર જતાં તેમણે જોયા નહોતા. ડરબન મેજિસ્ટ્રેટ કોર્ટમાં આ બાબતમાં તપાસ ચાલી હતી અને મગજ ટેકાણે નહોતું તે વખતે પાણીમ કુદકા મારી કુખી જવાથી મરણ નીપજેલું જાહેર કરવામાં આવ્યું હતું. સા. આ. ના વેપાર ઉદ્યોગને મી. ગન્ડલર્ફીંગરના મરણથી ભારે ખોટ થઈ છે.

પોર્ટશોપ્સટનની વસ્તી

નાટાલનું પોર્ટશોપ્સટન શહેર જે હવે બરો તરીકે જાહેર થયું છે તેની વસ્તી નીચે પ્રમાણે છે: યુરોપીયનો ૭૭૨, હોદીઓ ૧૬૭, નેટીવો ૪૮૪, કલક ૮-કુલ ૧,૪૩૧.

સંપ માટે એજન્ટની મજબુત ભલામણ

ગયા શુક્રવાર ના. ૨૨માં એ હોદી સરકારના એજન્ટ રૌપદ રા. અલીએ જાંઘાનીસબર્ગ ખાતે ભાપણ દરત: યુનીયનની હોદી દોમમાં સંપને માટે મજબુત ભલામણ કરી હતી.