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NOTES AND NEWS

Self-Advertising

WITH a view to advertising Maritzburg throughout the world as being the best health resort in the Union Dr. C. C. P. Anning, Medical Officer of Health, prepared a special brochure and sent it to all the delegates attending the Fifth Imperial Press Conference, which visited the City on March 6 and 7. Dr. Anning mentioned the health of Asiatics and other non-Europeans and admitted that the health conditions among the non-Europeans generally were unsatisfactory. He laid chief blame on dirt, poverty and ignorance and bad housing.

We do not know whether the delegates to the Imperial Press Conference were concerned so much about Maritzburg being a healthy or unhealthy City. They had far more important questions to deal with than to play the role of sanitary Inspectors. There was, however, one important aspect emerging out of the report of the Medical Officer of Health which might well have engaged the minds of the delegates to the Imperial Press Conference and that was the causes which have led to poverty, ignorance and bad housing on which Dr. Anning puts the blame for the unsatisfactory health conditions among non-Europeans, and which is a feature not confined to Maritzburg alone but is witnessed throughout the Union. The causes are segregation, neglect on the part of the authorities in looking after the sanitary and educational requirements of non-Europeans and the closing of avenues of employment to non-Europeans through the white labour policy of the Government which must in its trail bring poverty.

In Fighting Spirit Without Facts

Mrs. E. J. Jansen and Mr. S. P. E. Jacobs addressed a public meeting at Bethal recently. Dr. A. J. Vorster presided. In the course of her speech Mrs. Jansen is reported to have said that "three practical problems faced the country, the native population, the Asiatic population, and the poor whites. South Africa had a larger Asiatic population, numbering 200,000, than any other British Dominion outside India. They were undermining the country through their competition in trade.

Last year in the Transvaal alone 8,000 trading licences had been issued to Asiatics. Yet the Indian Agent who had just relinquished his post had asked for equality in all spheres, and when the new Agent was welcomed the Mayor of Johannesburg had advised the Asiatics to be patient until the time when the franchise would be granted them.

The government stood hopeless before the Asiatic question, as it did before the native question. Within the Government were those who had always advocated the native franchise. No fewer than 13 seats were at present controlled by the Native and coloured vote, but those who sought equality for the natives were moved not by love for the natives but by the desire to bring the Afrikaners low."

If Mauritius and British Malaya are British possessions and outside India their Asiatic population is just over 265,000 and 517,000 respectively. We wonder what is Mrs. Jansen's source of information to state that 8,000 licences were issued to Asiatics last year in the Transvaal. Mrs. Jansen further states 13 seats are controlled by native and coloured vote. Mrs. Jansen's statements are so absurd that one hardly needs to take the trouble of disproving them.

Durban M.O.H. On Cremation

DURBAN'S Borough Medical Officer of Health, Dr. G. H. Gunn, has recommended to the Public Health Committee that the town Council enter into negotiations with the Durban Crematorium Company with the object of acquiring the Crematorium premises at Stella-wood and that an enquiry be made as to suitable sites for Indian crematoria in the vicinity of Umbilo and Umgeni, conveniently accessible to the main road. In his report Dr. Gunn states that "the establishment of the crematoria is generally approved in populous urban areas for the following reasons:—

"Cremation is 100 per cent. hygienic method of disposing of the dead.

"Cremation is a more economical method than interment having regard to the scarcity of land and its consequent high value in urban areas."

Native Taxation

IN an editorial chat *The Farmer and Home Companion* states:—

It is quite obvious to any reasonable man that the native is taxed out of all proportion to his earning power. No European in Natal pays more than one pound personal tax unless his income is over £240; but the Native, who is lucky if he earns £12 a year, has to pay the same amount; and is constantly chivied by the police to produce his tax receipt. (The Receiver of Revenue makes a perfect nuisance of himself, but at least he does not turn up at any odd time and demand one's personal or income tax papers) On the same basis a European earning £240 per annum should be paying £20 in tax! The native hut tax is perhaps comparable to the motor tax in the case of Europeans, but is none the less a heavy burden.

Death Of Mr. Hofmeyr's Sister

MRS. Gertrude Roux died in Cape-town at the age of 55. Born in Cape-town, she was the daughter of the late Mr. Andries-Brink Hofmeyr, founder of "Ons Land" and father of the Minister of the Interior, Mr. J. H. Hofmeyr. Mrs. Roux is survived by her husband and a son. We extend to Mr. Hofmeyr and the bereaved family our heartfelt sympathy and in doing so we have no doubt we are expressing the sentiments of the whole Indian community.

Indian Gift To Hospital

The Indian communities of Benoni and Boksburg have presented £300 towards the cost of equipment for the Indian wards at the new hospital now in course of erection. The donation was handed over by a deputation of representative Indians, including Messrs. A. M. Brayat and B. N. Khan, of Boksburg, and Mr. F. E. Labi, of Benoni, who were thanked on behalf of the Hospital Board by the chairman, Mr. G. Constable. A few years ago the Indian communities of Boksburg and Benoni gave £800 towards the cost of equipping a ward for Indians in the old hospital building.

Land Tenure Commission's Report

Replying to Mr. Bawden (U. P. Langkate), the Minister of the Interior (Mr. Hofmeyr) said that he could not say when the report of the Asiatic Land Tenure Commission would be available, but it was possible that Parts 1, 2 and 3, which constituted the bulk of the report, might be laid on the Table before the end of the session.

Native At Rand University

A Zulu poet has been appointed Bantu languages assistant at the Witwatersrand University. He is Mr. B. W. Vilakazi, B.A. He will deal with the practical side of language teaching. He is at present engaged as a teacher in the Ohlange Institute at Phoenix. Mr. Vilakazi will be the first African that has received such an appointment on the staff of a European University in South Africa.

'Coolie' means a labourer and Mr. Roos^s applies that term to all Indians forgetting that there are many among them whose standard of respectability and status is, if not higher, certainly not lower than his own. Woe be the day when Mr. Roos is given a responsible portfolio in the Cabinet Ministry!

Indian Opinion

FRIDAY, MARCH 22ND, 1935

"KAFIR" AND "COOLIE"

A DDRESSING a well-attended meeting at the Ermelo Town Hall on March 17, Mr. Tielman Roos is reported to have drawn attention to the increase of Indians in this country and emphasised that no white man should deal with an Indian store because money spent there assisted them to expand their business to the point of employing whites. Girls were employed by Indians—a thing which should not be. He would even go further and advocate that no white person should sell to an Indian. He would like to see legislation introduced to restrict Indians to dealing with non-Europeans.

Only last week we paid a compliment to Mr. Tielman Roos for his proposal to give preference to interests of State over Party or personal interests. We were, however, not unaware of the creed of the ex-Minister of Justice of the Union, which he has obviously not modified.

But that is not all. Mr. Roos is reported to have addressed another meeting of farmers at Blawwal (near Hekpoort) organised by Mr. Harry Emmerick of Hartebeestfontein, "as a protest against the manner in which the Government had been treating the farmers ever since the Coalition Government came into power." It might be pointed out here that the Government has spent within the last two years not less than £20,000,000 in helping the farmers, (be it remembered only European farmers—not a brass farthing for non-Europeans), in addition to £8,000,000 from Loan Account on public works designed to relieve unemployment among Europeans. But that does not satisfy Mr. Roos. He wants the Government to take over all the liabilities of the farmers and take over their produce that could not be sold at a minimum price. In the course of his speech, which

he delivered from a wagon drawn under a huge mimosa tree, Mr. Roos is reported to have said,

he was against whites working on roads. It made kafirs of whites. The Government's present policy resulted in making whites of natives in the cities. This was an unsatisfactory state of affairs and should be stopped. It brought the whites into contempt to work on roads on which natives travelled in luxurious motor cars.

He is reported further to have stated:

There was another matter—the position of workers in shops. The Government should lay it down as a principle that if decent conditions were not provided and maintained trading licences should be cancelled. "Coolies should not be permitted to bring down the level of the white trader."

If Mr. Roos thinks his arguments are sound and convincing we do not see any reason in his becoming so desperately venomous in his language. If he claims to be civilised he ought at least to use a little more civility in the choice of his terms and not apply terms to others which he would not like applied to himself. The terms 'Kafirs' and 'Coolies' are designedly used by him to denote his contempt for Natives and Indians. But if Mr. Roos gives just a little thought as to what those terms mean he would find to his surprise that in the sense he uses them they are just as much applicable to the race to which he belongs as they are to Natives and Indians. For the meaning of Kafir is a non-believer in God, and Mr. Roos has evinced, at least in so far as his public utterances and actions are concerned, much less respect for God and his creatures than even a raw Native. And the term

THE THINGS WE'VE FORGOTTEN.**Twenty-five Years Ago**EXTRACTS FROM "INDIAN OPINION,"
Nov. 27, 1909.**Lust Of Slaughter.**

Writes INDIAN OPINION:

IT seems marvellous that men of thought and character, and even of average humanity should delight to slaughter animals and birds which have as much right to live and enjoy life as we have. It seems as though the savage that lurks in most of us at time "will out." But it is none the less discreditable. . . . Hardly less shameful is the constant, daily massacre of animals and birds for human food. The cruelty and pain which it involves—the horror of the shambles, the revolting incidents of the market are too shocking to be described. And yet gentle refined souls, not only tolerate but encourage them and become responsible for those tragedies which their unholy appetite creates. This is one of the paradoxes which modern Society presents. We have our Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, side by side with the well patronised butcher's and poulterer's shops. We have our glorification of murder on a large scale under the name of war and our indignation at it, on a minute scale, when one man has done the deed. Still, let no honest reformer be discouraged. Just principles make slow headway, but at last they succeed. The time will yet come when the butcher will be ostracised with the soldier from polite society, and the butcher will have no place in our midst. Until then, work for it.

Fountain of Wisdom

The history of the world is the history of a few earnest men, and when one man is earnest the world must just come to his feet.

SWAMI VIVEKANANDA.

In the political world we need not kill the last germ of hope. The mistake lies not in hoping but in hoping too much, not in depending on others, but in depending on them altogether.

THE RT. HON V. S. SRINIVASA SASTRI.

The sage lives in yesterday; the dreamer in tomorrow; the plodder in today. The successful man combines all three.—ANON.

THOUGHTS FOR REFLECTION

MR. RITCH ON THE PRESENT INDIAN SITUATION

[Mr. L. W. Ritch's connection with Mahatma Gandhi, this journal and with the Indian problem in South Africa has been no less than that of Mr. H. S. L. Polak whose protest against our criticism of the policy of the Ex-'gent of the Government of India, Kunwar Sir Maharaj Singh, we published in our last week's issue. Moreover being on the spot Mr. Ritch has been in much more personal touch with the present Indian situation in the country than Mr. Polak can claim to be and can therefore speak with more authority than Mr. Polak. We have pleasure in placing before our readers the following thought provoking article by Mr. Ritch. We thank Mr. Ritch for the compliment he has paid us and we pray that we may be worthy of it.—Ed. I. O.]

THE writer has long since lost any affection he ever entertained for controversial debate, and but for the unwarranted attacks directed against the Editor of this journal—in some instances couched in terms of more than questionable taste; in others, made in obvious ignorance of all the facts—would gladly have maintained his self-imposed silence.

Silence, in the face of untruth may, however, constitute something dangerously near to acquiescence, and where the individual maligned stands alone or but ill-supported, be little less infamous than cowardice.

The writer's acquaintance with the South African Indian "problem," will, he ventures to think, not be seriously questioned. That he has watched the reactions of the "problem" itself and even more closely that of the several communities, to the presence and activities of the several Agents General, he offers his solemn assurance. His association with each of these gentlemen, in turn, of course, more intimate in the case of some than in that of others, has afforded him not merely personal gratification, but material for psychological study of the most informative kind. Sastri, that remarkable combination of erudition, eloquence and diplomacy, whose depth of thought, unrivalled diction, and arresting presence compelled the homage of all who met and heard him; Reddi, the lawyerly logical, the man who wanted to understand and to be understood, the man who came, saw, and conquered *his own people* because he insisted upon understanding; and lastly the Kunwar, finished product of the English public school and varsity, the personification of "correctness," the perfect civil servant, knowing his job and concerned only to act according to policy indicated and instructions imparted.

Public men, by virtue of the fact that nominally, at least, they are public servants, offer themselves and their

conduct to public criticism. That such criticism should be "fair" and in the public interest, is, of course, a *sine qua non*. That it should reflect conclusions arrived at honestly and after due deliberation is no less so. But be the criticism offered favourable or unfavourable, laudatory or condemnatory, it is but the opinion of its author, and if honestly formed should be treated, at least, with tolerance.

The Editor of "I. O." has been intimately known to the writer from his childhood. His services to his people and sufferings for the sake of his people, should alone entitle him to, at least, some measure of respect at their hands; his intimate knowledge of Indian affairs, his lifelong participation in the struggle, his intelligent understanding of the several parties, their leaders and methods, to thoughtful and tolerant consideration of his views.

The writer has no hesitation in stating, unqualifiedly, that the Editor's several leading articles, criticising the policy and programme of the Kunwar, read in series and free from personal partiality, is not merely honest, if outspoken, criticism, but criticism which voices the unpublished opinions of many besides the Editor.

We are told that the Kunwar harped continuously upon the necessity for "unity" among the community. But "unity" to be of value, must be the unity that results from conviction, not enforced "unity," not the unity of opinion and conduct thrust upon a people under promise of reward for compliance, or threat of the painful consequences that will follow disobedience. Unity, to be worthy of the name, must be born of harmonious co-operation, and monotone is by no means the same as harmony. Moreover, unity may prevail in the very midst of diversity.

What is needed is abandonment of the acrimonies, the personal rivalries, the dissipation of energies, that have continued all too long. If the community is to find salvation for itself, the first step must be to "let unkindness die." Its leaders must set the example of leadership in self-sacrifice, self-repression, subordination of the little "i" to service of the communal Self; dedication of individual knowledge, individual ability and possessions to the needs of the whole of which is but an integral part. If it is too much to expect that love shall reign in place of hate, let, at

least, toleration be brought to bear. Hatreds must at all costs be banished, Else will their disintegrating force finally destroy the community. Agents or no Agents, the salvation of the community rests with the people themselves. It will come only when the community finds its Self.

L. W. RITCH.

ORIGINAL CORRESPONDENCE.

The Natal Indian

Sir,—I read with interest the reproduction of an article from the *Natal Advertiser* with reference to the "Natal Indian" in your columns.

The writer of this article refers to the Indians who first came out from India,—and through whose hard toil the sugar industry of Natal is thriving—as Pariahs. May I through the medium of your weekly point out to the author, that the Indians who first came to be employed on the sugar plantations were called coolies or indentured labourers. An Indian labourer is the true meaning of the word coolie no matter to which nationality the labourer belongs and not Pariahs. In referring to them as Pariahs or untouchables the writer has done a grave injustice to the thousands of Indians who are employed in the sugar industry today who belong to all castes, both high and low.

I hope an error of this nature will not occur again as it will only create a division in the Indian community, which we as broadminded men should avoid at all costs.

P. G. REDDY

[We are afraid our correspondent has by misreading the report, referred to by him done an injustice to the Editor of the *Natal Advertiser*. The paper has not referred to Indians as Pariahs but has said that they are regarded as Pariahs by the Government of the Union owing to the fact that they are kralled in one Province and not allowed to migrate into the other Provinces. But if "a grave injustice" is done to anyone our correspondent himself has done the gravest injustice to the class that has been termed as Pariahs by the so-called high castes and also to the reformist leaders in India who are working for the emancipation of the so-called Pariahs. Why does the writer forget that in South Africa Indians of all denominations—whether high or low—are all Pariahs in the eyes of the white race, Is that not sufficient to awaken us to the sin that we are committing against a section of our own people by looking down upon them as inferiors."—Ed. I.O.]

INDIAN SITUATION IN ZANZIBAR

"THE SERVANT OF INDIA" ON MR. MENON'S REPORT

WITH the publication of Mr. Menon's report on the situation in Zanzibar and the Government's criticism thereof, the Indian public no longer labours under the handicap of lack of full, authentic, and what is even more important, all-sided information. The impasse was caused, as our readers are aware, by the hurried passage by the colonial legislature of six laws purporting to deal with the evil of agricultural indebtedness. Who that is normally constituted would have the heart to object to such legislation? But in the circumstances of Zanzibar, these laws or decrees as they are locally termed, have a very harmful effect on Indian interests. Indeed it is no exaggeration to say, as has been done by Mr. Menon himself and contended all along by the Indian community, that the strict enforcement of these decrees will result in squeezing Indians, by the application of economic pressure, out of the Colony. This would spell disaster to the Indian community, as indeed to any other set of persons similarly circumstanced. What such expropriatory measures mean can be realised only by those who, like the Indian community, look upon Zanzibar as their adopted mother-country and have invested all their savings in Zanzibar itself.

Against only one decree, viz., the Moneylenders Decree, allowing monetary transactions to be reopened by the courts, Mr. Menon has no objection to urge. So far as can be seen from the press summaries of his report, this legislation seems to follow the usual lines for the regulation of moneylending business and gives much needed and legitimate protection to the debtor. But there can be little doubt, as pointed out by Mr. Menon, that the cumulative effect of the whole of this legislative scheme would be to make it economically impossible for our countrymen to continue in Zanzibar for any length of time. We need not be so uncharitable as to suppose that in framing these measures the Zanzibar Government kept that objective definitely in view. But were such an unholy purpose aimed at, it would have been difficult to devise more effective means for gaining the end. As if to ward off any suspicion that the legislation was directed against Indians, care has been taken to exclude all specific reference to them. But it does not need more than a few minutes' study of the decrees to find out that they would in fact affect Indians more vitally than persons of any other race inhabiting Zanzibar. A relevant fact to be borne in mind in this connection is that Indian money locked up in land in Zanzibar

amounts to about Rs. 80 lakhs, having been lent out to African natives or Arabs who are the real cultivators of the soil.

The Land Alienation Decree prohibits the transfer of land belonging to Africans or Arabs to persons not belonging to either of these races except with the sanction of the British Resident. Now which are the races other than African and Arab that are found in the island? A handful of Europeans who number less than 300 and Indians whose number exceeds 14,000. It is possible to argue that if the prohibition against transfer of land holds good in the case of Indians, it does so with no less force in the case of Europeans as well. But does it really? Is it enforced with the same strictness and impartiality as in the case of the former? Or do Europeans succeed in securing exemption from the operation of this clause more easily than our countrymen? The relevant statistics alone, which however will not be available for some time more, will furnish a convincing reply.

Land Grabbing

But is any case made out for such prohibition? If Indians had given evidence of a land-grabbing tendency which has characterised the dealings of European settlers with the natives in other colonies, there might have been some justification for such a measure in Zanzibar. But Mr. Menon assures us that not even 2 per cent. of the land is owned by Indians. As for plantations and clove trees, only 4 per cent. of the former and nearly 6 per cent. of the latter is put down to Indian ownership. These statistics are controverted by the Zanzibar Government who state that land was as a matter of fact passing out of the hands of Africans and Arabs into those of Indians at a quicker pace. But even if the proportion of land in Indian ownership be 17 per cent., as the Government says, and the period of time in which this result has been achieved is taken into account, no dispassionate observer will look upon it as so alarming a rate of transfer as to justify all the extraordinarily harsh measures against Indians which are embodied in this scheme for the eradication of indebtedness from among the Zanzibar agriculturists.

If the prohibition against the alienation of land is unjustifiable, it follows that neither the moratorium legalised by the decree nor the retrospective effect given to the legislation can be supported by any shred of justification. That the legislation is not based solely on economic but on racial consideration is proved by the fact that under it while no land can change its ownership in favour of an

Indian, even though he may have permanently settled in the colony, its transfer to an Arab, however recent his arrival, is not only not tabooed but is held valid, whether he is himself the tiller of the soil or not. If the banishment of agricultural indebtedness from Zanzibar had been, as officially stated, the real object, the better plan would undoubtedly have been the one proposed by Mr. Menon for adoption by the Zanzibar Government. Instead of forbidding transfer of land to persons other than Africans or Arabs, the object would have been better served by placing an embargo on the transfer of land from agriculturists to non-agriculturists. It remains to be seen whether Mr. Menon's suggestion will still find acceptance at the hands of the Zanzibar Government. That in fact will be regarded as the acid test of their real intentions.

The other four decrees with the clove trade which will be controlled by what is known as the Clove-Growers' Association brought into being by one of the decrees. Its work will be financed by the proceeds of a fee of Rs. 5,000 for a licence to export cloves. The levy of such heavy impost is bound to cause serious hardship to clove dealers in general and must go. The affairs of the Association will be managed by a board consisting of not more than seven members appointed by the British Resident and a Secretary-Manager who will be the chief executive officer. Mr. Menon voices the fear universally held by the Indian community that the official members of the Association will neither have the time nor the aptitude to attend to the detailed working of the Association, with the result that all power would really be centralised in the hands of one man, the Secretary-Manager. The Association will thus be a one-man show—one man regulating the clove trade of the whole of Zanzibar as he deems fit! But Mr. Menon's words will bring out the purpose of the Association more vividly. He says: "The Association backed by the resources of the State enters the field of trade in direct competition with and in suppression of existing trades, for the purpose of eliminating Indian traders from the clove business. Armed with such powers, privileges and immunities, the Clove Growers' Association strikes Indian traders as a Leviathan-brushing them aside, casting them adrift and trampling upon that freedom of trade which they have enjoyed for generations." We hope that the Government of India will leave no stone unturned to get such hated anti-Indian legislation expunged from Zanzibar statute book as soon as possible.

SOUTH AFRICAN NEWS IN BRIEF

Jubilee Public Holiday

MONDAY, May 6 has been gazetted a public holiday throughout the Union to mark the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the accession of King George V to the throne.

Harrismith Not Interested

The people of Harrismith are displaying little or no interest in the proposed celebrations of the King's Jubilee on May 6 states the Harrismith correspondent of the *Natal Mercury*. The Town Council called a public meeting in the Town Hall to discuss the form the town's celebrations would take. Only the Mayor, Mr. Jarvis, the Assistant Town Clerk, two teachers and a Press representative attended, with the result that the town will not "officially" celebrate the Jubilee.

Silver Jubilee Remissions

Thousands of prisoners serving sentences in South African gaols, it is learned, will be set free on May 6 as a part of the South African celebrations of the King's silver jubilee but the Department of Prisons is taking every possible precaution to prevent a repetition of the wave of crime that preceded and followed a similar release of prisoners made when the Prince of Wales visited the Union in 1925.

Southern Umlazi Proclaimed Malaria District

Malaria is now a notifiable disease in the Southern Umlazi area. The proclamation has been made in the latest issue of the Government Gazette by the Minister of Public Health under Section 18 of the Public Health Act. The area covered is, "within the area of the Southern Umlazi Local Administration and the Health Board, Natal, with effect from March 16."

Union Roads Bill

The Bill to deal with national road has now been drafted by the Department of the Interior, and it will be introduced into Parliament in April. It is being considered at present by the four Provincial Administrations. Among the national roads which have been practically decided on are:

Capetown to Johannesburg by way of Kimberley.

Capetown to Natal along the garden route and via Knysna, Port Elizabeth and East London.

Johannesburg to Durban.

Port Elizabeth to Johannesburg.

East London to Johannesburg.

Education Commission To Be Appointed In Natal

A Provincial Commission is to be appointed to inquire into education in Natal

according to Colonel T. H. Blew M.P.C., for Berea. Colonel Blew stated at a public meeting in the Norwegian Hall, Umbilo Road, that he had been informed by the Executive that it was their determination to appoint a commission as soon as possible. Colonel Blew reminded the meeting that at the last session of the Provincial Council he had tabled a motion urging such a commission, but he had been persuaded to hold it over for 12 months as the Executive wished to go into the whole matter. He had now been informed that the Executive was in agreement with his proposal. Colonel Blew questioned whether the £875,000 on education in Natal last year had been spent to the best advantage. Why he asked, should an educationalist be appointed and made responsible for the expenditure of this money? He urged that the appointment should be given to a qualified man of business training, who would be responsible for the expenditure of the money. The educational details should be the concern of educationalists. Colonel Blew also expressed himself in favour of the abolition of the provincial personal tax. Interviewed after the meeting by the representative of the *Natal Advertiser*, he is reported to have stated that at the forthcoming session of the Natal Provincial Council he would definitely move the abolition of this tax.

Coloured Peoples Commission

Professor R. W. Wilcocks has been appointed chairman of the Commission of Inquiry regarding the Cape coloured population of the Union in place of the late Professor J. du Plessis. Mr. D. M. Buchanan has been appointed an additional member of the commission.

Origin Of Eid-Ul-Azha

The Moslem festival of Eid-Ul-Azha in Durban was celebrated last Saturday when hundreds of goats were sacrificed. The fact of the festival falling on a Saturday, when everyone is to a large extent free from business and professional ties, combined with the glorious weather, may account for the local mosques being overcrowded. The religious observance over the rest of the day was spent in merry-making and feasting. Mr. E. H. Ismail explained a press representative the origin of the festival of Eid-Ul-Azha, which commemorates the sacrifice of Abraham when animal life was substituted for human for sacrificial purposes. On Saturday at Mecca, notwithstanding the attempted assassination of King Ibn Saud, the famous Kaaba would have been surrounded by hundreds of thousands of devout worshippers, prostrating themselves beneath a sun which is much hotter than ours. All Moslem stores in town were closed on that day.

Edendale Veda Dharma Sabha

Bibu Fudam Singh who recently returned from India delivered a fine speech on the Vedic Religion on Monday evening March 11 under the auspices of the Veda Dharma Sabha, Edendale. The meeting took place at Mr. R. Lutchman's residence Edendale. He said that the Vedas are the most ancient religious books, and that Vedic Missionaries are today scattered in many far-flung parts of the world to preach the ancient lore and culture of India. He appealed to all present to propagate vernacular education among Indian children in South Africa. He also appealed for unity amongst the various sections of the Hindu community. In the absence of the Chairman Mr. A. M. Rambharos Varma presided. Among others present were Messrs. T. Gudar, S. Patchay, Thoosie Buneesh, Rugbeer, Sewbruth and Ragoonanun, representing the districts around Maritzburg.

Haj Pilgrims From South Africa

Those Haj pilgrims who embarking from South and East African Ports desired to travel to India after performing the pilgrimage were hitherto put to much hardship and loss of time on account of the fact that they had to wait till all pilgrims holding return tickets from India, who held a preferential claim for accommodation on board India-bound ships, had been provided for. Now, however, the Government of India have, as a result of the efforts of Mr. Hajee Ismail Ahmed Bhabha, the well-known South African, who was requested by Mr. H. S. A. Bhabha of Carolina to approach the Government in the matter, made arrangements for the convenience and conveyance of African pilgrims from Jedda to Bombay. In future, if they deposit a certain amount with the shipping company by whose ship they intend to go to the Hejaz, and the firm concerned makes arrangements with the Mogal Line's Agents at Bombay or Jedda, for the issue of the passage ticket, they shall be treated exactly like pilgrims holding return tickets from India e. g. on the "first come, first served" principle; and it will be open to them to sail to India without having to wait for all return ticket holders to be accommodated as in the past. The amount of the deposit to be made by a South and East African pilgrim, before leaving his place of origin will be as follows:—First Class Ra.290-8-0 Second Class Ra.190-8-0 Deck Ra.61-8-0 inclusive of charges for food during the voyage. For this excellent arrangements thanks are due to Mr. H. I. A. Bhabha as also to the Government of India for their kind and prompt action in alleviating immeasurable suffering and great financial loss of the African Hajees.

Union Representation At King's Jubilee

Mr. Patrick Duncan, Minister of Mines, is to accompany the Prime Minister to England next month to attend the King's Silver Jubilee celebrations. Mr. Duncan will leave South Africa on April 12, accompanied by Mrs. Duncan and by his Private Secretary, Mr. De Villiers. He will go to England in his official capacity as Minister. General Smuts will act as Prime Minister in General Hertzog's absence, but it has not yet been definitely decided who will take the Portfolio of Mines in Mr. Duncan's absence. It is believed that it will be Mr. J. H. Hofmeyr, Minister of the Interior.

The Late J. R. Maharaj

Our attention has been drawn to the following facts which did not reflect correctly in the obituary note of the late Mr. J. R. Maharaj appearing in our last week's issue. Mr. Maharaj was born in the Inanda District of Natal. When a young man he joined his father's business at Otton Bluff. On the dissolution of partnership he settled in Crement thence in Malvern. He has left eleven children: 3 boys and 2 girls of the second wife; 4 boys and 2 girls of the first wife; 2 brothers, his only sister and mother, the latter two are living in Pinetown.

Congress Deputation To See Ministers

Four members of the Natal Indian Congress left Durban last Tuesday for Johannesburg and Capetown to interview Cabinet Ministers on Indian grievances. They will be joined at Johannesburg by members of the Transvaal Indian Congress and in Capetown by Cape members.

Indian Princes to Attend King's Jubilee

The Maharajah of Bikaner has booked the first floor at the Carlton Hotel, where there will be dancing nightly in his honour. He is not bringing his own chefs but special food will be prepared for him says *Sunday Times'* London correspondent. The Maharajah is a strict Hindu, and as the ox and the cow are sacred in the Brahmin code, leather will be entirely removed from his suite—leather-seated chairs, on which he refuses to sit, and desk blotters, which he refuses to touch. The Maharajah of Patiala, who has engaged the millionaire's floor at the Savoy Hotel for himself and his suite of forty, is not only bringing his own chefs, but also livestock for his table. Each bird selected by the chefs must be blessed and cooked with due ceremony. The Maharajah of Patiala's jewels will dazzle London society. He will wear a pearl necklace of twenty-one ropes valued at £1,000,000. The Maharajah of Bikaner will bring gems worth £200,000.

[Is it any wonder that India's millions are half-starved and half-naked?—Ed.]

Mr. Roos's Central Party

At a meeting of the Witwatersrand General Council of the Central Party it was decided by a large majority to accept Mr. Tielman Roos's proposal to dissolve the Party but not to undertake to support the Government. It is understood that the majority of members of the General Council intend to throw in their lot with the Labour Party.

World Conference On Health

A Conference of world-wide importance is to be held in South Africa in November says the special Parliamentary representative of the *Natal Mercury*. I am authoritatively informed that the international health committee of the League of Nations will hold a conference in Capetown on November 2 and another in Johannesburg shortly afterwards. The leading medical authorities of some thirty nations will be represented. The Union Government will be asked to provide some of the funds. Health matters of international importance will be discussed and I understand that this conference will be followed by a pan-african conference on health.

Mr. Lakhi's Son Married

Mr. M. E. Lakhi has transported, first class, to Mauritius and back a party of nearly 50 Indian men and women as his guests at his son's wedding, which took place recently. With their host the party returned to Durban last Monday by the Houtman, and were met by a large crowd of prominent Durban Indians. The great majority of the guests were related to Mr. Lakhi who is a prominent resident of Greytown.

Richest Country In The World

An interesting reference to South Africa was made by Mr. Runciman, President of the Board of Trade, when addressing the Papermakers' Association of Britain. After emphasising Britain's prosperity and predicting even better times ahead, Mr. Runciman took his audience on what he described as a tour of the world. This is what he said about South Africa:

"Size by size, citizen by citizen, she is the richest country in the world. She has only one competitor in the output of gold; that is India, where private hoards in 172 weeks disgorged £172,000,000 of gold."

M. M. Joosub's New Business House

With the chanting of prayers in Arabic the new wholesale shop premises of Mr. E. I. Patel, trading in the firm name of M. Joosub, wholesale merchants, Market Street, Johannesburg, was opened on Friday March 15. The premises, a double-storied building with a ground foundation for five floors, cost £10,000, and it is one of the most up-to-date Indian commercial houses in Johannesburg. The firm has been in business in the city for the last 35 years.

Warwick Avenue Market

Members of the municipality's Markets Committee are to inspect the new squatters market at Warwick Avenue for the purpose of deciding what steps should be taken to improve the conditions under which produce is retailed there. This decision was taken by the committee after consideration of complaints voiced by Ward I. Ratepayers' Association which holds that faulty drainage is exposing produce to contamination; that pressure of vehicles within the market may lead to serious accidents; and that the market lacks adequate supervisory control. The appointment of a European official to take full charge of all sections of the Indian market (including the squatters' enclosure) is recommended by Mr. R. J. Westbrook (Borough Market Master). The market Committee will report on the various points raised after it has inspected the squatters market and satisfied itself on the measure of re-organisation necessary.

Southern Umlazi Health Board Meeting

At the adjourned monthly meeting of the Southern Umlazi Health Board held in the Boardroom, Warner Beach, on March 11, when Mr. Nelson Palmer presided, the secretary was instructed to inform the Clairwood Indian School and Debating Society that if one or more of its officials paid a visit by appointment to Warner Beach a site, suitable for its Easter annual picnic between Warner Beach and St. Winifreds Beach could be agreed upon by them and the Board's inspector. The Sanitary Inspector submitted a report on the Indian barracks at Illovo, which arose through a written complaint from the Protector of Indian Immigrants. Mr. B. Pearce informed the Board that the Board of the Illovo Sugar Estates would deal with the matter at its next meeting.

The Rope Trick

R. Jayaraj Singh writing from 27, Market Street, Johannesburg, states that he has not been to Rhodesia nor has he applied for permission to go there. He states that he is a magician and has demonstrated his magic in different parts of South Africa and was born in Sea Cow Lake and educated in the Indian Government School, Umgeni; he is a professor in Palmistry and Phrenology. He wishes to take up the challenge of Lord Amphil of £50,000 to do the rope trick. In our issue of Dec. 21, 1934 we reproduced a report from *Bombay Chronicle* of its Pretoria correspondent describing in detail Jayaraj Singh and his magic.

Wanted

A TEACHER to fill in the third grade post at the Arya Yuvak Sabha School. Apply with qualifications to:

B. M. SINGH, Mayville.

RHODESIA.

NEWS IN BRIEF

(FROM OUR BULAWAYO CORRESPONDENT)

CRICKET

A CRICKET match was played between Indians and Coloureds resulting in a draw. Scores: First inning: Indians 54, Coloured 25; Second inning: Indians 68, Coloured 50 and three wickets.

BULAWAYO TEAM FOR SALISBURY

A meeting of the local Cricket Club was held at Mr. V. N. Desai's residence. Mr. V. B. Nagrani presided. The following gentlemen were appointed to accompany the Bulawayo team to Salisbury. Mr. V. N. Desai, Manager; Mr. L. G. Patel, scorer; Mr. P. R. Vaghmaria, Umpire; Mr. M. V. Naik, treasurer. It was decided that every member should pay his own travelling expenses.

ARRIVALS

Mr. Bhikhoobhai of Messrs. Morarjee Bhikhoobhai & Co. of Salisbury and several other Rhodesian friends have arrived from India by the *s. s. Karanja*.

SAFE DEPOSIT

Some little while back an Indian gardener from Katiwar farming at Shabani, S. Rhodesia, deposited a sum of money as "safe" deposit by burying it

in a hole dug in his room. The amount which was to the extent of two hundred and some odd pounds, says a correspondent from Que Que, was made up of all notes and enclosed in a wooden box. After some months had elapsed he wanted to take out his hidden treasure. To his great horror he discovered that all the notes were eaten by white ants.

NEW RHODESIAN HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

The Southern Rhodesia Parliament has adopted a private member's motion that the Minister of Public Works should submit to the House before the next ordinary session of Parliament plans obtained by public competition of further administration offices and a new House of Assembly. The motion was accepted by the Government on the understanding that the competition be open to architects beyond the borders of the Colony, several members, particularly of the Labour Party, having urged that the competition be confined to the Colony.

THE SPEAKER

Mr. A. R. Welsh (U.P., Bulawayo North) was nominated as Speaker by the

Prime Minister, Mr. G. M. Huggins. Mr. E. W. L. Noaks (U.P., Mazoe) was elected Deputy Speaker and chairman of committees

SCHOOL FOR RHODESIAN NATIVES

It was announced at the annual meeting at Salisbury of the Rhodesian Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church of South Africa, says Reuter, that by the will of the late Mr. B. K. Gloag, formerly of Bulawayo and latterly of Capetown, 3,000 morgen of ground near Bembesi, a plot of ground of 100 acres at Vimy Ridge, near Bulawayo, together with the residue of his estate had been bequeathed to the Presbyterian Church of South Africa for the purpose of building a school on the farm for the education of natives in Southern Rhodesia.

RHODESIA LOTTERIES BILL

The State Lotteries Bill passed the second reading in the Southern Rhodesian Parliament last Tuesday afternoon.

FORMER MAYOR OF BULAWAYO DEAD

Mr. William Maver, who has been a Town Councillor of Bulawayo since 1928 and twice Mayor, died on March 19.

THINGS IN GENERAL

Social And Personal

Mr. F. A. Laughton, K.C., and Mrs. Laughton, of Dundee, left Durban on Thursday by the *Armadale Castle* on a holiday visit to Great Britain.

Mr. Diwan of the well-known firm of Messrs. Teikamdas Bros. of Port Elizabeth and Mrs. Diwan sailed last Monday by the *Karanja* for India.

Mr. S. M. Desai, ex-secretary of the Transvaal Indian Congress, arrived on Thursday March 14 at Johannesburg from India.

A farewell reception was accorded to Mr. S. R. Sydney by the Bharathi Society at the Railway Compound, Greyville, Durban on his departure for India. There were many members and friends present to bid him adieu.

The death anniversary of the late Mr. Solomon David of Estcourt who was a very keen and a very popular sportsman will be celebrated tomorrow, March 23

Mayville District Indian Football Association

The following teams were affiliated to the Association: Overport Rangers, Cato Stars, Mayville, Schools and Stella Hill. In the local competitions the following Clubs have been successful winners:— Seniors. Mahomed Ebrahim's League Cup—Mayville F. C.; R. S. K. Singh's Cup—Overport Rangers F. C.; Dalys Ltd Suncrush Shield—Cato Stars F. C.; (District Finalists) Bodha's Memorial League Cup—Mayville F. C. (District Finalists). There were 21 Committee Meetings held during this year. The Association places on record its appreciation and gratitude to Mr. B. Naidoo in the sporting manner in which he came to the rescue year in and year out in letting us have his ground free of rent. Thanks are also due to Mr. R. K. Kapitan for granting us the free use of his balcony for the holding of our meetings.

OFFICIALS FOR 1935

Patrons. Messrs. B. M. Singh and B. Naidoo, President. Mr. S. R. Peters, Hon. Life Vice Presidents. Messrs. E. M. Chin, R. L. Munpath, N. M. Reddy, S. Rajpaul, A. K. E. Bux, S. R. Peters, R. S. K. Singh, S. M. Naidoo, C. D. Boulton, and K. M. Govender, Vice Presidents. Messrs. S. P. Pillay, L. Kris Naidoo, R. Mahabeer, P. Mannie, R. Baichar, T. P. Pillay, and Nadasan Peters, Hon. Secretary. Mr. R. Mahabeer, Hon. Assistant Secretary. Mr.

S. P. Pillay, Hon. Treasurer. Mr. S. P. Pillay, Hon. Record Clerk. Mr. S. P. Joseph, Hon. Auditor. Mr. R. Regnath, Councillors to N. I. F. A. Messrs. S. Rajpaul, S. R. Peters and S. P. Pillay.

Why Should Germany Lag Behind

Germany has sprung a dramatic surprise on the European Powers by announcing that compulsory military service is to be enforced immediately. The new army which is to be established will consist of 12 army corps of 36 divisions. Dr. Goebbels, the Minister of Propaganda, acting as Herr Hitler's spokesman, has issued a proclamation in which France, Britain and Russia are blamed for the action which Germany has decided to take. A grave view of Germany's action is taken in London, Paris and Washington; in Rome, it is stated that this move on the part of Berlin was not unexpected. Meanwhile the first enrolments under the new Conscription Law begin on April, comprising those born in 1914. Everyone between 21 and 25 is liable for recruitment. Those between 25 and 30 will be transferred to the reserve and required to undergo military training of six weeks during two consecutive years.

INDIA LETTER

GANDHIJI'S TITLE FOR GREATNESS

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT]

MR. BHULABHAI DESAI, addressing the students of Punjab said: "However proud you may be of the poets Tagore and Mrs. Naidu, of scientists, Raman and Bose, the greatest of them all—I say so with great humility and agreeing with Dr Rabindranath Tagore himself—is Mahatma Gandhi. And why is he great? He is great not because he has greater intellect, than other men, he is great not because he is great in his individual personal achievements, he is great not because he was a great lawyer, not because he is a great poet he is great because he appeals to the most vital factor in human life, the freedom of the spirit and self-respect. It is he who has made the greatest in the land equal to the meanest and that is great democracy not merely equality between ourselves but equality of us all with the free races of the world. It is for that, that God has given him to you and if you do not miss this chance of tallying yourselves behind the greatest soul force that has been created in order that your individual soul may be ignited, dead and paralysed though it may be, in the great spark of that national force then alone you would have lived your life well."

DOCTOR RAMAN ON HANDICRAFTS

Sir C. V. Raman opened the Industrial and Agricultural Exhibition in Mysore. Declaring the Exhibition open, the great scientist said that the heart of the country was not made up of its great cities. It was made up of the humble villages and the small towns, which had a desire to improve themselves and make themselves seen, heard and felt. India had long been the home of beautiful handicrafts. It was worthwhile for scientists to remember that though scientific knowledge had advanced by leaps and bounds, the handicrafts had not really moved so much in the past 5000 years. The glory and the grandeur of the ancient handicrafts remained stationary. What was happening was that the onward march of civilisation and machine-production resulted in the substitution of ugly mass-producing things in the place of beautiful handicrafts. He appealed to every one to see that the old handicrafts were not washed out by the progress of the machine.

U. S. CONSUL AND PARTY KILLED IN MOTOR ACCIDENT

Mr. Le Roy Webber, the American Consul in Madras and Mr. and Mrs. Estey, along with the driver were killed on the spot when their car crashed

against a roadside tree on their way to Mahabalipuram near Madras.

GODREJ'S SUIT AGAINST "BOMBAY CHRONICLE"

Damage of Rs. 50,000 are claimed from the Bombay Chronicle Company, Ltd., by the Godrej Soaps, Ltd., in the suit at the Bombay High Court. The suit arose from the statement published in the "Chronicle" quoting the opinion of the chemical analyst of the Mysore State Soap Factory to the effect that no soap factory could do without foreign tallow.

DISCOVERY OF PYGMY FOSSIL

Sensational discoveries in the realm of anthropology have been made as a result of excavations made at Vadnagar in the Maha Mehsana district of the Baroda State. The discoveries are likely to affect current theories regarding the cradle-land of the human race. The fossil remains of a pigmy man, 15 inches in height, and a pigmy cow, about 18 inches in height, have been discovered on the site of a pre-historic step-well. The extinct race of pygmies must have been much more diminutive in size than the Obongo, Akka and Batwa in Central Africa, known to be the smallest human beings and varying in height from four to five feet.

GENERAL SMUTS AS INDIA'S VICEROY?

There is a rumour afloat that General Smuts is to be the next Viceroy for India in the place of Lord Willingdon whose term of office expires next year. The other likely names mentioned for the post are Sir John Anderson, Governor of Bengal, and the ex-Governor General of the Union the Earl of Athlone who is at present in India with Princess Alice.

MR. K P MENON'S REPORT

I feel constrained to remark that the cumulative effect of the legislation discussed above is the squeezing out of the Native of India from regions in which he has established himself under every security of public faith," says Mr. K. P. S. Menon, I.C.S., in the course of his report on the recent legislation passed by the Government of Zanzibar on Indian interests. Mr Menon was deputed by the Government of India on August 6 last to proceed to Zanzibar and enquire into and report upon the effect on Indian interests of the following decrees passed by the Zanzibar Government:

1. The Alienation of land (Restriction and Evidence) Decree 1934.
2. The Moneylenders' (Amendment) Decree, 1934.

3. The Clove Growers' Association Decree, 1934
4. The Clove Exporters' Decree, 1934
5. The Adulteration of Produce, Decree, 1934.
6. The Agricultural Produce Export Decree, 1934.

NOTICE

IN THE MAGISTRATE'S COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF DURBAN HELD AT DURBAN

Case No. 1897/35.

Between: RAMSAMY DOORSAMY PILLAY, Plaintiff, and SODAGOPU NAIDU, Defendant.

To SODAGOPU NAIDU:

Take notice that Summons has been issued against you out of this Court by RAMSAMY DOORSAMY PILLAY of 546 Main Road, Roseburgh, for the sum of Ninety Five Pounds Sixteen Shillings (£95. 16. 0.) being as to Thirty Six Pounds (£36) rent due by you to the Plaintiff for a room occupied by your Wife, SOWBAIKUM, Forty Six Pounds (£46) the amount expended by the Plaintiff in the maintenance of your said Wife, Twelve Pounds Six Shillings (£12. 6. 0.) the hospital and operation charges paid by the Plaintiff in respect of an operation performed on the said SOWBAIKUM at Kearney Hospital and as to One Pound Ten Shillings (£1. 10. 0.) medicines purchased by the Plaintiff for the said SOWBAIKUM, you having contracted with the Plaintiff to lodge your wife in the Plaintiff's House at the rate of One Pound Ten Shillings (£1. 10. 0.) per month, and having failed to make any payment for a period of twenty four months (24), and costs of this action, and that an Order has been made that the publication of notice of such Summons shall be deemed to be good and sufficient service of the Summons on you.

You are required to enter an Appearance to the Summons on or before the 11th day of April 1935, and, if you do not do so Judgement will be given against you in your absence.

The whole cause of action arose within the District of Durban.

Dated at Durban this 13th day of March 1935.

(Sgd) R. F. ROSS
Clerk of the Court.

W. B. CALDER, WOODHEAD & CALDER,
Plaintiff's Attorneys.

W. B. Calder, Woodhead & Calder,
Plaintiff's Attorneys,
Old Well Court,
Smith Street, Durban.