

# INDIAN OPINION

Founded by  
MAHATMA GANDHI  
IN 1903

No. 25.—Vol. XXXIII

Friday, June 21st, 1935

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

## NOTES AND NEWS

### Springfield Estate Indians Saved

The following letter from the Town Clerk, Durban, dated June 12, received by Mr. J. Bharathram, Hon. Secretary Springfield Estates Committee will bring relief to the Indian Market Gardeners at the Springfield Estate whose existence was threatened owing to the application of the Durban Turf Club for the lease of land presently occupied by them:—

Dear Sir,

I received your letter of the 27th May 1935, on the subject of the Springfield Estate.

Your letter was considered by the Finance Committee at its meeting held on the 6th instant, and in view of the fact that the Durban Turf Club has withdrawn its application for the lease of land at Springfield, the Committee has agreed to take no further action. In the event, however, of the Turf Club's application being revived, the Committee has agreed that deputations from your Organisations be heard in support of the resolutions submitted by you.

Yours faithfully,  
A. O. JONES,  
Town Clerk.

### For The First Time In The History Of Indians

The meeting held on June 9, in Johannesburg in connection with the Quetta earthquake in which over a £1,000 were collected within thirty minutes was unique in that it was presided over for the first time in the history of Indians in South Africa by a Cabinet Minister Mr. J. H. Hofmeyr. The Agent of the Government of India Sir Syed Raza Ali, we understand, was to have presided but with his request and at the invitation of the Indian community Mr. J. H. Hofmeyr had very kindly consented to accept the chair. In the opening remarks Mr. Hofmeyr referred to the "sad event by which we have all been shocked" and said that India was from time to time struck by disasters the magnitude of which appalled the world. It was such a disaster that had brought them together to enable them, with millions of others, to express their sorrow and grief. Such

calamities levelled all barriers and made them realise their common humanity, which transcended race and creed and class. The sympathies of all peoples of the world went out to stricken Baluchistan at the present time. All felt with them in their sore distress. In his concluding remarks Mr. Hofmeyr said: "I am glad to have been here, much as I regret the occasion that has brought us here, for this meeting will play its part in bringing about a better understanding and sympathy between the people of India and the people of South Africa."

### His Excellency's Sympathy

The very generous gesture on the part of his Excellency the Governor-General and the Countess of Clarendon in visiting the Indian sufferers from the floods in the Clairwood district last week to express to them their sympathy and to acquaint themselves with the work being carried out for their relief will we have no doubt be profoundly appreciated by the whole Indian community.

### A Borough Duty

In the course of a leading article under the above caption the *Natal Advertiser* writes: "Might not one reasonably ask whether the Town Council also visited those distressed people and saw at first hand what His Excellency saw—the utter helplessness of thousands of people whose final ruin might have come to pass if the rains last week had continued for a few more hours? Does the Town Council of Durban—which, in the last resort, means the people of Durban—realise that had such a calamity come about, the deaths of its victims would have been on the heads of the community?" "To-day the ordinary housewife is complaining that vegetables are scarce and dear, and she is impatient for the moment when conditions will get normal again. But while their industry is essential, we give small thought to the fact that crazy shacks on the lower reaches of a river bank are not fit places for human beings to live in; especially human beings who are quite as useful to the community as some of the lords of human kind who leave on the Berea."

### Death Of Mrs. Pywell

We deeply regret to record the sad death, which took place last week at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. A. H. West at Currie Road, of Mrs. Pywell, mother of Mrs. A. H. West. The name of the late Mrs. Pywell, who was over 90 years of age, is closely attached to the Phoenix Settlement. She was for many years resident here when Mahatma Gandhi was in South Africa and there was a large number of Settlers. Mrs. Pywell was known and respected by young and old alike as the Grandmother. Notwithstanding her old age, in manual labour, which was the order of the day for all, Mrs. Pywell put to shame many a young man and woman. She was all activity and no rest. Even in her Durban home up till recently with her failing eyes and ears her feet and hands which bore the mark of not frailty but energy were always at work. Though she has gone she has left behind for all those who pretend to be aged to do any work a legacy of industry an activity. Mrs. Pywell was much to the inmates of the Phoenix Settlement but she was much more to Mr. and Mrs. West. We extend to them and the bereaved family our deepest sympathy.

### Afrikaner's Nationalism

In the course of his speech recently in the Church Hall at Riebeeck Kasteel Dr. D. F. Malan, the Nationalist leader, is reported by Reuter to have said, that he had come to reason principally with those Nationalists who were attracted by the idea of political peace.

The Afrikaner people had not obtained a single thing which was worth possessing without a struggle and they would obtain nothing worth while without further struggles. Language equality, independence everything the Afrikaner nation had attained had been attained by a struggle that had persisted day after day and year after year.

## Indian Opinion

FRIDAY, JUNE 21ST, 1935

### THE AGENT'S ACTIVITIES

Whatever the struggle had cost in sacrifice, in blood and in tears the Afrikaner nation remained true to itself. It had resolutely declined to take the easier path of peace.

"The path of peace is often the way of death, but the path of strife is often the path of progress and life" said Dr. Malan.

By strife he did not mean that they should abuse and vilify their political opponents. Their cause was too strong to require anything of that kind, provided they remained loyal to that cause.

The enemies against whom they had always fought—capitalism and imperialism the un-national and anti-national elements of South Africa—were divided against themselves. General Hertzog and General Smuts themselves still differed and admitted their differences on a number of fundamental issues, which meant that the enemies of nationalism had not yet been overcome.

#### Motive Behind Fusion

Dr. Malan declared further:

"That the motive behind Fusion was not a pure motive. It was animated by capitalism, which had always sought to rule South Africa in order to have control of South Africa's mineral wealth. For years they had followed a policy of "divide and rule," and made every effort to split the Nationalist Party.

The means adopted by Imperialism to attain their end was to approach the leader of the Nationalist section of the people and offer him their support. If he accepted that support, he was lost as far as his own people were concerned. That had happened to General Botha, when Merriman had stood down to allow him to become Prime Minister. Merriman had not become Prime Minister, because England did not want him to be Prime Minister. Sir Thomas Smartt, leader of the Unionists, had similarly made way for General Smuts, who thus had become more than ever the handyman of the Empire.

Students of Indian politics will no doubt see in this a parallel in India. We take special note of the following words of Dr. Malan:

**"The path of peace is often the way of death, but the path of strife is often the path of progress and life."**

This is a maxim which the Indian community may well take to heart. That strife should, of course, be non-violent in spirit and in action.

**W**E heartily welcome Sir Syed Razed Ali, Agent of the Government of India, who is once again in our midst and has come to stay here a few months. We did not have the opportunity of coming in close touch with him when he first landed here as he was able to spend only a few days. He was then a stranger in so far as the performance of his new duties was concerned. But he is no longer a stranger. Both in the Cape and in the Transvaal Sir Sayed Raza Ali was given a very hearty welcome by his Indian brethren as well as the European community. He has not had the misfortune of hearing a discordant note in the course of his responsible task so far and he comes back to Durban full of hope.

The Quetta earthquake had taken much of his time in the Transvaal and we are happy to note that the Agent was not only highly successful in getting a brilliant response from the Indian community but also in enlisting the sympathy of a large number of Europeans. The Agent came to Durban with the hope of getting as good a response from the local Indian community but nature had ordained it otherwise. On coming to Durban he found that the heavy rains had caused considerable damage to the properties and crops of thousands of poor Indians who were in need of sympathy. Sir Sayed Raza Ali has therefore engaged himself wholeheartedly from the moment of his arrival in trying to find ways and means for the relief of the distressed in the last week's floods. The Agent has evinced personal interest in their grief by giving them a free meal last Wednesday

which act we have no doubt will be appreciated by the Indian community. The Agent is also moving in connection with the Rural Dealers Licensing Ordinance which is awaiting the assent of the Governor-General and which has caused a great deal of consternation among the Indian community. It remains to be seen how far the Agent's efforts will be successful.

There are besides, the question of fair and just administration of the Slums Act, the evil effects of the Transvaal Licences (Control) Ordinance and the Asiatic Land Tenure Act Commission Report, which is expected to be published very soon, that will require the very serious attention of the Agent and we can but sympathise with him in the onerous task facing him in his not too good a health. It would be well for the leaders of the various sections of the community to sink their personal differences and unite to work for a common and greater cause and thus lighten the burden of the Agent. In this connection we are glad to note that the Agent has not neglected a section of the people to favour another and that he has been consistently making efforts to bring about the much needed unity. What we need in this country, indeed what we are hungry for, is not the wooden type of bureaucratic officialdom but true and selfless leadership. We know Sir Syed Raza Ali has not the former for he has never been an official. We therefore look to him for the latter and granted that and the leaders prove themselves worthy of it there is no reason to despair about the future.

# LAST WEEK'S DAMAGING RAINS

## 2,000 INDIANS RENDERED HOMELESS

LAST week's incessant and torrential rains which lasted from Tuesday up to Thursday morning gave one the fear of a deluge coming over the earth. But if it did come over the earth it certainly did not come over thousands of people mostly Indians and Africans throughout the country who were living in poorly built mud or grass huts or wood and iron shacks homeless. It is difficult for anyone to get an estimate, anywhere near accurate, of the damage caused to the poorest class of people living in country sides or near the rivers.

There has been extensive damage to roads and Market gardens and rail routes were also broken up in some places.

The consoling factor, however, is that while extensive material damage has been caused very few lives have been lost.

Indians have been in for rather bad luck by these rains. One is grimly reminded from what has happened that it is not only an earthquake that caused damage but the rain can cause just as much damage.

Reports go to show that Indians living in shanties in Mayville, Sydenham, Springfield flats, had suffered a great deal owing to their places being flooded. But the worst damage was caused on the South Coast with the rising of the Umhlatuzana River. The following description of it is culled from the *Natal Mercury*.

Many Indians who thought they were above the danger line were dismayed when the Umhlatuzana River began steadily to widen its banks, until shacks tottered on the edges. Then out-houses were swept away. It is not thought that more than four or five houses were destroyed but dozens were standing precariously on the edge of the River.

Once the danger was appreciated the Indian community rose to the occasion with very adequate rescue measures. Splendid work was done by the Clairwood Indian Social Service Committee, with the aid of bus owners. Every available bus lumbered through the broken and flooded paths to pick up refugees, who were concentrated first at a temple and then at the Clairwood Indian School.

Dozens of Indian-driven cars and buses were speeding to the rescue, sending great clouds of spray as they ploughed through the water in rain that fell in sheets.

In a big shed at the back of a temple hundreds of women and children, drenched to the skin and shivering, crouched round hastily lit fires and were served out with steaming tea and bread.

Round them were all their possessions, hastily salvaged. The men were outside, gazing at the ruins of their vegetable plots and their threatened homes.

Anxious vigil was kept during the night at Clairwood, where the Indian Social Service Committee had arranged to send out the Alarm in case of further flooding.

### Relief Work

Sir Syed Raza Ali, Agent of the Government of India who arrived in Durban from Johannesburg last Friday addressed at Clairwood on Saturday afternoon a number of Indians rendered destitute by the recent floods, and promised to approach the Durban Town Council in an effort to exchange the lowlying land for that on a higher level.

### Sympathy Of Lord And Lady Clarendon

Their Excellencies the Governor-General and the Countess of Clarendon visited the Clairwood Government-aided Indian School for boys on the main South Coast Road, Rosburgh and the Clairwood Government-aided Indian School for girls, adjoining accompanied by His Worship the Mayor and Mr. Stead, in order to express their sympathy with the Indian sufferers from the recent floods, and to acquaint themselves with the work being carried out for their relief.

He told the Indians not to despair but to set to work and rehabilitate themselves.

More than 2,000 Indians are homeless and are being rationed with rice, dholl, oil, salt, potatoes, onions and curry powder.

Information regarding the extent of the damage to property is being collected by the Indian Social Service Committee and a fund has been opened.

Organisations which are giving help include the South Coast Area Advisory Committee, the Natal Indian Congress and H. S. Done, Headmaster of the Clairwood Government-Aided school, and his staff.

Except in the centre of the flats the position at Clairwood has returned to normal, and Indians are now busy attempting to repair the ravages to their vegetable gardens. Most of them have returned to their homes with the exception of a few whose shacks have been left standing precariously at the edges of the newly formed banks of the Umhlatuzana River.

The depot is at the Clairwood Indian School, and 326 families are being assisted. Clothes and blanket are much in demand.

Mr. M. A. Karim, chairman of the Advisory Committee, acknowledges with thanks the following donations:

	£	s.	d.
E. M. Paruk ... ..	25	0	0
A. M. Lockhat ... ..	25	0	0
M. A. Karim ... ..	25	0	0
J. Williamson ... ..	2	2	0
J. T. Cooper and Company ...	5	5	0
C. N. Rana ... ..	3	3	0
A friend ... ..	1	0	0

£ 86 10 0

The following further contributions in kind have been received: M. A. Motala, 10 bags of rice; Lowthers Ltd., 80 loaves of bread; Mohamed Ebrahim, 5 bags rice; Bakers Ltd., 80 loaves bread.

### High Prices For Vegetables

High Market prices for vegetables will be the rule in Durban for the next two or three months, says the *Natal Mercury* according to well-informed source on the Borough market. "The public little realises how dependent it is on the Indian Market gardener," said an official. "Large areas of their carefully built up gardens have been washed away by the floods, and these would not be established again for a considerable time."

### Council To Consider Financial Help

The question of the Durban Town Council giving financial assistance to the Indians at Clairwood whose properties have been damaged by the floods was to be considered at a meeting of the Council-in-Committee yesterday.

The Mayor, Dr. S. Copley, has submitted a letter for the consideration of Councillors in which he states that he met a deputation of Indians on Monday. They claimed that 2,000 had suffered damage to their properties and that £4,324 was needed to repair the loss. At least 40 Indian dwellings will have to be re-erected.

### Central Depot

The deputation suggested to Dr. Copley that a central depot be established at the Clairwood Indian School to distribute food and clothing for the next three months, and that seeds be purchased and planted to enable Indians to restock their washed-out gardens. It was further proposed that the Agent of the Government of India on behalf of the Government, Mr. A. G. Stead, on behalf of the Immigration Department, and the Town Council co-operate to obtain the necessary fund.

In a letter to the Town Clerk, Mr. A. G. Stead asks what is the position of Indians whose shacks have been destroyed by the floods. Under the Borough by-laws they are prohibited from erecting new ones.

### Free Dinner By The Agent

Sir Syed Raza Ali, Agent of the Government of India provided free meals for the sufferers from the recent floods at noon on Wednesday in the grounds of the Clairwood Indian School.

# RURAL DEALERS LICENSING LAW AMENDMENT ORDINANCE

## CONGRESS MAKES REPRESENTATIONS

IN a memorandum submitted by it to the Minister of the Interior the deputation of the Natal Indian Congress states:

We apprehend that this Ordinance may be applied to the detriment of legitimate Indian interests, if indeed it is not directly aimed at the Indian community, and we ask accordingly that His Excellency the Governor General be advised to withhold assent.

2. The Natal Indian Congress protests against sections 1, 2, and 4 of the new ordinance, and the nature of its objection to each is explained in the following paragraphs:

### Section 1.

3. Section 16 of the Rural Dealers Licensing Law Amendment Ordinance No. 4 of 1923. (hereafter referred to as the principal ordinance) provides that when an application for a licence is before a Licensing Board, "any person resident within the area of the Board or within five miles from the premises sought to be licensed, or owning or occupying similarly licensed premises within the same district, or any officer or member of a police force, may lodge objections to oppose any licence..."

Section 1 of the new ordinance extends the scope of the section just quoted by empowering a Local Administration and Health Board to oppose the granting of any licence, and in doing so, particularises two grounds on which such opposition may be based. The first ground is that "the business which it is proposed to carry on is calculated to depreciate the value of the property in the vicinity;" the second ground is that the business is calculated "to interfere with the health or comfort of occupiers of property in a locality which is wholly or in greater part confined to residential occupation."

4. It will be seen that section 1 of the new ordinance introduces two new and distinct features into section 16 of the principal ordinance. It empowers a local body to oppose the grant of a new licence, whereas the existing ordinance (except for the reference to any officer or member of a Police Force) contemplates opposition only from private individuals and it particularises grounds on which opposition may be based, whereas the existing ordinance refers to opposition and objections in general terms without specifying their nature.

5. Neither of these new features is in our opinion necessary. Discretion to grant or refuse a licence is already vested by the principal ordinance in one

public body, namely, the Rural Licensing Board. It may reasonably be assumed that that body takes and will take all legitimate public interests into consideration when discharging its functions, without the advice or assistance of another public body. The provision in question, however, is something more than legislative superfluity. To assign to one body the role of advocates before another public body charged with quasi-judicial functions is to place both bodies in a false position. Inevitably, the views of the Local Administration and Health Board will be accorded more weight than those of a private individual and the tendency will be for its views to be accepted by the Licensing Board. In other words the Local Administration and Health Board will, in cases in which it appears, tend to become the *de facto* licensing authority.

6. Similarly, when the Licensing Board is vested with discretion to grant or refuse licences, and when it is empowered in general terms to hear objections to the grant of a licence, there appears to be no need to particularise the nature of objections. If the objection now detailed in section 1 of the new ordinance are valid public objections, there is no reason why the Licensing Board should not take them into consideration without their being specified by the law; indeed, it is presumably its duty to do so.

7. But if these two features considered separately, are unnecessarily taken together they become positively objectionable. If the business sought to be licensed is likely "to depreciate the value of property in the vicinity," it is essentially a private interest that is involved. The proper persons to take objections are the owners of the property affected, and this they may do under Section 16 of the principal ordinance as it stands. To invest a public body with the function of nursing a private interest, with the concomitant right to spend public money on behalf of that private interest, is a misuse of legislative power. When moreover such legislative provision is aimed at a community which is not represented on the legislative body, its injustice is intensified.

8. The Congress feels that these considerations must have been imperfectly appreciated by the Natal Provincial Council, or it would surely have hesitated to pass this measure. If property owners feel that their interests are threatened, it is for them, as the existing law provides to represent their case as

private individuals to the Licensing Board. In the same way the Indian trader may, in his efforts to earn a living, answer their case for himself. But the Congress asks that a public body be not invested with the function of representing the interests of property owner. It should be remembered that in all probability their interests will be represented on the public body concerned while Indian interests are represented neither on the Local Administration and Health Board nor on the Rural Licensing Board.

9. Similar considerations apply to the second ground of objection embodied in section 1 of the new ordinance. It is no doubt the duty of a Local Administration and Health Board to consider the effect of a business on the health of the neighbourhood. This, however, it already has power to do under the ordinance from which it derives its authority, namely, the "Local Urban Area Administration Ordinance," No. 4 of 1926. But in so far as considerations of public health should be applied at the time the grant of a licence is in question, the Licensing Board can be trusted to give them due weight and if necessary to seek expert advice. It is in fact established practice for licence applications to be referred by the Licensing Board to the Local Administration and Health Board (or other local authority concerned) for report by its medical or sanitary officer as to the fitness of the applicant's premises.

But the inclusion of the word "comfort" in section 1 of the new ordinance, introduces considerations which may cover private interests as well as public interests. A man may, for example, be made "uncomfortable" by a prejudice. But is the ventilation of prejudices to be entrusted to public bodies and financed by public funds. In so far as "comfort" may be legitimate public interest there is no reason to suppose that the Licensing Board will not take into consideration without being prompted to do so by another public body. But in so far as "comfort" may be no more than a private interest, it can and should be represented in a private capacity by those who consider their comfort to be affected.

### Section 2.

10. The Congress has some difficulty in understanding the implications of section 2 of the ordinance, couched as it is in general terms. It provides that if a licensing board "is of opinion that

there is already within a particular area a sufficient number of trades or businesses of the class in respect of which a certificate is sought, or for any other reason authorise the issue of a licence subject to restrictions as may be agreed to by the applicant, defining and limiting the nature of the business to be carried on under such licence." (This section is, we observe, added to section 17 of the principal ordinance as if it followed naturally from the provisions of section 17, whereas in actual fact it deals with an entirely different matter.)

11 Although however the precise implications of the section are not clear, the Congress has little doubt that the section will be used against Indian applicants for a licence and is intended so to be used. Recent cases in Durban illustrate this apprehension. (The action in Durban was of course taken under the Boroughs Ordinance of 1924 and not under the Rural Dealers Licensing Law Amendment Ordinance). An Indian was given a licence for a motor garage but it was stipulated that he should not sell petrol. Another Indian was granted a licence for a manufacture of clothing but it was stipulated that he should manufacture and sell only to Indians. In a third case a general dealer's licence was granted to an Indian subject to the condition that he should stock and sell only Indian groceries.

Further, there have been several cases in which hawkers' licences have been issued subject to the condition that the hawker should sell only to non-Europeans.

12. Restrictions and conditions of this nature are manifestly unfair. Moreover, the Congress considers that the existence of a sufficient number of trades or businesses of the class in respect of which a licence is sought (the only ground particularised in section 2 of the new ordinance) is no justification for the imposition of restrictions or conditions. It is noteworthy in this respect that this is precisely the ground, on which, under sub-section 5 of section 7 of the Transvaal Licences (Control) Ordinance, 1931, the Transvaal Administrator is empowered to overrule a local authority and issue a certificate where the local authority has refused it. In other words, what is held to be no ground for refusing a licence in the Transvaal is considered a reason for restricting a licence in Natal.

13 One further observation is necessary in regard to section 2 of the new ordinance. It provides that the conditions or restrictions must be agreed to by the applicant for a licence, and it was suggested to a deputation of the Congress which gave evidence before the Select Committee that this provision

was designed to assist the applicant. The Congress considers that it will have a contrary effect in practice; for if the applicant is unwilling to accept any conditions or restrictions suggested by the Board, his application will presumably be refused. Indeed, perhaps the intention of the section, obscurely expressed as it is, is to make it easier for the Board to refuse a licence when the only ground for doing so is the dubious one that sufficient businesses of a like nature already exist.

14. The Congress further suggests that provincial legislation designed to restrict and condition licences is in conflict with legislation passed by the Union Parliament, namely, the Licences Consolidation Act No. 32 of 1925. For example, we have referred in paragraph 11 above to the recent case of the issue of a motor garage licence in Durban subject to the

## Natal Indian Congress

### Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the Natal Indian Congress will be held at the Parsee Rustomjee Hall, 140, Queen Street, Durban, on Sunday the 7th day of July 1935 at 2-30 p. m.

All members are requested to attend.

Agenda:— 1. Minutes 2. Secretaries Report 3. Financial Statement 4. Amendment of Rules 5. Election of Officials 9. General.

ASHWIN CHOWDREE

T. N. BHOOLA

Joint Hon. Secretaries.

N. B. Members are requested to pay their subscriptions to entitle them to participate in the Meeting.

condition that the licensee shall not sell petrol. Under item 15 of schedule 2 to the Licences Consolidation Act the holder of a motor garage licence shall be entitled to sell thereunder petrol, oil, tyres and other motor accessories....." Similarly, any restriction as to the classes of goods which a licensee may sell under a general dealers licence may, we apprehend, be in conflict with item 11 of schedule 2 to the Licences Consolidation Act. We are also of opinion that any limitation to the effect that a licensee may sell only to a particular class of persons, such as non-Europeans, is *ultra vires* of the Licences Consolidation Act. Finally, we are in grave doubt whether a provincial legislature has the power to "define and limit" the nature of the business to be carried on under a licence included in the schedules to the Licences Consolidation Act. We

earnestly request the Honourable Minister to be good enough to have the validity of this ordinance examined in the light of the above observations.

### Section 4.

The Congress also takes exception to section 4 of the new ordinance. This introduces a new requirement in that, unless an applicant for a licence appears before the Licensing Board in person or by a whole-time employee, he must be represented by counsel or attorney of the Supreme Court of Natal. This imposes an unnecessary burden on the poor applicant. The grant of a licence is purely an administrative matter to be decided by an administrative body, and its adjudication does not necessarily require the assistance of counsel or attorney. As matters stand, the poor applicant may be represented if he chooses by agents who are well versed in the licensing laws and who do not charge the same scale of fees as a lawyer. In our opinion there is no need whatever for this new provision, which will bear hardly on the poorer class of Indians who desire to take out a licence for a petty business.

16. In paragraph 12 above we have drawn attention to the inconsistency between the new ordinance and the Transvaal Licences (Control) Ordinance on the question whether the existence of a sufficient number of businesses of one kind affords justification for refusing or restricting a licence for a similar business.

We submit that this inconsistency, and indeed this fresh piece of Natal legislation as a whole, pointedly illustrates the need for the revision of the licensing laws on an all-Union basis as contemplated in the Capetown Agreement of 1927 between the Union Government and the Government of India. The South African Indian Congress has repeatedly drawn attention to this provision of the Capetown Agreement, and we desire to do so once again. The Indian community is vitally interested in the licensing laws, for many Indians live by trade. But these laws are not only directed and administered against Indians in a spirit of racial discrimination; they are also beset with instability. This fresh piece of legislation suggests that there is no finality so the restrictions sought to be imposed on Indians, and unprotected as they are by any unqualified right of appeal to the courts, has aroused their apprehension afresh. We beg that assent be refused to this ordinance as unjustifiably detrimental to Indian interests; and we submit that the time has come to supply some just and permanent solution of this problem by legislation on an all-Union basis, providing among other things for appeal to the courts in all cases of refusal of licence.

# COMING MAN OF SOUTH AFRICA

## A BRIEF CAREER OF MR. J. H. HOFMEYR

FOR some time there has been in South Africa an official Commission on Indian Colonization. An analogous Commission on the Coloured community of the Cape Province was recently appointed by Mr. Jan Hofmeyr, Minister of the Interior in the Union Government. To the first Commission Mr. Hofmeyr appointed an Indian member, Mr. S. R. Naidoo; to the second a coloured member, Dr. Abdurrahman, writes a correspondent of the *Review of Reviews*.



Mr. J. H. Hofmeyr

The appointments seem natural enough; Mr. Naidoo and Dr. Abdurrahman are distinguished members of their respective communities. In fact the appointments are revolutionary. Colour prejudice in South Africa is strong, open, and embodied in the law. To bring non-Europeans into close contact with the government of the country is an act of high courage and a declaration of independence of mind.

The courage and independence have surprised no one. Mr. Hofmeyr has shown them before. When he entered General Hertzog's 'fusion' government in 1932, it was confidently predicted that he would show them again. That is why he is generally regarded as the man of South Africa's to-morrow.

### First Boer Imperialist

Jan Hendrik Hofmeyr is a young man still. He was born forty-one years ago in the West of the Cape Province, of the same family as that first Boer imperialist, 'Onze Jan' Hofmeyr, the friend of Cecil Rhodes who moulded the Afrikaner Union in the nineties.

At school and university Jan Hofmeyr was an intellectual prodigy. He matriculated at Capetown University at the age of 12, and by 16 had a 'double first' in classics and mathematics. From Capetown he went almost as a natural right; as a Rhodes Scholar to Oxford. At Oxford, again almost as a natural right, he went to Balliol College, an overrated institution but a nursery of statesmen still. His 'double first' at Capetown was paralleled at Oxford by a 'first' in 'Honour Mods,' and a 'first' in 'Greats,' the highest scholastic distinction Oxford can offer.

In his early twenties he went back to South Africa, to become the first Principal of the Witwatersrand University, of which he is virtually the founder. Five years later General Hertzog appointed him Administrator of the Transvaal, an office much more real than that of an English Lord lieutenant, less autocratic than of an English Colonial Governor,

His period of office as Administrator of the Transvaal came to an end while he was still in his early thirties. His career had already been remarkable. The most remarkable thing about it was that, in a politics-ridden land, this brilliant young man had as yet declared himself for no political party.

A general election was then but a little way ahead. General Hertzog would have preferred to have Mr. Hofmeyr for him; if he could not be for him, he would rather not have him against him. He offered Mr. Hofmeyr a new term as Administrator of the Transvaal or a new office as South African High Commissioner in London.

Mr. Hofmeyr declined both—and, when the general election came, betook himself on a trip to England.

A few months later he was invited by General Smuts to contest a by-election in Johannesburg North as a South African Party candidate. It was a difficult contest. At the previous election the seat had been won by a South African Party candidate by one vote, and a charge of personation had later been proved against a man who had voted for him. Mr. Hofmeyr accepted. He won the seat.

### Main Plank

Main plank in the platform on which he won was co-operation between the two European elements in South Africa. 'The present party division in Parliament,' he said then, 'involves a danger that racial feelings will be kept alive. No good South African wants to see a struggle for political mastery developing between a Dutch and an English political party.'

'With a political situation such as that which prevails today,' he added, 'one can do little while remaining outside of active political life.'

None the less, though now a member of the Union House of Assembly, Mr. Hofmeyr remained for some time essentially 'outside of active political life,' he spoke rarely. His outlook was too philosophic for him to be a thoroughgoing partisan when he did. Had it

not been for another factor in South African political life he might have been essentially outside it still.

That other factor was Mr. Tielman Roos. In the long run less effective than Mr. Hofmeyr, in the short run more so, Mr. Tielman Roos, late in 1932, started his campaign for a new centre party. Mr. Hofmeyr had long before expressed his belief in virtues of a centre party. When negotiations to this end were opened between General Smuts and Mr. Tielman Roos, he conducted them.

The negotiations came to nothing. But indirectly they were the cause of the fusion between the South African and Nationalist Parties which is the basis of the present Union Government. When it was formed, Jan Hofmeyr joined it.

At first he was Minister of Education. It was an important post, for much feeling had been aroused among English-speaking South Africans by the replacement of English by Dutch teachers. It was less important than Jan Hofmeyr's present office. As Minister of the Interior he is responsible for the administration, if not for the framing of Native policy. In Native policy lies the key to South Africa's future.

It may eventually prove beyond the wit of man to frame a policy which will at once do justice to the non-European races of South Africa and secure the South African Europeans' standard of living. If such a policy can be devised, Jan Hofmeyr, practical and intellectual, with a native love of his Dutch heritage and an acquired love of the English heritage of South Africa, bearing in himself the best qualities of a great nation, is one of the few South Africans who could devise it.—*The Leader* (Allahabad.)

### St. Aidan's Indian Mission Hospital (DURBAN)

Applications are invited for the appointment of Indian Probationer Nurses at the above Hospital.

Applicants must be between the ages of 17 and 35 years, in good health and of good character. It is also necessary to have passed the 7th Standard at School.

Apply to the Matron.

# THE FUTURE OF WHITE CIVILISATION IN AFRICA

(Continued from last week)

By

R. F. ALFRED HOERNLE  
In 'The South African Opinion'

*The writer, who is the Professor of Philosophy at the Rand University, and who needs no introduction to the public as an authority on native affairs, replies to a recent article contributed by Mr. Pirow to a local weekly.*

It is not that we are quite insensitive to this position. When our consciences begin to prick us, we toy with "segregation." Now, undoubtedly, segregation, in the full sense of the word, would be an alternative to domination. For it would mean an equitable division of the land between White and Black, and the withdrawal of White control except perhaps in the form of "Protectorate" supervision or that type of Mandate Government which is intended to administer a country explicitly in the interests of its Native population. It means, in fact, the creation of Black areas in which the interests of the Natives, not of the Whites, are paramount. But, how many White South Africans want this kind of segregation? How many are ready to pay the price in land and loss of labour for it? Certainly not all those farmers, industrialists, householders, Municipalities, etc., who want a plentiful supply of cheap Black labour. As a cheap labourer, the Native is indispensable to the very maintenance of White Society in South Africa. Consequently, "segregation" for the Native does not mean what it ought to mean, viz., total exclusion from the area occupied by, and the structure of, the White community. No, it means total subordination in the White community—keeping him at the very bottom of the social structure, where he can be safely fenced off by legal barriers, social convention, and the handicap of his own poverty. In short, segregation, as we interpret the word in South Africa, is not an alternative to domination, but merely another instrument of domination.

In the light of all these facts, and many more of a similar nature that might have been adduced, can we honestly ask or without a blush of shame answer, the question what, as professed "guardians" of the Natives, we are doing to "help" them to "achieve the highest form of civilisation of which they are capable?"

When a civilisation honours its ideals only by a lip-service, which comes

THAT African Natives are not constitutionally incapable of progress according to Western standards is amply shown, not only by individual examples here in South Africa, but even more by the achievements they have to their credit in those portions of Africa which are recognised and administered as "Black Man's Territory," and in which the development of the Native populations does not require to be barred, or at least slowed down indefinitely, lest it become a threat to the economic existence, or political power, or racial purity, of a dominant White minority.

Hence in spite of all talk of "guardianship," which sounds so comforting to tender conscience, and of "helping the Native to develop along his own lines," the fact remains that in the policy of White South Africa towards the Native, the ideal of dominance comes an easy first, and the ideal of guardianship a very poor second.

(4) And this leads me to consider, in conclusion, how this preoccupation with dominance reacts on that very Civilisation for the sake of which it is declared to be necessary.

There is a well-known saying, you cannot keep a man in the gutter except you stay down there with him. One people cannot keep another down, except at the price of being dragged down itself. The price of dominance is a betrayal, in certain respects, of standards of that very Civilisation which we profess to be saving. Three quarters of our population are Natives. Of these only just over 20 per cent. get any education at all, and the majority of these do not get beyond Standard I. or II. Yet an uneducated Native is an uneducated South African. Again, Native labour of all kinds is paid at a rate which is designedly kept far below the "civilised labour" rate, i.e., the rate at which a civilised standard of life can be maintained. This amounts to saying that the Native is intended to remain uncivilised, or, at any rate, that our system cannot afford to let him rise to a civilised standard of life. Yet an uncivilised Native is an uncivilised South African. Similarly, in countless other ways, our discriminatory measures involve a lowering of the standards of Western Civilisation, e.g., where else in the world is it still part of Western Civilisation that the breach of a civil contract, committed by a Native employee, is treated as a criminal offence? Or what other civilised country keeps the labour-tenants on its farms in legal bonds amounting to practical serfdom?

peliously near to hypocrisy, the moral rot in it has eaten very far.

The truth of the matter everyone can bring home to himself, if he will but faithfully answer to himself these two test-questions:

(a) Do White South Africans mean to share Western Civilisation with the Native peoples of the Union? Or do they intend to keep it to themselves.

(b) If they mean to share it, will they also draw the logical consequence of "equal rights to all civilised men"?

As we all know, every kind of answer will be given to these two questions, revealing with painful clearness the muddle-headedness, or divided counsels, which spring inevitably from our trying to follow two incompatible courses at once. We yearn for the happy days of the past when no Native was educated, when all were "goeie skepsels," obedient servants and labourers. We try to shut our eyes to the slow, but steady, rise of a group of Natives who are, or are coming to be, as "civilised" as many whites in their standard of living, their interests, their knowledge. We refuse to acknowledge that these can no longer be lumped together with the "raw" kraal Native or the farm servant who has had no education. Let a Native become ever so civilised; let him pass a University degree course with credit and honour, as some of them have done; let him study for a profession, like the medical profession, and practise with a skill which may bring him many White patients as well—still he remains a "Native," subject to galling discriminations, condemned, through the denial of social and political equality, to permanent subjection and inferiority.

All these conflicts, with all they mean in tragic passions and bitter feelings, spring from that bloodless race-war which, as I have tried to show, really belies the highest moral ideals of Western Civilisation, at least so far as it is a Christian Civilisation. Complete segregation, honestly carried out, might, were it practicable, be welcomed as an escape from this race-war. Still, though it would be a solution of a kind, it would spell the partial defeat of the ideals of Western Civilisation—those ideals which lead us to dream of a world in which men of different race and tradition can, none the less, live in peace and co-operation with each other side by side in the same social and political structure, each with pride in its own distinctive individuality, each with respect for the individuality of the other. Such partnership in the same State, such sharing of substantially the same Western Civilisation

need not involve the intermingling of the different racial groups through inter-marriage. Indeed, until we know more about the causes which have brought these different racial strains into existence in the course of evolution, and of the part which they may be destined to play in the history of the world, it were better that each should keep itself as pure as it can.

## INDIA

# BRITISH RELATIONS WITH INDIA

Lord Zetland has issued the following statement on taking office as Secretary of State for India: "I am naturally gratified at the opportunity of being associated once more in so intimate a manner with the destinies of India. I realise that the future constitution is already in shape and that the task which falls to my lot is not to draft or re-draft the measure, but rather to aid in piloting the existing Bill through its final stages to the statute book and thereafter to join Lord Willingdon in bringing the new form of Government into operation. The credit for the Bill will remain for all time with Sir Samuel Hoare. Perhaps I should add it has always been my view that a reasonable continuity of policy is essential in the relations between Britain and India. In this case continuity will be easy and natural, for my views and those of Sir Samuel Hoare on the question of the Indian Constitution have been formed in almost complete sympathy with one another during a long process of investigation at the round table conferences and by Joint Select Committee in which he and I have taken part. I do not underestimate the difficulties of the task before me, but from the sympathy of the many personal friends whom I am fortunate enough to possess in India I shall hope to derive encouragement and strength."

### LEGALISED BLACKMAILING

The following letter by Sjt Jageshwar Prasad Khalish in the *Searchlight* will give the reader here an idea how the King's Silver Jubilee Fund was collected by the authorities in India from the general public: The following is a true copy of a letter sent by the Sub-Divisional Officer of Nawadah to Babu Bhagwat Prasad Singh of Rajauli and Babu Gaya Prasad Singh, Zemindar of Chandipore:—

Sub-Division Office,  
Nawdah.

The 17th April, 1935.

Dear Sir,

It is now a little over two weeks for the celebration of their Majesties' Silver Jubilee. Your subscription has not yet been received,

On this understanding, it should not be beyond the powers of human statesmanship—it might well be called 'human engineering' provided it could rid itself of the incubus of race antagonism and inspire itself with "goodwill towards all men," to devise and maintain organised relationship between Whites and Blacks, such that, as full members of the same State, and sharing

to the full the achievements of the san... civilisation, they could live and work side by side in harmony. Then, at last, might Western Civilisation, no longer poisoned at heart by race-war, do its beneficent work for White and Black alike throughout the African Continent.

(Concluded)

Would you kindly remit to me your subscription latest by the 23rd instant positively. Otherwise, I would be inclined to think that you are unwilling to take part and help in the celebration. In case there is any other reason for which you are unable to pay, will you please come and explain to me.

So far I am aware nothing less than Rs 50 would be fitting subscription for a gentleman of your position.

Yours sincerely,

S. N. Sahay.

From the above it would appear that some of the Gaya officials are leaving no stone unturned to exact subscriptions in right earnest, no matter by hook or crook. It was our firm belief that after the statement made by the Home Member in connection with realisation of subscription for Their Majesties' Silver Jubilee no officer will dare to resort to coercion or compulsion of any sort direct or indirect but we were evidently under a delusion. But some of the Gaya officials are not only daring but in fact determined to exact subscriptions and the Zamindars are being virtually compelled by them to pay handsome subscription towards the Jubilee. They are being asked to explain their conduct in case of failure. Does it not amount to extortion? Again, the accused on some courts are being discharged in ordinary cases by the courts on payment of a donation towards the Jubilee fund. It is understood that the Lorry and Taxi Wallas are also being compelled to pay Rs. 10 and 5 each respectively. The Gaya District Board has evidently adopted similar tactics. The inhabitants of Sherghatty Union Committee having been asked to pay towards the Jubilee fund on threat of their Income Tax and Union Tax being enhanced. Some are wanted by the Police for donation. The School Sub-Inspectors have ordered the Primary school teachers to pay at least 2 annas per head. The Head Master of the Nawadah H. E. School has compelled almost every student to buy the Jubilee flag. These are, in short, some of the methods by which subscriptions for their Majesties' Silver Jubilee are being realised.

This is one of the examples of how India is ruled.

### TERRORISM IN EAST BENGAL

The first terrorist crime for many months occurred at Gaolundo, Eastern Bengal, where Sub-Inspector Syed Ar-sad Ali, an officer in charge of the police station, was killed in his office at night by a youth armed with an Indian sword. The alleged assailant, who was arrested with the bloodstained weapon is said to be a terrorist suspect from Chittagong, who was interned in a nearby village under the new government regulations to control terrorist crime. Ali, who was a popular officer, leaves a large family.

### INDIA'S NATIONAL LANGUAGE

In the course of his address at the Hindi Sahitya Sammelan which was recently held at Indore and over which he presided Mahatma Gandhi said: "The function Hindi is expected to perform is that of an inter-provincial medium, and there is no other language which can lay claim to that position as Hindi can, certainly not English. English has its own place which lies in the international field, but not in the inter-provincial field of India. For the study of modern science and literature and in our relations with the rest of the world we undoubtedly rely upon English, but English cannot possibly therefore become our National Language. You cannot work among the masses of the country through the medium of English, though you can with some effort make yourself understood even in Bengal and the South through Hindi. English is the language of the present governing class. But it cannot go beyond that. The only common language for the Indian Nation can be Hindi—Hindustani. Taking Hindus and Musalmans together, nearly 22 crores are familiar in some form or other with Hindi—Hindustani. What I therefore envisage is that the Provinces will use their own provincial languages, Hindustani will function as the only effective inter-provincial medium and English will be used for purposes of international intercourse.



# MORE ABOUT THE EARTHQUAKE

## MAHATMA GANDHI REFUSED PERMISSION TO VISIT QUETTA

ACCORDING to a Calcutta message the Government of India has refused to allow Mahatma Gandhi and other Congressmen with parties of workers to enter Quetta to engage in earthquake relief.

Thousands of refugees have been evacuated from Quetta and are now living in camps in Lahore, Karachi and Delhi.

It is estimated that over 20,000 survivors have been sent away by special trains.

The Government of India has chartered the steamship *Karanja* for the evacuation to England from Karachi of approximately 700 members of British families.

The Government have offered to allow a number of property owners to go to Quetta to satisfy themselves that their interests are properly safeguarded, by private excavation is forbidden.

Earthquake shocks have continued at Quetta between midnight and six in the morning each day. There was a severe one at 5.30 on Saturday morning last week.

Six miles of barbed wire has been placed

round the city to prevent entrance owing to the danger of epidemic.

To help the victims forget their sufferings they are having tennis and football games, military bands play in the evenings, the scouts are organising entertainments and a cinema is being erected.

Those whose property is buried in the ruins are assured by the Government of India that vigilance of the authorities for the protection of private property will not be relaxed.

### Donations By Indian Princes

Generous donations by Indian Princes have brought the Viceroy's Quetta earthquake relief fund to nearly £112,500 including £75,000 from the Indian Government.

The Indian National Congress is organising relief in co-operation with the Government and is arranging for the future welfare of many of the destitute and injured.

It is officially announced that it is impossible to formulate plans for the rebuilding of Quetta for many months. Indeed, the town may never be rebuilt.

Mr. M. B. Staig, the military financial adviser, who has been appointed Earthquake Commissioner, is returning to Simla. He has estimated that the losses to the Government, including the railways, amount to £97,000. The military losses are much higher.

If Quetta is to be rebuilt it must be earthquake-proof. This according to the "Daily Telegraph's" Bombay correspondent, would cost an enormous sum. It was recently stated that a building capable of withstanding the heavy shock would cost at least 50 per cent. more than the ordinary building.

It is possible that the military authorities may decide to move to Jacobabad, which has previously been used for such purposes and on their decision will mainly depend the future of Quetta.

The President of the Red Cross Society has received a cable from the Indian Red Cross Society at Simla stating that 15,000 people are destitute and that the affected area is 2,600 square miles with damages to property and crops on a proportionate scale.

## COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY INTO NEGLECTED AND DELINQUENT CHILDREN

### INDIAN CHILD WELFARE SOCIETY'S STATEMENT

THE following statement was submitted to the committee of Enquiry re Neglected and Delinquent Children and Young Persons last week.

#### Children Protection Act

##### AGE

We feel that the age should be increased from 16 to 21 years so that during minority a minor may come under this Act.

##### MOTHER'S PENSIONS

In addition to the present provision further provision should be made to enable the Magistrate to recommend to the Minister on application of a destitute person to grant a mother's pension on his being satisfied that the father for some good reason is incapable of earning a livelihood or that she is a widow.

Likewise where the mother is dead and the destitute father is incapacitated from earning a livelihood he should be granted support for his children.

Some provision should also be made for orphan children. Illegitimate children in similar circumstances should also have the benefits of such grants.

##### COMMITTALS

Committals to private persons is favoured where suitable persons are

available and subject to a grant being made to them for maintenance

There are no hostels for Indians that we know of but some provision should be made for their establishment such hostels should also give Industrial and other education. Committed children and Young Persons on their showing improvement may in suitable cases be discharged or released on licence.

##### CONVERSION OF PROCEEDINGS

More use should be made of the power of the Magistrate to convert proceedings against delinquents into an enquiry under the Children's Protection Act.

##### PATERNITY

We would suggest that the officer administering this law should be empowered on the complaint of a woman that the father of an illegitimate child refuses to support the child where the alleged father denies paternity issue a summons to bring the matter before the Courts for decision. Such a mother is very often not in a position to employ a lawyer to act for her in the matter.

##### ADOPTION ACT

The mother of an illegitimate child should be allowed to keep her own child and there should be no necessity for her to adopt her own child.

In the definition of a parent the father of the illegitimate child who is so proved in Court should be included.

##### DELINQUENTS

We think that the present system of committal from two to five years should continue

We favour delinquents up to 15 years being paternally dealt with. If they should in any special cases be criminally dealt with they should receive the suspended sentence and be placed under the Welfare Officer.

##### COURT PROCEDURE

We feel that neglected, uncontrollable and delinquent children and young persons should be dealt with by a commissioner of welfare and where the population is small by a Magistrate acting in that capacity.

Such Officer, apart from the knowledge of the Law, should know something of human nature and the difficulties of the people.

##### PROBATION SERVICES

The Probation Officer should be styled as Welfare Officer.

Such Assistant Officer should also be stationed in populous sub-districts in the Magistracy, so that they may work under a principal Welfare

Officer who in this way may cover the Magistracy.

Female Probation or Welfare Officers will no doubt be helpful to women.

Voluntary Probation or Welfare Officer should be subjected to some examination of the work they wish to undertake in the same way as a person who undertakes first aid goes through tests set for the purpose.

DESERTED WIVES AND CHILDREN  
This Natal Law should continue.

INDIAN CHILDREN

Indian children do not get primary, free and compulsory education, medical or dental attention or free meals (except to the extent of about £250 : 0 : 0d. for the whole of Natal for last year.) Indian unskilled workers are low paid and

many Indians are workless. Children in consequence are neglected and suffer.

CONSOLIDATED MEASURE

We favour such a measure consolidating Union and pre-Union Laws. It would be a convenience to those who undertake social work to acquaint themselves with the Law on the work they undertake as the price of such a Consolidated Act would also be within the reach of a worker.

## SOUTH AFRICAN NEWS IN BRIEF

### *Workmen's Compensation Act*

THE Workmen's Compensation Act of 1934 comes into operation on July 1, and within three months of that date employers must take out insurance policies for the large section of the community now brought within the scope of the Act. The old Act was more limited in its definition of the term "workman" than its successor. It applied to persons employed at or about "any trade, industry, business or public undertaking" and it expressly excluded the farm labourer and domestic servant. The domestic servant is still excluded except where service is in an hotel or boardinghouse of sufficient size to bring it within the operation of the Licences Consolidation Act of 1925. There is no definition of domestic servant, and the courts will have to show whether a private chauffeur or, for that matter, a private secretary, can be called a "domestic." The farm labourer will have a claim for the amount of compensation laid down by the Act, but he need not be protected in that claim by a covering policy. The income beyond which employees cease to fall under the Act is raised from £500 to £600 a year. Employers will be able to remain uninsured for three months after July 1 without becoming liable to a fine, but should they become liable for any of their employees while uninsured they will have to pay the compensation themselves.

### *Regulations Under Compensation Act*

The Regulations under Section 82 of the Workmen's Compensation Act of 1934 are published in the Government Gazette of June 14. The new regulations will have effect from July 1. The Regulations deal with the legal aspect of claims for compensation, the service of process and settlement of disputes arising out of claims. They lay down legal costs and professional fees in connection with court proceedings for claim of compensation, and the terms of agreement between employer and employee. Compensation for Natives is regulated, and the requirements of insurance companies and mutual associations insuring employers against

liabilities to workmen. A list of 28 forms to be used in matters or proceedings before a magistrate under the Act is included in the schedules to the Regulations.

### *Industrial Council For Barbers*

A Government notice in the Gazette of June 14 states that an Industrial Council has been registered for the hairdressing industry in Durban. The parties to the Council are the Durban Hairdressers Employers Organisation and the Natal Hairdressers Employees Industrial Union. Employers and employees who are not members of the Organisation or of the Union who are likely to be affected by any agreement negotiated by these bodies are advised to communicate with the secretary of the Council, 51 Salisbury House, Durban, if they desire further information.

### *Curfew Regulations At Westville*

The curfew regulations have been applied to the urban area of Westville by a proclamation published in the Government Gazette of June 14. Natives will not be allowed in any public place in the area without a pass between the hours of 10 p.m. and 4.30 a.m. The proclamation will come into force on July 1.

### *St Aidan's Hospital Fund*

The Maïron of St. Aidan's Hospital wishes to express her grateful thanks to Messrs Brinley Bros, Haliburton & Glover, A. Fishwick & Co., and the Acme Printing Works for their generous help in the gift of free printing; to all those who kindly collected in town and country, and to the general public for their splendid response to the appeal for the St. Aidan's Hospital Building Fund on May 18. The sum realised was £79. 15. 9.

### *Indian Baptist Association*

Some 400 delegates and members of the Natal Indian Baptist Association met recently the occasion being the annual conference and business sessions at Kearsney, over which the Rev. T. M. Rangiah, B.A., presided. The Association comprises 10 Indian churches in various centres of the Province, each self con-

tained working in co-operation with their own pastor, under the guidance of the Rev. Rungiah, who systematically visits the individual Churches. Reports to the conference revealed steady progress spiritually, numerically and financially.

### *Little Grey Street No More*

Another change in street names has been made by the Durban Town Council. Recently, representations were made by the occupiers of premises along that portion of Grey Street between West Street and Esplanade, to have the name altered. This was done and this portion of Grey Street is now known as Broad Street. Following similar representations, the Council has now changed the name of Little Grey Street to that of Baker Street. A signpost with the latter name on it has been erected.

### *Whole-Time Supervisor For Indian Market*

The Durban Town Council has approved the recommendation made by the Borough Marketmaster recently for the appointment of a whole-time European official to supervise the Indian, Warwick Avenue and Native Meat Markets and who is to be under the control of the Borough Marketmaster.

### *Durban's Penny Fares From August 1*

It is officially stated that the new system of penny stages on all Durban's tram, trolley bus and omnibus routes will come into operation on August 1.

### *Birthday Celebration Of Prophet Mahomed*

The birthday celebration of the Prophet Mahomed took place at the Sons of England Hall, Durban, on Monday under the auspices of the African Muslim Society when a dinner was given to Europeans and Indians. Sir Raza Ali, who presided, referred vividly to the events in the life of the Prophet Mahomed. "We know that the great teachers of the world without exception have all come from the East, the cradle of all religions, as it was the cradle of civilisation," said Sir Raza Ali. "The

Prophet of Islam came at a time when the Arabs were steeped in moral degradation and in superstition. The Prophet spent 40 years of his life doing good among the people. He was known among the Arabs as 'Ameen,' the truthful one. He began his mission of teaching after his 40th year at Mecca, which has become the centre of the Muslim world. At first nobody took him seriously, and later he and his followers were persecuted." In eloquent terms the Agent then referred to the loyalty of the Prophet's friends who stood with him against his enemies. The speaker controverted the statement that Mohammedanism was spread at the point of the sword. No aggressive war was undertaken by the Prophet, and they owed it to the British writer, Thomas Carlyle, who placed Islam in its proper perspective before the English world. On behalf of the European guests, Mr. H. E. Jones thanked the Muslim Society for its hospitality. In doing this, he paid a tribute to Islam for keeping the light of learning burning in Europe while the other countries were submerged in ignorance. Among those present included the Deputy-Mayor, Mr. W. E. Langton, Senator and Mrs. S. Brisker, Mr. Lelf Egeland, M.P., Mr. J. L. Sisson, K.C., Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Neilson, Mr. and Mrs. R. Ellis Brown, Mr. and Mrs. G. Reyburn, Mr. and Mrs. C. F. V. Williams, Mr. and Mrs. E. Whitcutt and Miss T. Whitcutt and many prominent members of the Indian community.

### The Empire Exhibition

Publicity arrangements are being made on a very large scale for next year's huge Empire Exhibition to be held in Johannesburg.

### Durban Indian Club

At the inaugural meeting of the Durban Indian Club held recently the following were elected officials: Chairman Mr. P. G. Naicker; Vice-chairman Mr. Anand Rai; Hon Secretary and Treasurer Mr. Samuel J. Joseph; Members of the Committee:— Messrs A. Christopher; M. B. Lazarus; E. M. Chin; A. D. Lazarus, B.A.; George Singh, B.A.; P. B. Singh; N. K. Chetty; S. I. Singh; P. R. Pather; Rev. J. M. Sundram; and M. M. Gandhi.

### An Informal Meeting

Last Sunday week was the venue of an informal meeting with a view to consolidate the Hindustani section into a homogeneous body at the kind invitation of Messrs Mahabees and Beni-Mahadeo Ramawtar at their residence, View Street, Overport. Cover was laid for over a score of guests and they did full justice to the variety of dishes. Among the prominent members present were Pandit Suchitt Tewary, Messrs B. M. Singh, D. Bramdeo (Senr), Becharie Singh (Richmond), G. Ramsudh, R. Rajcoomar, D. Sobran, Bunssee T. Singh, Sukdeo Singh,

Duleep Singh, Brijmohan Singh, Sanpat Singh, Boodram, Dayaram, Rambaran Singh, Ballaram and Beethasee Maharaj. Pandit Suchitt Maharaj presided. After informal discussion it was agreed to continue the talk at a further meeting to be arranged by Mr. B. M. Singh at his farm. The meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the hosts and the chairman.

### Big Mosque For London

A giant mosque made of pink marble, obtained from the mines of Jodhpur may soon be towering over the roofs of West End, London. This scheme is now being vigorously pushed forward by the Moslem Society in Great Britain, numbering three hundred members. The society hopes to raise £150,000 which is estimated to be the cost of the building. The mosque is intended to be the centre of Moslem culture wherein Moslem students from all parts of the world will find refuge in a hostel accompanying the Mosque. There will be a library, reading room and residential apartments for reception of visitors. The Nizam of Hyderabad has given £60,000 and there are promises for another £50,000. The trustees of this mosque fund are Lord Headley, the Aga Khan, Dr. Mahomad and Sir Abdul Qadir. The society's present difficulty is the question of site, according to Syed Rafique, the Honorary Secretary of Moslem Society. It is probable the designer of the Mosque will be Sheikh Abdul Hamid, young Indian architect, now practicing in London. He was trained in India where he had designed several palaces and Mosques including the memorial Mosque to the late Begam of Bhopal. He also supervised the design of the palace in Jodhpur. The Mosque will be built by British workmen but craftsmen from India and Iraq will execute the oriental decoration, in the lattice work.

## WEDDING

### KANNIAPPA—MADURASAMY

Ruthnam Moodley eldest son of Mr. and Mrs Kaniappa Moodley of 10 Randles Road, Mayville, was married to Sowbhagyawathee Panjarnthanamal eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. V. Mudarasamy Moodley of Umbloft Junction Verulam, on Sunday June 2. The Pandal was tastefully decorated and there were numerous guests both from the bride and bridegroom's party: suitable speeches were made after the wedding wishing the couple long life and prosperity. There were many useful presents from friends and relatives.

## Obituary

The death of Mrs. Murgamah Chetty wife of Mr. C. A. Chetty took place at Vrededorp, Johannesburg, at the residence of her eldest son Mr. A. V. Chetty. The deceased came to South Africa in the year 1885 and from Port Elizabeth came up to Johannesburg. In the year 1927 she made a pilgrimage to all the sacred Hindu temples in India. She was well known in South Africa. Her eldest daughter is married to Mr. C. B. Pillay, Indian Post master at Pretoria and the other daughter to Mr. G. S. Chetty of Durban. She leaves behind three sons, two daughters and her husband to mourn their loss. According to her wish she was cremated at the Indian Crematorium on Monday before a large gathering of friends and relatives. The ashes will be deposited in the Vaal River. Telegrams of sympathy were received from all parts of South Africa.

## SPORTS

### Indian Tennis At Tongaat

The Tongaat Indian Tennis Club will hold its annual Doubles championship tournament for Sfaelas Memorial Shield (A Division) and Simadry Memorial Trophy (B Division) on Sunday June 23.

### Tongaat Indian Boys' School Soccer Club

Local soccer enthusiasts and school children assembled at the Tongaat football ground on Friday, June 7 to witness a soccer game played between Tongaat and Verulam schools.—A and B. The match commenced at 2-15 p.m. and the curtain raisers were the "B" teams of the two schools. The match ended in a draw.

### "A" Division

This match was not very interesting, principally because of the enormous size of two thirds of the players of the visiting team. The players of Verulam were much bigger and heavier than the Tongaat players, who were quite dwarfed by their opponents. The match ended 1-0 in favour of Verulam.

## Natal Indian Farmers Association Mass Meeting

A mass meeting of the Indians under the auspices of the Association, will be held at the Hindu Tamil Institute, Cross Street, Durban, on Saturday, the 22nd June, 1935, at 12 noon for the purpose of considering relief measures to assist Farmers and others who have suffered from the recent floods.

All are requested to attend.

T. M. NAICKER,  
President.

A. B. NAIDOO,  
Hon. Secretary.

Natal Indian Farmers Association.

# Indian Technical Institute.

JOIN A RECOGNISED INSTITUTION.

Supported by Union Government and Durban Corporation.

Take your chance while you have it Improve yourself and your position.

JOIN ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING CLASSES:

## SASTRI COLLEGE.

Commercial Education in the following subjects:—

English Correspondence, Afrikaans, Book-keeping, Typewriting, Shorthand, Commercial Arithmetic.  
Classes held on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

## FULLY QUALIFIED LECTURERS.

Candidates prepared for National and Commercial Examinations—Junior, Intermediate, Senior Diploma Grades.

Monthly Fees.—5/- for One Subject.

7/6 for Two Subjects.

10/- for Three Subjects.

12/6 for Four or more.

Other classes can be arranged if required.

## CARLISLE STREET.

Continuation Classes from Beginners to Standard VII.

Candidates prepared for Standard VI. and VII. National, Commercial and Technical Examinations of the Union Department of Education.

Classes held, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Monthly Fees from 1/- to 2/-

## DEPOT ROAD BARRACKS.

Continuation Classes from Beginners to Standard VI.

Classes held Monday, Wednesday, Thursday from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

## FOR WOMEN—SASTRI COLLEGE.

Dressmaking and Needlework under expert tuition

Friday Afternoon from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Monthly Fee 2/6

## ALBERT STREET SCHOOL

Cookery, Excellent Teaching.

Tuesday Afternoon from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Monthly Fee 2/6.

## DEPOT ROAD BARRACKS.

General Education Sewing once a week

Classes held Monday, Wednesday, Thursday from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

**Read! Think!! Act!! Roll Up and Enroll.**

*Enquiries at any of the above places.*

*B. M. NARBETH,*

*Chairman, Indian Technical Institute Committee.*

## Indian Unemployment

Will employers of Indian labour kindly notify the undersigned of any vacancies in their establishments.

Write to—Hon. Secretary, Sir Kurm. Reddi  
Unemployment Relief Committee, Indian Sports  
Grounds, Durban.

## Indian Child Welfare Society Centre.

150, BROOK STREET, DURBAN.

Open Daily Monday to Saturday 8.30 a.m. to 11 a.m.  
Infants, young children nursing and expectant mothers.  
Lady doctors give free attendance. Tuesday morning  
8.30 o'clock. Friday afternoon 8 o'clock.