

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
INDIAN ASSOCIATION
FOR THE YEAR
1927.

CALCUTTA.

1928.

Executive Committee of the Indian Association, 1928.

President.

Mr. Jatindranath Basu.

Vice-Presidents.

Sir Binode Mitter, Kt.

Mr. Heramba Chandra Maitra.

„ Krishna Kumar Mitra.

„ J. Chaudhuri.

„ R. D. Mehta.

Secretary.

Mr. Nibaranchandra Ray.

Assistant Secretaries.

Rai Fanindralal De Babadur.

Mr. Sachindraprasad Basu.

Dr. Santiram Chatterji.

Treasurer.

Mr. B. K. Basu.

Members.

Mr. D. P. Khaitan.

„ Satyananda Bose.

Sir Devaprasad Sarvadhikari.

Mr. Manmathanath Sen.

„ Manoranjan Mallik.

„ B. C. Chatterji.

„ Nirmal Chandra Sircar.

„ S. M. Bose.

Rai Haridhan Dutt Bahadur.
Mr. Hemendranath Sen.
Kumar Arunchandra Singha.
Mr. Prafullanath Tagore.
Dr. J. N. Ghosh.
Rev. B. A. Nag,
Mr. H. K. Ghosh,
„ J. C. Mitra.
„ Satinath Ray.
„ Charuchandra Biswas.
„ I. B. Sen.
„ Jyotishchandra Bhose.
„ H. M. Bose.
„ R. C. Ghosh.
„ Kshitichandra Niogi.
„ Sureshchandra Basu.
„ Taritbhushan Ray.
„ D. C. Ghosh.
Dr. P. G. Nandi.
Mr. B. K. Chaudhuri,
„ Sureshchandra Ray.
„ B. M. Sen,

Auditor.

Mr. Priyanath Chatterji.

Annual Report

of the

Indian Association

for the year

1927.

The Association, on completing another year of its existence, has to mourn the loss of one of its prominent members, Mr. Prithwischandra Ray, who was also one of its benefactors. At his sad and untimely death, the Association lost a devoted worker in the cause of the country. The Committee, on receipt of the news of his death passed the following resolution: "Resolved that the Indian Association record their deep sense of sorrow at, and the loss sustained by the country in general and the Association in particular by, the sad and untimely death of Mr. Prithwischandra Ray who was a member of the Association for over a quarter of a century, and made a gift of his very valuable library to the Association to commemorate the memory of the late Mr. G. K. Gokhale. He was one of the devoted band of workers who gathered round the Indian Association and the Indian National Congress for the political uplift of their motherland, and helped the late Sir Surendranath Banerjea to revoke the partition of Bengal. His work in this connection and in connection with Indian Journalism and Indian economics will for ever enshrine his memory in the hearts of his countrymen and the Indian Association will always remember with gratitude the gift of the Gokhale library. The Association offer their heartfelt condolence to the bereaved family".

An address was presented to H. E. Sir Stanley Jackson, the Governor of Bengal, on the 9th of April

on his assumption of office. Among other things the Association urged in this address that H. E. the Governor should take the earliest opportunity in examining the case of the persons detained under Regulation III of 1818 and the Bengal Criminal Law Amendment Act and set them free or bring them under trial. The address will be found printed in Appendix F. It is gratifying to note that some of the detenus were released within two months from the date on which His Excellency took charge of his office, and the majority of the others before the end of the year.

A public meeting was held in the Albert Hall on the occasion of the second anniversary of the death of Sir Surendranath Banerjea on the 6th of August, Hon. Justice Sir Charuchandra Ghosh presiding.

Meetings.

There were 17 meetings of the Committee and one of the Association.

Political Work.

Opinion of the Association was asked for and given in connection with the following measures :—

1. Curtailment of appeals in certain cases,
2. Amendment of the Transfer of Property Act,
3. Slander of Women Act,
4. Mr. K. C. Niogi's Bill regarding inland steam vessels,
5. Bengal Borstal Schools Bill,
6. Sarda's Hindu Child Marriage Bill,
7. Questionnaire of the Indian Cinematograph Committee,
8. Bengal Land Development Bill,
9. Transfer of Property Amendment Bill.

These will be found in Appendix G.

Resolutions were passed by the Committee in connection with the following subjects :—

1. Death of Mr. Srikali Ghosh,

2. Appointment of Councillors of the Calcutta Corporation by the Local Government,

3. Remission of the imprisonment of Kharag Bahadur Singh,

4. Appointment of Indian Resident Surgeon at the Eden Hospital,

5. Levy of customs duty on scientific instruments indented for educational purposes,

6. Miss Mayo's "Mother India",

7. Mr. Pilcher's remarks on Indian Women,

8. Appointments under the Calcutta Port Trust,

9. Boycotting the Simon Commission,

These will be found in Appendix H.

Cables and telegrams were sent to

1. Dr. Paranjpye congratulating him on his appointment to the India Council,

2. Rt. Hon. Mr. Sastri congratulating him on his appointment as Agent General in South Africa,

3. Mr. Subhaschandra Bose congratulating him on his release,

4. Lord Birkenhead, Mr. Mallik, Dr. Paranjpye and H. E. the Viceroy on Indian representation on the Statutory Commission,

5. Rt. Hon. Mr. Baldwin, Lord Birkenhead and Mr. Polak condemning the proposed Simon Commission,

6. Presidents, Indian National Congress, Muslim League and National Liberal Federation inviting them to Calcutta for settling the future constitution of India.

These will be found in Appendix I.

With a view to elicit public opinion the Committee prepared and published a memorandum on the question of joint electorates which is printed in Appendix J.

A memorandum was also prepared on the appointment of the Simon Commission and circulated to the press and leaders of public opinion. This will be found in Appendix, K.

At the request of the Committee, a sub-Committee consisting of

Mr. Nibaranchandra Ray
 „ H. M. Bose
 Rai Fanindralal De Bahadur
 Dr. Santiram Chatterji

enquired into the causes of the high consumption of opium in Calcutta and particularly into the existence and working of opium dens. Some of the members of this sub-committee visited many of these dens and appeared as witnesses before the Opium Enquiry Committee appointed by Government and an account of their work will be found in their report printed in Appendix L.

Mr. Nibaranchandra Ray, the Secretary of the Association, appeared as a witness before the Cinematograph Committee and his evidence, together with the answers of the Association to the questionnaire of the Committee is given in Appendix M.

The Committee made representations to Government regarding

1. Communal Tension and Punitive Police at Patuakhali,
2. Election of Aldermen of the Calcutta Corporation,
3. Recruitment of Indians for the Indian Police Service,
4. Formation of an Urban Unit in Calcutta.

These are printed in appendix N. together with such replies as have been received.

Gokhale Library.

It is to be regretted that very little use is being made of this Library.

Obituary.

The Association has to mourn the loss of Mr. Srikali Ghosh, at one time a member of the Association and for many years its Auditor, who passed away during the year.

Social Gatherings.

Two social gatherings were organised during the year under report. The Committee was "at home" to

the journalists of Calcutta on the 21st June and the Association gave an afternoon party on the 2nd December to meet the Hon. Sir Provaschunder Mitter on his appointment as a minister of Bengal for the second time.

Relief Fund.

During the year under report the Committee spent Rs. 1200 in affording relief to the sufferers from floods in Guzerat, Contai and Orissa. The accounts are given in Appendix C. The accounts of the original Flood Relief Fund raised by the Association and National Liberal League jointly are also given in Appendix E.

Accounts.

The annual accounts are given in Appendix A. The thanks of the Association are due to Mr. Priyanath Chatterjee for acting as Honorary Auditor.

National Fund.

The accounts of the National Fund are given in Appendix D. It was mentioned in the annual report for 1915 that the Association borrowed from the National Fund Rs. 15,385-10-0, being the sale proceeds of Government Securities of the nominal value of Rs. 16,000, for the erection of the new premises. This amount is to be repaid in 3½ per cent Government Securities. The Association has repaid the Fund 3½ per cent Government securities of the nominal value of Rs. 4000 and has also paid Rs. 1394-15-0 by way of interest. The capital due amounted to Rs. 12000 in 3½ per cent Government securities and the interest due amounted to Rs. 1051-8-2 at the end of the year.

Building Fund.

This account will be found in Appendix B. The Association was able to repay a part of the capital of the National Fund as mentioned above.

Amnesty Fund.

As there was no transaction in this fund for some time, the Committee decided to close it and the balance of Rs. 27-8-0 at its credit has been transferred to the General Fund.

APPENDIX A

General Fund Account, 1927.

RECEIPTS :	DISBURSEMENTS :
House rent ... 6,600 0 0	Establishment ... 873 0 0
Subscription ... 874 0 0	Postage and Telegrams 95 0 6
Clerk's Security	Stationery ... 19 9 9
Deposit ... 100 0 0	Electric charges... 38 12 6
Donations ... 50 0 0	National Fund ... 394 15 0
Charge for the use of	Building Fund ... 3,919 0 0
the Hall ... 290 0 0	Relief Fund ... 50 0 0
Miscellaneous ... 27 8 0	Travelling ... 11 5 6
	Electric Repairs... 100 0 0
Total ... 7,941 8 0	Petty Repairs ... 60 0 0
Balance of last	Municipal Taxes 980 14 0
year 154 14 7	Library ... 142 12 0
	Refund of Hall
Grand Total ... 8,096 6 7	Charge ... 30 0 0
	Contingency ... 148 0 0
	Furniture ... 222 8 0
	Miscellaneous ... 28 12 0
	Printing ... 252 11 0
	Total ... 7,367 4 3
	Balance in hand ... 729 2 4
	Grand Total ... 8,096 6 7

Examined and found correct.

(Sd.) Priyanath Chatterjee

20.8.28.

Hon. Auditor.

APPENDIX B

Building Fund Account, 1927.

RECEIPTS.	Rs. As. P.	DISBURSEMENTS.	Rs. As. P.
Contribution from the General Fund	3,919 0 0	Cost of 3½% G. P. Notes purchased and repaid to the National Fund	3,166 10 9
Balance of last year	2,523 4 9	Interest paid to do.	1,000 0 0
Grand Total	6,442 4 9	Building repairs (part)	2,000 0 0
		Total	6,166 10 9
		Balance in hand	275 10 0
		Grand Total	6,442 4 9

Examined and found correct.

(Sd.) Priyanath Chatterji

20.8.28.

Hon. Auditor.

APPENDIX C

Relief Fund Account, 1927.

RECEIPTS.	Rs. As. P.	DISBURSEMENTS.	Rs. As. P.
Donations	50 0 0	Contribution for Flood Relief in Guzerat, Contai and Orissa	1,200 0 0
Balance of last year	2,838 10 10	Balance in hand	1,688 10 10
Grand Total	2,888 10 10	Grand Total	2,888 10 10

Examined and found correct.

(Sd.) Priyanath Chatterji

20.8.28.

Hon. Auditor.

APPENDIX D

National Fund Account, 1927.

RECEIPTS :	DISBURSEMENTS :
Interest on $3\frac{1}{2}\%$ Government Securities in the safe custody of the Imperial Bank 85 14 0 Interest received from the Indian Association 1,394 15 0 <hr style="width: 100px; margin-left: 0;"/> Total 1,480 13 0 *Balance of last year in Bank 307 12 7 <hr style="width: 100px; margin-left: 0;"/> Grand Total 1,788 9 7	Amount spent in political agitation as shown under General Fund Account 394 15 0 Bank charges 0 8 0 <hr style="width: 100px; margin-left: 0;"/> Total 395 11 0 Balance in Bank and in hand 1,392 14 7 <hr style="width: 100px; margin-left: 0;"/> Grand Total 1,788 9 7

Examined and found correct.

(Sd.) Priyanath Chatterji

Hon: Auditor.

20.8.28.

APPENDIX E.

Flood Relief Fund.

RECEIPTS

			Rs.	As.	P.
1922					
October	11	To amount received from Babu Satish Chandra Mukherjee, 7, Manoharpuker Road Kalighat ...	25	0	0
		Do Mr. A. B. Aurora ...	21	0	0
		Do Messrs. Labhchand Motichand ...	250	0	0
		Do Mr. Ramjimull Khettry ...	25	0	0
	12	Do from Mr. W. H. Phelps ...	100	0	0
	13	Do from Sympathiser through Mr. Motichand Nahtar ...	100	0	0
	16	Do from Mr. K. K. Dutt of Belgachia ...	2	0	0
		Do from Mr. A. Dutt S. D. O. (1st instalment) ...	25	0	0
	18	Do from Mrs. S. N. Mullick ...	250	0	0
		Do from F. L. De Esq. ...	100	0	0
		Do from Mr. Monilal Sen ...	25	0	0
		Do from Babu Surendramohan Maitra, Rajshahi ...	25	0	0
		Do Small subscriptions through Mr. P. C. Mitter and Mr. M. L. Sen ...	55	0	0
		Do Do Do ...	18	10	0
		Do from Syed Abdus Samad, S. D. O. Buxar Shahabad ...	25	0	0
	21	Do from Jangal Badal Prasannamayee Shebasram Jessore, through Mr. S. C. Basu ...	25	0	0
	23	Do from Raja Hrishikesh Law ...	400	0	0
		Do from Babu Ambica Charan Law ...	500	0	0
	25	Do from Babu Amiyanath Mukherjee, Solicitor ...	5	0	0
	26	Do from Lalitmohan Bhattacharjee, Salkea ...	1	0	0
	30	Do from Dr. Chandrasekhar Kali ...	10	0	0
		Do from Durga Prosad Das of Kalapatua P. O. Kaliganje, District Daeca ...	10	0	0
		Do from Hemlal Nng, Hansgara Tea Estate P. O. Bugdogra, Darjeeling ...	1	0	0
		Do from Adyanath Chakravarty, President Srikrishna Samity Barendra Srikhanda P. O. ...	5	0	0
		Carried over	2,003	10	0

Flood Relief Fund.

DISBURSEMENTS.

		Rs.	As.	P
1922				
October	21	Paid to R. G. Mullick on account of price of 200 maunds of Bran ...	500	0 0
	27	Do to Messrs. S. N. Mullick & Co., on account of price of Bran sent to Atraighat ...	500	0 0
	31	Do for stamps &c. ...	2	1 6
Nov.	3	Do Tramfare for realising money Do for sending telegrams to Atraighat and Santahar on 21-10-22.	0	3 0
			3	12 0
Nov.	6	Paid for one anna stamp ...	1	0 0
	11	Do to Krishnakumar Mitra ...	500	0 0
	21	Do to Dr. P. K. Acharya ...	1400	0 0
Dec.	8	Remitted to Krishnakumar Mitra at Santahar on 12-10-22 by Registered Insured Cover ...	450	0 0
		Paid Registration and Insurance fee for Do. ...	0	13 0
		Remitted to Krishnakumar Mitra at Santahar on 13-10-22 by Registered Insured Cover ...	1,151	0 0
		Paid Registration fee and Insurance Commission for Do. ...	1	13 0
		Paid for sending a telegram to Do. at Santahar ...	1	6 0
Carried over			4,512	0 6

Flood Relief Fund.

RECEIPTS.

		Rs.	As.	P.
		2003	10	0
	Brought over			
1922	...			
October.	31 To amount received from Sympathiser through Mr. N. C. Ray	20	0	0
	Do from Mr. D. P. Chamria	250	0	0
	Do from Mr. U. N. Sen Gupta advocate Thanawaddy Lower Burma	10	0	0
	Do from Satindramohan Tagore Esq.	5	0	0
Nov.	..1 Do from Rai Nibaranchandra Das Gupta Bahadur of Barisal	20	0	0
	Do from Messrs. Kesharbbhai K. Kotawalla C/o. Messrs. Pura- chand Pannalal Jwarivilla Malabar hill Bombay	100	0	0
	Do from Ramnath Singh District Forest Officer Multan Forest Division	15	0	0
	Do from Sukdial Kamra Shiyabad P. O. District Multan	50	0	0
	Do from Lakshman Rao Retired Pleader Saugor C. P.	12	0	0
	2 Do from Harendranath Sircar Tulsi- rampur Panjarbhanga, Rajshahi	4	2	0
	3 Do from Mr. Prafullanath Tagore	100	0	0
	4 Do from Rai Bahadur Seth Sukhlal Karnavi	500	0	0
	6 Do from Sir Hareram Goenka, kt., c. l. e. Rai Bahadur by a Cheque.	500	0	0
	10 Do from Babu Ram Nebera Ram Paksi, Arrah, Sahabad by M. O.	5	0	0
	11 Do from The Trustees of Sir Ratan Tata Charities	5000	0	0
	Do from Dr. C. A. Bentley	307	12	0
	Do from Rai Bahadur Mahendra- chandra Labiri	25	0	0
	14 Do from S. M. Bose Esqr.	100	0	0
	17 Do from Mr. S. W. Goode, I. c. s., through Mr. S. N. Mullick	50	0	0
	18 Do from Rai Bahadur Pramathanath Mullick	100	0	0
	24 Do from Munnalal Sovachand for Blankets	100	0	0
	Carried over	9277	8	0

Flood Relief Fund.

DISBURSEMENT.

		Rs. As. P.
	Brought forward	4,512 0 6
1922		
Dec.	8 Paid for sending a telegram to Krishnakumar Mitra on 13-10-22 ...	1 6 0
	Remitted to Krishnakumar Mitra at Santabar on 14-10-22 by Registered Insured Cover ...	100 0 0
	Paid Registration fee and Insurance Commission on Do. ...	0 5 0
	Remitted to Krishnakumar Mitra at Santabar on 16-10-22 by Registered Insured Cover ...	300 0 0
	Paid Registration fee and Insurance Commission on Do. ...	0 10 6
	Paid Registration fee and Insurance Commission for a Cover to H. Quinton Esq. (Rs. 500 returned) ...	0 14 6
"	11 Paid to Babu Krishnakumar Mitter through Rajendrakumar Dutt ...	600 0 0
Jany.	4 Paid to Messrs. Buttokristo Paul & Co. as per bill ...	75 0 0
March	7 Paid to Messrs. Buttokristo Paul & Co. as per bill ...	140 0 0
	Carried over	5,730 4 6

Flood Relief Fund.

RECEIPTS.

		Ra. As P.
	Brought over	... 9,277 8 0
1922		
Dec. 8	To amount from Hon'ble Sir S. N. Banerjee (through P. C. Mitter) ...	400 0 0
	Do. from Mr. P. C. Mitter, C.I.E. Do. ...	550 0 0
	" from Mr. J. F. Madan ...	501 0 0
	" from Mr. & Mrs. B. C. Chatterjee ...	100 0 0
	" from Sir P. R. Mukherjee ...	250 0 0
	" from Mr. S. R. Das ...	500 0 0
	" from Mr. D. C. Ghose ...	100 0 0
	" from Mr. J. N. Gupta ...	100 0 0
18	" from Kumar Pramathanath Ray through Mr. S. N. Mullick by a Cheque No. 24 on the Imperial Bank of India ...	50 0 0
Dec. 11	By amount from the Public Debt Office for interest ...	155 0 0
1926		
May 11	By amount from ...	152 8 0
Aug. 20	" " Prosad Das Boral Broa. being the sale proceeds of the War Bonds	6,700 10 10
Total		Ra. 18,636 10 10

Flood Relief Fund.

DISBURSEMENT.

			Rs.	As.	P.
		Brought over	5,730	4	6
1925					
May	20	Paid to Prosad Das Boral for 5 per cent War Bonds 1945-55 (Rs. 6100) ...	6,090	3	6
1926					
Aug.	23	Paid to the Hony.-Secretary, Society for the Improvement of Backward Classes	2,625	0	0
Sept.	2	Paid to the Treasurer Indian Association being the balance in full of this account	4,391	2	10
			<hr/>		
Total			Rs.	18,836	10 10

Examined and found correct.

M. K. Dev,

Auditor.

Corporate Accountant.

8/2, Hastings Street,

Calcutta, The 23rd March, 1927.

APPENDIX F.

The following gentlemen formed the Deputation on April 9, 1927 to present an address to H. E. the Governor :—

Mr. H. Maitra
Sir D. P. Sarvadhikary
Mr. K. K. Mitra
„ R. D. Mehta
„ Satinath Roy
„ N. C. Ray
Rev. B. A. Nag
„ J. N. C. Dutt
Mr. B. M. Sen
„ Jogendranath Mukerji
Rai F. L. De Bahadur
„ M. C. Lahiri Bahadur
Dr. J. N. Ghosh
Mr. Manoranjan Mallik
„ C. C. Biswas
„ Satyendranath Basu
„ H. M. Bose
„ Sureschandra Basu
„ Akshaykumar De
Rai Dr. Haridhan Dutt Bahadur
Dr. D. N. Maitra
Mr. Kumarkrishna Mitra
„ Amiyanath Mukerji
„ Hemendranath Sen

Mr. Herambachandra Maitra, Vice-President of the Association, read the following Address :—

To His Excellency Lieutenant-Colonel

The Right Honourable

Sir Francis Stanley Jackson.

P.C., G.C.I.E.,

Governor of the Presidency of Fort
William in Bengal.

May it please Your Excellency,

We, the members of the Indian Association, beg to extend to Your Excellency and to the Hon'ble lady Jackson our cordial welcome on your assumption of the high office of Governor of Bengal.

Our Association is one of the oldest Political Associations of Bengal and was founded by eminent public men some years before the inauguration of the Indian National Congress. Amongst the founders of the Association was Sir Surendranath Banerjea, who for nearly half a century was the most prominent worker in building up the political life of modern India. Our Association has endeavoured to voice the opinion of the public of Bengal with regard to important questions affecting their welfare. We deem it our duty to place before Your Excellency some of the questions which at the present moment are agitating the people of his Province. As you have just assumed your high office, we cannot therefore expect that Your Excellency would, in reply to this address, state your views on those important questions. But we earnestly trust that Your Excellency will be pleased to take an early opportunity to personally study those questions, as in our opinion they vitally concern the progress, well-being and contentment of the people of Bengal. We are anxious that a decision should be arrived at on those questions at an early date.

Coming as Your Excellency does from the atmosphere of the British Parliament and of the political life of England in which you held a prominent position, we hope that Your Excellency will have every sympathy with the aspirations of the people of this country to attain as early as possible the status of a self-governing dominion within the Empire. The early attainment of Swaraj as promised to them in the historic declaration of the 20th August, 1917, is the common aim of all political parties in this country. We desire to remind Your Excellency that the time for the appointment of the Statutory Commission for revision of the Indian Constitution is approaching. We are looking forward to the early establishment of real Responsible Government in the Provinces on the lines of the aforesaid declaration. We trust we shall have Your Excellency's sympathy and support in our endeavours to attain real political progress. It has been stated that there are difficulties in the way. But if the problem is approached in a spirit of sympathy and not of hostile criticism and if an endeavour is made to realise how the people feel under the present system, Your Excellency will find

that there is amongst a large section of the people a spirit of mutual trust and good will so necessary for peaceful progress.

The detention without trial for a prolonged period of persons under Regulation III of 1818 and under the Bengal Criminal Law Amendment Act is felt keenly by the people. Many of these persons have been in detention for more than 2 years. There is a strong and widespread feeling in this country that Government should either release these detenus or put them on their trial. The present feeling of irritation of the people of Bengal towards the Government is in a great measure due to the prolonged detention of these persons. We trust Your Excellency will examine this question with a fresh mind and will take into consideration the circumstance that the detention has already been for an unusually long period. The release of the political detenus at an early date will considerably soothe public feeling in this Province and will create an atmosphere which will help in establishing better relations between the administration and the people.

Amongst the pressing problems facing the people of this Province are the questions of public health and of the organisation and improvement of agriculture and industries. We earnestly request Your Excellency to see that these questions are given their due importance in working the administration.

Intimately connected with the above questions is the question of Provincial finance. Our finances are regulated by the financial settlement known as the "Meston Award." Under that award the sources of revenue allocated to Bengal happen mostly to be fixed and inelastic. They are not capable of much expansion. Your predecessor in office in his farewell speech to the Legislative Council drew pointed attention to this serious grievance under which this Province labours. The revision of the Meston Award has become imperative. If there is to be contentment and peaceful progress in the Province we hope that Your Excellency will be pleased to take up the question of such revision as early as possible.

There is another matter to which we desire to call Your Excellency's attention. In recent years there

have been a large number of cases of outrages on women in different parts of Bengal, particularly in the interior. The time has come when the Government should take steps with a view to the eradication of this class of crime. We would suggest that instructions should be issued that in such cases the Public Prosecutor should take up the conduct of the prosecution, and the costs of the prosecution including the expenses of witnesses should be met out of the public revenues. Most of the complainants, being poor and helpless, are unable to obtain justice unless the State comes to their help. A register of such crimes and trials should also be kept by the District Officer who should send periodical reports to Government. The Police should also be instructed to take special care in such cases and to assist the Public Prosecutor to the best of their ability.

We have the honour to be,
 Your Excellency's most obedient servants,
 Herambachandra Maitra,
 Devaprasad Sarvadhikari,
 Krishnakumar Mitra,
 R. D. Mehta,

On behalf of the members of the Indian Association.

The 9th April, 1927.

APPENDIX G.

OPINIONS.

1. Curtailment of Appeals.

8th February, 1927.

Resolved that the proposal of the Government of India regarding the curtailment of appeals in certain cases be opposed.

2. Amendment of the Transfer of Property Act.

To

The Secretary to the Government of Bengal,
Judicial Department,
Writers' Buildings, Calcutta.

14th May, 1927.

Sir,

I am directed by the Executive Committee of the Indian Association to acknowledge receipt of your letter No. 1738-46 J of the 28th February, 1927, enclosing a copy of letter No. F-90-27 Judl. dated the 10th February, 1927 from the Government of India, Home Department regarding revision of the Transfer of Property Act 1882, and to forward the following opinion on the proposal.

2. *Amendment of Sec. 2 of the Act of 1882*—My Committee are in general agreement with the views expressed in the letter under reply regarding the omission of the word "Hindu" in Sec. 2 of the Act. Such omission will not in any way affect the Hindu Law.

3. *Amendment of the definition of "Notice" in Section 3.* My committee do not think it advisable to add the proposed Explanation I to the effect that

registration of a document relating to immoveable property will operate as notice in every case, thus altering the present law as laid down by the Privy Council that the question whether registration amounts to a notice or not is not one of law but of fact. In a vast country like India where holdings cannot be easily identified, where the boundaries of holdings are constantly changing with change of owners of adjoining lands, it will be, my Committee feel, difficult if not impossible for persons, specially ignorant villagers, to know exactly which property has been the subject matter of transfer by a registered deed. Moreover, the head Registration office where the records are kept and where they may be examined, is usually at a great distance from the villages and ignorant villagers are practically unable to inspect the registered deeds or their indexes. Registration may also be effected in a Presidency town and notice of such registration may not reach the proper office in time for an inspection to disclose it. These are serious obstacles in the case of lands situated outside towns and Municipal areas, where identification by a street number or by easily ascertainable boundaries of a permanent nature is possible. For the reasons briefly indicated above, my Committee are of opinion that the present law on the subject should not be altered. Even in such an advanced country like England, registration does not, speaking generally, amount to notice. My Committee are therefore against the proposed change.

As regards the proposed Explanation II, my Committee are of opinion that this also is objectionable. It is often difficult to ascertain possession of agricultural lands and even of occupied houses. Agricultural lands lie idle for months and they are often at great distances from villages where the owners may be found. Owners may refuse to give any information and the information given by others may be unreliable. It would therefore be a dangerous innovation and my Committee strongly oppose it.

It would thus appear that the Section may best be retained as it stands at present.

Regarding the remarks in the paragraph under reply about registration of transfer of land below Rs. 100 in value, my Committee's opinion is to be found in the next following paragraph.

4. *Amendment of Sections 54, 59 and 107*—(a) Regarding the proposed omission of the word “Tangible”, wherever it occurs in the Act, my Committee agree that the expression is not clear and may be well omitted from the Act.

(b) My Committee are opposed to the proposal for the compulsory registration of all documents dealing with immoveable property below Rs. 100 in value. The proposal will add greatly to the cost of transfer of properties of insignificant value and will mean considerable inconvenience to the parties for it is well-known that registration offices are situated at great distances. My Committee are therefore opposed to the changes proposed in Sections 54 and 59.

(c) My Committee are strongly opposed to the compulsory registration of all leases of immovable property and to their execution by both the lessor and the lessee. The present law on the subject has not been proved to be defective and, in the opinion of my Committee, should be retained.

5. *Amendment of Section 129*—My Committee have no objection to the proposal to omit the word “Hindu” from Section 129.

I have &c.,
N. C. Ray,
Asst. Secretary.

3. Slander of Women Act.

To

The Secretary to the Government of Bengal.
Judicial Department,
Writers' Buildings, Calcutta.

17th May, 1927.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No, 4554-40 J dated the 14th April asking for the opinion of the Indian As.

sociation on the question of undertaking legislation in India on the lines of the Slander of Women Act, I am directed by the Executive Committee of the Association to say that they support the passing of such an Act as suggested by the Hon. the Judges of the High Court of Bombay.

I have &c.
N. C. Ray,
Asst. Secretary.

4. Mr. K. C. Niogi's Bill to Regulate Inland Steam Vessels Traffic.

14th May, 1927.

"Resolved that the Indian Association strongly supports Mr. K. C. Niogi's Bill to fix a maximum and a minimum rate for passenger and goods traffic carried by the inland steam vessels in Bengal."

5. Bengal Borstal Schools Bill.

To

The Secretary to the Government of Bengal,
Legislative Department,
Writers' Buildings, Calcutta.

21st September, 1927.

Sir,

I am directed by the Executive Committee of the Indian Association to inform you that they approve of the principle of the Bengal Borstal Schools Bill as published in the Calcutta Gazette of the 21st July, 1927, Pt. IV.

I have etc.
N. C. Ray,
Secretary.

6. Sarda's Hindu Child Marriage Bill.

To

The Secretary to the Government of Bengal,
Judicial Department,
Writers' Buildings, Calcutta.

2nd December, 1927.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 9009-24 J. dated the 7th November, I am directed by the Executive Committee of the Indian Association to say that they strongly support the principle of the Hindu Child Marriage Bill introduced into the Legislative Assembly by Rai Saheb Harbilas Sarda.

2. My Committee consider that the marriageable age of a Hindu girl fixed in Cl. 3 of the Bill should be raised to 14 years and that of a Hindu boy fixed in Cl. 4 should be raised to 18 years.

3. My Committee are not in favour of the granting of a licence for the marriage of girls under 14 years of age as provided for in clauses 5 and 6 of the Bill.

4. With the suggestion that marriages of boys and girls under age should be null and void, my Committee are unable to concur. But they are in favour of a provision for the punishment of any person who celebrates such marriages.

I have etc.

N. C. Ray,
Secretary.

7. Questionnaire of the Indian Cinematograph Committee.

To

The Secretary,
Indian Cinematograph Committee,
C/o Home Department,
Government of India, Delhi.

4th December, 1927.

Sir,

In reply to letter No. 14105-56P dated the 2nd November from the Government of Bengal in the

Political Department (Political Branch), I have the honour to forward herewith under the direction of the Executive Committee of the Indian Association the following answers to the questionnaire of your Committee.

I have etc.
N. C. Ray,
Secretary.

**INDIAN CINEMATOGRAPH COMMITTEE.
QUESTIONNAIRE.**

Instructions.

If you are willing to answer any of the questions kindly send your reply as soon as possible to the Secretary, Indian Cinematograph Committee, whose address will be C/o Presidency, Postmaster, Bombay (up to 18th November) ; and thereafter C/o Postmaster, General Post Office, Lahore, (up to 30th November) ; and thereafter C/o Home Department, Delhi.

Introductory.

1. Have you any special knowledge of, or connection with the Cinematograph Industry either in India or abroad ? If so what ?

General.

2. (a) In your experience to what extent do Indians (1) of the educated classes and (2) of the illiterate classes frequent Cinemas ? To what extent is such attendance on the increase ? (Please explain to what place or area your answer refers).

(b) Can you give an idea of the composition of an average Cinema audience in the locality of which you can speak ?

(c) What proportion of the audience consists of children under 14 or adolescents of impressionable age ?

PART I.

Film Industry in India.

3. Have you any opinion as to what classes of films are the most popular with Indian audiences and generally in India ?

4. Are the exhibitors catering adequately for Indian audiences ? If not, what are the reasons ?

5. Are Indian-produced films, depicting Indian life, readily available to exhibitors ? If so,

(a) are they of good quality ?

(b) are they popular ?

(c) is it ordinarily less or more profitable to show an Indian than a Western film ? Can you cite any examples of successful Indian films ?

6. (a) Do you think that films of Indian life topical Indian news, and scenes (with Indian actors) depicting stories from the national literature, history and mythology, would be more popular with Indian audiences than the prevalent Western films ?

(b) Of such films, what kind would appeal most strongly

(1) to the educated classes,

(2) to the illiterate population ?

7. Is difficulty experienced in obtaining suitable films for exhibition to the British and Indian Troops ? If so, in what way exactly are the films unsuitable ? What sort of films are both suitable and popular ?

8. (a) Are you satisfied with the present condition of the Industry in this country in its several branches of production, distribution and exhibition ?

(b) If you are not satisfied, what in your opinion are the main difficulties besetting the Industry and what means would you suggest for assisting it ?

9. Are good films readily obtainable by exhibitors at reasonable prices ?

If not, is there any special reason for this ?

Is there any monopoly or tendency to monopoly of the supply or exhibition of films ?

10. Do the systems of "block" and "blind" booking and of "first run" or "key theatres" exist in India ?

If so, explain the advantages and disadvantages thereof to the Trade and the Public ?

11. Have the exhibitors in this country sufficient facilities for previewing films ?

Have you any suggestions to make on this matter ?

12. To what extent is the Amusement Tax (where it exists) a handicap to the exhibitor ?

13. How does the present customs Tariff on imported films affect the exhibitors ? How far is it useful for promoting the indigenous production of films ? What suggestions have you to make regarding the Tariff generally on all materials connected with the Film Industry ?

14. Do you consider that an increased use of the Cinema for educational purposes in schools and for adult education in Agriculture, Public Health, etc., by Government or other agencies would help the growth of the film industry in this country ?

Is there any demand for such films ?

15. Are conditions in this country favourable to development of an Indian film-producing industry on a large scale ?

What are the reasons for your opinion ?

16. Do you consider that there are Indian producers, directors, actors, actresses and scenario-writers of sufficient technical knowledge, enterprise, resource and adaptability on whom the country can depend for a substantial output of films of real competitive exhibition value ?

What measures would you suggest to supply any deficiency ?

17. Do you consider that sufficient capital in India is or will be forth-coming for film-production ?

18. Do you consider that suitable Government action whether legislative or administrative may be an effective incentive and encouragement to private enterprise for film production ? Can you suggest what suitable action can be taken by Government ?

19. How does the cost of film-production in this country compare with that in other countries ?

20. (a) Do any of your proposals involve expenditure from Government funds ? If so, do you think that such expenditure is justifiable, having regard to the other needs of the country ?

(b) Have you any suggestions to make regarding the sources from which such expenditure may be met ?

21. What is your opinion regarding a proposal which has been made that to ensure the production and exhibition of films conforming to moral standards, to provide a centralised neutral distributing agency and furnish a fair market, and to inaugurate the use of teaching and propaganda films, and generally to improve the conditions of the Film Industry in all its aspects, including censorship, a State agency should be created to undertake the management of the Film Industry as a monopoly ?

Films of the British Commonwealth.

22. Should India participate in the policy outlined in the resolution of the Imperial Conference to give some measure of encouragement to British Empire Films, and if so would such participation

(a) assist the development of her own film industry,

(b) assist in making herself better known and understood throughout the Empire and the world, and

(c) improve the standard of Western films shown in India.

Have you any suggestions as to the methods of putting such a policy into practice and the limitations if any ?

23 (a) To what extent can cinema pictures be used for making known the conditions, resources and habits of the peoples, and the activities of the various Governments, of the British Commonwealth of Nations to each other ?

(b) What measures would you suggest for getting the various Governments to co-operate to this end ?

PART II.

Social Aspects and Control.

24. (a) Do you consider that any class of films exhibited in this country has a demoralising or otherwise injurious effect upon the public ?

(b) Is there a general circulation of immoral or criminally suggestive films ?

(c) In your opinion what class of film is harmful ? To whom is it harmful ? In what way is it harmful ?

(d) Consider specifically whether censorship is adequate in the cases of

(1) "Sex" films,

(2) "Crime" films.

(e) Do you consider there has been any increase of crime in your Province due to the Cinema ?

(f) Support your statements wherever possible by instances within your personal knowledge.

25. Do you consider that the differences in social customs and out-look between the West and the East necessitate special consideration in the censorship of films in this country ?

26. (a) Should more care be taken in censoring films likely to offend religious susceptibilities ?

(b) Can you give an example of any film which has offended the religious susceptibilities of any class of the community ?

27. (a) Have any of the films exhibited in India a tendency to misrepresent Western civilization or to lower it in the eyes of Indians ? Is it a fact that films representing Western life are generally unintelligible to an uneducated Indian or are largely misunderstood by him ? If so, do undesirable results follow from this ? Have you any suggestions to make on this point ?

(b) Do you know of any films exhibited abroad which have a tendency to misrepresent Indian civilization ? If so, were they produced in India ?

28. Has any class of film shown in this country a bad effect on—

- (a) children,
- (b) adolescents.

If so—

- (a) what class of film?
- (b) in what way is it harmful?

29. Are you in favour of certification of certain films as "For Adults Only"?

30. Are you in favour of prohibiting all children below a certain age from visiting Cinemas except for special "Childrens' Performances"? If so, why? What age do you suggest?

31. (a) Do you consider that censorship is an effective method of guarding against misuse of the film?

32. Do you think that the present system of Censorship in your Province is satisfactory? If not, in what way is it defective? Can you suggest any improvement?

33. Would a strict Censorship—

(a) interfere unreasonably with the recreations of the people?

(b) involve a falling off in the attendance at Cinemas?

(c) unduly interfere with the freedom required for artistic and inspirational development?

34. (a) Do you advocate the replacement of the present Provincial Boards of Censors by a single Central Board?

(1) If so, why?

(2) Would this cause any inconvenience to the Trade?

(3) How should such a Central Board be constituted?

(4) Where should it be situated?

(b) Or, would you advocate a Central Board in addition to the Provincial Boards?

(c) If you advocate a Central Board working either alone or with Provincial Boards, how would you regulate the relationship between the various Boards and the Central and Local Governments?

(d) How should such a Board or Boards be financed?

35. (a) Is the present constitution of the Provincial Boards (of which at least half the Members must, under the law, be non-officials) satisfactory?

(b) Would you prefer a whole-time, experienced well-paid officer as Censor at each centre, to be assisted by an Advisory Board of non-officials?

36. (a) Do you think that the present system (prevailing at Bombay and Calcutta) under which films are ordinarily examined by inspectors subordinate to the Board is satisfactory? Are such inspectors sufficiently well qualified for the work? What sort of qualifications are essential?

(b) Or do you think that all films should be examined by Members of the Board? If so, do you consider that gentlemen of suitable standing will be available who would be prepared to devote sufficient time to the examination of films for a reasonable remuneration?

37. (a) Are there adequate safeguards under the Act for preventing the exhibition of a film which may be objectionable locally although it has been passed by a Board in some other part of India?

(b) Do you consider that any safeguards are needed?

38. Do you know any instances of films which have been passed by a Board of Censors in one Province and found objectionable in another Province?

39. Have you come across any instances of pictures disapproved or banned from exhibition in the country of origin or in Great Britain being exhibited in India?

40. Should posters, handbills and advertisements of Cinema performances also be censored? What measures would you suggest for such censorship without undue restriction on freedom?

Have you noticed any such advertisements which were objectionable? In what way were they objectionable?

41. Have you noticed any improvement in the moral standard of the films exhibited in India in recent years?

42. Have you any suggestions to make for getting the co-operation of the trade in the matter of the Censorship?

43. (a) Is there need for a stricter control over the import and export of films ?

(b) If so, why ?

(c) What methods should be adopted for this purpose ?

44. To what extent could public bodies and the Press assist in maintaining a good standard of films ?

45. (a) Should some control be exercised by Government over film-production, and if so what should be the nature of such control ?

(b) Should all film-producing agencies be registered and licensed, and their studios periodically inspected ?

ANSWERS.

1. We have no special knowledge of the cinematograph industry either in India or abroad.

2. (a) Our experience generally relates to Calcutta where

(1) the cinemas are frequented to a large extent by the students and educated middle classes, with

(2) a sprinkling of illiterate people.

(b) Students, educated middle class people and soldiers mostly form a cinema audience.

(c) About 10 per cent of the audience consists of children under 14 years of age.

3. Indian dramas, serials, detective stories and spectacular films are generally most popular with Indian audiences.

4. Our information is that exhibitors cater fairly adequately for Indian audiences.

5. Indian-produced films depicting Indian life are available to some extent and

(a) some of them are of good quality

(b) and are popular.

(c) But we have no information as to whether the exhibition of Indian films is more profitable or not than that of Western films.

6. It is likely that films of Indian life and scenes will be more popular with Indian audiences than the prevalent Western films.

7. We do not know whether there is any difficulty in exhibiting suitable films to the British and Indian troops.

8. We are not satisfied with the present condition of the Film Industry in India and we should like to see it improved.

9. We do not know whether good films are readily obtainable to exhibitors at reasonable prices. We are not aware of any monopoly in the supply or exhibition of films.

10 & 11. We have no information regarding these questions.

12. We believe that the Amusement Tax is a handicap to the exhibitor to a very small extent.

13. We do not know how the Customs Tariff on imported films affects the exhibitor.

14. We consider that an increased use of the cinema for educational purposes would help the growth of the film industry in India, and such films ought to be in demand.

15. We consider that India with her natural scenery and resources is favourably conditioned for the film-producing industry.

16. There are some Indian producers and others of sufficient technical knowledge capable of producing good films.

17. With proper encouragement, sufficient capital may be forthcoming for film production.

21. We are opposed to the creation of a State agency to undertake the management of the Film Industry as a monopoly.

22. We consider that freedom should be allowed to the exhibitors to procure the best films at reasonable prices, irrespective of their place of origin.

23. Cinema pictures can only be used to a very small extent for making the various activities of the Governments and people of the British Commonwealth of Nations known to each other.

24. (a) It cannot be denied that some films have an injurious effect on public morals.

(b) But we believe that there is no general circulation of such films.

(c) Immoral and indecent films are harmful to every visitor of the cinema.

(d) Censorship regarding such films should be strictly enforced.

(e) We have no information as to whether there has been an increase of crime in Bengal due to the cinema.

25. Differences of social customs between the East and the West do necessitate special consideration in the censorship of films to a certain extent.

26. (a) More care should be taken in censoring films likely to offend religious susceptibilities.

(b) There have been a few instances in which religious susceptibilities have been offended.

27. (a) We do not think that any films exhibited in India have a tendency to misrepresent Western civilization or to lower it in the eyes of Indians. It is not a fact that films representing Western life are generally unintelligible to Indians.

(b) We have heard that some films exhibited abroad have a tendency to misrepresent Indian civilization but we have no specific instance.

29 & 30. We are in favour of special children's performances for children under 14 years of age.

31. We consider that censorship is an effective method of guarding against the misuse of films.

32. We consider that improvement is possible in the censorship of films.

34. (a) We do not approve of the replacement of the present Provincial Boards by a single Central Board, as that would cause great inconvenience to the trade.

(b) We do not advocate a Central Board in addition to the Provincial Boards and we are in favour of the continuance of the present arrangements.

35. (a) In the constitution of the Provincial Boards there should be more non-official members than at present and we suggest that the proportion should be at least two-thirds.

(b) We are opposed to the appointment of a whole-time well-paid Censor.

36. (a) & (b) We consider that one or more members of the Advisory Board should be associated with the Inspectors at Calcutta and Bombay for each inspection of films as the Inspectors cannot be expected to be capable of judging the suitability of all kinds of films and we have no doubt that gentlemen of suitable standing can be easily found for the purpose.

39. We do not know of instances in which pictures banned in the country of origin have been exhibited in this country.

40. We do not consider that posters and handbills of cinema performances should also be censored as we have not heard of any advertisements which were objectionable.

41. We have not noticed any perceptible improvement in the moral standard of the films exhibited in India.

42. (a) We do not consider that Government should exercise any control over film production.

(b) We do not consider that film-producing agencies should be registered or licensed or their studios periodically inspected.

8. Bengal Land Development Bill.

To

The Secretary to the Government of Bengal,
Legislative Department,
Town Hall, Calcutta.

24th December, 1927.

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 5592-5638L dated the 29th October, 1927, I am directed by the Executive Committee of the Indian Association to say that the Association generally approve of the principle of the Bengal Land Development Bill but reserve their criticisms of the details for submission later.

I have etc.
N. C. Ray,
Secretary.

9. Transfer of Property Act Amendment Bill.

To

The Secretary to the Government of Bengal,
Judicial Department,
Writers' Buildings, Calcutta.

24th December, 1927.

S;r,

I am directed by the Executive Committee of the Indian Association to acknowledge receipt of your letter No. 8274—82 J dated the 28th September 1927, forwarding a copy of the Transfer of Property (Amendment) Bill for the opinion of this Association.

In reply I am directed by my Committee to draw your attention to my letter dated the 14th May, 1927, a copy of which is annexed for facilitating reference.

The Indian Association have already expressed their opinion in the letter annexed, against the following provisions of the present Bill :

(1) the provision for making registration amount to notice of a registered document,

(2) the provision for making possession of immoveable property amount to notice of title of the possessor,

(3) the compulsory registration of sales and mortgages relating to immoveable property of whatever value and of all leases except those from month to month or for any term not exceeding one month,

(4) the provision for requiring leases to be executed by both parties, and I am directed by my Committee to reiterate their opposition to them.

I have etc.
N. C. Ray
Secretary.

APPENDIX H.
RESOLUTIONS.

1. Death of Mr. Srikali Ghosh.

12th March, 1927.

“Resolved that the Committee record their deep sense of sorrow and loss at the death of Mr. Srikali Ghosh. He was always anxious to advance the political and industrial cause of his country and his genial manners endeared him to all with whom he came in contact. The Committee offer their sincere condolence to the bereaved family.”

REPLY.

14th March, 1927.

The Secretary,
The Indian Association,
62, Bowbazar Street,
Calcutta

Dear Sir,

Please convey my heartfelt thanks to all the members of the Association for their kind condolence to me and my family.

Yours sincerely,
Nagendranath Ghosh.

2. Appointment of Councillors of the Calcutta Corporation by the Local Government.

6th April, 1927.

“Resolved that the Indian Association is strongly of opinion that in the recent appointment of councillors

of the Calcutta Corporation by the local Government, the principles of nomination as laid down in the Act have not been complied with. The Association urges the Ministry of Self-Government to make proper appointments as soon as occasion arises."

3. Kharag Bahadur Singh.

6th April, 1927.

"Resolved that in the matter of Kharag Bahadur Singh, having regard to the circumstances of the case, the Indian Association respectfully requests His Excellency the Governor of Bengal to remit the sentence passed on him".

REPLY.

To
The Secretary,
Indian Association,
Calcutta.

9th April, 1927.

Dear Sir,

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 8th instant and to thank you for the copy of the Resolution sent therewith.

Yours truly,
W. Graham.

**4. Appointment of Indian Resident Surgeon
at the Eden Hospital, Calcutta.**

14th May, 1927.

"Resolved that the Indian Association views with regret the mischievous agitation that is being carried

on in the columns of the Anglo-Indian Dailies regarding the appointment of an Indian as Resident Surgeon in the Eden Hospital, Calcutta, and urges on Government the necessity of making such appointments without regard to such agitation and reminds the agitators that the Hospital is maintained with the Indian tax-payers' money to which Indian medical men have the fullest claim for appointment and where they have so long worked without any question."

5. Levy of Customs Duty on Scientific Instruments purchased by Educational and Scientific Institutions.

14th May, 1927.

"Resolved that the Indian Association considers that the levy of customs duties on Scientific instruments indented from abroad by Educational and Scientific institutions in India works as a tax on education and is detrimental to the spread thereof and the Association urges on the Government of India the necessity of abolishing it altogether, specially as the amount realised annually from this source is a very insignificant fraction of the total customs revenue whereas it is a large proportion of the costs which the institutions in question have to pay for their Scientific equipment."

REPLY TO THE ABOVE.

Simla, the 7th June, 1927.

From Rai Bahadur L. Sen, B.A.,
Assistant Secretary to the Government of India.

To The Secretary,
Indian Association,
62, Bowbazar Street, Calcutta,
Exemption from import duty of Scientific instruments
imported by or for Educational and
Scientific institutions.

Sir,
I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 17th May, 1927, addressed to the Secretary

to the Government of India, Finance Department, communicating a Resolution passed by your Association on the above subject, and to say that the views of your Association are noted by the Government of India.

I have &c.

L. SEN,

Assistant Secretary to the Government of India.

6. Miss Mayo's "Mother India".

23rd September, 1927.

"The Indian Association desire to express their strong indignation against "Mother India" by an American woman Katherine Mayo. A careful perusal of the book leaves no doubt in one's mind that her purpose is to create a prejudice against Indians and lower them in the estimation of the civilised world and thus prevent further political reforms. If her statements, however unflattering to Indians, were made with any regard for truth, one had nothing to say against her but the book is full of vile insinuations, false suggestions, half truths which are more dangerous than lies, and deliberate untruths. In the opinion of the Indian Association Miss Mayo has done grave harm to the country and civilisation she represents, for her book gives clear evidence that an American lady, apparently cultured, and really able and well-read, can still indulge in such monumental lies. Her mention of many book-stalls in the courts and alleys and bazzars of Calcutta with "piles of Russian pamphlets" is a fair sample of her other concoctions in more serious matters, such as her assertion about every Indian mother perverting the morals of her own little children. They strongly condemn her uniform practice in the book of making quotations detached from their contexts from some of the great men of India and then dishonestly using them to suit her own point of view. The denial by Mahatma Gandhi of some statements alleged to have been made by him to her shows to what depths of fabrication Miss Mayo can stoop."

7. Mr. Pilcher's Remarks on Indian Widows.

23rd September, 1927.

"The Indian Association express their amazement that Mr. George Pilcher, M.P., and therefore, presumably an English gentleman, should cast such base slander against Indian widows. They believed that for one to slander people whom he does not and cannot know to a people who have no means to test his veracity, was neither English, nor gentlemanly but this their belief has received a rude shock by the despicable performance of Mr. Pilcher. They further regret that the "Statesman" considered it fit to broadcast in India Mr. Pilcher's filthy abuse."

8. Appointments under the Port Trust.

Calcutta, 23rd Sept. 1927.

"Resolved that the Indian Association have noted with surprise that the Commissioners for the Port of Calcutta are asking for applications from Chartered Accountants only for the post of an Assistant Accountant, thus practically shutting out Indians and they urge that effect should be given to Sir Pheroze Sethna's resolution in the Council of State in 1923 which the Government of India accepted, that the number of Indians in the higher grades in the service of the Port Trusts should be increased."

REPLY TO THE ABOVE.

Simla the 17th September 1927.

From

Rai S. N. Banerji Bahadur, B. A.

Assistant Secretary to the Government of India.

To

The Secretary,

Indian Association, Calcutta.

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 24th September 1927, and to forward a copy of the answer given to a question asked in the Legislative Assembly on the 19th September 1927,

which explains the position regarding the powers of the Port Trusts to appoint their staff and the action taken by the Government of India on Sir Phiroze Sethna's Resolution adopted by the Council of State in 1922.

I have etc.

S. N. Banerji,

Assistant Secretary to the Government of India.

ANSWER.

The Honourable Sir George Rainy : Under the various Port Acts, the Boards of Trustees exercise statutory power to appoint their own officers, except in the case of the highest appointments. In the debate in the Council of State, to which the Honourable Member refers, it was recognised that the most practical step that the Government could take to increase the number of Indians in the higher grades of the Port services, would be the amendment of the Port Acts so as to increase the number of Indians on the Boards, in which the power of appointment is vested. The Port Acts of the principal ports were accordingly amended for this purpose, and I am informed that the number of Indians appointed by the Board is now increasing.

9. Boycott of Simon Commission.

19th December 1927.

Resolved that the Secretary to the National Liberal Federation and the President elect of the tenth session be informed that there is a considerable body of opinion amongst prominent liberals in Bengal against boycott of the Simon Commission.

REPLY.

To

Babu Nibaranchandra Ray,
Indian Association.

62 Bowbazer St. Calcutta.

Your letter. Best course I venture to suggest is for Bengal Liberals to attend Federation Bombay.

Chintamani—Allahabad.

APPENDIX I.

Telegrams.

1. Appointment of Dr. Paranjpye to the India Council.

To

Hon. Dr. Paranjpye
Bombay.

Indian Association offers hearty congratulations on
your appointment as member of India Council

Secretary.

REPLY.

Bombay, 18th February, 1927.

Dear Sir,

I am very much obliged to the Indian Association for the kind congratulations on my appointment to the India Council which you sent to me.

Yours truly,
R. P. Paranjpye.

2. Appointment of Mr. Sastri as Agent General in South Africa.

16th May, 1927.

Rt. Hon. Mr. Sastri,
Poona.

Indian Association expresses sincere joy at your acceptance of office of agent General in South Africa and wishes you godspeed in your work.

Secretary.

REPLY.

Rama Mandiram Road,
Basavangudi,

Bangalore City, 14th May, 1927.

The Secretary,

Indian Association,

Calcutta.

Dear Sir,

Allow me to thank you most heartily for the very kind message of congratulations and good wishes which you were pleased to send me on account of my appointment as agent of the Government of India in South Africa. I trust it will be my good fortune to deserve them at least in part.

Kindly communicate my thanks to the members of the Indian Association.

Yours sincerely,
V. Srinivasan.

3. Release of Mr. Subhashchandra Bose.

Calcutta 16th May 1927.

Mr. Subhashchandra Bose,

38-2 Elgin Road, Calcutta.

Indian Association expresses hearty satisfaction at your release and hopes you will soon be restored to health and public life.

4. The Statutory Commission on Reforms.

Lord Birkenhead, Mr. Mallik, Dr. Paranjpye,
India Office, London,
and the Private Secretary to H. E.
the Viceroy, Camp.

21st/22nd July, 1927.

"Indian Association urges that Indian representation on the Statutory Commission on Reforms should be adequate and effective."

Secretary.

REPLY.

Viceroy's Camp, India.
28th July, 1927.

The Secretary,
Indian Association, Calcutta.

Dear Sir,

I write to acknowledge the receipt of your telegram dated the 22nd July, 1927.

Yours faithfully,
G. Cunningham,
Private Secretary to the Viceroy.

5. Proposed Simon Commission.

Rt. Hon. Mr. Baldwin, Downing Street,
Lord Birkenhead, India Office,
Mr. Polak, Eusee, London.

13th November, 1927.

"Indian Association strongly condemns proposed Commission excluding Indians as unmerited slight and urges appointment of Indians thereto even now. Instead of Select Committees suggested Association urges that committees of Indian and Provincial Legislatures should represent all parties and groups therein as also some prominent Indians outside and they should be empowered to examine witnesses, draft constitutions for India and Provinces and submit their reports to Government and Parliament which should be treated as authoritative demand of India and considered by Parliament.

Secretary.

6. Invitation to National Congress, Moslem League and National Liberal Federation.

President, Indian National Congress, Madras,
President, National Liberal Federation, Bombay,
Sir Mahammad Shafi, President, Moslem League,
Lahore.

24th December, 1927.

"Indian Association cordially invites All-India Committees of the National Congress, Moslem League and National Liberal Federation to meet each other in Calcutta to discuss and settle upon the future constitution of India and decide upon the most suitable line of action to get that constitution adopted".

Secretary.

APPENDIX J.

MEMORANDUM ON

Communal Representation.

For sometime past, the question of revision of the present system of communal representation of Mahomedans on the legislatures of India, has engaged public attention. The Indian Association has given its most earnest consideration to the proposals made by an influential body of Mahomedans at Delhi in March last, and the opinion expressed thereon by the Hindu Mahasabha and the All India Congress Committee. The question has a special importance for Bengal. If the suggestions that have been put forward be accepted, then Bengal will, for all practical purposes, be controlled by the Mahomedan community in future, and having regard to the facts stated below, such a contingency is bound to affect prejudicially the growth of nationalism in this province. It is therefore specially necessary to examine from all just and legitimate aspects the claim that has been urged.

The Indian Association feels that the question is of such a paramount importance from the point of view of advancement on truly national lines, that it should be examined dispassionately by all nationalists irrespective of personal differences or differences of party, politics, or community. All nationalists should approach the question from the point of view of justice to both the great communities, and then come to a decision. If the decision be based on justice and fairplay, then and then alone can the foundation of nationalism be well and truly laid. While all nationalists should anxiously strive for an understanding between the two great communities, yet in arriving at such an understanding, the respective communities should take due note of all facts and materials which can be justly urged by either side. Profiting by past experience, true nationalists should deprecate patched-up hasty arrangements and the more so if such arrangements ignore facts which can be justly, and legitimately urged by either community. Acute or widespread communal conflicts were practically unknown in Bengal before December 1925, but recent activities in certain quarters have, unfortunately created

such a serious cleavage between important sections of the two communities, that nationalists of Bengal may well despair of advance in their province on truly national lines. The Indian Association therefore desires to place certain facts and materials before the public of Bengal. It urges that no decision should be taken before the public have fully considered the question from all aspects. After the question has been so considered, it will be the duty of the Indian Association, as also of the public, to approach important All-India organisations like the Indian National Congress, the Hindu Mahasabha, the Moslem League and the National Liberal Federation of India. The Association as also the public of Bengal have a right to claim and demand that these All-India bodies should approach and examine this difficult question with the sole desire of promoting national welfare, and that such welfare can only be promoted by dealing out even-handed justice to the claims of both the communities.

Ever since the Moslem deputation of 1906 to Lord Minto, special communal representation in the legislatures has been claimed by Mahomedans on the ground of superiority based on their "political importance." In the interest of harmony and good-will amongst the different sections of the people, non-Moslem public opinion in India has not hitherto openly questioned such an assertion of superiority. Moreover, it was thought that the best cure for the communal outlook of an influential section of Mahomedans in India, would be the increased opportunity of public service and of promoting the commonweal which even a system of special representation was expected to give to that community jointly with other communities in the different legislatures. Experience has shown however that the supposed remedy has really aggravated the disease. The optimistic expectations of Nationalist Indian public men have been woefully belied and an influential section of Mahomedan public men has fostered communalism and accentuated the separatist tendencies of their community. This has resulted in cleavage between Hindus and Mahomedans, and has been largely instrumental in creating feelings of mutual hostility where they were non-existent—as, for example, in the rural areas of Bengal. In view of this past experience and in the very interest of the growth of nationalism, many of our countrymen feel that it has become necessary to examine this claim of superior political importance on its own merits.

Let us then briefly examine the claim of the Moslems to superior political importance. We desire amongst other points to examine it from the point of view of voting strength, population, educational advance, interest in public welfare and payment of taxes of the Moslem and non-Moslem communities in Bengal.

The total voting strength of the Mahomedans in the Bengal electorates, according to the figures given in the Franchise Committee's report is 36 per cent of the total strength in the territorial non-European electorates, the basis of franchise being a payment of sufficiently low scale of rates and cesses. We intend to place at an early date further facts bearing on the electoral strength of the two communities with regard to elections that were held in 1920, 1923 and 1926.

Closely connected with the question of voting strength is that of population. The Moslems' claim is really based on a misconception as to their numerical strength in the province. It is true that the total Mahomedan population in Bengal is 53·5 per cent but the mere statement of this percentage ignores one remarkable fact; namely, that owing primarily to a higher death rate of Moslem infants, the proportion of adult Moslem population is lower than that of the total Moslem population. As under the present constitution, a person is eligible to vote if he is above 21 years of age and has certain property qualification, it will not be right to ignore either of these two considerations.

Judged by the test of education, it cannot be gain said that the non-Moslems are far ahead of the Moslems, as statistics prove conclusively. From the census figures of 1921 for Bengal, it appears that out of total male literates in English, amounting to 7·34 lacs, no less than 5·74 lacs are Hindus, and only 1·28 lacs are Mahomedans. Out of total male literates amounting to 39 lacs, there are 26 lacs Hindus and 12 lacs Mahomedans. In Bengal 158 out of 1000 Hindus and 59 out of 1000 Mahomedans are literates. From the Report of the Director of Public Instruction, Bengal, for 1924-25, it appears that out of 30,653 pupils reading in colleges, 26,100, or 85·2 per cent, are Hindus, and 3,926, or 12·8 per cent, are Mahomedans. On a calculation based on the census figures for 1921 for Bengal, out of a total of 1,580,415 male Hindus of school going age, 876,410, or 55·43 per cent, attend schools; out of a total of 1,943,670 male Moslems of school-going age, 755,400, or 38·86 per cent, attend school. Out of 908 schools in Bengal, it appears

that only 57 schools have been established and maintained by Mahomedans.

We shall next take up the question of interest in public welfare. In the sphere of public charities, Mahomedans in spite of their numerical strength, are much in the background. On an examination of the list of the Endowments in the hands of the University of Calcutta for scholarships and prizes on the results of University examinations, it appears that out of 155 endowments up to 1927, only one has been created by a Moslem. From a list of landed properties vested in the Treasurer of Charitable Endowments, it appears that only one is by a Mahomedan and 19 by Hindus; out of 89 endowments consisting of securities, one is by a Mahomedan and 77 by Hindus, the respective values being Rs. 13,000 and Rs. 25 lacs. A notable feature of the charities is that those created by Mahomedans are communal in character whereas almost all those created by non-Moslems are non-communal.

Judged by the test of public spirit and social service, it will have to be admitted that Mahomedans are much backward. In flood relief, famine relief and on other occasions of social service, even in areas predominantly Mahomedan, it is the Hindus and not the Mahomedans who are found to be active and conspicuous.

We next take up the question of payment of taxes by the two communities. It is true that Government publications do not set out figures showing the quota contributed by the different communities to the central and provincial revenues, but on a rough calculation made on the basis of well-known facts, it would appear that less than 20 per cent of taxes in Bengal is paid by Moslems. According to the Civil Budget Estimate of the Government of Bengal for the year 1927-28, the sum of 10 crores 73 lacs odd is the gross income of the Province. Out of this, the sum of 9 crores 91 lacs odd is derived from the principal revenue heads, e. g., Land Revenue, Excise, Stamp, Forest, Registration and Scheduled Taxes. The balance of 82 lakhs represents the credit side of administrative income, namely, income from jails, police, educational fees, etc. Out of the true revenue of 9 crores 91 lacs, Excise and Land Revenue account for 5 crores 44 lacs odd. Non-Moslems mostly Hindus, pay practically the whole of these two heads of taxation. The sum of 2 crores and 21 lakhs is raised on Judicial Stamps. It would appear from Government figures that 5½ per cent of the litigation in Bengal consists of rent suits, and 37 per cent of money suits. From our general knowledge of litigations in these suits, we can safely assert that an overwhelmingly large portion of the Court Fees is paid

by non-Moslems. The sum of 1 crore 26 lakhs is raised on non-judicial stamps. This head will soon cease to be a head of provincial revenue. Well-known facts justify us in asserting that an overwhelmingly large percentage of this income also is paid by non-Moslems. On a careful calculation, it appears that non-Mahomedans contribute most of the income derived by Government from Excise, Land Revenue, and Stamps, amounting to 8 crores and 96 lacs. Whether our assertion is controverted or not, we suggest an enquiry by Government to ascertain what amount of taxes is paid by each of the two communities. It ought not to be difficult to find out the respective contributions of taxes with reasonable approximation. The significance of these facts is obvious, when it is remembered that Mahomedans form 53·5 per cent of the total population of Bengal, and that it is now proposed to secure representation to them on his basis. Having regard to the separatist tendencies of some of the present day Moslem leaders, specially in Bengal, it would be unfair and inexpedient to entrust to this community the spending of revenues raised by taxation mostly from other communities.

It may be incidentally pointed out that so far as Bengal is concerned, a very large proportion of the Mahomedan population is descended from Hindu converts. A mere change of religion obviously cannot give persons greater rights and privileges than they enjoyed before.

In adverting to these facts, it is not our intention in any way to cry down the great Mahomedan community. We are, on the other hand, fully alive to their just demands and claims. But when any claim to special representation in excess of what is due on just basis is made by Moslems, at the expense of the legitimate claims of non-Moslems, we feel it our duty to refer to the above considerations with the sole desire of bringing about a lasting settlement between the two communities on the basis of justice.

There is yet another point which we feel we ought to mention. The present situation has largely arisen because leaders of certain sections of the Moslem community do not consider themselves to be Indians first and Moslems afterwards, and many of them are unwilling to approach Indian problems from the national, as distinguished from the communal, point of view.

Regarding the decision arrived at by the meeting of the All-India Congress Committee at Bombay, we desire to point out that they have not given due consideration to patent facts affecting the province of Bengal. As the proceedings of the Committee are confidential, we

do not know the reasons which led to the adoption of the resolution. We desire, however, to point out that in view of (a) the percentage of voters, (b) the numerical strength of the adult population as opposed to the entire population including infants, (c) educational advance, (d) interest in public welfare and social service and (e) contribution to the public exchequer, their decision has not been fair.

The Indian Association has been all along opposed to communal representation. We advocate the principle of Joint Electorate without any reservation of seats. If, however, public opinion demands a compromise on the basis of reservation of seats, we are prepared to discuss any definite proposals that might be forthcoming on their own merits, provided such proposals are put forward by organisations which are in fact authorized to speak on behalf of the two communities.

But we feel that such proposals of compromise, being All-India questions, can only be discussed in one of the following ways :

(a) Between the Indian National Congress, the Moslem League, the Hindu Mahasabha and the National Liberal Federation, by representative Committees appointed for the purpose or

(b) By a conference of representative public men of all communities.

Before, however, any of these questions is taken up by any of the All-India organisations or Conference, it is very necessary that there should be a representative conference in Bengal of Hindus and Moslems to discuss this matter. In this conference all parties and sections of the two communities should be adequately represented. In our opinion, it would be desirable to convene this conference at a convenient date.

If reservation of seats be ultimately decided upon, we maintain that such reservation of seats cannot be on the basis of population, but the other points mentioned in this statement, including that of electoral strength, should be taken into account.

We conclude this statement by suggesting that Nationalists of Bengal, irrespective of party and politics, should call local meetings and conferences to discuss this important question and publish the result of their deliberations. We would draw the special attention of our countrymen in East Bengal and North Bengal to the importance of calling local conferences.

12th June 1927.

APPENDIX K.

Statement of the Committee of the Indian Association regarding the proposed Royal Commission.

12th November, 1928.

The Committee of the Indian Association is of opinion that the decision of the British Parliament to exclude Indians from the Commission is a great blunder and is in violation of the policy underlying the principle of the Government of India Act of 1919. The Committee strongly protests against this slight to India. It is further of opinion that the provision for appointment of Select Committees of the Indian Legislatures merely for leading evidence before the Parliamentary Commission cannot be expected to satisfy Indian public opinion or remove the sense of grave injustice done to India. The situation created is grave and serious from the point of view of creation of good-will between England and India compatible with the national self-respect of India. The Committee of the Indian Association after very serious consideration of this grave situation still hopes that Indians should be even now included in the Commission and failing this, begs to put forward the following suggestions for the consideration of all the political parties in the country as also of the Government of India and the British Cabinet :—

(1) A Committee consisting of members of all political parties and communities in the Legislative Assembly and the Council of State should be set up not with the object of merely leading evidence but with the object of drawing up a skeleton constitution for India by the elected representatives of the people. This Committee should be recognised by the Government of India and the British Parliament as virtually occupying the position of an authoritative Committee appointed by the Indian Legislatures. Every facility, financial and otherwise, should be given to the Committee by the Government of India and this Committee should be authorised to examine witnesses, official and non-official. The Committee should consist of say 25 members of both Houses of the Indian Legislature and

should also include 8 or 10 non-officials of outstanding position in the public life in India but who are not members of either House of the Indian Legislature. It will be the duty of this Committee to present a report to the Government of India—an agreed one let us hope—and the Government of India should forward the report to the British Cabinet through the Secretary of State.

(2) Committees on similar lines should be set up by every Provincial Legislature and similar powers and recognition should be given to such Committees. There are various questions including finance, franchise, the interest of minorities, the position of Ministers and permanent officers, the investigation of which can be more conveniently done by these Provincial Committees. The Provincial Committees should submit their reports to the local Governments as also to the All-India Committee.

(3) It is hardly necessary to add that the Committee of the Indian Association would be very pleased to take into its consideration any other constructive and practical suggestion compatible with national self-respect which is likely to lead to definite results that may be put forward by other Associations or Bodies.

(4) The Committee of the Indian Association feels that the immediate situation is such that different political parties as also the communities cannot, in the national interest, afford to continue their differences. It is of the utmost importance that all nationalists and all communities who claim to think and act on national lines should come to an agreed programme. The Committee desires to make a strong appeal for concerted action. If we carry on the present fratricidal differences the future of India is indeed dark.

The Committees suggested should be set up as early as possible and as the work before them is hard it will be necessary for them to carry on their sittings for several months. During this period every effort should be made by all nationalists irrespective of parties or communities to create an atmosphere suitable for a successful working of these Committees.

Simultaneously with this intensive propaganda in India there should also be an intensive propaganda in Great Britain to educate public opinion there about Indian affairs.

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Simultaneously with this intensive propoganda in India there should also be an intensive propoganda in Great Britain to educate public opinion there about Indian affairs.

The Committee of the Indian Association has seriously considered the question of the boycott of the Commission. It prefers to reserve its opinion on the point at this stage and will come to a decision after it and the Indian public had more time to consider this very serious question more fully. It should be borne in mind in this connection that boycott can only be made effective if all communities, parties, as well as a large section of the masses are united.

What action should be taken if the constitution asked for by the united Indian public opinion through their elected representatives be not accepted by the British Parliament may well be determined after the demand is made and rejected. We may conclude by saying that whatever action is decided upon will be far more effective if in the meantime we progress towards unity and good-will between all sections of Indian nationalists.

APPENDIX L.

Opium Enquiry.

To

The Commissioner of Excise & Salt,

Bengal.

13th August, 1927.

Sir,

With reference to your circular letter re: Opium Enquiry Committee, I am directed by my Committee to state that they are at present carrying out an enquiry regarding the existence and mode of working of opium and chandu dens in Calcutta and its neighbourhood. They have been informed that there is a very large number of such dens in Calcutta and 7 or 8 such dens have been actually visited by a deputation from my Committee. My Committee are convinced that the increased sale of opium in Calcutta is intimately connected with the existence of these dens and I am directed by my Committee to draw the attention of the Opium Enquiry Committee to this fact. A further report will be sent to you after my Committee have completed their enquiry,

I have etc.

N. C. Ray,

Secretary.

Report of the Opium Enquiry Committee.

The 23rd September, 1927.

A Sub-Committee consisting of Mr. H. M. Bose, Dr. Santiram Chatterji, Rai Fanindralal De Bahadur and Mr. Nibaranchandra Ray was appointed at the meeting of the Executive Committee of the Indian Association held on the 16th July, 1927, to enquire into the existence and working of opium dens in Calcutta and to report thereon. This Sub-Committee learned from their enquiries that there are from 100 to 150 dens in Calcutta and they arranged to visit some of these on Friday the

29th July 1927. As one of the members, Mr. N. C. Ray, fell ill on that day, the other three members visited 8 or 9 dens, most of them situated in the heart of the city.

They found that there are numerous opium dens in the Kalabagan area, where dens are very close to each other. In each den the Sub-Committee visited, were seen a number of men smoking opium. These belong to all classes of the population, from day labourers to middle class people, and of almost all ages from 25 upwards. But the majority seemed to be between 25 and 40. These dens appear to be like clubs and the frequenters at any time may number 20 or 30 smokers.

When these facts were reported at the meeting of the Committee held on the 13th August, it was resolved to communicate the same to the Opium Enquiry Committee.

At the same meeting Rai Dr. Haridhan Dutt Bahadur, a member of the Executive Committee as well as of the Opium Enquiry Committee, intimated that he would request the latter body to call Mr. H. M. Bose, Rai Fanindralal De Bahadur and Dr. Santiram Chatterji as witnesses. When these gentlemen were invited to give evidence before the Opium Enquiry Committee, the Sub-Committee interviewed several important personages who seemed to them to be in a position to know the situation about the consumption of Opium in Calcutta intimately.

As a result of their deliberations they arrived at the following conclusions :—

1. The smoking of opium and the existence of opium dens should be prohibited by law under penalty.
2. The consumption of opium should be brought down to the League of Nation's standard (viz. 6 seers per 10000) by confining the use of opium to medicinal purposes only.
3. This should be done by introducing a system of registration whereby those above the age of 20 who are at present addicted to the opium habit should be registered and their supply limited to 3 grains per head daily.
4. No opium is to be supplied to persons under the age of 20 years.
5. The number of opium shops in Calcutta and the mill areas should be considerably reduced.
6. The doping of children with opium should be penalised.

7. As regards persons who want to begin the opium habit in the future, no opium is to be supplied to them except under a medical certificate which should hold valid only for a limited period at a time, say for three months.

8. Smuggling of opium from outside British India e. g. from the Native States, should be rigorously suppressed and

9. The cultivation of opium in British India and Native States should be strictly controlled and the amount produced limited ultimately to the medical requirements of the people.

The three members of the Sub-Committee named above appeared before the Opium Enquiry Committee on the 9th and 14th September and urged the above points before them on behalf of the Indian Association.

APPENDIX M.

Evidence of Mr. Nibaranchandra Ray before the Indian Cinematograph Committee.

21st December, 1928.

Witness: Mr. Nibaranchandra Ray, Secretary,
Indian Association.

Chairman: You believe in the potentiality of Indian films?

A. Yes.

Q. And you think steps should be taken to encourage the growth of Indian films?—Yes.

Q. I don't know that you have made any definite suggestions as to what you think should be done to encourage films.....

A. Well, no definite suggestion has been made. The quota system might be adopted.

Q. You approve of the quota system for Indian films, gradually rising?—Yes.

Q. What is your opinion as regards the existing tariff on films?—We have not much information but I think there is no differentiation now.

Q. I don't mean differentiation—whether it is sufficiently high or low?—Well, we cannot say. We have not considered that point.

Q. Now of course you are a responsible Indian body. What is your view of the question of the effect of the film on the Indian public? Do you think there is really any demoralising effect or any risk of it?—No, I don't think there is any risk.

Q. That is to say, the adolescents of the country go to the cinema. Do you think they are likely to be affected by what they see of the gay life?—Well, they know much of it already. They have been seeing this for the last 20 or 30 years—at least 20.

Q. But I mean it cannot be the same people. It is the growing adolescent population. Take for instance the college youths, between the age of 16 and 22. What

do you think? Do you think they get affected by it? Some people think that they get affected—A. Well, in this case there is some advantage inasmuch as these cinema shows divert their attention from other worse things.

Q. You mean they might be diverted to the streets and worse practices, in the absence of the cinema?—Yes.

Q. But on the whole are you satisfied that there is no risk of harm by allowing things to go on as they are?—Yes, that was the view of our Committee.

Q. Do you think the censorship as at present practised is adequate?—We thought so. We have stated so.

Q. What do you say then in 26 (a)?—More care should be taken in regard to certain films likely to wound religious susceptibilities. But they are taking care. What have you in mind when you say more care?—Well, it does not mean anything particular about more care? What we meant was that more care should be taken for such films than for other films. Particular care.

Q. In 32, you say: "We consider that improvement is possible in the censorship of films"—Yes, we have made a suggestion to that effect under 36 (a) and (b) as regards the method of inspecting films.

Q. You consider that one or two members of the advisory board should be associated with the inspector for each film. Don't you think it will involve a lot of work on members if each film has to be examined by the members of the board?—I don't think it will mean much trouble for them.

Q. It means 3 hours' work for two days in the week for each member, if there are 8 members—I think there are people who would be willing to do it.

Mr. Green: Voluntarily? Without renunciation?—I think so.

Q. And regularly?—Well, I cannot say if they will be regular.

Q. If they are not regular, how can you get your censorship done?—Well, there must be a panel.

Chairman: You believe that work should be done honorary or should be paid for by fees? You see it is very troublesome—I am in favour of a small fee.

Q. A sitting fee?—Yes.

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Q. A sitting fee?—Yes.

Q. Do you think men like you can be had for this purpose?—Oh yes. There are many advisory committees here on which people serve.

Q. But still you know the difficulty of getting people to attend meetings of committees. You must have experience how difficult it is to get committee meetings attended—I know.

Q. But if you attach a sitting fee to it you think it may be easier to get men?—Yes.

Q. You think a fee of Rs. 16 per diem will be ample?—I think so. In the general committee of the old Calcutta Corporation the fee was Rs. 16, so far as I remember.

Mr. Green: If you had a large panel from whom to choose members of the board to see actual films, would there not be risk of loss of uniformity?—of different standard arising?—A. No, I don't think so. What we had in view was that there are different kinds of films—educational films.

Q. Educational films are very few.—Yes, unfortunately. What we suggest is that they should come more into requisition now.

Q. There is not much difficulty about censoring those films—Then there are the public health films.

Q. There is very little difficulty about those. But the vast quantity of entertainment films are the ones that require censorship. There are already differences of opinion naturally on the board. If you increase your panel so as to enable gentlemen always to be available to examine films, won't you increase the number of differences of opinion?—A. No, I don't think we should increase the number of differences of opinion in that way. I can give you an instance here as regards the Calcutta Corporation. There are 90 members and every member is required to be associated with the Chief Executive Officer or the Deputy Executive Officer or some other officer in doing some sort of business in the ward to which the member belongs. They have got to do that and they do it willingly.

Q. Do I understand you to wish to indicate that there is no difference of opinion in the Calcutta Corporation?—There may be differences of opinion but that would not count because you will have to go by the rule of the majority.

Q. Right. We will assume that two gentlemen

differ among themselves, therefore it will have to go to the full board for consideration?—Yes.

Q. They differ among themselves—Well, what is being done now? My point is there is no less likely to be a difference of opinion regarding standards of censorship if the censoring body is a relatively small one?—

A. How can that be? Supposing the matter goes up to the board of censors, then they will decide by a majority. There must be either a majority in favour or against it.

Q. I am not only arguing about majorities but about the general way in which this board is going to work. You have got to get your gentlemen to come. If there is difference of opinion, then all the other members have got to see the film—What we stated was that there should be an inspector and one member of the board inspecting a film. When they differ among themselves the matter is referred to the board.

Q. Yes, but my point is, it is surely easier to get a uniform and more or less agreed decision when the board consists of only 6 or 8 members. If you expand it to make it to 15 or 18, or 20 or 30, it will be obviously more difficult, at least in my view—No, I don't think it will make it more difficult.

Q. The chairman indicated that regularity of attendance would be a very important feature. The work of censorship goes on probably every day in the year. And you don't propose that the owner of a film should have to wait for the convenience of the members before it is censored. It is to be done in a certain time. Do you think you will easily get gentlemen like yourself who will work in Calcutta right through the hot weather, the monsoon and the cold weather?

A. Supposing there are 20 members of the board and 20 sittings, well one member would be associated with the inspector every day. That would not require more than one day in the month from each member.

Q. Are you speaking with knowledge of the amount of work actually done?—the number of films examined?—But I understood from the chairman that each man would have to do about 3 hours' work for two days in the week, if two members do it; and if there are more members that will be divided again.

Col. Crawford: May I just pursue the question Mr. Green has put to you? Your board decides the general

policy of censorship but when you come to interpret that policy in view of the actual film on the screen, people interpret it in different lights. You select your picture board and break them up into batches; (a) and (b) come along and interpret it in one way. Next day (c) and (d) come along and interpret it in another way. And so on. Therefore, aren't you really risking uniformity in censoring?—Why should it be necessary for different sets of people to inspect the same film.

Q. They would see different films, but your general standard of censoring are subject to interpretation by a large number of people.—A. But here you are employing only one man whose knowledge must be limited and who cannot be expected to interpret all films correctly.

Q. But he passes each film through the same test. If you think his taste is weak, you can turn him on and put in another man?—But here you are putting the whole burden of the work upon one man and upon the judgment of that man depends the success or otherwise of the film.

Q. Then you can tie him down. You can say: "this man is not interpreting the correct policy of the board: we will get somebody else."—A. But when you are trying Indian films, he may not know Indian films at all.

Q. Are you satisfied with stories shown on the films today in general?—Yes.

Q. You take your wife to see them and your daughters?

A. Well unfortunately I am not married.

Q. No, but would you suggest that your women relatives should go to see them?—Yes, they are going. There is no objection. Once or twice I have noticed something objectionable but very rarely.

Mr. Niogi: You have been connected with one of the largest colleges in Bengal?—Yes.

Q. For how many years?—Over ten years.

Chairman: How long ago was it?—I joined the college in 1917. I am still connected with it.

Mr. Niogi: You have been a professor for all these years?—Yes, since 1897.

Q. And do you think the Cinema has any evil influence upon the student community?—I have answered that.

APPENDIX N.

1. Communal Tension and Punitive Police at Patuakhali.

To

The Private Secretary to His
Excellency the Governor of Bengal,
Government House, Calcutta.

14th March, 1927

Sir,

I am directed by the Executive Committee of the Indian Association to draw His Excellency's kind attention to the very pitiful condition of the Hindu residents of Patuakhali which is disclosed in their memorial of the 25th February addressed to him. It appears that there is a tension of feeling between the Hindus and Mahomedans of the place and to impose punitive police on one community, viz. the Hindus, signifies that the Government has decided that the guilt lies entirely with them. My Committee considers that such a decision without a proper enquiry at which both communities are fully represented would be against the sense of justice and fairplay and I am desired by my Committee to urge on His Excellency the necessity of holding a sifting enquiry into the causes of the state of things at Patuakhali. In the meantime my Committee prays that His Excellency may be pleased to direct the suspension of the punitive police tax.

I have etc.
N. C. Ray,
Asst. Secretary.

REPLIES.

1. To

The Secretary,
Indian Association,
Calcutta.

16th March, 1927.

Dear Sir,

I am desirous to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated 14th March 1927,

Yours faithfully,
H. R. Wilkinson.

2. From

S. N. Roy, Esq., I. C. S.,
Deputy Secretary to the Government of Bengal,

To

The Secretary, Indian Association.

Calcutta, 9th April, 1927.

Sir,

With reference to your letter dated the 14th March 1927, regarding the quartering of additional police at Patuakhali, I am directed to refer to the communique of the 19th January 1927 (copy enclosed) which embodies the decision of Government on the facts and to say that Government decline to order the suspension of the realisation of the cost under section 15 of the Police Act (Act V of 1861, or to revise the assessment which has been legally made by the District Magistrate under section 15 (4) of the Act after considering the orders of exemption passed by the local Government under section 15 (5).

I have etc.
S. N. Ray, . . .

Deputy Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

GOVERNMENT OF BENGAL.

Communique.

Dated the 19th January 1927.

Conflicting accounts of the situation at Patuakhali having appeared in the public press, the Governor in Council has decided to issue a statement of the facts of the case and the orders issued in connection therewith.

2. Patuakhali is in a locality in which there is a large preponderance of Muhammadans over the Hindus, the proportion being about 5 to 1 in the subdivision and the revenue thana, and about 4 to 1 in the headquarters police station. In the Municipality, however, the communities are almost equal in numbers. In the past there are no records of any disputes on the subject of music before mosques, and the Governor in Council is satisfied that in the area affected by the present dispute there was a long standing and well recognised practice under which Hindu processions out of regard for the feelings of the Muhammadans, when passing along the District Board road on the south side of which there is a mosque, stopped music for a distance of about 80 yards between the west end of the Civil Court compound and a culvert.

3. Originally there was only one mosque in the locality, a building situated on the south of the District Board road and some 7 yards from it. Subsequently, however, about the year 1911 the Muhammadans erected a new mosque on the north of the Municipal lane running from the District Board road along the edge of the Civil Court compound and about 30 yards from the junction of the lane and the District Board road. The new mosque is now used for congregational prayers and the old mosque for private prayer. After the erection of the new mosque the Muhammadans tried to get the area within which Hindu processions stopped all music extended 45 yards towards the east to the point where the main approach to the Civil Court takes off from the District Board road, and there seem to have been some negotiations between the two communities on the subject but there is no evidence that the practice of stopping music in this extended area was ever generally recognised.

4. Latterly as the result of the forces operating in the Indian Moslem world the local Muhammadans began, among other things, to object to attending the festivities connected with certain Hindu festivals and to oppose the performance by Hindus of certain ceremonies in certain places of which the Saraswati Puja in schools was probably the most prominent. This led to trouble at the Latif Seminary and elsewhere but no serious ebullition occurred until after the riots in Calcutta in April 1926. The excitement which these engendered increased the irritation which this attitude of the Muhammadans had caused among the Hindus and the prominence given in Calcutta to the question of music before mosque led the Hindus on the 13th of May 1926 deliberately to organise a procession with music along the District Board road near the mosques in defiance of the recognised practice. There was no religious festival at the time and the object was merely to annoy the Muhammadans in which object they succeeded. The Subdivisional Officer, however, formed a Conciliation Committee and further trouble was avoided.

5. A month later at the time of the Bakr-Id fresh trouble occurred owing to the Muhammadans performing their sacrifice in the open without making any attempt to screen the ceremony from the Hindus in the neighbourhood. In retaliation and in defiance of the recognised practice the Hindus took a procession along the District Board road near the mosques at the time of evening prayer and a serious riot was only averted by the efforts of the local officials and certain Hindu leaders. The situation was so serious that the District Magistrate had to go to Patuakhali and issue an order under section 144, Criminal Procedure Code, forbidding all public meetings and processions for fifteen days and to post an additional force of armed police in the locality. It was about this time that Babu Satindranath Sen arrived from Barisal with a party of Hindu volunteers to take charge of the Hindu activities. He and other Hindu leaders approached the District Magistrate to have the order under section 144, Criminal Procedure Code, withdrawn, and each side having, after some discussion, agreed to refrain from any action that was likely to annoy the other for at least a fortnight the District Magistrate withdrew his order under section 144, Criminal Procedure Code, and removed the additional police.

6. At this time it was not denied by the Hindus that there was a long standing and well recognised practice of stopping music on the District Board road near the mosques; the only point in dispute was the eastern limit of the area within which music was not played."

7. For the next two months conferences were held between the two parties and the Muharram passed without trouble but no settlement was arrived at as Babu Satindranath Sen now raised the general question of right and would concede nothing further than that non-religious processions such as marriage processions should stop music before the principal mosque. Ultimately this leader announced that if no agreement was reached by a certain date he would lead a procession over the disputed area. As such action, if allowed, would inevitably have had very serious consequences orders were issued under section 30 (2) of the Police Act (V of 1861) requiring all persons directing or promoting processions in Patuakhali town to apply for a license. In addition extra police were sent down to Patuakhali and every effort was made by the local officers to procure an agreement.

8. Finally on the 30th August 1926 Babu Satindra Nath Sen took out a procession under license but violated the terms of the license which provided *inter alia* that following the lines of the previous arrangement between the two communities no music should be played between the Municipal lane at the west end of the Civil Court compound and the culvert. As a result of this procession some arrests were made and some stone throwing took place whereupon the Assistant Superintendent of Police who was in charge extended the area, in which according to the terms of the license issued under section 30 (3) Police Act (V of 1861), music was prohibited, to the path leading to the Civil Court so as to remove the place of arrest from the proximity of the new mosque. This was done solely in the interests of public peace and not with the idea of supporting the Mhhammadan claim over the additional area. Since then there have been daily processions under license, daily breaches of the conditions of the license and daily arrests and prosecutions under section 32, Police Act. In every case the sentence has been one of fine, imprisonment being ordered only in default of payment of the fine.

9. From time to time there have been various attempts at a settlement. One proposal made by some

Hindu leaders that orders similar to those in force in Calcutta should be passed by Government for Patuakhali was rejected as being contrary to the declared policy of Government to maintain existing practice in the mufassal. Another by some of the moderate local Hindus, which slightly modified the original understanding and would allow four religious processions and all funeral processions to pass the mosque with music save at prayer time only, all other processions being forbidden to play music at any time before the mosque, was rejected by the Hindu extremists. On the 19th November the District Magistrate persuaded both parties to refer the matter in dispute to a board of arbitration consisting of two Hindus from the Hindu Maha Sabha, and two Muhammadans from the Jaiyat-e-Ulema with power to co-opt a fifth member as Chairman, but the same day Babu Satindranath Sen was himself arrested for taking part in a procession which broke the terms of the license. As the result of this, the District Magistrate was approached at Barisal by some Hindu leaders and asked, in the interest of the proposed settlement, to perform an "act of clemency" and withdraw the case against Babu Satindranath Sen, and those arrested with him, which he finally agreed to do. Now the District Magistrate awaits the outcome of the proposal to submit the matters in dispute to a board of arbitration.

10. The Governor in Council again invites attention to the policy announced in his communique, dated the 5th June 1926, viz., "In the mufassal, Magistrates and police officers will continue to regulate processions under the Police Act in accordance with the practice which prevails in the locality concerned." He is satisfied that there is a long established and well recognised practice in Patuakhali that music was stopped in deference to Muhammadan sentiments by all processions between the limits specified in paragraph 2 above and he has therefore issued instructions to the local officers to regulate processions under the Police Act in accordance with that practice. The Governor in Council would welcome any agreement freely and voluntarily arrived at between the leaders of the two communities which would render unnecessary the present measures for maintaining the public peace. He regards with abhorrence the present state of affairs in which so many boys and youths under a mistaken sense of loyalty to their religion persist in breaking the law and in going to jail, and he has already issued orders for the release

of all who are willing to apologise for their conduct and give their word of honour not to repeat it if released or whose parents or guardians are willing to give an undertaking on their behalf. Up to date 45 persons have been released under these orders. But he is not prepared as a concession to such misdirected loyalty and self-sacrifice to modify his policy already announced for dealing with such disputes in the mufassal and he trusts that the leaders of the Hindu community will recognise this and persuade their followers to cease from defying the law and if they desire to depart from the previous practice will have recourse to negotiation or arbitration or if all else fails to the Civil Courts.

2. Election of Aldermen of the Corporation of Calcutta.

To

The Hon. the Minister of Local
Self-Government, Bengal,
Writers' Buildings, Calcutta.

14th March, 1927.

Sir,

I am directed by the Executive Committee of the Indian Association to make the following representation regarding the election of five aldermen by the Corporation of Calcutta under Section 9 of Act III of 1925, immediately after the Municipal elections on March 16 next.

2. At the time of the last election in 1924, the Corporation decided that the election of aldermen was to be by show of hands and it was accordingly so conducted.

3. My Committee desire to point out that all elections should be by ballot, so that the voters may not be influenced by any other consideration than that of the fitness of the candidate.

4. Section 9 clearly lays down that the election shall take place "within such period as the Local Government may fix and in such manner as they may prescribe." It is thus clearly within the competency of the Local Government to prescribe the manner of election of aldermen.

5. I am, therefore, desired by my Committee to urge that the election of aldermen by the Calcutta Corpora-

tion should be by ballot and that the Local Government should direct the Calcutta Corporation to hold such election by ballot under Sec. 9 of the Act.

I have etc.

K. K. Mitra,
Secretary.

3. Recruitment of Indians for the Indian Police Service.

To
The Chief Secretary to the
Government of Bengal,
Darjeeling.

17th May, 1927.

Sir,

I am directed by the Committee of the Indian Association to address you on the question of recruitment of Indians for the Indian Police Service in Bengal.

2. I am desired to draw your particular attention to para 38 of the Report of the Royal Commission on the Superior Civil Services in India, 1924, and specially to the words "it is obvious that it is only by offering yearly a constant and fairly large number of appointments that the Police Service can become generally known as offering a suitable career to young Indians of the right stamp."

3. My Committee have learned that the number of Europeans and Indians recruited directly for the Indian Police Service has been as follows for the past 5 years :

Year.	Europeans.	Indians by competition.	Indians by nomination.
1922	4	1	0
1923	3	1	2
1924	2	1	1
1925	3	2	0
1926	3	0	1

4. I am directed by my Committee to point out that

the number recruited directly during the past 5 years has been such as to detract rather than attract young Indians of the right stamp. Unless the number of direct recruitment by open competition be adequate the expectation of the Royal Commission is not likely to be fulfilled.

5. My Committee therefore urge that a larger number of Indians, not less than 3, should be recruited annually to the Indian Police Service by open competition.

I have &c,
N. C. Ray,
Asst. Secretary.

REPLY TO THE ABOVE.

From W. D. R. Prentice, Esq., I.C.S.,
Chief Secretary to the Government of Bengal,
To The Secretary, Indian Association.
Darjeeling, the 22nd June, 1927.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to your letter, dated 17th May 1927, on the subject of recruitment of Indians for the Indian Police Service in Bengal.

2. In reply, I am to enclose a statement showing direct recruitment to the Indian Police Service in the years 1922-26 from which it will be observed that the number of direct recruits by competition and nomination has exceeded the standard proposed by the Lee Commission, namely 30 per cent of the total direct recruitment. I am also to point out that direct recruitment of 3 Indians annually as suggested by your Association would involve a total recruitment in excess of the requirements of this Presidency.

3. I am to add that annual recruitment to the Indian Police Service is under the control of the Government of India and is not in the hands of the local Government.

I have &c.
Illegible.

for Chief Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

*Statement Showing direct recruitment to the I. P. S.
during the years 1922-26.*

Year.	Europeans recruited at competitive examination in London about July.	Indians recruited at competitive examination in India in November-December.	Indians recruited by nomination.
1	2	3	4
1922	4	1	0
1923	3	2	2
1924	3	2	0
1925	3	0	1
1926	3	2	0
	<hr style="width: 50px; margin: 0 auto;"/> 16	<hr style="width: 50px; margin: 0 auto;"/> 7	<hr style="width: 50px; margin: 0 auto;"/> 3

4. Formation of an Urban Unit in Calcutta.

To
The Secretary to the Government of India,
Home Department,
Simla.

Dated, Calcutta, the 6th September, 1928.

Sir,

I am directed by the Committee of the Indian Association to address you in connection with the Government decision on the Shea Committee's Report. It appears that Government do not intend to start an Urban Unit in Calcutta. My Committee fail to understand why Calcutta has been excluded. Calcutta has so long been expecting the formation of Urban Units in accordance with the Report of the Shea Committee. My Committee are aware of hundreds of respectable merchants, lawyers, doctors and men belonging to other professions anxious to join an Urban Unit and receive proper military training. Government are aware of

the reasons why they have so long been unable to join the Indian Territorial Force, and those reasons were fully considered by the Shea Committee. In the circumstances my Committee hope that Government will rectify the error and announce their intention of forming Urban Units of sufficient strength in Calcutta, so that no suitable man may be excluded.

I may here mention that my Committee have not yet been able to consider as to how far Government decision has been in accordance with the Report of the Shea Committee in other respects *e. g.* the granting of commissions and the giving of proper status to officers etc., and if necessary, I may have occasion to address you again on these matters.

I have &c.
N. C. Ray,
Secretary.

APPENDIX O.

Condition of Chitpur Bridge.

To

The Secretary to the Government of Btngal,
Irrigation Department,
Writers' Buildings, Calcutta.

23rd December, 1927.

Sir,

I am directed by the Executive Committee of the Indian Association to draw the attention of the Government to the condition of the Chitpur Bridge over the Circular Canal. The Bridge is on one of the main thoroughfares of the city and is very largely used for the jute traffic. Its condition has been very unsatisfactory for sometime past and there is no question that it should be reconstructed as early as possible.

My Committee understand that the Government considers that the cost of the Bridge should be borne by the Government, the Calcutta Improvement Trust and the Calcutta Corporation in certain proportions and that the Government and Improvement Trust are willing to contribute their quota but the Corporation consider that they have no liability in the matter.

As the matter is of great public importance, my Committee consider that a conference of the authorities concerned should be convened immediately to arrive at some decision amicably, failing which Government should take steps to apportion the liability by legislation if necessary.

I have &c.
N. C. Ray,
Secretary,

REPLY TO THE ABOVE.

From

F. A. Sachse, Esq., I.C.S.,
Secretary to the Government of Bengal,

To

The Secretary,
Indian Association,
62, Bowbazar Street, Calcutta.

Calcutta the 7th January, 1928.

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 23rd December, 1927 regarding the reconstruction of the Chitpur Bridge over the Circular Canal. You say that, in view of the great public importance of the matter your committee are of opinion that a conference of the authorities concerned should be convened immediately to arrive at some decision amicably, failing which Government should take steps to apportion the liability by legislation, if necessary.

2. In reply, I am to state, for the information of your committee, that Government have agreed to a conference being convened between the representatives of Government, Corporation of Calcutta and Calcutta Improvement Trust and have asked the Corporation to arrange a date.

I have &c.
F. A. Sachse,
Secretary,

APPENDIX P.

Circular letter to Principals of Colleges.

62, Bowbazar Street,
Calcutta the 25th July, 1927.

To
The Principal
Sir,

I am directed by the Executive Committee of the Indian Association to address you on the subject of the levying of customs duty on scientific instruments and chemicals imported from abroad by Schools and Colleges. You are no doubt aware that this duty was only 2½ per cent before the War, but at present it is about 15 per cent. As importers of scientific instruments and chemicals you have to pay this increased duty which is virtually a tax on education, and it is a great drain on the limited resources of the Colleges and Schools. The Government of India on the other hand gain very little by this, as the amount of duty realised on scientific instruments imported by Colleges is insignificant. Under the circumstances the Association has approached the Government of India with a view to get a remission of this duty for the benefit of the Colleges and Schools and Mr. K. C. Niogi M.L.A. has tabled a Motion before the Legislative Assembly to this effect. If the Colleges also make a representation to the Government of India on the subject, Mr. Niogi's hands will be considerably strengthened and there is every likelihood of the duty being remitted. My Committee hopes that you will kindly address the Secretary to the Government of India in the Finance Department praying for the repeal of this duty and giving particulars of your indent of scientific instruments and chemicals from abroad during the last five years. A copy of the letter may also be submitted to the Secretary to the Government of India in the Education Department. To enable Mr. Niogi to press this matter before the next sitting of the Legislative Assembly, the letters should be sent as early as possible and I shall be thankful if you kindly send me copies of these letters for Mr. Niogi's information.

Yours faithfully,
N. C. Ray,
Secretary.
