

INDIAN OPINION

Founded by
MAHATMA GANDHI
- IN 1903 -

No. 4.—Vol. XXXIV.

Friday, January 24th, 1936.

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

NOTES AND NEWS

Kindly Thought Of The Late Mr. S. F. Crookes

MR. SAMUEL FREDERICK CROOKES sugar cane grower and miller, who died at his residence, Ellingham, Renishaw, on January 7 at the age of 60, left an estate valued at £257,700. A bequest of £1,500 was made to be distributed among charitable and benevolent institutions in the district of Renishaw and Durban. A bequest of 10s. for each month of service is made to all European employees on the Ellingham Estate. All Indian and Native servants will receive a gratuity of £5 and £15 according to age and length of service. The remainder of the Estate is left in trust to members of the family.

It is not always one finds natives and Indians who have by the sweat of their brow built the sugar industries to have been remembered by their masters as the above will indicate. It was a very kind and magnanimous thought of the late Mr. Crookes for which these poor servants will always have a high affection for his memory. Will not the other sugar magnates also try to remember those with whose labour they are thriving as sugar kings.

Pretoria Asiatic Bazaar

We are officially informed by the deputation of the Pretoria Branch of the Transvaal Indian Congress who recently interviewed the Agent of the Government of India in connection with the proposed regulations of the Pretoria Asiatic Bazaar that the interview given by some of the Members of the deputation to our special correspondent which was published in our last week's issue referring to the attitude of the Agent of the Government of India and his secretary Mr. Williams was unauthorised. The Agent and his secretary informed the deputation that they had done their utmost and were still doing what they possibly could to bring them relief. After a lengthy discussion the deputation, thanked the Agent and his secretary for the sympathetic hearing they had given them.

A Disgrace To India

Recently we had an influx of teachers and preachers to visit South Africa on some mission or other and as a warning to those who are responsible for their entry in indiscriminately inviting them to these shores, we give the following from the letter of Dr. Sudindra Bose

THE KING IS DEAD

KING GEORGE is dead and has left an Empire in mourning.

The British Constitution keeps the King outside of politics. It is, therefore, his personal qualities that alone count in measuring the loss. But these guide only those whose lives are affected by them. Indians will best remember His late Majesty as a Sovereign who followed in the footsteps of his father and his grandmother of revered memory. Like them the late King had shown a warm corner in his bosom for the people of India. This was amply proved when he invited Mahatma Gandhi in his "loin-cloth" during the sessions of the Round Table Conference. Such and similar acts of His late Majesty will always be a title to our affection for his memory. It was this relationship and bond of intimacy which drew the love and affection of the people to his rule.

He is succeeded by His Royal Highness Prince Edward of Wales as King Edward VIII of England and Emperor of India. Individuals, Kings and Emperors come and go but Kingship is eternal. The attributes of that office few sovereigns are able to live up to may his reign be auspicious and happy is our wish and respectful prayer.

LONG LIVE THE KING

from Iowa, who in describing the trial of two Hindus in America, says, "It seems to me that the United States is almost over-run with a type of "Swamis," "Yogis" and even self-styled "Rishis", who palm off their "teachings" at so many dollars a lesson. They are as fake as a glazed China egg. Their methods of money-making cadging fol-

lowers, vulgarization of Hinduism and drumming up of the trade in general are of no credit to Sanatana Dharma. The shrewdest of these messiahs are often armed with yards of testimonials—never hard to get—from *prima donnas* local magnates and "society" matrons. But alas, they never tell the whole story. This parade of self-chosen representatives of the ancient Hindu wisdom and their methods of peddling it are not only derogatory to India, but it is offensive to the more intelligent Americans. In short, it is an affront to America and a disgrace to India.

Boat Factory Dispute

We are glad to note that the dispute which we reported in our last issue has now been amicably settled. The Secretary of the Maritzburg Branch of the National Union of Leather Workers informed the *Natal Mercury* on Saturday that the dispute which involved 140 Indians at Eddels Boot Factory had now been satisfactorily settled. No member of the staff had been dismissed and the workers in the factory, it was stated, were quite content with the settlement which had been made of their grievances.

Government Offers £100 Reward

It is reported that a reward of £100 has been offered by the Government for any information leading to the arrest and conviction of the Natal killer. The news that the reward had been authorised was received in Maritzburg on Monday in a communication from the Commissioner of Police. Despite all the efforts that have been made continuously for several years, no arrest has yet been made by the police. The reward will be paid to any person (not principal or principals) giving information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person or persons who committed any or all of the eight crimes. Any information likely to be of assistance in tracing the criminal or criminals should be given at any police station or to the Deputy Commissioner of Police, Maritzburg, and the reward will be passed to anyone whose information leads to an arrest and conviction.

Indian Opinion

FRIDAY, JANUARY 24TH, 1936

The Agent's Indiscretion

THE Agent of the Government of India, Sir Syed Raza Ali, at the age of 53 has married Miss Ponoo Veloo Samy one of the two sisters who are well-known residents of Kimberley. The bride's age is 43. There is a touch of humour in this unique incident in that out of the four Agents of the Government of India and their four Secretaries one Agent and one Secretary and the Agent's assistant Secretary have found their brides in South Africa. South Africa is well-known for its gold mines, diamond mines and coal mines and quite strangely it is becoming attractive for its brides for whom there seems to be a good market for those from India. Well there will be one thing at least our present Agent will be able to boast of and put down to his credit when he leaves these shores and that is of his singular achievement of winning a South African bride.

This step on the part of the Agent, however, has caused a great stir in the Indian community. The Hindus are agitated because the Agent has chosen to marry a Hindu. The feelings ran rather high when it was at first learnt that the bride was to be converted to Islam. That step however was not taken and the Agent married by special licence under the marriage laws of the Union. The Muslims on the other hand are agitated because they feel that the Hindus have no right to interfere in individual liberty.

Personally we think that this matter has been given undue importance. This is not a case of abduction of an innocent woman who was being forcibly converted to another faith. Both the parties were old enough to think and to

decide what was best for them. In the circumstances we do not think the Hindus have much cause to be over-agitated and to make this a first class communal question either political or religious. We would certainly have been pleased if the Agent realising the tension in the community, would have in the interests of the greater cause for which he has been appointed here to serve, shown a spirit of self-denial and refrained or postponed the step he has taken. People in society have to deny themselves many things which the ordinary man in the street would have no hesitation in doing however undesirable it may be. A person who holds a high official position, a position of honour and respect among the people and who enjoys the confidence of the people has a greater responsibility; he has to suffer even greater self-denial; the Agent would in our opinion have been better advised had he refrained from taking the present plunge. But the mere fact that the Agent has not been able to do so, does not justify the fanning of the fire of communalism in this country either by Muslims or Hindus. And we cannot understand why this should have been made a political question and why political leaders have made this a question of life and death when they have so many grave political issues affecting the very existence of the Indians in South Africa to deal with. If Sir Sayed Raza Ali is to be blamed for having taken a Hindu bride, is not Miss Samy to be blamed for having gone to him. She has done what she has knowingly and she is above any dictation from anybody. We entirely fail to see what any amount of agitation is going to help anybody

excepting just to increase the communal tension. We have never over-estimated the strength of the Agent. We have never held the Agent as an ideal for the people to follow. The Agent in this case has done nothing more than what some other men in the past have done in India. We think therefore that this incident should be completely forgotten and the attention of our leaders concentrated on much more important problems that are hanging over our heads like the Sword of Democles and threatening our very existence in this country.

Mahatma Gandhi's Health

By Cable

From our Special Correspondent.

Jan 18.

We received a cable last Saturday from our Bombay correspondent to the effect that Mahatma Gandhi under special escort of Dr. Jivaraj Mehta was taken to Bombay from Wardha for further medical examination. He stood the journey very well and his condition was satisfactory.

Jan 22.

During Mahatma Gandhi's stay in Bombay for six days Doctors completed a full examination of his blood and found sugar in his kidneys; they extracted the three remaining teeth. He has left on Tuesday night Jan 21, for Ahmedabad. His condition shows remarkable improvement and if this progress is maintained as it is quite likely, he will be able to resume to normal after three or four weeks' rest.

Correspondence Against The Agent

We are receiving letters of protests against the step taken by the Agent of the Government of India of marrying Miss Samy. In the best interests of the community we have deemed it advisable not to publish them. Our sincere advice to our countrymen is not to make a mountain out of a molehill.

*The best preacher is the heart,
the best teacher is time,
the best book is the world,
the best friend is God.—TALMUD.*

SIR SYED RAZA ALI MARRIED AT CARLTON HOTEL

INTENSE INDIGNATION IN NATAL

THE wedding took place on Saturday morning at the Carlton Hotel before the Chief Magistrate, Major Maynard Page, of Sir Syed Raza Ali, Agent for India in the Union of South Africa, to Miss Ponnoo V. Sammy, of Kimberley. A few friends were present, including Sir Ernest Oppenheimer, Mr. and Mrs. Mannie Solomon, Mrs. Paul, Mr. C. S. Ricketts, O.B.E., and Mrs. Ricketts.

The bride, who was given away by Sir Ernest Oppenheimer, wore a beautiful sari of pale pink embossed in gold with a deep border of hand-woven gold embroidery. She was attended by her sister, Miss Thungachee Sammy, whose lovely sari was of rose pink crepe-de-chine with pleated underskirt. Mr. Thomby Sammy, her brother, was also present. A small reception was held at the Carlton Hotel, and Sir Ernest Oppenheimer proposed the toast of Sir Raza Ali and Lady Ali. Sir Syed Raza Ali said in an interview: "I hope my marriage to Miss Ponnoo Sammy of Kimberley will, in the words of a distinguished European friend, forge yet another link between India and South Africa."

"The statement that she was to be converted to Mahomedanism before marriage is wholly untrue. We were married this morning under Union Statute before the Chief Magistrate and neither of us has become a convert to the other's religion. Fortunately, under the laws of the Union the question of the religion of the parties to a matrimonial alliance does not arise," thus reports Reuter.

Leaders Of Congress Resign

A sequel to the Agent's marriage was the resignation on Sunday of Messrs V. S. C. Pather, President of the South African Indian Congress, J. W. Godfrey, Vice-President, S. R. Naidoo, Joint Secretary, B. M. Patel, Treasurer, V. Lawrence, Sorabjee Rustomjee and Ashwin Choudree, Executive members of the S.A.I.C. representing Natal. Over their names they have issued the following statement:—

"Messrs. V. S. C. Pather, Sorabjee Rustomjee and S. R. Naidoo, on receipt of information elicited from Sir Syed Raza Ali, Agent for India, that he intended to marry Miss V. Sammy of Kimberley, went to Johannesburg on Thursday last, Jan. 16 to interview him.

"Their object in interviewing the Agent did not emanate from feelings of religion or faith but solely on the ground to preserve Indian solidarity, therefore avoiding giving rise, which

they anticipated would result from the Agent's act, to communal differences which so far have been practically absent in South Africa.

"Different aspects of the proposed marriage which, in the nature of it, will deeply offend the susceptibilities of the Hindus—an important section of the Indian community—and arouse them to indignation, its reaction and after-effects upon that community were fully discussed with the Agent and a proposal was made to him, as a *via media* out of the difficulty. The proposal was that the Agent should defer consideration of his marriage until his term of office is over. This was regarded by responsible Indians, and even by the Agent himself, as the best solution possible in the circumstances and honourable to all sections of the Indian community. The Agent has, however, according to report in the Press, married V. Sammy on Saturday, it being stated that both parties to the marriage retain his and her own faith and it was in the nature of a civil marriage.

"National Calamity"

"Those who represented the case fully to the Agent, including the President of the Transvaal Indian Congress, Khan Bahadur Hajee Cassim Adam, were prompted by the best of motives, and in the interests of the general Indian public. They were actuated by a sense of solemn duty to themselves and to the Indian community. They took all possible steps immediately they got confirmation of the report they had received, and used all their powers of persuasion and representation with the sole idea of maintaining, as hitherto, a cordial relationship among all sections of Indians in this country. The Agent was told that the effect of this proposed action will be no less than a national calamity in the country and will produce repercussions, the grave effects of which can never be foreseen at the present moment. It was learnt that the Agent carried on his negotiations of marriage for some months past but at no time did he attempt to ascertain the Hindu viewpoint.

"To the Eastern mind, having regard to its traditional and religious character, such matrimonial alliances are undesirable; more so in the case of the Agent, who holds a highly responsible position in this country. This precedent may lead to considerable communal difficulties and will be regarded as an affront to the susceptibilities of the Hindu community.

"Having regard to what has happened, and as it is not possible for us to cooperate conscientiously with the Agency while in charge of Sir Raza Ali, no other course is left open to us but to resign our respective official position in the Congress. No one regrets this step more deeply than we do, because of our life-long association with the Congress, but this step seems imperative if we desire to continue to preserve unity in the whole of the South African Indian community."

Hindus Hold Meeting Of Protest

Spirited protest against the action of the Agent, Sir Syed Raza Ali, on his marriage on Saturday to a Hindu woman was voiced at a largely attended public meeting held under the auspices of the Arya Pratinidhi Sabha in the Victoria Picture Palace on Sunday afternoon.

"We have lived in South Africa in peace and amity, all sections enjoying the goodwill of each other, and I wish to make it clear that our protest is not against our fellow Muslims but against the action of the Agent who represents the millions of India," said Mr. R. K. Kapitan who presided.

It was with regret, he went on, that they had to cross swords with a personage holding such a high office, but there was no denying the fact that he had violated the sanctity of the Hindu people; therefore he earned their wrath. "His high office of responsibility," said Mr. Kapitan, "requires the utmost care in not injuring the susceptibilities of any section, as he has been sent out to this country to protect the interests of all the Indian population, and as such, due regard should have been given to the feelings of an important community like ours. Instead of which we are sorry to find that he tramples under foot the religious sentiments of a Hindu section by marrying a lady of that sect. The news of this marriage has caused a great stir among our people, and telegrams were sent on behalf of the many Hindu institutions."

Opposition Spontaneous

"It has been reported in the Press that opposition to the marriage was organised by an Indian who is neither a Hindu nor a Muslim. I give a flat contradiction to this statement, which one must assume in the circumstances has been inspired by the Agent."

"Our battle will not be a success until the Agent leaves South Africa"—these were some of the remarks which were made by subsequent speakers in the course of the speeches made in English, Tamil and Hindustani.

C. B. AND S. I. ASSOCIATION

A SURVEY IN RETROSPECTIVE

The following appears in the December issue of the *Bulletin* of the Colonial Born and Settlers' Indian Association (Pietermaritzburg Branch):—

DURING the past twelve months has the South African Born Indian made any progress? Has his economic position in the country improved? How far has the general prosperity of the country affected him? These are some of the questions that agitate one at the end of the year.

We shall deal with the questions in seriatim and shall show to the Colonial Born Indian that he stands in the same position as he stood twelve months ago.

The Colonial Born Indian has made no progress. This is due, no doubt, to the state of suspense that the Headquarters of our Association were placed in by the Agent of the Government of India.

It will be recalled that the Agent of the Government of India arrived in South Africa with an *olive branch* bent, as he made out to be, on bringing peace to the community. The talk of reconciliation by the Agent prevented our Association from forging ahead with our activities. The Colonial Born Indian, if he is to make any progress in this country, must be made to fend for himself. His path is not a bed of roses. On the one hand he has to put up a constant fight with the Government of the country for the preservation of his rights and on the other for an equal opportunity within his own community. It is this double battle that retards his progress. The day is not far distant when the levelling up of the inequalities within the community must take place.

Every member of the Indian community must be made to respect one another. That would only be possible when this process of levelling up takes place. More and more the Colonial Born Indian has come to realise that he is just as good as any other member of his community. The inferiority complex is rapidly dying. That is a consolation notwithstanding the fact that he has made little or no progress during 1935.

His economic position has improved a little but not to the extent that we should have liked it to have improved. Here we have to thank the European Industrials who are absorbing a good portion of our young men, in their factories. The Dunlop Factory has taken in a large number of Indian Factory hands and we are happy to hear that these hands have received the approbation of the managers. The Textile industry is another which employs Indians in large numbers. Eddels Ltd.

Boot Factory is another. The employees in this Industry, both Europeans and Indians, have formed themselves into an Union and the Officials in the main are Indians. If the same step were taken in all industries where Indians are in the majority, we feel sure that the economic standard of Indians would be raised. It is ironical that the Indian has to look to Europeans for employment rather than to his compatriot who with his wealth is quite capable of opening up any industry. Unemployment has not decreased to any appreciable extent. The relief worker still receives 2/6 per day for a five-day week. He receives no pay for holidays. A striking example of generosity was presented to us in Durban during the Christmas holidays when a European lady, preferring to remain anonymous, presented the European Relief Workers each with a day's wages, which the authorities had decided to deduct for the Christmas day. Such acts of generosity are unheard of in our community, although we have hundreds amongst us who could have trebled the amount given by the European lady. The Flood Relief Committee at Durban would have cut a sorry picture but for the European donors. It shows the utter disregard that the wealthy amongst us have for the less fortunate. We find that thousands of pounds are collected by Missionaries from Indians and taken away from South Africa thereby reducing our own local institutions to a state of starvation and restricting our social and educational activities to the lowest minimum.

The general prosperity of the Country has kept away from the Colonial Born Indian. The Municipality and Railways, two of the largest employers are not prone to employ the Indian. Wastages in the Railway Services are not being replaced.

The Indian farmer has suffered considerably from drought. His produce, if any, fetches little. But the Indian Farmer has come to recognise that hitherto the middleman has not played the game with him. He now has his own lorry and carries his produce to the market that gives him the best price. He has learned to send his produce to Transvaal, Free State and Cape markets. But there is one essential matter which he has failed to recognise: that is to form a powerful organisation. It is true that there exists a Natal Indian Farmers Association, but we must candidly point out that it has fallen short. We have always felt that the Natal Indian Farmers Association should be one of the most powerful organi-

sations in Natal. That could easily be achieved if every Indian Farmer joins the existing Association, which should have as its officials popular men.

Although the past year has not been bright, we can only hope that the year 1936 will bring with it happiness and prosperity to the Colonial Born and Settler Indians.

Mass Meeting At Umzinto

A MASS meeting of Umzinto ratepayers, under the auspices of the Umzinto Indian Advisory Committee, was held on Sunday afternoon Jan 12 in Mamoojee's Hall. There were present a number of Europeans, 200 Indian ratepayers and some natives, all ratepayers.

Mr. M. M. Govender, chairman of the advisory committee, was in the chair. At the outset Mr Kisson, secretary of the advisory committee, told the meeting that a number of ratepayers had requested the advisory committee to protest to the Umzinto Health Committee that the rates were too high. He explained that the rates had already been gazetted. The Umzinto Health Committee recognized the Indian Advisory Committee but did not advise or consult them on the sanitary scheme.

Mr. Kisson said they proposed to form a ratepayers' association and wanted the Europeans present to state their feelings and views. Mr. Narandas said that they should form a ratepayers' association. He hoped the Europeans present would join.

Mr. Bromley said he was in agreement with what had been said, but the Europeans present were not in a position to voice the opinion of all the European ratepayers. Mr. Kisson agreed with Mr. Bromley and said that invitations had been sent to other Europeans but they had not attended. He suggested that an Indian association be formed, as they represented 93 per cent, of the ratepayers.

Mr. S. R. Khan seconded the proposal of Mr. Narandas. Mr. J. Samuel said he associated himself with what had been said. The following were elected office-bearers: Mr. M. M. Govender (chairman), Mr. W. Jonathan (vice-chairman), Mr. H. Kisson (secretary), Mr. N. Govender (assistant secretary), Mr. Essop Moola (treasurer). The following committee were elected: Messrs. S. R. Khan, Narandas, C. N. Moodliar and I. E. Ally, with the office-bearers making a committee of nine.

It was further proposed by Mr. Kisson and seconded by Mr. W. Jonathan that the Umzinto Health Committee be asked to build public lavatories in the village of Umzinto.

MATRICULATION AND J.C. EXAMINATION RESULTS

THE following are the Natal successes in the Matriculation examination;—

Sastri College

Class II—Gopaul, Moothukistna (history); Naidoo, Elliah, Verdarajalo.; Naidoo, Jack; Nulliah, Govindasamy Kamalason; Pillay, Maganadan Govindasamy.

Class III—Bengali, Manickram; Hassan-
alli, Abbas; Jnugbahadur, Basdev; Ran-
deria, Behram.

Mitchel Crescent Indian Government School

Class III—Singh, Ansuyah Ratipaul.

Private Study

Class III—Pragjee, Dalloo.

Following are the Natal successes in the University Junior Certificate examination:—

Sastri College

Class I—Bassa, Daud Muhammad; Moodly, Shunmugum; Kuthukistna, Paru-
shotman; Rama, Prag.

Class II—Bhagvanjee, Odavjee; Hari,
Daya; Juts, Vasudev; Khan, Rasool; Mehta,
Thakorparsad Chotalal; Moodley, Soobriah
Nadason; Motala, Yusuf Adam.

Class III—Akbar, Amod; Ambaram,
Thakurial; Bhatt, Jayantilal Girjashan e.;
Bhatt, Mohanlal Dalpath; Ginwala, Narin-
man; Gopaul, Nathan; Hanuman, Harri-
sunker; Jadwat, Ebrahim; Joseph, Louis;
Juta, Maganlal; Keerath, Nannieduth;
Kistan, Panjavernum; Kistiab, Appanah;
Lawrence, Ralph; Maharaj, Cheranjivilal;
Miera, Rabindranath; Moodley, Dhurma-
lingum; Moodley, Savabathy, Ganas; Moola,
Yusuf Iemal; Moonilal, Muthreelal; Nada-
rajan, Nadar; Naidoo, Bertie; Naidoo,
Moorogiah Dhanapathy; Naidoo, Suthiah-
prasunum; Naidoo, Jogi; Naidoo, Rajoo
Veeraragavelloo; Najarally, Essop; Naisb-
Singh, Haridev; Padayachee, Nadarajan;
Pillay, Govindsamy Arlanathan; Raghoo-
nanun, Soobuck; Ramjukadh, Dhavarrain;
Rampursat, Bharath; Sader, Ahmed Hoossen;

Seethal, Gladstone Reuben; Sewpersadh,
Narain; Singh, Barjore Coonwar; Sohawan,
Hiraman; Vallabh, Lalloo; Veeranah,
Papiah.

Molens University Classes High School

Class III—Dookran, Moonie; Goordeen,
Dharamasj.

Mitchel Crescent Indian Girls' School

Class II—Gabriel, Alma Rosaline.

Union College Johannesburg

Class III—Sookaloo, Baldew.

Private Study

Class III—Gooltheep, Parus; Padayachi,
Narainramy Poopenthren; Thomas, Moses;
Moodley, Karapana Shunmogan; Nadasen,
Sachidananden; Naganna, Govindsamy;
Nair, Raman Packree; Pillay, Narainsamy
Manickum; Ramasar, Davnarayan; Ray,
Mohamed Sheik Mohamed.

India Letter

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT]

Pandit Nehru's Message From Germany

THE following was the inspiring message sent to Indian National Congress Bombay on its Golden Jubilee celebrations by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru who is at present in Germany:

"In the past the Congress stood for full freedom and ever it has widened its horizon and looked to the masses. May it never falter or forget its mission and may it become, ever more than it has been, a real representative and voice of the millions who toil and suffer in our country and seek to remove all shackles, political, social and economic, that prevent them from rising to the height of their destiny."

Thus declares Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru in the course of his Congress Jubilee greetings to the nation. Pandit Jawaharlal further says: "Sitting here in Badenweiler, my thoughts cross the seas and the continents and go to my homeland and I think that especially this year and month of the Jubilee of that great organisation and what it meant to India and each of us, what it has been and what it will be in future. Fifty years are a long period in human life and within this span is crowned a world of endeavour and achievement.

These fifty years have seen the end of an era passing off the world and a mighty transformation everywhere." He further asks: "How have we fared during this period? Have we moved with the ever rushing river of life and adapted ourselves to the changing conditions, or do we remain in the backwaters that move not and change little, entangled in weeds that paralyse us and benumb our mind and spirit? The real change and growth is of the spirit and mind. The rest merely follows it. Fifty years of Congress tell us where we are. Read the reports of early Congresses and the astounding and hardly comprehensible mentality that they exhibit and then go through its later tribulations and conflicts, and splits and divisions, when those who lived in weeds and backwaters wanted to hold it back, but could not do so. With much travail it emerged to the free waters and much to its own surprise found itself younger and stronger than ever. A time came when under the inspiration of a great leader, it tried to break all the shackles which still held it back and help itself forward with the pride and confidence of youth. There were greater difficulties and obstacles than it had expected

and many a time it stumbled and staggered. But ever it kept its eyes on the star of freedom that beckoned."

An Amazing Lie

In a letter to the *Manchester Guardian*, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru refers to a paragraph in the Bengal Government's Administration Report for the year 1934-35 and says: "I cannot allow this go unchallenged. I would not presume to argue with the Bengal Government about my activities or the character of my friends or comrades. But there is a specific statement in this paragraph which refers to my attempting to carry on an agitation under the guise of anti-untouchability activities and with money collected for Harijan work. I do not remember to have come across a more amazing and astounding lie which neither had nor would have a shadow of foundation. I have many failings but I hoped that duplicity was not one of them."

Note: The passage referred to alleges that during his visit to Bengal Pandit Jawaharlal prescribed a militant socialistic agitation "to be carried on under the guise of anti-untouchability activities with money collected for Harijan work."

DEATH OF KING GEORGE V.

MESSAGES OF CONDOLENCES

NEWs of the King's death was received at 2.15 a.m., on Tuesday morning when the following statement was issued from Daventry; "It is with great sorrow that we have to make the following announcement. His Majesty the King passed peacefully away at 11.55 p.m. to-night (Monday Jan 20) in the presence of Her Majesty the Queen, the Prince of Wales, the Duke of York, Princess Royal, the Duke and Duchess of Kent.

"He whom we loved as King has passed from our midst. We voice the grief of the peoples of his whole Empire. We offer our profound sympathy to her Majesty the Queen and the whole Royal Family. With our fellow-citizens, both at Home and Overseas, we affirm our loyalty to the Crown.

Mahatma Gandhi

Mahatma Gandhi from his sick bed in Bombay has sent through the Viceroy his "respectful condolences" to the Royal family:

India

The Indian leaders of all political complexions unanimously agree that in the death of the King India has lost her best friend. The momentous declaration of 1917 promising India responsible self-government as the goal of the British policy and the inauguration of the Montagu and Chelmsford reforms are attributed to the King's personal interest in India's welfare.

In Bombay the Aga Khan decided to end all activities, except purely religious rites in connection with his Golden Jubilee celebrations, while the Nizam of Hyderabad has postponed the impending celebration of his Silver Jubilee.

Sir Syed Raza Ali

Sir Syed Raza Ali has sent the following message to the Viceroy on behalf of the resident Indian community in the Union and on his own behalf: "Beg to offer, through you, heartfelt sympathy to the King, Queen Mother and Royal Family in their great loss."

Colonial-born Indian

The following cable was sent to Sandringham through the Colonial-born and Settlers Indian Association: "Colonial-born and Settlers Indian Association respectfully offer their heartfelt condolences to the Royal Family on the death of his Majesty King George V."

S. A. I. Congress

The South African Indian Congress sent the following cable to the Comptroller of the King's Household:

"The South African Indian Congress, representing the Indian community in the Union of South Africa, respectfully records its abysmal and bitter grief at the passing of his Majesty King George and humbly offers to her Majesty the Queen and the Royal family the deep and sincere tribute of the sympathy of the Indian community

of the Union, and prays that Almighty God may sustain her and grant her consolation and peace.

"The Congress begs to convey to his Majesty King Edward VIII the abiding assurance of the unswerving loyalty of the Indian community of South Africa to his person and Throne."

C. B. and S. I. Association

The following message of condolence was sent by the Colonial Born and Settlers Indian Association Maritzburg branch to His Worship the Mayor, for the Borough of Pietermaritzburg: The officials and members of the Colonial Born and Settlers' Indian Association (Pietermaritzburg Branch) learn with deep and profound regret the sad and untimely demise of His Majesty King George V. and respectfully request that His Worship the Mayor be good enough to include the deepest and heartfelt sympathy of this association when conveying the City's condolence to Her Majesty the Queen.

Natal Indian Congress

The following cable was sent to the Minister of External Affairs to be forwarded to the Royal Family: Natal Indians deeply mourn the death of his Majesty King George, whose benign rule has endeared him to all subjects irrespective of class, creed or colour, and offer their heartfelt sympathy to her Majesty the Queen and the Royal Family.

S. A. News In Brief

Commissioner Of Oaths

MR. V. Lawrence of 63 Gale Street, Durban has been appointed Commissioner of Oaths for the District of Durban.

Durban's New Senior Prosecutor

Mr. Johannes Dreyer Pohl, who has succeeded Mr. C. J. Humphreys as Senior Public Prosecutor of Durban, has come from Port Elizabeth, where he was first assistant Magistrate and later Senior Public Prosecutor. He has assumed office in Durban.

Andhra's Farewell

On Saturday morning January 18 1936, a gathering of the Andhra Community accorded a farewell reception to Messrs. B. Virasamy Sirdar and Aggredy Parisi Naidoo, father of A. P. Naidoo of Stanger, both are leaving for India by the *M. V. Gujarat*. They intend visit-

ing the Towns of India, and Mahatma Gandhi. Mr. A. J. Naidoo of Andhra Maha Sabha, and other friends wished them bon-voysge and safe return. Other speakers were Mr. T. J. Naidoo, Mr. V. N. Redhi representing the Stanger and District Andhra Sabha, and V. M., M. Achary of Umgeni Road, Durban.

Ferreira Indian Government School

The following is the Receipts and Expenditure of Ferreira Indian Government School Fund as at December 31 1935
Receipts: To balance on hand. £2. 7. 1, To balance at Bank £45 0 0, To donations £35. 9. 0, To School Funds £19. 7. 2, To Adv. Programme £1. 0 0. Total £103. 3. 3. Expenditure: By prize giving £26. 3. 6, By Our Children's Day £5. 13. 6, By Jerseys for children £7. 11. 6, By sports goods etc. £3. 19. 3, By balance at Bank £57. 7. 2, By balance on hand £2. 8. 4. Total £103. 3. 3.

£18 Collected For Soup Kitchen

The Hindu Youth Club of Durban, held its Grand Bazaar recently and were able to report that the Bazaar was very successful. The organisers wish to thank all friends and well-wishers who very kindly donated in cash and kind, and also the different Women's Associations who rendered valuable assistance in the stalls. Mr. A. S. Naidoo who is in charge of the M. K. Gandhi Senthamil School Soup Kitchen Fund, acknowledges with thanks from the Hindu Youth Club, the sum of £18. 0. 0., handed to him, as part of the nett proceeds of above Bazaar and Sale of Work.

Held Over

We regret some of our usual features, correspondence and several articles are held over from this issue on account of the unusual tax on our pages and the illness of a few members of our staff.

THE TRANSVAAL ASIATIC LAND TENURE ACT COMMISSION

A PRELIMINARY STUDY OF THE REPORT (PARTS I AND II)

Recommendations

AS regards the areas recommended for withdrawal or exemption from the prohibitions against "Coloured" occupation, the following facts should be noted:

1. The total of the areas in Johannesburg recommended by the Commission is slightly greater than that of the areas which the Municipality of Johannesburg expressed itself in evidence as ready to concede, and considerably less than that of the areas asked for by the Asiatic and Coloured communities.
 2. In its recommendations the Commission has included townships inside the Gold Law areas, in which, prior to conversion to freehold, the leasehold title contained no restrictive clauses against Coloured persons, e.g. Burghersdorp and Ophirton.
 3. The Commission does not favour the separation of trading from residential areas. Apart from the fact that, to introduce this distinction, which certain municipal councils proposed, would introduce still further complications into a complicated law and involve serious limitation of the rights of property owners and their "Coloured" tenants, the Commission considers that the case for such restriction on public health grounds is "by no means strong," while the police authorities stated in evidence that, from a police point of view, neither the Asiatics nor Coloured persons present any serious problem. It is important in this connection to note that the restrictions imposed by the Gold Law of 1908 were held at the time to be essential "as a matter of sound police and sanitary legislation."
 4. The Commission recommends that "Coloured" members of certain professions, e.g. Advocates, Attorneys and Medical Practitioners, be not restricted, to exempted areas, and that existing Churches, Mosques, and schools outside areas proposed for withdrawal be also exempted, so long as the sites occupied continue to be used for religious and for educational purposes.
- The Commission finds that, as the law stands, the withdrawal of areas by the Minister is abso-

By

The S. A. Institute Of Race Relations

(Continued from last week)

- lute and not reversible, and the Commission does not favour amendment of the law in this respect.
6. While the Commission has endeavoured to provide for the natural increase of the Asiatic and Coloured communities, it is unable to forecast developments in the movement and distribution of the population of the towns, and it is therefore unable to provide for the future of the "comparatively numerous class of Indian and Chinese traders who devote themselves to catering in a small way to the needs of customers in their immediate neighbourhood," who may, as time goes on, move into other areas.
 7. The commission considers that "one way of mitigating the difficulties of the situation as regards future opportunities for trade would be to make it possible for Indians in the Transvaal to enter other occupations; this occupational question, with which the question of providing further educational facilities for Indians is closely connected, appears to us to be deserving of serious consideration, both by Government authorities and by the Indian community itself."
 8. The Commission urges that a serious effort be made by the Johannesburg Municipality to provide for the residential requirements of the Asiatic and Coloured people through the establishment of special townships, with some security of tenure and municipal housing on favourable terms.

The importance of these recommendations is emphasised by the fact that, within the last year or so, considerable portions of the recommended areas have been taken up for large scale building operations, such as new Magistrates Courts, blocks of flats, factories and warehouses and that the character of the areas is thus being radically altered, with the result that the amount of land available for Coloured or Asiatic occupation will be substantially reduced.

Ownership Question

As indicated earlier, the Commission was restricted in its terms of reference, to consideration of the various aspects of the "occupation" of land by Asiatics and South African Coloured. It has therefore not made recommendations in regard to the "ownership" of land. Reference is made to the matter in paragraph 68 on page 161, where the Commission says that the "trader with only a short tenancy will inevitably be very much at the mercy of his landlord" and that there is "no way of avoiding this difficulty under the method of exemption provided for in Section 131A, unless Asiatics are given the right to become owners of land exempted under that Section." It would thus appear that the question of the granting to Asiatics and South African Coloured of the right to acquire ownership of land in the exempted areas will have to be considered, especially, too, if any attempt is made to give effect to the Commission's recommendation (see No 8 above) that special residential townships should be set apart for Asiatics and South African Coloured people where sites may be obtainable on reasonable terms with security of tenure."

Proposed Legislation

The Commission's recommendations as to rights of occupation call for important amendments to the existing law if they are to become effective. Exemptions may be granted by the Minister under Section 131A of the Gold Law would, without amendment of the existing law, still be subject to prohibitory conditions in the township titles where they exist, and legal action might still be instituted by interested persons for the enforcement of the prohibitions. These prohibitions have their origin in two ways; viz.:—(1) statutory prohibitions, i.e. those which have their origin in the Gold Law with its various amendments, and (2) those which the Commission describes as "contractual," i.e. those originally included in the leasehold title by the lessor and continued on conversion to freehold.

The Commission does not propose to interfere with the private property rights of the second kind of title, but in respect of the statutory prohibitions it proposes amendments to the law on the following lines:—

1. To amend Section 131A of the Gold Law (as amended) to provide that prohibitory restrictions,

contained in the freehold titles to stand exempted under Section 131A of the Gold Law, shall be cancelled where the restrictions owe their origin to the Gold Law.

2. To amend Section 131A to prevent prohibitory conditions being inserted into titles of exempted stands on conversion into freehold where the leasehold title contained no such conditions.
3. To amend Section 9 of Act No. 37 of 1910 (as amended by Section 7 of Act No. 35 of 1932) to

ensure that, where the Minister grants exemption under Section 131A of the Gold Law, the restrictive conditions in the title to a stand being used as a means to prevent the issue of a certificate for licensing purposes.

4. To amend Section 1 of Act No. 37 of 1919 to extend the protection now afforded by the section to traders in Government townships to cover "relief from any restrictive condition contained in a freehold, title, not only in a Gov-

ernment township, but also in any semi-Government or private leasehold Township," if no such restriction existed in the title before to conversion into freehold. This would bring this section into line with Nos. 1 and 2 above. (Since the above was written a draft Bill has been published, for general information, in the "Union Gazette," 28, 10, 35, and which appeared in our issue of November 15, 1935.

(Concluded)

The Sporting World

Cricket.

Transvaal Team Selected

THE following team has been selected to represent Transvaal in the return match against Australia beginning in Johannesburg on January 25:—

B. Mitchell (Captain), E. A. Rowan, R. E. Grievson, A. W. Briscoe, W. H. Foley, T. W. Baines, S. K. Coen, E. P. Nnpen, A. B. Langton, O. B. Gaydon, N. Hall. Twelfth man: D. W. Begbie.

Australia Team In India

The Maharajah of Patiala captained the Australian team and his son, Yuraj, captained the Patiala team, which at the close of play at Patiala on Jan. 15 had scored 301 for the loss of five wickets. Wazir Ali made 132, the highest score hitherto made against the Australians. Baqa Jilani had 53 not out. The Australians rested their most prominent players, including Oxenham, Ironmonger and Mair. Patiala in its first innings against Frank Tarrant's Australian team on the following day scored 352 (Alexander five for 64). The Australians replied with 266 for the loss of one wicket. Wendell Bill reached his century after 92 minutes of flawless play, and retired when struck on the jaw as he was trying to hook a fast one from Nissar. Morrisby made 70 not out, reaching his 50 in 45 minutes. The match ended in a draw on Jan. 17. The details were: Patiala, first innings 352, second innings 77 for two. Tarrant's team, first innings 484, which is the highest score of the tour. It took five hours 10 minutes to compile. Wendell Bill, who was struck on the jaw by a fast ball the following day, did not bat. An X-ray revealed a fractured jawbone. It is unlikely that he will play for three weeks. Morrisby scored 145 for the Australians. His hundred took just two hours and the last 45 took 22 minutes. He hit one 6 and 13 4's. He did not give a chance. Amir Elahi took six wickets for 164. The Maharajah of Patiala, who captained the Patiala team,

By "Rambler"

took two for 40, both with underhand bowling.

Australians In New Delhi

The three days' cricket match between Tarrant's Australian team and the Cricket Club of India commenced at New Delhi on Jan. 17 when in the first innings the Cricket Club scored 167, Amar Nath getting 50, which included seven 4's, and Mair took four wickets for 40. At the close of play, the Australians in their first innings had scored 87 runs for two wickets.

Pirates Vs. Schools

Unusually cold weather conditions prevailed when the Pirates played the Schools C. C. on Sunday last in the first round of the Abdooraham Trophy. On winning the toss the Schools elected to field. J. Augustine and T. R. Reddy opened the Pirates first innings. Reddy's wicket fell with four on the score board. The ongoing batsman fell rather cheaply when J. David joined Augustine and set the scores accumulating rapidly. After a breezy innings David was caught for 24. With hardly any support from the tail end, the Pirates' position appeared to be very precarious. Y. S. Mahomed broke the setting rout by scoring 16 in a short space of time, this included a six. The Pirates innings closed with 72 runs to their credit (Augustine 23). Schools by playing somewhat careless cricket were dismissed for the meagre total of 24 runs in their first venture. In their second innings the Pirates scored 86 of which Joe Augustine contributed 23, J. David 16, James Augustine 11, Samuel 10). Excellent bowling and fielding by the Pirates quickly closed the Schools innings for 26, thereby leaving the Pirates victors by 108 runs.

Boxing.

First Round Victory

Joe Louis knocked out the German-American Charles Retzlaff in Chicago on Saturday in the first round of a 15-round contest. Louis floored Retzlaff with a terrific left hook to the jaw for a count of seven and then crashed in a barrage of lefts and rights. Retzlaff tried to get up but could not. The murderous punching of the negro ended the fight in 85 secs. This was Louis' 23rd knock-out win.

Tennis At Beira

A correspondent from Beira writes that the scores for the Rustomji Cup were as follows:—

B.A.S.C.—Setts for 29, against 19; games for 307, against 221; C.R.I.P.—Setts for 28, against 20, games for 283, against 245; S.L.B.—Setts for 25, against 23; games for 249, against 279; B.R.A.C.—Setts for 12, against 36; games for 217, against 311. There was actually a tie in points for matches won, between the C.R.I.P. and the B.A.S.C. Therefore, according to the Rules of the Cup, the number of setts were taken into account, the B. A. S. C. thus winning by only one sett, which is a very close finish.

All-India Wrestling Tourney

Several wrestlers of all-India repute fought in the all-India wrestling tournament held recently says a Simla message which was the first of the two subsidiary sports events of the Durand football tournament. There were about 20 bouts and for the first time high class wrestling was witnessed under the official patronage. Among the principal bout were Mangal Singh of Kasur beat Hussain Bux of Lahore, Hussain Bux of Kasur beat Budhia of Kothar, Gurdas of Hoshiarpur beat Lal of Amritsar, Ram Sarup of Simla beat Said of Simla, Waziroo of Kothari beat Mohd. Din of Kasur, Roshan of Lahore College beat Haji of Simla. A silver mace costing Rs. 350 was given away to Mangal Singh of Kasur, the winner of the principal bout by the Raja of Sirmoor. Mr. Felix von Goldstein was the umpire.