

INDIAN OPINION

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NOTES AND NEWS

Segregation Of Non-Europeans

In Johannesburg

THE Health Committee of the Johannesburg City Council had before it last week, recommendations by the city engineer, M.O.H. and the manager of non-European housing and native administration, which were to be further considered by a joint committee of the General Purposes, Public Health, Works and Town Planning Committees. It is suggested that portions of land in Newlands and extension, Claremont, Newclare, Martindale, Sophiatown, Western Native Township, Eastern Native Township, Denver, Malay Location and Coronation Township, representing about three per cent, of the total area of the city, be reserved for non-European occupation. It is further suggested that Claremont should be reserved for Asiatic occupation and arrangements made with the Administrator to establish the proposed Indian College and High School which it is now proposed to establish near the Pretoria road—in this area. It is realised that certain vested rights have been established in the Malay location and that it may be some years before this can be abolished. On the other hand, if arrangements could be made with the Union Government for Asiatics to obtain freehold title in Claremont it is thought that the majority of the inhabitants of the Malay location would avail themselves of this advantage, more especially if they are suitably compensated for loss of the privileges enjoyed by them at present. In regard to Claremont, in addition to the previous recommendations by the Health Committee, an extra strip of 80 acres should, it is suggested, be bought from the Consolidated Main Reef Company at £275 an acre. The site has been visited by the chairman of the Health Committee, the M.O.H. and the assistant city engineer, Mr. E. Goodman, M.E.C., Mr. Pauw, of the Education Department, and the two sons of Mr. Mia, an Indian who has already made proposals in regard to the establishment of an Indian College. The Public Health Committee, it is learned had appointed a sub-committee to negotiate with both the Indian concerned and the Provincial authorities in regard to the Indian settlement and

hostel adjoining the Pretoria Road, and has received an assurance from the Indian that he would abandon the Pretoria Road scheme if suitable ground is available at Claremont.

Mr. Hofmeyr On The Native

Question

A banquet was given at the Carlton Hotel, Johannesburg, on June 30 by Lieut.-Colonel James Donaldson, D.S.O., to make clear the aims and objects of the Bantu welfare trust, which has been founded by Colonel Donaldson with a donation of £50,000. This gift is the largest ever made by an individual for the welfare of the Native population of South Africa. Mr. J. H. Hofmeyr, Minister of Mines and Education, who spoke at this banquet, referred to the fear complex in South Africa in relation to the Native. Mr. Hofmeyr said they talked a good deal of the Native problem in South Africa. Really, of course, it was no more a Native problem than a European problem. He preferred to think of it as a problem of race relations, a problem of adjustments that become necessary when men of a different race and colour lived side by side in the same land to ensure they would live together in peace and harmony. "For my part the first step to a solution of that problem in South Africa," said the Minister, "is the recognition of the fact that the White man and the Black man, whatever their differences are—and they are great—are the possessors of a common humanity, and whatever their inequalities are they are at least equal in the sense of being equally God's creatures, and in all that that implies." Mr. Hofmeyr further said that the Black man's advance in the scale of civilisation could not be checked. He believed there was an essential interdependence of European and Bantu economic interests. He believed they could never permanently secure the wealth and prosperity of the White man by keeping the Black man poor and depressed.

Sentences On Natives

Diamond Mbata was sentenced by Mr. H. W. A Rein, Assistant Magistrate of Dundee, at a branch court held at

Glencoe to three months' imprisonment with hard labour for stealing one hen valued at 2s. from the Rev. V. Reusch on the farm Ulzen. Diamond pleaded not guilty, saying that he had bought the hen.

It need hardly be stated that this sentence is entirely out of proportion in comparison with the nature of the crime. One would have thought the magistrates would have taken a lesson after so many decisions in similar cases having been reversed on revision by the Supreme Court, but apparently they have not.

School And Hall Fund

For Port Elizabeth

Messrs. M. S. Nagan, A. G. Moodliar, P. Manickum and K. S. Pillay, who recently came to Natal from Port Elizabeth to collect funds to build a school for Indians in Port Elizabeth, have so far been quite successful in their mission. They have already received the sum of £316 9s. 9d. from Durban, Stanger and Maritzburg and are still touring the other parts where, it is hoped, our countrymen will generously donate towards this deserving cause. The Port Elizabeth friends wish to thank those who have already given their very kind support. A list of those who have subscribed to this cause appears elsewhere in this issue.

Motorists Beware!

An appeal to magistrates of Natal to adopt a more uniform attitude in their treatment of "road hogs," was made by the Administrator, Mr. H. Gordon Watson last Monday, when he addressed the conference of Natal Magistrates and Native Commissioners. "We have heard a lot of criticism of Natal roads," he said. "But sometimes I think it is a pity they are not worse than they are, because then cars would not be so dangerous, and there would not be so many accidents." The motorcar menace, which he regarded as very serious, said Mr. Gordon Watson, would not be satisfactorily dealt with, if the treatment meted out to offenders differed with different Magistrates.

Indian Opinion

FRIDAY, JULY 9TH, 1937

Indian Education In Natal

Non-European Poverty In Durban

We quote the following telling passages from a memorandum recently laid before the Inter-departmental Committee on Poor Relief by Mr. Maurice Webb, Natal representative of the Institute of Race Relations and chairman of the Indo-European Council:

"South Africa has suffered severely from the unhappy custom of financing Native welfare from Native taxation. The effect of this custom is that the poor have to pay for the social services of the poor, whereas the recognised principles of taxation are that taxation should be related to income and that the wealthy should be taxed for the benefit of the poor. It is notable that South Africa does not tax farmers separately for the extensive subsidies and services enjoyed by farmers. It would be as reasonable to tax the blind for the care of the blind as to finance Native services from Native revenue.

Ignorance of the circumstances and needs of the depressed sections of a community common in all countries is in South Africa accentuated by our racial divisions. At times official policy appears to accept a situation in which suffering is regarded as non-existent if it occurs in a different racial group. By excluding all non-Europeans from the Government Labour Exchanges and therefore from official employment returns the impression is created that no unemployment exists among non-Europeans. The fact, however, is otherwise. Started in April of last year at a time of general prosperity, the privately organised Labour Bureau for Indians and Coloureds has already registered 689 unemployed workers of whom only 146 have been found employment.

Congress Party To Accept Office

Congress Working Committee met during the week at Wardha and after an informal chat for three days between Mahatma Gandhi and Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, the Committee has decided that Congress Parties should accept office in the six Provinces where they obtained majorities in the recent Indian elections. The Committee's resolution emphasises that office will be utilised for the purpose of working in accordance with the lines laid down in the Congress election manifesto and to further in every way possible the Congress policy for combating the new Act on the one hand and prosecuting a constructive programme on the other.

AN outstanding event of the week was the twelfth session of the conference of Indian teachers in Natal which met at the Sastri College. The Natal Provincial Administration's neglect of Indian education is brought to light year after year but it is like pouring water over a duck's back. Even the Agent-General for India who has ordinarily been very eulogistic about the "growing friendship" between South Africa and India has had to pass some scathing criticism against the Provincial Authorities in this regard. The policy pursued by the authorities was extremely disappointing, he said. There was no moral ground on which the difference in treatment of European and Indian education by the Provincial Administration could be justified. "On what grounds does it justify its policy? Let it give an answer if it has one," said the Agent-General. The Administration won't, but we will endeavour to give an answer for the Administration. Here it is: "We wanted you Indians when this land was in an undeveloped state to come and toil for us. You have well done it. You have turned this into a Garden Colony, We thank you for it. We have done with you now, you may go. There is no room for you here. If you wish to remain you may do so provided you look after yourselves. Don't expect any facilities of any kind from us because we don't want you. The only facility we can provide for you, and that too, not we, but we will get the Union Government to provide for you is a £20 bonus and a free passage to the country you came from." This is, in brief, the attitude of the Provincial Administration.

The Capetown Agreement which contains terms to provide educational facilities for Indians was entered into with the Union Government. Of course the Natal Province is a part of the Union but in regard to the treatment of Indians it claims self-government and non-interference in her internal affairs. Hence the Natal Provincial Administration refuses to be bound in any way by the terms of the Capetown Agreement.

In the beginning the Indian had to give his labour for the development of this Province for a mere pittance and

the lash on top of it. Now he and his descendants, who are treated as a burden to this Province, have to pay taxes to provide education for European children. The Indian "animal" is, therefore, not altogether a burden. If something could be extracted from him even without the "master" being merciful how much more an asset would he prove with a little mercy from the "master?"

Mr. K. P. Kichlu came in terms of the Capetown Agreement to this country nearly ten years ago to inquire into the educational conditions of Indians in the Union, and very unfortunately for this Province, found to the great horror of the public that the Provincial Administration not only did not expend a brass farthing towards Indian education but filched away most of the subsidy given by the Union Government. While that has at least been prevented since, with all the adverse criticism against it, the Provincial Administration has with an ass-like obstinacy refused to fulfil its own responsibility towards the Indian children. That eight to ten thousand Indian children of school-going age should be in the streets for want of accommodation is a sad reflection on the Provincial Administration.

The Rev. W. H. Satchell, who is a manager of Indian schools, supported the Agent-General's charge and said that "in pursuing this policy the Provincial Council would surrender its claim of being impartial, in fact it would forfeit its right to govern, for it was taxing the poor to pay for the education of the rich.

Prominent educationalists and South African Statesmen have repeatedly stated from public platforms that education should know no colour bar. If half the attention that is paid by the State towards slum clearance were paid towards education it would make it much easier to remove slum conditions. The Rev. Satchell appealed to the Superintendent of Education to plead for free primary education for all races. We would appeal to all educationalists and the liberal Statesmen of the country to use their good influences over the authorities concerned to accede to this very reasonable request to quench the thirst of learning.

POOR RELIEF AND CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS

EVIDENCE BEFORE INTER-DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE

EVIDENCE of the considerable amount of poverty and malnutrition existing among the Indian community was given before the Inter-Departmental Committee on Poor Relief and Charitable Institutions, which ended its sittings in Durban last week.

Child Welfare Society

"Most Indian women and children always suffer from want," stated the Durban Indian Child Welfare Society. "When the bread-winner is alive and in employment he earns from £2 upwards, but what he earns keeps his wife and children living from hand to mouth. There is no chance of saving for a rainy day. The cause is the operation of the White labour policy.

"The distress among Indian children is great owing to the economic conditions of their parents, and the children do not have a fair chance in life.

"We would suggest:

"That the local, Provincial and Union Governments should raise the standard of wages of the unskilled workers;

"That there should be more industrial inspectors to see that the industrial laws are carried out;

"That free and compulsory education should be given to children as well as food to poor children (they should be medically examined periodically);

"That the grants to children under the heading of mothers' pensions should be based on all amounts which would enable the mother to do what is expected of her for her destitute children;

"That the Government and Provincial Administration should employ more Indians in their services;

"That relief should be given from the local, Provincial and Union Governments through the charitable society operating for a particular race or creed;

"That Government trained social workers should be available to volunteer workers and societies as advisers."

Indian Benevolent Society

In its memorandum, the Durban Indian Benevolent Society stated:

"The majority of Indians in Durban belongs to the working class. Except those who are engaged in industries governed by wage determinations—and their number is small—nearly all are employed in unskilled work and consequently receive very low wages.

"The Durban Municipality, which by far employs the greatest number of Indians, pays on an average £2 per month. It is true that they receive quarters and rations, but it is too much to expect an Indian to live on the wages that are being paid by the Durban City Council. Housing conditions of these Municipal employees are shocking.

"The relief workers receive 12s. 6d. a week for a five-day week, but they receive neither rations nor quarters. They are expected to pay their own transport expenses. Unskilled workers in the majority of instances receive about the same wages as do the Municipal employees.

"Because of this low earning capacity Indians are reduced to a state of poverty. They live in rooms built of wood and iron, ill-ventilated and in some cases the whole family has to live in one room. There is much that can be done by institutions such as ours to help these unfortunate people.

Malnutrition

"Malnutrition, an inevitable result of low wages, is more in evidence among Indians than among any other section of the community.

"We would submit that Indian school children do not receive from the Provincial Administration the kind of treatment that is their due. For years the Indian community has been tapping at the doors of the Administration to provide the Indian school children with free meals, without any result. It was only two years back that soup kitchens were opened in some of the schools, but these soup kitchens, we maintain, do not fill the want; children are not being encouraged to take advantage of these kitchens."

Indian Social Service Committee

In a memorandum the Indian Social Service Committee stated:

"Since the second year of our existence we have been carrying on free dispensary for poor and destitute Indians. Under this scheme close on 7,300 men, women and children of all classes, without distinction of caste, creed or section, being unemployed, and their dependents, have received free medicine, and hundreds of them have received free medical attention.

"Owing to the restricted state of our finances we have been able to give relief by providing the necessaries of life to only about 350 poor families. On two occasions, at the request of the Inspector of Schools, we organised holiday soup kitchens for indigent school children, and 4,000 of them were provided with their mid-day meals.

"We have found employment for many destitute Indians and got many exempted from payment of personal tax. The children of many poor families were recommended, successfully, for free tuition."

Maritzburg Indo-European Joint Council

"We wish to emphasise the point that Indians are politically a disenfranchised

section of the community in the Union, excepting the Cape Province. This has made the Indian community voteless and therefore voiceless, and until this particular disability is removed the just claims of Indians should receive sympathetic and special consideration in any scheme of social and economic uplift."

This statement was contained in a memorandum presented on Wednesday, June 30, to the Inter-Departmental Committee on Poor Relief by a deputation from the Indo-European Joint Council, Maritzburg, consisting of the Rev. Frank Oldreive, Mr. S. R. Naidoo and the Rev. A. J. Choonoo. The memorandum went on to state, *inter alia*:

"The preliminary report of the all-Union census taken in 1936 showed the distribution of the Indian population in the four Provinces as follows: Cape 10,692; Transvaal, 25,561; Orange Free State, 29; Natal, 183,646. Natal alone has five times the number of the other three Provinces put together. Of the total Indian population 85 per cent. are South African born Indians and therefore nationals to the Union.

"Natal is the home of the Indian population, and in Natal owing to economic and other conditions the menace of poverty is very marked. On a rough estimate not less than 60 per cent. of the Indian population may be classed as 'poor Indian' of whom 40 per cent, we believe, live below the bread line.

These circumstances of poverty are principally due to low wages paid, the closing of certain types of employment to them and economic repression as evidenced by the enforcement of the White labour policy which has displaced a large number of Indians employed on railways, by municipalities and by other services.

"The denial of full economic opportunities in life resulted in Indians concentrating for their livelihood upon the limited avenues open to them, which in its train brought about a state of congestion in a particular sphere of employment or trade.

"The cases of Indian taxi drivers and hawkers and pedlars may be cited as examples of how people, driven by economic considerations, concentrate upon one or two avenues of work which give them neither sufficient scope in the choice of occupation or trade, nor recompense to maintain a decent standard of living.

"This problem of the poor Indian has never been tackled seriously before. Private efforts and enterprises on a small and limited scale on the part of Indians themselves to take care and look after the poor have been few.

"Although Natal has a large Indian population, can it be said that the Provincial Administration has discharged its duty of distribution of poor relief among poor Indians to the extent they deserve? As far as it can be ascertained the following grants are given by way of poor relief to and for the benefit of Indians:

"Indigent grants: Education of Indian children, £700 (out of which £200 is spent in distributing free books and £500 to soup kitchens); St. Aidan's Indian Mission Hospital, £200.

Benevolent Societies: Arya Yuvuk Home, Cato Manor, £100; Durban Indian Child Welfare Society, £50; Aryan Benevolent Society, Maritzburg, £60. The total is £1,160.

"It will be seen that only £700 is devoted to indigent school children. Some of this money is being spent on soup kitchens where a restricted number of Indian school children receive one

meal a day. Considering that the number of children attending schools in Natal is 22,431, many of whom are drawn from poor parents, the amount spent on soup kitchens is inadequate. Taking the Indians as a whole and considering their circumstances, the amount voted is, to say the least, insufficient.

"The Union Government milk distribution scheme was extended to Indian school-going children and commenced in February of this year, only to be discontinued after two months.

"Aged Indians of whom there are 2,429 in the Union, are excluded from the benefits of the old age pension although the Union Government has voted £5,000 to be distributed at the rate of 10s. per capita per month to aged Indians.

"The Labour Department of the Union Government subsidises the employment of Indian relief workers by Durban and Maritzburg municipalities, Durban employing 300 and Maritzburg 50. They are paid 12s. 6d. a week.

Provincial Boards

"We wish to propose that in the first instance Provincial Boards should be created on the basis of a federation and on this being achieved a national board embracing the Union should be formed. Indians should be represented on all these boards.

"In any consideration of setting up social organisations we believe that the training of social workers will bring about a state of efficiency and will be the means of encouraging the community to take an interest in all social matters. We suggest that training schools should be opened in Durban and Maritzburg for the training of Indians in social work.

"All grants either from local, Provincial or Union authorities should be made in round sums based upon local needs. Indians as a community are not in a position to contribute a proportionate amount towards poor relief.

"We feel that relief to mothers, unemployables, the blind, the aged, and lepers should be the special charge of the Union Government."

RELIGIOUS OATH AND NON-RELIGIOUS

THE following thought-provoking article is reproduced from *Harijan* for the interest of our readers:—

Shri Shivaprasad Gupta, the great philanthropist of Benares, writes:

"After hearing the *Harijan* of May 1 read to me, I have been pondering over the note 'Gandhi Seva Sangh and Legislatures.' I re-read it today. I also read the Weekly Letter, but I could not give rest to the surging thought rising in my mind.

The last paragraph of the note reads: 'It is not a religious oath and far as I understand the Constitution, it is wholly consistent with the demand for immediate and concrete independence.' The following are the questions that arise in my mind:

1. Are oaths of several and different kinds?
2. Can an oath taken in the name of God, or in the alternative form where one has to affirm solemnly, be classed in two categories, 'religious oath and non-religious oath'?
3. What is the governing idea behind a non-religious oath?
4. How can an oath of allegiance to the person of a king be consistent with the 'demand for immediate and concrete independence'? This demand, at least to me, means depriving the same sovereign of his sovereignty.

I would very much like your answer to these pertinent questions?"

My answer to the first and the second questions is "Yes." The answer to the

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other two questions may be gathered from what follows

An oath may be taken in the name of God and yet may not be styled religious. An oath that a witness takes in a court of law is a legal not a religious oath, breach of which will carry legal consequences. An oath taken by members of Parliament may be called a constitutional not a religious oath, breach of which may involve mundane consequences. Breach of a religious oath carries no legal consequences, but in the opinion of the taker does carry divine punishment. This does not mean that any of the three varieties of oaths is less binding than the others on a conscientious man. A conscientious witness will tell the truth, not for fear of the legal consequence, but he will do so in every case. The legislator's oath has an interpretation in terms of the Constitution which prescribes the oath. The interpretation may be given in the Constitution itself or may grow up by usage. So far as I understand the British Constitution, the oath of allegiance simply means that the legislator will, in pushing forward his policy or point, conform to the Constitution. I hold that it is open to the legislator consistently with his oath under the British Constitution to adopt measures in the legislature for complete independence. That to my mind is the saving grace of the British Constitution. I fancy that the members of the Union Parliament of South Africa take substantially the same oath as the members in India, but

it is open to that Parliament today to declare complete independence without any violation of the oath of allegiance. It is because I have a profound conviction that the British Constitution in theory permits of the fulfilment of the highest ambition of an individual or the nation of which he is a member that I advised the Working Committee to accept my formula for office acceptance. And it is in the same conviction that I am struggling to get the British Government to respond to it. I am painfully conscious that they would prolong the agony to the breaking point. But I know that if we have faith and grit we shall win at every point and reach our goal without shedding a drop of blood. The British people apply the same laws to the game of politics that they apply to the game of football which I believe is their invention. They give no quarter to the opponent and ask for none. The fundamental difference in our case is that we have abjured the use of arms. This has confounded them. They do not believe our protestations. They do not mind our agitation for complete independence so long as we keep it within the constitutional limit. What else can the legislators do or are they to do inside their assemblies? They may not take their pistols in their pockets. That would be a flagrant breach of the oath and also the law. Shri Shivaprasad Gupta need not worry himself over the propriety of the oath by Congressmen. If the agitation for complete independence was inconsistent with the oath, surely the British Government themselves would have raised that preliminary objection even to the candidature of Congressmen.

TWO OLD FRIENDS MEET AFTER TWENTY-THREE YEARS

Mr. H. Kallenbach, with whose name the Indian community of South Africa is well acquainted, had, for some time, gone on a tour of Europe whence he has now gone to India especially to meet Mahatma Gandhi. Mr. Mahadev Desai, Mahatma Gandhi's secretary, gives in *Harijan* a most interesting description of Mr. Kallenbach's visit which we reproduce below for the benefit of our readers:—

MR. HERMANN KALLENBACH, an old South African friend of Gandhiji, has arrived in India. For years after Gandhiji's return to India from South Africa his name was a kind of legend to those of us who gathered round Gandhiji. For years Gandhiji had nursed the hope of his coming to India and settling down in the midst of us giving his full co-operation to Gandhiji in all his experiments with truth. During the early days of the Satyagrah-ashram at Sabarmati Gandhiji would often say: "If Kallenbach were here he would be in charge of the plans of the Ashram and he would build it after his own heart," and the late Maganlal Gandhi would say: "How I wish Kallenbach was here. He would have been a thorough good taskmaster to all of us."

But he kept us waiting all these 23 years. The 'great' War made and unmade many things. One of the things it prevented from happening was the coming to India of Kallenbach. For he left South Africa with Gandhiji with the intention of coming to India with him, but he found himself in England on August 4, 1914, and, for no fault of his, became a prisoner of war in one of the thirty German prison camps on the Isle of Man, and was released or rather transferred in exchange for English prisoners in February 1918. There were obvious difficulties in his coming to India after the War, but he went back to South Africa and slowly built up his big business as an architect, which his imprisonment had ruined. A hard-headed businessman, once he was in the thick of his business he could not extricate himself from it, and his coming to India remained an unfulfilled dream. When at last his cable from London arrived last year intimating his intention to come to India, Gandhiji sent a gushing cable to him urging him to carry out the intention. But business in London kept him there all these months and we had very nearly given him up. When, therefore, we had his cable from Aden our joy knew no bounds. He landed in Bombay in the afternoon of May 20, and having placed a heavy order with a tailor for khadi clothes, arrived at Tithal on May 21 just when

our morning prayers had begun. Immediately after the prayers Gandhiji greeted the old friend with a hearty "After how many years?" as the great German, with almost a leonine face, instead of hugging Gandhiji, bent low before him in reverence. It was quite dark at that early hour in the verandah where we prayed, and with childish delight Gandhiji picked up a lantern and said: "Let me see your features more closely in the light." "So the hair has all turned grey," he said pulling a shock of it. "Oh, yes, I am only a year and a half younger than you," said Kallenbach. "I hope you had a nice voyage. You came first or second?" With a hearty laugh said Kallenbach, "Not so bad as that. I came tourist class. I knew that would be the first question you would ask me."

He was right, for in the good old days when they stayed together in South Africa, Kallenbach was the 'Lower House' and Gandhiji the 'Upper House'—the 'Lower House' preparing the budget and the 'Upper House' vetoing large chunks of it! Even the cable from Aden intimating his arrival in India was signed 'Lower House.' Those years of their chummery in Johannesburg must have been divinely happy though in Gandhiji's Autobiography one has but a fleeting glimpse of it. "Though we worked in our own offices," said Kallenbach, "we lived in the same rooms—almost in the same bed—and while he cooked for us I did the cleaning. I had to account to him for every little item of expenditure and sometimes he did put me through the rack for apparently trivial items. On the morning on which he had to go to meet General Smuts at Pretoria for a very important interview I found him rating me severely for something or other that had happened in our domestic affairs, something perhaps that I had omitted to do. I remonstrated with him saying it was no use his wasting time over domestic trifles when he must be thinking of the interview he was going to have with General Smuts. 'No', he flared up and said: 'These little things are to me of as much importance as the big ones. For they touch the very core of our life, and truth is one whole, it has no compartments.' And thus I have seen him on small as well as on big occasions pursuing the same passionate search for truth. I have had the privilege of sharing his joys and his sorrows too. A defeat in a campaign means not so much to him as the lapse of a dear one from truth or purity, and I was witness once to one such event coming to him with a staggering blow."

"And he has on occasions made me cry too," he said, thinking of the numerous incidents these companions had in their daily lives. I reminded him of the motor car and the binocular incidents. And he gave me vivid details of both, which we miss in Gandhiji's Autobiography. They are mentioned there, but with none of the vividness they demand. "I had purchased a car to bring him home from jail on the day of his release. He sat in it, but not without a torment that I could read on his face. For the moment he was quiet, but when we got home he rated me severely for my folly. 'Put a match to it at once,' he said. 'But how can I? I am not such a rich man as to afford to do so.' It was after much argument that he consented to my disposing of it instead of destroying it. It remained in the garage for over a year and was then disposed of. But for eleven years after that incident I did not have a motor car.

"As for the binoculars I shall tell you how it happened. The car incident happened in about 1908. This happened in 1914 on the boat which took us to England. A jeweller uncle of mine who had lost heavily in business asked me if I would purchase a pair of glasses as I might need them on sea. I did not need them, but in order to oblige him I purchased it for a few pounds. I had no time to consult Gandhiji, and he did not know of it until I happened to mention it on the boat. It happened that some friends had presented me with another pair when we sailed, and so I had two pairs with me. Someone on the boat knowing that I had two asked me if I would sell one to him. That led me to consult Gandhiji. I mentioned the incident but casually as he was giving me my Hindustani lesson. He was very much annoyed when he found that I had purchased a costly pair of binoculars without his permission, and my explanation was of no avail. He asked me to fling them into the sea. I had not the heart to do so. I said, 'You might do whatever you like with them'; and without the slightest twitch of conscience he flung both the pairs into the sea."

"Both!" I exclaimed with a gasp.

"Oh yes, both."

"But how did the other one offend him? That was a gift from friends."

"I cannot tell you. The incident is as clear to me as though it happened yesterday, but I cannot explain why he flung both into the sea. I tell you I could not help crying that day. You better ask him why he flung that dear present into the sea."

[The autobiography, I think, mentions only one pair. I have had no time to ask Gandhiji on this point. But I suppose the whole thing happened because of his insistence on the vow of non-possession. Had he not similarly relieved his wife and children of all the costly gifts they had received from the community and returned them to the community? But to throw a costly gift away into the sea! I can somehow understand the purchased pair being thrown away, but I cannot why exactly the other too went into the sea.]

"But," continued Mr. Kallenbach, "he had done so often enough before. I would purchase silver rings for serviettes, for instance. It would not strike me that I should consult him regarding these trifles. And away he would throw them into the rubbish heap. 'Don't you still understand me?' he would shout in distress. But I saw the reason of his distress over these incidents. He lavished his affection on me and therefore dealt with me more severely than he would have done with others. That was the tyranny of his affection, but that affection is my proudest possession."

Tolstoy Farm

I have not yet had more than a brief while with Mr. Kallenbach, but if that brief while has been so rich, I do not know how much a few days and hours would yield. But it is difficult to make him talk about himself, and he has successfully resisted the temptation several

times of writing anything about the eleven years he was with Gandhiji. The readers of the *Autobiography* will remember Tolstoy Farm which Mr. Kallenbach purchased for the Satyagrahis in South Africa. He himself went and stayed there as one of the members sharing the communal life. It was he who first learnt shoe-making in a Trappist Monastery and then taught it to Gandhiji and the other co-workers.

"In those days no 'black' man would be accepted even in a monastery of European monks, and so I had to go there to learn shoe-making. I learnt it within a few weeks and many of us learnt it later," said Mr. Kallenbach. "Those days showed me better than anything else the value of vocational training as an essential part of our education. Later I learnt dairying and horticulture too."

And it was Tolstoy Farm that perhaps made Mr. Kallenbach a nature-cure enthusiast also, though, as he told me, his interest in it is forty years old. I should not have known this but for a little incident in our camp here. The Sardar happened to get a thorn pierced in the middle of the sole of his foot during one of his walks. Not minding it he walked on, with the result that at the end of the walk it was difficult to draw out the thorn which had gone too deep into the flesh. A quick remedy was applied to draw the thorn out, but as it was not properly done it made

matters worse by producing a troublesome blister. Doctors had been coming in, and this is what Mr. Kallenbach said to the Sardar and the doctor as the latter was dressing the wound: "You must even now try an earth bandage. I assure you it will draw out the thorn quicker than this dressing will do and no anti-tetanus injection would be needed either. I am speaking from experience extending over a period of forty years and this remedy has never failed me. On my farm we keep tins of clean dry earth to be used whenever necessary. A niece of mine is a nurse. A Zulu servant on my estate had an accident one day as he was working. A wattle-splinter got right in the middle of his calf piercing through the flesh, and the fellow was perfectly miserable. This splinter is supposed to give tetanus and the next day the whole of his leg was swollen from the ankle to the knee. My niece applied wet earth bandages all over the swollen part repeating them every three or four hours. Within a day the swelling had disappeared and the man, who was going through intense misery, slept soundly. We really do not realise the wonderful properties of mother earth. A brother of mine is a doctor in Memel in Lithuania, and another in South Africa. I told them of this and also told them what ignoramus modern doctors are in elementary things. They recognized the truth of my remark."

NATAL INDIAN TEACHERS' CONFERENCE

THE twelfth annual conference of the Natal Indian Teachers was held at the Sastri College, Durban, last Monday.

In opening the conference Sir Syed Raza Ali, Agent-General for India, said, "I have been forcibly struck by two things while inspecting some of the Indian schools in various parts of the country. One is that aided Indian schools in Natal far exceed in number the Government Indian schools. The other is that primary education among Indians in this Province is neither compulsory nor free. In both these respects I would urge upon the Department of Education and the Provincial Administration, with all the emphasis I can command, to follow the liberal and progressive educational policy of the Transvaal and the Cape. I must make it quite clear that I am pleading for the Transvaal's educational policy being applied to Indians in Natal. The question is put at times: 'Is there free and compulsory education in India?' The question is, of course, beside the point. I would like to give a definite answer to our sympathetic critics. My answer is that in educational policy

India makes no distinction between one child and another. In many places in India primary education is free and the children at the schools there are treated exactly alike in the matter of fees, supply of books and other matters.

"I gratefully acknowledge the liberality shown by the Union Government in contributing to the cost of Natal Indian education, but the policy pursued by the Provincial Administration has been extremely disappointing.

"There is no moral ground on which the difference in treatment of European and Indian education by the Provincial Administration can be justified.

"I would ask you to consider the effect of the Provincial barrier rule on Indians. Take, for instance, a man with an income of £10 a month, having six children. If he was free to take up residence in the Transvaal he would be able to have primary education in any case for his children almost free of cost.

"The Provincial barrier rule, however, condemns him to remain in Natal. And yet the Natal Provincial Administration refuses to supply his children with the educational facilities that would be open to them in the Transvaal. Practi-

cally all the money spent on Indian primary education in Natal comes out of the coffers of the Union Government. What is the Natal Administration's contribution? On what grounds does the Administration justify its policy? Let it give an answer, if it has one."

Presidential Speech

The presidential speech, which touched various phases of Indian educational development during the year, was delivered by Mr. E. Thomas. While the number of schools had now increased to 99 with 21,600 pupils, he said there were still 8,000 to 10,000 Indian school-going children out of school for want of accommodation. Mr. Thomas congratulated one of the members, Mr. A. D. Lazarus, B.A., on securing an American scholarship, at Yale University, for for the study of the subject of race relations.

The Chief Inspector

Referring to the statement of the Agent-General, Mr. J. Macleod, Chief Inspector of Indian Education, who also was one of the speakers at the Conference, said that the matter con-

cerned the Administration and it was not for him to say anything.

Rev. W. H. Satchell

The Rev. W. H. Satchell, supporting the Agent-General's charge said the Provincial Council was guilty of neglect of Indian education. In pursuing this policy the Council would surrender

its claim of being impartial, in fact it would forfeit its right to govern, for it was taxing the poor to pay for the education of the rich.

"We do not blame the Education Department but our strictures are against the Provincial Council. We hope that the Superintendent of Educa-

tion will plead for free primary education for all races."

Mr Satchell impressed upon teachers the importance of religion and education. Education that made no attempt to develop spiritual perception and that gave no instruction in accepted religious beliefs could not be regarded as an education to fit a child for life.

Things In General

Race Equality Advocated

UNIVERSITIES in all parts of the Union were represented at the annual Conference of the National Union of South African Students at the Witwatersrand University when Mrs. M. Ballinger, who was recently elected by the Natives of the Eastern Province to represent them in the House of Assembly, deplored the apparent complete and utter defeat of the exponents of the old Cape liberal policy towards Natives and emphasised that while she and her two fellow representatives of Native interests in the House of Assembly might have no great influence on that body, it would be their duty to appeal to public opinion. Today the Native was discriminated against administratively, economically and politically. It was not the policy of the Afrikaner or the Britisher, said the speaker, but the Colonial policy supported by persons of all parties and racial traditions.

South Africa's only future, she said, lay in the development of all races alike and the treatment of every person as a human being no matter what the colour of his skin.

Would that these words entered the hearts of the South African politics. It seems, however, a forlorn hope for the present, at least.

Prime Minister On

Industrial Situation

General Hertzog, the Prime Minister of the Union, has returned from the Imperial Conference last Monday. In the course of an interview with a press representative, the Prime Minister said with regard to the prospects of peace or war in Europe, that according to general expectations the piling of armaments must necessarily end in a general world conflagration. "I am not, however, prepared to subscribe to this view. Two things are clear to me: The one is that there is no war psychology among the European peoples, and that each of them wishes to see peace maintained. The other is that there is no Government in any of the great countries of Europe which is having recourse to-day to armaments for any reason than that of self-defence. Regarded from these two points of view, there is no reason to

think that armaments in Europe must lead to war."

Novel Health Plan At Benoni

Speaking on health education at the monthly meeting of the Benoni branch of the National Council of Women, Dr. Anning, the Benoni M.O.H., said that within the next two months a "school for food handling" would be started. This would be the first of its kind in South Africa. "I feel," said Dr. Anning, "that most people who handle food in our shops, our hotels, our restaurants and our stores want to do the job as hygienic-

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ally and as efficiently as possible, but many of them have never thought much about the spread of germs through food. Before the end of September we shall have a room ready in the municipal offices to which at a certain time each day we shall invite employers to send people who handle food—dairy boys, hotel waiters, shop assistants and so on—in batches of not more than four. They will receive a quarter of an hour or so of individual instruction on the significance of germs in food and how to prevent their spread. We shall show them bacteria, models of hygienic dairies, of food safes and all that sort of thing, and show them how to wash plates and forks and spoons to kill all bacteria, how to preserve food from infection, how to serve dishes so that no germs get on to them from their hands, the dish cloths or from food utensils."

Dannhauser Indian School Concert

The Indian school at Dannhauser held its third concert on Monday and Tuesday, June 28 and 29. There were two shows: one for the women and another for the men. There was a three-hour programme and the parents thoroughly enjoyed the show. The headmaster, Mr. R. Loganathan, spoke to the parents about the need

for extension and education for girls. He emphasised the fact that there was a poor attendance of girls considering the attendance of boys. He thanked the parents for their hearty support. A silver collection was taken wherein the women contributed £1 3s. 3d., and the men £1 10s. 8d.

An Appeal In The Cause Of Education

Mr. S John of Tugela, Natal, makes the following appeal to the public:

Sir,—I have two colonial-born sons in India. The eldest boy just sat for his final B.A. examination last month and is waiting for the results, and if he secures a complete pass he will sail for South Africa immediately. The younger boy is in M.A. class (final), and he has to study another eight months to complete his studies. Both of them are very bright and intelligent lads and are recipients of several medals and valuable books etc. for their English lectures etc. During the past 10 years I have spent all my life's savings for their education and now nothing is left to maintain them at college for the remaining period. Unfortunately I have no work or business at present. The position is very critical, and if no assistance is forthcoming immediately the boys have to discontinue their studies, which means that all their 10 years' study, time and money spent will have been wasted. It is a heart-rending affair to ask the boys to discontinue their studies at this stage of their highest intellectual attainments, just for the sake of little financial assistance. It is through highly educated young men and women, that our political, social and educational salvation will eventually come. Therefore the Indian community should consider them as an asset. I earnestly appeal to the general public for some assistance through the medium of your valuable paper and I hope that you will render the necessary help in this connection. Any authentic proof of the case, if required, will be furnished from the office of the Agent-General for the Government of India and also from

(Continued on page 331)

India Letter

(EXTRACTS FROM A. I. O. C. FOREIGN LETTER)

The Tax-payer's Money And The Princes' Money

THE tax-payer's money and the princes' incomes will have shown the Coronation Indian contingents in London against the background of ease and luxury. Meanwhile, Lakshmi Sahai of Gujranwala, Punjab, drowned himself in a canal, because he could not give a pice (½d.) to his child. Khirod Chandra Roy, a 20-year old unemployed young man of Calcutta, drank nitric acid, because he could find no work in Calcutta nor had he money to travel elsewhere for a job.

Madras Government And The Congress

While at conferences, demonstrations and public meetings, the present ministries are being condemned outright, the Madras Government is distributing 100,000 leaflets, which beat Lord Zetland in his ignorant isolation from Indian conditions. "The Congress is out of office. The reason for this is their refusal to take office and nothing else."

Anti-Imperialist Tie

While the British Government is pursuing its imperialist ends and strengthening its world position with armaments on the North-Western Frontier and by negotiations in the Sind-Burmese Frontier dispute, President Nehru has received the spontaneous welcome of millions in Burma and in Malaya. This is the anti-imperialist tie that united the oppressed nations of the world.

Reactions To Baden-Powell

Modern Review writes that the Boy Scouts are an imperialist organisation. *Congress Socialist* says, "We have always felt that the Boy Scouts Association and its work were both an insult and a menace to the young persons who are attracted by it. We hope that the statement of Lord Baden-Powell will open the eyes of those of our countrymen who have so far co-operated with the movement and that they will refuse to have anything more to do with the Boy Scouts Movement. We earnestly appeal to both the parents as well as the young persons concerned to boycott the Association and to bring the movement under national control. We feel that the Youth Leagues and Students' Conferences can do a very great deal to combat this movement."

Concern In Simla

Lord Baden-Powell's offensive reference to Indians which was commented upon widely in the Indian press formed, it is understood, the subject-matter of the informal discussions among Provincial Scouts Commissioners who met at the Viceregal Lodge recently. Some of those present are believed to have taken strong exception to the remarks, though no resolution was adopted at the Conference. There seems to be apprehension in some quarters that unless prompt reparation is made, difficulties, in the way of encouraging the growth of the movement may be greatly accentuated.

"Free Union Of Nations"

Writing on "the Coronation," Lord Meston says in the *International Affairs*, "Its (the British Commonwealth) form of Empire is a free union of liberty-loving nations." Commenting on this, the *Modern Review* of June says, "As regards India, which contains the bulk of the population of the British Empire, its people never came under British subjection of their own free will. And now the strongest, the largest and the best organised politically representative body in India, the Indian National Congress, has been asserting for the last eight years that its object is to win independence for the country. So, so far as the vast majority of the inhabitants of the British Empire is concerned, it was not true originally and is not true now that the British Empire is a free union of nations."

Burma And The British

Burma has been separated from India against the wishes of the Burmese. In his speeches in Burma, President Nehru explained why this had been done. First, the British want to strengthen their naval base at Singapur and their military power in the East. Secondly, there is oil in Burma which is so important for "power and transport in times of peace and war. Burmese petroleum production has fluctuated around 1,200,000 metric tons per year. It is capable of expansion as that which took place in Iraq in the year 1935 and after. Burma is also a great rice producing country. Her annual production has averaged round 5 million tons, which is about 1/6th of that for the whole of India, or about 1/12th of the entire world production in rice. The Burmese population is 14 million, and, so, the surplus rice which Burma can put on the world market is enormous.

Prabhuram Ayurvedic College

The following are the names of the successful candidates of the different Ayurvedic Institutions who appeared in the Prabhuram Ayurvedic College Examinations conducted by the Dr. Popat, University of Ayurved, during April 1937: Bhashagvar Examination: Guhe, Nana Govind, Bombay; (Passing in *Shalya Shalakya Shastra* and *Soolika Shastra* only), Dalal, Rameshchandra Tribhovandas, Bombay; Rasavaidya Examination: Gajiwala, Shantilal Maganlal, Surat; Naik, Bhimbhai Naranji, Navsari; Upavaidya Examination: Desai, Pranlal Amratlal, Sandasal; Nagarsheth, Manubhai Nathjibhai, Sandasal; Naik, Dattatraya Gajanan, Bombay; (Passing in *Indriya Vignan Shastra* only) Naik, Bhimbhai Naranji, Navsari; Savika Paricharya Examination: (Passing in *Paricharya* only, (Kumari) Parve, Maltibai Bhaurao, Bombay. The next session of the Examinations will commence from August 26, 1937. The tuition classes of the College reopened on June 3, 1937.

Indian Expert For Geneva

It is understood that Dr. B. N. Kaul, formerly Chairman of the Department of Economics, Muslim University of Aligarh, and at present the head of the Department of Economics, University of Punjab, has been appointed a member of the Financial Section and Economic Intelligence Service of the League of Nations Secretariat in the category of specialist. He is expected to leave for Geneva shortly to take up his appointment.

Death Of Cawnpore's Industrial Magnate

Lala Kamapat, premier multi millionaire and mill-owner of Cawnpore, passed away on May 31. On May 29 when he was in full senses, he announced benefactions totalling Rs. 5 lacs, which include Rs. 2,50,000 worth for a women's hospital and nursing home. Other large benefactions include educational charities and more than Rs. 1,00,000 for religious purposes. He was Cawnpore's greatest industrialist and owned a chain of mills over a very wide area covering several cities. Much of Cawnpore's industrial prosperity was due to his enterprise and initiative. He successfully combatted the European business and was reputed as one of the foremost businessmen in the country. His death closes a great industrial epoch in Cawnpore.

Gold Exodus

The total value of gold exported from Bombay since Britain went off the gold standard amounts to Rs. 2,97,95,26,762 at the end of May.

THINGS IN GENERAL]

some of the Natal Indian Congress officials, Messrs. Sorabjee Rustomjee and A. I. Kajee.

For Those Who Wish To Go To
England For Studies

Mr. Ahmed Abdul Rehman, who is a law student and a member of the Middle Temple and also a student of politics at the London School of Economics and Political Science (University of London), is spending his vacation in the Union. He is at his home in Klerksdorp, Transvaal. During his nine weeks stay in this country, Mr. Rehman will be pleased to meet any Indian students who intend to go for educational purposes to England and are in need of any information. Mr. Rehman is a member of the Indian Students Union, 112, Gower Street, London, W.C.; the Muslim Society in Great Britain, 18, Eccleston Square, Victoria, London, S.W. 3, and the Indian Society, o/o the London School of Economics and Political Science, University of London.



Mr. A. D. LAZARUS, B.A.

One of the teachers at Sastri College who has been awarded a bursary to study race relations at the Yale University. Mr. Lazarus sailed for America last Thursday. He takes with him the good wishes of his friends in South Africa.

[Continued from page 329]

July Handicap Winner Gives
£500 To Charity

Mrs. M. V. Henkes, owner of Ballyjamesduff, winner of the July Handicap last Saturday, has given £500 from her £50,000 winnings to Durban charities.

Social And Personal

MR JUSTICE B. A. TINDALL has been appointed Judge-President of the Transvaal Provincial Division and Mr. Justice O. D. Schreiner confirmed in his appointment as Judge in that Division from August 1 next. Both of these appointments are consequent upon the resignation of Mr. Justice D. de Waal as Judge-President.

Mr. Justice Lansdown, of the Natal Provincial Division of the Supreme Court, has been appointed Judge-President of the Eastern Districts Division in place of Sir Thomas Graham, who has retired from the Bench. Mr. A. E. Carlisle, K.C., has been appointed Judge to fill the vacancy on the Bench created by the elevation of Mr. Justice Lansdown.

The Sporting World

Tennis.

South African Indian Tennis Association

THE Inter-Provincial tournament was played between Transvaal and Natal, on Sunday, July 4, at Gany's Court, Waterfall Road, Sydenham, and resulted as follows:—Doubles: First Round, W. Thomas and S. S. Maharaj (Natal), beat H. Jajbhoy and Hajee (Transvaal), 6-4, 1-6, 6-3; V. Thumbby and R. C. Moodley (Natal), lost to M. Jajbhoy and K. Thumbby (Transvaal), 6-3, 6-2. Second Round, W. Thomas and S. S. Maharaj (Natal), beat M. Jajbhoy and K. Thumbby (Transvaal), 6-3, 6-4; H. Jajbhoy and Hajee (Transvaal), beat V. Thumbby and R. C. Moodley (Natal), 6-2, 6-2. Singles: First Round, H. Jajbhoy (Transvaal), beat W. Thomas (Natal), 6-2, 6-4; S. S. Maharaj (Natal), beat M. Hajee (Transvaal), 7-5, 6-0. Second Round, W. Thomas (Natal), beat M. Hajee (Transvaal), 6-1, 6-1; H. Jajbhoy (Transvaal), beat S. S. Maharaj (Natal), 6-4, 6-1. Total score: Matches, Natal 4, Transvaal 4; Sets, Natal 9, Transvaal 9; Games, Natal 75, Transvaal 78. Transvaal won by 3 games.

Soccer.

Verulam Temple F.C.

Two teams from the Colonial League (Coloureds), of Durban, Rovers and Wanderers Football Clubs, visited Verulam on Sunday, July 4, and played two matches against the Temple F.C., (A and

By "Rambler"

B). This was the first coloureds' match ever played in the home grounds. There was a large crowd of spectators which highly appreciated the combinations of both teams. The first match was played between the Verulam Temples F.C. (A) and the Rovers F.C., and resulted in a win for the home team by 5 goals to 2. The second match was played between the Verulam Temple F.C. (B) and Wanderers F.C. Both teams were strong and attacked in turn. The match resulted in favour of the visitors by 2 goals to nil.

Dons Win Last Match Of Tour

The curtain was rung down on the Aberdeen football tour of South Africa at Hartleyvale on July 7 when, in meeting Western Province for the second time, the visitors won comfortably by 4 goals to nil, although the margin of victory could have been considerably greater had the Dons attempted to extend themselves to the fullest.

Athletic

Marathon Race For Non-Europeans

Entries are now called for the Sun-crush Marathon, an event confined to Coloureds and Indians, and entry forms may be had from the honorary secretary, Mr. L. Coleman, 463, Burger Street, Maritzburg. It is expected there will be

a good field for this event, with Durban runners in the majority. Entries, however, have been received from Maritzburg and Greytown. The committee is endeavouring to obtain sufficient prizes to award all competitors who finish the course, and any who wish to make contributions are asked to forward the amounts to the honorary secretary.

Durban Athlete's Achievement

Hardy Ballington, the amazing South African marathon winner, ran from Bath to London, 100 miles, in 13hrs. 19min. clipping off 46min. from Newton's record.

Obituary

Death Of Mrs. Khan Gool

It is with profound regret that we have to record the sad death of Mrs. Khan Gool, the wife of Mr. Khan Gool, well-known resident and a prominent public worker of Capetown, which took place at her residence on June 15. Mrs. Gool was very sociable and much liked by all those who knew her. We offer our heartfelt sympathy to Mr. Gool and the bereaved family.

Director Of Indian Bank Dead

The death has occurred last Sunday, according to a Reuter's message from Bombay, of Sir Sorabji Pochkhanawala, managing director of the Central Bank of India since 1920.

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