

# INDIAN OPINION

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## NOTES AND NEWS

### Dutch Reformed Church

#### Advocates Colour Bar

THE Rev. J. G. Strydom, Missionary Secretary of the Free State Church, speaking on "Race Relationships in South Africa," at the Mission Conference of the Federated Dutch Reformed Churches in South Africa which met at Bloemfontein, referred to two policies in the Union, namely, social equality and assimilation on the one hand and segregation and social separation on the other. South Africa could expect trouble, said the reverend gentleman, if a policy of social equality without differentiation was followed. The policy of the Voortrekkers, he said, had resulted in South Africa remaining a White man's land, whereas if the assimilation policy had been followed the Union would by this time have had a large mixed population.

What is most astonishing is that these words should come from one who is supposed to be carrying the message of Jesus Christ. We have no doubt many lovers of the Bible will put their heads down in shame at such utterances which are quite contrary to the teachings of Christ. The Bible does not countenance hate whereas the very idea of keeping South Africa a White man's land engenders hate for other races. However, it is not an uncommon thing in South Africa for some messengers of Christ indulging in such thoughtless utterances. But to look at facts we do not know of any person who advocates the cause of non-Whites ever having said that the non-Whites should be assimilated. What has been said is that in the eye of the law there should be complete equality for all irrespective of class or colour and that there should be equal opportunities and equal justice for the Whites and non-Whites. Surely there is nothing wrong in that principle. We are afraid Rev. Strydom will have to make a deeper study of the Bible to make himself a little more competent to interpret the teachings of Christ.

### "No Colour Bar In Sickness"

The South African Medical Journal comments in its current issue on a motion introduced in the Cape Provincial Council asking that all hospital

boards should make provision for non-European servants to wash and sponge non-European patients where non-European nurses are not available. "The alleged reason for this curious resolution was the assertion that attendance upon non-European patients must have a demoralising influence on the character of young girls coming from the country," states the journal. "An amendment that trained orderlies be substituted for servants and that training facilities for such orderlies be obligatory on all hospitals was lost. The Administrator objected to the motion on the ground that it would not be right for inexperienced servants to handle sick patients and to the amendment on the ground of expense. No member of the Provincial Council protested against the monstrous suggestion that decency and humanity must disappear when confronted with colour. One stands aghast at a mentality apparently unable to regard non-Europeans in human terms and that projects its own obsessions on members of an honourable profession. Must our vaunted cultural superiority, our Christianity and our civilisation collapse like pricked bubbles when the sick and suffering happen to be non-European? Fortunately the nursing, no less than the medical profession, of South Africa will repudiate indignantly this disgraceful imputation. Disease and suffering know no colour bar and the introduction of a colour bar in the services to combat them should not be tolerated."

### The Ideals For Which

#### Mr. Hofmeyr Stands

Addressing a meeting in the Masonic Hall, Parktown North, which is part of his constituency of Johannesburg, North, Mr. J. H. Hofmeyr explained his reasons for resigning from the Cabinet and clarified his future attitude towards the United Party.

"I shall not lightly leave the United Party," said Mr. Hofmeyr, "or do anything to weaken it. But there are some things higher than party considerations, namely, national, political and ethical ideals. These things may have to transcend party considerations. We must each determine the ideals we seek to follow. For my

part I have hitherto been able to work for the essential ideals for which I stand within the United Party, and I sincerely hope that I shall be able to continue to do so." One of these ideals was national unity. It was still South Africa's supreme need, and the United Party was a means to secure it. Another ideal is tolerance, without which national unity could not exist. He believed in tolerance in relation with the non-Europeans. It did not mean assimilation or equality, but a fair deal. "I am one of those terrible people called Liberals. It is one of the bogey words of South Africa, almost as bad as 'Communist.'"

He had even been told that that was the real reason for his disappearance from the Cabinet, but, the principles of the United Party contained an "assurance to all the people of South Africa, whatever their colour, of fair and equal justice, impartial administration and reasonable opportunity of material and spiritual progress." He stood for those things within the United Party and claimed the right to continue to stand for those things.

"I stood for certain ideals and you supported me. I give my pledge to continue to work for those ideals, and I know I have your support not only in working for national unity and tolerance, but also in standing for principles instead of expediency in public life. I have no regrets for the past and no doubts for the future. In my public life I shall continue to seek no reward but the consciousness of duty done and the belief that the public has confidence in me that I am seeking to follow the light as I see it."

### Realism

We cull the following from the *Methodist Churchman* dated September 26:—

"Ideals are having a bad time in Europe to-day. It is the age of realism. And realism means, according to the dictators and some of the statesmen, the acceptance of the rule of the strongest and recognition of the facts of such rule as the realities of the situation.

Realism has presented the world with the invasion of Manchuria, the war in China, the rape of Ethiopia, the long drawn out conflict in Spain, and now the dismemberment of Czechoslovakia. Through all the weary months when realistic "principles" were being applied not a single Great Power took a firm stand for moral principle and rallied the moral forces of the world. At the time of writing, Britain and France are apparently offering Herr Hitler, who is in the full stride of conquest, a big part of another country which they are morally pledged to maintain intact. This is realism. What a message Isaiah would have had for such a time? What

scorn he would have poured upon this policy of realism! For a considerable time there has been a steady deterioration in international affairs. And the reason is to be found in the rejection of moral principle and the acceptance of expediency as the guide of action. When will the responsible statesmen learn that principles of justice and right are always applicable and always in harmony with the foundation principles of the universe? When will they resolve to get together around a council table, face the realities of righteousness, make mutual sacrifices for the common good, and ensure peace for at least a generation?

## Indian Opinion

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 7TH, 1938

### Crisis Averted

THESE was jubilation all over last Friday when it was declared that the fateful conference between the four Powers—Britain, France, Italy and Germany held at Munich had resulted in a pact and that there was to be no war. If there was any cause for jubilation it was only because the war crisis was averted; not because there was any honourable settlement of the Czecho-Slovakian situation. If anybody had real cause for jubilation it was Germany who had gained victory without having had to go to the trouble of using force. The mere threat had done the trick. Czecho-Slovakia was given away to Germany at the Dictator's bidding. There was no honour attached to what was achieved at Munich. It was just a question of yielding to the tyranny of the tyrant for fear of death, be it of one or of a million. Great and noble principles had been killed for the sake of human life. Herr Hitler has not retraced his step by an inch. He has had his full demands conceded to. The only generosity on his part was that a time limit of ten days was given within which evacuation had to be completed and all this was agreed to by the British and French Prime Ministers with Italy witnessing, without Czecho-Slovakia, whose destiny was being decided, being given an opportunity of uttering a word. No one can be proud of such international justice.

Mr. Attlee (leader of the Labour Opposition) speaking on the subject in the British Parliament has uttered words which we fully endorse.

"We all feel relief," he said, "that war has not come this time, but we cannot feel that peace has been established. This has not been a victory for reason and

humanity, but for brute force.....It is a tremendous victory for Hitler. Everybody recognized the great exertions that the Prime Minister has made. Everybody will pay tribute to him and say he is the man who saved peace. Yes, but he is the man who brought danger as well. It is the Czechs who have averted war. Their President has been assailed by the most shameless language in Germany. Their bearing has shown the difference between a civilized man and a gangster."

We are not so optimistic as to feel that the Munich Conference is a prelude to the achievement of future world peace without resorting to war.

An alliance between Fascism and Imperialism will never bring peace to the world; it will end the world and end themselves together with it. The only way there is any hope of peace reigning over the world is by firstly killing the greed for territorial power and then by a truer League of Nations than the present one meeting together in all sincerity to rectify the errors of the past and to redistribute territories with justice and fairness to all. The attempts to avert war in the manner it has been done at Munich is certainly not going to end war. It has merely been postponed and not without a heavy cost. Yet, the time is not too late if the powers that be will adopt the right course.

### A Welcome Step

WE very heartily welcome the step taken by the Natal Indian Youth League of establishing a co-ordinating Council, embracing all types of Indian Youth Organisations. There is a spirit among the youths throughout the world to organise themselves. There is a strong youth

organisation in India and its members have undergone great sacrifices and sufferings in the fight for freedom of their Motherland. That there should be an awakening among our youths in South Africa at such a time augurs well for the future of our community for there is no doubt the future depends upon the youth. If the older generation has not been able to do much it has at least amassed wealth which gives less cause for anxiety on that score to the present generation. The present generation is much more enlightened but there are forces which might drag them down—unless they keep awake and alert. It would be a tragedy if the present-day youth just makes it his business to live happily and without care on the wealth his parents have struggled to store for him. That should certainly not be his aim and object in life. A great deal is expected of the youth of to-day to bring life and vigour, sanity, character and morality in the dismal world. The youth has the strength to do so. Let him not misuse it.

Among the resolutions the Youth Organisation has passed there is one asking the Congress and the Colonial Born and Settlers' Indian Association to join hands and to merge into one powerful body. We endorse this sentiment whole-heartedly. We have to-day a glaring example before us of Europe where by the policy of consultation Mr. Chamberlain was able to avert a world crisis. Surely our case stands no comparison to what has happened in Europe. It is of a microscopic magnitude and not impossible to achieve if there was sincerity of purpose and tolerance on both or either sides. At the present moment it is a state of a tug-of-war. There is much hope in the youth. Let him follow in the footsteps of Mr. Hofmeyr and stand for principles and not for expediency in public life, and have the strength and courage to stake everything to uphold their national honour and self-respect.

### Publisher's Notice

There will be no issues of "Indian Opinion" published on October 14 and 28. Our Diwali Special Number will be published on October 21. We shall be glad to receive from our readers articles of interest, poems, pictures, cartoons etc., for our Special Number which must reach us not later than October 17, preferably much earlier.

# COLOUR BAR HARMFUL TO THE COUNTRY'S PROGRESS.

IN the course of a very interesting speech in the Senate during the closing hours of the session Senator J. D. Rheinallt Jones very vividly showed how from a practical point of view the colour bar was harmful to the progress of the country.

"We spend a lot of time and money in evolving methods of strangling ourselves," said the Senator. "Take the colour bar, for instance. We have used every possible means of preventing sections of our population being used in the best possible way. On the mines native labour is prevented from doing work which would release white labour for more suitable work. The expansion of our mining industry has already provided additional employment for Europeans, of whom there are 40,000 employed in the mining industry to-day but the colour bar prevents them being used for more advanced work, and mining development is held up because Europeans must be retained for work which could be done as effectively by natives.

"In the various industries non-Europeans are prevented from contributing to the national wealth out of any skill they may possess or may acquire. This policy of restricting our human resources has been condemned by numerous commissions. The Economic and Wage Commission, which was, perhaps, the most authoritative commission on eco-

nomic subjects that has ever sat in our country, said: "On general principles it appears to us unsound policy to exclude by legislation a class which has no representation in the Legislature from economic opportunities at present open for the benefit of the politically privileged class. We are confirmed in our opinion on the colour bar regulation by the findings of several previous commissions and committees of inquiry which have reported against such regulations."

The Union's poverty was also shown in its low food consumption. According to the Secretary for Health, 10,000,000 people of the Union needed at least 10,000,000 pints of milk daily, but only a mere fraction of this amount was available. The medical officer of health for Benoni had pointed out that only an average of one-tenth of a pint of fresh milk per person was consumed in the local location daily. The Secretary for Health also claimed that the population needed on the average two ounces of butter per person per day, whereas actually the Union only produced last year sufficient to give, on an average, one ounce per person per week. Burdens on the poor were being increased by control boards and Marketing Acts, and the poverty of the country was being increased.

"Now," said the senator, "this poverty is going to grow in geometrical pro-

gression as the population grows. At present our population increases at about 2 per cent. per annum. That means that our population will be doubled in 35 years. Do you realise that the volume of our poverty will grow even faster as we put these taxes on the food of the people?

"As time goes on the gap between the poor and the well-to-do will widen—the proportion of the very poor will increase and that of the well-to-do will decrease. Then we shall have a disastrous upheaval. We see that this gap is wide enough as things are, but we are widening it. Even though wages are increased by wage boards, the advantages will be lost because the cost of living is driven up and is being increased for the lowest paid out of all proportion. It will be seen, therefore, that the question of food supplies and food prices is very closely connected with the question of wages. And these again are connected with the colour bars. The more you increase the cost of food the greater the demand will be for higher wages, and higher wages tend to increase the cost of production. So you have a vicious circle unless you provide for an increase in the national income by releasing the latent skill which is at present held back by colour bars, and unless you increase the general wealth and efficiency.

## HAS BRITAIN CHANGED HER COURSE?

### CALL TO MORAL AND SPIRITUAL REARMAMENT

[We reproduce below a summary of a letter to *The Times*, London, signed by Earl Baldwin and 16 other British leaders which was published on September 12. If there is true sincerity behind the letter it certainly marks a very welcome change in Britain. Her actions of course will speak more eloquently than her words.—Ed. I.O.]

"To-day all are anxiously asking to what is the world heading? What is the future of civilisation?

"The world cannot forever continue plunging from crisis to crisis. We must act before crisis ends in catastrophe, we must use the present breathing space, which may be brief, to penetrate below systems into their causes and initiate that fundamental change which alone will break a vicious circle. In words of the leader of a great nation, "It is an entirely new spirit that must be acquired and enthroned."

The letter emphasises that in every country national security at home and abroad can only be gained through moral regeneration.

The strength of a nation consists in the vitality of her principles. Foreign policy, as well as domestic, for every nation is ultimately determined by the character of her people and the inspiration of her leader by the acceptance in their lives and in their policy of honesty, faith and love as the foundations on which a new world may be built.

"Without these qualities the strongest armaments and the most elaborate pacts only postpone the hour of reckoning.

"The real need of the day is therefore moral and spiritual rearmament. A growing body of people in this and other countries are making it their aim. It is work in which all men and women in all countries and of all races are

called to share and have the power to help.

"Were we, together with our fellow men everywhere, to put the energy and resourcefulness into this task that we now expend on national defence the peace of the world would be assured.

"God's living spirit calls each nation, like each individual, to its highest destiny and breaks down barriers of fear and greed; of suspicion and hatred.

"This same spirit can transcend conflicting political systems; can reconcile order and freedom; can rekindle true patriotism; can unite all citizens in the service of the nation and all nations in the service of mankind.

"Thy Will be done on earth' is not only a prayer for guidance, but a call to action. For His Will is our peace."

# IMPERIALISM ROOT CAUSE OF WAR

## PANDIT JAWAHARLAL'S SPEECH AT PEACE CONFERENCE

IN the course of his speech delivered in Paris at the International Peace Conference on July 24, last Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru said:

"I have to convey to this great gathering the greetings and the assurances of the support in the cause of peace of the Indian National Congress, representing the people of India.

I do not speak on behalf of kings and queens or princes but I do claim to speak for hundreds of millions of my countrymen. We have associated ourselves with this work of peace most willingly because of the vital urgency of this problem. Also because, in any event, our whole past background, our civilisation, would have urged us to do so. For the spirit of India for long ages past, like that of our great sister nation China, has been a spirit of peace. Even in our national struggle for independence we have always kept this ideal before us and adopted peaceful methods. So we gladly pledge ourselves to labour for peace.

### Root Of War

Lord Cecil remarked yesterday that the only way ultimately to have peace is to abolish war. We entirely agree with this statement. To abolish war we have to remove the causes and roots of war. Because we have failed so far to achieve anything worth while and the international situation has progressively deteriorated and brought death and untold suffering to millions. We shall fail again and perhaps perish in that failure if we continue to ignore those roots of war.

We see Fascist aggression to-day driving this world to war and we rightly condemn it and seek to combat it. But though Fascism is a recent growth in the West, we have long known it under a different name—Imperialism. For generations past Colonial countries have suffered under Imperialism and suffer still. It is this imperial idea, functioning as Imperialism or Fascism, that is a potent cause of war and till this goes there can be no true or enduring peace.

### Free Colonials

There is no peace for a subject country at any time, for peace only comes with freedom. And so Empires must go, they have had their day. We are not interested in emperors or kings but in the peoples of the world, and the Indian National Congress stands for the people of India and their independence. Even to-day India is a powerful factor in favour of peace and she can make a difference if a world crisis arises. She cannot be and does not propose to be

ignored in this matter. A free India will be a tower of strength for peace, and soon we hope that India will be free.

### Terms Of Co-operation

Lord Cecil has pointed out the dangers of an intensive nationalism. May I say that I entirely agree with him and though I stand for Indian Nationalism and Indian Independence, I do so on a basis of true internationalism. We in India will gladly co-operate in a world order and even agree to give up a measure of national sovereignty, in common with others, in favour of a system of collective security. But that can come only when nations are associated on a basis of peace and freedom.

There can be no security founded on the subjection of colonial countries or on the continuance of Imperialism. Freedom, like peace and war is to-day indivisible. If the aggressors of to-day have to be checked, the aggressors of yesterday have also to be called to account. Because we have sought to cover up past evil though it still persists, we have been powerless to check the new evil of to-day.

Evil unchecked grows, evil tolerated poisons the whole system. And because we have tolerated our past and present evils, international affairs are poisoned and law and justice have disappeared from them.

### Horror On Horror

We have met here especially to discuss the aerial bombardment of open towns and civilian population. Horror has piled on horror from day to day and though the present is terrible to contemplate, the future seems to hold something that might be incredibly worse. Recently, I visited Barcelona and saw with my own eyes its ruined buildings, its gaping chasms and the bombs hurtle through the air, bringing death and destruction in their train. That picture is imprinted in my heart and each day's news of bombing in Spain or China stabs me and makes me sick with the horror of it.

### Greetings To China And Spain

And yet over that picture there is another—that of the magnificent people of Spain who have endured and fought against these horrors for two long years with unexampled heroism, and written with their own blood and suffering a history that will inspire ages to come. To these great men and women of Republican Spain, I offer on behalf of the Indian people, our respectful homage. And to the people of China, also, knit to us by a thousand bonds since

the dawn of history, we stretch out our hands in comradeship. Their perils are ours, their suffering hurts us, and we shall hold together whatever of good fortune or ill may befall us.

We are deeply moved by the aerial bombardments in Spain and China. And yet aerial bombing is no new thing for us. The evil is an old one and because it went unchecked, it has grown to these vast and terrible dimensions. Have you forgotten the bombing on the North West Frontier of India, which has been going on now for many long years and still continues? There are no great cities there like Madrid or Barcelona or Canton or Hankow, but the villages of the Indian frontier also shelter human beings, men, women and children, and they also die and are maimed, when bombs from the air fall on them.

### Britain Defied Geneva

Do you remember that this question of ariel bombing was raised many years ago in the League of Nations, and the British Government refused to stop it on the Indian Frontier? This was called police action and they made a reservation of it. The evil went unchecked and it has grown now. Is it surprising? On whom lies the responsibility?

The Prime Minister of Great Britain has recently offered to withdraw this reservation if there is general agreement in regard to the stoppage of aerial bombing. But that offer is an empty one unless he takes action and stops all bombing on the Frontier. Till then his protests against other people's bombing, have little meaning and less value.

### Chichester's Demand

The Dean of Chichester demanded at this Conference that no treaty should be made with countries that were carrying on aerial bombing—a sentiment that was rightly applauded. What of England then, which is still responsible for bombing on the Frontier of India? Because the British Government cannot approach this question with clean hands, they have developed an incredible foreign policy and now seek friendship and agreement with a Power that is most responsible for this bombing in Spain.

I wish to dissociate India completely from this policy of encouraging that evil-doer and aggressor and to say that the people of India will be no party to it and will resist it whenever they have a chance to do so.

We have seen the tragic farce of non-intervention in Spain, which, under

cover of fair words and democratic procedure, has aided the insurgents and the invaders of Spain and prevented the people of the country from obtaining even the means of defence. The sea and a hundred doors are open for supplies to reach the insurgents, but the Pyraenees frontier is closed in the name of non-intervention, though women and children die through bombing or starve through lack of food.

### The Contrast

We blame and condemn the invaders and aggressors in Spain, but they have at least openly defied all canons of international law and decency and challenged the world to stop them. What of those Governments who, while bravely talking of peace and law, have submitted to this challenge, adapted themselves to each fresh aggression, and tried to make friends with the evil-doers? What of those who have criminally stood by and shown indifference when life, and what was more sacred than life itself, was crushed and dishonoured?

Even to-day the aggressor nations are far weaker in number and strength

and resources to the other countries. And yet the latter appear helpless and incapable of taking effective action. Is this not so because their hands and feet are tied by their past and present imperialist policy?

### People Must Act

These Governments have failed; it is time that the people took action and compelled them to mend their ways. This action must be immediately to stop aerial bombardments, to open the Pyraenees frontier, to permit the means of defence and food to reach Republican Spain. If bombing is to continue, anti-air-craft guns and other apparatus meant for defence must be allowed to go through.

What vast destruction there has been during these last two years in Spain and China. The starving and the wounded, the women and the children cry aloud pitiously for help, and it is the business of all decent and sensitive people all over the world to help. For this is a world problem, and we must organise on a world basis. The real burden of the struggle has fallen on the people of the stricken countries, let us at least carry this small burden.

### Indians' Sympathy

I am glad to tell this Conference that the Indian National Congress has organised and is soon sending a medical unit to China. We have also met with success in India in our boycott of Japanese goods, as the export figures demonstrate.

A recent incident will indicate the strength of our feeling for the Chinese people. In Malaya the Japanese-owned iron mines employ Chinese workers and these workers refused to help in producing munitions for Japan and left the Mines. Thereupon Indian workers were engaged, but at our request they also refused to work there, although this meant privation and suffering for them.

And so the struggle goes on. How many of our friends and colleagues, and dear ones have died in this struggle already and not died in vain? How many of us who are gathered here may go the same way and not meet again. But whether we live or die, the cause of peace and freedom will remain, and must remain, for that is greater than us—it is the cause of humanity itself. If that perishes then all of us perish. If it lives then we live also, whatever fate may befall us. To that cause then let us pledge ourselves.

## DURBAN INDIAN CHILD WELFARE SOCIETY SECRETARY'S ANNUAL REPORT

**I**N submitting the annual report of the Durban Indian Child Welfare Society at its eleventh annual meeting held in Durban on Sunday, September 25, Mrs. G. Christopher said:

The work of the society had increased considerably, applications for relief and Mothers' Grants have relieved the appalling poverty that our people are suffering from. The society fills a need which is incalculable and more funds are required to meet the increasing calls on the society. The Society depends on the Community Chest, for its funds supplemented by grants from the Natal Provincial Administration and the Department of the Commissioner for Asiatic Affairs.

Unfortunately the wealthier members of the Indian community do not contribute generously to the Community Chest with the result Indian charities cannot take the claim they otherwise could.

The society this year is endeavouring with every hope to collect a substantial sum to pay into the Community Chest for the grant of £200 it now receives.

Free meals, if they are given at all, are given to very few children and who absolutely need nourishment go without these meals.

Our school children receive no medical attention, a service which is most essential for the welfare of our children.

Indians have an inherent desire to educate their children, but a great number, because of their extreme poverty, are not in a position to pay for their school fees. The aided schools are very reluctant to exempt the children from payment of the school fees. The inadequacy of school accommodation is the reason given by headmasters who refuse to admit hundreds of children to school. We feel that the recommendations of the Education Commission should receive the immediate consideration of the Education Department, especially those that effect children.

The principal cause of the impoverished condition of our people is the low rate of wages paid to them. There was also great unemployment among them. While it is necessary that their distress may be relieved, their condition will never appreciably improve until a civilised rate of wages is paid to them.

The several Child Welfare Societies jointly are working for the provision of Places of Safety and Detention in co-operation with the Social Welfare Department of the Government.

The society has a Building Fund and is working towards the provision of suitable buildings in connection with its work.

The society afforded relief to 78 families representing 323 children.

Clinics are held once a week at Umgeni, Mayville and Magazine Barracks

where infants, school children and mothers receive medical treatment and free medicine. The society closed in January of this year, the Clairwood Clinic which has been in existence for some years, when the R. K. Khan Hospital Trust opened its free dispensary at Clairwood.

The following numbers attended the various Clinics:—

Magazine Barracks 4014 from August 1, 1937 to July 31, 1939; Mayville 2028 from August 1, 1937 to July 31, 1938; Umgeni 972 from August 1, 1937 to July 31, 1938; Clairwood 941 from August 1, 1937 to January 18, 1938.

The society was able to secure Mothers' Grants for 43 families representing 165 children. There are many applications still pending. Our members visit the homes of these cases.

Our investigators who are voluntary workers investigate and report on matters referred to the society by the Magistrate of the Juvenile Court and also those who come direct to the society.

Numerous cases of adoption, commitments, domestic complaints, complaints about children, were investigated by the voluntary investigators of the society and attended to. Mothers and children requiring hospital treatment were recommended for free hospital treatment, needy children for exemption from school fees etc.



The thanks of the society are accorded to Mr. T. S. Oliver and Mr. J. T. Conway Magistrates of the Juvenile Court; Mr. C. Miller, the Probation Officer; Miss T. Hall, secretary of the Social Services of South Africa; and the staff of the Juvenile Court who take a deep interest and are helpful in all matters that are brought to their notice. We have to thank the Union Department of Social Welfare for the consideration they are giving to the application for Mainte-

nance Grants, the Durban and District Community Chest, the Natal Provincial Administration and the Commissioner for Asiatic Affairs for their Grants to our society. We have to place on record our thanks to the South Coast District Indian Football Association at Clairwood, the Aryan Benevolent Home at Mayville, and Mr. J. S. Khan at Umgeni for letting us the free use of their premises for our Clinics in their districts, to Mr. Du Casse for the facilities at the

Magazine Barracks, and to the trustees of the Hindu Tamil Institute for the use of their hall for our meetings. To the officials and members who have given their time in the work of our society especially in making investigations, our thanks are due.

We appeal to all to give in kind or service to the cause of the welfare of our children, many of whom know not a real home or a good meal.

## WHAT IS THE MATTER WITH MONEY?

### Details Of The Proposed Remedy

HAVING now stated the proposal in general terms, we naturally want to examine it in more detail in order to see and weigh its possible implications.

Stamp scrip was invented by a German named Gesell in the Argentine in 1890, was used successfully in Germany in 1919, with marked success in 1931 in Bavaria and Austria, and in 1933 as above stated, in over a score of towns and cities in the United States. In most instances in America the wrong form of it was used and had no great success, but where the right form was used it was very effective. Even the defective forms were decidedly helpful in several cases. In the right form the function of a medium of exchange was separated from all the other functions of money, and a special form for this one function was issued.

A piece of stamp scrip of the effective kind is shaped about like a ten-rupee note but has a distinctive colour and design so that it cannot be mistaken for a ten-rupee note. It bears on its face the name of the issuing community or private organisation, its denomination (say one rupee) to make its purchasing power equivalent to that of the regular currency. On the back of the scrip is a set of 52 squared spaces, each dated to indicate the successive Wednesdays of the year. The community or organisation which issued the scrip sells distinctive little adhesive stamps for one pice each, and one of these stamps must be stuck on the appropriate square for it each Wednesday in order to make the scrip continue valid. Wednesday is chosen for this so as to be several days removed from industrial pay day. By agreement among most or all of the shops, employers, and, if possible, one bank in the given community, the scrip would be accepted in payment for commodities of all kinds, and in payment of wages, local taxes, etc. But its effectiveness lasts only from one Wednesday till the next, being renewable only by putting a fresh one-pice stamp on the next unfilled square on the back of the scrip each Wednesday as it comes around. At the end of

By  
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In "The Modern Review"

(Continued from last week)

the year fifty-two such stamps have been affixed, meaning that Re. 10-4 in "real" money has been paid in to the issuing agency. This redeems the one rupee denomination of the scrip, and the slight excess of four pice pays the cost of printing and issuance, with a possible tiny remainder left to accumulate for a community health fund. Thus the scrip is self-liquidating.

In the towns where it was used this scrip was a common medium of exchange and could be banked or invested, but it could not be hoarded in that form. It was good for only one week at a time, and its validity could be extended only from week to week and only by putting on a stamp costing one pice or the equivalent in the currency of the country where it was used. This scrip, you see, is not a store of value. The long-time element, necessary for a store of value, has been separated from it by the weekly stamp device.

The communities which used this scrip had their economic life going on busily, no unemployment, and no economic troubles to speak of. Numerous public works were completed by its use. Shops which at first refused to take it found the trade all going to the others, and so they joined the others. The speed of circulation of the scrip in the American towns which tried it was about four times that of the average dollar in normal times and about twelve times that of an average dollar during the depression. People would pass the scrip along so as not to have to pay for the little weekly stamp. The weekly stamp acted like an inescapable, confiscatory tax on hoarding. From the point of view of the tradesman, the weekly stamp was like a small tax, about 2%, on new business which otherwise he would not have had at all.

### Opinions Of Two Economists

Professor Fisher, in the book mentioned, describes all the details, mode of operation, mode of installation, arguments and history of stamp scrip, and criticises its different forms. He states that the speed of circulation of money is the most baffling factor in the stabilisation of the price level, and that stamp scrip would regulate that speed better than anything else. He says that it gives buying power to the consumer, and supplies him the compulsion to use it. He says that it would constitute inflation because it is tied to actual consumer transactions, is issued only against actual goods and services, and is therefore limited. It may be added that since stamp scrip is not a store of value, but only a medium of exchange, the chances of inflation through it are very slight. It restores exchange to normal, but not being a form of credit it has no tendency to balloon. Nor does it constitute bad money which, under the operation of Gresham's law, would tend to drive out sound money. It does not drive out money but steps into the gap left by the so-called good money when it previously was retired from circulation because it was hoarded. Since stamp scrip supplements the failure of ordinary money in times of great distress, it can hardly be called "bad money." Indeed, the separation of the medium of exchange from the other functions of money would probably put an end to Gresham's law, thus making a new element of stability and security in the new forms of money.

Mr. J. M. Keynes in his latest book above referred to also approves of the idea behind stamp scrip but believes that some modifications should be introduced in order to make it generally successful.

(To be continued)

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# South African News In Brief

## Council Of Indian Youth

### Organisation

A CONFERENCE of Natal Indian youth organisations convened by the Natal Indian Youth League met in Durban on Sunday, October 2. The President, Mr. Sooboo Rajah, enlarged upon the purpose for which the conference had been called. The following resolutions were passed unanimously: "(1) That in the best interests of the Indian youths, a Co-ordinating Council, embracing all types of Indian Youth Organisations, be established in Natal for the purpose of consolidating the Indian youth as a communal force; to work towards the cultural, physical, social, intellectual and economic progress of the Indian community; and generally to work in the interests of the Indian youths in particular." (2) "That in view of the unsettled state of affairs in the Indian community, in so far as political activities are concerned, this conference of the Indian Youth Organisation feels that the Natal Indian Congress and the Colonial Born and Settlers' Indian Association should immediately decide to merge into one powerful body." (3) "That this conference of Indian Youth Organisations regrets the attitude of the Board of Governors of the South African Broadcasting Corporation in turning down the entire proposals contained in a memorandum recently submitted to the Natal Radio Council suggesting further extensions of the existing programmes broadcast from the Durban studio on Mondays and Fridays. The community feels that it is being harshly treated by the Corporation and that despite the repeated representations made to the local management, no consideration has been shown." (4) "This conference of Natal Indian Youth Organisations, held in Durban on October 2, sends its heartiest greetings to Mahatma Gandhi on the occasion of his 70th birthday."

### Union's Population

The total population of the Union according to the first volume of the finally-audited report of the sixth Union Census, taken on May 15, 1936, is 9,589,898, the relative total of population being Europeans, 2,003,857; Natives, 6,596,689; Asiatics, 219,691; and Coloureds, 769,661.

### Nationalist Congress To Discuss Colour Question

Draft resolutions on the colour question for the Union Congress of the Nationalist Party to be held in Bloemfontein on November 8 have been published. The Resolutions declare that "no solution of South Africa's colour question will be satisfactory unless it is based on a consistently applied policy of segregation," and urge legislative steps to forbid all mixed marriages and to make all non-

marital mixing of blood punishable by extending the Immorality Act of 1927. Segregation in industries and the fixing of quotas where both Europeans and non-Europeans are employed is urged. As regards political segregation, a resolution calls for revision of the laws on native representation and land ownership and separate representation of coloured voters in the Cape on legislative and municipal bodies.

### Indian Women's League

#### (Maritzburg)

A well attended public meeting of Indian women and girls of Maritzburg was held on Sunday, October 2, at the St. Anthony's Indian School hall, Maritzburg. The meeting was convened for the purpose of hearing the following officials of the Durban Indian Women's League namely, Mrs. G. Christopher, Dr. K. Goonam Naidoo, Mesdames J. M. Sundaram, M. Atheelutchmee Chetty and N. Pillay speak on the social and economic welfare of the Indian community, and on the inauguration of a branch. Mrs. N. G. Naidoo, who presided over the meeting, in her opening remarks stated that those other than Indian women and girls present cannot take part in the meeting. At this stage Mrs. E. M. Shirley who was also present requested the chairlady to allow her to speak and participate in the proceedings, to which the chairlady refused, and thereafter Mrs. Shirley together with a few of her Indian women followers left the meeting, although the chairlady made an appeal to those Indian women to remain and take part in same. After the various speakers had addressed the meeting, it was unanimously resolved that a body be formed to be known as the Indian Women's League (Maritzburg Branch), and the Durban constitution was accepted with the following aims and objects: 1. Emancipation of Indian women and girls. 2. Intellectual, cultural and physical education. 3. Political and social advancement. 4. Encouragement of Indian women and girls to enter the professions, trades and occupations. 5. Education of girls and women workers to enter Trade Unions and generally to attend for better rates of pay and conditions of employment. 6. Training of girls and women workers and securing of employment for them. 7. Better housing. 8. Social service. 9. Welfare of women and children. 10. Generally to work for the welfare and advancement of the Indian community and to help it to make its contribution to South Africa. The following officials were elected:—Patron: Mrs. V. C. Naidoo; President: Mrs. N. G. Naidoo; vice-chairwomen: Mesdames N. Padayachee, R. N. Pillay, M. R. Naidoo, S. Muthray and Simon David; hon. secretaries: Misses K. Singh and M. Ebanazer; hon. treasur-

er: Miss M. K. Naidoo; committee: Mesdames K. R. Pillay, C. Francois, Misses M. Moses, D. Muthoo, T. Thompson, Mesdames G. R. Reddy, T. Ramkalanwan, G. Reddy, T. Naidoo, M. Naidoo, J. M. David, D. Singh, Miss P. N. Singh, Mesdames V. Arioksamay, F. Martin, B. R. Naidoo, R. G. Naidoo, Misses M. V. Naidoo, N. Rajab, R. A. Chetty, R. R. Gopaul. Misses L. Michael and Ohristion. The meeting, as a mark of respect to the late Mrs. V. R. R. Moodley, president of the Durban League, observed silence by rising. The following resolutions were unanimously passed: "That this meeting of the league places on record their gratitude, for the restoration of world peace which has been brought in Europe during the last few days. In view of the great significance attached to the forthcoming Maritzburg cemetery celebrations, this meeting respectfully appeals to the Mayor and the City Council to have the whole Indian community co-operated in celebrating this unique occasion, and the league be, and is hereby authorised to do all that is necessary to make such representation for the whole community's participation in same." At the close of the meeting over 135 members were enrolled.

### Death Of Mr. C. P. Robinson

The death of Mr. C. P. Robinson, well known to the Indian community as a prominent solicitor, took place last Tuesday at the age of 61. The late Mr. Robinson played a very active part in the politics of South Africa, first as a member of the old Natal Parliament and then in the Union Assembly. He was an ardent supporter of General Smuts and was known in Parliament as the "Father of the House." In September last year he was selected to represent the Union at celebration in connection with the 150th anniversary of the founding of Australia and on the voyage back from Australia he had contracted influenza. His health was failing ever since. Mr. Robinson is survived by his widow, two sons Mr. Ralph Robinson and Mr. Albert Robinson and a daughter, Mrs. Edgar Isaacs.

### African Clearing Station

Facilities for a Dental Surgeon has been provided for at the African Clearing Station, Beatrice Street, Durban. A fully qualified Dental Surgeon will be in attendance undertaking extracting, stooping and all types of dental work has opened on Wednesday, October 5. A nominal fee of 1/- will be charged for all needy Indians and those that are poor and destitute.

### Mosque And School In Klerksdorp

A new Moslem mosque and madressa (Arabic school) were opened in Klerksdorp on Wednesday, September 28, by

*Continued on page 375*

# Doings In India

## Machinery For Man's Happiness

"We are not against machinery, the railways, the aeroplanes, motor cars, electricity or anything that modern science has to offer. We are against the use to which these machinery are put, involving violence and coercion. We want science to be harnessed to increase the joy and happiness of man and not add to his destruction," observed Mr. J. C. Kumarappa, Secretary of the All-India Village Industries' Association, addressing a public meeting at Chinglepet. Proceeding, he said: "While the machinery is in one place, the raw materials have to come from the four corners of the world at regular intervals to feed that machinery. If the Lancashire millowners are able to take cotton from India and send back to you a fine cloth cheaper than the cloth you are able to produce here with your own cotton, it is because they are in a position to manipulate the tariff and the freight rates, the exchange and the currency to suit their own needs."

## Mr. Mardy Jones On Mahatma

Mr. Mardy Jones, former Labour M.P., who recently visited India, made an explanation about his charge against Mahatma Gandhi, of "political devilry" in a speech in South India. Mr. Mardy Jones stated that what he said was: "Mr. Gandhi was morally a god but politically a demon." What he meant was that he looked upon Gandhiji as the greatest moral force in India and one of the greatest men the world had ever produced. "His belief in non-violence as a sound policy was undoubtedly honest and if the mass of the population of India has the moral courage to carry out his policy of non-violence to the very end, then his policy would be justified and Britain would be defeated without resort to war. But I am equally honestly of the opinion that what I have seen in India over the past ten years that the wider non-violence spreads and the longer the strain of its rigid observance has to be maintained, the greater the danger that it will break down at the circumference, and when this happens, the disaster will be all the greater. "With regard to saying that Mr. Gandhi is a political demon, I meant that he is such a master of political strategy just as Don Bradman is the demon of Cricket; that the Mahatma is capable of beating British political strategy off his own bat. By his political devilry, I meant it in the same spirit, namely, that he is capable of out-generaling British political acumen."

## "Prepare For Grim Struggle"

"Prepare, while there is yet time, for the grim struggle against Federation," said Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru in an exclusive message from Europe, to the Annual Krishna Number of the *Daily Tej*. While the left-wing well-wishers of India such as Major D. Graham Pole, Mr. Fenner Brockway, Prof. Harold Laski etc., in their messages support the Nehru policy whole heartedly, the well-known Liberal statesman Lord Lothian advises Indians to accept the Federation which he regards as the only means of saving India from the political and economic conflicts in which the present European States are involved. Prof. Barriedale Keith the famous British constitutionalist, pays a handsome tribute for the "prudence and moderation" of India's popular Ministers. Major Atlee sees peace and plenty in Socialism, while the veteran Labour Leader, Mr. George Lansburg, speaks in disgust of the present Western civilisation which he says is "moving headlong towards destruction."

## Income-Tax Bill

The *Associated Press* has received the following wire from the President of the Indian Merchant's Association in Kobe:—"The Kobe Indian Merchants' Association strongly protests against Clause 4 of the Income-tax Amendment Bill which, if passed, will kill Indian foreign enterprise. At present foreigners' income is already taxable in all foreign countries, and under the above clause such income will be doubly taxed. Clause 4 of the Income-tax Bill seeks to tax the whole of the foreign income of a person resident and domiciled in British India, whether brought into British India or not; and the whole of the foreign income of a person, resident but not domiciled in British India, whether brought into British India or not. The other foreign income of such a person remains liable only if brought into British India. The existing law only taxes income which accrues or arises or is received in British India, and in the case of a resident, income accruing or arising outside British India, if received in or brought into British India."

## Women's Role In Society

"At a time like this when troubles and turmoils are besetting the world on every side, I would strongly urge you, women, not to keep yourselves exclusively to the narrow limits of your home or society, but to come out into the open and wider sphere of life and insist upon and demand a high standard of public morality. We, as members of a women's organisation, should strive for

the uplift of the poorer people around us, for the education of the ignorant and the illiterate, for the regeneration of society, for the freedom of the motherland, which is your birthright and which it is our duty to get for her." Rajkumari Amrit Kaur, sister of Kunwar Sir Maharaj Singh, who is a staunch nationalist and is taking an active part in India's fight for freedom, made the above appeal to women at a meeting held in Trivandrum (Madras), under the auspices of the local constituency of the All-India Women's Conference. Mrs. Margaret E. Cousins presided. Women, the Rajkumari said, had a special contribution to make to the world. Their method of approach to questions was complimentary to that of men. It was, therefore, necessary that they should have a separate platform for expressing their views. Referring to the charge that the Women's Conference was exclusively confined to a few educated women and that it did not concern itself with the vast mass of women all over the country, the speaker said that though the statement might have been true a few years back it was no longer true now. The Rajkumari appealed to the audience to strive for the freedom of the Motherland by taking the vow of non-violence and wearing khaddar which was the outward symbol of non-violence.

## Sir Sikandar's Niece And Congress

The pleasant announcement by Begum Qazi Mohammad Aslam, wife of a Peshawar Advocate, and daughter of Nawab Sir Liyaqat Hyat Khan, the Prime Minister of Patiala, and a niece of Sir Sikandar Hyat Khan, the Punjab Premier, declaring her readiness to join the Indian National Congress, marked the culmination of the Frontier Political Conference held in Abbottabad. The Begum has donated a sum of Rs. 100 to Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan and Mr. Abdul Qaiyum Khan of Mansehra for Congress propaganda work.

## Indian National Congress On European Situation

A Reuter's message from New Delhi states:—"Members of the Congress Working Committee which has been in session since September 23 and the Congress Premiers discussed the internal situation with Mahatma Gandhi. Afterwards it was announced that the committee would continue its present session indefinitely in view of the gravity of the position in Europe."

## Begum Ansari Seriously Ill

Begum Ansari, widow of Dr. M. A. Ansari, who had recently made a gift of all her husband's surgical instruments to the Congress Ambulance Unit that has left for China, has been seriously ill. Mahatma Gandhi has sent a message expressing his anxiety regarding the illness of the Begum Sahiba and praying for her speedy recovery.



**SOUTH AFRICAN NEWS IN BRIEF**

Mr. Abed Mia and by the Mayor of Klerkadorp, Mr. J. J. de Villiers Joubert. Most of the leading people attended the ceremony. Through the co-operation of Moelems, the mosque and madressa cost only £2,000, although their value is estimated at £5,000. The ground was donated to the Klerkadorp Muslim Association by the Municipal Council.

**Shri Sanatan Dharma Ruth Sabha**

The members and officials of the Shri Sanatan Dharma Ruth Sabha thanks Messrs. Nagasor, Kanahie and Jagernath Maharaj, ex-members of the Railway Barracks Society, for their donation of

£18 in cash and one trifod pot in kind. All donations should be addressed to Mr. R. Soodeeth (hon. secretary), 191, Daintree Avenue, Sydenham, Durban.

**Call To Moral And Spiritual Re-arming**

The following were the signatories to the Call to Moral and Spiritual Re-arming made in a letter published in *The Times*, London, and reproduced elsewhere in this issue:—Earl Baldwin of Bewdley, the Marquess of Salisbury; Lord Amulree (Air Secretary in the last Labour Government), Field-Marshal Lord Birdwood, Sir William Bragg (director of the Royal Institution of

Great Britain and former president of the Royal Society), the Earl of Clarendon (Lord Chamberlain and former Governor-General of South Africa), Admiral of the Fleet the Earl of Cork and Orrery, Lord Desborough (the noted sportsman), Lord Kennet (Minister of Health from 1931 to 1936), the Earl of Lytton (former Viceroy of India), Professor Mackail (former professor of poetry at Oxford), Field-Marshal Lord Milne, Sir David Ross (provost of Oriel College, Oxford), Viscount Sankey (Lord Chancellor from 1925 to 1935), Lord Stanmore (chief Liberal Whip in the House of Lords), Lord Stamp (a director of the Bank of England), Marshal of the Royal Air Force Lord Trenchard.

[Continued from page 373]

# The Sporting World

**Soccer At Tongaat**

THE weather was ideal when the Hill View Rangers of Tongaat and Manor Royals of Durban took the field for a friendly match before a large crowd at the Tongaat Football ground on Sunday, October 2. The curtain raisers were the Hill View's "B" team and the visitors' "B" team. Some fast and excellent football was played by both teams, and after a hard struggle the Hill View emerged winners by two goals to nil. The main match was played between the Hill View "A" and the Manor Royals "A". From the kick off the pace was terrific and both teams played inspiring football. The Manor Royals played a splendid game in the closing fifteen minutes, but the Hill View Rangers, with fine combination, won the match by 7 goals to nil. The Hill View will play their last

match against the Riverside Football Club on Sunday, October 16.

**South Coast District Indian Cricket Union**

The annual general meeting of the South Coast District Indian Cricket Union was held on September 28, at Rossburgh. After the secretary and the treasurer had submitted their reports, the following office-bearers were elected for the ensuing season:—Patrons: Dr. Drummond, Messrs. A. M. Pillay and P. M. Pillay; President: Mr. N. M. Naidoo; vice-presidents: Messrs. M. E. Sigamoney, R. G. Pillay, P. R. Pather, A. R. Ramith, D. G. Muthuswami, R. G. Soobrayan and M. George; hon. secretary: Mr. A. V. Pillay; hon. treasurer: Mr. G. M. Pillay; hon. record clerk: Mr. K. Seedat; hon. auditor: Mr. R. R. Moodley.

**Harden Heights Indian Tennis Club**

The fourth annual general meeting of the Harden Heights Indian Tennis Club was held at the Harden Heights School hall, on Saturday, October 1. After the secretary and the treasurer had submitted their reports, the following office-bearers were elected for the ensuing season:—President: Mr. J. F. Forsyth Thompson; hon. secretary: Mr. A. E. David; treasurer: Mr. Davie Ramdeen; captain: Mr. B. Gerrib; vice-captain: Mr. Davie Ramdeen; committer: Messrs. D. Ramdeen, A. E. David, B. Gerrib and N. Sachade; court committee: Messrs. A. E. David, Davie Ramdeen and G. Bojoo. The presentation was made by the president to the winners of the tournament, Messrs. B. Gerrib and Jagassor.

Everything appearing in this issue of a political nature has been written and edited by Manilal M. Gandhi to express the views of INDIAN OPINION.

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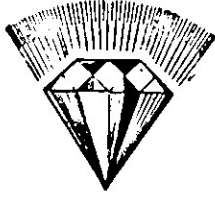
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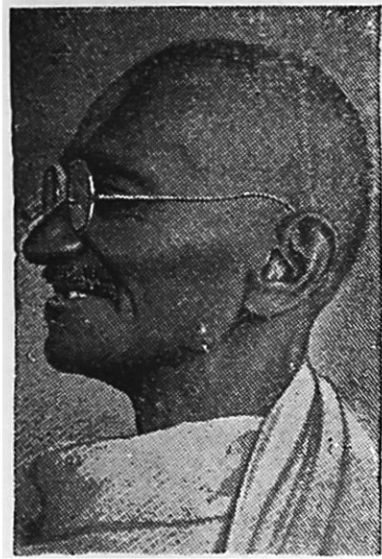
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MAHATMA GANDHIJI  
મહાત્મા ગાંધીજી



Mrs. M. K. GANDHI  
પૂજ્ય કરુણાબા

## DIVALI MESSAGE FROM GANDHIJI

### ગાંધીજીનો દિવાળીનો સંદેશો

“HOW can there be Divali when there is conflagration all round? Everywhere there is bitterness and enmity. If you wish to celebrate Divali you should try to lessen the bitterness and enmity, cleanse yourselves and join in the sacrifice for freedom.”

—Translated from Gujarati.

“જ્યાં ચોરેર હોળી સળગે ત્યાં દિવાળી શી? જ્યાં જુઓ ત્યાં વેર ઝેર. એટલે દિવાળી ઉજવવીજ હોય તો વેર ઝેર ઓછાં કરવાનો પ્રયત્ન કરો ને સ્વતંત્રતાના યજ્ઞમાં શુદ્ધ થઈને ઝંપલાવો.”



MAHATMA GANDHI IN SEGAON

શેગાંવમાં મહાત્મા ગાંધીજી

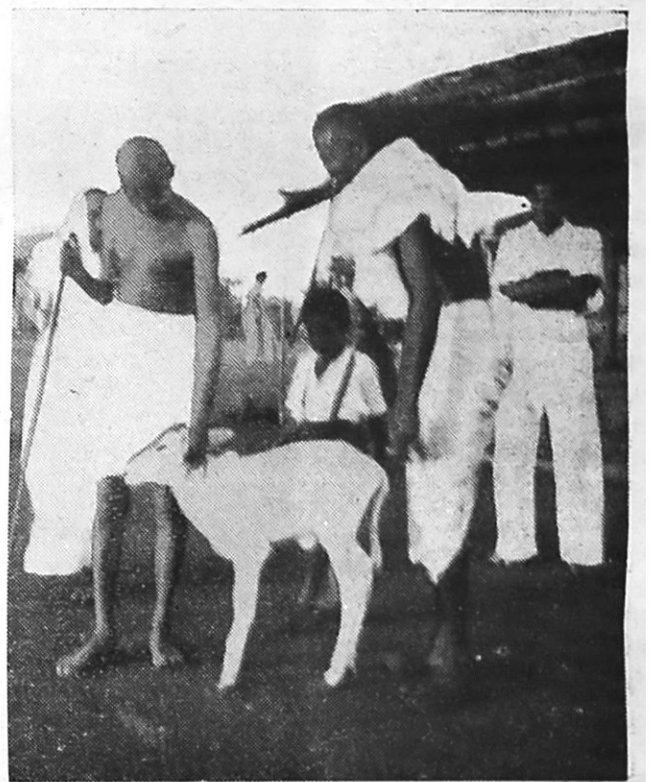
Mahatma Gandhi leaving for his usual walk with inmates of Segaoon. On the left is Rajkumari Amrit Kaur, an ardent Nationalist worker. Rajkumari is the sister of Kunwar Sir Maharaj Singh.



મહાત્મા ગાંધીજી શેગાંવ વાસીઓ સાથે ફરવા નીકળેલા છે. ડાબી બાજુએ રાજકુમારી અમૃતકુંવર છે. તેઓ કુંવર સર મહારાજ સિંગના બહેન છે અને ચુસ્ત રાષ્ટ્રવાદી છે.



Mahatma Gandhi with his usual smile is enjoying his walk at Segaoon.  
મહાત્મા ગાંધીજી શેગાંવમાં ફરવાનો આનંદ લઈ રહ્યા છે.



Mahatma Gandhi is fondling with a newly born calf at Segaoon.  
મહાત્મા ગાંધીજી નવાં જન્મેલા વાછરડા સાથે ગેલ કરે છે.



Mahatma Gandhi with Khan Saheb Abdul Gaffar Khan at Segaoon.  
મહાત્મા ગાંધીજી ખાન સાહેબ અબ્દુલ ગફાર ખાન સાથે.