

INDIAN OPINION

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NOTES AND NEWS

Natal United Party On Indian

Problem

THE United Party Congress which met last week in Maritzburg passed unanimously the following resolution moved by its Port Shepstone branch:

"In view of a unanimous decision taken by the Natal Provincial Congress of the United Party at Maritzburg in 1937, urging the Government to pass the necessary legislation authorising local authorities to define European and non-European areas within their township boundaries for residential as well as for commercial purposes, this Congress expresses its deep regret that nothing has been done up to now, and again urges the Government, after its mandate received at the last election, that immediate steps be taken to pass the necessary legislation asked for."

Senator Clarkson warned the Congress that the matter, although serious, was delicate. Speakers emphasised the necessity for segregation and Mr. D. E. Mitchell, M.P.C., said the Government should act now as it had the support of the bulk of the population. Mr. W. A. J. Louch, of Durban, gave a statistical survey of the position to-day. Four-fifths of the Union's Asiatic population to-day lived in Natal, he said, and of that population, five-sixth lived in Durban. Many people held the erroneous opinion that the sugar belt of Natal accommodated most of the Indians, but the actual position was that of the 51,000 non-European operatives on the sugar belt, only 6,000 were Asiatics. As had been pointed out in *The Natal Mercury*, in four years' time the population of Durban would be predominantly Asiatic. The Indian had to be controlled because he could not control himself. Durban's lack of foresight in not dealing with the "black belt" menace earlier was deplorable and even to-day, where 6,000 houses were needed to accommodate the Indians from the slums, only 60 had been built. Unless the matter was dealt with immediately Durban would find that in five years time the cost would be prohibitive.

Cato Manor Housing Scheme

For Indians

Seven Councillors and three Corporation officials on Friday, November 18, inspected the sub-economic housing scheme for Indians which has been completed at Cato Manor, and the land at Jacobs which it is proposed to use for housing Indians from the Jacobs slums. Land adjacent to this and suitable for the housing of Europeans on an economic basis was also inspected. The 50 sub-economic houses for Indians at Cato Manor, which have been completed and are now available at 15s. 6d. a month, were inspected. Only a few are occupied. Each house has four rooms, its own water supply, and half an acre of land. "I am very pleased indeed with the cleanliness of the houses," said Mrs. Benson. A hundred more will be built here soon."

And At Jacobs

At the Jacobs site, Mr. Watts pointed out the lower area where it was proposed to house Indians on a sub-economic basis from slum areas in Jacobs. There were 118 sites, more than double the number required. Higher up the ridge, across the road, and out of view of the Indian area, was land for European housing. Captain Rainnie was opposed to the use of the one site for Indians, "because you will have them running all over the road and close to the Europeans, even if they are not seen." Mr. Burnside: "I wonder if it is a wise policy to have Indians and Europeans so close together."

Coloureds Should Have Special

Facilities

Addressing a meeting at the Durban City Hall on Friday, November 18, Mr. J. P. Whyte spoke on housing for the coloured community as distinguished from Indians and Natives. It was the duty of the Council to give separate facilities to the coloured community, Mr. Whyte is reported to have said, as it was against their interests to be herded together with the Natives and Indians. They required bathing facilities and some kind of social centre to enable them to cultivate some kind of civic pride. It is to be inferred from this that Indians and Natives do not

require bathing facilities. Nor do they require facilities to cultivate any civic pride. The duty of a good Government would be to encourage and train those who do not observe the ordinary rules of health and sanitation to do so and also to cultivate civic pride if they are lacking in it. Even after so many delegations from South Africa have visited India and so many distinguished personages from India, have visited South Africa and with the presence of the Agent-General for India in South Africa such a low estimation should be formed about Indians and their status lowered even than that of the half-castes of this country is to say the least a grave insult to the honour of India.

Deceiving Christ

Dr. Robert M. Hopkins, general secretary of the World's Sunday School Association, who sailed for India by the *Isipingo* to attend the International Missionary Conference which is meeting in Madras in December, in the course of an interview with a representative of the *Natal Mercury* said, "It seems to me that your isolation and the smallness of your White population ought to make a strong appeal for a united front." Referring to the holding of the World Sunday School Convention in Durban next year, Dr. Hopkins said, "We think that we have solved the racial difficulty very happily. The Dutch Reformed Church has conscientious convictions on the question of the colour bar. While I think some of their hotheads went too far, the church as a whole has a heritage in that matter. As a world organisation we could not establish a colour bar at the convention. The door was opened by their request that they should be allowed to segregate themselves and have their delegates sitting apart in the convention hall, while the convention continued on its historic basis of no segregation. They are happy about it and other Europeans are, too. I cannot say that the representatives of the Bantu with whom I have talked are actually happy about it, but they think it is a happy solution. We have found a way out of what seemed

Indian Opinion

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 25TH, 1938

Market Trouble In Johannesburg

THE Transvaal Indian Congress has made representations to the Johannesburg City Council on behalf of a section of our community engaged in supplying the public with fresh produce. Their grievances seem to be quite legitimate and their requests quite reasonable.

The trouble seems to have arisen owing to the fact that Indians have not been given sufficient accommodation and privileges in the Municipal Market and hence they have had to create their own independent facilities which they have done now for nearly a quarter of a century in Diagonal Street. There are Indian agents as well as European agents of farmers with whom they have established very old connections. These farmers send their fresh produce to these agents who procure for them good prices and they supply the produce to wholesale dealers as well as retail and also to the hawkers affording them liberal credit facilities. The Municipality evidently now thinks that these people should not create their own independent facilities but that all fresh produce dealing should take place in the Municipal Market. To this the complaint of our people is that Indians are not granted agents' licences in the Market. Hence they cannot have their produce sent there. Moreover they say that the whole of the Market hall is occupied by Europeans only excepting a small area at the north-east corner which is given to Indians, and being at the far end they are unable to attract buyers who do their buying at the Market.

With these difficulties existing within the Market the Indian agents conducting their businesses in Diagonal Street say that they are suffering under a serious dis-

ability by virtue of the fact that National Mark products are only consigned to the Municipal Market, thus debarring Indian agents from obtaining their requirements of produce under this mark direct from the farmers. They further state that the Council proposes to enforce that section of the Municipal bye-law which prohibits agents from operating in any area outside the Market. Where, then, are these people to go? Is this "National Mark" going to be yet another instrument, seemingly pious but in effect venomous like the Slums Act—which is driving Indians into segregation—to deprive a section of Indians of the very limited means of livelihood they have in the Transvaal?

Their requests that they should either be allowed to continue to carry on their businesses in Diagonal Street and arrangements should be made for the direct consignment of National Mark products to them in that area, or that the Council should issue trading licences to Indians to act as agents in the Municipal Market, is, in our opinion, quite reasonable.

We would like also to emphasise the fact that these Indian fresh fruit and vegetable dealers, some of whom have established profitable businesses, have done so with the sweat of their brow. In season and out of season and in all weather conditions if fresh fruits and vegetables have been supplied regularly every morning to the housewives at their very doors, thanks are due to these people. Far from being a menace these people have, without any doubt whatsoever, been an asset to the country. Their case, therefore, merits the most sympathetic consideration by the Johannesburg City Council and we sincerely trust that the same shall be given.

rather an impossible proposition, and I think it is likely to be quite a big contribution to the solution of colour problems throughout the world."

Will an Indian delegate from India or a Japanese delegate from Japan or a Chinese delegate from China be prepared to accept this position with any sense of honour? We have our doubts. Dr. Hopkins may think so, but we do not think this is a solution to the colour problem at all. And if straight methods are not adopted even in religious matters what hope is there of their being adopted in social and political matters?

Nazi Mentality Growing In

South Africa
The *Natal Daily News* Rustenburg correspondent in a message dated Tuesday, November 22, states:—A meeting attended by some 400 Europeans was held in the Rustenburg Church Square last night to discuss the alleged assault on a European youth named Gouws, by Indians in the streets of Rustenburg on Saturday night. A number of younger men favoured violence and suggested burning the Indians' shops because of the alleged inactivity of the police to take action against the Indians. Lieutenant A. L. Prinsloo addressed the gathering, stressing that those who advocated violence would find that he would be compelled to meet violence with violence. He said that those who could give information about the alleged assault, should give such information to the charge office and he assured them that if sufficient evidence was obtained action would be taken. A number of witnesses afterwards left for the charge office to make their declarations.

Another Meeting

The *Natal Daily News* correspondent in a message dated Wednesday states:

Another meeting, attended by about 1,000 people, was held in Church Square at Rustenburg last night, in connection with an alleged assault by Indians on some European youths last Saturday night. The Mayor, Mr. S. P. Foord, presided at the meeting, which was addressed by Mr. J. M. Conradie, M.P. for Rustenburg, Mr. I. Vorster, M.P.O. for Rustenburg, and Mr. Piet de Wit. All speakers emphasised the necessity for keeping calm and allowing the law to take its course, especially as the Voortrekker celebrations would be held in Rustenburg at the end of the week. The whole matter, it was stated, was bound up with the general Indian question in the country. Mr. de Wit was applauded when he stated that the police had now detained eight Indians who were alleged to have been concerned in the assault. Mr. de Wit urged the European population to boycott Indian traders. He argued that efforts should be made to raise the economic standard of the poorer Europeans, so as to enable them to trade only with Europeans. Mr. de Wit's proposal that

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INDIANS IN THE FRESH PRODUCE INDUSTRY

THEIR EXISTING RIGHTS ENDANGERED

The following is the text of a statement submitted by the Transvaal Indian Congress to the Chairman and members of the Parks and Estates Committee of the City Council of Johannesburg:—

BEFORE dealing with the subject-matter of our representation, we desire to emphasise the important service rendered to the citizens of Johannesburg and to the farming community of the Union of South Africa, by the Indian distributors in the Fresh Produce Industry. Indians have been engaged in this industry ever since the year 1885, when they entered this Province and have contributed in no small measure to the development of this industry. They constitute an important and vital link between the producers of fruits and vegetables on the one hand and the consuming public of Johannesburg in particular, and Transvaal, in general on the other.

2. The Indian distributor, over a period of 50 years, has played an important part in fostering and developing this branch of the agricultural life of this country and has served as a medium between the producer and the consumer. His relations both with producers and consumers, during this period, have been of the happiest, and his services in this respect have been appreciated by all concerned.

3. The Indian distributors have promoted the interest of the producers of fruit and fresh vegetables and at the same time have acted as a satisfactory channel of distribution of the farmers' products to the consumers not only in Johannesburg and the Reef, but throughout the Transvaal countryside. The Indian distributors can legitimately and justifiably claim to be the farmer's best friend and have proved themselves to be a valuable asset in the development of this industry. The Indian distributors, from the merchant to the hawker, by their initiative, enterprise and hard work, create and increase the market for the products of the farmer. It is of great importance to note, at this stage, that Indian distributors have given satisfaction to all engaged in this industry.

4. The Indian distributors may be divided into four groups and we propose to give a brief sketch of the part played by each.

The Agent

(1) The agent receives consignments of the farmers produce direct from the producer and in turn disposes of such consignments to Indian wholesale buyers as well as to other Indians engaged in the distributive trade. These Indian agents are located in the Diagonal Street area and have acted in this capacity for the last 20 years, consequently some of them have built up a valuable goodwill with the farmers of South

Africa. We understand that agents' licences are not issued to Indians by the Johannesburg City Council in the Municipal market.

The Indian Wholesale Merchant

(2) The Indian wholesale merchants secure their requirements either from farmer, the Municipal market, or from agents in the Diagonal Street area. Their purchases in the Municipal market have to be paid for in cash whilst they obtain credit facilities for a considerable proportion of the purchases from those agents who operate in the Diagonal Street area. These wholesale merchants supply both European and Indian fruiterers in the centre of the town, the suburbs of Johannesburg, and they also retail fruit and vegetable produce to their retail customers on the Reef and in the Transvaal countryside their daily requirements. The wholesale merchants also supply Indian hawkers of fruit in the Transvaal, and afford credit facilities to their customers in the different categories mentioned above.

The Indian Fruiterers

(3) The Indian fruiterers have shops in all parts of Johannesburg, along the Reef and in country districts, and supply the wants of the public in their respective areas.

Indian Hawkers

(4) The Indian hawker plays a very necessary part in the distributive trade by supplying the wants of housewives punctually every day; in order to do so he attends the market at 4 a.m. and after securing his requirements does his rounds in all weathers. Both the Indian fruiterers and the Indian hawkers afford credit facilities to their customers, and they both purchase their requirements from all sources.

5. Many of the grievances with which we propose to deal, relate to the Johannesburg Municipal market, and it is necessary to describe in brief the different sections of the market.

The Main Market

The main market occupies the whole building fronting Bree Street and its functions can be divided into three sections:

All the fruit received by agents and the market master is sold by the market officials in the western section of this hall. The eastern section is occupied by retail European stall-holders who sell to the public fruits and vegetables in any required quantities and a portion of this section is given over to Chinese and Portuguese gardeners, who sell vegetables grown in their own gardens direct to the public after 7 a.m. We understand that this section is used by vegetable producers in the vicinity of Johannesburg, who, between the hours of

4 a.m. and 7 a.m. sell their products in wholesale quantities to Indians and Europeans engaged in the distributive trade. Flowers are also sold in this section of the market. The stalls at the southern and northern side of the market are occupied by Europeans in the provision trade. The Indians, although playing such an important part in the distributive trade, are unfairly denied any privileges in this eastern section of the market, and they are relegated to a small area at the north-east corner of the main hall which is known as the "Indian Market." The other section of the market in which Indians are interested is the second section of the market devoted to the sale of vegetables potatoes and onions.

We now propose to deal with the grievances of Indians under the respective heading:

Grievances Of Indian Agents

6. The Indian agents operate in the Diagonal Street area and some of them have been in this class of business for the last 20 years. During this time they have established direct contact with the producers and the fact that so many producers consign their produce for sale through these agents testify to the satisfactory prices realised by these agents. These agents suffer under a serious disability by virtue of the fact that National Market products are only consigned to the Municipal market, thus debarring Indian agents from obtaining their requirements of produce under this mark direct from the farmers. These Indian agents grant extensive credit facilities to Indian fruiterers and Indian hawkers and have built up a large business. We understand that the Council proposes to enforce that section of the Municipal bye-law which prohibits agents from operating in any area outside the Municipal market, and to take legal action restraining such agents from carrying on their activities in the Diagonal Street area. We submit that this action of the Council, especially where Indian agents are concerned, is inequitable when having regard to the fact that Indians are denied agents' licences in the Municipal market.

7. It is unfair that the Indian agents should be prohibited from carrying on their activities in the Diagonal Street area when the Council itself refuses them licences to act as agents in the Municipal market. The proposed action of the Town Council therefore, would irretrievably ruin the Indian agents. The European agents in Diagonal Street area can continue to operate from the Municipal market and carry on their trade, but under the discriminatory racial policy of the Council the Indian Agents will have no option but to close down and liquidate their businesses. We request, therefore, that

the Indian agents should be allowed to continue to operate from the Diagonal Street area as they have been doing hitherto, and that arrangements should be made for the direct consignment of National Mark products to the Indian agents in this area, or alternately, the Council should issue trading licences to Indians to act as agents in the Municipal market.

European Agents In The Diagonal Street Area

8. The European agents in the Diagonal Street area have been carrying on as such for the last 30 years, and have served a real need as far as the distributive trade is concerned. They have extended credit facilities to the Indian wholesale merchants and other distributors and thereby encouraged the development of this industry. We fear that any change in their present position will, to a certain extent, disturb the economics of this industry. The existence of agents in the Diagonal Street area facilitates the purchase of fruit by those engaged in distributive trade, and it would therefore serve the needs of the industry if provision is made enabling the existing agents to continue operations at the existing premises in the Diagonal Street area.

The Indian Wholesale Merchants

9. The Indian wholesale merchants are in the Diagonal Street area. These merchants act as the clearing house between the Municipal market and the agents on the one hand, and Indian and European fruiterers and hawkers, both in Johannesburg and throughout the Transvaal, on the other. These merchants rail fruit and vegetables to fruiterers and hawkers in the countryside and a large portion of their orders received from country customers have to be railed by trains leaving Johannesburg at 10 a.m. Observance of Market Sale Regulations cause delay in purchasing their requirements in the Municipal market, especially in respect of fruits, and would impose a serious disability on

these merchants as they would not be able to complete their purchases in time to rail by the train mentioned above. A substantial portion of their fruit is at present purchased from agents in the Diagonal Street area.

10. In the second section of the market, the Council hires space to European merchants which enables European competitors of the Indians to purchase potatoes and onions in wholesale quantities at the Municipal auction, and then dispose of their purchases to the smaller distributors in lesser quantities on the market itself. The Indian merchants cannot do so, as no provision is made for the letting of such space to them, and this disability results in severe loss and inconvenience to them. These merchants have to supply the needs of their fruiterer and hawker customers and it is imperative that they should be able to do so with the least possible delay and inconvenience. Under existing conditions they are prevented from doing so as the Municipal Regulations prohibit out-of-hand sales in this section of the market, except in the area which the Municipality has set aside for this purpose, and in which area licences are only granted to Europeans. We urge that this discrimination against Indian merchants should be removed, and that facilities extended to European wholesale merchants should be similarly extended to Indian merchants as well. This provision would facilitate the handling of their purchase of potatoes and onions by Indian merchants and would at the same time be a source of revenue to the Council and give satisfaction to all engaged in the distributive trade.

11. Stalls are let by the Municipality to Europeans, Syrians and Chinese in the main section of the Municipal market, and Indians are relegated to the north-east corner of the main section which is known as the Indian market. The provision for Indians in this respect is quite inadequate and does not serve the needs of the Indian community. It is an anomaly that Indians, who purchase

75 per cent. of the produce offered on the Municipal market, enjoy the least facilities, and moreover, are made to suffer from discriminatory racial policies in various ways. The unfavourable situation of the Indian market and its isolation from the main section, reacts detrimentally on Indian stallholders therein, as it is not easily accessible to members of the public who patronise the Municipal market. We suggest very strongly that the discrimination against them should be removed by letting stalls to them in the main section of the market and that adequate provision be made for this purpose. We suggest that the present Indian market should be utilised for some other purpose.

12. In the event of the Council deciding to enforce the provisions of the bye-law in respect of the agents in the Diagonal Street area, and restricting sales to the Municipal market, another problem will be created for the larger Indian merchants. Their present requirements of fruit are, to a large extent, purchased from the agents in Diagonal Street within easy reach of their premises. Purchases in the market would entail increased transport charges and create greater congestion in traffic. It is particularly important, therefore, that facilities requested in paragraphs 10-11, should be adequate and generous.

13. In conclusion, we desire to assure the City Council, on behalf of our countrymen engaged in the distributive trade, that it is their sole desire to promote the interests of both producers and consumers, and with this idea in view they are at all times willing to cooperate with the City Council in improving marketing conditions.

14. We trust that this representation, on behalf of a section of our people, who have contributed materially to the development and prosperity of the fruit industry, will receive your sympathetic consideration in the interest of farmers, distributors and consumers as a whole.

IF I WERE A CZECH

NOT

IF I have called the arrangement with Herr Hitler "Peace Without Honour," it was not to cast any reflection on British or French statesmen. I have no doubt that Mr. Chamberlain could not think of anything better. He knew his nation's limitations. He wanted to avoid war, if it could be avoided at all. Short of going to war, he pulled his full weight in favour of the Czechs. That it could not save honour was no fault of his. It would be so every time there is a struggle with Herr Hitler or Signor Mussolini.

It cannot be otherwise. Democracy dreads to spill blood. The philosophy for which the two dictators stand calls it cowardice to shrink from carnage. They exhaust the resources of poetic art in order to glorify organised murders. There is no humbug about their word or deed. They are ever ready for war.

By
M. K. GANDHI In "Harijan"

There is nobody in Germany or Italy to cross their path. Their word is law.

It is different with Mr. Chamberlain or M. Daladier. They have their Parliaments and Chambers to please. They have parties to confer with. They cannot maintain themselves on a perpetual war footing, if their language is to have a democratic accent about it.

The science of war leads one to dictatorship, pure and simple. The science of non-violence can alone lead one to pure democracy. England, France and America have to make their choice. That is the challenge of two dictators.

Russia is out of the picture just now.

Russia has a dictator who dreams of peace and thinks he will wade to it through a sea of blood. No one can say what Russian dictatorship will mean to the world.

It was necessary to give this introduction to what I want to say to the Czechs and, through them, to all those nationalities which are called 'small' or 'weak.' I want to speak to the Czechs because their plight moved me to the point of physical and mental distress and I felt that it would be cowardice on my part not to share with them the thoughts that were swelling up within me. It is clear that the small nation must either come, or be ready to come, under the protection of the dictators or be a constant menace to the peace of Europe. In spite of all the goodwill in the world, England and France cannot save them. Their intervention can only

mean bloodshed and destruction such as has never been seen before.

Perish Unarmed

If I were a Czech, therefore, I would free these two nations from the obligation to defend my country. And yet I must live. I would not be a vassal to any nation or body. I must have absolute independence or perish. To seek to win in a clash of arms would be pure bravado. Not so, if in defying the might of one who would deprive me of my independence, I refuse to obey his will and perish unarmed in the attempt. In so doing, though I lose the body, I save my soul, i.e., my honour. This glorious peace should be my opportunity. I must live down the humiliation, and gain real independence. But says a comforter, "Hitler knows no pity. Your spiritual effort will avail nothing before him."

A Novel Experience

My answer is, "You may be right. History has no record of a nation having adopted non-violent resistance. If Hitler is not affected by my suffering, it does not matter. For I shall have lost nothing worth. My honour is the only thing worth preserving. That is independent of Hitler's pity. But as a believer in non-violence, I may not limit its possibilities. Hitherto, he and his likes have built upon their invariable experience that men yield to force. Unarmed men, women and children offering non-violent resistance, without any bitterness in them, will be a novel experience for them. Who can dare

say that it is not in their nature to respond to the higher and finer forces? They have the same soul that I have."

But says another comforter: "What you say is all right for you. But how do you expect your people to respond to the novel call? They are trained to fight. In personal bravery, they are second to none in the world. For you to ask them to throw away their arms and be trained for non-violent resistance, seems to me to be a vain attempt."

"You may be right. But I have a call, I must answer. I must deliver my message to my people. This humiliation has sunk too deep in me to remain without an outlet. I, at least, must act up to the light that has dawned on me."

Satyagraha In South Africa

This is how I should, I believe, act if I were a Czech. When I first launched out on Satyagraha, I had no companion. We were thirteen thousand men, women and children against a whole nation capable of crushing the existence out of us. I did not know who would listen to me. It all came in as a flash. All the 13,000 did not fight. Many fell back, but the honour of the nation was saved. Now history was written by the South African Satyagraha.

Soldiers Of Peace

A more apposite instance, perhaps, is that of Khan Saheb Abdul Ghaffan Khan, the servant of God, as he calls himself, the pride of Afghans, as the Pathans delight to call him. He is sitting in

front of me as I pen these lines. He has made several thousand of his people throw down their arms. He thinks he has imbibed the lesson of non-violence. He is not sure of his people. Elsewhere I reproduce the pledge that his soldiers of peace make. I have come to the Frontier Province or rather he has brought me to see, with my own eyes, what his men are doing. I can say in advance, and at once, that these men know very little of non-violence. All the treasure they have on earth is their in the leader. I do not cite these soldiers of peace as at all a finished illustration. I cite them as an honest attempt being made by a soldier, to convert fellow soldiers to the ways of peace. I can testify that it is an honest attempt and whether, in the end, it succeeds or fails, it will have its lessons for Satyagrahis of the future. My purpose will be fulfilled if I succeed in reaching these men's hearts and making them see that, if their non-violence does not make them feel much braver than the possession of arms and the ability to use them, they must give up their non-violence, which is another name for cowardice, and so resume their arms which there is nothing but their own will to prevent them from taking back.

I present Dr. Benes with a weapon not of the weak but of the brave. There is no bravery greater than a resolute refusal to bend the knee to an earthly power, no matter how great, and that without bitterness of spirit and in the fullness of faith that the spirit alone lives, nothing else does.

MAHATMA GANDHI'S BIRTHDAY CELEBRATED IN LONDON

PANDIT JAWAHARLAL NEHRU'S SPEECH

MAHATMA GANDHI'S 70th birthday was celebrated in London when a large number of Indians and friends of India had gathered together. The meeting was organised by the India League. Dr. Bhandari presided.

Among the various speakers was Dr. Edward Thompson, the historian who said no higher honour had been paid him than to ask him to speak at Mr. Gandhi's birthday celebration. He would not speak of the great Indian leader as a politician or as an economist, although he realised that Mr. Gandhi was both those things in a remarkable degree. His technique, as a politician was extraordinary, and his economics for India were sound. If asked whom he regarded as the greatest man of the past century he would award that distinction to Ram Mohan Roy who came to England and disclosed a new philosophy of life with

that detachment and generosity which characterised Indian philosophers.

Knowing India as he did, and recalling the history of the British connection, the speaker said that what struck him as the most remarkable thing was the magnanimity with which Indians regarded Britain and the British. They had every cause for hatred, but that was never evident. "With all your faults," he said, "you Indians are a magnanimous people. You will forgive any number of mistakes and hard things done against you." The outstanding feature of Mr. Gandhi's complex character was his magnanimity. He was as illusive as he was difficult, and his ways and methods seemed to follow no method the Englishman could easily understand, but his results were remarkable. Mr. Gandhi could rise to tremendous heights as he did when the Indian committee of enquiry into the

Amritsar massacre wanted to report that General Dyer had deliberately tricked the people into the Jallinwalla-bagh to shoot them down. Then Mr. Gandhi would have no bitterness, and no charges, even if there was evidence to support them. It required tremendous courage to stand out against your own people.

Mr. Gandhi had brought the poverty and misery of India to the foreground and against that he had fashioned his policy and his philosophy. He had put the stamp of an idea on an epoch—the idea of non-resistance. It was, when examined by Western standards, a ridiculous idea, but it was the only practical idea, and with it Mr. Gandhi had given his enemies what they had never suffered before—a bad conscience. Mr. Gandhi was seventy, and recently he had said that he did not expect to last out another year. They hoped that

expectation would be falsified for Mr. Gandhi had taught the world a lot and his life was precious. He was needed for India, and for Britain for which the magnanimous Indians should have some sympathy and pity. Lately they had seen four men settle the fate of a small country without consulting that country or their own peoples. To Indians he said, "Keep your liberty for which you have paid so high a price; keep it for our sake and for the sake of the world."

Pandit Nehru's Speech

Pandit Nehru concentrated his remarks on the European situation.

Both India and the world, he hoped, would learn many lessons from the past few days; India must learn to cut herself away from European ideas and policies and so help to put an end to the hooliganism and gangsterism which it had been the privilege of Mr. Chamberlain to support. It was a difficult matter, he continued, for a person to speak about one with whom he had been in such intimate contact. Mr. Gandhi had been a very dear and close colleague to him. Mr. Gandhi had represented forces which meant something more even than Mr. Gandhi the man, and when he said two years ago that he had retired from politics and from the Congress that meant nothing at all. Mr. Gandhi stood for something greater than a personal force and that

was something he could not get rid of and did not desire to get rid of. He had become so personified with the struggle of India that he could not cease to take interest in it and, whether in the Congress or out of it did not matter because he could not escape being asked to give advice, or to give it when asked. Men like himself (the speaker) were not politicians because they liked politics but because things happened in India to force them into politics, and nobody could get rid of his interest in the struggle for that became part of oneself. Mr. Gandhi personified that struggle to the peasant and he could not separate himself from that.

Active Non-Resistance

The world to-day was witnessing an extraordinary rule of violence against which Mr. Gandhi's life was one long fight. How far it was possible to think of applying his moral standards in international affairs was difficult to see, for at the moment there were no standards of any kind, but only the law of the jungle, and the strongest animal could threaten most obtained his way. It was not correct to speak of Mr. Gandhi's doctrine as one of non-resistance for Mr. Gandhi always resisted. He had not sat down and bowed his head to what was evil and unjust. Non-resistance was passive. Mr. Gandhi's opposition and resistance had

been dynamic, but always non-violent. He could not see Mr. Gandhi submitting, or the Indian Nationalist movement submitting, to what the great empires of Britain and France had submitted at the hands of dictators. Obviously the Indian National movement had not strength enough in terms of physical might, such as a great fleet and an army, to meet a situation like that lately presented in Europe, but the whole training of India under Mr. Gandhi's philosophy was not to submit to that which was bad and degrading.

"One of the things that has astonished me in this crisis," said Mr. Nehru, "has been the attitude of persons prominent in the Pacifist ranks in this country who have given their moral support to policies that are outrageous. For the sake of peace they have degraded every standard of honour and decency. There was no other conceivable method in India but non-violence. It was in fact one of the major things for which we were all striving among ourselves. It expressed the national unity and the capacity for united action. We now have both in a large measure and that is among the astounding achievements of Mr. Gandhi." But was the situation not different in Europe? To-day, they all had to suffer for the actions and decisions of a very undesirable set of persons, and if the attitude were calmly accepted the world would some day be landed in a terrible disaster.

Things In General

Liquor Habit Now A Social

Custom

At the Temperance Alliance Convention held in the Mayor's Parlour, Durban, on Thursday November 17, Mr. B. M. Narbeth, formerly Principal of the Natal Technical College, said, "Drinking habits still permeates our social and civic life, taking their toll of young and old. Drinking has become very respectable and is regarded as a social accomplishment. I hope the day will come when temperance education is so widespread that people will no longer call for alcoholic stimulants in their social customs, and that all first-class hotels will find it as undesirable as it will be unnecessary to carry a supply of alcoholic liquors for their guests," he said. At the last municipal elections, when the closing of all bars was enforced by law, he had seen a number of persons arriving semi-intoxicated to record their votes. "It is no credit to public opinion and the public conscience of Durban that such a thing is possible on election day," he said. Temperance teaching could not, said Mr. Narbeth, be isolated from education generally.

It was an essential part of any sound system of education, whether for juveniles or adults.

New Honour Conferred On

Mr. Hofmeyr

Mr. J. H. Hofmeyr M.A., D.Sc., has been elected Chancellor of the University of the Witwatersrand in succession to the late Prince Arthur of Connaught. Mr. Hofmeyr's brilliant career is worthy of note. He matriculated at the age of 12 years at the old South African College and graduated with first-class honours at the age of 15 years. At 17 years he had obtained his master's degree. When he was 19 he published a biography of his distinguished namesake, "Onse Jan." Mr. Hofmeyr was at Balliol College, Oxford, for three years and emerged with a first class in moderations and a first class in "greats." On his return to South Africa he was appointed a lecturer in Latin at the University of Capetown. Shortly afterwards he was appointed lecturer in the classics at the Witwatersrand School of Mines, of which he soon became principal. When the School of Mines became the Witwatersrand University, Mr. Hofmeyr retained the position of principal for five

years. At the age of 29 he was appointed Administrator of the Transvaal, which position he relinquished after five years in spite of a request of the Government that he should remain for another five years. He was also offered, and refused, the position of High Commissioner for the Union in London. He entered Parliament as a South African Party member at a by-election in Johannesburg North in 1929 and has represented that constituency ever since. For five years until quite recently Mr. Hofmeyr was a member of the Cabinet, holding several portfolios.

Death Of A Natal Judge

Mr. Justice T. B. Horwood, of the Native High Court of Natal, died at the sanatorium, Durban, last Saturday afternoon after a sudden collapse in Temple Chambers. He was on the bench of the Native High Court at Estcourt on Thursday, November 18, when the last case on the roll resulted in a native being sentenced to death. After a University career at Christ Church, Oxford, Mr. Justice Horwood chose the Indian instead of the English Civil Service. Ill health led to his retirement from the Indian

Civil Service in 1919. Returning to South Africa he joined the firm of Messrs. H. G. Mackeurtan, lectured at the Technical College and reported for a Natal newspaper. From 1923 to 1936 he practiced as an advocate, and in 1936 was made a K.C., and Judge of the Native High Court. His literary work is well known among the legal fraternity. He was reputed to be one of the finest advocates of case law in the Union. He was a bachelor. In accordance with his relatives' wishes, there were to be no ceremony in connection with the funeral, no attendance and no flowers.

N. I. Congress (Ladysmith Branch)

At a meeting of the Natal Indian Congress held in the Madressa Hall, Ladysmith on Sunday, November 20, a branch of the Congress was formed and the following office-bearers were unanimously elected: Patron: Mr. A. C. Moola; President: Mr. Ismail A. Moola; Vice-Presidents: Messrs. Devnarain, V. G. Naidoo, I. A. Kharva, E. M. Aswat and C. S. Asmal; Secretary: Mr. Kadar Khan; Assist. secretary: Mr. M. N. Pillay; Treasurer: Mr. Vithal Lala; Committee: Messrs. S. N. Pillay, T. Riga, A. I. Ohupiti, O. R. Singh, Ahmed C. Asmal, E. M. Moola, M. I. Seadat, Ahmed M. Goga, C. S. Govender; A. A. Karim and B. Bhoola.

Gen. Smuts's New Secretary

Mr. J. D. Pohl, assistant magistrate at Nylstroom, will succeed Mr. P. B. Blanckenberg as private secretary to General Smuts, Minister of Justice, at the beginning of next year.

Coronation Indian School, Education and Recreation Society

A well represented meeting of the above society was held at Briardene, Greenwood Park, on Sunday, November 6. It was unanimously decided to change the name of the society to "Coronation Krishna Sentamil Society." Mr. K. R. Naynah Naidoo congratulated the officials and members of the society for the good services they were rendering to the community. Among other speakers and well-wishers were Messrs. V. M. M. Achary, V. M. Maistry and A. V. Moodley. The treasurer read the financial statement, which reflected a credit balance of £300, and a start has been made on the Tamil School building at an estimated cost of £700. One of the trustees, Mr. K. S. Pillay, appealed to the House for donations in cash or kind towards the erection of the school. The response to the appeal was as follows:— Messrs. K. V. Pillay, 50,000 bricks, cost about £140; K. S. Pilly, electrifying the building, £30; V. M. Maistry, cash £26 5s.; D. G. Chetty, 2 teak doors and frames, £20; Soobiah Moodley, complete guttering, £20; A. V. Moodley, set Krishna photos, £5; S. C. Moodley, complete fencing, £20; T. M. Govender, 1,000 facing bricks, £3 15s.; Mrs. K. K. Pillay, 6 sash windows, £16 10.

Laying Of Foundation

The foundation stone of the new Indian Tamil Vernacular School at Briardene was laid last Sunday afternoon by Mrs. C. Maistry. Mrs. Maistry was presented with a silver trowel to perform the ceremony and was garlanded by a little girl. In the Umgeni Indian School before the ceremony the president of the Coronation Krishna Sentamil Society, Mr. K. C. Pillay, said that his two brothers and he were carrying out the wishes of their dead father, who had been well-known for his interest in vernacular education. Two years ago their society had started to work for that object, their father consenting to be the patron. Now there was sufficient to make a start on the school which they expected would cost £1,000. They only required another £300 to clear the entire cost. The school is to be known as the K. K. Pillay Memorial School.

Natal Indian Farmers' Union

A mass meeting of over 300 Indian farmers that sell their produce in the Durban Indian Morning Market was held on Sunday, November 20, in the Indian Morning Market. At the outset the Natal Indian Farmers' Association amalgamated with the Natal Indian Farmers' Union. The farmers protested against the proposed alterations in the present market system. This will mean that the farmers will not be allowed to keep their vehicles and animals that draw the carts as usual but will have to remove them immediately after off-loading their produce in the market in the sheds provided for this purpose. Objections were also raised to the proposed curtailment of the size of the stands. The meeting resolved to send a deputation to see the Market Master, Mr. A. Davison, with a view to placing the desire of the farmers before the City Market Council. A sub-committee of the Union, comprising two representatives from each of the various gardening and farming centres surrounding Durban was formed to see to all matters affecting the interests of the farmers in the Morning Market.

Indian Youth League Extended

At a meeting of Indian youths held in Manor Gardens on Sunday, November 13, it was unanimously decided to form a branch of the Natal Indian Youth League to cater for the needs of the youths in the district and affiliate to the recently formed Indian Youth Council. The following officers and committee were elected for the ensuing year:—Mr. G. Ponon (chairman); Messrs. S. Thaver, A. Albert, G. Naidoo, B. Thaver, N. G. Chetty (vice-presidents); Mr. M. Stanley (hon. secretary); Mr. P. Murugase (hon. treasurer); Messrs. P. T. Roy, P. Thaver and C. S. Govender (committee).

Kemal Ataturk's Funeral

A state funeral of Kemal Ataturk, the dictator of Turkey, took place on Thursday, November 12. Eleven people died and many others were in serious condition while thousands of women were rendered unconscious during the procession of 100,000 people seeking file past Kemal Ataturk's bier. All flags on Government buildings were flown half-mast throughout the Union as a mark of respect for Turkey's Dictator, and Muslims in Durban and Pretoria closed their shops from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Dannhauser Indians held a meeting to express their grief at the demise of Kemal Ataturk and a message of condolence was sent to the bereaved family.

Ataturk's Successor

General Ismet Ineunu, better known as Ismet Pasha, is the new President of Turkey, in succession to Kemal Ataturk. His election by the National Assembly was unanimous. Ismet was for many years Ataturk's right-hand man. He is regarded as certain to continue Turkey's policy of friendship with Britain.

'Tanganyika Herald'

Tanganyika Herald, the weekly organ published in Dar-es-Salam, has published a Special Number. It is a bulky volume containing very useful information of the Indians resident in that territory and their problems. It is profusely illustrated with pictures of the various leaders of the Indian community and places of interest.

Apology

I, Ahmad Ismail, do hereby withdraw all the allegations made by me against Sheik Ahmad at the public meeting of the Cape Indian Congress held at Cape Town on February 27, 1938 and which form the subject of an action by the said Sheik Ahmad against me and I herewith apologise for all or any statements made by me reflecting on his character.

AHMAD ISMAIL.

(Notes and News Continued from page 430)

Indian shops should be boycotted was approved by a show of hands. The meeting unanimously chose Mr. de Wit as representative to attend the Indian Congress meeting to be held in a few days. The Rev. T. J. Prinsloo informed the meeting, which again protested against the action of the police who, it is stated, had arrested about 30 European youths on Sunday night for going into the Indian quarter armed with sticks and stones, that he had satisfied himself that no arrests had been made. It was decided that another meeting should be held the following Wednesday night to receive Mr. de Wit's report of his deputation to the Indian Congress. Unlike Monday night's meeting, the meeting last night was orderly.

Doings In India

Gandhiji On The Title Of "Mahatma"

REPLYING to a Muslim correspondent, Gandhiji comments as follows in the *Harijan* on the official order passed by the C. P. Government on the use of the title of 'Mahatma' in official references to his name: "Your title as 'Mahatma' is officially recognised by a Government circular, your birthday declared as a holiday and consequently the Local Board in Amraoti has issued orders to take your image in a procession and to worship your image. Gandhiji, you may permit me to say, we are not idolatrous and we do not recognize you as 'Mahatma' or our religious and political leader." Gandhiji says: This is a complaint and an assertion. With both I am in hearty concurrence. It was wrong to give 'Mahatma' official recognition. I registered my protest as soon as it was brought to my notice. I would support any movement to drop altogether the use of the word 'Mahatma' before my name. My simple name sounds sweet without the adjective. The latter often stinks as when it is applied to promote violence or untruth, smoking or drinking or the sale of spurious khadi. To declare my birthday a holiday should be classified as a cognisable offence. The only use of my birthday that I have approved of is intensive spinning or some such national service. That day must be all work and no play. I cannot imagine any local Board being so foolish as to issue orders to take my image in procession and worship it. I am hoping that my correspondent was wholly misinformed. I should imagine that the issue of such orders will be illegal. As to the assertions and repudiation, I tender my congratulations to my correspondent for them, for I have never aspired after leadership whether religious or political.

The New Congress Province Of Assam

The Congress has now annexed the province of Assam also and a coalition Ministry has been formed in this North-Eastern Frontier Province with Shri Gopinath Bardoloi, the leader of the Congress Assembly Party, as the Premier. The Congress thus controls both the far-flung frontiers of India with the North West Frontier Province and the province of Assam under its sway. Premier Bardoloi in the course of a statement which he issued on assumption of office said: "On the solemn occasion of our assumption of office in this province, I desire that all branches of the services should take note of the policy and programme we are going

to carry out, and of the spirit with which we, the Ministers, are actuated. The policy and programme we intend executing in the province from now onwards, are the programme and policy of the Indian National Congress relating to legislatures. It is with a sense of humanity and with a feeling that we are servants of the people that we assumed office and it is in that spirit that we shall continue to work. The old bureaucratic spirit which separated the Government from the people should disappear now. The Government should feel that this is a government of the people, and the people on their part should feel that this Government is theirs." The formation of the new Ministry has not been altogether uneventful. Even after his resignation and the statement therewith that he felt he no longer enjoyed the confidence of the house the Ex-Premier with his party consisting of reactionary elements did not stop short of putting fresh impediments in the way of the new Ministry. It was also felt that the Governor was also being influenced by the reactionary elements including the European group.

Central Govt. Opposed To Manufacture Of Motor Cars In India

During the Simla session of the Central Assembly Shri T. S. A. Chettiar asked the Government if they had been asked for support by anybody for starting an industry for the manufacture of motor cars in India and with what result. The answer was: "Requests have been received from two parties and these were carefully considered by Government, who, however, find themselves unable to accede to them."

Situation In Rajkot

"Twenty thousand persons in Rajkot have resorted to civil disobedience to win responsible government. There are several young men and women determined to continue the struggle until the goal is achieved," said Mr. W. G. Dhebar, Rajkot Satyagrahis' leader, addressing a meeting at Mandvi recently under Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel's presidency. Mr. Dhebar has been released from jail after serving his term of imprisonment. He went to Bombay to consult Sardar Patel and incidentally to appeal to Rajkot residents there to help the movement. In his opening remarks, Sardar Patel said that the satyagraha movement was conducted in Rajkot on ideal lines of non-violence. The state was making efforts to crush the movement but being a perfectly non-violent one, the struggle was gathering strength every day. The State jails were full and more were courting arrest. The Sardar was con-

fidant that despite repression Rajkot people would win responsible government. Mr. Dhebar said that Praja Mandal had no personal ill-feeling against either the ruler or any member of the ruling family or the Dewan. They were opposed to the present system of administration. There was the State Assembly and they urged that no fresh taxation could be imposed without its approval. The Praja Mandal was determined to obtain responsibility.

Friends Of India

Alderman William Hunter, Labour Mayor of Lambeth, presided over a meeting on October 1, called by the Friends of India in London. There a resolution was carried asking the Nobel Prize Committee in Norway to recommend for the Nobel Peace Award the name of Mahatma Gandhi. A message was received from Mr. George Lansbury, M.P., in which the veteran Pacifist declared that for the achievement of peace Mr. Gandhi's policy was in all the circumstances the best.

Repatriates In India

The short annual report on the working of the Indian Emigration Act VII of 1922 and the rules framed thereunder in the Presidency of Bengal for the year 1937, published from Calcutta says:—The year was remarkable for the fact that there was no emigration of unskilled labourers to countries abroad. On the other hand a considerable number of emigrants returned to India during the year. They were 226 in number as against 995 in the previous year. Of the number returned, 170 came from Fiji, 36 from Mauritius and 20 from the Union of South Africa. No emigrant from British Guiana, Trinidad and Jamaica returned to India during the year. The returned emigrants from the Union of South Africa were repatriated under the new scheme of assisted emigration. All these repatriates, including those who had personal savings, received from the Government of the Union of South Africa the equivalent of £20 as bonus in the case of an adult and £10 for a child on arrival in India. The estates of deceased emigrants were administered by the Protector of Emigrants. Heirs in respect of 18 estates representing Rs. 7,940-1-7 in value were traced and the amount paid to them. The total amount of estates finally disposed of during the year amounted to 22 which is roughly 51 per cent. of the aggregate number under administration, as against 30 per cent. in the preceding year. Three estates valued at Rs. 429 5-7 and owned by emigrants who died in the Colonies lapsed to the Colonial Governments concerned as their heirs could not be traced in India.

The Sporting World

Aryan Cricket Club (Port Elizabeth)

A CUP match between Aryans and Swaraj Cricket Club was played on November 13, on the Aryan ground. The Aryan team batted first and scored in their first innings, 131 for 9 wickets declared. The Swaraj team followed and scored 36 all out in their second innings. The Aryans won by an innings and 51 runs.

South African Open Tennis Championships

Men's singles and doubles open non-European championships for the South African Indian Lawn Tennis Association's trophy, to be won outright, under the aegis of the South African Indian Tennis Association, will commence on December 16 and to be continued on 17, 18, 24 and the finals to be played on 26. As this is the first occasion for the South African titles to be played, wherein entries are open to all tennis enthusiasts irrespective of race, colour or creed, it is anticipated that a record entry will be received by the leading stars of the Indian, Coloured, Bantu and European races. The Tournament Committee has been informed that the leading tennis players from Natal and other provinces will be taking an active part on this unique occasion. It is hoped that tennis enthusiasts will take this opportunity to enter before December 14, when all entries will be closed. No post entries will be accepted. For, failing this chance, they will not be able to participate for several years as the tournament will take place annually in rotation at other provinces. Entry forms and further particulars are obtainable at the following addresses:—The Secretary, Tournament Committee, c/o Mr. H. Khan, 400, Delarey Street, Vrededorp, Johannesburg; Mr. H. Jajbhay, 21st Street, Vrededorp, Johannesburg; The Secretary, South African Indian Lawn Tennis Association, P. O. Box 600, Durban.

Play-Off In Golf Championship

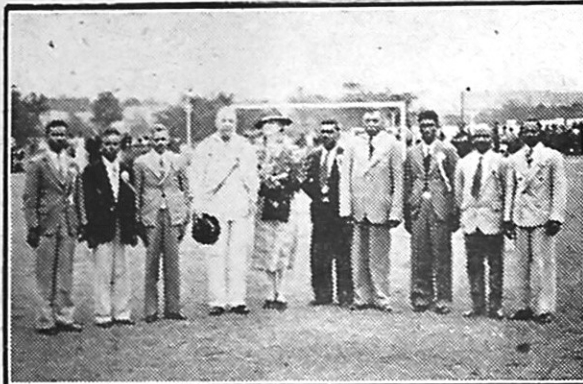
In the play-off for second place in the Natal open golf championship, J. M. Pillay beat A. Wahab by two strokes over 36 holes. Both players gave good exhibitions, the winner being steadier at the finish. The competition for Sewduth's trophy commences on Sunday under medal play conditions and over 36 holes, the first couple to start at 8.30 a.m.

Opening Of Mount Edgecombe New Sports Ground

Thousands of people including Europeans, Indians and Natives were present at the opening of the Indian Sports Ground of Natal Estates, Mount

By "Rambler"

Edgecombe, recently. Mrs. W. A. Campbell was garlanded at the entrance of the ground by Mr. Dwarika Maharaj, chairman of the Natal Estates Central Sports Body. Mrs. Campbell then opened the ground, which is now known as Sheila Marshall Campbell Park, in honour of their beloved daughter. Many prominent members of the European staff of the Natal Estates Ltd. including Mr. W. A. Campbell, Mr. J. W. Bower and Mr. Anderson (Principal, Sastri College), and many prominent Indians were present. Before the commencement of



Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Campbell in the centre with members of the Central Sports Body of Mount Edgecombe

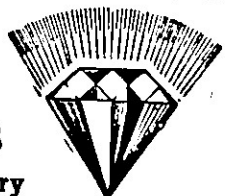
the match, Mr. Campbell, on behalf of Mrs. W. A. Campbell, presented the local club with a silver challenge trophy for annual competition between Sastri College and Natal Estates football teams; the match to be played on the Sheila Marshall Campbell Park each year. Mr. Campbell congratulated Mr. L. J. Case, the president, and the members of the Central Sports Body on their initiative in laying out one of the best grounds in South Africa, and also providing a fine pavilion with changing rooms. Sastri College won the match by beating Natal Estates "A" by 1 nil, and "B" by 3 nil. Thus Sastri College had the honour of playing on such a day, and also of winning Mrs. W. A. Campbell's Floating Trophy.

AN ASTROLOGICAL FORECAST ABOUT THE WORLD SITUATION

The following is purely an astrological forecast of world affairs in the near future based mainly, if not solely, on the horoscopes of the dictators, states a Madras correspondent of an Indian exchange. There will be no major European war during 1938. Though there will be rumours of war and alarms, at the last moment the dictators will hesitate to draw the sword. But the astrolo-

gical aspects for 1939 and 1940 are most ominous. For, these years definitely mark the beginning of the end of the career of Adolf Hitler. One of two things may happen. Either the Army Chiefs will throw Hitler overboard and establish a monarchical form of government. Or Hitler, in a desperate bid for world power, may plunge Germany in war. If Hitler draws the sword, he will undoubtedly perish by the sword. In spite of the idle boast of Goering that Germany possesses the strongest air fleet in the world, swarms of Russian, French and British bombers will invade Germany, and lay desolate her factories, arsenals, aerodromes, dockyards and railway stations. The sufferings of the German people will surpass in intensity and extent any they have endured since the world began. And the peace that will be imposed by the sorely tried but victorious Allies on Germany will be without a parallel in the history of the world. Germany will be split up, and an allied army of occupation for a hundred years will be one of the means devised of preventing Germany from once again disturbing the peace of the world. Mussolini will patch up some sort of agreement with Britain during 1938. But his dark days will be on him with a vengeance during 1939. Everything points to a collapse of the Fascist regime, and the establishment of democracy once again in Italy. In spite of the exaggerated reports of the might of Japan, astrology makes it clear that Japan before very long will sustain a defeat the like of which her people have never known. She will cease to be a first class power. The horoscope of her Emperor clearly shows that Japan will be defeated in war, humbled and humiliated. And thus will Japan, 'the torch-bearer of western civilisation in the East' according to Hitler, plumb the very depths of defeat, misery, humiliation and despair. Democracy will come into its own after 1940. And the horrid nightmare of war which has been poisoning the very founts of existence of the people of the world during the last three years, will definitely disappear for some years to come.

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