

INDIAN OPINION

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LEGAL RESTRICTIONS

"NO man is wise enough to foresee the secondary results of any proposed restriction, and no history is copious enough to record the evils that have ensued upon the denials of liberty. What are that we should sit in judgment! No man can justly censure or condemn another, because indeed no man truly knows another."

DR. GRENVILLE MACDONALD.

Indian Opinion

FRIDAY, 11TH JANUARY, 1946

In A State Of Suspense

ALL South Africa connected with Parliament is foregathering at Cape Town. There is a bustle and a hustle among the people who will be making more laws for the country.

General Smuts with his food cabinet will as food becomes scarcer and scarcer make some announcement on the food position and perhaps on what will be done by his Government in the matter to bring relief to the people. Indians like all other races are suffering.

There are rumours of likely things that Parliament may tackle. The Coalition has been dissolved and we have now five distinct parties in Parliament: The United Party, the Nationalist Party, the Labour Party, the Dominion Party, and the Native Representatives Party. Each of the parties will make Parliament, while it sits, a platform for itself to carry on a propaganda with an eye to the next Parliamentary elections.

The Indian question is always a star question in

Parliament as it is elsewhere in the country. It will no doubt in the present Parliament be a question on which all parties will more or less be agreed as one, as they will not consider the question on an international basis but will concentrate on it as a local racial question which according to them is menacing their supremacy. They desire to exercise their power to do what they will with Indians so that they may segregate or restrict them or deprive them of even their limited rights. Indians must be kept in their place.

It is expected that about the middle of the month or thereabouts some announcement may be made by the Union Government in regard to the Pegging Act and probably some other anti-Indian legislation. There is of course a possibility that the Union Government may not make an announcement till after the return of the High Commissioner from India.

All Indians are in a state of suspense as to what that announcement will be,

realising that soon after the announcement legislation will follow giving them little or no time fully to appreciate the implications of the proposed legislation and to take any constitutional or moral action effectively to uphold any representations they may make against such legislation.

We do not know whether the High Commissioner has gone to India with any proposals that the Union Government has under consideration affecting Indians for consultation with his Government in the hope that he may be directed to take up a position favourable to Indians in this country against any legislation being passed against them. If he is in India without knowing the mind of the Union Government we cannot see what good purpose his going to India will do to the Indian cause unless he has gone to inform them generally of the whole truth of the position of Indians in South Africa.

Much depends upon what will happen to Indians upon the attitude of the Indian Government. If it falters, the Union Government will take full advantage of it. But if it will do everything possible to bring about a Round Table Conference with the Union Government which could work in continuation of the Gandhi-Smuts and Capetown Agreements, then it will achieve something for Indians.

Unfortunately for Indians it cannot at present be said that there is an organisation which is representative of

every section of the community. The swing of the political pendulum, brought about by the undemocratic methods of the past officials, has not gone in the direction of democracy but has swung back to the same old undemocratic methods which are now being practised by others. There has been no attempt made to rope in all workers in the cause. A large body of them are standing aloof though there be among them some who would revive the Pretoria Agreement if they had an opportunity to do so. They would not stand a chance in the community of succeeding.

We have suggested time and again that all workers should meet in a conference unofficially to explore ways and means of bringing about unity on a real democratic basis which would consolidate Indians to act with one voice and with one aim to maintain their self-respect and the honour of their nation.

Unless there is an immediate awakening on the part of all workers to the immediate urgency of their bestirring themselves in the cause of their people they will find if the Union Government does anything that is not acceptable to them that they are not organised to a man to do what self-respecting men and women would do in the circumstances when their honour and their future is being challenged.

GANDHIJI THE TORCH-BEARER OF THE EAST

By A.B.C. In 'The Leader' of Allahabad

GANDHIJI at 75, bent and bespectacled, leaning on his staff and with his face wreathed in broad smiles continues to dominate the Indian political scene even as the mighty snow-clad Himalayas overlook the landscape of India. Various descriptions as a saint and a mountebank, a seditious faqir and a political charlatan, and a combination of Dorothy Dix and Dorothy Thompson, he remains one of the most discussed men of the world. Many a storm which would have swept lesser men off their feet, has blown over his head harmlessly enough. When the fury of the storm has spent itself, he has always emerged, perhaps slightly more bent, but unruffled, beaming and with folded hands.

This attitude not only sums up the man, but has come to be accepted as the symbol of India's inflexible will to survive and win. What is it that has enabled this little man to brave these hazards and to shoulder these responsibilities with such success? An unquenchable flame of patriotism burns in his frail body, and his unshakable faith in his country's destiny and his people sustains him. Suppression only seems to feed the flame and to make it glow brighter and whiter. He realised that 'liberty will not descend to a people, a people must raise themselves to liberty,' and to this task has bended all his energies.

Gokhale was essentially a leader of the middle classes. Tilak could but make tentative contacts with the masses. It was left to Gandhiji to put the spark of life in the inert masses. This by itself was no mean task; it marked the breaking of an altogether new ground. To understand the significance of this move one will have to look back. As the curtain rises on the past of the country one is thrilled by the scene—the lofty pinnacled temples, the beautiful caves hewn out of rocks with their life-like frescoes, the massive fortresses and the Taj Mahal, that dream in marble, all make an impressive background. And still more entrancing is the pageantry of princes and courtiers, poets and soldiers, who pass before you in true Oriental splendour in an endless procession with the masses bending low in admiration and awe. The footlights of

history serve to heighten the grandeur of these kingly personages and mighty warriors, but they leave the masses, who made that richness of life possible, in almost semi-darkness. Gandhiji has made it his duty not only to wrest the lost political freedom but to turn the footlights on the masses. He wants not only freedom, but a democratic freedom broadbased on the goodwill of an awakened people.

Centuries of neglect had made the masses decrepit and like dumb driven cattle. Gandhiji has not only made them articulate but restored their self-respect and human dignity. A generation of selfless work has borne fruits; the message of a new life and freedom already reverberates throughout the length and breadth of the country. A gust of fresh wind sweeps the land, and people of all classes and communities have avidly drunk in this air. This awakening, this stir of new life and the hopeful yearnings of a nation in the making is all the work of one man and it is Gandhiji. This liberation of the spirits of men is indeed a great personal triumph for him. But this personal aspect is of no interest to him. Having shown the magic, he asks no price in return.

Gandhiji is essentially a man of the masses. 'He is the great peasant with a peasant's outlook on affairs, and with a peasant's blindness to some aspects of life.' He is instinctively in tune with the sentiments of the masses, and this has enabled him not only to forge his magic leadership of the masses but to retain it.

He is intensely and narrowly nationalistic in his viewpoint. His first and last preoccupation is the uplift of India. The 'world setting' as such has no use for him. In the darkest hour of England and France during the last war he openly expressed his sympathy for them, but when it came to espousing India's cause, he did not hesitate to give out the now famous 'Quit India' call. He has followed this course even at the risk of exposing himself to charges of inconsistencies.

His views on spinning as the panacea of all ills, his ideas on war and peace, big industry and morality are too well known to require repetition. He sincerely believes, as Asoka and Aknaton believed long ago, that war as an article of government should

be renounced and that the world should be ruled by standards of peace. Yet his pacifism is not of the white-feather variety as the stooges of imperialism have tried to make out. The peace that he dreams of is not the peace of an armed camp, but one based on moral fearlessness and pure courage, and an unselfish regard for one's neighbour. It springs from the finer instincts of men and thrives on a selfless spirit of give-and-take.

Indeed, this idealism with the religious sanction behind it permeates all his being and actions. He has lifted politics to a high spiritual level. Swadeshi, Satyagraha and Ahimsa are but three facets of truth to him. This curious blending of religion and politics, his 'mystic Mumbo-Jumbo,' has often baffled foreigners, and they have shown little patience with it. But they forget that Gandhiji cannot be judged by stereotyped Western conceptions. He belongs to a class of his own where greatness

cannot be measured by any standardised measuring rod. He is not a mere politician but a preceptor who believes that the world and humanity can yet be saved through truth and non-violence. Perhaps, the following lines give expression to his simple faith and creed:—

"So many Gods, so many creeds,
So many paths that wind,
and wind,
While just the art of being kind,
Is all the sad world needs."

May be one day the distracted humanity would learn to follow him!

Ever since his career began in South Africa, he has fearlessly spoken and fought for the poor and the down-trodden, and his life has been one long record of scintillating deeds of service and sacrifice. In the course of his appreciation of Gandhiji, John Gunther has remarked: "What a tremendous dazzling career he has had! His greatest accomplishment is that he has given the Indian people new spirit, new unity. His God, whoever He is, should treat him fondly, when he is gone." I would add: May the great God spare him yet to see the culmination of all his labour and sacrifice!

PROPERTIES SOLD TO INDIANS

INDIANS obtained transfer from Europeans of 21 Durban properties during November. The purchase prices totalled £22,420. During the same period two properties were transferred from Indians to Europeans, and their prices totalled £625.

These figures are included in a report to the Finance Committee of the City Council.

Details are also given of applications for permits by Europeans or non-Europeans to purchase or occupy properties held by members of the other race.

Between December 12 and December 31, 14 applications for permits to purchase were received of which five were granted; while of 12 applications to occupy only one was granted.

This brings the total number of permits applied for to 623, and the number granted to 356.

Details have also been supplied of the values of mortgage bonds passed by Indians between July 31, 1942, and November 30, 1945.

In cases where bonds and transfer were registered simultaneously, the values of bonds totalled £896,290 in predominantly European areas of the Old Borough, £603,175 in other areas of the Old Borough, and £619,105 in the Added Areas.

Values in cases where the mortgagor was already the registered owner were: £547,795 in predominantly European areas of the Old Borough; £505,095 in other areas of the Old Borough; and £851,760 in the Added Areas.

Particulars of individual properties have been given only for the month of November. During that month, cases in which bonds and transfers were registered at the same time numbered four in predominantly European areas of the Old Borough, with a total value of £15,675; two in other areas of the Old Borough, with a value of £4,300; and 27 in the Added Areas, with a value of £20,190.

Cases where the mortgagor was the registered owner were: one with a value of £10,000 in a predominantly European area in the old Borough; one in other areas of the old Borough; and 69, with a value of £57,385, in the Added Areas.

Total values of mortgage bonds were £1,257,540 in the year August, 1942, to July, 1943; £1,054,035 in 1943-4; £1,129,450 in 1944-5; and £474,645 for the period August, 1945, to October, 1945.

SAPA-REUTER NEWS

MISS SLADE'S EXPLANATION

Bombay, Saturday.

MISS MADELEINE SLADE, daughter of an admiral, who 20 years ago left British society to live as a disciple in Mahatma Gandhi's establishment, has herself explained why, a few weeks ago, she left Mahatma Gandhi to set up her own ashram in northern India.

She says: "Far away in the north of India, in a little mud-built ashram looking toward the eternal snows of the great Himalayas, whiffs from London of malicious propagandist gossip about Mahatma Gandhi and myself have reached me..... whiffs of a dying imperialism which have penetrated the fresh air of these faraway hills.

Exactly 20 years ago, my heart filled with unbounded reverence and love, I came to Mahatma Gandhi. From that day to this my feelings have not changed. If there has been any development within me it has been one of ever-deepening realisation of the simple greatness of him to whom I came.

During our incarceration in the Aga Khan's Palace I discussed in detail my plan for starting a small ashram of my own in the north of India where, climatically, temperamentally and linguistically, I am at home. After our release Mahatma Gandhi put a nucleus of 50,000 rupees at my disposal for starting the scheme. It took me five months to seek out a spot—in the midst of fields surrounded by little Hindu-Muslim villages, about eight miles from the nearest town and ten miles from the first range of the Himalayas foothills, beyond which the mountains rise one range above the other to the everlasting snows.

Just a year ago I took possession of the land and by the middle of the summer had built up an ashram, with local labour, out of mud, grass and wood. I have now collected together a few workers trained in arts and crafts, and work in the villages is going on, including free medical aid for which poor peasants come from long distances—sometimes 15 to 20 miles across the fields.

The ashram is like a little farmstead with its cattle and buildings. I have named 'Kisan Ashram'—kisan meaning peasant, for we are here to serve the kisans and, in order to know how to do that, we must ourselves lead the kisans life.

A small mud and grass cottage has been built for Mahatma

Gandhi and he is expected here on a visit in two or three months time. It was I who built the original cottages of Sevagram according to Mahatma Gandhi's own direction, and the the place of those days really represented his ideals. But later on others came and began putting up brick houses until the place had become a little town. To my mind it had become quite spoiled and I left it. Here I have been free to build in my own way and I think when Mahatma Gandhi visits the place he will feel at home.

So much for my break with Mahatma Gandhi. As for the talk that I have become a communist—no communist would care to acknowledge me with my unbreakable belief in God and my innate dislike of modern wholesale mechanisation as a comrade.

Certainly I believe peace cannot come to the world until capitalism is removed and the poor man is set on his feet in all countries. But that does not make me a communist—and if it does, then Mahatma Gandhi is one also."

Gandhiji's Relationship With Capitalists

Calcutta, Wednesday.

Mahatma Gandhi described his relationship with capitalists as "ethical" when questioned at a Congress Workers meeting as to the attitude of Congress to the struggle between capital and labour. "Speaking for myself" Mahatma Gandhi said "I freely accept the hospitality of capitalists like Birlas, and make use of their money to serve the cause of the poor, but capitalists expect nothing in return from me. On the contrary they are glad to be exploited by me in the interests of the poor." Similarly, Mahatma Gandhi added, Congress, while accepting financial help and co-operation from capitalists in the fight for independence, never was and never could be a capitalist organisation.

Sapru Conciliation Committee

Bombay, Thursday.

The Sapru Conciliation Committee of Indian non-party leaders in its proposals for India's future constitution, published today, rejects all schemes of partition for India and recommends that the constitution making body should proceed on the basis of framing a constitution for a single State. The recommendations, drawn up in

answer to the British Government's invitation to Indian leaders to come to a settlement among themselves, are signed by Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru, chairman of the committee, Mr. Mukund M. Jayakar, Sir N. Gopaldaswami Ayyangar and Kuvwar Sir Jagdish Prasad. The committee considers that Parliamentary government is not unsuited to India and prescribes adult franchise and joint electorates (with a reservation of seats) conceding to the Muslims parity with the Hindus in the union assembly. A stipulation is made, however, that these recommendations should go jointly and should the Muslims insist on separate electorates not only should the parity offer be withdrawn but Hindus should be free to ask for a revision of the communal award. The committee does not accept secession or non-accession whereby individual provinces or States can keep out of the union and recommends the withdrawal of this provision from the 1942 offer of Sir Stafford Cripps. On the subject of unfederated states the Committee says the British suzerainty will have to cease to exist and the new union centre (federal cabinet) will exercise paramountcy of jurisdiction over the unfederated states. The committee hopes that the rulers of the States will not object to this inevitable development.

Burmah Strike

Bombay, Monday.

More than 2,7000 employees of Burmah Shell, Standard, Vacuum and Caltex oil companies who have been on strike for three weeks for a victory bonus, have cabled the Prime Minister, Mr. Att'ee, and President Truman, asking for immediate attention to their grievances. The companies handle practically the whole of India's fuel oil imports.

Using tear gas, the Bombay City Police dispersed 500 strikers of the Burmah Shell Oil Company who attempted to rush the Company's oil storage workshops at Sewri in the Bombay harbour area. The mob overwhelmed the police in the rush. The trouble began after the Burmah Shell Oil Storage Company issued a notice saying that the strikers services would be dispensed with unless they resumed work immediately. About 1,400 of the Company's employees have been on strike for five weeks. They are demanding a victory bonus.

Gandhiji On Subhas Bose

Contai (Bengal) Wednesday.

Mahatma Gandhi, addressing Congress workers here, said he believed that Subhas Chandra Bose was still alive. (Bose, an Indian nationalist, raised the

"Indian National Army" which fought with the Japanese against the British in Burma. Tokio reported in August that he had been killed in a plane crash.) I admire Bose's courage and patriotism but I do not believe in the methods he adopted, said Mahatma Gandhi. The people of India cannot win freedom by the sword.

Sentence Remitted By Commander-in-Chief

New Delhi, Thursday.

General Claude Auchinleck, Commander-in-chief, India, has remitted the sentence of transportation for life passed by a court martial on Captain Shah Nawaz Khan, Captain Saigal and Lieutenant Dhillon. The three men, all Indians, are former members of the Indian Army. They were found guilty of having been members of the Japanese sponsored "Indian National Army," and of waging war against the King. General Auchinleck confirmed the sentence of cashiering and forfeiture of appears of pay and allowances passed on the men. All three were released.

Clashes In Bombay

Bombay, Friday.

One person was killed and six injured in clashes yesterday during polling in a primary panel election for two seats in the Bombay Legislative Assembly. The two seats were reserved for "scheduled" (depressed) castes. The trouble was between untouchables supporting Congress and other untouchables supporting "scheduled" caste's federation. Six arrests were made.

Fifty people, including three policemen, were injured when police tried to control the crowd at the funeral of an Indian who was killed in a clash yesterday during polling for two seats in the Bombay Legislative Assembly. The crowd held up traffic, pelted passing trams and buses with stones and forced pedestrians to join the funeral procession. The police made a lathi charge.

Jinnah Meets Wavell

New Delhi, Saturday.

Mohammed Ali Jinnah, president of the All-India Moslem League, had a long interview with Field-Marshal Lord Wavell, the Viceroy.

British Occupation Of Japan

London, Saturday.

New Delhi radio, broadcasting a G.H.Q., India, announcement on plans for partial occupation of Japan by British Commonwealth troops, said the occupation forces will be drawn from Great Britain, Australia, New Zealand and India and will be

under the command of Lieutenant-General John Northcott, the Australian Commander-in-Chief, who has been appointed Commander-in-Chief of the British Commonwealth occupation forces. They will work under the United States command for all operational matters.

Parliamentary Delegation In India

Karachi, Saturday. A British All-Party Parliamentary Delegation arrived here today on a good-will visit to India.

Action Wanted

New Delhi, Sunday. The British Parliamentary Delegation to India wanted action on India's constitutional position in the next few months, and not 200 years, said Mr. Robert Richards, a Labour member of Parliament and leader of the delegation, at the delegation's first press conference. The delegates were asked some blunt questions by journalists who wanted to know whether the visit was a way of postponing Indian independence, why it was necessary after 200 years' association with India to send a delegation when the simple issue was that India should be left alone to work out her own destiny; and if the goodwill expressed by the delegation would crystallise into speedy action. Mr. G. Nicholson (Conservative) said: "let us not waste time in recriminations about the past. It is not going to help us in our work nor you in yours." Mr. R. Hopkin Morris (Liberal) said the questions raised clearly justified the delegation's visit. The delegation held a brief consultation when they were asked whether they would have access to documents relating to prisoners held without trial. Lord Munster, Under-Secretary for India in 1943 and 1944, eventually replied, "I think we can ask for and obtain any papers we wish to see." Mr. Richards said the delegation would consider fundamental questions such as India's strategic position in any security arrangement for South-East Asia.

Weapon For Gaining India's Freedom

Calcutta, Sunday. Breaking a six months silence on political matters, Mahatma Gandhi today spoke of civil disobedience as a weapon for gaining India's national objective. He said "civil disobedience is a storehouse of power. Imagine a whole people unwilling to conform to the laws of the legislature, and prepared to suffer the consequences of non-compliance.

They will bring the whole machinery to a standstill."

Congress May Start Another Struggle

Jacobabad, Monday. Speaking at Jacobabad (Sind) Pandit Nehru said if Congress accepted office it would be on the "Quit India" basis. "After the elections Congress should take up its programme where it left it at the time of the passing of the 'Quit India' resolution in 1942 and prepare the country

for the final struggle." If after the British Government did not offer a reasonable plan, Congress would have to start another struggle. He exhorted people to get ready for it.

Pakistan Against Spirit Of The Times

Bombay, Monday. The Congress leader Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru at an election meeting at Sukkur in Sind said "I desire the federation of India, Burma, Malaya, Ceylon, Persia

and Afghanistan." He was referring to the question of Pakistan (the division of India into separate Hindu and Moslem states) which he said would mean slavery for ever. He added that even if the British Government and the Moslem League agreed on Pakistan it could not come to that as the Hindus and Sikhs would oppose it. The communal problem would dissolve itself when the British left India, Pakistan, he declared, was against the spirit of the times.

BOWLING PLANS NEW TOWNSHIP AND PARK SOUTH OF JOHANNESBURG

PROPOSALS for a new township to accommodate 60,000 industrial workers and their families, and for the creation of a national park and bird sanctuary near Johannesburg, appear in a report on regional planning prepared by Colonel P. J. Bowling, the Town Planning Consultant, for submission to Johannesburg City Council.

The report concerns the southern area of Johannesburg only. In order to provide for expansion to the south of Johannesburg, Colonel Bowling recommends a new town on the railway at Lenz. It would lie in the Klip River Valley; the northern boundary would be the line of hills running south of Ormonde, and the southern boundary to the ridge running south of Cyferfontein 17 to Zwartkopjes 43.

The area is generally flat between the hills, and the land reasonably good. The natural expansion of industrial development is to the south, but is checked by the wedge of proclaimed mining land, south of which is a belt of broken, hilly country. The nearest substantial area of land suitable for new industrial development is in the Klip River Valley.

The area between midway and Lawley, centred on Lenz, offers the greatest opportunities for development. Power and water could readily be made available, while the provision of railway sidings would offer no difficulty.

European residential areas for workers could be provided eastwards and north eastwards of an existing European settlement at Lawley station. Buffers to separate this from the industrial and non-European areas could be provided by spruets and road parks. Township development east of the Parys road should not be permitted until the residential zone west of the road had been

developed up to three-quarters of the available area.

Colonel Bowling considered that Cyferfontein should not be used for European development. It had been suggested as suitable for native ownership, which fitted in with the zoning scheme, but would be better if confined to the use of natives employed in the proposed industrial area.

Plans had been prepared for extensions to Orlando Township. Native labour and the provision of native housing was not the job of Johannesburg City Council, but of the Peri-Urban Areas Health Board in control of the areas.

More native townships to serve the region would be necessary unless, by arrangements with the Council, future extensions of Orlando, embracing Volkshaven, could become a joint plan for both areas. Otherwise part of Cyferfontein should be made available.

The township of Volkshaven had been proclaimed for coloured persons and Asiatics, and a new township, Protea, was also being considered. The area between Protea and Volkshaven must therefore, also be considered for non-European purposes, and three townships—Albertyn, Avalon and Bentley—had been proposed. Parts of these should be set aside for Asiatics.

Near Nancefield several non-European townships had been applied for, including the private proposed township of Moonshville for Asiatics. These townships were within the area earmarked for non-European occupation, but the approval of these townships by the townships Board depended partly on Council's declaration of its attitude towards the general planning of the southern districts. The Council had proposed an Indian township at Diekloof, which the Government had offered to the city at about £330,000

for 900 acres. A small area necessary to complete the proposed township had been offered by a mining group at £125 an acre.

Some councillors said Diekloof joined the European areas of Ormonde and Meredale and European residents had objected to the establishment of an Indian township so near their borders. They had suggested that all non-European development should be confined to the opposite side of the Potohefstrom Road, round the Orlando Power Station, thus avoiding any friction.

It was pointed out that the Indian community of Johannesburg was suffering from an acute shortage of housing accommodation. The areas already exempted to provide for them were overcrowded and something should be done to provide them with adequate new residential areas where no friction with European residents would arise.

The Council should indicate its policy on this point soon, to avoid delays in the provision of such townships.

Colonel Bowling points out that, south of Ormonde and Turfontein 19, a range of wooded and picturesque hills forms the most attractive piece of country near Johannesburg. Three good north-to-south roads out through it, and there were small streams.

"This range should be held for the public in perpetuity as a natural park. It would afford a bird sanctuary, and could be stocked with small game. The Rees towns possess no major open spaces of this kind. Its value as a people's park and picnic resort would become increasingly evident. I strongly suggest that a movement should be set on foot to acquire this land for the purpose I have outlined."

INDIA LETTER

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT)

Mahatma Gandhi And His Departments

MAHATMA GANDHI is expected to visit Bardoli on the conclusion of his Madras tour. He will reach Madras on Wednesday the 23rd January from Calcutta. He will preside over the Silver Jubilee function of the Hindi Pracharak Sabha on the 24th. It is stated that Gandhiji is interested in promoting a unique kind of exhibition integrating all his fourteen departments, Khadi, All India Village Industries Association, Hindustani Talimi Sangh, Hindi Prachar Sabha etc. so that workers of all departments could have chances of coming into close contact in developing all the fourteen departments simultaneously. It is also proposed to have a conference of constructive workers of Gandhian school with the object of integrating all the fourteen departments. Sri Vinoba Bhave who is acknowledged to have mastered the Gandhian technic will preside over the above Workers' Conference summoned in Madras during Gandhiji's stay. Preparations are going on among the workers of Gandhian school here to participate in the above exhibition as well as the Conference. It is understood workers from all parts of India will attend the Conference.

Elections In India

With the declaration of results of the elections of the three Constituencies in Bengal, viz., Dacca-cum Mymensingh Muhammadan Constituency, Backergunge-cum-Faridpur Muhammadan Constituency and Dacca non-Muhammadan Constituency, during the week-end, the elections to the Central Legislature are over. Out of the 102 elective seats, the Congress has captured 56, the Muslim League 30, Europeans 8, and Independents 8. The Congress contested 62 seats including 2 Muslim constituencies in Bengal, 2 Sikhs in the Punjab, 9 special constituencies and 49 general seats. They lost both the communal seats. They also lost two seats in the special constituencies, Bombay Landholders' Constituency and Bihar Landholders' Constituency by narrow margin of votes. In the Bombay Landholders' Constituency the Independent candidate secured 232 votes against the Congress candidate who secured 225 votes, the former won the seat by a majority of 7 votes. In Bihar Landholders' Constituency, the Independent candidate secured 68 votes as against 46 by the Congress can-

didate, the former winning the seat by a majority of 22 votes. The Congress captured all the 49 general constituencies.

The Muslim contested only 30 seats, safely omitting the two seats in the North Western Frontier Province and Delhi where joint electorates are prevailing. The Congress captured these two seats through the majority of voters are Muslims. This is a significant proof that in joint electorate, the Muslim League will not be able to capture any seat. The Muslim League can thrive only in a narrow field of communal electorate.

Though the Congress has won only 56 seats it will command 61 seats as the representatives of U.P. Landholders, Bengal Landholders and Bengal commerce and also 2 Akhalis will always vote with them. The representative of Bengal commerce had declared on the eve of the election that he would always vote with the Congress in every division. The representative of Bengal Landholders Constituency is a Congress though he did not contest the election on the Congress ticket. The representative of U.P. Landholders' constituency had announced that he would stand by the Congress. The two Akhalis who have been returned from the Punjab, though they defeated the Congress candidates in the elections have also stated that they would vote with the Congress in all important divisions. The other two independents, viz. representatives of Bombay and Bihar landholders will not certainly vote with the Muslim League and in all important issues they might vote with the Congress.

The results of the elections clearly show that there are three main groups in the Assembly. The Congress which has a predominant majority of 61 to 64, the Muslim League with 30 votes and Europeans with 8. The official block will consist of 26. 14 non-officials will be nominated.

In the previous Assembly, the Congress had only 34 seats at the time of the dissolution of the Assembly. The Nationalist Group has been totally eliminated. A party must have at least 10 votes to claim a separate block. Europeans have only 8. They will always admit one Anglo-Indian nominated member into the party and they might also get one non-official European out of the 14 nominated members. So in the coming

Assembly there will be only 3 blocs outside the Government and nominated benches. The alignment of parties will be known only when the Assembly meets in Delhi.

The results of the Central Assembly elections clearly show that the Congress is the only party which has a hold in the country commanding votes from all sections of the population including the minorities. Though Mr. Jinnah claims that the League is the only spokesman of the Minority Community, his claim could not be accepted in as much as it is based on separate electorates. The results of the provincial elections are awaited with interest.

Mahatma Gandhi And Governor Casey

HIS Excellency Mr. Richard Casey, Governor of Bengal, resumed his conversations with Mahatma Gandhi during this week. It is said these talks relate to the settlement of the steps to give effect to the plans which the British Government propose to put forward to solve the Indian political problem immediately after the Provincial elections. One does not know whether the British Government has disclosed to Mahatma Gandhi an outline of its plan, but the step to implement the programme is a necessary item to be negotiated between the Congress and the British Government. It is believed that these discussions will lead to a further interview between Mahatma Gandhi and Lord Wavell sometime middle of January before Gandhiji leaves Bengal for Madras.

Indo-British Treaty

It is reported that the preliminary work of drafting the Indo-British Treaty has begun in New Delhi. Sir Narasing Rau, Special Officer, Reforms Officer, Government of India, has been studying problems connected with the signing of the Treaty. The terms of reference are the same as laid down in regard to Cripps proposals, viz., the proposed Treaty will cover all necessary matters arising out of complete transfer of responsibility from British to Indian hands making provision in accordance with the British Government's undertaking for the protection of racial, religious minorities, but without imposing any restriction in Indian Unions' power to decide in future its relationship with other member states of the British Commonwealth. It is learnt that similar preliminaries have been worked out at the India Office, London.

Hassett's Impressions Of Cricket Tour In India

Hassett writing in the *Hindu* (Madras) his impressions about the recent cricket tour says that there are many efficient young cricketers all about the same standard. He would have Merchant, Mushtaq Ali, Amarnath, Hazare, Modi and Hafeez as batsmen. The selection of the bowlers would be a difficult problem, but C. S. Nayudu could not be left out. India will have to depend on her spinners to a large extent and she is lucky that she has such a wide selection here, C. S. Nayudu, Amir Elahi, Inderjit, Sarwate and Shinde. Lefthand spinners generally prove successful in England. India has Mankad, Tarapore, Ramsingh. The best of the other type of spinners are Ghulam Ahmed and Choudhury. The former put up a very impressive performance at Madras. All Australian players who batted against him hold a high opinion of him. Choudhury bowled well on the dampish Calcutta wicket and would prove invaluable to the English tour if he is lucky enough to strike a wet season. Fast bowlers are not any easy problem. Bannerji and C. R. Rangachari appear to be outstanding but it is doubtful whether they are so good that they could both be taken as an opinion combination. Wicket-keeping also presents a problem. In none of the three test matches was the wicket-keeping up to first class standards. Young Imtiaz Ahmed, Lahore, is the best. Rege and Phadkar, other two players deserve notice. The result of the English tour depends mainly upon the ability to face excellent fast medium attack. British bowlers' efficiency, at boths winging and seaming the ball will prove disconcerting to young inexperienced bat. If India selects a team which blends experience with youth, England will have to be wide awake to defeat them.

India's Steel

Dr. John Matthai, a director of the Tata Steelworks at Jamshedpur, in the province of Bihar, said recently that the Government of India was basing its plans for industrial development on the possibility of doubling India's steel output from about 1,500 to 3,000,000 tons annually within the next five to seven years.

Things In General

Laundry Worker's Demand

About one thousand Indians and natives met at Nicols Square. Miss Betty Du Toit National Secretary Laundry workers put forward final demands of Durban Laundry workers to a meeting. Following five demands had been before the employers' Association.

(1) Every worker, irrespective of the pay he received, must have an increase of 5s. basic rate of pay.

(2) The employee must have a sick benefit society, both employer and employee contributing to the fund.

(3) There must be one extra paid holiday each year.

(4) The employer must recognise the Union, and give the workers a "closed shop."

(5) There must be no victimisation against those workers who had participated in the strike.

Some 40 members of the S.A. Police and Borough Police attended the Nicols Square meeting.

Employers' Attitude

There is a complete deadlock in the laundry strike. The Employers' Association will not enter into negotiations with the Workers' Union until the present constitution of the union is changed, nor will they consider the five demands made by the union. Mr. H. A. Mason, president of Employers' Association in a statement to "The Natal Mercury," said: "The position as far as the employers' organisation is concerned is as concrete as ever and the demands put forward by the Employees' will be not entertained. As long as certain elements remain in the union we will not enter into negotiations with them." Mr. Mason said that they had an "eye opener" regarding the manner in which the strike had been conducted and there could be no consideration of negotiations taking place between the Employers' Association and the Laundry Workers' Union until there had been a "cleansing within the union."

Prayer For Rain

We received delivery too late from the post of a wire from the Secretary of the Prime Minister for publication in the last issue. The wire reads as follows: As announced in Press Wednesday 9th January has been appointed by the Government as day of humiliation and prayer for rain or where that day presents difficulty earliest convenient day. It is the Government's earnest hope that as many communities as possible will co-operate and your assistance to that end will be deeply appreciated.

Port Shepstone Indian Farmers Protest

Indian farmers in Port Shepstone demonstrated against the decision of the Town Council which was communicated through the Market Master saying that the Council refuse to allow Indian marketers a further four months in which to pay their stall rents. Owing to keen competition for stall space the borough this year increased the average rental from £195 to £460. The farmers upset by the message of the Town Council conveyed by the Market Master, pulled their produce from the stalls and dumped it on the floor of the market. They even dragged it to the sidewalk where they sold their produce to the public at prices below those generally obtained in the market. The Mayor explained to the farmers that the Council was bound to enforce payment in terms of the agreement posted on the public board. The farmers declared that drought and poor crops had made it practically impossible for them to fulfil the agreement. A special meeting of the Council was called to discuss the whole position. Indians also held a meeting. According to the Market Master a temporary crisis has arisen in view of the fact that the Shepstone market is the main produce supply for the entire South Coast. Produce will be sold by Indian hawkers until such time as agreement is arrived at between the farmers and the Town Council. This would result in great inconvenience to hotel owners, who are already hard pressed to meet the demand of seasonal visitors, and would also involve a loss of revenue to the Council.

Non-European Railway Passenger Association

The Non-European Railway passenger Welfare Association in Durban has made an appeal to the Railway Administration to receive a deputation from this Association. The Association would like the Administration to provide more third and second class accommodation for non-Europeans on all routes.

Mr. Mohanlal R. Parekh

The Overport Hindu Association and Overport and District Tamil and Telugu Protective Association is jointly according a reception to one of its Patrons, Mr. Mohanlal R. Parekh on the occasion of his intending visit shortly to India at the S.R.S. Hall, 105, Hill Street, Overport, Durban, on Sunday 13th January at 2 p.m. Immediately after the conclusion of the above function

the Overport and District Tamil and Telugu Protective Association will celebrate "Pongal". Mr. S.M. Pillay of Sydenham will deliver a lecture on the significance of Pongal. Mr. R. Appasamy Maistry will preside.

Enteric Cases Reported

Four cases of enteric fever occurred in Maritzburg during the past month. Three of the cases were Indian adults and the fourth was a European child. Dr. M. Maister, the Medical Officer of Health, told the *Natal Mercury* that a close watch was being kept on possible sources of infection.

Chibba-Ratanjee Wedding

At Bloemhof, Transvaal, on Sunday the 30th December 1945, the Wedding took between Mr. Bookhandass Maganlall, son of Mr. Maganlall Chibba, of the firm of Messers. M.V. Riga, and Co., of Ladysmith and Durban and Miss Laxmi Devi Ratanjee of Mr. Ratanjee Ramjee, Bloemhof, Transvaal, took place Amid a large gathering of relatives and friends.

Harry-Hary And Harry-Dhaya Weddings

A double wedding, took place at Queenstown, when the two daughters of Mr. R. B. Harry, of Queenstown, were wedded to the sons of Messers L. Harry and G. Dhaya, of East London.

Death In India

Mr. S. B. Mehd received the very sad news on Thursday 10th January from his family in India that his elder brother's daughter's husband had died at the age of 25. They were married on the 12th December 1945. Deceased passed away a week after the marriage. The whole family mourns the loss. We express our heartfelt sympathy towards Mr. Mehd and the whole family. May God grant them peace and courage to bear their great loss.

Obituary

Death occurred on Monday the 7th January of Govan Bhana only brother of Mr Hira Bhana after a short illness. He leaves behind him his wife two children, brother and a host of other relatives to mourn the sad loss.

Notes By F. G. C.

I wish the taking of a bioscope could be given to the Rev. W. H. Satchell in mark of what he has been doing for the Indians in Natal and to facilitate his visiting those in need of his help.

Bunyan's Pilgrim's Progress has been translated into more languages than any book except the Bibles and Bishop Norman

H. Tubbs, a former bishop of Rangoon, has ably produced a modern version emphasising the main teachings but avoiding much that is tiring to present-day readers. The work, which may be obtained for one shilling from the S. P. O. K. with postage extra, reminds us that, among many Indians, white is a sign of mourning and brings the subject up to modern requirements and adaptable to conditions outside the surroundings in which Bunyan was for long imprisoned. Much of matter included in this book of 61 pages was included in addresses given at Ohesters Cathedral. From here a pleasing evening service was recently heard over the wireless in Durban when Bishop Tubbs stressed the way racial differences may be overruled and Christians united in the one faith.

IN AGONY FOR SEVEN MONTHS

ADVICE BRINGS RELIEF IN 2 WEEKS

IN a letter from her home at Tierlangto, Jansenville, Mrs. Fredericka van der Merwe describes her trying ordeal during seven long months of agony. Suffering such pain that she was not even able to lie comfortably in bed, Mrs. van der Merwe was advised by friends to take R.U.R. She did, and the result was remarkable.



Mrs. F. v. D. MERWE

Within two weeks the agony she had suffered so long had left her—she was completely well again. This is what she writes in gratitude for the relief she received through R.U.R.:

"After suffering for seven months with frightful pains in my shoulders and arms, and at night not knowing where to put my arms because they certainly couldn't be under the blankets, I read Mrs. Robbins' testimonial in the newspaper and immediately bought a packet of R.U.R. I have used it for two weeks, and I can assure you that I am completely relieved of all my pains; I eat and sleep well. Thank you R.U.R."

Writing some months later, Mrs. van der Merwe added: "I still feel completely well since using R.U.R. Now a number of my friends are using it too."

R.U.R. brought Mrs. van der Merwe lasting benefit because it removed the cause of her trouble. R.U.R. works with a five-fold health action—laxative, liver stimulant, kidney cleanser, blood purifier and acid correctivo. Take R.U.R. and Right You Are!

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N.U.C. EXAMINATION RESULTS

The following candidates have passed in the courses shown at the B.A., B.Sc. examinations:—

Bughirathe, Rambutty (English II—Sociology I pending); Bugwandin, Kaunayee Parsad (History I, Politics I—Psychology I and Economics II pending); Chetty, Nadasen Moonsamy (Education); Choocoo, Frederick (English II, Education); Chotai, Sookraj (English II, History II, Economics and Economic History I); Durga, Thuka Ram (Geography I—Sociology I pending); Hurban, Madanlall (History III, Politics II—Public International Law pending); Ismail, Muhamed Alli (History I, English I, Geography I); Ismail, Sheik Moosa (English II, History II, Education—S.A. Criminal Law pending); Joshua, Leslie Gokhale (History III, Politics II—Public International Law pending); Jumna, Rohit (English II, Psychology I, Politics I); Khan, Jaffer (English III, Geography III); Kuarsing, Madho Sing (Economics and Economic History I, History II); Lawrence, George Anthony Clement (English III); Lunking, George (English I, Politics I, Psychology I); Magharajh, George Khemrajh (English III, Politics II)—Public International Law pending); Maharaj, Ohundermanpersadh Ticka (Geography I); Maharaj, Lilawathie Sosheila (English II, History II, Psychology I, Politics I); Maharaj, Seeparsadh Roopan (History III, Psychology II); Meer, Ahmed Ismail (English II—South African Criminal Law pending); Misra, Jadunath (English II, History II); Misra, Kedar-nath (English II, History II); Mistry, Umbur Jhuria (English III, History III); Mohabir, Mohun (English I, History I); Moodley, Moonsamy Nadasen (English III, History III); Moodley, Narasmulu Thavarajan (Psychology II, History III, English I); Moodley, Savabathy Ganas (English III, Politics II—Roman Dutch Law pending); Moodley, Shunmoogam Karapana (History II—Const. Law pending); Moodley, Soobramoney Moonsamy (English III, History III); Moodley, Soobriah Nadasen (English I, Education—Sociology I and Mathematics I pending); Naicker: Juguath Parthasardhy (History III, Politics II—Public International Law pending); Naidoo, Appanah Jogi (Politics II, Eco-

nomics and Economic History I—Constitutional Law pending); Naidoo, Bungaree Appanah (English III, Geography III—Sociology I pending); Naidoo, Chengannah Appanah (History II, English II—Psychology I and Const. Law pending); Naidoo, Dhasaratha (English III); Naidoo, Joseph Anthony Moothoo (English III); Naidoo, Loganathan Munsamy (History I, Politics I—Education pending); Naidoo, Moonsamy Vengetsamy (Sociology I and S.A. Criminal Law pending); Naidoo, Ramakrishna Kanaknah (English III—Public International Law pending); Naidoo, Ramamurthie Simin (Geography II, English II, Psychology I—Economics and Economic History I pending); Naidoo, Ramanjaloo David (History II, Education); Naidoo, Sashma (English III); Naidoo, Shunmoogan (English I, Pub. International Law—Politics I pending); Naidoo, Sunasy Jooee (English I, Geography I—Politics I pending); Naidoo, Viraragavaloo Krishnasamy (English II, History II, Economics and Economic History I—Sociology II pending); Naidu, Jogi Ganga (History II, English II); Naidu, Kaisavelu (English II, Education, Economics and Economic History I); Nair, Valayuthen Ramen (Politics II, History III—Pub. International Law pending); Narayadu, Ambrose Gabriel (History II—Sociology I pending); Nayliger, Poongavanum Coop-samy (English I, History I, Politics I); Padayachi, Arunaghary (English III, History III—Pub. International Law pending); Padayachee, Rathamoney (English I, History I, Politics I); Paruman, Pensamy (English II, History II); Pather, Sadiavan Masilamoney (English II, History II, Education—Const. Law pending); Pather, Ruthenam Sathasivan (History II—S.A. Criminal Law and Constitutional Law pending); Perumal, Rungasamy (English II); Pillay, Candasamy Gopaul (English I); Pillay, Chookanadan Govindasamy (English II, History II—Sociology II pending); Pillay, Magandan Govindasamy (Economics and Economic History I pending).

Pillay, Parthasarathy Perumal (Economics and Economic History I); Pillay, Rathinsamy Govindasamy (History III, Politics II—Public International Law

pending); Pillay, Srinivasen Manickum (English I, Politics I, History I); Ramgulam, Angath (Psychology II—Pub. Int. Law pending); Ramjughadh, Dhavnarain (Economics and Economic History I, English II, History II); Ramrack, Frederik Maurice (English I, History I); Ramsaroop, Muuroop (English I, Education, History II); Reddy, Kista Lutchana (English I, Geography I, Latin I, History I); Sanichur, Salikram (English I, History I—Sociology I pending); Sarawan, Seslie Vernon (Education); Seeraj, Balthaw (English I, Geography I); Sewpersadh, Harriduth (English II—Latin II, S.A. Crim. Law and History I pending); Singh, Cha-toor Tneophil (Politics I, English I); Singh, Ramohundar Namdar (English II, History II, Economics and Economic History I—Education pending); Singh, Sur-joo Narain (English I, History I); Subban, Manickum (Psychology I, Education, Geography I); Sundrum, Jesulas Harold (Psychology I); Thaker, Natwarlal Harilal (English I, Psychology I—Sociology I and S.A. Crim. Law pending); Thammiah, Stephen Bangaroo (English III); Thomas, Vadival (Economics and Economic History I—Sociology I pending); Thumbadoo, Kunniyah (Sociology I, and Economic Geography pending); Vahed, Abdul Kaler Ismail (English III—Roman Law II pending); Varathaiyah, Kasavulu (English I).

B.A.

The following candidates have completed the requirements for the B.A. degree:—Chain, Rampershad Ramathan; Chetty, Shunmugam Strinivas, Singh, Radhie.

B.Com.

The following candidates have passed in the courses shown at the B.Com. and B.Econ. examinations:—Bhoola, Jannadas Thakor Narotam (English I, Economics and Economic History I); Hurban, Gopallal (English I, Economics and Economic History I); Sohawan, Hiranman (English I, Economics and Economic History).

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Saturday, 2nd February, 1946, 9.12 a.m.

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Wednesday, 30th January 1946, 3.5.30 p.m.

Saturday, 2nd February, 1946, 9.12 a.m.

(Last day for receiving loan applications.)

For students Already in Attendance:

Tuesday, 5th February, 1946, 3.5.30 p.m.

Thursday, 7th February, 1946, 3.5.30 p.m.

For All Students: Saturday, 9th February, 1946, 9.12 a.m.

At other times by appointment. Enrolments received later than 9th February, 1946, will not be taken into account when drawing up the Time Tables.

Further particulars and all necessary forms can be provided on application to the Organizer of the Non-European Courses, 24, Clair Avenue, Manor Gardens, or the Secretary, by appointment, phone 28982, or the Organizer of Non-European Courses, Natal University College, P. O. Box 1525, Durban.

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