

Indian Opinion

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NOTES AND NEWS

THE following radio message has been received by the S.A. Indian Congress (Capetown) from Mrs. Sarojini Naidu, on board the *Karangola* :—

"My cordial thanks to the Cape for its magnificent hospitality and response. I hope the Congress will adequately and loyally fulfil its high function as the authentic voice of the Indian people and the only true representative of their interests and demands"

Lord Olivier (Secretary for India), in a speech delivered at an Oxford Union debate, referring to Kenya, said (says a Reuter's message from London dated June 2), that he had publicly expressed his distaste for the situation created there, and it must be recognised that both the Labour and Liberal Parties on this point sympathised with Sastri and Sapru. He thought the colour bar was fatal to the British Empire, and his Party was not going to attempt to save the British Empire by imposing disabilities on their fellow subjects.

An informal meeting of Indians was called last Wednesday the 4th instant, at the instance of the Durban Port Health Officer (Dr. Fernandez) by the Chief Magistrate at his office to discuss the question of the detention of small pox contacts on arrival of Indian boats at the Port of Durban. Invitations were sent to individual Indians who had no authority given them officially by the Indian community to discuss or commit themselves to any agreement on the question. The matter being pointed out to the Chief Magistrate it was ultimately decided to postpone the meeting and to send an invitation in the name of the Natal Indian Congress.

We do not quite know the object of this informal meeting but if the Port Health Officer is prompted with the desire of coming to some understanding as to the removal of the disabilities imposed by him on Indian passengers on arrival of Indian boats at the Port of Durban, it is a welcome sign and the Indian community will be pleased to discuss the question with him.

The position at present, however, remains just as bad as, if not worse than, before. It has become a regular thing for Indian passengers to be detained on arrival at the Durban Port for four of five or fourteen days. On the last boat that arrived on Wednesday the Indian passengers have been detained for five days while the rest were allowed to land immediately and even outsiders were allowed to go on board. One second class Indian passenger was allowed to land in the evening and before landing inquiries were made by the Port Health Officer whether he was "respectable" and "very respectable." What has respectability go to do with the question of health we wonder!

The Secretaries of the Transvaal British Indian Association (Messrs. I. I. Hazaree and P. K. Naido)

inform us that, pursuant to the resolution passed at the mass meeting of the above Association on the 18th of May 1924 notice is hereby given in terms of Section 13 of the Constitution that the general election of office-bearers will be held on the 22nd June 1924. Nominations must reach the Secretaries, Box 6522, Johannesburg, on or before the 12th of June. Business :—1. Report; 2. Finance, 3. Election of Officers.

The following letter appeared some days ago in the columns of the *Natal Mercury* above the *nom de plume* "One willing to go when possessing sufficient funds." :—

Sir,—referring to Shrimati Sarojini Naidu's address to Indians at Glenco Junction: From our Indian point of view, her words of advice may be acceptable to Indians well off, and who are established here, although many of these are yearning to return to their native land so dear to them, but their love for lucre, etc., prevents them. Is it not, however, a question whether she is quite correct in considering that she is giving the majority good advice not to return home by repatriating under the privileges afforded by the Government? Does she not, as well as others who unknowingly ill-advise, only see things from their own standpoint. Why not allow people to judge for themselves as they know their own particular business best? For instance, take a family consisting of father, mother, and five or six children, ages ranging between 17 and three years, who have out of their hard earnings saved some £50 or £60 with the intention of once more joining their relatives and caste friends, and returning to their old home in India and ultimately go to their final rest in the place of their birth, but find that they need not touch their savings, which would be absorbed in railway and steamer fares, and that a benevolent Government is willing to assist them to realise their intention by paying all expenses, leaving their savings untouched and to hand them £20 to £25, or 300 rupees to 375 rupees, more or less, to help them on arrival in India. Why deny our countrymen the pleasure of returning home when they are so eager? many unable to return at their own expense are only too glad to take advantage of the assistance given by Government rather than forego the pleasure. Now, with regard to interested persons luring them away by false hopes and promises, whose only desire is to drive away the Indian community: As one who came from India and who keeps his eyes and ears open, I know not of any such persons who by false hopes and promises induce them, and it is a pity that our noble daughter of Mother Hind could not witness what is told Indians wishing to return home.

Although the above writer professes to be well informed we cannot help but feel that he is very poorly informed. And he has used very little farsightedness in rushing to the Press on a matter vitally affecting the existence and the future welfare of his brethren and their families. Mrs. Sarojini Naidu and others who discourage the acceptance of the Government's repatriation scheme by our brethren do so because they know what hardships our brethren are suffering after having taken the advantage of the Government's offer. The above

writer seems to lose sight of the fact that by accepting a paltry sum of £20 to £25 the Indian loses not only his own birthright in this country but also sacrifices the birthright of his wife and children. And if the prospects of earning a livelihood in India are not good—and indeed that is the case at present,—once being repatriated under the present scheme the victim can no more see these shores even if he were to break his head and die. If those who do consent to take the advantage offered under the repatriation scheme do so after fully realising this position Mrs. Naidu or we have nothing to say to them nor do we wish in the slightest degree to deny them the "pleasure" given them by the Government. Mrs. Naidu and we have been trying to explain to only those who have been and are being lured by false hopes and promises, not those who wish to fall in the well with the full knowledge of the consequences of their own action. "As one who came from India and who keeps his eyes and ears open" the above writer should have known that Mrs. Sorajini Naidu knew the conditions in India better than he did; and his eyes and ears seem indeed to have betrayed him if he did not know that his brethren were induced by false hopes and promises to sacrifice their rights to live in this country. Let alone the individuals who may be doing this but the circular issued by the authorities was in itself giving false hopes and promises about the milk and honey conditions in India, and the actual position was known only after some who were victims to this scheme had gone to India and letters had been received from them urging most pathetically to be readmitted to this country. The above writer seems to be totally ignorant about all this; and he also seems to be unaware of the case of Munigadu and Amasigadu who after the sufferings in India walked back to this country where they were born and bred with their aged father and little sister but were mercilessly deported. It is indeed strange that "one who keeps his eyes and ears open" should be so ignorant of these facts!

NATAL INDIAN CONGRESS

The Joint Hon. Secretaries of the Natal Indian Congress write:—

The Adjourned Special General Meeting will be held in Rawat's Bio Hall, Victoria Street, Durban, on Sunday the 8th June, 1924, at 3 p.m.

The following is a copy of the proposed revised Rules which will be submitted to the meeting:—

In Rule No. 4, 6 Vice Presidents shall read 10 Vice Presidents and 24 Committeemen shall read 30 Committeemen.

Rule No. 9 shall read as follows:—

The Executive shall consist of the President, one or more Vice Presidents, both Secretaries, both Treasurers, and five members of the Committee to be appointed at the first Committee meeting in each year—and such Executive shall act in matters of urgency.

Rule No. 12.

Where there are 100 and more members of Congress resident in any area, the Congress Committee on its own initiative or on the application of twenty-five or more members in such area shall proceed to form a Branch Congress Committee for such areas subject to the following condition:—

- a. Congress Committee shall delimit the areas for a Branch Congress Committee.
- b. A Branch Congress Committee shall be formed from among Congress members in a delimited area.
- c. A Branch Congress Committee shall be governed by a Chairman, 3 or less Vice Chairmen, a Secretary, a Treasurer, and not less than 6 Committeemen—who shall be elected annually.
- d. Annual subscriptions of members (2s. 6d. each) shall be collected by a Branch Congress Committee in its area which shall retain 50 per cent. for its own purposes and remit the balance

forthwith to the Treasurer of the Natal Indian Congress.

- e. A Branch Congress Committee shall be entitled to collect subscriptions in its area for any special purpose provided it has first obtained the approval of Congress Committee for such purpose.
- f. A Branch Congress Committee shall for Congress collect subscriptions for any particular object at the request of Congress Committee.
- g. Congress members resident in any area governed by a Branch Congress Committee shall elect the Branch Congress Committee in their area, which shall call its members in its area together from time to time to take their opinion on any questions.
- h. A Branch Congress Committee shall manage and act in its local affairs and give effect to the resolution and acts of Congress and Congress Committee and from time to time report to Congress Committee.
- i. A Congress member resident in any area shall be entitled to participate at any meeting of Congress and to be elected to any office subject to all the other Rules of Congress however, with the exception that such a member cannot act independently of his Branch Congress Committee in his area and in his communication to Congress.
- j. A Branch Congress Committee shall be entitled to send three representatives to all Committee and other meetings of Congress.
- k. A Branch Congress Committee and the members in its area shall not do any act or thing repugnant to or inconsistent with the Constitution and Rules of Congress.
- l. Upon the application of 10 Indian women, in any delimited area, to the Branch Congress Committee of such area or on its own initiative it may form a Women Auxiliary Branch subject to the following conditions.
- m. There shall be at least 50 Indian women resident in an area to constitute an Auxiliary.
- n. An Auxiliary shall be subject to supervision of Branch Congress Committee to which it is attached. Such supervision shall be reasonably exercised allowing an Auxiliary the power to do everything for the women and generally to help its Congress Branch Committee and the Congress Committee.
- o. An Auxiliary shall be governed by a Chairlady, 3 Vice-Chairladies, a Secretary, a Treasurer, and not less than 5 Committee-women and they shall be elected annually by the women members of the Auxiliary.
- p. The annual membership subscription to an Auxiliary shall be 2/6 and such subscriptions shall be used for the purposes of the Auxiliary.
- q. An Auxiliary shall be entitled to collect subscriptions for any special purpose provided it has first obtained the approval of its Branch Committee for such purpose.
- r. Women members of an Auxiliary shall be called together from time to time by their Auxiliary Committee for the consideration of any matter. Any Auxiliary Committee shall be subject to the will of its members, provided nothing is done inconsistent with the Rules of Congress.
- s. Every Auxiliary shall keep at least a Minute Book and an Account Book for the recordings of its doings.
- t. An Annual Report and Financial Statement by each Auxiliary only audited, shall be forwarded in duplicate to its Branch Congress Committee and as such Branch Committee shall forward one of these copies to the Congress Committee and shall likewise at all times forward to the

Congress Committee a copy of every report sent to it by an Auxiliary.

11. It shall be in the discretion of the Congress Committee to convene annually or otherwise a Conference of at least three representatives from each of the Auxiliaries on important matters.

13. The annual membership subscription shall be the sum of 2/6 payable on enrolment and in subsequent years within the first quarter.

SORABJEE RUSTOMJEE.

V. S. C. PATHER.

Hon. Secretaries.

Natal Indian Congress.

AGRICULTURAL SHOW

FIRST FRUITS OF MRS. SAROJINI NAIDU'S ADVOCACY

We take the following report from the *Natal Mercury* of the Agricultural Show held in Durban on the 23rd and 24th of May at the special request of Mrs. Sarojini Naidu and proved a huge success:—

Amongst the projects for which Mrs. Sarojini Naidu has been working during her stay in Durban amongst the members of the Indian community has been the organisation of some function at which members of the community can meet periodically on a social footing and in view of the fact that the greater proportion of them are connected with the culture of the land in some form or another, her advocacy was directed towards the organisation of an agricultural show by and for Indians. The interest of the Natal Indian Congress was secured, and a sub-committee was formed to make the necessary arrangements, and yesterday the fruits of this work were seen, when Mrs. Naidu opened a two-days' show at the Mitchell Crescent School. As an agricultural show it did not rise above the mediocre, but as a promise for the future it was encouraging.

In her opening speech Mrs. Naidu expressed the hope that the show would grow to be equal in importance to the bazaars of India, those gathering places that Mahatma Gandhi loved because they enabled people of all classes to meet together on a common footing and discuss matters affecting their lives. She also referred to the work of the Congress in connection with the Show, and hoped that the Natal Indians would come to regard the Congress as their friend, a friend to whom to take their troubles and from whom to seek advice.

By far the most successful section of the show was that devoted to home industries, the women having entered some beautiful specimens of hand-work for competition, and local manufacturers having supported this section very loyally. There was a bowl of the essentially Indian sweet alwa, cakes of every description, a large array of pickles, a marvellous bride's cake of three tiers, oil paintings and water colours, a sample of the bricks made at Sydenham, locally-made tooth powder, coocking oils, starch extracted locally from the manioc root, sunshades of many hues, wonderfully pretty hand-worked shawls and beadspreads, home-spun silk from the silk-worm, and a variety of other articles, all of which were of excellent workmanship.

Another room was devoted to school industries, and it was evident here that the Indian children are taught to use their fingers freely as an aid to learning, particularly in regard to geography, as there were many examples of maps in relief. In fact, modelling in many forms was to be seen from schools as far afield as Chaka's Kraal, Malvern, Estcourt and Verulam, and another form of work was that in raffia.

A corner that, not unnaturally, attracted a good deal of notice was one where examples of the gold and silver smiths'

art was displayed, and there were indeed many examples of cunning workmanship, while an honorary exhibit was a trio of very old miniatures no bigger than threepenny pieces that must be worth far more than all the remaining exhibits.

Amongst the produce of the vegetable garden were cabbages, ripe mangoes and pawpaws, betel leaves of a size difficult to obtain, Natal-grown tobacco, and flowers. Some of the vegetables had been grown in the various schools gardens, and were a credit to the boys.

Live stock was a poor display, although certain classes which will be represented to-day were not on exhibition.

AGRICULTURAL AND INDUSTRIAL SHOW

LIST OF WINNERS

(H.C. Highly Commended.)

Fruit & Vegetables.	Winners
Cabbage Drumhead	1st. Periathambi Govender. 2nd. D. Padayachee. 2nd. T. T. Pillay & Bros. H.C. A. M. Naidoo.
Cabbage sweet	1st. T. T. Pillay & Bros.
Spanish Raddish	1st. R. Boodhoo.
Lettuce & Variety of Vegetables	1st. T. T. Pillay & Bros.
Drumstic	H.C. V. M. Moodley.
Calabash	H.C. R. Boodhoo.
Pumpkins	1st. R. Boodhoo. 2nd. Periathambi Govender. 3rd. W. Choonoo.
Celery	H.C. R. Boodhoo.
Carrots	1st. R. Bhoodoo.
Lettuce	H.C. Samail Maharaj.
Beetroot	1st. R. Boodhoo.
Vegetables	1st. Clairwood School.
Green Ginger	1st. S. M. Naidoo. 1st. L. S. Naicker. 2nd. M. Chengiah.
Turmeric	H.C. M. Chengiah.
Green Coconut	H.C. W. Choonoo.
Tomatoes	1st. V. Govender. 2nd. Pariathambi Govender. H.C. A. M. Naidoo.
Jack Fruit	H.C. R. Dehaloo.
Ham Ham	H.C. S. M. Naidoo.
Kol Rabbi	H.C. Gungiah.
Tobacco	H.C. Turputhi.
Sugar Cane	H.C. C. Naidoo. 1st. R. K. Naidoo. 2nd. T. M. Naicker.
Pawpaws	1st. R. M. Moodley. 2nd. V. Govender. 3rd. Chinniah.
Mangoes	H.C. Rajah Appanah.
Naartjees	H.C. R. Dehaloo.
Avacods Pears	1st. Mayabre Khan. 2nd. A. M. Govender.
Oranges	1st. Puckree. 2nd. V. Govender. 3rd. R. Dehaloo.
Naval Oranges	H.C. P. Mamoojee.
Bananas	1st. Kisten. 2nd. R. K. Naidoo. 3rd. Boji Naidoo.
Honey Bananas	H.C. T. M. Naicker.
Butter Bananas	1st. R. K. Naidoo.
Pines	3rd. N. Govender.
Gayere Pines	1st. V. N. Moodley. 2nd. Muthusamy Padiachy. H.C. Sukurar Moodley.
Queen Pines	1st. Verasamy. 2nd. G. M. Pillay.
MISCELLANEOUS	
Flowers, Carnations	1st. S. Padayachee.
Milk	H.C. J. Soodyall.
Mineral Waters	1st. Victory Mineral Water Works. 2nd. Greyville Electric Mineral Water Works.
Syrup	1st. Victory Mineral Water Works. 2nd. Greyville Electric Mineral Water Works.
Vineger	H.C. Victory Mineral Water Works.
Bettel Leaves	1st. R. K. Naidoo. 2nd. Sheikh Hoosen. 3rd. Abdool Karrim.

STALES	
Fruit & Vegetable Stall	1st. Ettie N. Pillay.
Flower Stall	H.C. Abdool Francis.
Soft Goods & Brassware	1st. M. C. Dair.
	2nd. S. N. Mahomed.
	H.C. Osman Bros.
	H.C. V. A. Pillay.
Soft Goods Stall	H.C. M. B. Naik.
Brassware	H.C. S. T. Mia.
Seeds Stall	H.C. A. B. Naidoo.
Grocery Stall	H.C. L. Vally.
	H.C. Premier Cash Grocery
Swadeshi Stall	H.C. G. B. Rughobeer.
Furniture Stall	H.C. Bob K. C. Naidoo.
Wick r Chairs	H.C. N. Khan.
Produce Stall	1st. T. Manjee & Co.
	2nd. P. Hargovan & Co.
Sweetmeats	H.C. N. K. Kapitan.
Tanks and Cans	H.C. S. Moodliar.

HOME INDUSTRIES	
Crochet	1st. Thanum Naidoo No. 33
	2nd. Mrs. Bryan Gabriel.
	3rd. Mrs. N. V. Moodley.
	H.C. R. A. Iyer.
(?) Work	H.C. Miss Kaharoon Kader
Cushinos	H.C. Mrs. W. Choonoo.
Cushion Covers	1st. Miss Godfrey.
Soft Cushion	H.C. Mrs. A. J. Choonoo.
Framed Cushion Cover	H.C. Tholshiamah Nulliah.
Blouses	H.C. Salanchi Sivami.
Fish Scale Work	1st. Mrs. A. J. Choonoo.
	2nd. Miss B. Christopher.
Silk Shawl	1st. Miss G. Lazarus.
Oil Painting	1st. M. Lutchman.
	2nd. M. K. Pillay.
Cork Frame	1st. J. H. L. D. Mahomed.
Water Colour Painting	1st. Mr. A. J. C. Choonoo.
Jams	1st. Mrs. W. E. Paul.
Orange Marmalade	H.C. Mrs. J. Lawrence.
Oil	1st. Mr. Moosa H. Cassim.
Silk Worms	H.C. Mrs. M. C. Joshua.
Girls' Hand Work	H.C. S. Mehtab, Hindu
	Surat Association.
Handwork	H.C. Mr. T. S. Pillay.
	H.C. Mrs. Savatri Moorgas.
Fancy Floss Work	H.C. Miss Marian Ismail.
Bed Spread	H.C. Meriani Ismail.
Photo Medallion & Buttons	H.C. Mr. B. A. Magrajh.
Saris	H.C. Mrs. G. Parel Singh.
Curry Powder	H.C. M. M. Mahomed.
Cake	1st. C. M. James.
	2nd. R. N. Ninah.
	H.C. S. M. Naidoo.
Pickles	1st. Mrs. A. J. Choonoo.
	2nd. Mrs. J. Lawrence.
	H.C. M. M. Mahomed.
Bread	1st. Mrs. J. Lawrence.
Sweets	1st. Mr. Ismail.
	2nd. Mrs. J. Lawrence.
Umbrellas	1st. R. Ramaouhar.
Stamp Album	H.C. S. C. Pillay.

SCHOOLS SECTION	
Town Schools	1st. Mitchel Crescent School.
	2nd. Umgeni Indian School.
	3rd. Prospect Hall School.
Electric Model	H.C. M. B. Naidoo & A. D. Lazarus.

COUNTRY SCHOOLS.	
	1st. Tinley Manor School.
	2nd. Cator Manor School.
	3rd. Stanger School.
	H.C. Clairwood School.
	H.C. Estcourt School.
Crochet	Clairwood School, (H. C. Miss C. Pillay.)
Crochet	Mt. Edgecombe School, (H.C. Miss E. Samuel.)
Baskets	Malvern School, H. C.
Wood Work	Redhill School, H.C.
	H.C. P.M. Burg Wesleyan Indian School.

KENNELL SECTION	
Mastiffs	Dog H.C. Ameersingh's Lion
Great Danes	Bitches 1st. P. Narainsamy's Lady
do	do 1st. K. Baijnath's Beauty,
	Open.
Bull Dogs	Dog 1st. S. P. Watsons' Lord of
	Overport, Open.
do	Bitches 1st. do do
do	do 1st. M. J. Francis' Thorn-
	ville Beauty, Puppy.

do	do	2nd. J. Lazarus' Peggy,
		Open.
Pointers	do	1st. R. G. Chetty's Barley,
		Open.
Wire Fox Terriers	do	1st. Mrs. Francis Sandiah's
		Tulney of Mayville, Open.
do do	do	1st. Mrs. A. David's Spotty,
		Puppy.
Airedales	do	1st. John Boyce's Peggy,
		Open.
Black Pommeraniums	do	1st. R. S. G. Pather's Black-
		kie, Open.
do	do	2nd. V. Lawrence's Peggy,
		Open.
do	Dogs	1st. K. R. Naidoo's Tinker,
		Puppy.
White Pommeraniums	do	1st. W. G. Moorgan's Tiny,
		Puppy.
do	Bitches	1st. J. S. Pillay's Flossy,
		Open.
Whiffet	do	1st. S. M. Rajgopal's Rosy,
		Open.
Collies	Dogs	1st. R. L. David Naidu's
		Puppy.
Ladies Class	Dogs	1st. Miss A. B. Godfrey's
		Gipsy.
Cocker Spaniels	Dogs	1st. W. G. Moorgan's
		Dandy, Puppy.
Watch Dogs	"	1st. G. Singh's Blackie.
"	"	2nd. Sheik Ebrahim's Jannie.
"	"	3rd. J. Ranghall's Johnnie.
Pugs	"	1st. A. M. Naidoo's Prince,
		Puppy.
Fox Terrier	"	H.C. Rev. Maingot's Ralph,
		Puppy.
Dog any variety	"	H.C. Sooker's Tiny Tot.
Terrier, Class not provided	"	

POULTRY SECTION.		
White Leghorns	Cockerel	1st. John Boyce.
		H.C. M. K. Moody.
"	Cock	1st. J. Rampal.
"	Hen	1st. "
"	Pullet	1st. John Royce.
"	Breeding Pen	1st. K. Baijnath.
"	"	2nd. Francis Sandhia.
"	"	3rd. P. S. Pillay.
Mauritius Game	Hen	1st. M. Appalamy.
"	"	2nd. G. Singh.
"	Cockerel	1st. M. Appalamy.
"	"	H.C.
"	Cock	1st. P. Govonder.
"	"	2nd. G. Singh.
"	Breeding Pen	1st. N. Cooper.
"	"	2nd. P. Moosa.
"	"	3rd. V. Lawrence.
Barracks	Cock	H.C. Naidoo, Hillarys.
Minorokas	"	H.C. T. T. Pillay & Bros.
"	"	1st. A. M. Naidoo.
"	"	2nd. P. Govender.
Table Bird	"	1st. Miss Gunan Naidoo.
Rude Island Reds	Breeding Pen	1st. K. M. Naidoo.
Bantams	"	3rd. V. Lawrence.
"	"	H.C. Manuel San'lish.
"	Hen	1st. N. V. Moodley.
"	"	2nd. Basil Abrahams.
"	Cock	1st. M. V. Moodley.
"	Breeding Pen	1st. M. Ettie Pillay.
"	"	2nd. M. Thomas.
"	"	1st. M. Thomas.
"	"	3rd. M. V. Moodley.
"	"	H.C.
Parrot Talking	"	1st. Mahomed Ebrahim.
English Canary	"	1st. R. M. David.
"	"	2nd. M. Ettie Pillay.

LIVE STOCK. Shetland Ponies

	1st. M. S. Timol.
	2nd. Jack Moodley.
	H.C. S. M. Rajgopal.
	H.C. B. M. Singh.
Stallion	1st. Abdool Essack.
Riding Back	2nd. Sayed Kader.
	3rd. H. D. Khan.
Dog Cart Turnout	1st. A. A. Gany.
	2nd. R. K. Naidoo.
Spring Cart Turnout	1st. S. Randhani.
	2nd. "
Trolley Turnout	H.C. International Del-
	ivery Co.
Cattle	H.C. Miss S. D. Panday.
	H.C. Mrs. P. M. Lazarus.
	H.C.
	H.C. Riverside Dairy Co.
	H.C.
Daiker	H.C. R. S. Joshua.
Rabbit	H.C. Patrick.
Persian Cat	R. K. Naidoo.