

Indian Opinion

No. 30—Vol. XXII.

Friday, August 1st, 1924.

Registered at the G. P. O. as a Newspaper
PRICE FOURPENCE

NOTES AND NEWS

THE following telegram has been sent by the Natal Indian Congress, Durban, to H.H. the Governor-General, Prime Minister, Minister of Interior, Mr. Alexander, and Sir David Harris:—

"N.I.C. representing the Ind. Com. of Natal strongly protests passing of the Boroughs Ordinance No. 18, 1924, containing provisions among others for disenfranchisement of Indians in Natal Municipalities, property restrictions and prays Gov.-General be pleased to withhold assent. Indians anxious interview Gov.-Gen. in-Council and ask for opportunity."

The members of the Natal Indian Congress (P. M. Burg Branch) are requested to note that the postponed annual meeting will take place in the H. Y. M. A. Hall, on Sunday the 10th August, at 2 p. m., for the election of officials and to transact general business.

With the usual pomp the fifth session of the Union Parliament opened at Capetown on the 25th of July.

During the course of his first speech at the Cape Peninsula at a Pact Social in the Main Town Hall General Hertzog is reported to have made the following remarks:—

"I hope the people of the country will not be in too great a hurry to expect wonders from us. It will take a considerable time before the effects of good government can be felt. We are determined to do what lies in our power to see that what was wrong during the last years shall be put right. I am positive that the interests of the two Parties (Labour and Nationalist) are so similar, and can be made to harmonise so well, that I do not see the least reason why we should not govern this country as long as there are national interests which deserve a place over the place for the interests of any particular party, and I am sure that is what my friends, Col. Creswell and Mr. Boydell, and all of us in the Ministry are desirous of doing. I hope we shall achieve the goal we set out to achieve when we joined hands, and put all conflicting and party interests aside, to devote all our energies to that great common work which we can do for the best of South Africa and for the people of South Africa." (Applause.) Mr. Boydell said: "We can't say we are celebrating our victory, or that our hour of triumph comes until the people say, 'You have served us well and faithfully, and because of that you have our confidence.'"

Capetown, July 29 (Reuter).—The following is the text of the resolution from the Natal Provincial Council, which was read in both Houses of Parliament yesterday:—

"That the Council resolves, in terms of section 87 of South Africa Act, to recommend strongly to Parliament that in the opinion of the Council, the Asiatic problem presents a serious menace to the Union and recommends:

(a) That no further acquisition of land by purchase, lease or other means by Asiatics be allowed;

(b) That Provincial Councils shall be authorised to pass legislation that no further licences be issued to Asiatics, and no transfer of existing licences, and that the licence of any Asiatic, who becomes bankrupt or compounds with his or her creditors, shall be cancelled;

(c) That the sum of £5 be increased to Indian emigrants under the voluntary repatriation scheme; and

(d) That fair and reasonable compensation be paid to Indians who own property and wish to leave the country.

Mr. Marwick is reported to have asked the Prime Minister (1) whether the Government will introduce legislation to prevent the Indians buying farms in Natal in juxtaposition to land held by European farmers; if so, when; (2) whether it is the intention of the Government to proceed with the Class Areas Bill, or (3) whether the Government intends to introduce any other Bill to provide for the segregation of the Asiatic population in the separate residential and trading areas, and when; and (4) to what extent will the Government carry out the policy of compulsorily repatriating the Asiatics at present in Natal, who originally came to that Province as labourers, or as traders from Arabia or elsewhere."

The Minister of the Interior (Dr. D. F. Malan) stated that the question of legislation to prevent Indians from buying farms in Natal, in juxtaposition with land held by European farmers, together with the further questions of Indian segregation and compulsory repatriation, would receive the Government's consideration after the present session. It was not the Government's intention to proceed with the Class Areas Bill.

Death has taken place on July 25th at the age of 95, of Miss Ann Elizabeth D'Urban Blyth, a great-niece of Sir Benjamin D'Urban, Governor of the Cape, after whom the town of Durban was named.

Reuter (London) announces that Mr. J. H. Thomas, Colonial Secretary, will depart for South Africa on August 8.

The Cape Argus has been asking its readers to state who are the six greatest South Africans. From many hundreds of replies it appeared that the list had to be extended from six to seven, and most of the correspondents agreed that the following are the great of the Union:—General Smuts, The Rt. Hon. John X. Merriman, Sir James Rose-Innes, General Hertzog, The Hon. J. W. Jagger, Sir Frederic de Waal, and Dr. Viljoen. Among the honourable mentions—or highly commended—is included the name of Don Davidson Tengo Jabavu the Principal of the South African Native College.

The Organisation Committee of the German Railways has drafted the law turning the German State Railways into a company under Allied control as laid down in the Dawes Report. The Company, it is reported, will be the biggest in the world and the staff will number 700,000 men.

Christiania, July 24 (Reuter).—The Government has resigned owing to the Lagting rejecting the Bill for the abolition of prohibition, which had been previously thrown out by the Odelsting. Note.—The Norwegian Parliament, or Storting, on assembling divides itself into two sections, the Lagting and Odelsting. The former comprises one-fourth of the members, the latter the remainder; and questions relating to the laws must be considered by each section separately. The Lagting practically corresponds to the House of Lords.

A joint report of the three branches of the Hindu Women's Home (the Bombay, Surat and Rajkote) has been published. The primary object of founding this Institution, it is stated, is to alleviate the condition of Hindu widows by giving them literary, moral and religious education, inculcating in them a spirit of service and sacrifice and thus making them useful and important members of the society. Along with this primary object it is also the object of the Institution to educate married women and unmarried girls and teach them the duties of wives and mothers according to their respective stations in life. To achieve these objects, the Institution intends (I) to establish free Ashrams or Homes for poor and destitute Gujarati Hindu widows and orphan girls, married women and unmarried girls in a position to pay being admitted to the same on payment of reasonable charges for their lodging, boarding and education; (II) to open free Model schools on modern lines for the members of the Ashram and outside girls for imparting secular, domestic and technical education, calculated to render them self-reliant and useful to society (III) to open libraries with a view to provide wholesome literature within the reach of the members and with a view to create public opinion in favour of institutions similar to those of the Vanita Vishram; (IV) to publish literature and to arrange lectures, calculated to advance the view and object mentioned in it, to give pecuniary or other help to non-resident, poor and destitute widows and orphan girls and to other similar institutions; (V) to do all other things as are incidental or conducive to or likely to promote the aforesaid objects. With these objects in view, three Homes at the following places have been opened, viz. at Surat, Bombay and Rajkot. At these different Homes, widows and orphan girls are lodged, fed and educated free of any charge while such married women and unmarried girls as are in a position to pay are charged nominal fees of rupees twelve and ten in Bombay and rupees ten and eight at other places. These charges are much below the actual cost of maintenance as the price of every thing has gone up high. The monthly expenses of all the three branches come to about Rs. 6000 and the Institution therefore is badly in need of a permanent fund of Rs. 1,200,000 to meet the above expenses from its interest. It has at present a permanent fund of Rs. 350,000 only and it therefore finds it very hard to meet the expenses as it has to make up for the deficit by public subscriptions. With a view to increase this permanent fund, two volunteers had been sent to Africa to collect funds and the gratitude of the Managing Committee has been expressed for the generous response of the community who subscribed about a lac of rupees.

NATAL INDIAN CONGRESS (MARITZBURG BRANCH) SECRETARY'S ANNUAL REPORT

At the annual meeting of the Branch held on 6th July the Secretary submitted the following report which was adopted:—

I beg to place before you a review of the year's work which has been done by this Branch Congress. The year just ended has seen greater activity on the part of the officials of the Congress. Below is a resume of the work done.

The Branch, with the Headquarters, offered strenuous objections to the Licensing and Land Ordinances, as also to the Township Ordinance, which interfered with or otherwise deprived the rights of Indians as regards the issue of licences, the ownership and sale of land, and the Township Franchise. These Ordinances were passed by the Provincial Council of Natal, and the Natal Headquarters went on a deputation to Capetown, and interviewed the Minister of Interior, as a result of which the Township Ordinance was disallowed. Unfortunately for the community the Licensing and Land Ordinances received the assent of the Governor-General.

During the year 15 meetings of the Committee were held.

Two mass meetings were also held in the City. The first was held in April to celebrate the release of Mahatma Gandhi, and the second was held to protest against the Class Arcus Bill, which as you all know was dropped on the dissolution of the Union Parliament.

The Branch has under consideration the question of making an application to the Education Department to provide a Government School for primary education for Indian children, and I have no doubt that strong representations will be made to the Government pointing out the absolute necessity for such a school.

Maritzburg received in a right royal manner Mrs. Sarojini Naidu, the poetess of India. A reception was given in honour of her visit in the Town Hall on 7th March last, at which Mr. C. H. R. Norman, an Ex-Registrar of the Supreme Court, supported by Congress officials, and prominent Europeans, presided. The Town Hall on that occasion was crowded to its utmost capacity by all sections of the community, and hundreds were unable to gain admission, and consoled themselves by standing in the street. As was anticipated quite a number of Europeans tried to wreck the meeting by incessant shouting and yelling. Despite this obstacle the programme of the reception was proceeded with, and an Ode of Welcome, artistically finished on Khadi cloth was presented to Mrs. Naidu. Amidst the noisy disturbance on the one hand, and cheers on the other, Mrs. Naidu, on rising to speak, by her eloquence, and her delivery of speech, silenced the spirit of hooliganism. She spoke fully 50 minutes, and advanced the case of the Indians admirably. The reception on the whole proved a success.

On the following day—8th March—an "At Home" was held in the Drill Hall, kindly placed at the disposal of the community by Col. Giles. A huge crowd was present at the "At Home" reception, and a procession of school children marched to the Hall, and took up their allotted place, and presented Mrs. Naidu with a "Lady's Companion." A good number of Europeans were also present. Mrs. Naidu addressed the gathering both in English and Hindi, followed by other speakers, after which the children were treated with light refreshments. Prior to the "At Home," Mrs. Naidu and the Congress officials motored to view the Howick Falls, and were entertained to tea by Mr. M. Chinasamy of Howick.

The Indian volunteers under the leadership of Mr. T. Naidoo and Koopir Murrie rendered excellent services in maintaining order at meetings addressed by Mrs. Naidu.

Mr. A. V. Moodley furnished and placed his dwelling house "Sarojini's Lodge" at the disposal of Mrs. Naidu. He also gave the free use of his car to convey Mrs. Naidu and officials to meet engagements. Messrs. R. B. Maharaj, D. Bene Singh, Cassim Suleman, also placed their cars at the disposal of the Congress. The Indian Bus owners in the city gave the Congress the free use of their buses as occasions required.

The officials, Committee and members of the Branch spared no efforts in collecting necessary funds from the community, which with a few exceptions, liberally responded. The Indian ladies also devoted their time in collecting funds and in looking after the comforts of Mrs. Naidu. A notable feature of Mrs. Naidu's mission to South Africa was the holding of the Fourth Session of the South African Indian Conference in Durban presided by her on the 21st, 22nd, 23rd, and 24th April, 1924. At the Conference were represented the delegates from the three Provinces. Important resolutions were passed dealing with every phase of the Indian question in South Africa, the minutes of which are laid on the table for the information of the public.

Mrs. Naidu paid a return visit to Maritzburg on 2nd May 1924, when she met at the Theosophical Hall a selected number of Europeans with whom she discussed the Indian grievances. She also addressed a meeting of Indian ladies in the H.Y.M.A. Hall, at which she was presented with a purse. She appointed a Committee of ladies and formed an Indian Women's Association. She further addressed a meeting of men in the same evening when she was presented by the Indians on *Witness Staff* with a handsome Album, containing press cuttings and reports dealing with her tour.

The representatives of the Branch in co-operation with the Headquarters objected to the Durban Ex-cess Powers Ordinance which, I regret to say, has just received the assent of the Governor-General.

Upon some trouble arising between the Indian bus owners and the Chief Constable in connection with the stand where buses are parked, the Branch took up the matter with the Chief Constable and presented the case of the bus owners. Negotiations in regard to the stand were proceeded with between the bus owners and the Chief Constable.

Recently the delegates of the Branch, acting jointly with the delegates of the Headquarters, tendered evidence before a Select Committee and objected to several clauses in the Boroughs Draft Ordinance.

The Ordinance is an attempt at consolidating all laws dealing with the constitution, rights, and powers of Municipalities. It deals with such questions as Municipal Franchise, the issue and control of licences, the method of sale and hire of land and sanitation. There are several objectionable clauses which seek to curtail, restrict, or otherwise deprive the rights hitherto possessed by us. The sections of the Draft Ordinance which deal with Municipal Franchise are important ones and aim at dispossessing Indians of local franchise rights. This Ordinance will be brought before the Provincial Council soon, and the community as a whole must resist the passing of the same in its present form.

The Branch finding that several names of Indian Burgesses were omitted from the Roll took up the matter with the Returning Officer, and appeared before the Appeal Board, and submitted several names for inclusion. The number of Municipal voters on the present Roll is 400, and in view of the fact that there are numerous Indians who are entitled

to be on the Roll, an appeal is made to all those who are qualified, to take immediate steps to submit their names to the Congress, which is prepared to render all assistance.

In conclusion I wish to offer thanks to all those who have interested themselves in the work of the Branch, and to the officials and members who, unmindful of their pressing duties, gave a ready and willing hand to make the Branch what it is to-day.

O'DWYER-NAIR SUIT

INDIAN AND ENGLISH PRESS COMMENTS

The *Westminster Gazette* severely criticises Justice McCardie's conduct of the recent O'Dwyer trial and says referring to his statements about General Dyer that it is not for a judge trying a civil case to pronounce a public absolution upon actions which have already been officially judged by a Department of the State. It adds, unfortunately Justice McCardie chose a case of the very greatest importance for his breach of decorum.

The *Daily News* (London) expresses regretful amazement at Justice McCardie's conduct of the case.—*Reuter*.

THE "STATESMAN"

Commenting on the O'Dwyer-Nair case verdict, the *Statesman* (Calcutta) says "the evidence appears to have been conclusive as to the propriety of Sir Michael O'Dwyer's conduct under conditions more trying than most of us can realise. It is much to be regretted, however, if he is reported correctly that the trying judge betrayed so marked a bias in favour of the plaintiff and this fact has deprived the verdict of whatever weight it might otherwise carry, at any rate in this country."

THE "ENGLISHMAN"

The *Englishman* says "Lovers of justice, no matter what their country is, as well as his fellow-countrymen, will rejoice that Sir Michael has triumphantly cleared his name."

THE "PATRIKA"

The *Patrika* says "Everyone following the reports of the trial, the frequent remarks and the observations of the learned judge, and the carefully considered issues involved in the trial, was quite prepared for the result."

THE "LEADER"

Allahabad, June 7.

The *Leader* commenting on the O'Dwyer-Nair case says "the end is what everyone expected, it would be, not on the strength of the case, because of the extraordinary and unprecedented role which the learned judge deemed it fit to play in the course of the trial. The result of the case is to Indians that Sir Michael O'Dwyer is not less of an O'Dwyer than he was, whereas Sir Sankaran Nair though defeated in the Court of Law has distinctly gained in stature as an independent and patriotic Indian.

THE "CIVIL AND MILITARY GAZETTE"

Lahore, June 7.

Commenting on the O'Dwyer-Nair case verdict, the *Civil and Military Gazette* says:—"We are glad to know that Sir Michael's reputation has been vindicated so unreservedly by the verdict of the Jury of his countrymen. If the memories of the unhappy events and the bitter controversies of 1919-20 have been revived in rather acute form by the trial it certainly is not fair to blame Sir Michael for this result. All that he did was to bring evidence of a most unimpeachable character to prove that the grave charges brought against him were unjust and unfounded and in this he succeeded to the satis-

faction of the jury and of the public who have been following the reports of the hearing.

THE "INDIAN DAILY MAIL"

Bombay, June 7.

The *Indian Daily Mail* which also considers the verdict in O'Dwyer-Nair case a foregone conclusion, draws pointed attention to Justice McCardie constituting his court "into a tribunal for adjudicating upon vexed political problems and reviewing the findings of the Royal Commission, over which Lord Hunter, a judge of the English High Court, had presided." When even non-co-operators in common with the British press are induced to lament the Punjab verdict, the paper considers it astonishing that an English Judge sitting in London should have so far forgotten his position as to take a course of action calculated to excite bitter memories in India.

"THE FORWARD"

Calcutta, June 8.

Commenting on the O'Dwyer Nair case the *Forward* says: Nowhere have we found a judge acting as Counsel for the prosecution without the least pretention to ordinary decencies which endow dignity to the bench.

THE "PIONEER"

Allahabad, June 8.

The *Pioneer* writes that the result of the trial may be regarded as a complete vindication of Sir Michael O'Dwyer and his administration. The paper regrets that Mr. Justice McCardie appeared to have displayed a marked bias in favour of the plaintiff, as it has done a great deal to rob the verdict of any influence upon Indian opinion.

THE "MAHRATTA"

The *Mahratta* (Poona) has the following comment on the recent O'Dwyer-Nair suit:—

The likeliest has come to pass and we confess we were not surprised at the judgment in the libel-suit delivered by Justice McCardie and nobody will be wonder-struck with the result, leaving fresh in his memory the famous Tilak-Chirol case. The payment of about twenty thousand pounds by Sir Shankaran Nair must excite sympathy for the victim, but the conduct of the Justice must deserve severe condemnation. Leaving aside Indian nationalistic papers, even English papers have not allowed his conduct to pass muster. The *Westminster Gazette* says that, it is not for a Judge trying a civil case to pronounce public absolution upon actions which have already been officially judged by the Department of State. The *Daily News* expresses its regretful amazement at McCardie's conduct of the case. The *Statesman* in India too has to remark that, it is much to be regretted that the trying Judge betrayed so marked a bias in favour of the plaintiff. The conduct of the Judge was reprehensible in the extreme! Turning to Sir Shankaran Nair, it is not to be forgotten that he wrote the book to condemn the Indian Nationalist movement. It is easy to draw the parallel between *Tilak vs. Chirol* and *Nair vs. O'Dwyer*; but not so easy to support it. The former originated in a book written by an Englishman to throw mud at Lok. Tilak and through him on the whole movement. The present took its form, in a book written by an Indian to besmirch the face of India with filth. Whatever that be, it is for the people to sympathise with Sir Nair in his defeat which was a foregone conclusion. The author himself of the book has much to learn from the result. It has been demonstrated that the Englishmen stand by their countrymen through thick and thin and even a Judge serenely sitting on a judicial bench does not forget that he is an Englishman first and judge afterwards! Between the Jury and the Judge they have thrown the Hunter Committee, the Secretary of State and the Government of India overboard in their eagerness to defend Sir Michael

O'Dwyer and General Dyer. Those who would continue to be blind to this solid fact, have to pay the penalty. The chickens as in this case will come home to roost!

"ASIA FOR THE ASIATICS"

A CHINESE VIEW

[FROM THE "MODERN REVIEW"]

(Continued from page 169)

The writer concludes his article with the following words:—

"Time was when Asia was likened unto a man who turns his left cheek, while his right one is smacked. Not now. Time was when she considered endurance and silence as great virtues to be practiced even in times of agony and humiliation. Not now. Time was when she was repugnant to western ways and ideas, and worshipped pacifism as her second God. Not now. Asia, let us note, is not Africa. She will never consent to be snuffed out; nor can she regain her impaired sovereignty and lost prestige by sheer wailing. Woodrow Wilson warns her: "It is necessary always to remember that it is force which is the ultimate guarantee of the public peace." Happily Asia is discovering that her worst enemy is her most valuable friend: she is equipping herself with civilization, with bullets, bayonets, and battleships! Already the Occident has shown that it dominates the Orient not so much because it has a better religion, loftier morals or higher intelligence as because it knows better how to fight and how to make money. It emphasises the things which Buddha and Confucius overlooked and insists that we have them. Alas! the day will soon come when it will regret because we have learned its lessons too well."

As the writer is himself a son of China, his concluding paragraph probably represents the state of feeling in that country. It is difficult to say what the state of feeling in India is; because only those who are pacifists either on principle or from policy speak out, others do not. But the fact cannot be gainsaid that no "politically minded" India would any longer agree to take any misery, insult or humiliation lying down; none of us will consent to be snuffed out.

As we cannot complain if the world says that Indians have made pacifism a virtue of necessity, our opinion on force being "the ultimate guarantee of public peace" may not have any value; nevertheless, we are constrained to observe that "force" (by which Woodrow Wilson meant physical force, fighting power) has never yet been able to guarantee public peace—either in world affairs, or in the affairs of any single country. Without the help of the moral force of mankind and the opinion of the world public, public peace would never be possible. If any country in Asia has been obliged in self-defence, owing to the aggressiveness of the West, to hug to her bosom her worst enemy as her most valuable friend, if "she is equipping herself with 'civilization,' with bullets, bayonets and battleships," we cannot congratulate her on having to yield to that dire necessity. Being ourselves a subject nation, we naturally value freedom and independence very highly and feel that we ought to make the utmost sacrifice to be free and independent. But we are not quite sure whether political freedom as it exists in most countries of Europe and America would be worth gaining or preserving, for any Asiatic country, at the cost of her soul, by doing puja to militarism, navalism and aerialism, as the West has done and lost her soul in consequence. It would be a hard case and a tragedy if a people were really under the

necessity of choosing between its soul and its political freedom (as the thing exists in most countries of the West). But we believe there is no incompatibility between freedom and the soul of a people. It is the mission of India and of Asia to demonstrate that fact. It is a very difficult task. But the highest and the utmost endeavour of man has ever been called forth, not by the lure of the primrose path of ease and comfort, but by the challenge of the yet unachieved and seemingly unachievable. India's mission, as we understand it, requires greater faith, greater courage, great endurance and greater sacrifice, than what imperialism, militarism, navalism and aerialism demand.

(Concluded)

WOMEN OF TURKEY

THE PASSING OF THE VEIL

Revolutionary changes have taken place in the lives of Turkish women since they discarded the veil as a sign of their emancipation. Mr. H. J. Greenwall, the *Daily Express* special correspondent at Constantinople, writes of the progress made by the Turkish woman since she was little better than a prisoner in a harem.

Turkish women, says, Mr. Greenwall, are now beginning to dance in public, and wear evening dress, and dance with men other than their husbands. They dance the latest dances with a grace that one might expect, and they smile cryptically when one asks them where they learned to fox-trot and tango, sway their hips in the blues, and mingle the sensuous languor of the East with the intricate dance steps of London and Paris.

No one knows for certain how they learned the modern dances—and other things—but it is whispered in Pera that dancing instructors from the Occident have been smuggled into those narrow winding streets of Stamboul, and that from behind latticed windows have come the strains of gramophones.

The "charchaf," the Turkish veil, is passing into the limbo of things forgotten. First of all, it entirely hid the face, then it was raised slightly, later, it was worn very much like a widow's weeds, now it is simply tied round the head, protecting the hair very much as English women wear a net a the seaside to protect them from the sea breezes.

FAITHFUL TO KOHL

One thing most noticeable about the Turkish women of to-day is how they stick to the kohl, with which they densely blacken the upper and lower eyelids. It is extremely bizarre to see a woman in the street almost entirely Europeanised in her dress, but her eyes proclaiming her country.

Need for personal economy has played a great part in reducing the numbers of wives the modern Turk possesses. The Moslem law allows him four, but the Koran says he must treat each on the same footing of equality. That disposes of the legend of the "Sultan's favourite wife." The Sultan, any more than any other Moslem, cannot have a "favourite" wife; in his eyes they must find equal favour.

The breaking up of the harems and the economic crisis in Turkey have all contributed to another revolutionary change in the lives of Turkish women.

MARITZBURG NOTES

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT)

Before the sitting of the Appeal Board for the revision of the Burgess Roll, Mr. S. R. Naidoo, as Secretary of the Natal Indian Congress (P. M. Burg Branch) applied for the inclusion on the Roll of further names of Indians as voters, who were improperly omitted from the roll. The Revising Officer stated that he objected to the names being included on the ground that the applicants were not personally present. Mr. Naidoo replied that last year the Board decided that upon proof of qualifications to the Officer they saw no objection to names being put on. After argument, Mr. Naidoo produced applicants, whose names were admitted, and also urged the inclusion of names of applicants who were absent. The Officer agreed.

I give below the article of faith of Young South Africa. No publicity has been given to it so far, and it is regarded as exclusive only to those who subscribe to it. I was fortunate to get a copy of it.

It will be recollected that Young South Africa party was formed recently under the leadership of Mr. Wm. Cox, M.P.C., the leader of the Anti-Asiatic element in Natal. The activities of this Society are kept secret, and I understand that the party has a large following. I have information that since the birth of this Society several Indians in Maritzburg, as a result of appeals from this party, have been discharged from work—Indians who were in the employ of European firms for years.

This party intends to capture seats in the Council to make it "hot" for the Indians. Three candidates have come forward to contest seats in the coming Municipal election which takes place on 6th August.

The following news taken from the *Witness* will prove interesting:—

"There is a probability of three contests at the forthcoming Town-Council elections. Requisitions have been accepted by Messrs. W. Cox, M.P.C., F. J. F. Sutcliffe and W. B. Mason for Wards II, VII, and VIII respectively. The retiring Councilors are Messrs. Hill, Hurwin and Dick.

The new candidates are put forward by Young South Africa, a recently-formed society, with a large and growing membership, which aims at the protection of the European from the unfair competition of Asiatics. The society desires representation upon the Town Council more especially to free Maritzburg from insanitary coolie hovels, and to substitute, where possible, European for Indian labour.

It is understood that the candidates will be pledged to greater publicity in the conduct of Municipal business, to evening meetings, to the provision of a pure water supply adequate to the town's needs, to road and street improvement, and to an endeavour to secure a reduction in the charges for electric current. The candidates will also pledge themselves to drastic market reform.

A meeting of interested electors will be held in No. 7 Committee Room, Town Hall, at 8 p.m., on Monday next."

Mr. Cox will be returned unopposed.

YOUNG SOUTH AFRICA

Chairman, Wm. Cox, M.P.C., Hon. Sec., J. S. Clark, 298 Boom Street; Hon. Treas. J. T. Cook, National Bank Buildings.

The problem presented by the existence in Natal of an Indian population actually outnumbering the European is, no doubt, a difficult one, but intelligent and courageous people will regard its very difficulty as a challenge to their strength and resourcefulness.

The situation is fast approaching a climax, and the issue, which race and which civilisation is to flourish in Natal, and perhaps ultimately in South Africa, emerges more and more clearly.

Put aside the Indians' claim to equal political and

civil rights, ignore the evils that everywhere result from mixed European and Asiatic communities and consider the struggle for existence.

It is already too plain to everyone that those who underlive us can also undersell us in the labour market as well as in the store. Underselling is a process involving the elimination of the dearer worker and the dearer salesmen.

In fact, authorities—whatever their racial or political sympathies—agree that Europeans, with their higher standard of living, cannot for long survive the competition of Asiatics.

To-day the Indian is ubiquitous in the field, the store, the office and the garage, while the European youth of Natal bitterly exclaim, "We may not work, to beg we are ashamed!"

For Europeans, then, the question is simply this: Are the people whose fathers rescued their country from massacre and barbarism, who have governed it for a century, developed their resources, built its towns, made its roads and converted the veldt into ploughlands, going to allow themselves to be quietly ousted first from the town, then from the country, first from one occupation, then from another, until the whole economic frame work of European Society collapses, honeycombed in every direction by that destructive, if not non-explosive, agent, Asiatic penetration?

If that is the question, there is only one answer. Europeans refuse to allow themselves to be ousted either by peaceful penetration or avowed aggression. They have conquered the country, civilised its inhabitants and created a prosperous state. Their home it is, their home it must remain.

In the past, blood and treasure have been poured out; yet again the country must be redeemed, cost what it may.

Young South Africa has been organised to plan and direct an effort for the recovery of Natal. Men who have retained the virility of their race, and women anxious to save their homes and children are joining daily.

Broadly, the policy of the Society is to treat the Indian quite openly as the unwelcome guest that he is, and denying him recognition as a landlord, trader or worker, to convince him that there is no place like home.

More definitely, the programme of Young South Africa is:

1. To abolish contact between Europeans and Asiatics in the Union of South Africa.
2. To demand, agitate for and promote legislation providing for the return of Asiatics in the Union to their historic home in Asia.
3. To prohibit Asiatics labour in all occupations in which Europeans have been or are engaged, and to bar all Asiatics all employment suitable for Europeans.
4. By speeches, lectures and Press articles and other available means to instruct the public of the dangers of the existing social conditions in the Union, and to promote measures of reform.
5. To support candidates for all governing public bodies who pledge themselves to further the Society's objects.
6. To raise funds to further the objects of the Society.

BOOKS FOR SALE

To be obtained from the *Indian Opinion Press*, Phoenix, Natal. Postal Orders to be made payable at Durban.

The Hon. Mr. Gokhale and the Indenture System	2	0
Indian Home Rule, by M. K. Gandhi	1	6
A Bookkeeper's Manual	1	6

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MASS MEETING

A Mass Meeting of the Indians of Maritzburg, and District will be held in the H.Y.M.A. Hall, Church Street, Maritzburg, on Sunday the 3rd August, 1924, at 2 p.m., to protest against the Boroughs Draft Ordinance, which was recently passed by the Provincial Council. This Ordinance seriously interferes with our existing rights, and seeks to dispossess us of our Municipal Franchise.

Other Matters of Importance will be Discussed at the Meeting

The rights of Indians are threatened. Join the Congress now. Membership fee only 2s. 6d. It is up to us to fight the mischievous propoganda directed against us to drive us out of the country.

C. NULLIAH, President.

S. R. NAIDOO, Hon. Secy.

AMOD BAYAT, Treasurer.

Natal Indian Congress (Pietermaritzburg Branch).

જાહેર મીટીંગ

તારીખ ૩ ઓગસ્ટને રવિવારને રોજ મેરીટ્ઝબર્ગ અને પરંચોના હિંદુઓની મહાસભા ચર્ચ સ્ટ્રીટમાં આવેલા હિંદુ યંગ મેન એસોસીએશનના હોલમાં સાંજના બે વાગે પ્રાંતીક ધારા સભામાં હાલમાં પાસ કરવામાં આવેલા બરો ડરાફ્ટ ઓર્ડના સામે હિંદીઓનો વાંધો દર્શાવવા મળશે.

આ કાયદાથી હિંદીઓનો મ્યુનીસીપલ વોટનો ચાલુ હક માર્ચે બંધ થી જીલ્લા જરૂરી બાબતોનું પણ મીટીંગમાં વિવેચન થશે.

હિંદીઓના હકો ઉપર તરખ મારવામાં આવી છે. હાલમાં કોંગ્રેસમાં જોડાઓ. વાર્ષિક મેમ્બર ફી ફક્ત રૂ. ૨-૬ છે.

આ દેશમાંથી હિંદીઓને હાંકી કાઢવાની તોફાની હિલચાલ સામે થયા સિવાય આપ આપણા હુકો નથી.

ચાર્લ્સ નલર્યા પ્રમુખ

એસ. આર. નાઈડુ એ. સેક્રટરી.

અહમદ વાઈલાલ ખલનવી

જા. ઉ. પ્રેમી, પી. એમ. બરગ સાખા.