

Indian Opinion

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NOTES AND NEWS

A CABLE message has been sent on behalf of the Natal Indian Congress to the Government of India against the Boroughs Ordinance of 1921 recently passed by the Natal Provincial Council and awaiting assent of the Governor-General-in-Council.

A similar message has also been forwarded to the Imperial Citizenship Association, Mrs. Sarojini Naidu and *The Bombay Chronicle*.

A public meeting of the Burgesses of Durban to discuss the Asiatic Problem was convened by His Worship the Mayor Mr. T. M. Wadley to be held in the Town Hall on Monday August 18 in accordance with a requisition signed by Messrs. J. W. Moberg, A. G. Salmon, W. Wick and twenty seven others. A notice, however, was subsequently published in the *Natal Advertiser* cancelling the meeting at the request of the signatories of the requisition.

As expected that this meeting would afford Anti-Asiatics an opportunity of opening out their minds on the Asiatic problem and thus relieve themselves of their long accumulated wrath. The notice of the cancellation of the meeting has therefore come as a surprise.

We can guess two reasons of the cancellation of the above meeting. One would perhaps be that the sermon of Archdeacon Hodson on Mayoral Sunday has appealed to the hearts of the requisitionists. The other would perhaps be that they were ashamed to appear in their true colours before the Empire Parliamentary Delegation that has arrived in Durban last Tuesday. If they have been prompted by the first reason to cancel their meeting it is a very good sign indeed. But if it is the second reason, we are sad, and would remind our Anti-Asiatic friends that if they fear being openly seen doing a grave wrong they should not forget that there is over their heads one Unseen who is watching them day and night and recording their good and bad deeds and they should fear Him more than anyone else.

The *Natal Mercury* reports that the Administrator (Sir George Plowman) presided over a conference of considerable importance to the suburban districts on Thursday the 14th instant, at which all the recently created Public Health Committees were present, and also members of the Provincial Executive. Councillors Mrs. E. A. Benson and H. H. Kemp were present by invitation. It is gathered by the *Mercury* that the question of the Town Council's purchase of land outside the Borough for the establishment of an Indian settlement was raised by one of the committees controlling an area adjacent to Durban. Various other matters which are concerning the Public Health Committees were informally discussed at the conference. The raising of loans, sources of revenue other than taxation and payments made for services, and police supervision with a

view to enforcing the Public Health Regulations were amongst the points raised during this discussion. Finally, the report that the Indians in the districts concerned contemplate testing the legality of the Ordinance was discussed.

The point of view of the Public Health Committees was expressed by the chairman of one of the committees to a representative of the *Natal Mercury*. He contended that a big principle was involved, and that the committees would strongly protest against the Town Council's proposal to establish an Indian village. There was a large Indian population in the districts adjacent to Durban, he said, and the European residents would resist any attempt to make the problem more acute by shifting the Borough boundaries into these districts, especially as the value of European properties in the vicinity would depreciate. The Council's present proposal was to establish a settlement at Cator Manor but it was pointed out that subsequently the Council might desire to have further settlements on the north and south of Durban. As there was no suggestion of extending the Borough boundaries at the moment, such settlements would have to be administered by the Public Health Committee concerned and not the Town Council, and the committees would want to know a lot more about the scheme before this could be done.

Mr. Albert Christopher who left for Capetown by the Union Express last Saturday (the 16th instant), was given a hearty send off by a number of leading Indians at the Durban Central Station. After spending a short time in Capetown Mr. Christopher wishes to proceed to Europe.

Mr. Christopher was one of the leading spirits amongst the Indian community and will be missed by one and all. In communal matters Mr. Christopher has always been in the forefront and the success of the Congress, as we have said before, has been largely due to the services of Mr. Christopher. Among the Sporting Indian community too Mr. Christopher was much loved and his services to them have been unsurpassed. We have no doubt the community will join us in wishing Mr. Christopher every success in life and we earnestly hope that it will not be long before Mr. Christopher is back amongst us with redoubled strength, energy and zeal.

A farewell meeting in honour of Mr. A. Christopher was held on Thursday evening, the 14th instant, at the Parsee Rustomjee Hall under the auspices of the Durban and District Indian Football Association. Mr. A. Sookdoo the chairman, was supported on the platform by the members and officials of the Association. As a small token of esteem Mr. Christopher was presented with a valuable purse, and speeches were made wishing him a happy voyage and a safe return. Mr. Christopher in a suitable reply thanked the Association for the honour done to him.

On the eve of his departure on Friday evening Mr. Christopher was entertained to Dinner by Mr. Parsee Rustonjee at 175, Grey Street. After a sumptuous meal a very pleasant ceremony was performed when Mr. Christopher was garlanded and presented on behalf of the host with a silver tray and other valuable silver ornaments. A few words by the friends present expressing good wishes to Mr. Christopher and a suitable reply by Mr. Christopher terminated the pleasant function.

A lengthy debate took place in the Union House of Assembly last Tuesday on Mr. Marwick's motion on the Asiatic question. We hope to publish the full report in our next issue.

MAYORAL SUNDAY

SERMON BY ARCHDEACON HODSON

In accordance with the usual practice in inaugurating a new year of civic life, the Mayor, members of the Town Council and Corporation officials attended a Divine service in St. Cyprian's Church last Sunday morning the preacher being Archdeacon M. O. Hodson M. A. the Mayor's chaplain. Such sermons as preached by Archdeacon Hodson are very unusual in this country. There is a lesson in this sermon not only for our City Fathers but for all rulers in general. If the principles laid down in the sermon were to be followed by the Authorities in this country the colour problem, we believe, would soon vanish into thin air and no section of the community would have cause for complaint, and the rulers and the ruled would all be able to live in peace and happiness. Our space does not permit us to reproduce the whole sermon in this issue, we will, therefore, content ourselves by giving below only the latter portion of it:

"I remind you again," said the Archdeacon, "that the whole teaching of history shows that you cannot ignore those great principles which are the foundations of civilisation without incurring the inevitable penalty. If God has made you his ministers, he will assuredly demand that you keep his rules. So you will see to it that wages are adequate, that all your employes have one day's rest in seven, and that in your efforts to preserve the European standard of living at its present level you do not do injustice by taking away the municipal franchise from any particular class of your ratepayers. The community surely has no right to take their money in rates and at the same time deny to them the right of applying one single note of the municipal harmony. And is it impossible to deal with the great problem of the adequate housing of the poorer classes of this town? I know that there are no slums in Durban, such as disfigure some of the great cities and districts in the Homeland. But I also know that many of the poorer families of our town are living under conditions which are a grave menace to their health of body and soul. It is the mark of good government that the claims of every member of the community should be recognised, however humble his position may be. You have done something to grapple with the problem of the housing of the prosperous artisan. Cannot something be done to provide houses for the less skilled and therefore less prosperous element in our population? But I have said enough. If I have said more than I should, I can only plead that to every thinking man the future of the world is bound up with the growth or decline of the community spirit. And a community spirit will only grow when men determine to be masters of their fate and recognise that their failures are not in their stars, but in themselves, and that they are members of one

another. God has given to you the great responsibility of the power to rule your fellow-men. He only asks for loyal service. The greatest Reformer the world has ever seen was among His fellow-men as one who served; and came not to save His life, but to give it. It is for you to follow in His steps."

BOROUGH'S ORDINANCE

CONGRESS REPRESENTATION TO MINISTER

The following telegraphic message was received by the Natal Indian Congress from the Minister of the Interior:—

"My telegram 6th re Boroughs Ordinance which has now been received from Provincial Administration. Before interview desired can be granted, necessary that sections of Ordinance to which exception is taken should be referred to and full explanations of Indian community given as to objections they have. See letter CT 135 of 5th instant, addressed by Secretary Interior to Secretary Natal Indian Congress at Durban."

In response to the above the following letter has been addressed to the Secretary to the Minister of the Interior by the Hon. Secretaries of the Natal Indian Congress:—

16th August, 1924.

The Secretary for the Interior,
Capetown.

Sir,—We beg to acknowledge yours herein of the 5th instant on the subject of the Boroughs Ordinance No. 18 of 1924, recently passed by the Natal Provincial Council. Your communication was duly placed before our Congress and we have been advised to forward for Minister's consideration the following points which, among others, constitute the objections of the community represented by our Congress to the provisions of the Ordinance.

Before enumerating such objections however, our Congress desires to observe that the fact of the Ordinance having been under discussion with the Natal Authorities for a considerable time, would appear to it to be additional reason why our community should be afforded somewhat extended consideration in their deliberation of the situation so suddenly arising.

As regards your observation that "it is extremely inconvenient to have a request for an interview put forward after the Ordinance has been passed by the Provincial Council of Natal," our Congress cannot see how it possibly could have moved for an interview before the Ordinance had, as a matter of fact, passed through the Provincial Council. But the fact is, so soon as the Ordinance was made public in the *Provincial Gazette*, and even before the discussion thereof, our Congress laid its protest before the Provincial Council and thereafter sought for and secured an interview with the Administrator who advised us to bring our objections in evidence before the Select Committee appointed hereant. Our Congress duly abided by the advice proffered by his Honour, but it remains now to be stated with regret, that all such our representations before the Select Committee would appear to have ended abortively, by reason of the Ordinance being passed into law as originally drafted word for word, in so far as the same differentially affects the Indian community.

1. CHAPTER IV. SECTION 13. SUB-SECTION (1) QUALIFICATION OF BURGESSES.

Ancient Section 13, Sub-section (1) our Congress objects that its provisions are directed to categorical removal of the right enjoyed by the Natal Indian community since the date of the first inception of municipalities within this

Province. Our Congress denies in toto the authority of the Provincial Council to claim as to exercise such powers of destruction of pre-existing rights under any known law operating within the Union. It is not the purpose of our Congress present representation to embark upon any profound disingenuousness of law on the subject, save and except that our Congress would reiterate that the Natal Provincial Council by promulgating Section 13, Sub-section (1), has assumed into itself powers unknown to it under the Parent Act constituting such Council, i.e., the South Africa Act. Section 13, Sub-section (1) provides that every person being the owner of rateable property of the value of £50 or who occupies property of the rental value of £10 per annum may be enrolled as a burgess qualified to exercise the municipal vote subject at the same time to such person being entitled to exercise the Parliamentary franchise.

Now by the Natal Act No. 8 of 1896, Natal Indians have been arbitrarily disenfranchised as being the descendants of a people not in the enjoyment of representative parliamentary institutions. This enactment was passed while Natal was yet an independent State in South Africa. By the passage of the South Africa Act, the Natal Act merged into the Parent Act and has become, as it were, an integral part of it. After Union, and by the passage of the South Africa Act, Natal ceased to be an independent State, and therefore on and after the date of the South Africa Act, the present Province of Natal cannot now, as it were, build upon powers that she enjoyed as an independent State before the Union. Secondly, it would not be difficult to see that Section 13, Sub-section (1) presumes to legislate for the Union Parliament in that the person qualified as a provincial voter is, *ipso facto*, qualified as a Parliamentary voter, and the sub-section boldly relates to the Parliamentary voter by its reference that persons disentitled to exercise the Parliamentary vote shall not be entitled to exercise the municipal vote. Our Congress submits that the lack of Parliamentary qualifications on the part of Indians cannot be made the starting-off ground for legislation directed to destroy local municipal rights. Any legislation relating to and being associated with the parliamentary franchise, it is respectfully submitted, can be adumbrated and initiated by the Union Legislature alone.

Our Congress therefore, most emphatically holds that Section 13, Sub-section (1) of the Ordinance is wholly *ultra vires* of the powers of the Natal Provincial Council.

Finally as respecting this sub-section, it is pointed out that the provisions thereof are designed to operate retrospectively. The conclusion of Clause (b) of the sub-section reads, "provided however that no person who at the first day of July 1924 was enrolled as a burgess of any Borough shall be disqualified for or disentitled to such enrolment for non-compliance with the foregoing provision in regard to parliamentary qualifications." The operative effect of the words under quotation marks is clearly this, that in view of the Ordinance coming into force on the 1st day of August 1925, all Indians enrolling themselves as between the 1st day of July 1924 and the 1st day of August 1925 shall, on the date of promulgation of the Ordinance, enjoy the franchise and automatically drop out of the Burgess Roll. Our Congress protests that there is no precedent for legislation of the nature operating and taking effect retrospectively, but as our Con-

gress, as set out above, is confirmed as to the invalidity of the section as affecting the Indian community, it will not enlarge upon this aspect of retrospective operation of the law.

2. CHAPTER XIII. SECTION 170.

Conditions in regard to buildings, ownership and use or occupation of land:

This section has been boldly taken over from the Durban Land Alienation Ordinance, recently passed by the Natal Provincial Council. The provisions of the section will speak for themselves. Suffice it here to say, that in their practical working the provisions will be made applicable to the Indian community generally, that is, if our experience of the past respecting such legislation be any index of the future. Incidentally we may illustrate our meaning by the action of a sub-committee appointed a while ago under the identical clause occurring in the Durban Land Alienation Ordinance when that Sub-Committee, after exhaustive examination and enquiry, concluded that within the immense area of the Borough of Durban, there was not to be found more space for Indian settlement or occupation than one acre and a quarter certain. This finding of the sub-committee would serve sufficiently to illustrate how provisions such as those under consideration are calculated to be employed to the utter damage and detriment of the local Indian community. Our Congress need hardly observe, that Section 170 becoming law, our community would be instantly faced with the total deprivation of a long enjoyed right, that is, the prospect of not any longer being able to purchase unalienated lands within the municipal bounds of the Natal Province.

3. CHAPTER XV. SECTION 185. By-laws under heading, NUISANCES.

Under the heading of Nuisances within purview of which are brought such matters as immorality, uncleanness, insanitary habits and the like, are included powers for making by-laws regulating "the use by coloured persons of vehicles plying for hire" (No. 10, 7th Schedule) under which our Congress rightly fears that harassing regulations may be devised making it wholly impossible for members of our community to use the public conveyances. The consideration here is not by us wholly confined to the practical difficulties anticipated, but it will, we readily see, that minor provisions of this nature directly affect the esteem and self-respect of our community differentiated as it would be, under the provisions complained against from other sections of the general community. Our Congress most strongly condemns provisions which not only by inference and implication but directly and categorically launch attacks upon the communal self-respect and honour of our community under the cover of public general legislation. Our community perforce, is doubly dishonoured by such undisguised assaults upon its good name by reason of it being wholly devoid of any political power.

4. CHAPTER IV. SECTION 24. SUB-SECTION 3. LICENCES.

This sub-section is so aptly worded for the promotion of the Ordinance, that it would appear at first sight futile for Indians to complain against its provisions. But our Congress does most emphatically and unhesitatingly state that several provisions of this sub-section will be employed to their full effect destructively of Indian rights and interests. The sub-

section is, as it were, the vigorous child of European agitation which has been in evidence for years past. That agitation has been directed towards the decimation of Indian trading rights and the destruction of Indian commercial activity. The progress and advancement of the Natal Indian community commercially, has ever been resented by the European community. Innumerable efforts, both individual and communal, have been made by the European section to not only reduce Indian trade and commerce to the irreducible minimum but no small measure of European opinion has been from time to time in favour of total defacement of Indian trade and commerce. The sub-section under consideration then, our Congress is confirmed, is, as it were, the concentrated essence of the aims and objects actuating the aforementioned European agitation continued for years past. The danger of the provisions as perceived by our community really lies in the very general terms in which the sub-section is drafted. No one, unacquainted with the history of Indian trade and commerce in Natal in the past or at the present, can detect or anticipate harmful results from the provisions now considered, for the manner of their general wording at once disarms suspicion. But our community can assert from bitter and long continued experience, that the provisions of section 214, sub-section 3, will in their practical working, be most generally employed to the great detriment of the Indian mercantile community.

It is from provisions of this very general nature our community fears great harm and danger to come to itself.

Other obviously objectionable features contained in the Ordinance would readily present themselves to the Minister upon his first perusal of the measure, but our Congress will for the time being content itself with the innumeration of the above objections which it has hurriedly been able to discover in the provisions.

A full and detailed analysis of the measure must result in various other dangers and defects being discovered but our Congress is sincerely of hope that the objections so far brought out will appear sufficient to the Minister to grant our Congress the desired interview with the Government. Our Congress feels that the Ordinance under consideration is by far the most extensive engine of destruction yet devised for the arrest of Indian progress and happiness in the Province of Natal. Our Congress is aware that in times past, measures have been promulgated which though ostensibly of general application have been generally and exclusively employed to the detriment of our community. But our Congress can recall no law whose provisions have in them the germ of great potentialities for evil than the present measure.

Wherefore our Congress hopes that the Minister may do it the preliminary justice of at least hearing our Congress's voice and views respecting the Ordinance for which our community will ever be grateful.

We beg to remain,

Sir,

Obediently yours,

(Sgd.) V. S. C. PATHER.

SORABJEE RUSTOMJEE.

Jt. Honry. Secretaries.

PROPOSED INDIAN VILLAGE

COUNCILLOR KEMP'S MOTION LOST BY EIGHT VOTES TO SEVEN

At the first business meeting of the newly elected Town Council held on Wednesday, the 14th instant, an interesting discussion took place on the motion of Mr. Kemp regarding the proposed Indian Village the Durban Town Council has decided to establish at Cato Manor. Mr. Kemp's motion read as follows:—

"That as the Municipal interests of Durban and district are identical, and as it is imperative that no one local authority should endeavour to impede the progress of another in the manner indicated in the Council's resolution of July 4, 1924, when it agreed, subject to the administrator's approval, to purchase, for the purposes of an Indian village, 281 acres of land from Messrs G. W. Gray and R. Monzali, situated within the area of jurisdiction of the Mayville Local Authority, at a price of £52 10s per acre, this Council hereby resolves that its resolution of July 4, 1924, stands in abeyance for the present, and that in the meantime the Council recommends to the Administrator the advisability of appointing a committee, representative of Durban and Greater Durban, to consider and report upon the whole matter."

As Mr. Kemp was preparing to speak, the Mayor said he would like to know what he had to say on rule of order No. 26. The mayor proceeded to point out that this rule provided that any notice of motion to rescind a previous resolution of the Council must be signed by six members of the Council.

A debate on procedure followed. Councillor Kemp contended that he was not asking for the repeal of that resolution, but merely that it should stand in obeyance. The Mayor did not agree, however, submitting that in any case Mr. Kemp's motion was an amendment to the resolution.

After some further discussion on this point the representative for Ward 1 moved the adjournment of the Council. The reason he did so he said was to draw attention to a conference that had been held that morning between the Administrator, the Provincial Executive, and the Public Health Committee. The delegates, some 50 in number, had come to the conclusion as that embodied in his proposition. Until further inquiries were made and the whole scheme laid before the Health Committees, the Administrator was not going to give his consent to the Council's purchase of the land.

On being subjected to an interruption on a point of order by Councillor Burman, the speaker declared that no one had the right to intervene while a councillor was on his feet; Mr. Burman should not have been allowed to interrupt.

On Councillor Burman intervening again to point out that there had been no seconder to the motion, Councillor Clark seconded.

Continuing, Councillor Kemp said their friends across the border would have to be consulted before the Indian settlement could be established. He was at one with the Council in its desire to purchase land outside the Borough, but they could not pass their troubles on to the Public Health Committees and the only solution was a joint conference with these committees, the Administration and the Government. Then there were the Indians. They would not agree to live in the settlement and if the Government imposed compulsory segregation they would have passive resistance. The Council would have to carry the Indians with them.

On being put to the vote the motion for the adjournment was lost by eight votes to seven.

It is understood that the proposed Indian settlement, was again discussed, and the Town Clerk was asked to submit a memorandum on the subject for consideration at a subsequent meeting.—*Natal Mercury*.

A REAL CASE OF INSOLVENCY

LIABILITIES £72,000, CASH ASSETS £248

NO PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT

The Port Elizabeth correspondent of the *Natal Advertiser* in a message dated August 15, states:—

Cash assets totalling £248, against liabilities proved to date of £72,000, were the sensational features of the examination in the insolvency of Isaac Carnofsky, trading as The Rhodesian Hide Co. of Bulawayo and Port Elizabeth.

At the first meeting a claim for £38,373 was proved in favour of Braugwin Clark & Co. (in liquidation), of Johannesburg. This was in respect of money advanced on skin deals.

To-day at the second meeting, the trustee reported further liabilities, making the total £72,175. The only asset shown in the schedule was cash amounting to £248.

In his report, the trustee narrated that Carnofsky started business in Bulawayo in 1918 with a capital of £4,800. He also established himself in Port Elizabeth about December, 1920. Trouble arose with the National Bank in connection with the Bulawayo business, and the bank attached his assets at Port Elizabeth in April 1921. He was associated in the business by J. T. Carnofsky, who, in 1918, was credited with a capital to the amount of £2,500, against £2,750 to the credit of the insolvent.

"I am," reported the trustee, "at a considerable disadvantage in tracing the history of the concern, partly owing to the lapse of time since the business was closed down, but more particularly to the absence of books. The only book produced to me concerning the Port Elizabeth business is a book which might be called a shipping invoice book. This contains entries of shipments from November, 1919, to September, 1920. There is no cash book, ledger, journal, purchases or sales book, nothing in fact to indicate the volume of the business carried on.

"With respect to Bulawayo, I have a cash book or a ledger, a rough purchase book and the bank pass book. The ledger cannot be balanced. There is no trading or profit and loss account, and the insolvent tells me that he never framed a profit and loss account or a balance sheet."

The trustee went on to report that although the Rhodesian books were incomplete, it was apparent that from July, 1918, to August, 1920, the purchases were at the rate of £90,000 per annum. What the purchases were in Port Elizabeth he was unable to tell, owing to the absence of books. At January 26, 1921, the stock at Bulawayo stood at £7,138 and at Port Elizabeth at £5,511. The goods at Port Elizabeth were attached by the Sheriff at the suit of the National Bank in April, 1921, and the now insolvent wrote to the bank authorising it to take delivery of all the assets in Bulawayo.

"According to the only book available in connection with the Port Elizabeth business, shipments from Port Elizabeth from and including November, 1919, to September, 1920, amounted to £100,320, but of any other transactions in Port Elizabeth I have not the slightest information," reported the trustee. "The insolvent states that he cannot account for the disappearance of the books, and says that his brother, who has been absent from the Union in Europe until the 14th inst., may have them."

The insolvent attributed his failure to the fact that large shipments sent to Europe in 1919 and 1920 were held over by the consignees instead of being realised at once, resulting in huge losses owing to falling markets. His London agent kept produce in spite of his instructions to sell.

Carnofsky was subjected to a lengthy examination at the hands of the trustee. He had, he said, re-

ceived £4,500 from J. Carnofsky, his brother. The last £1,000 received did not appear in the ledger, a circumstance from which he could not account. The brother was to receive 10 per cent. of the profits from the Port Elizabeth business.

Asked how, in view of the fact that he never drew up balance-sheets, he got on with the income tax authorities, Carnofsky replied: "They never worried me up there (Rhodesia) until last year, when I went up to get the goods which I left there."

The trustee: Did you ever give the bank any statement?

Insolvent: I gave nobody a statement. Nobody asked me for a statement.

He added that he could not remember the extent of his purchase in Port Elizabeth after the Port Elizabeth business was closed consequent upon the bank taking judgment against him. His stock at Port Elizabeth, he believes, was taken by Cohen and Carnofsky. H. T. Carnofsky was his nephew and the son of J. L. Carnofsky. The Port Elizabeth books were kept in a safe in the store.

The hearing was adjourned to allow of further inquiries.

HAKIM AJMAL KHAN

AN APPRECIATION BY ZARDAD KHAN AYUBI

In March, 1922, I found myself on Meerut Station, faced with the prospect of sleeping on the cold stones of the platform. My servant had become involved in a love intrigue, and had deserted me, taking with him my money, my baggage, and all my letters of introduction. This last was the most serious loss imaginable in the circumstances. I had been about to visit, and perhaps make a stay of a few days with, a certain well-known merchant-Zain-ul-abdin by name. Not daring to present myself in that quarter in my present shorn state, I bought, with the few shillings remaining in my pocket, a third class ticket to Delhi.

Arriving in Delhi in the early hours I made my way to the house of a friend, only to be informed by a very sleepy *chowkidar*, who was justly indignant at being thus rudely awakened from his beauty-sleep, that his master was also absent in Saharanpur. All night long I roamed about the cold, deserted station, occasioning, I have reason to believe, much fluttering in the dovescotes of the local C. I. D. One Rajput, I remember, was most fluttering in his attentions, offering me information on the most varied range of subjects, in the hope of finding some clue to my identity. I was too old a hand however, not to recognise this kind-hearted gentleman for what he was.

So, when the sun was well up, I made my way towards the Durbar of Hakim Ajmal Khan. I had hoped, through one of my introductions, to have gained admittance to the Hakim's circle, so in my present distressed condition I determined to appeal to the Hakim for help. Enormous crowds were assembled in the street outside his house, and a further crowd of people from all over India were seated or standing about the inner courtyard. With some difficulty I managed to force my way through the crowd to the Secretary's office, where I discovered that the Hakim would not make an appearance that day owing to the illness of one of his sons. This news, however, did not appear to cause any appreciable diminution in the size of the crowd. Perhaps they felt with some justice, that benefit was obtainable even from the surroundings of so illustrious a man.

It was Faruqi Sahib, the Secretary, who proved to be Providence in disguise. On hearing my plight, not only did he wire to my friends in Rawalpindi for further funds, but he advanced me a considerable sum from his own pocket for current

expenses, and carried me off to breakfast. I must admit that I did considerable justice to that meal, nothing having passed my lips for nearly twenty-four hours. With this munificent assistance I was able to take a nice room at the Coronation Hotel at the end of Chandni Chawk, and generally to make myself comfortable.

It was three or four days before I could be presented to His Excellency. On the recovery of his son the Hakim was too busy with his patients to be able to give any attention to outside subjects. On top of this the whole of the Staff of the Aligarh Muslim University, headed by Dr. Mohd Alam arrived in Delhi for a conference with the Hakim Sahib.

The day arrived at length, however, and I was introduced. The Hakim at that time presented a noble appearance. Rarely have I seen a man from whom radiated such an atmosphere of Khandani or breeding. One felt one was in the presence of a leader of men—a descendant of Kings. The Hakim's charming manners and great sympathy captivated me at once, and at that moment of meeting I gave the Hakim my allegiance never to be withdrawn. On this, for me, memorable occasion, there was also present Dr. Ansari, whom I recollected having met in Turkey, and Dr. Mohd Alam.

The Hakim introduced me to Dr. Mohd Alam, and it was through the Hakim's kindness that I was eventually appointed as Headmaster to the Asad Muslim High School at Gujarat in the Punjab. Perhaps in a later article I may describe some of my experiences in that bravely struggling school.

My lasting impression of Hakim Ajmal Khan and one that was in no way modified by our subsequent association, was that he was one of the greatest men the world has ever known. An invaluable friend in private life, he would fight in the political arena to his last gasp, in any cause which he supported. Giving away enormous sums annually in private charity, he yet contributed largely to the Khilafat funds. His acts of private charity are countless. Many are the poor peasants of India who render thanks to Allah for his goodness in sending them at times of illness and danger, a wonderful Hakim, who whilst refusing all payment, and preferring to remain unknown, cures their loved ones' ailments, and departs with a "Peace be with you."

AGRICULTURAL CONGRESS

RESOLUTIONS ON THE ASIATIC QUESTION

The following discussion is reported by Reuter to have taken place on the Asiatic question at the recent session of the Agricultural Congress held at Johannesburg:—

Mr. Hubert Van der Merwe moved: "That the Government be asked to segregate all Asiatics in locations, and place those born here on the same basis as coloured people and to cancel all licences issued to Asiatics outside bazaris in the Transvaal on the expiration of the present licences. Several speakers said it was urged that the people of the country could not do without the Asiatics, but they had the case of the Free State which got on very well without them. Capt. Donisthorpe moved to delete the reference to present licences. He believed much of the opposition to the Asiatics came from stockkeepers who disliked their competition. Mr. Duff said the sooner they got rid of the Asiatics the better. It was not necessary to repatriate them, let them be placed in locations and they would repatriate themselves. He moved "That the Government be asked to place all Asiatics in locations on the same lines and conditions as the Native population, and to cancel all licences issued to Asiatics on the expiration of the present licences."

Mr. Swart moved: "We consider the Asiatics as undesirable in the Union and a danger to our future and the sooner they are deported the better." On being put to the vote, Mr. Swart's motion only received eight votes, but Mr. Duff's motion was carried by an overwhelming majority.

Sporting News

(CONTRIBUTED)

The following are the results at a glance of Saturday Aug. 16:—

NATAL CUP SENIORS:

Sydenham Unity 1 ... Blue Bells 0

TANDREE'S CUP SENIORS:

Stamford Hill 2 ... Greyville 1

LEAGUE CUP JUNIORS:

Greyville 2 ... S. College 1

NATAL CUP JUNIORS:

Star of India 3 ... Sydenham Unity 1

MOONLIGHTERS CUP JUNIORS:

Young Colonials 2 ... Pirates 0

Young Aryans 0 ... Royals 0

The match between the Blue Bells and Sydenham for the Natal Cup was played on the No. 1 Ground under the refereeship of Mr. B. Mansigh. The match started very fast and was very exciting with the Sydenham doing all the pressing.

In a scrimmage a penalty was awarded against the Blue Bells for fouling in the fatal area. Mr. E. Thomas of the Mitchell Crescent School took the kick and lobbed in a beauty in the corner of the net, which beat the goalie helplessly. Half time arrived with the score as follows: Sydenham Unity 1, Blue Bells 0.

The second half of the game opened with thrills and excitement with the Sydenhamites doing all the pressing. The Blue Bells made determined attacks but without avail. Excitement ran high when the Bells were bombarding the goal of the Sydenham, but Mr. M. K. Naidoo the left full back saved the situation. Soon the whistle blew for the termination of the game with the Sydenham winners of a hard fought game. The final scores were, Sydenham Unity 1, Blue Bells 0.

The following men have been selected to represent the D. D. I. F. A. against the Maritzburg D. I. F. A. for the Emmamally Bros., Intertown cup. The match is set down for the 23rd instant at Maritzburg:—

Goal—R. Bhoodan, (Stamfordhill). Backs—G. K. Singh (Greyville), M. K. Naidoo (Sydenham). Halves—R. Bharos (Mayville), S. Ruman (Blue Bells), E. Ramith (Greyville). Forwards—G. K. Ismail (Greyville), Thangavalloo (Royal), E. Thomas (Sydenham), Moody (Sydenham), J. Royappen (Blue Bells). Reserve—Defence line Reddy (Sydenham).—Reserve forward line A. I. Bhabha (N.C.D.I. F. A.).

After the above match the Natal team will be selected for the Port Elizabeth Tournament.