

Indian Opinion

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NOTES AND NEWS

THE following from the *Daily Herald* will be educative to those who profess to be well-wishers of the British Empire and think they are working towards its solidification but are actually working towards its ruination:—

The events in India and Egypt have brought us appreciably nearer to the end of the British Empire as it exists to-day. What the British people have to decide is: Shall that end be peaceful or shall it be with garments rolled in blood?

In Egypt the British authorities have shown that the supposed grant of self-government to the Egyptian people was dishonest, even farcical.

You can rule yourselves if you do exactly what we want; if you don't we will rule you by force.

In India the resolve of the British Government to put into force exceptional laws—or rather to suspend laws altogether—has provoked the representatives of the Indian people to a fresh and vigorous protest.

In each country we are trying to govern against the wishes of the governed. We are making the mistake that Empires have made over and over again. We are relying upon violence and forcing those against whom it is used to say: "Then we must violent, too."

And Mr. Baldwin, the head of a Ministry which is making wars in all directions certain, continues to babble of peace!

A further stage in implementing the famous White Paper decision of 1923 regarding the future status of Europeans and Indians in Kenya has been reached in the elections for, and the first meeting of, the new Municipal Council says a Nairobi report. The European community actually produced ten candidates for five seats, and heavy polling took place. Those elected, in a meeting with the Indian members, voted another European as the eleventh Councillor, thus ensuring a European majority in a fully attended Council. No Indian was proposed as the new Mayor, but a great effort was made to make an Indian Deputy Mayor, and this was only defeated by the casting vote of the newly-elected Mayor. Thus Europeans have won the first skirmish, but the narrow majority proves that the Indians will win the day if the white Councillors get slack.

Replying to Sir Robert Hamilton (Liberal) in the House of Commons, the Hon. Ormsby-Gore, Under-Secretary for the Colonies, said in accordance with the decision set forth in a White Paper in July, 1923, areas had been reserved in Lowlands of Kenya with a view to ascertaining the Indians' demand for agricultural land. The matter was in a state of suspension pending the examination of the land by representatives of local Indian interests and the Government of India, or both. He was not aware that the Government of India had taken any action in the matter.

A peculiar judgment was given in the Durban Court by Mr. H. B. Wallace in the cases in which

two Indian 'bus drivers were charged, one with having stopped in a position other than one of those specified under the regulations, and the other with traversing streets in which Indian 'bus traffic was not allowed under these same regulations. Mr. Mitchel, who appeared for both the accused, applied for their discharge, as in the case of the first accused he was not plying for hire, but had merely gone to a certain building in order to pay an account, and that the owner was not carrying passengers for reward when he was traversing the streets. Mr. Wallace remarked that the regulations were very explicit, and it was clear that the road named in the charge—Smith Street—was closed to Indian 'bus traffic. The accused were each fined £1, Mr. Michel giving notice of appeal.

For contravening the new Durban Municipal by-laws passed on Feb. 18 providing an additional licence to be taken out in respect of all 'buses used for trading purposes a batch of 25 Indians were recently charged with not having taken out these licences. Mr. Michel, who appeared for the accused, asked for a remand in order that he might have time to look up authorities on the subject. He intimated that he would endeavour to prove that the municipal by-law was directly opposed to the statute that on the payment of the general licence of £1 the owner of a car could travel in any part of the Province. For the purposes of his case, he was going to argue that Durban was part of the Province. He would also challenge the validity of making the additional tax retrospective. In this case the actual tax had been paid in January last, and the additional tax was passed on Feb. 18. "It should not," he contended, "have come into force until January, 1926." Remand was granted until May 29.

* The total number of deaths during the month of March in the Borough of Durban were 79 of which 33 were European and 30 Asiatic and the rest Coloured and Native. Cases of infectious disease totalled 38 of which 27 were European and 4 Asiatic and the remaining were imported and Coloured and Native.

Total revenue from the Indian Market for the month of March was £1,012 3s. 1d. an increase of £277 8s. 1d. as compared with the corresponding month of last year.

Revenue received by the Corporation during the month of March from Natives totals £7449 6s. 1d. of which £4547 9s. 9d. is derived from the sale of beer.

Preaching at the Clifton Wesleyan Church, Johannesburg, recently on the "Statesmanship of Missions," the Rev. J. Glyndwr Davies is reported to have stated that mission work was never more needed in Africa than at the present time. He was afraid the black man had lost faith in the white

man, and the duty of the Church was to see that he did not lose faith in the white man's religion. "The mission field to-day requires all the best men and women available because the responsibility is great," he said. "We require a true and sane interpretation of the Gospel. We must plant at this stage of the economical, social and spiritual transition in the native life the best Christian ideas and ideals." There were two forces that played strongly on the lives of the natives in this continent—the Mahomedan, like an avalanche from the north, with all his corrupting influences, and the trader in native centres, who frequently showed greed and cruelty and was addicted to drunkenness.

Yes, it is true, the black man has lost and is fast losing faith in the white man and his religion and the cause of it is obvious. The white man's religion is no longer the religion of Christ, which was the brotherhood of all mankind. The white man's religion is to keep the black man under everlasting servitude. It teaches the black man to look upon the white man as the supreme being and that the Kingdom of Heaven, as it were, is within him. In fact the underlying motive of bolstering up Christianity now-a-days is only to increase the domination of the white man.

In the course of his remarks in the Natal Provincial Council on education Col. Henwood is reported to have predicted a dark future for European boys and girls in Natal, in view of the appalling figures before them. In 1910, he said, there were 14,000 European children in the Natal schools, and Indian and Native children numbered 16,887. To-day there were 26,666 European boys and girls attending schools in Natal, against 37,200 Natives and Indians. What did these figures mean in the light of the fact that these Indians and Natives were receiving a training equal to that of European children? It meant that these Natives and Indians, in future, would take the bread out of the mouths of our children. Where was the remedy? It was a most serious position. (A Voice: "Don't employ them.") "Don't employ them?" asked Colonel Henwood, the remedy would then be simple, but people would employ them, and in preference to Europeans too, especially when they could get their work done for £4 or £5 per month.

Mr. Hulett in the course of his remarks in the Provincial Council congratulated the Union Government on its Asiatic policy, and said that it was quite a change from the avowed policy of the Smuts' regime which seemed to think that nothing should be done which would be in conflict with the views of Great Britain and India on this question. (Mr. Brisker: "What about the sugar industry?") "I think we have solved that," replied Mr. Hulett, and added: "We are more able to dispense with them than the hon. member is with his stores." (Laughter). Proceeding, Mr. Hulett said he hoped that in future there would be no more hedging on this question, and that when Ordinances dealing with this matter were introduced there would be no more ambiguity, but that they would deal with the matter straightforwardly.

Reuter from London reports:—Because of the selection of the South African player, J. J. Lezard, of Christ's College, as captain of the team, it is stated that S. M. Hadi and Dr. Rutnam, the old Cambridge lawn tennis half Blues, declined to play for the University in the fixtures arranged this term, and consequently will not be available for the match against Oxford on June 1. It is contended that Hadi, as the senior Blue, should

have been elected captain, and the omission to do this is regarded as a slight to India. Hadi is the Indian Davis Cup player and Rutnam comes from Ceylon. "We have a higher regard for English sportsmanship than to accept the statement that the teams would not play against Cambridge under an Indian captain," said Rutnam, the Ceylonese and Cantab, lawn tennis Blue. As a rule of honour the senior Blue should be captain, but the Indians were passed over, the explanation being that the practical difficulties of an Indian captaining the team were so great that the thing was impossible. Rutnam has emphasised that the objection is not a personal one, but a matter of principle, and both being friends of Lezard they would be delighted to play under him if he were their senior. "If the club admits the principle that an Indian, if entitled to the captaincy, should be elected in future, we are willing to play under Lezard this season."

IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT TAKEN TO TASK

"I CANNOT understand the Immigration Department at all. It frequently acts in the most unreasonable manner and gives the Court no assistance at all. It is the most high-handed department I know of."

Mr. Justice Gardiner has occasion to utter the above words in the Supreme Court at Capetown recently in dealing with the appeal of Amber Wallabh, an Indian, against his summary deportation by the Immigration authorities. It was alleged that Wallabh had been in South Africa 20 years and it was not until he made a claim for arrears of wages that his right to be here was questioned. His employer, an Indian, it was alleged, communicated false information to the authorities and he was then arrested and shipped off to India without being given an opportunity of submitting his case to the Immigration Board. His friends consulted attorneys, who obtained a temporary interdict, restraining the department from deporting Wallabh. The Immigration Department, thereupon, asked Mr. Justice Watermeyer to make Wallabh give security for legal costs and the expense of maintaining him, which order His Lordship declined to grant. The Government's counsel, it appears, urged that Wallabh, being a prohibited immigrant, had no right to appeal to the Court, and if the Court was going to assume jurisdiction it was only fair that Wallabh should give security for the costs. Mr. Justice Watermeyer had, here, to open the eyes of the department by pointing out that this was a fallacy. "This Court," said His Lordship, "is not going to assume any jurisdiction it does not possess. The Court is here to see that the laws are enforced and that injustice is not done and we should not make it any more difficult than it is already for a person to place his case before us." The Immigration Department had since failed to tender any affidavits and that gave Mr. Justice Gardiner reason to take the Department rather severely to task as would appear from His Lordship's comment quoted above.

The rights vested in the Immigration Department are most extraordinary and contrary to all

principles of justice and fairplay. It is an everyday experience of many an unfortunate Indian and it is merely by a stroke of luck that an isolated case reaches the Courts of justice. What is noteworthy is that whenever such a case has reached the Courts of justice it has almost invariably caused severe criticism to be passed against the Immigration Department. This would prove the rottenness of the ways of the Department. Each such criticism, although has not the effect on the Department whose high-handedness is as bad as ever is nevertheless worth recording.

HIGH-HANDEDNESS OF IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT

INDIAN DEPORTED AND BROUGHT BACK JUDGE'S SEVERE CRITICISM

Capetown, 8th May, 1925.—An eleventh hour attempt to stop the authorities deporting an Indian, Amber Wallabh, was described in the Supreme Court to-day.

According to Wallabh, he had been domiciled in the country since 1902, and it was not until he claimed £100 arrears of wages from a compatriot, that his right to be here was questioned. His debtor, he alleged, gave false information about him to the Immigration Department, who promptly arrested him and proceeded to ship him to India as a prohibited immigrant. The ship had already left when his attorneys succeeded in obtaining a temporary interdict against the Government and Wallabh was landed when the vessel touched at Port Elizabeth.

SECURITY FOR COSTS

To-day the Immigration Department asked Mr. Justice Watermeyer to make Wallabh give security for legal costs and the expense of maintaining him, but his lordship declined to grant any order.

Mr. Justice Watermeyer pointed out that the authorities had been called upon to show cause on May 15, why they should not be restrained from deporting Wallabh. In the meantime they had the expense of maintaining him, but, as he was detained in gaol, the cost was only 9d. or 1/- a day. The law said that when a prohibited immigrant appealed to the Board, he must give financial security. The matter to be decided to-morrow week however, was whether Wallabh should be afforded an opportunity of appealing to the Board. The Government's counsel, and his lordship, had urged that Wallabh, being a prohibited immigrant, had no right to appeal to the court, and if the court was going to assume jurisdiction it was only fair that Wallabh should give security for the cost.

"A FALLACY"

"That is a fallacy," said the Judge. "This court not going to assume any jurisdiction it does not possess. The court is here to see that the laws are enforced and that injustice is not done, and we could not make it any more difficult than it is ready for a person to place his case before us."

The question of who must pay the costs of the Government's unsuccessful application was reserved until the decision of whether Wallabh was entitled to be heard by the Immigration Appeal Board.—*and Daily Mail.*

19-5-25.

The methods of the Immigration Department are adversely commented upon by Mr. Justice Gardiner at Capetown yesterday during the appeal Amber Wallabh, an Indian, against summary deportation.

Wallabh alleged that he had been in South Africa 20 years, and it was not until he made a claim for arrears of wages that his right to be here was questioned. His employer a compatriot, communicated false information to the authorities, he declared, and he was then arrested and shipped off to India without being given an opportunity of submitting his case to the Immigration Board. His friends consulted attorneys, who obtained a temporary interdict, restraining the department from deporting Wallabh, and he was taken off the boat at Port Elizabeth.

"ILLEGAL ACTION"

The Judge-President (Sir Malcolm Searle) and Mr. Justice Gardiner were asked yesterday to confirm the interdict pending Wallabh's appeal to the Immigration Board.

For Wallabh, Advocate Davis, K.C., urged that the Minister had no jurisdiction to deport Wallabh until he had an opportunity of being heard by the Board. Wallabh gave notice of appeal, but his notice was returned to him by an official because he could not immediately deposit £30.

The deposit had not been fixed by the Minister, and counsel described the action of the official as illegal. The amount was subsequently subscribed by Wallabh's friends, but was then rejected.

"I cannot understand the Immigration Department at all," observed Mr. Justice Gardiner, commenting on the absence of affidavits from the authorities. "It frequently acts in the most unreasonable manner and gives the Court no assistance at all. It is the most high-handed department I know of."

After hearing Advocate Roper, who questioned the Court's power to interfere with the discretion of the Minister, unless absence of jurisdiction or illegality were proved, their Lordships reserved judgment.—*The Star.*

ASIATIC QUESTION IN UNION PARLIAMENT

DR. MALAN ON THE PROMISED ASIATIC BILL

The Minister of the Interior is reported to have stated recently in the Union House of Assembly that since 1914 Indians had been repatriated at the rate of 2,000 a year at a cost of about £8 each. With the greater inducements offered, repatriation would be increased by 600 annually. A communication had been received from the Indian Government suggesting a round table conference on the Indian question in the Union. No reply had yet been sent and it would be unwise to say anything further until the Government had properly considered the matter.

In connection with the promised Asiatic Bill the Minister said it was very complicated question, and it was only to be expected of the Government that before introducing legislation it should go very thoroughly into the whole position.

"I have tried to do so during the recess, but the recess, was a very short one, and I undertook that, if it is at all possible, I would introduce a Bill during this session. I cannot hold out any hope that it will be done before the very end of the session. I have no hope that the Bill will get on the Statute Book this year, but I have very good reason, which I will state when I introduce the Bill, why it should be introduced during this session. The only progress I have been able to make so far is that it is quite clear to me what are the lines on which we should legislate. I have indicated those lines to the Government, and the Government has approved of them. I have also indicated them to the department, and asked it to prepare legislation on these lines. It has done so and I have just received my policy in legislative form. I am going into the

whole question, and if it is at all possible I hope to introduce the measure right at the end of the session.

Mr. Nel (S.A.P., Klip River): Cannot you publish the Bill before the end of the session?

The Minister: No. It is not ready.

LORD CURZON AND 'SANJ VARTMAN'

Following is an article from *Sanj Vartman* on Lord Curzon:—

In many respects the late Lord Curzon was a puzzling personality. Genius he had, no doubt. He had energy, he had pluck and, above all, he had what is popularly called an inexhaustible amount of cheek. He was the son of a British peer—though that peer was a clergyman and poor—but he rectified the fatal mistake of being born poor by marrying a rich American heiress. At the very threshold of his life he found sympathetic sponsors to back him up in his future political career, and aided by his own talents and personal "go" he early made a mark in the House of Commons, a very stern and discerning critic of aspiring political debutants. His friends found him a "sincere patriot. He was warm-hearted, transparent almost naive, indomitable in effort and very loyal to his friends. When in lively mood he was the best of good company and would keep a whole dinner-party in laughter and admiration at his brilliant sallies." And yet strange to say, with all this superabundance of personal charm of head and heart George Nathalian Curzon, was in the practical course of his life, a failure. "He never brought off anything successful. In India at first with great ideas for the benefit of the native races, he alienated the English population, and, later, in attempts to conciliate Anglo-Indian opinion, he alienated all the native feeling. He became the very type of the prancing pro-consul, with a kind of insolence and arrogance of speech which lost him the gratitude he deserved for much genuine hard work and many efforts of permanent value. It was to have been the most brilliant reign that India had ever seen. But on his departure there was none so poor as to do him reverence, and even the usual native ceremonial farewell was boycotted. History will trace from this disastrous rule all those increasing storms of unrest and discontent which have made India an almost desperate problem." This is an accurate thumb-nail summary of Lord Curzon's character, but it does not say in what way or by the possession of what fatal quality so lavishly endowed a man failed in life and brought disaster to everything that he touched. We think the ego in him was inordinately developed. He was feverishly self-conscious. Early success had spoiled him and the constant homage paid to his genius had turned his head. Like the constitutional courtesy that prompts us to say that the "King does no wrong," he had, by his early success in life, had come to believe that George Nathalian Curzon, too, can do nothing wrong. He had a genuine love for the East, no doubt. But it was a selfish love. For him, a kindly God had created the whole East for the sole purpose of exploiting Lord Curzon's superior genius! The East, for him, was a vast playing ground for his own self-glorification with India as a happy hunting-ground for the mighty Jupiter to hurl his devastating thunderbolts at the poor and meek mortals of this under-world. Lord Curzon, even in his Oxford days, was a "very superior purzon" and all his life he walked erect with his head always touching the clouds. And here we find the true key of Lord Curzon's failure. Arrogance was the dominating rule of his life. It was this arrogance that kept him apart from his fellow men and though a loveable man in his own way, he was more feared than loved by those who came in business contact with him. Everyone now knows the personal quarrel he had

with Lord Midleton. The latter was a college-chump of the "superior purzon," but in ability he was far inferior to his friend. But by a strange freak of fortune when Curzon was India's mighty Mogul over the head of this Mogul was sitting in Whitehall Mr. St. John Brodrick as Lord Midleton then was the Secretary of State for India! What a greater humiliation for so "great" a Viceroy to take his orders from one whom he looked down upon as his inferior in every possible way? Friction, under such circumstances, was inevitable and this developing with the course of time ended in open enmity. No wonder, in the quarrel that soon developed between the Viceroy and the late Lord Kitchener, the Secretary of State sided with the Commander-in-Chief, and Curzon had to leave India, as we all know, in a most ignominious manner. Lord Curzon never excused Brodrick for this official defeat and in his pompously childish fashion he issued his magniloquent proclamation that henceforth where the mighty Lord Curzon condescended to attend Mr. St. John Brodrick must be absent! This showed most conclusively that Lord Curzon was incapable of rising superior to petty jealousies and quarrels. Seven years of "mogulism" in India had spoiled him and in England though he lived subsequently for nearly twenty years he was like a fish out of water. Mr. Lloyd George spoke well when he said: "George Nathaniel Curzon may suit the mild Hindus but not England." But Curzon did not perhaps realise that his inordinate vanity, his self-consciousness, and his vaunting ambition to shine above all and at all times, were so many nails in the coffin of his life's failure. There is no doubt, that he wanted to serve his country, but he wanted to serve himself at the same time. He, in fact, wanted to serve two masters and ended by serving neither well. When aeronautics was not so well developed he wanted to fly and little wonder, he soon came to grief. That was the real secret of his failure.

CECIL RHODES AND ASIAN INDEPENDENCE

After describing the imperialistic aims of Cecil Rhodes in *The Chinese Students' Monthly*, Dr. Tarak Nath Das observes—

Cecil Rhodes held that it is the will of God that Great Britain through the co-operation of the United States of America and through the superior genius of the Anglo-Saxon peoples would dominate the world for justice, peace and liberty. We find that Great Britain is ruling India and dominating major parts of Asia and other sections of the world keeping hundreds of millions of people under subjection denying simple justice and freedom; and we can safely assert that British imperialism has been the curse to the world and has been the cause of more wars than any other factor in recent times.

God is not so unjust that He has decreed once for all that the peoples of Asia, which were far more civilised than those of Europe many centuries before the Christian era, be kept under perpetual subjection of the Anglo-Saxons or other Europeans. The present degraded condition of the peoples of Asia is more due to their faults than any other reason. They have to struggle to rise again. Britishers do not depend upon the will of God to carry out the scheme of dominating the world, particularly Asia and Africa. They use all possible means to attain their end of extension of British imperialism on a solid foundation, even by destroying a possible competitor or a rival by war, starvation and political isolation.

Are there young men and women in India, China and Japan and other parts of Asia and also in Africa who see the vision that their God-given duty is to give all their energy of life and all the wealth in

well-calculated manner, particularly by spreading education, and with the co-operation of all peoples under subjection to secure freedom of the oppressed peoples of the world? A few Cecil Rhodes of new type are badly needed in all countries of Asia and Africa. They should inscribe in their hearts the ideal of Asian independence, equal opportunity and no discrimination against any people, because of race, to be achieved through concerted action in all parts of the world.

Their ideal cannot be achieved within a year or two nor can it be achieved by merely delivering speeches, by adopting resolutions or by rousing racial bitterness between the East and the West. Life-long consecration to the ideal, untiring work to spread the gospel of freedom, augmenting wealth by developing national intelligence and efficiency, industrial and economic strength and proper international understandings are needed to win the victory. None with a light heart and hasty judgment should respond to this call. Only those who have a vision and sustained energy should undertake to perform the duty of crowning human freedom through many-sided activities—World Peace with Justice and Liberty to All Peoples to be Achieved Through Asian Independence.

THE POET'S RETURN

(BY MR. C. F. ANDREWS) IN "YOUNG INDIA"

At the time when the poet, Rabindranath Tagore, left India for South America in September, 1924, we had very great anxiety about his health. In China, earlier in the year, when I was with him, I had witnessed his extreme weakness. But the invitation that had come from South America asking for his presence as the representative of Asia at the Centenary of South American Independence, outweighed with him all considerations of physical infirmity. The spirit was willing, even though the physical body was all too weak.

With an eagerness that astonished us all, he hastened on from Europe by the earliest possible steamer and arrived at Buenos Aires very early in November, although the Centenary celebration was not to be held until December 10th. He felt that any stay in Europe, where the crowd would press upon him, might consume what little strength he had and make the further voyage to South America impossible.

In the middle of the stormy Atlantic Ocean he wrote in Bengali a remarkable poem. He refers to this in a letter, which he has written to me; and he has given me permission to publish it. When I received the letter, with its poem, I recalled at once the hymn, which we had been singing again and again at Delhi during the fast:

The pathway of the Lord is to be trodden by heroes; it is not meant for the timid:

.....He that would drink the cup of the Lord must abandon his all.

In his letter he told me that at the time of writing he was visited with a terrible oppression of soul, more mental than physical, and his poem reveals the pathway of release that he found. He has named it 'The Tempest.' It runs as follows:—

Half asleep on the shore,
You dreaded the voice of the Tempest,
When he thundered in your ears his 'No.'
You had said to one another,
That the store had its plenty,
The house had its comfort,—
When suddenly, grinding his flashing teeth,
The Tempest growled, 'No.'
But I made the Tempest my comrade,
and left my shore,
With my ship tossing on the sea.
I have trusted the Terrible,
I have filled my sails with his breath,

And my heart with his assurance,
that the shore is there.
He cries to me: "a vagrant you are, even as I,
Victory to you?"
Things are shattered to pieces, scattered by the
wind.

The timid murmur in despair:
"This is the end of Time!"
The Tempest cries: "Only that remains,
Which is utterly given away."
With trust in him, I march forward:
I look not back,
While the hoarded heap is swept away by the
flood.

My traveller's reed is tuned
With the tune of his loud laughter.
It sings: "Away with the lures of desire,
With bonds that are fixed,
With achievement that is past,
And hope that is idle.
Learn, for your drum, the dance of the reckless
waves,

Beating against the rocks.
Away with greed and fear,
And Power's banner borne by slaves.
Come, divine Destruction,
Drag us away from the house,
Lead us away from safety's path,
Come with the flutter of your wings of death,
Spread upon the wind your cry, 'No.'
No rest, no languor, no ease,
No load of feebleness weighing down the
head.

Knock and break open the miser's door!
Scatter away the gloom of storage!
Banish the self distrust,
that seeks a whole wherein to hide,
Let your trumpet proclaim in the wind
Your terrible, 'No.'

"Every time that I have read over this poem, it has brought back to my mind, by some inner association of ideas, the days of the fast at Delhi and the one hymn that I have still in my own recollection, especially associated with it. There are also the parallel words of Christ, which have gained an added meaning for me each year as I have grown older.

"He that will save his life shall lose it,
But he that loseth his life, the same shall save it."

After the poet, Rabindranath Tagore, had reached the Argentine Republic his health failed him again. The kindly people of that country treated him with the utmost consideration and courtesy. Seeing how ill he was, they demanded nothing from him except that he would remain in their country and get better. They came to him for spiritual comfort and he was very happy with them.

The same thing occurred over again in Italy, after his return to Europe. He appeared only once in public, at Milan; and after that he was obliged to be in bed for many days. The doctors at last consented that he should go back to the warmer and sunnier climate of his own motherland for a short time. A sea voyage is to him the greatest restorative of all, and he is a splendid sailor. But the doctors urged very strongly indeed, that he should not spend the hot weather this year in a tropical climate. A home is waiting for him near Bellagio, on lake Como, in northern Italy, and our earnest prayers and hopes are, that with perfect repose, in one of the most restful places in the world, he may regain his physical strength and give the world once more some new poems of matchless beauty.

WORDS OF THE WISE

When a man gives you a piece of his mind, give him in return only a piece of your heart.
There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.

INDIA IN IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT

The Earl of Birkenhead, Secretary for India, moved the second reading of the Government of India (Civil Services) Bill, which he said would have great consequences in India. The provisions of the Bill were limited in scope, but they were essential if the Government were to carry out the decision already announced to accept and put into force the main recommendations of the Royal Commission on the Superior Civil Services in India, presided over by Lord Lee of Fareham. The recommendations aimed on the one hand at removing certain anxieties, financial and otherwise, from the services, and, on the other hand, satisfying Indian opinion that the principles underlying the Reform Scheme would be observed in the Services. The recommendations were a deliberate compromise between the Indian point of view and Service opinion. No useful purpose was gained by ignoring the fact that there were two points of view amid which those who were responsible for the Government of India, whether in India or in this country, must steer a prudent middle course. The recommendations which benefitted the Services were the granting of small increases in overseas pay and issuing overseas pay in sterling at 2s. a rupee as a protection against the fluctuating rate of exchange. That meant an addition of about £135 a year to the pay of an officer in the middle years of his service. In the second place, there was an increase effected in the pensions of members of the uncovenanted Services from 5,000 rupees (£437 10s.) to 6,000 rupees (£525) for 25 years' service, and from 6,000 rupees to 7,000 rupees for 30 years' service. There was a grant to all officers of non-Asiatic domicile in the course of their service of four return first-class passages and one single passage for each child. The total cost of the relief under the various heads would be one crore of rupees, or £750,000 a year.

The accelerated Indianisation of the Services was accepted as a principle with a view to producing, in the case of Indian Civil Service recruits, a cadre one-half European and one-half Indian. In 1924 Indians in the Indian Civil Service constituted 17 per cent. of the total number of officers. In the police the percentage was 11. Although time alone could show, an increase of Indians in 15 years in the Civil Service and in 25 years in the police to 50 per cent., should not prove too rapid progress. The possibility of maintaining that balance and relying on it to provide a competent and reliable civil administration in India must depend on the contribution by Great Britain of the very best of the young men produced by her schools and universities. His greatest anxiety at the present moment, looking at the matter in cool perspective, was not movements and tendencies in India, grave and menacing as some of them had been, but the fact that the finest Civil Service in the world had shown, since 1914, many signs of lack of popularity. We should never have kept our position in India had it not been for the devotion, ability, and character of the Civil Service. He could not explain why the attraction of the Indian Civil Service had lessened recently. In his day at Oxford the very flower of young men presented themselves for examination for it. Since 1914 there had been a distinct and grave decline in the number of candidates. The number of those offering themselves for examination was not sufficient. Unless things improved our problem would not be whether there should be 50 per cent. of suitable Indians in the Service, but whether we could ensure there being 50 per cent. of suitable candidates in England. He ought not to pass from the motion for the second reading of the Bill without expressing his deep sense and the sense of the Government of the devoted labours of the members of the Commission. There were some elements in

their report in regard to which he and other members of the Government felt some doubt, but they formed the conclusion that the wiser course was to accept the report as a whole and recommend it to Parliament as a whole in the belief and expectation that when the perspective was examined it would be found that those who were appointed to undertake a task of great delicacy and difficulty had discharged it adequately, competently, and sympathetically.

Lord Olivier, in supporting the second reading of the Bill, said he was very glad to see the action which the Secretary of State had taken in inducing Lord Meston and others to go to the Universities and speak as he knew they had spoken with great effect and public spirit in order to endeavour to induce the young men to resume the favour with which they used to look on the Indian Civil Service. There was in India a belief that the Indian Civil Service was not such a good guaranteed job as it used to be, that there were not such good prospects of retiring at an early age on a good pension, but, as every one who had served in India knew, there was an abundant and admirable field for common human public service and public spirit.

Viscount Chelmsford said that since November he had been residing at Oxford and had had some opportunity of hearing what was going on, of taking some part in Lord Birkenhead's crusade amongst the young men of the Universities, and of learning of the difficulties that felt by the undergraduates with regard to entrance into the Indian Civil Service at the present moment. From what he had heard he did not think it was the monetary side that was worrying the undergraduate at the present moment. He would be quite willing to go out at a small recompense merely from the spirit of adventure; but he felt there was a certain insecurity of tenure if he went out. It was no comfort to those young men to know that the insecurity they feared was common to other Services. Personally, he (Lord Chelmsford) thought that, so long as British forces were employed in India to protect their country from external foes and to maintain internal security, it would be necessary to have a British complement in the Civil Service.

The Bill was read a second time.

News in Brief

We regret to announce the sad death of Mr. C. A. Bassa father of Mr. Mahomed C. Bassa of Messrs. Bassa's Ltd, Durban, at Rander, India. We tender our sympathy with their relatives.

Reuter Vienna message states that the ex-Archduke Leopold who is employed as a cinema messenger states that he earns 50/- per month.

This fact came to light when Leopold was fined 15s. for running over a pedestrian with a motor cycle.

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Leopold appealed, attending the Court in a chauffeur's uniform. He pleaded poverty and said he was unable to pay the fine because he had a wife and two children to support.

The Court acquitted him of the charge.

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A Reuter's message from Madras states:—

Reports are pouring in describing the havoc wrought by the storm on the east coast. From these it would appear that much damage has been done to the railway, telegraph wires have been broken down, roofs of houses blown off, and shipping endangered. As a result of the collapse of a building at Ellore, in which a number of people had taken shelter, 13 people were killed and 14 seriously injured. Hundreds of cattle have been drowned.