

# Indian Opinion

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## NOTES AND NEWS

THE Maharani Regent of Travancore has chosen an Anglo-Indian gentleman belonging to a family long domiciled in the State. A Reuter's telegram from London states that Mr. F. E. Watts hopes to proceed to Travancore in May to assume duties of the Diwan at the end of June. Mr. Watts, who is a Barrister and has been practising in London and Midland for the past five years, is reported to have said that the appointment came to him as a surprise and was entirely unsought for. He considered he was selected on personal grounds in view of his family's century-old connection with Travancore. Mr. Watts' selection foreshadows the separation of the connection between "Church and State" which has been so long traditional in Travancore. The Hindu residents of Trivandrum are protesting against the appointment of Mr. Watts as Dewan of Travancore since the Hindu religious institutions as well as other departments of the State were under the administration of the Dewan and the appointment of a non-Hindu would not be practicable so long as the religious institutions were under the control of Government.

Mr. Gandhi during his visit to Trivandrum where he was State guest visited Maharaja's College of Science where students presented him with an address. In reply he is reported to have said there were limitations to science and scientific research and that they had to explore where they should restrain themselves and where they should let themselves go. He deprecated the idea of students seeking scientific knowledge for obtaining means of livelihood and exhorted them to take to it for its own sake and emulate the examples of such eminent scientists as Sir J. C. Bose and P. C. Ray. He referred to unfortunate circumstance that students in India were mostly drawn from middle classes who had consequently lost use of their hands and did not realise dignity of manual labour. He advised them to place their practical knowledge at its disposal of villages to assist in introduction of spinning wheel into every household.

In reply to an advice of a revolutionary to retire from public life, Mr. Gandhi writes in *Young India*:—"I cannot always have it my own way. If I have had my share of fair weather, I must face foul too. I must not abandon the field of battle so long as I feel that I am wanted. When my work is done and I have become a disabled or worn-out soldier I shall be put away. Till then, I must continue to do my work and endeavour to neutralise in all ways accessible to me the poison of revolutionary activity."

Mr. Gandhi then advises the revolutionaries to spread out into villages and try to bring sunshine into the dark dungeons of millions of their countrymen. That would be worthier of their ambition and love of land than the existing unquenchable thirst for the blood of English officials and those who are assisting them. It is nobler to try to change their spirit than to take their lives.

The Tanjore District Board has passed a resolution to teach Hindi in all schools under its management.

It is understood that the Madras Medical College Council has unanimously resolved to recommend to Government that L. M. S. Degree of the Madras University should be abolished only after a suitable medical diploma to replace the degree is established.

The term of office of Mr. C. R. Das and Mr. H. S. Suhrawardy as Lord Mayor and Deputy Mayor of Calcutta respectively having expired recently the Calcutta Corporation have re-elected Mr. Das as Lord Mayor and Mr. Suhrawardy as Deputy Mayor.

The Academic Council of the Madras University considered the report of the Committee appointed to inquire into the question of encouragement of Oriental languages and accepted the proposals of the Committee for the establishment of an University Institute of advanced Oriental Studies and Research in direct and close connection with the Oriental Manuscripts Library. They also agreed to the proposal for instituting fellowships for the promotion of Oriental studies and the appointment of a Publication Committee by the Syndicate for encouraging and undertaking the publishing of important works connected with Oriental studies.

Mr. C. V. Venketaramana Iyengar, M.L.C., who gave notice of introducing local option Bill in the Madras Council has received a reply from the revenue Secretary informing that His Excellency Governor has declined under Section 600 Government of India Act to accord sanction for the introduction of the Bill.

The news that H.R.H. the Prince of Wales is to stand as one of the sponsors for the little daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. M. Wadley (Mayor and Mayoress of Durban), whose birth was announced on Tuesday, has come as a pleasant surprise to Durban. His Royal Highness has suggested "Mary" as the name for the little lady.

Sir William Snowden, Chief President for five years of the State of South Australia who is touring round the world enquiring into the administration of jails and forest conservation by the various Governments arrived in Madras recently on his way to Colombo en route to Australia on the completion of his tour in India. In an interview with the Associated Press, Sir William referring to Australia and Indian immigrants said:—"I found in travelling through India that there is an impression here that Australia legislates especially against the entrance of Indians. The fact is there is no more discrimination in our immigration laws against the admission of Indians as there is against Germans, Americans, Russians or any other nationalities. The only test applied, apart from health and financial qualifica-

tions so that no man shall be admitted if he be a chronic invalid or destitute person, is the language test to which every new comer is liable."

#### MR. ANDREWS AND UNION PREMIERS

ONE of my most vivid recollections was the first crisis of South African Struggle in the beginning of the year 1914. (Mr. C. F. Andrews writes in a contemporary) General Smuts had let Mr. Gandhi and Mr. Polak and Mr. Kallenback out of prison in order to come to terms if possible with the leaders on the Indian side. The news had spread round Durban like wild fire that there were negotiations about to begin and there was amusement in many faces as people said: "Gandhi will beat Smuts again!"

An ultimatum had been launched from the Indian side that unless the iniquitous £3 tax were abolished the whole Indian community in Natal would offer passive resistance by marching into the Transvaal and getting themselves arrested. Mr. Gandhi was preparing to lead them and the date had been fixed. The march was to begin on January 16, 1914.

I think it was January 8th when the telegram from General Smuts reached Mahatma Gandhi. He was staying quietly at Phoenix Settlement on that day about 14 miles away from Durban. When the telegram arrived asking Mr. Gandhi to meet General Smuts in Pretoria, there was just time to catch the afternoon train into Durban. So hurried to the country railway station. When we got to Durban we were just going out of entrance to the station when the Station Master stopped and said: "Hello, Gandhi; How are you getting along with General Smuts?"

Mahatmajee said: "I am going to-night by the Kaffir mail to have an interview with him at Pretoria."

"You will never get there, Gandhi, said the station master kindly, "unless you hurry up and catch the European mail which starts at 5 o'clock. There is going to be a strike to-night at midnight and the only train that you will get through is the train that is just starting. We hurriedly made our preparations and caught the train that went ahead of the Kaffir mail. There was one second class compartment reserved for 'Asiatics' and we travelled in it together. I can still remember how at almost every station some European would put his head in at the window and call out: "Hello! Gandhi. How are you getting on with General Smuts?"

When midnight came we had reached the high Veldt and when I woke up to find our train at a standstill I was afraid that our train had been held up. There were other passengers who had alighted but fortunately it was only a block on the line and we went on again and our train got through. But the Kaffir mail never even reached Veldt. It was held up at Maritzburg and for the next fortnight no train got through at all. Thus the kindly warning of the Station Master saved the whole situation.

I have told this story because I do not wish it to be supposed that the bitter racial contempt and arrogance and down-right hatred of the Indians which is so often found in East Africa is found equally in South Africa. It is "not." There is a sense of fairness and sportsmanship there which makes one a little hopeful even at the darkest moment. Above all there was a vast respect for Mahatma Gandhi; and though in the earlier days he had been obliged to bear the brutality of the mob before he left for India in the year 1914 he had won universal admiration.

Let me give another scene which comes back vividly to my mind. It happened in Capetown at the time that the Gandhi-Smuts Agreement had very nearly been reached. The General had given me an interview before my departure for India. He said to me looking straight into my face with his blue dreamy eyes: "What a great country it is you represent, Mr. Andrews. We are pygmies of yesterday compared with the vast age-long civilisation of India. Some day I would dearly like to visit India and see the greatness of her culture. Here in Africa everything is new; there in India everything is old."

It is this historical imagination which has saved General Smuts again and again from making mistakes. It certainly saved him in his struggle with the Indian community.

General Hertzog has nothing of this character. It is true that he has also nothing in him of the blustering fire eating soldier. His face is kindly and mild and his habits are simple. But he has not the imagination of his great opponent. He has not the largeness of vision. The people elected him because they were tired and wanted a change just as they voted for Ramsay MacDonald at the last election but one in England. When they have tried him and found out his limitations they will turn to General Smuts again.

But more and more the Indian question both in South and East Africa will be bound up with the native question. The vital question for India to face is not so much whether she can get any special privileges for her own nationals, as whether she can by her advocacy and championship carry forward the whole colour question one step further and break down not only the prejudice against the Asiatic but also the still greater prejudice against the native African himself. For the 'colour bar' as it is called in South Africa and in the Southern States of the United States of America makes no distinctions. Asiatic and African are classed together against what is called the 'white man.' The whole social fabric is built up on this distinction. Therefore every step forward that can be taken by the Native African to improve his own condition is a step towards the breaking down of the colour bar itself which stands in the way of social recognition. It is vital therefore that the friendship between the Indian and the African should be strengthened and not weakened. There could be no more short-sighted and even fatal policy than for the Indian to attempt to gain

favour with the white man by spurning the black man who is our brother.

General Hertzog is not likely to remain long in power. Even now his Government cannot show a majority without relying on the Labour vote. He is as clearly as possible the inferior of General Smuts in ability and imagination and even while General Smuts is out of office, he will guide the country in an emergency as he has done during these last months concerning the Indian question. The fact that General Hertzog has been ready to listen to him reveals a true greatness of humility in him also and gives one hope for the future of a country that can produce three such men as these I have tried to describe—General Botha, General Smuts, General Hertzog.

### AMERICA TAKES NOTICE OF INDIAN LEGISLATURE

#### INDIA SHOULD CALL THE FAR EASTERN IMMIGRATION CONFERENCE

All important American papers have taken notice of the passage of the bill, by the Assembly at Delhi, proposing reciprocal treatment for the United States and the Colonies which treat Indians as an inferior race. *The New York Evening Post* makes the following comment:—

"The action of the Indian Legislature at Delhi in adopting a reciprocity measure on inferiority is something new in the line of internal relations. Governments like the United States which treat the Hindus as inferior people will in turn be put on the inferiority list by them. The act seems plausible. Among the western nations it seems quite all right to apply to all other nations and peoples a sliding scale of disparaging appraisal—backward peoples here, arrested development there, corrupted, incompetent and the like. By the new Hindu Act the rule will be made to work both ways."—*New York Evening Post*, February 5, 1925.

Of course, the Indian people must not forget that they cannot expect equal treatment in America unless they can acquire equal status within the British Empire and in their own country. In their own country the Indian people are held to be inferior and incompetent by the British overlords and thus they have not full share in their own government. Indeed, the very sense of self-respect of the people of India has forced them to adopt reciprocity legislation. But this Immigration question has a tremendous significance in international relations. Indian statesmen should take note that the Immigration discrimination in the Anglo-Saxon world is directed against India, China and Japan. It is directed against Eastern Asia where about 900,000,000 people live. The question will never be solved unless China recovers her full sovereignty by abolishing all forms of extra-territorial jurisdiction and India achieves at least the same kind of independence as Canada or Australia enjoys. It is nothing unusual to suggest that because China, Japan and India have common interests involved in world affairs, far-sighted Indian statesmen and scholars of these countries should co-operate in solving these problems in a way which will lead to better understanding between the East and the West.

As a matter of concrete suggestion for Indian statesmen who are discussing the probability of holding a congress of all Asiatic nations in India, possibly through the leadership of the Poona Sarvanjanik Sabha (as suggested in the *Marhatta*), in the near future, we propose that India should call for a Far Eastern Immigration Conference to be held in

Cawnpore during the session of All-India National Congress during the Christmas week of 1925 in which all the peoples of the Far East particularly are to be invited. Of course, other nations will be allowed to participate. Japan is going to hold a Far Eastern Medical Conference in Tokio in 1926. Is it too much to expect that India will take the leadership in calling the Far Eastern Immigration Conference in the near future?

### COCHIN AGAIN LEADS

In certain directions so quickly does the women's movement advance in India that each month sees some new and noteworthy step forward being taken. This month we are happy to record that a woman has been nominated to an Indian Legislative Council for the first time in her own right. The Government of Cochin has nominated Mrs. T. Madhavi Amma as a member for its new Legislative Council. It will be remembered that the sister State of Travancore was the first to include a woman member, but Dr. Lukhose Poonen, the lady in question got her seat in the Council by virtue of her appointment as a substitute for the Darbar physician, a man. Now Mrs. Madhavi Amma is the first woman directly appointed as a member of an important Legislative Council. We congratulate her on being the recipient of the historic honour and hope she will be the forerunner of many Indian women M.L.C's. Cochin State has been ever in the van as regards women's progress, which is what one would expect to a State where matriarchy still holds sway, where the rate of female literacy is the highest in India and where the wife of the Maharajah wields very great political influence.

### THE ACTING GOVERNORSHIP OF BENGAL

#### EARL WINTERTON SEVERELY HECKLED

In the House of Commons recently Col. Wedgwood asked why Sir Abdur Rahim, Senior Executive Councillor was not appointed Acting Governor of Bengal in view of the general practice in such matter:

Earl Winterton replied that no general practice could be said to exist in respect of administration of the act which had been into operation only for a few months.

Col. Wedgwood presumably had in mind the provisions relating to the filling of temporary vacancies but these did not apply to the selection of substitutes for Governors proceeding on leave.

Col. Wedgwood asked whether there was anything in the Act passed last year authorising the change of practice which had been usual for the last sixty years and whether there was a single precedent for the place of a Governor being taken by anybody not on the spot except the Senior Executive Councillor.

Earl Winterton replied that last year's Act could not have possibly altered a practice that did not exist and have statutory authority to a situation which did not prevail before. No precedent could be found in what was done in filling ordinary vacancies temporarily.

Col. Wedgwood asked whether Earl Winterton suggested that the filling of vacancies in the past never occurred and that there had never been any practice other than the one indicated in the question.

Earl Winterton replied that the practice of filling ordinary vacancies could not be considered analogous to the Act of last year because it was the first time in British India that it permitted the Secretary of State and Governor-General to give Governors leave.

Col. Wedgwood asked: "Are you importing into that Act new the principle which will be permanent?"

Earl Winterton: "No."

## EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION AND MR. DAS

The following statement has been issued by the European Association :—

"Although recognising that a reservation may be considered to lie in Mr. C. R. Das's declaration that his abhorrence for political crimes of violence is only equal to his abhorrence for their inevitable antidote in the shape of repressive legislation, the Council of the European Association views his manifesto with satisfaction as an unequivocal condemnation of the use of violent ends. The Council cannot ignore the atmosphere of deep mistrust that undoubtedly exists in the Indian political life to the serious detriment of the successful solution of India's difficult political problems. They do not desire to emphasise the reasons for it or apportion blame, but welcome the manifesto as an authoritative announcement that the party of Mr. Das deprecates any but clean methods in the fight for their objective. That the speed of progress to the goal set forth in the Government of India Act will cause difference of opinion is certain, but with the goal itself accepted by the British Parliament and by the British and Indian people's political progress should be possible without the inflammation of racial feeling. In inviting the Europeans to co-operate in resisting the repressive legislation Mr. Das asks for a degree of confidence which is not yet possible in the light of the past experience. The Council is confident, however, that, if the policy set forth in Mr. Das's manifesto is to govern the future political activities, an improved atmosphere of good will among all the communities will facilitate the successful removal of those obstacles, which, at present, hamper India's progress.

## "I AM AT THE END OF IT."

RT. HON. SASTRI AND LIBERALS

WILL HE BECOME A SWARAJIST?

At an informal talk with the citizens of Kumbakonam, Rt. Hon. V. S. Srinivasa Sastri, expressed himself on the attempts made in India at present at unifying the various communal forces by means of an all parties conference at which the "leaders confabulated and found differences insuperable." The disunion and suspicion found in the country were naturally reflected on the floor of the Assembly. Mr. M. A. Jinnah who was regarded as the most effective ambassador between the two communities, Hindus and Mahomedans, and who was a thorough-going nationalist at one time was now an advocate of special Muslim claims and admitted that his views had undergone a change. Hindus and Mahomedans were weaker to-day on account of their dissensions than they were before. In consequence of these dissensions, Government had grown stronger and did not hesitate to supersede Sir Abdur Rahim in the matter of the Governorship of Bengal. Sir Abdur Rahim's claim by law and justice was good but it was ridiculously dismissed. The Indian Civil Service felt entrenched in an impregnable position due to the Lee Recommendations. It was the way of British statesman, he said, when he had done a wrong to cover it up with the forms of law, no matter how.

Speaking on the idea of a deputation to England at the time of Lord Reading's visit, Mr. Sastri said that there was no use sending any deputation, unless all parties were represented or all parties sent separate deputations. He could not say whether the Swarajists would agree to the proposal of a deputation since Pundit Motilal Nehru had already shut his doors against all such ideas until an invitation came from Whitehall for a deputation. Mr. C. R. Das' statement Mr. Sastri said was

hopeful, but Lord Birkenhead over-interpreted Mr. Das. Referring to his own (Mr. Sastri's) place in the Liberal Party, Mr. Sastri said he was at the end of it which meant that he was very near the Swarajists. He was inclined to be a Swarajist if the Swarajists dropped from their plan one or two things such as wrecking the constitution.

## A CORRECTION

The Rt. Hon. Mr. V. S. Srinivasa Sastri makes the following correction of his speech reported in Madras papers. The sentence in my Kumbakonam talk having been reported wrongly, I have been much misunderstood. I said that in the Liberal Party I occupied that end which was nearest to Swarajists. The report splits the sentence at the word "end" and represents me to have said that I was at the end of the Liberal Party and was prepared to join the Swarajists.

## THE NATIONAL CONVENTION

## PLEDGE MODIFIED

DR. ANNIE BESANT ON THIS YEAR'S SESSION

Dr. Annie Besant before leaving Cawnpore for Bombay explained to a press representative the work which had been done by the session of the National Convention which came to an end.

Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru who presided over its deliberations was selected president and the Right Hon'ble V. Srinivasa Sastri, Vice-President, while Dr. Besant would continue as General Secretary and Mr. Ranganatham Mudaliar treasurer. The Bill as she stated in the lecture was now ready in the final form and she was planning agitation on a large scale in support both in India and in England. So far the convention had been confined to the members of the Legislature and representative bodies, but that the drafting of the measure was over, she said the general council of National Convention had directed its members in each province to form a provincial sabha with such subsidiary bodies as it may find necessary for enrolment of members of the Convention sabha in order to carry on a widespread and persevering agitation in support of the Bill. The constructive period is over. The period of agitation now begins.

Subscription to the Sabha will be one rupee a year or a lump sum of Rs. 5. Persons with income of Rs. 30 a month and under will be enrolled at annas four only. Clubs Associations and branches of all India organisations will be enrolled at Rs. 2 a year. Secretaries of each will receive a copy of the monthly convention bulletin which will be the medium of communication with the members when agitation begins on a large scale.

The original pledge for joining the National Convention has now been modified in order to enable the movement to grow round the Bill since the first pledge was intended for candidates standing for election. It now runs as follows :—

"I promise to support the establishment in India of a free commonwealth with the King Emperor as its head with central and provincial Governments each consisting of the King's representative, a cabinet responsible to the elected Legislature and a judiciary with a provision for amendment of the constitution similar to that possessed by self-Governing dominions, with a provision also for such transitional arrangements for army navy and air force as will bring them under Central Legislature when the Cabinet supported by Legislature declares its readiness to assume responsibility for the defence of the commonwealth.

I promise not to engage in any secret conspiracy and not to use any but peaceful and law-abiding means to gain the above objects."

Persons not familiar with political details will be enrolled on making the following promises:—I promise to work with my fellow countrymen to obtain Swaraj and to use only peaceful means for winning it."

#### MR. PATEL AND THE PRESIDENCY OF THE ASSEMBLY

We are somewhat surprised to learn on very good authority that Mr. V. J. Patel is a candidate for the post of President of the Legislative Assembly. The election takes place, we think, next August when the Assembly will meet for the autumn session at Simla. But already very active canvassing is said to be going on. The post carries with it a monthly honorarium of rupees four thousand and from the pecuniary point of view it is certainly something to tempt even very capable men. But at the same time, acceptance of this position will mean the death of the political life of the Honourable member who may be induced to do so. Mr. Patel is one of the stalwarts of the Swarajya Party. He is about the most uncompromising opponent of the present system of administration in this country. He has been the most outspoken advocate of mass civil disobedience through which he believes India will achieve her political emancipation without striking a single blow or shedding one drop of blood. For such a man to seek the presidential chair of the Assembly means political suicide for himself and an irreparable loss of driving force to the Party of which he is one of the most prominent leaders. Yet we hear that even his own Party is ready to vote him into this place. Perhaps the motive here is to get this inconvenient partizan out of the way. For it is notorious that Mr. Patel made Pandit Motilal's position anything but pleasant during the passage of the Tariff Act last summer. Be that however as it may, this readiness on the part of so strong a Swarajist to accept office, though it may be an elective one, does not indicate a healthy tendency in the Swarajist Party. No one who wants to fight for Swaraj can afford just now to bury himself in the presidential chair of the legislature. If Mr. Patel be really elected the Assembly will certainly be the poorer for the loss of his fighting speeches and his unconscious humour.

#### MR. GANDHI'S SWARAJ SCHEME.

In the course of his presidential address at Belgaum Mr. Gandhi gave the following points for a Scheme of Swaraj:—

1. The qualification for the franchise should be neither property nor position but manual work, such for example as suggested for the Congress franchise. Literary or property test proved to be elusive. Manual work gives an opportunity to all who wish to take part in the government and the well-being of the State.

2. The ruinous military expenditure should be curtailed to the proportion necessary for protection of life and property in normal times.

3. Administration of justice should be cheapened and with that end in view the final court of appeal should be not in London but in Delhi. Parties to civil suits be compelled in the majority of cases to refer their disputes to arbitration; the decisions of these Panchayats to be final except in cases of corruption or obvious misapplication of law. Multiplicity of intermediate courts should be avoided. The law should be abolished and general procedure could be simplified. We have slavishly followed a cumbersome and worn out English procedure. The tendency in the Colonies is to simplify the procedure so as to make it easy for litigants to plead their own cases.

4. Revenues from intoxicating liquors and drugs should be abolished.

5. Salaries of the Civil and Military Service should be brought down to a level compatible with the general condition of the country.

6. There should be re-distribution of provinces on a linguistic basis with as complete autonomy as possible for every province for its internal administration and growth.

7. Appointment of a commission to examine all the monopolies given to foreigners and, subject to the findings of the commission, full guarantees to be given for all vested rights justly acquired.

8. Full guarantee of their status to the Indian Chiefs without any hindrance from the Central Government subject to the right of asylum to subjects of these States who, not being offenders against the Penal Code, may seek it in Self-Governing India.

9. Repeal of all arbitrary powers.

10. The highest post to be open to all who may be otherwise fit. Examinations for Civil and Military Services to be in India.

11. The official language for provincial government, legislatures and courts, within a definite period, to be the vernacular of the province; of the Privy Council, the final court of appeal, to be in Hindustani; the script to be either Devanagari or Persian. The language of the Central Government and of the Central Legislature to be also Hindustani. The language of international diplomacy to be English.

#### OUR LONDON LETTER

[ FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT ]

14th May, 1925.

London in May is the most wonderful city in the world in the opinion of the Maharajah of Kapurthala who is on a visit to this country and there can be no question about it. Princes from India and Merchant Kings from America, heir and heiresses of most of the wealth of the globe, are flocking to London for what promises to be the gayest season since the war.

The weather is just ideal. Bright and glorious sunshine after the mist and the fogs. Sunshine that brings with it not the oppressive heat of South Africa but the mild warmth of an English summer.

Trees and shrubs and flowering plants—leafless and lifeless a few months ago—to-day smile with love and life, leaf and flower. To roam in the fields and on the green velvety heaths and among the giant trees in the extensive parks or to rest in the little open spaces—the greens—in the city or in the suburbs or to wander along the river banks or to loll on a river boat upon the Thames brings us in touch with nature, the more to realise our littleness in this world of strife and turmoil—where man may dwell in peace.

The London International Assembly held their First Public Session in the Birbeck College of the London University on the 5th instant. Professor A. E. Zimmern who presided in opening the Session dealt with the objects and the work of the League of Nations and incidentally referred to the Geneva Protocol. The Duchess of Atholl M.P., Under-Secretary for the Board of Education spoke thoughtfully on the League. M. Bertrand de Jouvenal, who specially came to London to attend the meeting, gave a short but encouraging account of the movement in connection with the League in France. Dr. Inazo Nitobe, who represents Japan on the Secretariat of the League at Geneva, was also specially in London for the meeting, and made no small contribution to it. He was sincerity itself and

not but be impressed that character in the individuals of a community makes for its salvation and its happiness just as the Japanese have realised in their nation-building.

The Geddes Food Enquiry Commission in its report recommends the establishment of a Food Council to supervise the staple food trade, to investigate in consultation with local bakers' associations the apparent overlapping with waste of energy and expenditure in the baking trade, to consider whether consumers who have their bread delivered should not pay for the service so that bread sold across the counter may be cheaper, to maintain close and continuing supervision on the system of fixing the price of bread by bakers' associations and to intervene when prices tend to become unreasonable, to watch the operations of price fixing in connection with milling by associations and to intervene if necessary in the interests of the consumer. The Commission also recommends the compulsory registration of all retail butchers subject to the conditions of registration and to the grounds on which registration should be cancelled or temporarily suspended, which the Food Council should have the power to lay down. In regard to the importation of meat, measures are suggested for the protection of the Consumer.

The Maharajah of Kapurthala has taken a huge suit of rooms in the Savoy, with windows facing the River Thames. He has quite a number of Secretaries. He is enormously rich. He possesses £800,000 worth of gems—emeralds and sapphires and blazing diamonds—including a famous pigeon blood ruby as large as a man's thumbnail. He is known as "The King of Emeralds." His State is about 652 square miles but he has built a £200,000 palace in it which is said to eclipse every other palace in India.

The Maharajah of Rajpipla has also just arrived in London. He is reputed to be an exquisite dancer and unlike most Indian Princes he like jazz. He is one of those following the growing fashion of travelling to England every year for the glittering London season. In Mayfair they call him "The man with the Fairbanks smile."

The Maharajah of Jodpur is busy with his polo team—the team that won recently both the Prince of Wales Cup at Delhi and the Championship Cup in Calcutta. Early in June their first important match will be played at Rochampton. The Maharajah has received an invitation from the United States Polo Association to take his team to America after the London Season to compete in the tournaments there but it is not yet known whether the invitation will be accepted.

K S. Duleepsinghji, a nephew of Prince Ranjitsinghji, the Jam of Nawagar, has won a place for himself in the Cambridge University Cricket Eleven. He has been doing well with the bat and there are prophets who declare that he will yet be another Ranji—others are more wary and refuse to predict as such—holding that bar Dr. W. G. Grace, Ranji was the greatest batsman and therefore one could not safely predict another Ranji.

Wembley is once more the great attraction. Thousands wend their way to it by day and in the evening. But it is not an exhibition that one can walk through in a day. It can only be done in bits—which means to see it thoroughly one has to visit it a good many times.

The first public employment exchange in India has been set up in Madras according to a report received by the International Labour Office of the League of Nations at Geneva.

This is the first step in carrying out a particular provision of the International Labour Convention on unemployment which has been ratified by the Government of India.

This Convention was adopted by the first annual session of the International Labour Conference held at Washington in 1919 and provides for the establishment of a system of free public employment agencies in each country under the control of a central authority, committees including representatives of employers and workers being appointed to advise.

There was a great Boy Scout Church Parade in the Courtyard of Somerset House in London on the 9th inst. Lord Eustace Percy presented Shields and Certificates to the successful troops and individual scouts. The Bishop of London addressed the Scouts on the Scout Law and its application to the daily life of mankind.

Field-Marshal Von Hindenburg in the Reichstag on Tuesday last took the oath of President of the German Republic as follows: "I swear to dedicate my powers to the welfare of the German people, to enlarge their sphere of usefulness, to guard them from injury, to observe the constitution and the laws of the Federation, to fulfill my duties conscientiously, and to do justice to every man. So help me God." From all accounts, it was a quite affair. The accession of Hindenburg to power has been received without enthusiasm on the Continent and in England.

The London County Council is probably the largest Corporation in the world. Recently they sat through the night—continuously for 21 hours in all—and yesterday from 2-30 p.m. in the afternoon to 1-30 a.m. in the morning. The members of the Council evidently are no shirkers.

With the passing away of Lord Milner, yet another great figure has been removed from the British Empire. Lord Milner, who was 71, was a bachelor until the age of 67, when he married the widow of Lord Edward Cecil. He leaves no heirs and by his death the Viscounty becomes extinct. Only a week ago Lord Milner was adopted a candidate for election to the position of Chancellor of Oxford University in succession to the Marquis Curzon and his election was regarded as almost certain. He has held office in the British Cabinet and has served in the British Empire as an Administrator. In South African History, he occupies no mean place. He was ill for about 3 weeks with sleeping sickness, which eventually claimed him. Sleeping sickness in England is not the sleeping sickness attributed to Tsetse Fly.

Mr. Bernard L. E. Sigamoney has been elected captain of his College Cricket Eleven—St. Paul's Theological College at Burg in Lincolnshire.

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ਐਮ. ਆਈ. ਡਾਦਾਬਾਈ,

ਜਨਰਲ ਮਰਚੈਂਟ.

੨੫, ਵਨ ਹੇਗਨ ਸਟ੍ਰੀਟ, ਕਰੋਲੀਨਾ, ਟ੍ਰਾਂਸਵਾਲ

ਟੈਲੀਗ੍ਰਾਮ ਨੰ. ੫.