

Indian Opinion

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NATAL INDIAN CONGRESS

A Meeting of Natal Indians to protest against the ASIATIC BILL will be held under the auspices of THE NATAL INDIAN CONGRESS at the Durban TOWN HALL on MONDAY, 31st August 1925, at 8 p.m.

Indians from all parts of Natal will attend. Prominent Europeans will also address the meeting.

ROLL UP in your thousands and record your protest against the obnoxious BILL.

AMOD BAYAT, President.

V. S. C. PATHER & SORABJEE RUSTOMJEE. Joint hon. Secretaries

नाटाल इन्डियन कांग्रेस

नाटाल इन्डियन कांग्रेसना आश्रय लेउन नाटालना हींदीओनी एक भाईंग
ऐशीयाटिक बिलनी सामे पोकार उठाववाने उरभनना टाउन होलमां, सोमवार ता. ३१
ओगस्ट १९२५ना दीने राते ८ वागे भणशे. तेमां नाटालना सधगा लागोपांथी
हींदीओ हाजरी आपशे, अने नव्वीता युरोपीयनो पयु लापयु करशे.

हजारोनी संख्यामां हाजरी आपी ऐरी बिलनी सामे तमारो वीरोध दर्शावजे.

अहमद भैयात प्रभुप.

वी. एस. सी. पथ्यर अने सोराबजी रस्तमजी, जे. सेक्रेटरीओ.

नाटाल इन्डियन कांग्रेस

नाटाल इन्डियन कांग्रेसक तर्फसे एशियाटिक बिलके सामने विरोध दर्शानेके लिये
नाटालके हिंदीवानोकी सभा डरबन टाउन होलमे सोमवार ता. ३१ ओगस्ट १९२५ के रोज
रातको ८ बजेह मिलेंगी जीस वक्त समस्त नाटालसे हिंदी भाइओं हाजर होंगे; और प्रतिष्ठित
गोरे भि भाषण देंगे.

इस अनिष्ट बिलके सामने तुम्हारा विरोध दर्शानेके लिये हजारोकि संख्यामें हाजर
होना आवश्यक है.

अहमद भैयात सभापति.

वी. एस. सी. पथ्यर और सोराबजी रस्तमजी मंत्री.

ASIATIC BILL AND IMMIGRATION

IN our last issue we examined a few of the sections under chapter II of the Asiatic Bill dealing with the Immigrants Regulation Act and pointed out how its effect would be if amended as proposed by the present Bill. We shall now examine the remaining sections.

The New Bill proposes to amend the old Immigrants Regulation Act by providing that: Any person who has been convicted in any country of, *inter alia*, "any offence involving fraudulent conduct in connection with any insolvency shall be a prohibited immigrant." While appreciating the anxiety of the legislators to prevent fraudulent insolvencies we must remark that the punishment for the crime is entirely out of proportion. Besides, punishment for such a crime has already been provided for in the existing insolvency laws whereby a person may not only be imprisoned but refused for ever the right to trade. We therefore fail to see the necessity for this new provision, but for only one reason, and that is to provide means for some little pretext whereby an Indian could be got rid of from this country. Any Indian found guilty of fraudulent insolvency, or of being connected in any way with such insolvency will be liable to punishment under the insolvency law, and also, by the proposed amendment, he will lose his domicile in this country and be deported.

It is provided, further, in the old Act, that a person may not be deemed to be a prohibited immigrant in the Cape of Good Hope or Natal if, "being at the commencement of this Act lawfully entitled to reside in any Province," he shows or has shown that he is able to pass the education test as provided for. The new Bill would delete this clause, and the effect will be that no Indian being lawfully entitled to reside in any Province will be able to enter the Cape or Natal by the education test, and those who have so entered may be declared prohibited immigrants.

Section 17 of the Asiatic Bill is also very dangerous. It seeks to amend section (5) of the old Act by the deletion of paragraphs (e) and (g) and the substitution thereof of new paragraphs. Paragraphs (e) and (g) of Section (5) of the old Act exempt any person born in any part of the Union of parents domiciled at the time of his birth in any part of the Union, and the wife or child under the age of 16 years of any domiciled person from being a prohibited immigrant. This gives the right of free entry into the Cape or Natal and to acquire a domicile therein to South Africa-born Indians. According to the amendment, however, the position would be, firstly, that an alien would always be considered an alien no matter whether he may be born here or not. Secondly, that an Asiatic will lose his domicile "if he has acquired or shall acquire it in any Province of the Union other than that in which he was born," which means, that all those South Africa-born Indians who may be residing in any other Province than "in which they were born" will be compelled to return to their birth-place. Thirdly, that if the wife or child of an Asiatic (of course the word "Asiatic" is in this section and in others very carefully avoided so as not to wound the susceptibilities of the Asiatics, in the words of Dr. Malan, but the meaning of the phrase used is clearly 'Asiatic') domiciled in the Union fails to enter the Union within five years

after the first day of August 1925 or within ten years after the date of the first entry into the Union the wife or child (as the case may be) shall be a prohibited immigrant. This means that in future Asiatics domiciled in the Union must either remain bachelors or if they wish to get married they may do so only within the Province (not even in any part of the Union) in which they are born or domiciled.

Apart from this restriction the interpretation clause which has been introduced in the new Bill will have a far-reaching effect on persons married according to the tenets of an Indian religion allowing polygamy. According to this interpretation, if a union exists between a domiciled person and any other woman who has been recognised within the Union as the wife of such person and has resided or resides or is domiciled in any Province, or if such person has offsprings resident or domiciled in any Province by any woman who is still living, the wife above mentioned shall not be deemed to be the wife of such person, and "a union shall not be deemed to have ceased to exist by reason only of the fact that according to the tenets of an Indian religion it has been dissolved." In other words, an Indian who may have a wife in India would not be allowed to bring her here if (1) he is married to another woman here, (2) he has children resident or domiciled in any Province by any woman (a prostitute for that matter) who is still living (in any part of the world outside the Union for that matter) and (3) even if such a union between him and the other woman has according to the tenets of his religion been dissolved.

Any comment on our part is superfluous.

Section (18) of the Bill empowers the Immigration Officer to cancel a registration certificate or a certificate of domicile or any other document that may have been already granted to a person and to deal with him as a prohibited immigrant if it were found that such document was obtained by such person "by reason that he had not been informed that he could not enter or remain in the Union or (as the case may be) in that Province, or that he had been allowed to enter or remain through oversight, misrepresentation or owing to the fact having been undiscovered that he was such a prohibited immigrant." All those who may have acquired a domicile in any of the Provinces "owing to the fact that they had not been informed that they could not remain there," it will be easy under this section to inform them of the fact and render them homeless and penniless!

According to Section twenty of the new Bill, which defines the term "domicile," a person shall not be deemed to have acquired a domicile within the Union or any Province (as the case may be) unless he has lawfully resided therein for a continuous period of three years, otherwise than under terms of conditional or temporary residence and a person shall be deemed to have lost his domicile if he absents himself and does not return within three years from the date of departure or in the case of a person who absented himself prior to the 1st August, 1925, does not return before the 1st August, 1928. Any Indian domiciled in any Province of the Union who goes to India and is a day later than three years in returning is liable by this

section to be declared a prohibited immigrant and to be dealt with as such.

Section six of the Indians Relief Act which empowers the Minister to provide out of moneys appropriated by Parliament for the purpose of free passage from any Port in the Union to "any port in India" for any Indian who makes a written request for such free passage abandoning on behalf of himself and his wife and all minor children all rights to reside in any part of the Union, is at present being taken advantage of to repatriate Indians from this country, and in section twenty-one of the new Bill power is sought to send such Indians not only to "any port in India" but "elsewhere," that is, British Guiana, for instance.

This ends the second chapter of the Asiatic Bill dealing with the Immigrants Regulation Act and the reader will be able to judge for himself how seriously it will affect the Indian community if it ever becomes law. The third chapter dealing with the Registration of Asiatics now remains to be dealt with which we shall do in our next issue.

MARITZBURG COUNCIL AND INDIAN LICENCES

TOWN COUNCIL'S DECISION SET ASIDE BY-LAW DECLARED "ULTRA VIRES"

In the Supreme Court on Tuesday the 10th instant the case was heard of *Mahomed Ebrahim v. Maritzburg Town Council* and others. The appellant applied for a refreshment room licence for premises 77, Church Street, Maritzburg. Various persons carrying on business in the vicinity objected.

The matter was heard by the Licensing Officer for the borough, who refused the licence on the ground that appellant sought a refreshment room licence which would entitle him to sell to Europeans as well as Indians, which would be in conflict with by-law 281 (2) (22) and by-law 290.

The appellant appealed to the Town Council, who upheld the Licensing Officer's decision.

He now appealed on the grounds:—

(1) That the decision of the Licensing Officer, which was upheld by the Town Council, is arbitrary and illegal; is in disregard of important provisions of the statutes referring to the granting of the licence applied for, and amounts to a refusal to exercise the jurisdiction conferred upon him by statute, inasmuch as he wrongly held:—

(a) That by-law 281 (22) was within the powers conferred by Section 25 of Ordinance 11 of 1911.

(b) That he had power to refuse to grant a refreshment room licence to any person not being a European.

(c) That by-law 281 (2) (35) entitled him to refuse to grant the licence applied for.

(d) That he was entitled to refuse the licence by reason of the provisions of Section 36 of Act 22 of 1894.

(2) That the applicant, having admittedly complied with all the provisions of Section 27 of Ordinance 11 of 1911 was entitled to a licence, and the Licensing Officer in refusing such licence failed to exercise the jurisdiction conferred upon him by the said Ordinance.

Mr. H. H. Janion, instructed by Messrs. Smythe & Co., appeared for the appellant.

Mr. W. E. Thrash appeared for the Town Council. After argument, the Judge-President said that the appellant applied to the Licensing Officer for a

refreshment room licence. Up to 1907 the keeping of a refreshment room required no licence whatever. In 1907 authority was given to licence refreshment rooms. In 1911 the Act of 1907 was repealed and power was given to tax certain callings according to a schedule which included refreshment rooms. It also included tea rooms and native eating houses. Nothing was said in that Ordinance about the Indians, and there was therefore nothing to prevent Indians being accommodated in refreshment rooms. In 1916, by Ordinance 8, Section 1, the Stamp and Licences Act was amended to include Indian eating houses, the licence fee of which was fixed at £5. A proviso was added that no such eating house should be kept within three miles of a borough or township, and provided further that nothing herein contained shall be deemed to prevent any such eating house from being kept within a borough or township under the regulations thereof.

Whatever may be said for this proviso, there is nothing in the legislation to confine the service in such buildings to the Indians. The present application is one for a refreshment room, not for an Indian eating house. It was, however, explained to the Licensing Officer that applicant was going to cater primarily for Indians. It was very properly pointed out by the Licensing Officer that by by-law 282 a "refreshment room" was defined as a European refreshment room, and that by by-law 290 it was an offence to supply anyone other than a European in a European refreshment room. If these by-laws are *ultra vires*, the Licensing Officer was right to refuse. It is conceded that there is nothing in the enabling Acts and Ordinances which precludes Indians being served in a refreshment room.

Power is given to the Town Council to make regulations for the conduct of refreshment rooms. It has been well laid down that this power does not give the Municipality power to discriminate between the races unless there is express authority or implied authority to do so. The only section relied on is Section 25 of Ordinance 11 of 1911, but this only gives the Town Council power to "define the nature thereof." This cannot be regarded as giving the Council power to restrict the selling of food to anyone who belongs to a different race.

For these reasons he was of the opinion that the application must succeed with costs against the Town Council.

Mr. Justice Carter and Mr. Justice Hathorn concurred—*Natal Witness*.

ANTI-ASIATICS ON THE ASIATIC BILL

The *Rand Daily Mail* dated the 20th instant reports as follows:—

"The Indians in this country are the kind that try to thrust themselves upon a people who are not ready to receive them," said Councillor H. J. Crocker, speaking at a meeting of the Southern Suburbs European Association last night.

Discussing the Asiatic Bill which had recently been before Parliament, Mr. Crocker pointed out how the Government had embodied the various requests of the Association in the Bill.

The question of class areas was fully discussed.

Certain areas, said Councillor J. Hoatson, would be set aside in which the Asiatic would be allowed to live and trade.

"The possibility of an Indian carrying on a business in the European area through the medium of a European, however, would arise," the speaker added.

Reading letters from kindred associations in different parts of the country. Mr. A. E. Kirkby drew attention to the fact that many of the minor

associations did not receive the support of the community.

Mr. H. M. Ross, president of the Association was in the chair

'DIE BURGER' APPEALS FOR UNITED FRONT

An appeal for the burying of the political hatchet and for united support of the Government in the face of the Asiatic menace is made by *Die Burger* says the Johannesburg *Star*. This is apropos of Dr. Malan's proposed Asiatic legislation which, says the Nationalist paper, should go far not only towards making an end to Indianising of the Transvaal and Natal especially, but also to lessening the Asiatic danger. To this end it is suggested that reform of the Transvaal system of handing out licences wholesale would be of great assistance.

"That the Indians, especially in the two provinces mentioned, are violently opposing the measure is readily understood," says *Die Burger*.

"We feel, however, that with few exceptions the whole of the European population is determined to prevent that we should have a large Asiatic population along with a great native population or that Asiatic trade methods and social standards should permanently influence our country. This is not a political matter. Further and closer study of the Bill may possibly suggest improvements, and no matter from which party their origin, suggestions will surely receive serious consideration. But above all we confidently expect that irrespective of party the Europeans in South Africa will support the Government in its earnest endeavour to put an end to the Asiatic menace."

NATAL INDIAN CONGRESS

CABLES TO INDIA AND ENGLAND

The following is the text of the cable message sent to Indian leaders in India and England in connection with the Asiatic Bill —

"Asiatic Bill Union Parliament is far-reaching, iniquitous and disastrous Indian interests. Deliberate violation Gandhi-Smuts understanding to recognise vested rights. Bill provides allocating residential and trading areas only within which Indians may buy and lease property. In rural districts Indians are confined to thirty miles from coast line wherein areas may be defined. Result will be thousands Indian businesses must cease on expiry of present leases. It is compulsory segregation and deliberate deprivation Indians property. Ultimate aim apparently repatriation with confiscation. Rights bona fide Indians enter Union seriously jeopardised. Many provisions Bill enable Indians declared prohibited immigrants. Domicile rights practically forfeited. Mere absence three years causes forfeiture. Wives and children of domiciled Indians cannot enter Union after five years from August 1925. Thousands ex-indentured Indians now thirty years here and their descendants may be declared prohibited immigrants and cannot claim domicile. South African born Indian domiciled in one Province must return to the Province of his birth and there also into segregated areas. Indians born here could also be declared prohibited immigrants unsuitable to requirements of Union. Such prohibited Indians will lose all property and vested rights in Union and driven away. Protest Mass Meeting Natal Indians called for thirty-first Durban. Rely upon you creating strong influential public opinion so that Indian Government may be roused into determined action protect us. Affront to Indian nation must be met with dignified protests from India. The insult is gratuitous and we resent same in most strenuous and emphatic manner. We implore you press Indian Government make immediate public expression of

its attitude as supineness may be misunderstood by all concerned.—AMOD BAYAT, President Natal Indian Congress.

OUR LONDON LETTER

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT]

30th July, 1925.

NEW HEALTH SOCIETY

With the object of making the workers of England healthier and happier, a new body, the New Health Society, has been registered as a Company limited by guarantee, with many eminent medical and public men as subscribers, the Earl of Oxford and Asquith being one of them. Sir W. Arbuthnot Lane, the famous surgeon, who is the founder of the Society states that it has three objects: (1) to teach the public through County Councils how to keep themselves healthy, (2) to see that the right kinds of foodstuffs are available to the public and (3) to teach the public how to obtain and preserve green food and vegetables. The Society will also endeavour to get the people back to the land and teach them how to get the best out of the land by making them happier, healthier and more intelligent workers. The Society aims to make the factory worker more efficient, too, by teaching him how to protect his health. The Society is resuscitating some of the good work which the *Daily Mail* did in urging people to eat wholemeal bread. The Society may exert a tremendous influence, for several prominent people, including Cabinet Ministers are interested in the scheme.

HOW WAR HAS CHANGED THINGS

Some years ago, it would have been inconceivable that an Indian Prince would join in singing the chorus of an English popular song, such an act, the mere thought of it would have staggered his people. But, since the war, all things seem possible.

On the 28th July the Maharajah of Jodhpur, gave a party to his Household at his Wimbledon residence. The Maharajah and his brother sat with their guests—the included General Vaughn and his wife, Captain and Mrs. Freeman Thomas, and some notable Anglo-Indians. Behind them were the officers of the Household, and the rest of the seats were occupied by the two hundred members of His Highness's retinue, including the Polo attendants all in Indian dress. When Wilkie and Wilkie with their marionettes sang 'A Fly Flew Past Fat Flo,' the Maharajah and his English speaking guests joined in the tongue-twisting chorus.

JOHN SARGENT'S PAINTINGS

John Sargent, the painter who died recently, left many paintings, some were little more than sketches, others, copies of masterpieces by other painters, and most of them his finished work. These were put up to public auction at Christy's during last week, and realised in all the enormous sum of over £188,000.

DEMPSEY AND THE BOXING COMMISSION

An exchange telegram from America gives the very interesting news that the New York Boxing Commission has announced that Jack Dempsey the heavyweight boxing champion of the world has been given time till Tuesday next to make known his attitude regarding the challenge of Harry Wills the Negro boxer. If Dempsey does not answer, the Commission threatens to take drastic action. Dempsey cannot hope to cling to the championship title, by avoiding to meet his rivals. The decision of the Boxing Commission is interesting, because the colour of a rival apparently does not weigh with them. Dempsey nor any other European can claim

to the championship of the world and yet refuse to fight others on the ground of colour. If they do refuse, it would be a farce to call themselves world-champions.

ENGLAND A LAND OF SURPRISES

England is a land of surprises, it gives birth to many things, good, bad, and indifferent, some survive, some die, and time will tell whether the National Fascists, which has just seen daylight will survive or die. This is an offshoot of the British Fascists, though now independent of it. The National Fascists claim that they want deeds not words. The members of it appear to be sworn to tear down the red flag wherever and whenever they see it and that they are under an oath to further Fascism, without considerations to their life, person, or self-interest. They wear black shirts. Last Sunday they marched up to a Communist meeting in Hyde Park, and pulled down the Red Flag, which resulted in a melee, members of both parties being hurt. The police then escorted the black shirts to their headquarters in Edgware Road. The men are under physical training, and the girl Fascists train in first aid to help their men, after their scrapes. But it is most unlikely of course that the Government will allow any lawless body to thrive.

THE COAL DISPUTE

The coal dispute still hangs fire. The Prime Minister has been interviewing both parties to bring about some understanding between the miners and the mine owners, but up to the moment of writing, no progress has been made. And to-morrow is the last day on which the notice expires, and unless something miraculous happens before then, England will be faced with a great industrial upheaval.

GERMAN SPORTSMEN TAKING PART IN BRITISH SPORTS

Since the war German sportsmen will, for the first time take part in British Sports Trial, for the ban placed upon Germany has now been removed. No fewer than twenty-four German riders have entered for the International Six Days Motor Cycling trial which, by virtue of the British win in Belgium last year, is to be held in this country, starting from Southampton on the 17th August. Competitors will be grouped in two classes. There will be a trophy for the best team of three riders mounted on machines in their own country, and a silver vase for the best team of three riders mounted on any make of motor cycle. The chief interest among German motor cyclists will rest in the fortunes of the teams riding German motor cycles. These will be accompanied by press photographers and publicity agents. Entries have also been received from Australia, Norway, Holland, and Belgium.

MISS SANDERS

The writer had the pleasure of meeting Miss Sanders, one of the pioneer workers in the uplift of the Indian community in Natal. She will be well known, for, among other things the orphanage for boys and girls that she founded, and which was known as St Aidan's Orphanage. Though well on in years, until her arrival in England, she was engaged in work among the Natives, particularly in Native Child Welfare in Inhambane. She is speaking at different centres in England on her work, for the protection and improvement of child life among the backward races of Africa. She hopes however, soon to pay again a visit to the Holy Land.

INDIA IN THE IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT

INDIAN MEDICAL SERVICES

Lord Sydenham on the 29th July asked the Secretary of State for India whether measures were in contemplation adequately to fulfil the medical requirements of the Indian Army, British residents, official and non-official, and the civil hospitals, and to secure the progress of medical science in all its branches throughout India. He said the Indian Medical Service, which had done so much for India, was crumbling away. It had been necessary to send out medical officers on short contract, a system which was totally unsuitable to the requirements of India. This makeshift system could not possibly answer. Under the Government of India Act of 1919 the I.M.S. was made a transferred service. Unless that service was restored the result would be disastrous to the health of the people of India.

The Earl of Birkenhead, Secretary of State for India, said the Indian Medical Service and its organisation had always been a matter of extreme difficulty. It was at the same time a military and a civil service and the interests of the two branches had not always been the same. The 1919 reforms had introduced further complications, and it must be made quite clear what were the obligations which were laid on the Government by the Government of India Act, and the statutory rules made under it. Generally speaking the civil medical administration in India included hospitals and public health, and the provision for medical education, and these were all transferred subjects, the responsibility for which rested with the provincial governments, and the Secretary of State had divested himself of the powers in regard to them which he formerly exercised. The Secretary of State would no longer undertake to recruit officers for the provincial civil medical administration in India, or in particular for the civil hospitals as such, nor could he assume responsibility for the medical care of British non-official residents in India. He had received recommendations from the Government of India on these matters and their consideration was well advanced in his Department, but he was not yet in a position to indicate his final decision. He could, however, say that the Indian Medical Service would be retained. It would be essentially a military service, but officers would be lent to the civil administration. It was of the first importance whether a service on these lines would attract recruits of the right class. He thought that the research and professional appointments which had always been one of the attractions of the Indian Medical Service would help in this respect. He was hopeful that a solution would be found on these lines which would appeal to the medical profession in Great Britain.

NO EAST NOR WEST

[BY SWAMI PARAMANANDA]

When thou journeyest westward thou canst leave
East behind ;
Nor canst thou part from North when thy feet are
turned to the South.
The ray of the sun toucheth all quarters
And bestoweth on all its living, warming balm.
The light of the soul knoweth no boundary hes .
It hath no East nor West, North nor South.
Yea, the light of the soul shineth everywhere,
Save when we keep our doors shut—
Alas, when we keep our door shut !

The Message of the East

-COURAGE

[BY AMBER MAYO]

He lived in a little Bengal village, this boy I am going to tell you about and who was destined to become such a power in the land of his birth through courage and determination.

His Southern home was very dear to him with its coral painted thatched cottages, its forests which sheltered rare song birds, its mountains and rivers and little cascades. They were his birthright, handed down through the ages to him and all true sons of India. Had he not been so very clear-sighted and level-headed he might have been a poet. As it was his head was too concerned with the welfare of his country and his race to let day dreams which always emanate from the heart, take precedence over down right hard facts which had to be faced and fought out to the bitter end.

India had his heart, and so his head should be used to the very best with which the Gods had blessed him for his country's welfare. He was wont to cry out impatiently, when taxed with stubbornness.

"How can you say you love a thing and yet you neglect it and seek not its good. Such affection is worthless." You say we are a patriotic race, I say we cannot be. Does patriotism mean casting aside our obligations to our own, allowing the usurper the privileges we should glory in perpetrating ourselves. Is it patriotism to offer big money to foreigners to represent us, because we are so indolent, or lack the courage of our just convictions."

Of course, he was very young when he spoke thus, and anger would shine from his fine dark eyes, and scorn made the corners of his firm mouth droop unpleasantly.

His father—a hard-headed businessman, with a large foreign connection, never troubled himself beyond his bank sheets—all else could go to rot. "Every-day contentment" was his motto after business hours. Not an hour's sleep did he miss on account of his country's credit or future. His father had been the same. "Why worry, we can pay some one to worry for us" had been his cry. But there he proved himself wrong. His grandson recognised the error and deplored this state had come to pass.

"No one can worry over ones own like oneself" replied the boy to his father one day. These people promise because your money looks good to them. Their flattery is a poor asset. They would promise you the Rulerships of the whole Solar System, knowing full well how empty and impossible such promises are. I believe in deeds, proof, father, not mere words. The man who promised me something, would have to fulfil or get out."

This boy had now reached manhood and naturally, his father wished him to enter the firm.

"When I 'cross the great divide' my son" he said one day "the business will be yours, so I want you to enter the Counting House first. From the banking department you will go into the buying and foreign trade but of course that will take time."

"I should like to please you father very much, and I will do my utmost to do so, but my heart is not in it."

He had been denied nothing, study and affection, sports and pleasure, of which he had had his share. A little pang shot through him. Conscience told him to hold firm but he had a deep affection for his parent and hated to displease him.

Let the "just for to-day" policy was wrong of that he was certain. He believed in to-day, to-morrow and for ever. Only the weak cry out "just for to-day" and sit down and wait and grow lean in so doing. Each unit of us, each allotted life has its work to do, else why the privilege of life, of human affection, of God-fearing which is denied to animals and soulless things. Should we not have been created just a stone, a stick, an inanimate thing, had not a purpose heralded our birth. Life meant so much to this boy, it was truth and love and possibilities, it was worthwhile.

The father, the man of commerce, looked at life

through different eyes. Selfish eyes they were but he did not realise it. The father was annoyed and troubled at his son's words.

"And why pray is your heart estranged from honourable business my son?" he asked.

"Forgive me father, but please believe every word I say"—he panted and then,—

"My English tutor taught me to write in my copy-book, over and over again the words "Live and let Live," and said "that was the spirit which made England's standard so honoured the world over" I believed him then, but since, I have proved them to be mere bluff words of conciliation and deceit. We in India and the East *Let live* at the cost of all we should hold dear. We are losing honour, the right of race, caste; we shall be a people without a country, scattered. Our land will be swarmed over by foreign ants, picked bare and dry, just on account of people like you, father, who cry out "Sufficient unto the day is the evil" and you then sit down and smoke your pipe and dream and forget the crying need of us. The *evil* is at our door. "We fast on fast days and feast on feast days and rejoice—over what?"

The good God Siva gave us a rich and beautiful inheritance and yet we make slight effort to cherish it. "We let it go to highwaymen and things. Our people in South Africa are classed with vileness, are almost denied the right to live. We are paying dearly now for what your money paid for the plausible tongue of deceit for instability and dishonour.

The 'Golden Calf' is the only God of such, they take your gold and give us what? Indifference with sublime effrontery and patronage."

"If I offend you, father, then blame my English teachers who held the standard of 'Live and let Live' so high to us, knowing full well the words had no meaning but to conciliate us. We have shirkers and rotters here, as has every civilised country. We have a great majority of poor and uneducated. I want to help them, father. I don't want them to continue the cry of 'just for to-day and let the devil take to-morrow.' I want them to realise a bright and beautiful to-morrow."

This rich merchant, contented with his day, had no idea he had begat a son so intense, so earnest, such a reasoner. Goodbye to his dreams of a commercial life, for the boy, They had flown before this outburst was half over for he realised he had a son to be proud of. A son whose memory should be treasured in Indian history, one who would 'go far' and when his life's work was ended, his God would welcome him with the words: "Well done thou good and faithful one who fought the good fight, who helped the weak and troubled."

There are many such boys in India as the one I have told you of with courage, fearless and ability. Let us give them a helping hand, let us prove we are not rotters when we cry "Live and let Live."

17th Aug. 1925. Johannesburg.

M. K. GANDHI LIBRARY AND PARSEE
RUSTOMJEE HALL

The celebration of the fourth anniversary of the opening of the M. K. Gandhi Library and Parsee Rustomjee Hall and the Third Annual General Meeting will take place on Wednesday, 9th September, 1925 at 7 p. m. in the Parsee Rustomjee Hall, 140 Queen Street, Durban.

A cordial invitation is extended to all.

O. H. A. JHAVERI,
Chairman.

B. M. PATEL,
Hon. Secretary.

M. K. G. Library and P. R. Hall Executive Committee.