

Indian Opinion

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NOTES AND NEWS

WE extend a hearty welcome to Mr. Sorabjee Rustomjee who has kept his promise to the inch and has returned once again amongst us on the very date he had fixed on his departure. We extend a very hearty welcome also to Mrs. Sorabjee who, we are sure, will prove as useful and lovable amongst the community as her dear husband. We wish the bride and bridegroom every happiness and prosperity in their future life.

Mr. Teikandas the well-known silk merchant of Port Elizabeth has returned from India where he had been on a short trip. He landed at Lourenco-marques last Monday whence he proceeded to Johannesburg and is expected to arrive in Durban in a few days.

The attention of the Markets and Abattoir Committee of the Durban Town Council was drawn to the condition of the various roads in the vicinity of the Indian market, and a recommendation was submitted to the Works Committee that the work of asphaltting these roads be carried out, but in view of provision not having been made on the current year's estimates for the expenditure of an amount of £1,421 on this work, the Works Committee referred the matter to the Finance Committee to consider from a financial point of view. The Financial Committee is not prepared to recommend an excess vote in order to permit of this work being carried out, and the Markets and Abattoir Committee has therefore recommended at its meeting of Nov., 10th. that provision be made on next year's Estimates for the asphaltting of roadways in the vicinity of the Indian Market at an approximate cost of £1,421.

The following appears in the report of the meeting of the Council-in-Committee held on Nov. 22 :

We have considered an application made by the Agent for the Government of India, the Rt. Hon. V. S. Srinivasa Sastri, P.C., for a site on which to erect a training college for Indian teachers. The scheme will comprise a training college for teachers and accommodation for the higher classes for the present Carlisle Street Higher Grade School, and will also include a hostel for scholars and residential quarters for the principal. The buildings will be in three blocks, and will be in accordance with plans to be approved by the Education Department. The site applied for is in the vicinity of the Indian Sports Grounds, and is situated near the corner of Mansfield Road and Centenary Road.

We have had the advantage of an interview with Mr. Sastri, who elaborated the details of his proposal and indicated the provision which had been made for the financing of the scheme.

The area in which the land applied for is situated, is one which already contains a number of Indian Schools and in which Indian residents predominate. We are therefore of opinion that the application

is one which should receive the favourable consideration of the Council.

Committee recommends :

(a) That the Council approve of the principle of granting a site on Centenary Road between the Indian Girls' School and the Indian Sports Ground.

(a) That a site not exceeding two acres in extent be submitted for sale in leasehold under the same conditions as applied to the Indian Girls' School site recently purchased by the Wesleyan Mission; the actual situation of the land to be determined by the Council after report by the Borough Engineer.

PORT HEALTH OFFICER'S AUTOCRACY

AN incident that occurred on the *s.s. Karoa* on her arrival in Durban last Wednesday is worth taking note of. The Port Health Officer, it appears, asked the second class Indian passengers among whom were women and children to go down and join the deck passengers to be examined. The second class passengers took exception to this differential treatment as they alleged that the European second class passengers were examined in the second class and were not asked to go down as the Indians were and refused to obey the Port Health Officer's orders. The Port Health Officer, Dr. Fernandez was, of course, not the person to tolerate what seemed to be an impertinence on the part of the Indian passengers and immediately ordered those who refused to obey his orders to be kept on board and went away. All the passengers thereupon decided in sympathy for those who were detained to remain on board. On being informed of this position Advocate J. W. Godfrey accompanied by Mr. A. I. Kajee, Secretary of the South African Indian Congress, went to interview Dr. Fernandez but were asked to come half an hour later as the Health Officer was having his breakfast. On being approached the second time Dr. Fernandez explained, we are informed, that it was his rule not to examine either the first or second class European passengers.

and only to examine the second class Indian and the deck passengers. As there were only a few second class Indian passengers he ordered them to come down for examination with the deck passengers which order they had no right to disobey. His reason for not examining the European passengers was that they generally came from East Coast where there was no fear of diseases whereas the Indians generally came from India where there was always a danger of infectious diseases. He however, came back as a favour and examined the second class passengers concerned in the second class saloon and they were then released and were able to land at 1 o'clock after being detained for about three hours.

Before we say anything about the attitude of the Port Health Officer we would like to say a few words on the statement made by him. He is reported to have said that he does not examine the European passengers at all. We do not know what the public will have to say to this. To our mind the Port Health Officer is guilty of a serious crime in neglecting to examine certain passengers. What is the Port Health Officer there for if not to examine every boat that comes in and to see that no disease is introduced into the country. All passengers really mix together on the boat and in the second and first class Indians and Europeans are always together. If, therefore, there is any likelihood of any disease spreading Europeans would be just as liable to spread it as would the Indians. And to say that East Africa where Europeans generally come from is not infected with any disease is utterly wrong. We would inform the Port Health Officer that diseases such as black-water fever and malaria are quite common in the East Coast.

The second thing is, we do not think the second class passengers were wrong in their request to be examined in their own class. Firstly, because they had paid more for better accommodation and better facilities and secondly because they resented being herded together with people of lower standard and position than theirs and in unclean surroundings. The only thing that the Port Health Officer who was after all paid for his duty could expect is that the passengers are ready prepared in their respective classes to be examined. He has no right to expect anything more than that. In the present instance the stand taken up by the

Indian passengers was, we think, quite correct and the attitude of the Port Health Officer was, to say the least most autocratic. But the relations between the Port Health Officer and the Indian community have been none too sweet in the past and there is nothing surprising in the present attitude of Dr. Fernandez. We have to be thankful to him, however, for retracing his step after punishing the passengers with three hours detention.

THE JOHANNESBURG MEETING

NEXT Sunday will be a day of anxiety for the Transvaal Indians. The meeting requisitioned by over 700 members of the Transvaal British Indian Association will be held on that day. That meeting will decide the fate of the Transvaal Indians. If it fails we are afraid the Transvaal Indians will be in for a very dark and gloomy future. If it succeeds there is every hope for a brighter future not only for the Transvaal Indians but for Indians throughout the Union. Let Indians in the Transvaal remember one simple thing: united we stand, divided we fall. And those who are for secession are for dividing our forces and those that are for joining the Congress are for uniting our forces. The present British Indian Association is openly out to divide our forces while the Sunday meeting is for uniting our forces. Let those who oppose the Congress join the Congress and fight it on its own platform. Let our internal dissensions be of secondary importance. Let us settle them internally. The important thing is the question of our future in this country. And that depends on how the working of the Capetown Agreement will be. Those who are dissatisfied with the agreement were also strongly against the Areas Reservation Bill. They will, however, agree that the agreement is the lesser evil with hopes and promises of a brighter day. We depend upon those hopes and promises. Let us give an opportunity for those hopes and promises to be fulfilled. We are only weakening our cause by crying against it before giving it an opportunity. If, after, it is found wanting we can unitedly denounce it and more powerfully. The object of the Sunday meeting is to join the Congress and to strengthen its hands in the working of the Agreement.

Let the Transvaal Indians not forget its past history and the founder of that Association. Let them use their last drop of blood to save it from degradation into which it is at present fast sinking. It is up to the old stalwarts of that Association to rise to the occasion and be faithful to Mahatma Gandhi under whose guidance they conducted the affairs of the Association. We hope every Indian in the Transvaal will be guided by wise counsel and will attend Sunday's meeting and will do everything in his power to bring it to a successful termination.

The arrival of Mr. & Mrs. Sorabjee Rustomjee

Mr. Sorabjee Rustomjee accompanied by his newly wedded wife landed at Durban last Wednesday. There was a large number of prominent Indians including the Rt. Hon. Mr. Sastri present at the Point from early morning, but owing to an unpleasant incident which is related in our leading columns the Indian passengers were delayed on board till 1 p.m. The crowd had therefore considerably dwindled when Mr. and Mrs. Sorabjee landed. On behalf of the Natal Indian Congress Mr. Sorabjee was garlanded by Mr. V. Lawrence and Mrs. Sorabjee by Mrs. Manilal Gandhi. They were then taken to their residence at 19 First Avenue where they were busy throughout the day with visitors coming in to greet them.

The Evening Function

In the evening Mr. and Mrs. Sorabjee were entertained to dinner by the Natal Indian Congress at the Supper Room of the Durban Town Hall over which the Rt. Hon. Mr. Sastri presided. Over two hundred Indians and a few Europeans were present including the Rt. Hon. Srinivasa Sastri, Mr. P.K. Rao, Mr. J. D. Tyson, Mr. C. S. Ricketta, Mr. Kitchlu and Miss Gordon (the Indian representatives to assist the forthcoming Education Commission) and others.

After dinner Mr. Sastri proposed the toast of the King and then of the bride and bridegroom-guests of the evening and after garlanding the couple Mr. Sastri made a very humorous speech in which he wished the couple a happy and prosperous life, and in the course of his remarks stated that there were important officials in the Government department who, although having earned a long holiday were reluctant to take that holiday as they had so much work that needed their personal attention that if they were away but a minute from their desk they knew that their work would only accumulate and render it all the more difficult for them to go through it. Similarly it was with Mr. Sorabjee whose presence was also indispensable for there were certain things that could be done by no one else but himself.

Mr. Sorabjee's Reply

Mr. Sorabjee who was received with a loud applause on rising to speak thanked the gathering for the honour they had done him and Mrs. Sorabjee and promised to serve the community as in the past and with added vigour as he had now the assistance also of his dear wife. He expressed regret at the disunity that existed in the community and at the movement on foot to wreck the work of the Congress which, he said, had created a feeling of de-

pression among the leaders in India who were trying their utmost to do everything possible in the interests of the community. The speaker urged upon the leading members of the community not to lend their names to any such movements and to completely dissociate with it.

At the termination of the function the happy couple shook hands with all that were present.

Education Inquiry Commission

'Cape Times' Comment

The *Cape Times* dated Dec. 6 has a leading article "All Eyes on Natal," in which reference is made to the Commission on Indian education.

The paper says: "A recent issue of the *Natal Provincial Gazette* contains the personnel and terms of reference of the Indian Education Commission, to consist of the chairman and members of the Provincial Executive together with Mr. J. A. Lidgett and Mr. F. H. Acutt, both of whom are Provincial Councillors. The terms of reference include the question of Indian education in the Province generally; the existing facilities as a whole; the conditions of service of teachers in Indian schools; the present system of Provincial grants-in-aid, and the financial basis of Indian education, having regard to the resources of the Province, the various demands upon them, and the adequacy or otherwise, of the existing Government subsidies, in so far as they affect Indian education."

"With the exception of this last instruction, which conveys a rather indecently-broad hint to the Commission, the terms of reference are satisfactory, but the personnel which has been chosen shows that the Natal Administration has decided to ignore all suggestions for giving the Commission either an independent, or an expert, character. The Government of India has sent two education experts to assist the Commission, and presumably the assistance of South African experts, too, will be available. But none of these will be a member of the Commission, which does not contain anyone who has any technical or special knowledge of education, Indian or other.

"The Commission is not really a Commission at all; it is practically a Select Committee of the Provincial Council, and the only two members of it who are not also members of the Provincial Executive are Mr. Lidgett and Mr. Acutt, both of whom are known to be anti-Indian in their views.

"We cannot pretend to find Natal's method of attacking the problem of Indian education satisfactory. This, however, is not the moment to criticise. Natal has every right to make her own plan of action and to deal with the matter as seems fit to her. She has prepared a Select Committee to an independent inquiry, and all that the rest of the Union can do is to await the outcome of its deliberations. This is rather a moment to emphasise once again the plain but momentous fact that, in this matter, Natal holds the honour of the whole Union in her hands, from the Indian point of view.

"The most essential part of the Capetown Agreement is the undertaking given by the Union Government that those Indians who wish to do so should be provided with opportunities for assimilating Western standards of life.

"Now, it is true that Natal was not consulted at the time through her Provincial Council, and there we are inclined to think the Council possesses a legitimate grievance, seeing that this part of the Agreement cannot be carried into full effect without the Council's co-operation. But the Natal Minister in the Cabinet, Mr. Boydell, took part in round-table conferences, and before the Agreement was presented to Parliament it was referred to the Select Committee on the Areas Reservation Bill, on which

Natal was fully represented, and which accepted the Agreement unanimously. In Parliament, too, no action was taken by the Natal members to repudiate Natal's obligations under the Agreement.

"By the very act of appointing a Commission at all the Provincial Council has recognised these obligations.

"There can thus be no question that the rest of the Union is justified in regarding Natal as having accepted the Agreement, and in looking to the Natal Provincial Council to play its part in carrying out its share of it. It must be remembered, too, that alleviation of the Indian problem which the Agreement is confidently expected to bring about, and which, indeed, it is already beginning to make evident, will be felt chiefly in Natal.

"The rest of the Union, then, is not asking too much of Natal when it expresses the hope that the Commission it has appointed will do its work thoroughly and impartially, and with a due sense of its responsibility, not only to Natal but to the Union as a whole.

"The questions with which the Commission will deal have also their Imperial aspect. The Empire, in general, and Great Britain and India in particular, are interested in the fate of the Natal Indians.

"The report of the Commission will thus have a large and far-spread audience. We trust that the Commission will acquit itself of its task in the spirit of statesmanship and patriotism that the greatness of the occasion demands.

Mr. Sastri On Cosmopolitanism

Speaking at a social given in his honour recently by the United Hindu Association of Capetown, Mr. Srinivasa Sastri said that his failing health was now a comparatively old legend. South Africa, he said, had done him an enormous amount of good, and he was deeply grateful to the climate and the sympathetic environment in which he was now passing his life for the change which had come over his health. This, he thought, was really symptomatic of the general improvement in the moral and material welfare of the Indian community in this country.

Referring to what had been said in one of the speeches of welcome, Mr. Sastri said that cosmopolitanism meant sympathy towards all, and none was excluded from the scope of affection of the true cosmopolitan. Was it compatible with true cosmopolitanism, he asked, to say of any community living in our midst, "towards you my feelings are not those of affection or sympathy or love? Somehow or other I cannot reconcile myself to your existence here, and I will not harbour goodwill towards you." Was such a state of feeling permissible in a truly cosmopolitan community? The question had only to be put and it was answered, he remarked, but in actual life it was somewhat different. Politicians sometimes excommunicated doctrines subversive to this essential quality of cosmopolitanism. People often said, "It is impossible for me to love that community." Such statements, often repeated, said Mr. Sastri, tended to corrupt the purity of our cosmopolitan hearts. Once it became the fashion for people to say harsh things about any community, the springs of political life were poisoned and cosmopolitanism suffered at the very roots. That was an evil which had to be sedulously guarded against.

He could not think well of a community where people became used to enunciating a doctrine prejudicial to the character of a whole community, and to the usefulness of a lot of their brethren for no other fault than that they were of a certain type of race, and of a different colour, or that they possessed civic virtues and a capacity for economic prosperity which seemed to mark them out, not for approbation, but for jealousy and illwill.

There would certainly come a time, Mr. Sastri said, perhaps not in his life time, when it would be recognised that all people, no matter what their colour or their civilisation or standard of living, all belonged to one family.

Transvaal British Indian Association

Vice-Chairman's Action

Mr. N. R. Patel (vice-chairman of the T.B.I.A.) has addressed the following letter to the Jt. Hon. Secretaries in reply to their advice of his suspension:

Dear Sirs,—I have the honour to acknowledge your letter of the 26th November.

The advertisement referred to was published with my full consent and approval.

While not admitting that its publication is, as you alleged, unconstitutional, it should be hardly necessary to remind you that your own conduct, as hon. joint secretaries of this Association, in ignoring the requisition signed by seven hundred members calling upon you to convene a Special General Meeting in terms of Rule 27, left me with no alternative but to dissociate myself from your action and that of the members of the Committee who support you, and to identify myself with the legitimate demands of the general body of members.

I neither recognise as the properly constituted holder of office, the gentleman you refer to as (Chairman) nor his right to suspend me from the position to which I was duly and formally elected.

Needless to say, I do not propose to comply with the demand contained in the final paragraph of your letter under reply. I am quite content to leave my conduct to the judgment of the Association whose interest and welfare I must confess I regard as of greater importance than the will or inclinations of its officers.

Yours faithfully,

(Sgd.) N. R. PATEL.

Thoughts On The Present Discontent In Indian Community

Capetown Agreement—The Apple of Discord

(BY M. D. BARMANTA)

Human memory in this country seems to be very short. A long series of correspondence and exchanges of views took place between the Governments of the Union and India, and in the later part of 1925 and the early part of 1926, before the Conference was finally decided upon. Whole of this official correspondence was published both in India and here, and strange, as it may seem, the strongest critics of the Agreement to-day had nothing or very little to say then about the formula definitely agreed to between the two Governments.

It is very strange how suddenly after the Emergency Conference in Durban last year, the critics of the Congress and the Agreement filled in gas, and after the Conference held in Johannesburg, which finally retained the Headquarters of the Congress in Natal, brought matters to a crisis.

To refresh our memory we shall now dive a little into the official correspondence for a while.

"It was clearly the attitude of the Union Government that no conference, however restricted in scope, was possible unless some definite promise was held out beforehand that it would result in a considerable reduction of the Indian population. They welcomed tentative and provisional proposals to this effect. And that their attitude with regard to the

holding of a conference would eventually depend upon the nature and practicability of any repatriation scheme offered as a basis for further discussion at such conference.

It was only after the Government of India had intimated in your (the Viceroy's) telegram of the 9th October 1925, that they did not intend to explore the possibilities of more effective repatriation with the object of bringing about a considerable reduction of the Indian population, but wished merely to confine themselves to helpful suggestions in connection with the existing repatriation scheme that further attempts on the part of the Union Government to arrive at a satisfactory basis for a conference were dropped . . . they trust that the Government of India will realise that the progress of the Bill through Parliament cannot be held up unless such action can be clearly justified to Parliament, and in the eyes of the people of South Africa by the nature and the adequacy of the assurance given . . .

The Government of India in refusing to discuss voluntary repatriation made the holding of the Conference impossible . . .

(Governor-General's Cable to Government of India.-10-3-26)

"We are unable to agree to enter a Conference of which the object would be to affect a considerable reduction of the Indian population and we still adhere to this opinion . . ."

(Government of India's Cable to Governor-General.-26-3-26)

It would appear the matter ended here, but no. After a further conference between the Union Government and the Paddison Deputation, the Union Government in the cable of 13/4/26 informed the Government of India that, "Any Conference which could justly be interpreted as a mere attempt from outside to prevent the Union Government from dealing with its own problems in its own way be resented by the people of South Africa and will continue to be unacceptable . . . Public opinion in South Africa will not view with favour any settlement which does not hold a reasonable prospect of safeguarding the maintenance of Western standard of life by just and legitimate means. . . If the Government of India could accept this presentation of the position as a correct one the Union Government will be ready to accept their offer to enter into a Conference for the purpose . . . Any proposals that the Conference might make would be subject to confirmation by the Governments of the two countries . . ."

The Government of the Union then also decided not to proceed further with the Class Areas Bill until the results of the Conference were available. The Government of India in their cable to the Union Government of 17-4-26 replied :

"We accept the statement of your Excellency's Government that public opinion in South Africa would not view with favour any settlement which does not hold out a reasonable aspect of safeguarding the maintenance of Western standards of life by just and legitimate means."

Dr. Malan on 23-4-27, in the course of his statement in Parliament said, "We were strongly and in principle opposed to any Conference which was one-sided in so far as it would admittedly have been expected from us to make concessions in connection with our proposed legislation."

The whole position reduced to its logical sequence amounted to this. The Indian Government, a subordinate legislature, was negotiating with a sovereign and independent state to all purposes. The Union Government did not care a straw about what we said and thought, and the Indian Government could not afford to offend it and throw away the only chance of averting the calamity of the Areas Reservation Bill, which was then on the legislative

anvil in a far advanced state. The protests of the Indian National Congress were a cry in the wilderness.

The Government of India gambled on the only chance and trusted to the wit and sagacity of their representatives who had inspired the confidence of the Indian people of all shades of political opinion, to make the best of a bad bargain. Of course there were some who dissented, but all opposition, if there was any, was due to the fact that Mr. Sastri had the courage of his conviction to move an amendment to the famous N.C.O. Resolution in the Delhi Congress which perhaps was the last session that he attended; but this in itself was no crime.

The Government of India had two alternatives before them : the Areas Bill and the Conference in terms of the Formula, and they very wisely chose the latter as the lesser evil.

After the Conference the *status quo* had disappeared, and the Indians in South Africa had to choose between the Areas Bill and the Agreement arrived at at the Conference. What they chose and which was the greater evil ?

The Story of My Experiments With Truth

[BY M. K. GANDHI]

Part III. Chapter XXII.

FAITH ON ITS TRIAL

Though I hired chambers in the Fort and a house in Girgaum, God would not let me settle down. Scarcely had I been in my new house for a few days, when my second son Manilal, who had already been through an acute attack of small-pox years ago, had a severe attack of typhoid combined with pneumonia and signs of delirium at night.

The doctor was called in. He said medicine would have little effect but that eggs and chicken broth might be given with profit.

Manilal was only ten years old then. Consulting his wishes was out of the question. Being his guardian I had to decide. The doctor was a very good Parsi. I told him that we were all vegetarians and that I could not possibly give either of the two things to my son. Would he therefore recommend something else ?

"Your son's life is in danger," said the good doctor. "We could give him milk diluted with water, but that will not give him enough nourishment. As you know I am called in by many Hindu families, and they do not object to anything I prescribe. I think you also will be well advised not to be so hard on your son."

"What you say is quite right," said I. As a doctor you could not do otherwise. But my responsibility is very great. If the boy had been grown up I should certainly have tried to ascertain his wishes and respected them. But here I have to think and decide for him. To my mind it is only on such occasions that a man's faith is truly tested. Rightly or wrongly it is part of my religious conviction that man may not eat meat, eggs, and the like. There should be a limit even to the means of keeping ourselves alive. Even for life itself we may not do certain things. Religion as I understand it does not permit me to use meat or eggs for me or mine even on occasions like this, and I must therefore take the risk that you say is likely. But I beg of you one thing. As I cannot avail myself of your treatment, I propose to try some hydropathic remedies which I happen to know. But I will not know how to examine the boy's pulse, chest, lungs, etc. If you will kindly look in from time to time, to examine him and keep me informed of his condition I shall be grateful to you."

The good doctor appreciated my difficulty and

agreed to my request. Though Manilal could not have made his choice, I told him what had passed between the doctor and myself and asked him his opinion.

'Do try your hydropathic treatment,' he said, 'I will not have eggs or chicken broth.'

This made me glad though I knew that if I had given him either of these he would have taken it.

I knew Kuhne's treatment and had tried it too. I also knew that fasting too could be tried with profit. So I began to give Manilal hip baths according to Kuhne, never keeping him in the tub for more than three minutes, and kept him on orange juice mixed with water for three days.

But the temperature persisted going up to 104 degrees. At night he would be delirious. I began to get anxious. What would people say of me? What would my elder brother think of me? Could we not call in another doctor? Why not have an Ayurvedic physician? What right had the parents to inflict their fads on their children?

I was often having thoughts like these. Again a contrary current would start. God would surely be pleased to see that I was giving the same treatment to my son as I would give myself. I had faith in hydropathy, and little in allopathy. The doctors could not guarantee recovery. At best they could experiment. The thread of life was in the hands of God. Why not trust it to Him, and in His name go on with what I thought was the right treatment?

My mind was torn between these conflicting thoughts. I was night. It was in Manilal's bed lying by his side. I decided to give him a wet sheet pack. I got up, wetted a sheet, wrung all the water out of it, and wrapped it about Manilal, keeping only his head out, and then covered him with two blankets. To the head I applied a wet towel. The whole body was burning like hot iron and quite parched. There was no perspiration at all.

I was much tired. I left Manilal in charge of his mother, and went out for a walk on Chhapati to refresh myself. It was about ten o'clock. A very few pedestrians were there. I scarcely looked at them, plunged in deep thought. 'My honour is in Thy keeping, Oh Lord in this hour of trial,' said I to myself. Ramanama was on my lips. After a short stroll I returned, my heart beating within my breast.

No sooner did I enter the room than Manilal said, 'You have returned, Bapu?'

'Yes, darling.'

'Do pull me out please. I am burning.'

'Are you perspiring, my boy?'

'I am simply soaked. Do please take me out.'

I felt his forehead. It was full of beads of perspiration. The temperature was going down. I thanked God.

Manilal, your fever is sure to go now. A little more perspiration and then I take you out.

Pray, no. Do please deliver me from this furnace. Wrap me some other time if you like.

I just managed to keep him under the pack for a few minutes more by diverting him. Perspiration streamed down his forehead. I undid the pack, dried the body and father and son fell asleep in the same bed.

And we slept like a log. Next morning Manilal had much less fever than before. He went on thus for forty days on diluted milk and fruit juices. He had no fever now. It was an obstinate type of fever, but it had been got under control.

To-day Manilal is the healthiest of my boys. Who can say whether his recovery was due to God's grace or to hydropathy or to careful dietary and nursing? Let every one decide according to his own faith. For my part, I was sure that God had saved my honour and that belief remains unaltered to this day.

South African Indian Congress EIGHTH SESSION

In terms of Clause 13 of the Constitution notice is hereby given to the constituent bodies that the next Annual Conference will be held at Kimberley on the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th January 1928.

The following is the agenda:—

1. Presidential Speech.
2. Minutes.
3. Hon. Gen. Secretary's Report.
4. Hon. Jt. Treasurer's Financial Statement.
5. Capetown Agreement.
 - (a) Bills passed there anent.
 - (b) Education Inquiry Commission.
 - (c) Housing & Sanitary Commission.
6. Proposed Liquor Bill.
7. Notices of Motion.
8. Revision of Constitution and Standing Orders.
9. Election of Officials.
10. General.

A. I. KAJÉE,
HON. GEN. SECRETARY.

Headquarters:

175 Grey Street, Durban.
25th Nov. 1927.

Transvaal British Indian Association Mass Meeting

Whereas, on the 5th November, 1927 a requisition duly signed by over 700 members of the Association was duly served upon the Joint Hon. Secretaries, calling upon them, in terms of rule 27 of the constitution and regulation, to convene a Special General Meeting of members for the purposes set forth in the said requisition

and whereas in violation of the said rule the said Joint Hon. Secretaries have failed, refused or neglected to comply with the said requisition, and failed, refused or neglected to convene a Special General Meeting

And whereas the members of this Association are by reason of the foregoing being subjected to injury in regard to the affairs of the Association and their communal interests

Notice is hereby given that a mass meeting of the Indians of the Transvaal Province (over the age of 16 years, all such being *ipso facto* members of this Association) will be held on Sunday, the 18th December, 1927, at 2 p.m. at the Good Hope Bicecote Hall, corner of Commissioner and Nugget Streets, Johannesburg, for the following purposes:

1. To consider the conduct of the present officers and committee, and to pass such resolutions in regard thereto, as the meeting may determine.
2. To elect by vote officers and members of the committee, either in addition to those presently holding office or in substitution of them or any of them.
3. To consider and vote upon the proposal that the Transvaal British Indian Association re-affiliate with the South African Indian Congress.
4. To consider and discuss and vote upon any other matter arising out of or incidental to the foregoing.

To: Add.
"ORGANISER"
P.O. Box 2538,
Johannesburg.

N. R. PATEL,
Vice-Chairman (T.B.I.A.)
(At the request and instance
of members and signatories
to the requisition.)