

Indian Opinion

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NOTES AND NEWS

HEARTIEST congratulations to the Rt. Hon. V. S. Srinivasa Sastri P.C., on the signal honour conferred upon him by His Majesty. It was most appropriate that he should receive the Companion of Honour. His self-sacrificing services in South Africa on our behalf are still fresh in our minds. It was with distinction that Mr. Sastri, as the first Agent of the Government of India in South Africa, carried out his onerous duties in this country and it would be therefore gratifying to the Indian community of South Africa to learn that his services have been recognised. We hope that Mr. Sastri will enjoy long life so that he may continue his noble services in the cause of India. ✓

The following congratulatory cable has been sent to Mr. Sastri by the South African Indian Congress. The cable expresses in appropriate terms the feelings of the joy of the Indian community:—

"South African Indian Congress, on behalf of the Indian community of South Africa, is proud of, and offers its hearty congratulations on the honour conferred upon you and regards it as a further mark of recognition of your distinguished services to the Empire as a Servant of India, no less than to your countrymen here."

It was with a sense of profound regret that we learnt that Sir Kurma Reddi, the Agent of the Government of India, on arrival at Madras had to be carried in an ambulance. We hope that the news of his illness is not so distressing as it appeared in Reuter's message. The Indian community will no doubt pray for his speedy recovery.

The Secretaries of the South African Indian Congress advise us that the following cable was sent by them through Reuter:—

"South African Indian Congress is deeply exercised over the continued illness of Sir K. V. Reddi, as reported in the Press, and hopes for his speedy recovery."

Speaking at a luncheon of the Canadian and Empire Clubs at Toronto, General Smuts, the Leader of the South African Party, who is now touring Canada and America, in referring to India's problem, is reported to have said:—"We will apply patience to India's impatience, wisdom to its unwisdom, and, in the end, work out a happy solution through the application of the vital principle of self-governing status for the Dominions."

Elsewhere in this issue we reproduce the Sub-Leader of the *Natal Witness* commenting upon the General's speech.

The Durban port medical authorities had a difficult time with the steamer *Sutlej*, when she came into port recently with 938 immigrant Indians aboard, who were being repatriated from Kingston, Jamaica, to Calcutta. The Indians were in a dreadfully debilitated condition, it is stated, and 200 of them were shipped aboard at Kingston as invalids. During the voyage to Durban, 29 of them died from pneumo-pneumonia, bronchitis, malaria and other diseases

that attack debilitated people. The *Sutlej* left with her depleted passenger list for Calcutta.

SCHOLARSHIPS

IN a few weeks' time the Sastri College will open its doors to admit students.

The opening of the College will mark an epoch in the history of the Indians in this country. The donors in naming the College after the Rt. Hon. V. S. Srinivasa Sastri, have paid a graceful tribute to his services in founding the institution. Mr. Sastri has played a no mean part in the inauguration of a scheme of education for our boys and girls, which we hope, as time passes, will be fully developed.

The College will fill a long-felt want. Our children who have hitherto been unable to prosecute their studies beyond the sixth standard will, with the opening of the College, be able to continue. The somewhat exorbitant fees that were being charged at some of the private institutions have precluded many promising children from continuing their education. By that we do not mean that the private institutions have been "profiteering." Far from it. For, we are fully aware that the conduct of a private school entails heavy expenditure and unless the fees for tuition are high the school can only be conducted at a loss. A striking example was the Marine College. This College, notwithstanding the high fees that were being charged, was conducted at a loss. None the less the Marine College has, during its brief existence, contributed considerably towards improving the education of our boys and girls. The Principal of the College has taken a wise course in giving way to the Sastri College. We can, however, assure him that the Indian community are grateful to him for his services.

The Sastri College will teach our boys up to Matric. No doubt this would be a vast improvement on the existing facilities. Are we to remain content with this additional facility? The number of students

who are furthering their studies overseas is an indication that there is a keen desire amongst Indian parents to give their children the best education. Parents who are fortunate enough to possess the worldly goods will not find it difficult to send their children overseas. But there are numerous brilliant children whose parents in some cases can ill-afford to send them to the local schools, let alone sending them overseas. It is this class of children that the Indian community should give a little attention. Strangely enough our brilliant children invariably spring up from poor parents.

If we desire that our children should rise to the same standard as that of the European children, it would be necessary to afford the class of children we have referred to an opportunity to educate themselves to the fullest extent. It would be necessary for that purpose to grant scholarships and bursaries.

It was a magnificent effort on the part of the Indian community to contribute so liberally towards the erection of the Sastri College. A similar effort would enable the College authorities to institute quite a number of scholarships. A forward step by the two Rustomjee Trusts in this direction, will, we have no doubt, be an incentive to the many wealthy merchants we have in our midst.

We entertain the hope that a year hence Indian students would be vying with one another to capture one of the many scholarships that would be available.

Smuts On Indian Crisis

The *Natal Witness* in its issue of the 6th instant comments as follows on the speech delivered by General Smuts at Toronto:

General Smuts has made a statement respecting India, in the course of a speech in Canada, which may be of great service to the Dependency and the Empire. At a time when leading British journals have displayed astonishment and irritation at the extreme demands and violent speeches and resolutions of the All-India National Congress, General Smuts sums up in a sentence what will undoubtedly be the attitude of Britain to India under circumstances rendered difficult and dangerous by the Nationalist extremists. He said: "We will apply patience to India's impatience, wisdom to its unwisdom, and in the end work out a happy solution through the application of the vital principle of self-governing status for the Dominions." The spirit of this pronouncement is calculated to have a good effect in London as well as in India, and to put the present Indian situation in its true light. From the long point of view he has correctly stated the temper in which British statesmen will deal with India, and, of course, the hope is implied that Mr. Gandhi

and Mr. Nehru and their followers will perceive that India's welfare can best be promoted by co-operating with the Imperial Government at the proposed conference in London in framing a constitution suitable to India's peculiar circumstances. There is yet an opportunity for the Executive Committee of the Congress to prevent the mischief threatened by the proposed unwise propaganda. They have the power under a resolution of the Congress to delay agitation as long as they think fit, and if they delay it until the Simon Commission has reported the Imperial Government may be able to make a proposal which will establish good relations between the Congress and the Government. The calling of a conference at which Dominion Governments would be represented might give the Congress a chance of reconsidering the question at a special meeting, when, in a calmer atmosphere, the decision not to confer could be revoked.

Closing Of The Marine College An Honourable Retreat

With the inauguration of the Sastri College which will open to students towards the end of the present month, the Marine College, which had produced many clever young men, made its exit a few weeks back from the fields of education in Natal.

To mark the occasion of the honourable retreat of the Marine College, Mr. V. Sirkari Naidoo, one of the many clever products of the College, and lately one of its teachers, gave a dinner at the Peter's Lounge and Tea Rooms, Durban. It was a happy function, reminding one of the reunion of College colleagues. It was presided over by the Mayor of Durban, the Rev. A. Lanont, M.A., B.D., late Principal of the College. He was supported by the Mayoress Mrs. Lanont and the Registrar of the College Mr. D. G. Gifford and Mrs. Gifford.

Amongst those present were Advocate A. Christopher, Messrs. P. R. Pather, A. I. Kajee, V. Lawrence, B. M. Patel, H. L. Paul, Mrs. V. R. R. Moodaly and many past students.

The College, it will be recalled, was founded by Mr. J. L. Papert and during its brief existence had produced quite a number of brilliant young men, a few of whom are now in Edinburgh furthering their studies. In the educational fields of the Indian community of Natal, the Marine College has undoubtedly played a very important part. In making its exit, it has, so to say, given way to a bigger institution, the Sastri College. As was learnt from the valedictory speech of Mr. Gifford the College was being conducted at a pecuniary loss to himself. Mr. Gifford may be assured that the Indian community will be grateful for the part, by no means little, he has played in improving the education of our boys. Mr. Gifford, who made the official announcement of the closing of the College, spoke with feelings of sorrow of the necessity that had arisen for the closing. Financially he has suffered very much, for, the proper conduct of the college entailed a big outlay, and the fees derived were barely sufficient to cope with the work. He had the consolation, however, that the college had served the Indian community well.

The Mayor spoke in praiseworthy terms of the good work the College had done towards the improvement of Indian education in general. He cited the names of Messrs. N. Nalcker and K. M. Mistry, who were past pupils of the College and who were now studying medicine in the Edinburgh University. There was also Fakir Hira, studying electricity in London. The Mayor felt that this institution, which had so largely contributed towards higher education for Indians, fighting its way past the

obstacles and difficulties which naturally confront a private institution at its inception, was worthy of a little attention and consideration by the Natal Educational Department. It could not be denied that this institution was an initiative towards the founding of the Sastri College and, as such, surely deserved its place in the latter institution. He hoped that the light of learning lit by the Marine College would be carried on by the Sastri College.

The Mayores then, on behalf of the Marine College Debating Society, presented the Mayor, Messrs. D. G. Gifford, V. S. Naidoo and B. Somers with a fountain pen each.

Advocate A. Christopher, Messrs. P. R. Pather, A. I. Kajee, V. Lawrence, and H. L. Paul spoke highly of the good and noble work that the institution had done towards the improvement of Indian education and expressed their sincere appreciation and deep debt of gratitude to the masters of the institution for their untiring efforts towards the promotion of higher education.

Mr. V. Sirkari Naidoo, Mr. A. P. Chowdree and Mr. B. Somers, all past students of the College, also spoke of the activities of the institution.

A sumptuous repast was placed before the guests and great credit is due to Mr. Sirkari Naidoo for the excellent arrangements made.

Indian National Congress

Resolution For Complete Independence Carried

"Furan Swaraj" (complete Home Rule), the new Nationalist creed, will be emblazoned on banners throughout the country in a demonstration which has been arranged for January 26, says Reuter from Lahore.

It is understood that the new Congress working committee has decided to authorise the president to call on all members of the Congress who are members of legislatures to resign from such legislatures immediately, but has decided to delay civil disobedience and see whether future repressive action by the Government can be made an occasion for that.

The marquee in which the conference has been held resounded with cries of "Bande Matram!" (Hail, Motherland) from 15,000 throats at the conclusion of the Congress after a parting address by the president, Jawaharlal Nehru, who stated that India's cry for independence had already resounded throughout the world, enabling Indians overseas to hold their heads high.

A serious split has arisen among members of the All-India Congress. During the meeting of the Congress Committee to elect a new working committee, Mr. Gandhi, in submitting a list of names, urged that those only should be elected who entirely sympathised with the Congress programme. A minority objected and demanded a vote on each individual. The Congress Committee, however, approved of Mr. Gandhi's list, whereupon 30 dissentients, including Srinivasa Aiyengar and Subash Bose, walked out and formed "a Congress Democratic Party," but decided to carry out the Congress programme in principle.

The Calcutta correspondent of the *Star* in a message dated Jan. 3 reports:—

Despite the order of the Congress Committee at o-day's meeting calling for the withdrawal of members from the Assembly and Councils, it is uncertain that the mandate will be generally obeyed.

Pandit Malaviya and other prominent Nationalists are not pleased with the drastic step and is calling on Congressmen in the Assembly to stay their hands till the meeting of the Congress of Nationalist Parties in Delhi on January 18.

Mr. Patel, the Assembly Speaker, who is a prominent member of the Congress, is placed in a peculiar position, but I learn it is unlikely he will resign from the chair.

The Congress working committee to-day agreed to fix January 26 as "Independence Day" for holding nation-wide demonstrations supporting the new Congress policy. There was a dramatic incident in the election of the new working committee, when Srinivasa Iyengar, Madras, and Subash Bose, Bengal, and 30 others walked out as a protest against the methods of election and decided to form a new Congress party, styled the Congress Democratic Party, which aims at a more progressive policy, including steps for immediate civil disobedience.

Another message from Lahore states:—

The All-India National Congress adopted Mr. Gandhi's resolution for independence by an overwhelming majority.

The resolution refuses participation in the round-table conference in London, declares for the complete independence of India instead of Dominion status, recommends a boycott of the Legislatures, and authorises the Congress Committee, when it thinks fit, to launch a programme of civil disobedience, including non-payment of taxes.

Calcutta, Wednesday.—The All-India Congress, in open session after a 10 hours' sitting, approved unanimously Mr. Gandhi's motion for India's complete independence and the boycott of legislatures.

Congress, by 942 votes to 792, also passed a motion condemning the attempt at bombing the Viceroy's train and congratulating the Viceroy on his escape and also thanking him for the frank conversations at Delhi with Nationalist leaders.

Amendments by Bose, the Bengal Congress leader, for setting up a parallel Government by boycotting schools, law courts and municipal bodies, and by Pandit Malaviya the Hindu orthodox leader, for the postponement of the independence creed until April were rejected by large majorities.

Mr. Gandhi in a stirring address said he could not conceive India winning freedom by criminal disobedience like bomb throwing, and pleaded for absolute non-violence as a weapon. Mr. Gandhi made it plain that Congress would in future sit at no conferences with the British Government at which the basis of discussion was not complete independence.

Lahore, Wednesday.—The Congress rejected an amendment to omit an expression of appreciation of the Viceroy's sincerity. Mr. Gandhi said that if the Congress agreed to the amendment they had better hound him (Mr. Gandhi) from the Congress.

The delegates dispersed at midnight and President Jawaharlal Nehru wished them a happy New Year. He also wished the independence programme success.

The proceedings ended with volunteers crying, "Up with the National Flag, down with the Union Jack."

Pundit Motilal Nehru, Congress leader in the Assembly, and Mr. Sengupta, Congress leader in the Bengal Council, have ordered Congress members of their respective bodies to resign in obedience to the Congress mandate boycotting legislatures.—Reuter,

Message From Labour

Eighteen British Labour members of the House of Commons cabled urging the Congress not to reject the British Government's earnest invitation to a round-table conference. Meanwhile, the Congress passed a resolution expressing the opinion that the time had arrived for ruling princes to grant responsible government to their people and congratulating East African Indians on the clear national stand they had taken on the Indian problem.

Messages of greeting from all parts of the world

were read including four from South African Indian bodies.

The Congress also resolved that every financial obligation and concession which independent India inherits shall be investigated and repudiated if found to be unjust. The chairman, Pandit Nehru, said that repudiation included debts which England had incurred for the purpose of enslaving India and carrying out England's Imperialist designs.

The attitude of Mr. Patel, President of the Assembly, towards the Congress resolution in boycotting legislatures was indicated in a speech at the unveiling of the statue of Lala Lajpat Rai when he addressed a crowd of 30,000. He said that the Child Marriage Prevention Act alone would stand to the permanent credit of the Assembly, as it had done more for the attainment of freedom than hundreds of resolutions of conferences and congresses.

Liberals' Decision

The Calcutta correspondent of the *Johannesburg Star* states:—

Other Indian parties are united in the opinion that Mr. Gandhi has committed a grave blunder, and even the more moderate Congressmen of prominence, such as Dr. Ansari, former President, fear the consequences of the decision Congress has just made.

Liberals meeting at Madras, on the initiative of Mr. Sastri, passed a resolution urging all parties who accept the Viceroy's announcement to combine in securing a constitution based on Dominion status with such safeguards as may be necessary for the transition period. Mr. Sastri declared there was no doubt they were confronted with a crisis unparalleled in India's history and strong measures were necessary.

"Of all those whom the Lahore proceedings would sadden, my mind dwells pathetically on two figures—Captain Wedgwood Benn and Lord Irwin. As individuals they tried at a critical hour to put India on the right track. They are people of whom we might think awhile, if we would gauge the situation in all its aspects.

"Lord Irwin risked a good deal when he got the Cabinet and the chief members of parties to agree to his statement."

Yakub Hassan appealed to all parties to form a national union to counteract the work of the Congress.

The formation of an Indian Parties Union is advocated by the *Calcutta Statesman*, which declares that the action of the organisation must be swift to prepare a programme for the London Conference.

"At Lahore they cry for the moon in the hour of India's destiny. That is an example to avoid."

Madras, Tuesday.—The National Liberal Federation has issued an appeal to all parties throughout India declaring that the only rallying cry which can unite all the interests of religious India is Dominion status, not as a distant goal or ideal, but as an object capable of achievement in the shortest possible time.

The appeal says— "Believing, as we do, that the Labour Government and Lord Irwin are in real earnest in seeking a solution of the constitutional problem, we should be guilty of utter shortsightedness and lack of statesmanship if we fail to seize the opportunity."

Dr. Varadara Julu Naidu, an influential leader of the All-India Congress and a member of the Provincial Congress Committee, has resigned from both bodies on the ground that the decisions reached by the Congress are suicidal.

Wilson Report Alarm

Another message states: The Liberal Federation

to-day passed resolutions (1) expressing gratification that prominent Indian princes had accepted the Viceroy's announcement recognising that suitable guarantees should be provided for the continuance of their rights in any future constitution based on Dominion status, and (2) viewing with alarm the recommendation of the Wilson report for an increase in the proportion of European representation on the Kenya Legislative Council, and expressing the opinion that no constitutional advance should be sanctioned until the natives were able effectively to share representation on a common franchise.

British Comment On Lahore Decisions

The London newspapers during the past week have been absorbed in the events in India, says Reuter. The morning papers devote leaders to the happenings at Lahore and the possibilities for the future.

The *Daily Herald* describes complete independence as the goal of the All-India Congress instead of Dominion status, "an academic change involving no immediate consequences," but appeals to Mr. Gandhi to co-operate with the Government. The paper points out that nothing can be achieved by a mere "We will not play" attitude.

The *Times* is encouraged by the attitude of the Indian Liberals and Moderates and welcomes the prospect "for the first time of an organised force emerging from Indian politics with a sense of realities and a determination to face them."

The Conservative organs generally deplore the activities of Mr. Gandhi and his followers.

The *Daily Mail's* Lahore correspondent says:—Mr. Gandhi tells me he intends to prepare a programme of civil disobedience and non-payment of taxes for submission to the meeting of the Congress Committee in March.

The *Daily Mail's* Bombay correspondent says large industrial interests in Bombay are seriously perturbed over the possibility of revolutionary activities following the news of the acceptance by the All-India Congress of Mr. Gandhi's resolution demanding independence. There is a strong demand that the Government should maintain order with a firm hand. Insurance companies are already demanding extra premiums for commotion risks. Many people believe the independence demand is likely to lead to communal trouble, because the great majority of Moslems are strongly opposed to any movement of the kind led by Congress which they now regard as a purely Hindu organisation.

A message from the London correspondent of the *Star* states that Lord Meston, former Lieutenant-Governor of the United Provinces, interviewed by the *Daily News* in regard to Indian crisis says: "We are faced with a threat of revolution more definite than any before. The time has come when it is necessary to reply to the challenge. We cannot tolerate any longer the definite threat of anarchy held over us."

Sir Michael O'Dwyer, former Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab, in an article in the *Daily Mail*, says: "India has been the grave of many empires. From the dome of the Viceroy's house at New Delhi Lord Irwin can survey the ruined capitals of seven dynasties, but to-day we are looking on the unparalleled spectacle of an empire digging its own grave."

"The process has been in operation since 1919, when Lord Montagu, then Secretary of State, set the evil example of throwing to the wolves his own officers and sacrificing the interests of the loyal Indian masses in the vain hope thereby of conciliating the open or secret enemies of British rule."

General Smuts On The Empire

Ottawa, Jan. 4 (Reuter).—Tens of thousands of listeners in throughout Canada, as well as a vast local audience, listened to the eloquent and compelling speech delivered by General Smuts at Ottawa under the auspices of men's and women's Canadian Clubs and the League of Nations Society. The speech was broadcast throughout the country by means of coast-to-coast radio hook-up.

General Smuts declared that the unity of the British Commonwealth of free nations must be made a reality through practical co-operation in all matters of mutual interest. Full liberty for each national within the Commonwealth had been granted, and on this broad basis would result common effort for the welfare of all.

He believed that history would record this as the greatest and most successful experiment and an advance in the history of the human race. General Smuts urged mutual co-operation in a practical and joint effort "at keeping together for all time this, the greatest group of one family of nations in the history of the world."

More Than A Name

He declared that the British Commonwealth was more than a mere name, and present unity was based on the equality of status which had been achieved through happy evolution mainly of recent years. He said that Canada had been the precedent model on which had been founded the South African constitution.

Canada, with problems somewhat similar to those of South Africa in respect of racial complexities and historic background, had given the lead to the whole Empire in the constitutional development and evolution of "one of the most wonderful things on earth, this commonwealth of free States founded on freedom and co-operation—an amazing development which was also a puzzle to the rest of the world."

He believed that the great turning point in the history of the Empire was the recognition of complete Dominion status, which had been gradually clarified at Imperial Conferences under generous and prescient British statesmanship. That "did the trick" for Ireland and would work out eventually on the same principle for India.

A Worthy Mother

Great Britain was the worthy mother of these free daughter nations, surrendering with unexampled sagacity and predominating authority and calling equal partners to the family table for the working out of mutual problems in a spirit of goodwill and common aspirations.

A firm foundation in respect of constitutional development had been achieved, and the task now confronting them was for each to assume responsibility through common consultation and effort, and to give form and substance to the unity of the Empire. "As individual nations we are weak. Only as a whole have we strength and enduring influence on world welfare. We must remain within the British Empire, free but associated in all things of mutual interest."

Common Kingship

In a later passage, General Smuts declared that a common Kingship and a common Crown symbolising common loyalty to common traditions and ideals was an enduring mark of unity and loyalty. Devotion to a common Kingship would be a growing factor. Another bond was the Imperial Conferences, in which the family spirit and the common task of

working out mutual problems had thus far been successfully achieved.

He believed that the appointment of diplomatic representatives of the Dominions in foreign countries would not endanger the common spirit of Empire and was an inevitable and necessary step. Consultations between the Dominions and British diplomatic representatives in a spirit of mutual helpfulness would preserve the diplomatic unity of the Empire.

On the whole, all the evidence showed that instead of drifting apart the tendencies were all towards closer unity between all parts of the British Commonwealth.

Concluding, General Smuts said that Canada, which from the first had taken the lead in the development of the Dominions' autonomy, should continue to lead towards securing unity of effort in all phases of Empire co-operation leading towards the permanent structure of "the world's greatest example of political genius."

Montreal, Jan. 3.—Greetings to Canada from South Africa were conveyed by General Smuts in the course of an address to the Canadian Club.

General Smuts compared the position of Dutch South Africans with that of French Canadians; he said both had been conquered and brought unwillingly into the Empire, but were now working out contentedly and happily their destiny within the British Commonwealth.

The British system of colonisation was superior to any other, because, he said, it permitted minorities such as the Dutch South Africans and the French Canadians to control the development of their own culture and national aspirations, which contrasted with the United States "melting pot" system of American standardisation and the French colonial policy in Africa, where the French tried to make the Moors and Negroes French.

A common link bound British countries together without shackling them, and the harmony existing between the people of the Empire was an example and a promise to the nations of the world.

"If a quarter of the world's population, of different culture, colour and religions, inhabiting all the countries of the world, can live without armies and navies fighting against each other, surely there is hope for the other three-quarters of the human race," he urged.

Sir Arthur Currie (President of the McGill University) later conferred the Doctorate of Laws upon General Smuts in the presence of a distinguished gathering. The president described General Smuts as "soldier, philosopher, statesman: a guide for his people in war and peace, a leader of all concerned with unity and the maintenance of the British Commonwealth, one of the creators of the League of Nations, an inspired advocate of inspired internationalism in honouring whom McGill honours herself."—Reuter.

Speaking at a luncheon of the Canadian and Empire Clubs at Toronto, General Smuts is reported to have declared that mutual friendship and co-operation was the dominant note of the component parts of the British Empire.

"It is a great freemasonry of Empire," he said. "We may speak different languages, we may have been at each other's throats in past years, but we are now in a great circle of common friendship, knit together for the good of the whole world. This is the greatest political achievement in modern history."

General Smuts said no empire had been more thoroughly tested than the British Empire had been during the past ten years. "The test continues," but, he said, "the gallant old Empire shows no sign

of decadence, only signs of new life. We shall pull through; we have always done so, and shall do it again."

"Empire Our Fortress"

Respecting India, General Smuts said:—"We will apply patience to India's impatience, wisdom to its unwisdom, and in the end work out a happy solution through the application of the vital principle of self-governing status for the Dominions."

Referring to South Africa General Smuts said there was no question of secession from the Empire. "The Empire is our security, our fortress, and should always remain so. At present it is a shield for a quarter of the human race."

General Smuts later addressed a special convocation of the University of Toronto, where he was given an honorary degree. He was subsequently the guest of honour at a dinner at Government House.

Non-European Conference

The hall in which the second non-European Conference, convened by Dr. A. Abdurahman, M.P.C., and Professor Jabavu met at Capetown on the 3rd instant, was crowded to suffocation and extraordinary enthusiasm was manifested by the delegates from all parts of the Union.

Messrs. Ballinger, Champion and Sol. Plaatje were among the representatives on the platform.

Dr. Abdurahman, enumerating some of the grievances of the non-Europeans, placed at the head of the list the "iniquitous Act of Union with its political colour bar—that Act which will not permit Christ to sit in the Union Parliament." He dwelt also on the industrial colour bar, the Government's civilised labour policy, inadequate educational facilities for non-Europeans and the taxations exacted "with machine guns, bombs, rifles and bayonets."

He declared that Mr. Pirow's Native Service Registration Bill expressed the Voortrekker spirit of 60 years ago. The Transvaalers tried to enslave the native squatters on the farms. They failed because they had not then a sufficiently large border police to enforce the law. To-day Mr. Pirow has a well-organised defence force.

The Durban Raid

Professor Jabavu said they were sure to have a good conference, as Mr. Pirow had been preparing the ground for the solidarity of the non-Europeans. The Minister's exhibition at Durban was expressive of fear and timidity. Far from sending the non-Europeans down to the bottom, it was going to help them to rise still higher on the ladder of civilisation.

"This organisation must not be the henchman of any party," he said. "At the same time, as citizens who have as much right to live in South Africa as anybody else, we must keep an eye upon the Government. I think the conference is really doing what the Government ought to be doing. The Government is wasting a great deal of time in racialism. It is time for us to tell them they might be building up the country instead of wasting the days and nights discussing white or black. They cannot talk us out of this country. It is idle to talk about a white South Africa. It can never be a white South Africa, for white and black must live together. In this country we are destined to lie four in a bed—white, black, coloured and Indian. If the Government has not the sense to understand that we must point it out to them."

Segregation Not Needed

Referring to segregation, Professor Jabavu said: "We do not need any segregation. Segregation

works itself out naturally. We do not want a law to bind us as if we are beasts from doing things which we have the sense to know not to do. Those people who speak of social segregation say things which sometimes strike me as coming strangely from those who boast of a higher civilisation, because they need a law to keep their end up against what they call a barbaric people.

Mr. Ballinger said he did not for a moment believe that Mr. Pirow proposed to put his "absurd" legislation on the statute book. The Bill had merely been drafted with the political objective of winning the Bethal by-election.

An agenda paper containing 53 resolutions from various organisations was placed before the conference. Among the resolutions was one calling for closer co-operation between Europeans and non-Europeans. Another deplored the unsympathetic attitude of the Legislature towards non-Europeans as expressed in certain acts placed on the Statute Book and in some of the contemplated legislation.

A further resolution called upon the Minister of Justice to allow coloured jurymen on the jury list and that at least half of the jurymen should be coloured when a coloured or native person was standing trial.

Mr. Pirow's Riotous Assemblies Amendment Bill was criticised for preventing non-Europeans organising themselves in trade unions.

A "Declaration Of War"

The following resolution was tabled from the Western Province African National Congress: "Seeing that the Dutch Reformed Church in South Africa is instigating, abetting and conniving at the persecution of non-Europeans, this conference now calls for an emphatic 'declaration of war' against this church.

"It declares every predikant and missionary to be the moral enemy of our people, calls upon every non-European to leave this unchristian church within a period of three months, instructs every non-European to boycott and ostracise any of their people who still remain in this church after the aforesaid period and will get into communication with chiefs and headmen in the Soudan, Nyasaland and all African territories where this church is carrying on missionary work, calling upon them to expel all missionaries and emissaries of this church who are in their midst not to enlighten and evangelise them but to enslave them."

A resolution was moved reaffirming the determination to strive for equal political franchise for all peoples of the Union, irrespective of colour, creed or sex. The resolution recommended that all constitutional methods be adopted to oppose any movement designed to rob any section of the rights they enjoy, such as the Cape native franchise.

Sympathy With India

The following unopposed motion was agreed to: "That this conference, representative of the non-European communities of the Union of South Africa desires to express its sincere sympathy with the people of India in their noble struggle for the application in their country of the democratic principle of self-determination, also to express the earnest hope for an amicable settlement of the grave constitutional problem that faces that great country at the present critical moment in her history."

"European Hooligans"

The Rev. Mr. Likhing moved also an unopposed motion that this conference sympathises with the widow and family of Mr. Hermannus who died from wounds as the result of the shooting at Potchefstroom on Dingaan's Day by the irresponsible members of the European community.

Reference was made by a speaker to the Durban police raid. He moved the following motion:—
 "This conference solemnly protests against the militaristic raid by a large police force made on a defenceless community at Durban in the early hours of the morning of November 14 at the command of the Minister of Justice (for the purposes of collecting poll tax,) armed with tear gas bombs, fixed bayonets and a squadron of aeroplanes, as high-handed, cowardly, reprehensible and unworthy of a civilised Government that poses as the guardian of a people not represented in the Parliament of the country. In the opinion of this conference nothing has undermined the prestige of the whole Government in the eyes of the non-European more than this brutal action of the Government of the land."

—The Star.

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Chaka's Kraal District Indian School.

BALANCE SHEET AND AUDITOR'S REPORT.

EXPENDITURE.			INCOME.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Building materials			Gross contributions	353	9 0
Labour: Togg	14	5 7	Departmental Grant	90	0 0
" Builder	26	0 0	Sale of material	10	3 4
" Carpenter for furniture	7	16 6	Collection made at opening of School	10	7 0
Cartage	4	18 0	" Concert	2	9 9
" Major Charter	3	5 6	Balance due to S. Roopsingh	12	0 11
" Gandhi & Co.	6	12 3			
" Railage a/c	7	9 8			
Land 2 acres @ £20 from Roopsingh		22 5 5			
School materials		40 0 0			
Insurance		21 0 9			
Subdries		3 6 4			
Bank Charges	1	16 0			
Chg. unpaid	10	6 6			
Expenses at opening School		12 5 6			
Outstanding a/cs					
Contributions	64	16 0			
Sale of materials	9	19 10			
Cash at Bank		74 15 10			
		6 14 8			
		<u>£478 10 0</u>			<u>£478 10 0</u>

S. ROOP SINGH, Secretary.

Tongaat,
 28th December, 1929.

The Chairman,
 Chaka's Kraal District Indian School,
 Chaka's Kraal.

Sir,—At your request I have examined the books and accounts of the building of your new school. These I found in order and append hereto a balance sheet showing income and expenditure.

There is a large amount (£74 15s. 10d.) outstanding of both contributions and sale of material. Some effort should be made to reduce this sum. It is pleasing to note the absence of travelling expenses in the expenditure column and this commendable feature is due to the public-spirited men undertaking the task of collecting funds and to Mr. Roopsingh placing his car at their disposal.

Provision must be made for expenses re-transfer of land and trust deeds.

I remain,

Yours truly,

E. J. CHOONOO.

Chaka's Kraal District Indian School.

Contributions Received Towards The Above School.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Roopsingh	15	0	0	Sayed Omar	10	6	
P. Maharaj	10	0	0	I. Akoliab	5	0	
K. Moodley	2	0	0	S. R. Maharaj	1	0	0
Bharuth	5	0	0	K. Jack	10	0	
John P. Lutchmansingh	5	5	0	Andhi	1	1	0
E. J. Lalsingh	3	0	0	Raghunanan	1	0	0
R. Ganasee	2	10	0	R. Talwant Singh	2	2	0
Lulu Ramduth	1	0	0	Coopusamy Naidoo	10	0	
Bhawan	1	0	0	Sooknandhan	10	0	
Adam Badat	1	1	0	H. M. Patel	1	0	0
M. S. Kaje & Sons	1	11	0	I. H. Khan	1	0	0
Kanhayalal	2	0	0	Mahangi	5	0	0
Appayoo	1	0	0	T. Seebanuth	5	5	0
P. Sobkial	1	0	0	L. J. Patel	1	10	0
Purmhunse	10	0		Ramlal	10	0	
Ramlal	10	0		B. M. Singh	3	0	0
Badul	10	10	0	Ramsooth	1	1	0
Ramportal	10	10	0	R. D. Paruk	1	1	0
M. M. Moodley	2	2	0	Rahoo G. Ragnath	1	1	0
Hira Pursotam	12	6		Perumal Chetty	15	0	
N. Padayachee	3	3	0	Sewduth	2	2	0
L. J. Pradit	1	1	0	S. D. Dhary	1	11	6
S. N. Amin	1	1	0	Suchith Maharaj	1	1	0
M. Patel	1	1	0	R. K. Kapitan	1	1	0
Hoosen Saib	1	1	0	A. I. Kaje	1	1	0
Raj Mahomed	1	1	0	Pather & Co.,	2	2	0
Kandhai	10	6		R. Rajcoomar	2	10	0
R. A. Padayachee	10	6		R. B. Chetty	2	2	0
Ramphakir	10	0		Bassa Ltd.	2	10	0
Korairam Mahraj	10	0		A. M. Omar	1	1	0
Madhosingh	3	0	0	Madho	10	0	
Jagai	2	0	0	Toolsi	10	0	
Mandhya	10	0		Y. A. Lazarus	1	10	0
Mahabeer	5	5	0	Pieter's Lounge	1	0	0
Dalton Nuttal & Co. Ltd.	5	5	0	E. I. Motala	2	2	0
Karl Gundelfinger Ltd.	3	3	0	Victoria Produce Coy.	1	1	0
Bhai Jerbai Rustomjee Trust	25	0	0	Karappannah	1	0	0
Rustomjee Jivan Gorcoodoo Trust	25	0	0	Talwantsingh	2	0	0
Adamjee Abrahamjee	7	7	0	Bhabooti Bros.	1	0	0
C. K. Naidoo Bros.	2	2	0	S. A. Rahim	1	0	0
Dawood Essop	1	1	0	Chaka's Kraal Estate Indians	1	12	0
S. S. Govender	1	1	0	Johno J. Lalsing	3	0	0
D. B. Canae	10	0		Bhoora Soni	10	0	
Joseph Mansour	5	5	0	S. N. Garach	1	1	0
I. A. Sudar	2	2	0	S. Kalan	10	0	
Chaka's Kraal Sugar Coy, Ltd.	10	10	0	Papyiah	5	0	
Essop Ebrahim & Sons	2	2	0	Lalbehsri	1	0	0
Basdeo Rambhanos	1	1	0	Kathrada Bros.	2	2	0
A. I. Jeenah	1	1	0	V. N. Naik	1	1	0
Aziz	10	6		C. Corandimas	1	0	0
Mahomed Saib	10	6		Umhlali Hotel and Stores	1	1	0
Tayob Mitha	1	1	0	S.A. Oil and Fat Industries Ltd.	2	2	0
N. M. Tayob	1	1	0	The Natal Soap Works	3	3	0
Hoosen Noorbhai	10	0		Coobair	2	6	
M. M. Seedat	1	1	0	E. K. Maisthree	1	0	0
Girdhari	5	0		M. S. Naiker	10	0	
B. Nagasur	1	1	0	M. D. E. Jack	10	0	
S. Butcher & Sons Ltd.	5	0	0	A. P. Suder	2	2	0
Bodasingh Bros.	12	0	0				
C. I. ...	1	0	0				

AGREED 10 0