

Indian Opinion

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NOTES AND NEWS

THE Hon. Evelyn Baring, Acting Agent for India in the Union during the absence of Sir Kurma Reddi, who arrived in Johannesburg on Friday the 14th inst. has left for Capetown on Monday the 17th inst. by the Union Limited. He had a busy time in Johannesburg. He discussed various questions regarding the Select Committee with the officials of the Transvaal Indian Congress and also with the President and Secretary of the S.A.I.C., who arrived from Durban for the executive meeting. Mr. Baring paid a hurried visit to Vereeniging on Saturday.

The personnel of the Select Committee appointed by the Government to investigate the position in regard to Asiatics' rights of ownership of land on the Witwatersrand created by certain recent Supreme Court judgments, is as follows:—

Dr. D. F. Malan, Minister of the Interior (chairman), Mr. P. V. Pocock (S.A.P., Pretoria Central), Mr. S. D. de Wet (Nat., Heidelberg), Sir Robert Kotze (S.A.P., Springs), Mr. Patrick Duncan (S.A.P., Yeoville), Dr. Carl Potgieter (Nat., North East Rand), Dr. A. J. Stals (Nat., Hopetown), Mr. P. du Toit (Nat., Paarl), Major K. Rood (Nat., Vereeniging), Mr. J. Eaton (S.A.P., Durban County).

Widespread dissatisfaction is said to exist among the stand-holders in the Indian Bazaar at Marabastad, as the result of a notice from the Town Clerk to the effect that all stand owners in the bazaar must personally occupy their stands within six months from December 1, 1929, or find an approved person who will take over the stand permit and personally occupy the stand. Failing either of these alternatives, the Indians must remove their buildings, which, if not removed, will fall to the Council, according to the Town Clerk's notice. The Indians consider that this is an unnecessary hardship and injustice, as there is no reference to personal occupation in the Transvaal Ordinance of 1885, under which the bazaar came into existence; nor is there any such reference in any subsequent regulations relating to the bazaars.

Speaking recently at a reception in honour of the Prime Minister and other members of the Cabinet, given by the Salt River branch of the Labour Party (Creswellite section), General Hertzog declared that the Pact was running as smoothly and effectively as ever it had done since 1924. "The Pact may end at any time, but the Pact will show one thing—that where there is a will to work together for the good of the country, Labour and Nationalists, English and Dutch-speaking, can work together as well as any others in the State."

General Hertzog, accompanied by Mr. N. C. Havenga, will attend the General Assembly of the League of Nations at Geneva on September 1, and from there will proceed to London for the Imperial Conference which is expected to open on September

30. Mr. O. Pirow, Minister of Justice, who has been invited by the Prime Minister to accompany him, finds that owing to certain ministerial duties he will not be able to go to Europe.

The Bill introduced by the Minister of Justice (Mr. Pirow) to amend the Riotous Assemblies Act confers on the Minister of Justice power to deport from one part of the country to another natives or South African-born Europeans who are suspected of stirring up strife between the races. This offence is presumed to be committed by any person making inflammatory speeches or attending a meeting the Minister has forbidden him to attend. The Bill was a plain invasion of the functions of the law courts. Mr. Duncan (S.A.P., Yeoville), in a criticism that severely damaged the Bill, said it was the negation of all law. The Opposition agreed with the principle of finding means to check mischievous agitators, but could not approve the means Mr. Pirow had hit upon. The Prime Minister said he saw no objection to the Bill going to a Select Committee before the second reading, and this course was thereupon adopted. The House thus agreed to no more than that agitation designed to stir up one race against another should be stopped.—*Star*.

Mr. Marwick's condition following a blow struck by Senator Boydell in a corridor of the Houses of Parliament was found to be graver than at first supposed. The injury to his head did not permit of his being X-rayed for some days and the doctors ordered absolute rest and quiet. On Thursday he was reported to be recovering. The motion by Mr. Kridge, Acting Leader of the Opposition, drawing the Assembly's attention to the affair and asking for the appointment of a Select Committee was withdrawn, Mr. Kridge stating that he was informed Mr. Marwick preferred to take legal action against Senator Boydell. It was later announced that Mr. Marwick's attorneys contemplated criminal and civil proceedings against the Senator for assault.

A message from Ahmedabad states:—

The working committee of the All India Congress is discussing a draft resolution prepared by Mr. Gandhi giving himself virtually dictatorial powers to launch a civil disobedience campaign when he thinks fit. It is believed that if the resolution is adopted, Mr. Gandhi intends to engage in the final "battle" of his life. He is confident that it will evoke as much spontaneous enthusiasm as his South African campaign and will be followed by a similar victory. Two alternative methods are likely to be adopted, first a no-tax campaign and, secondly, defiance of the Government salt monopoly by the production of natural salt and persuasion of dock workers not to handle imported salt brought in as ballast by many ships. The committee, it is understood, agreed to authorise Mr. Gandhi and other believers in non-violence to embark on civil disobedience as and when they wish.

The death occurred at Capetown on Tuesday night (Feb. 11) of Sir William Hoy, Chairman of the Rhodesian Railway Commission and formerly General Manager of South African Railways. Sir William Hoy had been lying ill for some time at the Monastery, Seapoint.—Reuter.

A fire broke out late at night on Friday last in a shop in Kimberley, the Parisian Bazaars, and within a few hours had destroyed two blocks of shops and the Theatre Royal, the estimate of the total damage being £400,000. John Orr and Co.'s department store was destroyed, the loss being estimated at £200,000. The Theatre Royal was valued at £45,000. The other shops destroyed were the Parisian Bazaars, D. Isaacs and Co., the Waldorf Cafe and the shops in Olivier's Building. The only stock saved was most of the furniture in Isaacs' premises, which was taken out by the crowd. The flames heaped high into the air and the intense heat smashed plate glass windows on the other side of the street. The fire brigade could do little beyond preventing the spread of the flames, which were assisted by a strong wind. The fire attacked the Dee Bee Bazaars, but by practically flooding the shop was put out. The Parisian Bazaars contained a large quantity of fireworks, and out of the inferno rockets and coloured lights shot into the air. The fire was still smouldering the next morning, and the centre of the town in which it occurred was a blackened ruin. It was probably the largest fire that has ever happened in South Africa. The cause is unknown.—*Star*.

THE QUARANTINE SCARE

FOR the fourth time in succession the Indian passengers who arrived by the Mail Boat from India have been quarantined. They will be stationed in Salisbury Island for a period of fourteen days. The passengers who arrived by the last boat were only released on Wednesday last.

The inconveniences to which these Indian passengers are put, not to mention the conditions under which they are landed, present a sorry picture. It is indeed regrettable that this wretched "quarantine scare" should recur every fortnight. And every fortnight one finds that it is the Indian passenger who is quarantined and the European passenger is always permitted to land immediately he or she is vaccinated.

We grant that the authorities are within their rights to take such precautionary measures as to prevent an outbreak of small pox in this town. But we certainly disclaim their right to discriminate between one passenger and another.

It was only recently that, through the good offices of the Natal Indian Congress, an improvement was made in the conditions at Salisbury Island. There is no doubt that the local Agents of the Boats have done everything possible to make the pas-

sengers comfortable at the Island, but there is much to be desired. The transshipping of the passengers from the boat to the Island is carried out in a manner that is not only dangerous to the passengers but is also the last word in cleanliness. It is carried out in an open lighter which has no protecting rails. How dangerous this transshipment would be on a rough day could easily be imagined. It grieves us to learn that despite representations made by the Congress to provide a tug for transshipment purposes the open lighter is still being used.

It is extremely irritating to find that every liner of the British India Company is to be kept under surveillance. This deplorable state of affairs is no doubt primarily due to the conditions that obtain in these liners. The majority of the Indian passengers travel by deck. We have often pointed out in these columns that the conditions under which these deck passengers travel are not conducive to their health. The passengers are huddled together like cattle with hardly any space to move about. In a warm day the passengers find it difficult to spend a few minutes on the deck. Is it surprising, therefore, when a case of small pox occurs on board?

If the deck passages were abolished and third class passages instituted, we are firmly of the opinion that the small pox scare would not again be heard of in these shores. A serious view of this danger was taken at the last Conference of the South African Indian Congress where delegates from all parts of South Africa vehemently spoke of the extremely unhealthy conditions under which the deck passengers travel. In the West the Shipping Companies vie with one another in giving the travelling public every comfort. Passengers in the West travel under ideal conditions. Is it to be believed that the British India Company, which is undoubtedly doing a lucrative business, is behind times? The Company would, if the third class passages were instituted, not only assist the Indian passengers to travel under ideal conditions, but would also assist the Port Health Authorities. We are fully aware that the fares would be higher but we do not think there would be any material decrease in the number of passengers travelling to and from India.

Asiatics' Rights Of Ownership Of Land

The appointment of a Parliamentary Select Committee to investigate the position created by certain judgments in the Supreme Court in regard to Asiatics' rights of ownership of land on the Rand, and to inquire into the licensing question in the Transvaal, is the result of communications which have passed between the Governments of India and the Union, says the Capetown correspondent of *The Star*.

The Select Committee met on Wednesday at 10-30 a.m. Sir Kurma Reddi will not be back in South Africa until late next month, but Mr. J. D. Tyson, who used to be secretary to Mr. Sastri while Agent-General for India in the Union, has in the meantime been appointed to represent the Indian Government in connection with the agitation arising from the appointment of the Select Committee. He is due to arrive in Capetown on March 7. The Hon. Evelyn Baring, the acting Agent-General during Sir Kurma Reddi's absence, will, it is understood, watch the interests of the Indian community at the sittings of the Select Committee.

Dr. Malan, the Minister of the Interior, in reply to an anxious inquiry, has assured the Transvaal Indian Congress that "all reasonable opportunity for representative evidence will be given."

Riotous Assemblies (Amendment) Bill

Mr. Pirow's Revelations Grave State Of Affairs

Mr. O. Pirow, Minister of Justice, was received with a chorus of "Hoors, hoors" as he rose in the Assembly to move the second reading of the Riotous Assemblies (Amendment) Bill.

He pointed out that the measure, on its publication some months ago, had had a very mixed reception on the part of the Opposition Press. First of all, he traced the common ground between the dominant parties with regard to desirability of curtailing agitation among natives. He referred to the judgment in the case *Rex v. Bunting*. The judgment laid it down that the preaching of a recognised doctrine, no matter how serious its consequences might be, was no offence under Section 29 of the Native Administration Act. The judgment, he said, had had a most paralysing result on the administration of justice. He quoted what General Smuts had said on the subject during the last session of Parliament, when he spoke of a "very serious state of affairs," six months ago, and since then "an even graver state of affairs" had been disclosed.

Hyde Park And South Africa

He said the need for amendment of the law had been felt six months ago. The difficulty was to find a set of words that would make it possible to convict Communist agitators. He stated that the latitude allowed the orator in Hyde Park could not be allowed to the orator in South Africa; the difference lay in the audiences they addressed.

Dealing with the position of the Communist agitation in the Union, he said the "fears" expressed by General Smuts six months ago were in no way exaggerated. The position now was a good deal worse. He did not know how much money had come in and how the Third International had transmitted funds to Communists in South Africa, but this had definitely taken place since 1928—and perhaps before that date.

The League Against Imperialism had sent through Barclays Bank a sum of £100 to get two delegates from South Africa, Gumede and Champion (of the Independent I.O.U.), to attend the world congress of this league in Frankfort-on-Maine in 1929.

These two delegates did not attend, as the money never reached them, "through no fault of their own."

Kadalie had recently also appealed for help from the Communist Party in connection with the strike at East London, which had since collapsed.

He declared that there were various offshoots under different names of the International operating in South Africa, and an attempt was now being made to get native delegates from South Africa to attend a world Communist congress in London in July. The delegates were, however, still struggling with passport difficulties.

The latest move, he said, was to have an unemployment demonstration all over South Africa on March 6, 1930.

Colonel Reitz: It sounds like a mare's nest to me.

Mr. Pirow said he was not suggesting that there was a huge involved Bolshevik conspiracy; he was merely pointing out how far the position had gone.

He read out samples of the kind of speeches that native agitators were making all over the Union, and asked the House to consider how the prestige of the white man would be affected by such extravagant language. He referred to the position of Mr. Balingier, European adviser of the I.C.U., and said he had, on the whole, attempted to keep within reasonable limits, but at a recent meeting in Johannesburg he had used very strong language.

A voice: Why don't you capture him?

Mr. Pirow: It may still happen if the occasion arises.

He emphasised that the speeches he had read out were merely samples. But as the law stood the Government was powerless to do anything. Recent outbreaks at Carnarvon, Potchefstroom, Pinetown and elsewhere were danger signals which could no longer be ignored. The question to consider was how long would the European population tolerate these native agitators all over the Union? It was argued that the native had grievances. It would surprise him if the natives had no grievances, as others also had grievances.—*The Star*.

Union Slums

Dr. D. F. Malan, Minister of the Interior, intends shortly to bring certain measures before Parliament dealing with housing and slum conditions in the Union, states the Pretoria representative of *The Star*.

Dr. Malan has called a conference of representatives of the four provinces, municipalities and other public bodies concerned to discuss the slum position. This conference commenced in the City Hall, Capetown, last Tuesday. Mr. C. E. Viljoen, the Provincial Secretary, left for Capetown on Friday last to represent the Transvaal Province and representatives of various municipalities in the Transvaal have also left.

It is stated that, with the exception of Johannesburg, slum conditions in the Transvaal are not at all bad. Capetown is considered to present the worst case and last year there was much agitation about the slums at the legislative capital. The Governor-General and Princess Alice, it will be recalled, interested themselves in the matter.

The principal points to be discussed include, it is believed, the abolishment of insanitary conditions, slum localities and the question of the living of coloured people and Asiatics in the same districts as the European races. The question of how far the Provincial authorities and the Government may

assist the municipalities financially in dealing with the problem will be gone into in detail.

The information was received from a well informed source that if it is decided to do away with the bad conditions at present prevailing in certain parts, and to put up sanitary and suitable dwellings, a rigorous system of inspection will have to be maintained to ensure that the people occupying the dwellings are keeping them up to the desired standard.

Opening Of Hindoo Hostel At Salisbury

"Fusion Of Education And Religion"

Colonial Secretary At Interesting Function

"This is an event which marks a milestone in the history of the Indian community in Southern Rhodesia," said the Colonial Secretary (the Hon. W. M. Leggate) before performing the opening ceremony of the Salisbury Hindoo School and Hostel on Monday afternoon. The adjacent new Hindoo Temple had been officially opened by the President of the Salisbury Hindoo Society, Mr. Vashi, during the morning, when the sacrificial fire ceremony was performed, a symbol of God installed, and offerings made by the congregation towards the support of the temple. A number of Europeans were present at both ceremonies.

The opening commenced at 4.30 p.m., with a hymn sung by Hindoo children and, thereafter, the President placed a garland of flowers round the neck of the Mayor (Councillor J. E. Stone), who, in turn, garlanded the Colonial Secretary. Mr. Desai, secretary of the society, presented bouquets to Mrs. W. M. Leggate and the Mayoress.

Mayor's Address

In a brief address the Mayor congratulated the Hindoo community upon their enterprise in erecting the Temple, and also the hostel, which, he understood, had cost some £6,000 and was a credit to Salisbury. As Mayor of Salisbury he complimented them as loyal citizens upon the very able and efficient manner in which they carried out their affairs. They must remember, he said, that in educating their children they were helping to build up the British Empire. The president, in his speech, recalled that the foundation-stone of the school had been laid by the Rt. Hon. Srinivasa Sastri.

"It is our wish," he said, "that our children shall be reared and educated in Rhodesia close to the homes which we have established here. By following that system we feel they will grow up better citizens of Southern Rhodesia." They hoped in time, he went on, to include the English language in their school curriculum and that the Government would help them in the expenses—more than the Hindoo community could bear—of enlisting the services of an instructor in the English and Gujarati languages. Children could come and live in the hostel from outlying districts, and through the medium of the school they hoped to secure the benefit of education within Rhodesia for all Hindoo children.

The President thanked the Government for their grant of stands upon which the building had been erected, the architect, Mr. Cathcart, the builder, Mr. Stobel, and all who had assisted the Hindoo Society. He finally thanked Mr. Leggate for attending the ceremony.

A Lesson For The European Community

The Colonial Secretary expressed his gratitude at the invitation to take part in this very important

event, "an event which marks a milestone in the history of the Indian community in Southern Rhodesia." He thought that but yesterday the community had put down their roots in Salisbury, and had become a permanent settlement in a way that they could never claim to have done before. He congratulated them on the effort evidenced by the ceremony and the beautiful buildings which should serve a model for that part of the town. Mr. Leggate referred to the inscription on the foundation-stone of the school, which bore the same representation of God as was to be found in the Temple. That happy fusion of education and religion represented in the school had a lesson for the European community. Wherever education and religion were widely separated both must suffer. Among the European population, where the Churches' "right of entry" had not been fully taken advantage of, Mr. Leggate thought the position to-day extremely unsatisfactory.

Dealing with another aspect of Hindoo life, Mr. Leggate said that now that they had a Temple of their own they could not to the same extent regard themselves as strangers in a strange land.

"I feel," he said, "that the hesitancy that many of them have had to bringing their women and children to this country will disappear." In regard to the President's request for Government assistance, Mr. Leggate said that the Government did not provide facilities for the boarding of Indian children, but in regard to the teaching of English the Government would be very glad to give assistance.

Mr. Leggate then declared the school open, and performed the ceremony with the key which was presented to him.

Among others present were Mrs. J. W. Downie, Mr. G. R. Milne, M.L.A., Town Councillors Mr. Godfrey King (the Civil Commissioner), Dr. and Mrs. Fleming, Lt.-Col. E. Hope Carson, Maj. and Mrs. Morris.—*Rhodesia Herald*.

Appointment Of New Governor-General

His Majesty the King has approved the recommendation of the Union Government that the Earl of Clarendon be appointed Governor-General in succession to the Earl of Athlone. The appointment will take effect in January, 1931.

The Earl of Clarendon, who is 56 years of age, spent some years as a farmer in Canada. On succeeding his father in the earldom in 1914 he returned to England, and from 1917 to 1924 was chief Conservative Whip in the House of Lords. In Mr. Baldwin's Government he was Under-Secretary for the Dominions, and it was in that capacity that he met General Hertzog at the Imperial Conference of 1926. It is reported that they became close friends.

Lord Clarendon is now chairman of the British Broadcasting Corporation, and a director of the Imperial Communications Company. He has taken a keen interest in local government, and was the first Mayor of Watford, now one of the most progressive municipalities in Britain. A man of charming personality and wide sympathies, it is said that he will appeal especially to the farmers of the Union.

The Earldom of Clarendon was created by Charles II. in 1661. This line failed in 1753, but the title was revived in 1776 in favour of the Villiers branch of the Hyde family, of whom the new Governor-General is the sixth earl. He is the fourth of the title to be called to high service in the State. His grandfather was Viceroy of Ireland and thrice Minister of Foreign Affairs.

The 44th Indian National Congress

Pandit Jawaharlal's Address

The *Indian Social Reformer* publishes the following extracts from Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru's presidential address at the Lahore session of the Indian National Congress held on the 29th December last:

Why India Fell

When everything is changing it is well to remember the long course of Indian history. Few things in history are more amazing than the wonderful stability of the social structure in India which withstood the impact of numerous alien influences and thousands of years of change and conflict. It withstood them because it always sought to absorb them and tolerate them. Its aim was not to exterminate but to establish an equilibrium between different cultures. Aryans and non-Aryans settled down together recognising each other's rights to their culture, and outsiders who came like the Parsis found a welcome and a place in the social order. With the coming of the Moslems the equilibrium was disturbed but India sought to restore it and largely succeeded. Unhappily for us before we could adjust our differences, the political structure broke down, the British came and we fell.

Great as was the success of India in evolving a stable society she failed in a vital particular and because she failed in this she fell and remains fallen. No solution was found for the problem of equality. India deliberately ignored this and built up her social structure on inequality, and we have the tragic consequences of the millions of our people who till yesterday were suppressed and had little opportunity for growth.

And yet when Europe fought her wars of religion and Christians massacred each other in the name of their Saviour, India was tolerant although alas! there is little of this toleration to-day. Having attained some measure of religious liberty, Europe sought after political liberty and political and legal equality. Having attained these also she finds that they mean very little without economic liberty and equality. And so to-day politics have ceased to have much meaning and the most vital question is that of social and economic equality.

India also will have to find a solution to this problem and until she does so her political and social structure cannot have stability. That solution need not necessarily follow the example of any other country. It must, if it has to endure, be based on the genius of her people and be an outcome of her thought and culture. And when it is found, the unhappy differences between various communities, which trouble us to-day and keep our freedom, will automatically disappear.

Distrust And Suspicion

Indeed the real differences have already largely gone, but fear of each other and distrust and suspicion remain and sow seeds of discord. The problem before us is not one of removing differences. They can well remain side by side and enrich our many-sided culture. The problem is how to remove fear and suspicion and being intangible they are hard to get at. An earnest attempt was made last year by the All Parties Conference and much progress was made towards the goal. But we must admit with sorrow that success has not wholly crowned its efforts. Many of our Muslim and

Sikh friends have strenuously opposed the solutions suggested and passions have been roused over mathematical figures and percentages. Logic and cold reason are poor weapons to fight fear and distrust. Only faith and generosity can overcome them. I can only hope that the leaders of various communities will have this faith and generosity in ample measure. What shall we gain for ourselves or for our community if all of us are slaves in a slave country? And what can we lose if once we remove the shackles from India and can breathe the air of freedom? Do we want outsiders who are not of us and who have kept us in bondage to be the protectors of our little rights and privileges, when they deny us the very right to freedom? No majority can crush a determined minority and no minority can be sufficiently protected by a little addition to its seats in a legislature. Let us remember that in the world to-day almost everywhere a small minority holds wealth and power and dominates over the great majority.

I was born a Hindu, but I do not know how far I am justified in calling myself one or in speaking on behalf of Hindus. But birth still counts in this country and by right of birth I shall venture to submit to the leaders of the Hindus that it should be their privilege to take the lead in generosity. Generosity is not only good morals but is often good politics and sound expediency. And it is inconceivable to me that in a free India the Hindus can ever be powerless. So far as I am concerned I would gladly ask our Moslem and Sikh friends to take what they will without protest or argument from me. I know that the time is coming soon when these labels and appellations will have little meaning and when our struggle will be on an economic basis. Meanwhile it matters little what our mutual arrangements are, provided only that we do not build up barriers which will come in the way of our future progress.

Seeming Offer Of Peace

Recently there has been a seeming offer of peace. The Viceroy has stated on behalf of the British Government that the leaders of Indian opinion will be invited to confer with the Government on the subject of India's future constitution. The Viceroy means well and his language was the language of peace. But even the Viceroy's goodwill and courteous phrases are poor substitutes for the hard facts that confront us.

True Significance of the Offer

With much searching of heart we signed that manifesto and I know not to-day if we did right or wrong. Later came the explanations and amplifications in the British Parliament and elsewhere and all doubt, if doubt there was, was removed as to the true significance of the offer. Even so your Working Committee chose to keep open the door of negotiation and left it to this Congress to take the final decision.

'Dominion Status In Action' A Snare

During the last few days there has been another discussion of this subject in the British House of Commons and the Secretary of State for India has endeavoured to point out that successive British Governments have tried to prove not only by words but by deeds also the sincerity of their faith in regard to India. We must recognise Mr. Wedgwood Benn's desire to do something for India and his anxiety to secure the goodwill of the Indian people. But his speech and the other speeches made in Parliament carry us no further. 'Dominion Status in action' to which he draws attention has been a

snare for us and has certainly not reduced the exploitation of India. The burdens on the Indian masses are even greater to-day because of this 'Dominion Status in action' and the so-called constitutional reforms of ten years ago. High Commissioners in London and representatives on the League of Nations and the purchase of stores and Indian Governors and high officials are no parts of our demand. We want to put an end to the exploitation of India's poor and to get the reality of power and not merely the livery of office. Mr. Wedgwood Benn has given us a record of the achievements of the past decade. He could have added to it by referring to martial law in the Punjab, and the Jallianwala Bag shooting and the repression and exploitation that have gone continually during this period of 'Dominion Status in action.' He has given us some insight into what more of Dominion Status may mean for us. It will mean the shadow of authority to a handful of Indians and more repression and exploitation of the masses.

Conditions For Co-operation Remain Unfulfilled

What will this Congress do? The conditions for co-operation remain unfulfilled. Can we co-operate so long as there are no guarantees that real freedom will come to us? Can we co-operate when our comrades lie in prison and repression continues? Can we co-operate until we are assured that real peace is sought after and not merely a tactical advantage over us? Peace cannot come at the point of the bayonet and if we are to continue to be dominated over by an alien people let us at least be no consenting parties to it.

The Goal Of Independence

If the Calcutta resolution holds we have but one goal to-day, that of independence. Independence is not a happy word in the world to-day for it means exclusiveness and isolation. Civilization has had enough of narrow nationalism and gropes towards a wider co-operation and interdependence. And if we use the word independence we do so, not in the sense hostile to the larger ideals. Independence for us means complete freedom from British domination and British imperialism. Having attained our freedom I have no doubt that India will welcome all attempts at world co-operation and federation and will even agree to give up part of her own independence to a larger group of which she is an equal member. (To be Continued)

City And Village

(By RABINDRANATH TAGORE)

(Concluded from last week)

Society encourages the professions only because they are of service to the people at large. They find their truth when they belong to the people. But the professions, because they get all power into their hands, begin to believe that people live to maintain them. Thus we often see that a lawyer thrives by taking advantage of the weaknesses of his clients, their helpless dread of loss, their dishonest love of gain. The proportion between the help rendered and its reward demanded, loses its legitimate limit when it is not guided by any standard of social ethics.

Field Of Exploitation

Such a moral perversion has come to its extreme length to-day in the relationship of the city and the village. The city, which is the professional aspect of society, has gradually come to believe that the village is its legitimate field for exploitation, that the

village must, at the cost of its own life, maintain the city in all its brilliance of luxuries and excesses; that its wealth must be magnified even though that should involve the bankruptcy of happiness.

True happiness is not at all expensive, it depends upon that natural spring of beauty and life, which is harmony of relationship. Ambition pursues its path of self-seeking by breaking this bond of harmony, cutting gaps, creating dissensions. It feels no hesitation in trampling under foot the harvest field, which is for all, in order to snatch away in haste the object of its craving. To-day this ambition, wasteful and therefore disruptive of social life, the greatest enemy of civilisation, has usurped the helm of society.

The passion that rages in the heart of modern civilisation is like a volcanic flame, constantly struggling to throw up eruptions of individual bloatedness. The stream of production, which thereupon gushes forth, may give one the impression of a huge, if indefinite, gain. But such interruption needs must disturb man's creative mind. We forget that it is only the spirit of creation evolving out of its own inner abundance, that adds to our true wealth; and that the spirit of production but consumes our resources in the process of building and filling its storehouses. Therefore, our needs which stimulate production must observe the limits of the normal. If we go on poking them into a bigger and bigger flame, the conflagration will no doubt dazzle our sight, but its splendour will leave on its debit side a black heap of charred remains.

When our wants are moderate, the rations we claim do not exhaust the common store of Nature, and the pace of their restoration does not hopelessly fall behind that of our consumption of them. This moderation, moreover, leaves us leisure to cultivate happiness, the happiness which is the artist's soul of the human world, creating beauty of form and rhythm of life. But man to-day forgets that the divinity in him is revealed by the halo of his happiness.

Imaginary Selenites

I often imagine that the moon, being smaller in size than the earth, began life on her soil earlier than was possible on that of her companion. Once, she too had her constant festival of colour, music, movement; her storehouse was perpetually replenished with food for her children who were already there and who were to come. Then, in course of time, some race was born to her, gifted with a furious energy of intelligence, which began greedily to devour its surroundings. It produced beings, who, because of the excess of their animal spirit coupled with intellect, lacked the imagination to realize that the mere process of addition did not create fulfilment; that acquisition, because of its bigness, did not produce happiness; that movement did not constitute progress merely because of its velocity; that progress could have meaning only in relation to some ideal of completeness. Through machinery of tremendous power, they made such an addition to their natural capacity for gathering and holding that their career of plunder outstripped Nature's power of recuperation. Their profit-makers created wants which were unnatural and dug big holes in the stored capital of Nature, forcibly to extract provision for them. When they had reduced the limited store of material, they waged furious wars among their different sections for the special allotment of the lion's share. In their scramble for the right of self-indulgence they laughed at moral law and took it to be a sign of racial superiority to be ruthless in the satisfaction of their desires. They exhausted the water, cut down the trees, reduced the

surface of the planet into a desert riddled with pits. They made its interior a rifled pocket, emptied of its valuables. At last, one day, like a fruit whose pulp has been completely eaten by insects which it sheltered, the moon became a lifeless shell, a universal grave for the voracious creatures who had consumed the world to which they were born.

My imaginary selenites behaved exactly in the way that human beings are behaving on this earth, fast exhausting the stores of sustenance, not because they must live their normal life, but because they strain their capacity to live to a pitch of monstrous excess. Mother Earth has enough for the healthy appetite of her children and something extra for rare cases of abnormality. But she has not nearly enough for the sudden growth of a whole world of spoiled and pampered children.

Man has been digging holes into the very foundations, not only of his livelihood, but also of his life; he is feeding upon his own body. The reckless wastage of humanity which ambition produces, is best seen in the villages, where the light of life is being dimmed, the joy of existence dulled, the natural threads of social communion snapped every day. It should be our mission to restore the full circulation of life's blood into these maltreated limbs of society; to bring to the villages health and knowledge; wealth of space in which to live; wealth of time in which to work and to rest and to enjoy; respect, which will give them dignity; sympathy, which will make them realise their kinship with the world of men, and not merely their subservient position.

Cities have their functions of maintaining wealth and knowledge in concentrated forms of opulence, but this also should not be for their own sake; they should be centres of irrigation; they should gather in order to distribute; but they should not magnify themselves, but should enrich the entire commonwealth. They should be like lamp-posts, and the light they support must transcend their own limits.

Relationship Of Mutual Benefit

Such a relationship of mutual benefit between the city and the village can remain strong only so long as the spirit of co-operation and self-sacrifice is a living ideal in society. When some universal temptation overcomes this ideal, when some selfish passion gains ascendancy, then a gulf is formed and goes on widening between them; then the mutual relationship of city and village becomes that of exploiter and victim. This is a form of perversity whereby the body-politic becomes its own enemy and whose termination is death.

Our object should be to try to flood the choked bed of village-life with the stream of happiness. For this the scholars, the poets, the musicians, the artists have to collaborate, to offer their contributions. Otherwise they must live like parasites, sucking life from the people and giving nothing back to them. Such exploitation gradually exhausts the soil of life, which needs constant replenishing, by the return to it of life, through the completion of the cycle of receiving and giving back.

Most of us, who try to deal with the poverty problem, think of nothing but a greater intensive effort of production, forgetting that this only means a greater exhaustion of materials as well as of humanity. This only means giving exaggerated opportunity for profit to a few, at the cost of the many. It is food which nourishes, not money; it is fulness of life which makes one happy, not fulness of purse. Multiplying materials intensifies the inequality between those who have and those who have not, and

through which the whole body is eventually bled to death.

Shiva Rathree Celebrations

A Week's Religious Programme

(Contributed)

Under the auspices of the Societies mentioned hereunder, Arya Yuvak Sabha, Arya Samaj's, (Durban, Central), Greyville, Sydenham and Cato Manor, Nav Yuvak Mundal, and Young Men's Arya Samaj, the celebration of the Shiva Rathree will take the form of a week's proceedings, commencing on the 20th and terminating on the 26th February, 1930, at the Hindu Tamil Institute, Cross Street. Proceedings will commence each evening at 6 p.m. with the exception of Sunday the 23rd, when the time has been altered to 2 p.m. The main features of the week's functions will be the performance of Havan, singing of sacred and religious songs, and appropriate lectures.

This is a great occasion for members of the Hindu community and more especially for members of the Arya Samaj, for it provides the dawn of a great awakening and stimulates Shree Swami Dayanand Saraswati to discourse on the teachings of the Vedas. It is hoped that the general public will take advantage of the facilities offered by being present each day and learning of the life and doings of the great Sanyasi.

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NOTICE

It is hereby notified for the information of the public that all applications for the use of the Parsee Rustomjee Hall must be made in writing at least 48 hours before such time as the Hall is required and no verbal applications would be considered.

In the event of the required permission being granted, the time allowed for such use of the Hall would be restricted to 2 hours only on any one day.

By Order

M. K. Gandhi Library and
Parsee Rustomjee Hall Committee.

B. M. PATEL,
Hon. Secretary

ઈન્ડિયન ઓપિનિયન.

પુસ્તક ૨૮ મું.

ફ્રીનીક્સ, શુક્રવાર, તારીખ ૨૧ ફેબ્રુઆરી ૧૯૩૦

અંક ૮

નોંધ અને સમાચાર

૬. આફ્રિકાના નવા ગવર્નર જનરલ

ના. કહેનશાહે ૬. આફ્રિકાના ગવર્નર જનરલ તરીકે લોર્ડ ક્લેરનડનની નીમણૂક કરી છે એવા સત્તાવાર સમાચાર ગદાર પડ્યા છે. હાલના ગવર્નર આર્ચ બોક્સ એથલેનની મુદત તા. ૩૧ મી ડીસેમ્બર સુધી છે. એટલે નવા ગવર્નર જનરલ સન ૧૯૩૧ ની જાન્યુઆરીની પહેલી તારીખે પોતાનો હોદ્દો સંભાળી લેશે. લોર્ડ ક્લેરનડન ૫૪ વર્ષની ઉંમરના છે. તેઓ કેનેડામાં ખેડૂત તરીકેનું જીવન ગુજારતા હતા. સન ૧૯૧૪ની સાલ માં તેમના પિતાનો અર્થક્રમનો વારસો તેમને મળ્યો. તેઓ ૧૯૧૭થી ૨૪ની સાલ સુધી હાઉસ ઓફ લોર્ડ્સમાં હતા. મી. બોલ્ડવીનની સરકારમાં તેઓ ડોમીનીયન-સના અંકર સેક્રટરી તરીકે કામ કરતા હતા. સન ૧૯૨૬ની જાહી પરિષદ લંડનમાં મળી તે સમયે જનરલ હટ્ઝોગની સાથે એમને પરિચય થયો અને તેઓ બંને મિત્રો બન્યા. એમના દાદા આયર્લેન્ડના વોલ્ફસેપ હતા અને ત્રણ વેળા પરદેશ ખાતાના પ્રધાનને હોદ્દો તેમણે ભોગવ્યો હતો. જનરલ હટ્ઝોગે ના. કહેનશાહની પાસે ગવર્નર જનરલ તરીકે એમનું નામ સૂચવ્યું હતું જે ના. કહેનશાહે મંજૂર રાખી નીમણૂક બહાર કરી છે.

મી. જે. ડી. ટાઇસન

પાર્લામેન્ટ સીલેક્ટ કમીટી હોદ્દોએના રહેઠાણ અને કળજ સંબંધી તેમજ મિલકતો સંબંધી તપાસ કરવા નીમી અને તે નીમની વેળા ડો. મલાને જે ભાષણ કર્યું તે ઉપરથી કોમના ઉપર ફેટલી મહાન આક્ષત આવી પડનાર છે તેનો ખ્યાલ કરી ટ્રાંસવાલ ઇન્ડિયન કોંગ્રેસે હોદ્દો સરકાર તેમજ દેશના સર્વ આગેવાનોને કેમલ કરી શાંતીજને એક માસ માટે આ દેશમાં એકલી આપવા અરજ કરી હતી. શાંતીજનો પણ કેમલ મળી ગયો હતો કે તેઓ આવી શકે એમ નથી. દરમ્યાન હોદ્દો સરકારે પણ એ ગંભીર રિથતિ એમ લીધી છે અને મી. જે. ડી. ટાઇસન જેઓ આ દેશમાં શાંતીજના મંત્રી હતા અને હોદ્દોમાં હાલમાં ખંભાળાના ગવર્નરના ખાનગી મંત્રી છે તેમને તુરતજ સરકારે અહીં રવાના કર્યા છે. તેઓ તા. ૫ મી માર્ચે ઇરબન આવી પહોંચશે. આપણે આશા રાખીએ છીએ કે તેઓ આવી ગયા બાદજ કોંગ્રેસ તરફનો કેસ સીલેક્ટ કમીટી પાસે રજુ થશે. તા. ૧૦ મી અગર ૧૨ મી માર્ચે કોંગ્રેસને પોતાનો કેસ રજુ કરવા બોલાવે એવો સંભવ છે. મી. ટાઇસન અત્રે આવે છે તે પણ ટ્રાંસવાલના હોદ્દોએને આ દુઃખના સમયે શાંત સમાન છે. હોદ્દો સરકાર તરફથી તેઓ સીલેક્ટ કમીટી પ્રત્યે કેસ રજુ કરીને એમ અને માનીએ છીએ.

મેસર્સ મારવીક અને બોઇડલ

પાર્લામેન્ટની રંમણુમિ ઉપર મારા મારી ઉપર આવી જનાર આ સંબોનો અખડો ટાઇ સમક્ષ જ્ય એવો સંભવ છે. મી. મારવીકને જે માર પડ્યો તેથી તેની રિથતિ ધારવા કરવાં વધુ મંબીર નીવડી છે. એકસરેથી તેને તપાસવાનું નક્કી થયું હતું પરંતુ કેટલાક દિવસ સુધી એ તપાસ થઈ શકી ન હતી. કોલ્ટરોએ સંપૂર્ણ આરામ લેવાની તેને સલાહ આપી છે. મી. કોંગે આ વિષયમાં તપાસ કરવા પાર્લામેન્ટની એક સીલેક્ટ કમીટી નીમવાની દરખાસ્ત કરી હતી તે પાછી ખેંચી લીધી હતી. તેમણે દર્શાવ્યું કે મી. મારવીક સીનેટર બોઇડલ સામે કાપદેશર કોર્ટમાં પગલાં ભરવા ઇચ્છે છે.

મી. પીરોનું તોફાની સલામો વિષેનું બીલ

ન્યાય ખાતાના પ્રધાન મી. પીરોએ તોફાની સલામો વિષેના કાયદાને સુધારવાનું બીલ પ્રસિદ્ધ કર્યું હતું જેની સામે યુનીયન માં નેટીવો તેમજ યુરોપીયન મજૂરપક્ષ તરફથી સખ્ત વિરોધ ઉઠાવવામાં આવ્યો હતો તે બીલ પાર્લામેન્ટ સમક્ષ મી. પીરોએ રજુ કર્યું હતું. આ બીલથી ન્યાય ખાતાના પ્રધાનને એવી જાતની એક દૃશ્ય સત્તા મળે છે કે જાતી-જાતી વચ્ચે ખવેજ ઉત્પન્ન કરે એવી જાતની ચળવળ કરનારા નેટીવો તેમજ સા. આ. એર્ન યુરોપીયનોને એક સ્થાનમાંથી બીજા સ્થાને દેશ નિકાલ કરવા. મીનીસ્ટર ગ્રાઇ પજુ માણસને અમુક સલામાં તે હંજરી ન આપી શકે અને ભાષણ પણ ન આપી શકે એવો પણ હુકમ કરી શકે. મી. પેટ્રીક ડંકને આ બીલને સખ્ત વિરોધ ઉઠાવતાં દર્શાવ્યું હતું કે આવી જાતની સત્તા મીનીસ્ટરના હાથમાં મુકવાથી દેશના કાયદાની ડાર્ટીની સત્તાબ લઇ લેવામાં આવે છે. તોફાની ચળવળખેરોના ઉપર અંકુશ મુકવો એ મી. ડંકને સ્વીકાર્યું હતું પરંતુ પ્રધાનના હાથમાં આવી સત્તા મુકવી એની સાથે અપોઝીશન પાર્ટી સંમન થઇ શકે નહિ.

જનરલ હટ્ઝોગે દર્શાવ્યું કે આ બીલ સીલેક્ટ કમીટી સમક્ષ રજુ કરવામાં આવે તો તેમાં અને વધી નથી. આ ઉપરથી આ બીલને સીલેક્ટ કમીટી સમક્ષ રજુ કરવાનો કાવ થયો હતો.

ઇમીગ્રેશન કવોટા બીલ

ડો. મલાનું ઇમીગ્રેશન કવોટા બીલ ગદાર પડ્યું તે વેળા આખા યુનીયનમાં જુબ પ્રબળમાં કોલાહલ મચી રહ્યો હતો અને ઠેર ઠેર પ્રોટેસ્ટ સનાઓ બરાઇ હતી. આ બીલનું બીલનું વાંચન હાઉસ ઓફ કોમન્સમાં મોટી વધુમતિથી

