

# Indian Opinion

No. 18—Vol. XXX.

Friday, April 29th, 1932.

Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.  
Price 1/6 per copy.

## STATEMENT SUBMITTED TO THE MINISTER OF INTERIOR

**S**IR.—We the undersigned, representing the South African Indian Congress beg to lodge the objections of our Congress to the Transvaal Asiatic Land Tenure Bill now before Parliament, and beg to submit the following observations on the various clauses which adversely affect the Indian community of the Transvaal, for the due consideration of the Government with a view to the complete withdrawal of the Bill.

We now beg to deal with the following:—

**CLAUSE 1**—Under Section 130 of the Gold Law it is made a punishable offence for any holder of a right acquired under Law No. 14 of 1898 or a prior Law to transfer, or sublet, or permit to be transferred, or sublet any portion of his right to a Coloured person, to reside on, or occupy ground held under such right. The addition proposed by this Clause not only makes the occupation of proclaimed areas by a coloured person illegal but a punishable offence.

**CLAUSE 2**—This repeals sub-section 1 of Section 131 of the Gold Law. Under the repealed section only occupation on proclaimed land in districts comprising in Class A was permitted. It is now sought by this clause to prohibit occupation as well as residence.

This clause further creates a new position by bringing within the provisions of the Gold Law, Townships such as Springs, where Asiatics possessed uncontested rights to reside and occupy. In point of fact the Gold Law had no application whatsoever to Townships such as Springs. Recently the question of residence by Asiatics on a certain stand at Springs, who were sought to be ejected under Section 131 (1) of the Gold Law was tested in the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court, and the Chief Justice decided in favour of Asiatics by observing that land proclaimed under Section 52 stood in a peculiar position and was not intended by Parliament to be hit by the provisions of the Gold Law in its application to proclaimed land. The effect of this clause will be to nullify the judgment of the Court and to take away rights which were hitherto enjoyed by Asiatics. Although the existing interests of Asiatics are safeguarded, it excludes any fresh rights which were open to them from being acquired.

**CLAUSE 3**—Under this section powers are given to the Minister for the issue of a certificate withdrawing any land from the operation of the provisions of Sections 130 and 131 of the Gold Law in so far as they prohibit the residence or occupation of land by a coloured person. This apparent relief is no relief of any material value in as much as it only affects Government Townships as long as they remain leasehold. Immediately they are converted into freehold the anti-Asiatic clause will apply in terms of the Township Act, 1908, and, in our opinion, the certificate of exemption issued by the Minister will be *ipso facto* unenforceable.

There is no indication in this clause that the power to exempt land in semi-Government and private Townships which always contain prohibition against Asiatics from residing and occupying.

Our argument is further strengthened by the fact that any interested standholder has the right to enforce the anti-Asiatic clause against the Asiatics. Thus then it will be seen that the power given to the Minister to exempt under this clause is limited to Government Townships only.

**CLAUSE 4**—This clause purports to safeguard rights lawfully acquired as declared by the recent decision of the Appellate Court in the case of Springs Municipality vs. Moosa and Seedat, and such like places. While safeguarding existing rights in this respect it restricts any fresh rights of a similar nature in the future. No provision is made for the transference of such rights to successors or heirs of present holders, who were in perfectly legal occupation of their stands.

**CLAUSE 5 (1)**—This sub-section creates new disability against Asiatics by amending the Gold Law. Although a proclaimed area in which Asiatics are prohibited from occupying ceases to be a public digging before the 1st May 1930, it will nevertheless be considered as a proclaimed area, thus taking away the rights of Asiatics to reside and occupy land in a deproclaimed area. It moreover protects the rights of Asiatics as to residence and occupation lawfully acquired up to 1st May, 1930, but this protection does not extend to their heirs and successors.

**CLAUSE 5 (2)**—This sub-section whilst giving power to the Minister to exempt land expressly excludes Asiatics from their right of occupying deproclaimed land which they will be entitled to where the land is deproclaimed after the mining is worked out or closed.

**CLAUSE 6 (a, b & 2)**—This clause is of a far reaching nature. It in effect reduces Act 37 of 1919 to a dead letter, for it takes away the protection given under that Act. In the case of the Krugersdorp Municipality vs. Dadoo Ltd., 1920, the Courts have interpreted the Act to mean that a British Indian was exactly in the same position as any other person in the Municipality, and just as if he were not a coloured person, in other words, just as if he were a European, who had all the rights under the Gold Law. It is respectfully pointed out that British Indians who on 1st May, 1919, were carrying on business on proclaimed land in Townships and their successors in title as well as their bona fide servants were exempted from the Gold Law, and were permitted to reside on and occupy land in the same Township.

The clause proposes to restrict the scope of the Law by laying down contrary to the intention of Act 37 of 1919, that persons so protected shall not hold any land or area in excess of that held by him on 1st May, 1919. In other words it means that if a person occupied subsequent to this date any fresh stand which is an extension in the same Township, such stand will be declared to have been illegally acquired. What is allowed by Act 37 of 1919 is not only snatched away but no protection is given for vested interests acquired under that Act.

**CLAUSE 6 (3)**—This clause takes away the existing rights enjoyed by Indians. Under the Old Gold Law of 1898 and according to the ruling of the

Court in Khots's case, the right to occupy land existed. It is necessary to quote the judgment of the Chief Justice in that case. He ruled that "Section 92 of the Gold Law of 1898 certainly forbids the issue of a stand licence to any but white persons; no coloured man, therefore, can hold a stand licence. But it does not say that a White man shall not let his stand to a coloured person, nor does it say that no coloured person shall occupy a stand. That being so, it seems to me that neither of those things are illegal." Subsequent to this the new Gold Law of 1908 was introduced, when it was made clear by the then Attorney General, referring to representations made in regard to Sections 130 and 131 that the intention was not to restrict Indian trade but as a matter of sound policy and sanitary legislation to regulate the residence of coloured persons in the populous mining areas of Witwatersrand, and more especially outside Municipalities. It was also made clear that the restrictions which are contained in Sections 130 and 131 on the residence of coloured persons aimed not at Indian traders but at idlers and loafers. This is fully borne by the fact that the provisions of Sections 130 and 131 were not enforced against Indians who were allowed to acquire vested interests in regard to residence and occupation. This then was in keeping with the assurance given by the Attorney-General to the Under-Secretary for the Colonies, when the controversy was raised in regard to the New Gold Bill. This clause as introduced sweeps away these assurances and even refuses to recognise vested interests acquired thereunder.

**CLAUSE 7, Sub-section 2**—It is respectfully pointed out that the saving clause to clause 7 contains a serious omission in prohibiting successors in title to hold the property. It limits an Asiatic to deal with his property only by way of inheritance and the choice of dealing with a lawfully acquired property during his lifetime is totally prohibited.

**CLAUSE 7, Sub-section 2 (4)**—This sub-section clause introduces a new disability and sweeps away existing rights in relation to holding of properties in trust by Europeans for Indians. European held properties for and on behalf of Indians since Law 3 of 1885 was enacted, and this was held to be valid by the Supreme Court. The present provision of the Bill makes it illegal and a punishable offence for a person to hold fixed property on behalf of Indians after the 15th May, 1930.

This clause further gives no right to transfer properties so held to any other person, and if a European holding fixed property on behalf of an Indian dies no provision is made for the nomination of another Trustee.

**CLAUSE 7, Sub-section 3 (4)**—This clause is objected to on the ground that transfer of shares or debentures to any other Asiatic is prohibited, which is unjust.

All shares in a private company which has acquired property after May 1930 are forfeited to the State. This in effect will place all properties purchased by that company before May 1930 in the possession of the State by virtue of the shares having been confiscated by it. This is a distinct hardship.

We have on examination of the Bill briefly stated our objections to some of the salient provisions thereof which, in our humble opinion, disturbs, curtails and limits the existing rights hitherto enjoyed by Indians in the Transvaal Province, and furthermore imposes fresh disabilities upon their rights to reside and occupy therein.

We venture to submit respectfully that the submissions set forth in this Statement warrant, having regard to the history and incidence of the Indians in that Province, the serious consideration of the Minister. Nothing short of the removal of these objections will satisfy the community and make their lot in that Province a happy and contented one.

It is fervently hoped that in view of the national importance which the Indian community as a whole in South Africa attaches to the Bill, every consideration will be given by the Minister so as to afford relief to the Indians in the Transvaal Province, whose sole desire is to be freed from unjust and oppressive laws which harshly operate against them.

## CONSTITUTIONAL AGITATION

**S**IR Fazl-i-Hussein the leader of the Government of India delegation before leaving this country for India gave sound advice to the leaders of the Indian community in the Union. The advice was to the effect that they must adopt constitutional agitation in this country. The Executive of the S.A.I.C. met last week in Durban and the members very carefully discussed the Asiatic Land Tenure Bill. They found the Bill unsatisfactory. The members emphasised that in order to give a lead to the Transvaal Indians it is proper at this moment to calmly deliberate and follow the advice of Sir Fazl-i-Hussein to agitate constitutionally in order to get this Bill withdrawn. The executive cannot immediately give advice to the Transvaal Indians to start Passive Resistance. It is the function of the Conference which is to meet on the 29th and 30th of May, 1932 at Durban to give lead to the Transvaal Indians. It is the duty of the executive to explore all the possible avenues for peace before it advises the Transvaal Indian community to launch the Passive Resistance movement. With this view in mind the executive wired Dr. Malan to meet a small deputation of the Congress. Dr. Malan has pushed back the community from the steps of the constitutional agitation. The executive has taken another constitutional step. It has requested the clerk of the House of Assembly to allow the community to address the House at its Bar, failing which a petition will be presented to the clerk of the House of Assembly to lodge objections against the Asiatic Tenure Bill. This petition has already gone to Capetown. In this issue elsewhere we have published it. We have no hope that any relief will be granted but in order to follow the advice given by Sir Fazl-i-Hussein we must agitate constitutionally so that in future he will have no occasion to complain. The last constitutional step would be to approach the representative of His Majesty the King—the Governor-General and request him not to give his sanction to the

Bill! We would have already carried on all these constitutional steps before we meet at a Conference by the end of next month in Durban. The annual Conference after having gone into *pros* and *cons* will give final advice to the Transvaal Indian community. What that advice would be we do not suppose to guess. There are two ways open to the Transvaal Indians. The one is to accept the Tenure Bill and suffer humiliations and insults; the other one is to stand as one man and take up Passive Resistance movement against the Bill and fight for the rights. No nation can achieve political rights without sacrifice and suffering.

## Slave Mentality

### Oriental And Occidental

BY DHIRENDRA N. ROY, PH.D.

( *Concluded from last week* )

Most of the foreign people who come to live in the Orient are those who have had no chance at home. They come with the ostensible idea of helping the native people to live a better life, while the real motive lies in their pocket. Being usually the misfits of their motherland, they can hardly be expected to fit in with the other land. When they find that these 'damned' natives are so 'funny' in their ways of life, they swear and curse and growl. They do whatever they want and, however wrong, they do it with impunity. They become important and begin to speak and write. And what would all this be about if not the cursed natives! They make sensational statements against the people, indulge in the widest generalisations on the bases of individual cases of weakness and thus flatter their racial vanity. They do so and in an unabashed manner they shout they are the chosen race of God.

The evil effect of this pretentious life is not immediately perceived by the people of the Orient. They, being possessed of a highly noble tradition of cultural life which appears to have entered into their very being by long practice, do not feel immediately perturbed in any noisy demonstration against them. But the masses, who do not usually go deeper into their national soul, are not so well entrenched in their own culture as to unheed the shallow interpretation of narrow-minded foreigners. They are told over and over again of the rottenness of what they have, and their political helplessness stands as a strong argument for it. Voluminous literature is carefully got up in defence of such idea and then imported to feed the mind of the Orient people. When such things continue to educate the people who find themselves truly becoming worse while their foreign masters are doing better amidst them, scepticism is bound to disturb their good faith. The deep-rooted love for their tradition may keep them outwardly devoted to things of their own but there begins an imperceptible change in their mental conditions. Outwardly they may grumble against

the criticism of their life by these intrusive foreigners, but proportionately there is a loss of confidence in themselves and a muffled feeling of respect for all that their masters stand for.

There is a popular story in India. Once a Hindu bought a fine lusty goat in the market. Some mischievous rogues saw it and were much tempted. They conspired together to get it from him without paying the price. After due consultations they posted themselves in several groups at various places on his way home. The man was returning home with the goat when it was near evening. One of the first group of these knaves came forward and addressing the man asked him with an air of indifference why he was carrying a pig. The man cast a curious look at him and confidently asserted that it was a goat and not a pig. The whole group joined with the first man to declare that anybody could recognise that it was a pig and that there must be something wrong with his eyes to consider it to be a goat. The Hindu left them in disgust telling them that he knew quite well the distinction between a goat and a pig and that the one he was carrying was a goat. After walking a short distance he met another group, one of whom asked him in a curious tone, if he was a high-caste Hindu. As he answered in the affirmative, he was further asked what he was going to do with that pig. He got excited and said that it was not a pig but a goat. At this the rest of the group began to laugh, saying to one another loudly that he must be crazy for he called a plain pig, a goat. The poor Hindu heard it and, though he protested outwardly against their mistake, he began to revolve within himself how it could be a pig. He met a third group and the same judgment was passed upon his goat. He quarrelled with them, but much of it was meant to confirm his inward doubt. As he was walking on with the animal, he was looking at it and again thinking that probably it was his mistake and that it was a pig. He met a fourth group and the same thing happened. He felt it must be a pig and, when he passed the fifth group who did the same, he looked this way and that, kicked away the goat, and then went home alone.

Perhaps, the story is not a perfect analogy, but it is a good one. It may be doubted,—though the reasons for it are not sufficient,—that there is any conscious intrigue to hoax the people into a false conviction, but it is true that there is too much noise raised by over-confident foreigners against what the Oriental people hold so dear and in favour of what the former call their 'wonderful' civilization. Many among the Oriental people are affected by such organised propaganda and the danger is that, if things continue to be what they are now, the very plain goat may some day appear to be a real pig, and be thrown away.

The birth of Lord Rama was celebrated on Friday the 15th instant under the auspices of the Ladysmith Arya Samaj at the Samaj Hall, 63 Illing Road, Ladysmith. The function which was well attended, commenced at 8-30 p.m. by the chanting of Vedic prayer, immediately after which the havan ceremony was performed. On the completion of the ritual performances, Mr. L. Parshotam, president of the Samaj, spoke on the significance of the day. Amongst the other speakers on the occasion were Messrs. R. Singh, V. Lalla, L. Sewgoolam and O. Sookraj. Fitting national and religious songs were sung by Mr. N. Amaldas and scholars of the Gujarati Night School. The guests were entertained with light refreshments. The function terminated at 10 p.m.

**Statement Submitted By S.A.I.C.  
To Government Of India Delegation**  
(Continued from last week)

**PERMISSION FOR THE ENTRY OF WIVES AND MINOR CHILDREN NOW IN INDIA OF THOSE WHO HAVE TAKEN OUT PROTECTION CERTIFICATES**

This is a matter which is agitating the minds of those who are affected by restrictions imposed in clause (b) of the conditions and requirements under which what is known as "Protection Certificates" were issued to Condonees in the Union.

To implement in certain respects, undertaking given in the Capetown Agreement, the Union Government, introduced a Bill in the Parliament (now known as Act 37 of 1927) Section 5 of this Act amended Section 10 of Act 22 of 1913 (the Principal Act) and gave power to Principal Immigration Officers, and to Appeal Boards, in the event of appeals to such Boards, to order the cancellation of Registration Certificate, or a Certificate of Domicile, or other document, if it is proved that such Certificate was obtained by fraudulent representations made by him or on his behalf.

The addition of this Section 5 to Section 10 of the Principal Act in no way formed part of implementing the Agreement. But further powers were sought and obtained as we understand to "round up" illicit entrants into the Union.

Representations made by the Congress and discussions held with the Honourable the Minister of Interior on the retrospective effect of Section 5 resulted in the Government offering a scheme of Condonation as an act of grace to mark the appointment of the Rt. Hon. V. S. Sastri, P.C. as the first Agent of the Government of India in the Union. On the one hand the Congress gave the assurance to the Minister that "it will not tolerate, as it has always done, and illicit entry of Indians into the Union." The Government, on the other hand, undertook "to refrain from the full enforcement of Section 10 of Act 22 of 1913, as amended by Section 5 of Act 37 of 1927, in the case of an Indian who proves to the satisfaction of the Minister of the Interior that he entered a Province of the Union other than the Orange Free State prior to 5th July, 1924.

Thus the Scheme of Condonation originated, and among conditions and requirements laid down to regulate the Scheme, one important prohibition was that a "Condonee was not to be permitted to claim the right and privileges conferred by Section 5 (f) and (g) of the said Act, that is to say that if his wife and or children have not been admitted at date hereof he will not be permitted subsequently to introduce any such persons." The Scheme, with this exception, was designed to confer rights and privileges as are enjoyed by lawfully domiciled Indians in the Union.

When the details of the Scheme were finally settled, the first Agent Mr. Sastri, and the Congress made earnest representations to the Minister to permit the entry of wives and minor children of Condonees affected by the prohibition. The Honourable the Minister promised to sympathetically consider the restriction if the number affected was not large.

On the 23rd December, 1930, at the request of the Congress, Mr. H. Venn, the Commissioner for Asiatic Affairs, supplied the following figures, which we take it to be final, relating to the Scheme of Condonation:

According to the information supplied number of persons to whom Protection Certificates issued are:—

Cape ... ..	341.
Natal ... ..	596.
Transvaal, .. ..	620.
	<u>1,457.</u>

Number of wives and minor children, male and female, of Condonees already in the Union of temporarily absent therefrom, is:—

	Wives.	Children.	
		Male.	Female.
Cape	154	169	147
Natal	198	318	241
Transvaal	131	185	143
<b>Total</b>	<b>483</b>	<b>672</b>	<b>531</b>

Number of wives and minor children, male and female, of Condonees affected by restriction is:—

	Wives.	Children.	
		Male.	Female.
Cape	176	121	100
Natal	198	304	311
Transvaal	322	169	211
<b>Total</b>	<b>796</b>	<b>594</b>	<b>622</b>

The figures, as given above, summarised disclose the following position:—

Protection Certificates were issued to 1,457 Condonees. Of these 681, a little less than half the number of Condonees, secured the admission of their wives and children totalling 1,686 people prior to the critical date 25th February 1928, and this did not come within the limits of restriction as to entry:

Deduction made from the figures supplied shows that:—796 Condonees are affected by the restriction; and the number of their wives and minor children, who by reason of the restriction, are prohibited from entering is 2,012.

When the figures are worked out, the position in respect of each Province appears to be:—

**IN THE CAPE PROVINCE**

154 Condonees obtained admission of their wives and children numbering 470.

**IN THE NATAL PROVINCE**

198 Condonees obtained admission of wives and children numbering 757, and,

**IN THE TRANSVAAL PROVINCE**

322 Condonees obtained admission of wives and children numbering 459.

The restrictions when the figures are finally examined and sifted apply to:—

	Condonees.	Wives.	Children.	
			Male.	Female.
Cape	187	176	121	100
Natal	398	398	304	311
Transvaal	389	322	169	211
<b>Total</b>	<b>974</b>	<b>796</b>	<b>594</b>	<b>622</b>

Thus then there are in the Union 974 Condonees, whose wives and family number 2,012, who are prohibited from entering into the Union by reason of restrictions placed on them. It is believed that a number of Natal born Indians resident in the Cape Province took out Condonation Certificates, and if this number is deducted from the above the number affected will in our opinion be found much smaller.

An examination of the figures, as given above, reveals the position that in the Cape Province the

... ..

number affected is small but in the Natal and Transvaal Provinces the figures almost equal, the Natal figures showing a slight increase in the number of people affected.

An analysis of the figures in relation to each Province has been given to show the distribution of Condonation figures, taken in each Province, separately, must be regarded, considering the disparity of the population in each Province, as affording a small increase in the number of population.

We have somewhat at length dealt with the figures in order to show that the number of people affected is small to warrant the consideration of relaxing the restriction and allowing those who are affected to enter the Union. The Honourable the Minister of Interior has given a promise to consider the restriction if the number affected was small.

We desire to make the point that the Scheme of Condonation made distinction in favour of those who had brought in their wives and family, and punished those, who failed to introduce their wives and children before the critical date.

While all along the Congress has set its face against illicit entry, we feel that the inevitable separation of wife from husband due to the incidence of the Condonation Scheme should not be allowed to continue.

(To be Continued)

## Notice

### INDIAN UNEMPLOYMENT

Will employers of Indian labour kindly notify the undersigned of any vacancies in their establishment.

WRITE:—Hon. Secretary, Sir Kurma Reddi Unemployment Relief Committee, 175 Grey Street, Durban; or Phone Central 3506.

## South African Indian Congress

### Twelfth Annual Conference

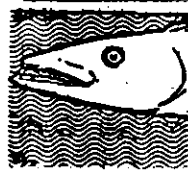
Notice is hereby given that the Twelfth Annual Conference of the South African Indian Congress will be held at the Parsee Rustomjee Hall, 140, Queen Street, Durban, on the 29th and 30th days of May, 1932, commencing at 10 a.m. on the 29th May.

#### AGENDA—

1. Minutes.
2. Presidential Speech.
3. Secretarial Report.
4. Financial Statement and Treasurer's Report.
5. Transvaal Asiatic Land Tenure Bill (Amended).
6. Capetown Agreement and matters referred to therein.
7. Election of Officers.
8. General.

SORABJEE RUSTOMJEE,  
President.

A. I. KAJEE } Jt. Hon.  
P. R. PATHER } Secretaries.



**SNOEK—Prime Red Oily**  
Snoek at lowest market prices.  
Quotation on request.

COAST TRADING CO., 917 Kershaw St., Capetown

## રેશમી માલ અને સ્વદેશી કપડાં

તરેહવાર રંજબેરંજી મન પસંદ કપડાં

સ્વદેશી માલ જથ્થામાં આવી પહોંચ્યાં છે. અને હવેથી દરેક સ્ટીબરમાં આવશે.

થાળી, કલલાં વિગેરેને માટે બલ બલતરું રેશમ.

મોળ, રમાલ, સાડી, મખમલ, સાલ, ટાઇ, કોલર, કોર, શર્ટ, મુટને માટે શર્ટ, આંધામ

સીલક વિગેરે વિગેરે. પુરૂષા, સ્ત્રીઓ અને બેચાંબોને પહેરવા બેઠતી દરેક ચીજો

બંધારી તથા બાંધોમાંથી સસ્તામાં સસ્તા માટે દરેક મળી શકે.

ફોન ૫૬૫૪.

સી. કેવલરામ એન્ડ કુલ.,

બેચન ૫૧૧૮.

૬૩ ધલોલ શ્રી,

કોનર માર્કેટ એન્ડ ધલોલ શ્રી,

બેદાનીસબર્ગ.

# ઈન્ડિઅન ઓપિનિઅન.

પુસ્તક ૩૦ નું.

દિનીકસ, શુક્રવાર, તારીખ ૨૯ એપ્રિલ ૧૯૩૨

અંક ૧૮

## “ઈન્ડિઅન ઓપિનિઅન”

શુક્રવાર, તા. ૨૯ એપ્રિલ સન ૧૯૩૨

હીંદી સરકારના પ્રતિનિધિમંડળના નેતા સર ફઝલી હુસેન આ મુદ્દકનો કિનારો છોડીને ચાલ્યા ગયા બંધારણપુર્વકની તે પહેલાં અત્રેની હીંદી કોમના આગેવાનોને શીખામણના બે બોલો સંભળાવી આ હતા. એ શીખામણના કબ્જે એ હતા કે તમે કોઈ પણ ચળવળ કરો તો તે બંધારણપુર્વક ચળવળ કરજો. મમા અફવાડિયામાં સા. આ. ધ. કોંગ્રેસની એકઠીકયુટીવ મીટીંગ મળી હતી. તેણે ટેન્ચર બીલ ઉપર સંભાળ ભરેલી ચર્ચા કરી અને બીલ અત્યંત અસંતોષકારક છે એમ સૌને લાગ્યું. ટ્રાંસવાલની હીંદી કોમને સીધા અને ધોરી માર્ગે સરળતાથી કાર્ય કરવાનું પરવડી શકે એટલા ખાતર બીલકુલ શાંતિ રાખીને બંધારણપુર્વક ચળવળ કેવી રીતે હવે કરવી અને સર-ફઝલી હુસેને આપેલી શીખામણ મુજબ કેવી રીતે કાર્ય લેવું તે વિષે સભ્યોએ ખાસ ભાર મુક્યો હતો. તુરંતજ સત્યાગ્રહની લડત ઉપાડી લેવાની સલાહ એકઠીકયુટીવ આપી શકે એમ નથી. એ સલાહ આપવાનું કાર્ય સા. આ. ધ. કોંગ્રેસનાં ડરખાનમાં જે માસની આખરીમાં મળનાર કોન્ફરંસ કરશે. ટ્રાંસવાલમાં હીંદીભાષીઓને સત્યાગ્રહની લડત ઉપાડવાની સલાહ આપવામાં આવે તે પહેલાં આ બચકર બીલને પસાર થવું અટકાવવા માટે બંધારણપુર્વકની જેટલી ચળવળ શક્ય હોય તેટલી કરી લેવી એ એકઠીકયુટીવનું કર્તવ્ય છે અને તેથી મીનીસ્ટર એફ ધન્ડીરીઅરને તારથી દર્શાવવામાં આવ્યું કે કોંગ્રેસના એક નાના પ્રતિનિધિમંડળની મુલાકાત ટેન્ચર બીલ વિષે અમારી ફરિયાદ સંભળવા આપો. બંધારણપુર્વકના આ પહેલાં પચથીયાં ઉપરથી ડોક્ટર મલાને કોમને ધક્કો મારી નીચે ઉતારી છે. તેણે દર્શાવ્યું કે બીલ વિષે સીલેક્ટ કમીટીમાં ચર્ચા ચાલેલી છે એટલે એ વિષે મુલાકાત લેવાથી ફાયદો નથી. આ જવાબ મળ્યા પછી એકઠીકયુટીવે બીલનું બંધારણપુર્વકનું એ પગલું લઈ્યું છે કે પાર્લામેન્ટની હાઉસ એફ એસેમ્બલીના ખાર પાસે ખડા રહીને ટેન્ચર બીલ વિષે કોમના વાંધા સંભળાવવા માટેની માગણી કરવી, તેની બે ના મળે અને નાંજ મળશે એમ પ્રથમથીજ માની લેવા માં આવ્યું છે તો પછી એસેમ્બલીના ક્લાર્ક મારફતે ટેન્ચર બીલ વિષે પાર્લામેન્ટને એક પીટીશન રજુ કરવી. આ પીટીશન અત્રેથી રવાના થઈ પણ ગઈ છે અને જે અમે અંગ્રેજી વિભાગમાં છાપી પણ છે. આ પીટીશન ઉપર પણ કોઈ પણ ભતની દાદ ફરિયાદ મળે એવી આશા રાખીજ નથી પરંતુ સર ફઝલી હુસેને આપેલી બંધારણપુર્વક ચળવળ કરવાની

સલાહને માન્ય રાખીજ એમ એ કે જેથી તે નામદારને પાછળથી ફરિયાદ કરવાનું પ્રયોજન ન રહે. આ પીટીશનને પણ કશી દાદ નથી મળવાની તે આપણે જાણીએજ છીએ. ત્યાર બાદ છેવટનું પગલું રહ્યું નામદાર મવનર જનરલ પાસે પહોંચવાનું. તે નામદારને પછી દર્શાવવું રહ્યું કે ટેન્ચર બીલ પાર્લામેન્ટમાં પસાર થાય તો આપ નામદાર તેના ઉપર સહી મુકતા નહિ. સા આ. ધ. કોંગ્રેસની વાર્ષિક કોન્ફરંસ જે માસની આખરીમાં ડરખાનમાં મળે તે પહેલાં આ પ્રમાણે બંધારણપુર્વકની સર્વ ચળવળ એકઠીકયુટીવે કરી લીધેલી હશે. એટલે કોન્ફરંસ આ સર્વ સ્થિતિ તપાસી લઇને પછી છેવટે ટ્રાંસવાલના હીંદીઓને માર્ગ બતાવશે. બીજો કોઈ માર્ગ બતાવવાનું પછી કોન્ફરંસને રહેવાનુંજ નથી. માત્ર કોમને માટે એજ માર્ગ ખુલ્લા રહેવાના છે. એક તો એ કે ટેન્ચર બીલને મવાલી બનીને સ્વીકારી લેવું અને જેટલાં અપમાનો સહન કરવાં પડે તે સહન કરીને પણ પૈસા કમાવાનું મળવું હોય તો તે કમાયા કરવું અને બીજાં એક પ્રબલ તરીકે સ્વમાન સાથે જીવવું હોય, હીલુપત અને નામરદીના કાળા કાષ્ટ કપાળે ન ચોંટાડવા હોય, પૈસા આજે છે અને કાલે ન પણ હોય, જીંદગી આજે છે અને કાલે ન પણ હોય અને દુનિયામાં એકવાર મરવાનું તો છેજ અને મરીશું ત્યારે કશું સાથે બાંધી નથી લઈ જવાના, આ સર્વ સમજીને પ્રબલ તરીકે સ્વમાનની આપણને કિમ્મત હશે તો તો તુરંતજ સત્યાગ્રહની લડતનો ધોરી અને સીધો સરળ માર્ગ કોમની સામે પેહોંજ છે તે માર્ગે નિડરતાથી ચાલ્યા જવાનું રહ્યું. આ બેમાંથી શું પસંદ કરવું તેના નિર્ણય કોમને કરવાનો રહ્યો એટલે ટ્રાંસવાલના હીંદીઓ આજથી એ વિષે ચર્ચા કરતા થાય એ મુજબવા યોગ્ય છે.

### સા. આ. ધ. કોંગ્રેસ બારમી વાર્ષિક કોન્ફરંસ

સા. આ. ધ. કોંગ્રેસની વાર્ષિક બારમી કોન્ફરંસ ૧૪૦ ક્વીન સ્ટ્રીટ ડરબન પારસી રસ્તમજી હોલમાં તા. ૨૯ તથા ૩૦ એ સન ૧૯૩૨ ના રોજ સવારે દસ વાગે મળશે.

એજેન્ડા :-

- (૧) મીનીટસ,
- (૨) પ્રમુખનું લાપણ,
- (૩) સેક્રેટરીના રીપોર્ટ
- (૪) ફાઇનાન્સીઅલ રેપોર્ટ અને ટ્રેઝરરના રીપોર્ટ
- (૫) ટ્રાંસવાલ એશીયાટીક લેન્ડ ટેન્ચર બીલ,
- (૬) કેપટાઉન એટ્રીબિટ અને તેને અંગેની હકિકત,
- (૭) અમલદારોની સુટણી
- (૮) સામાન્ય.

સૌરાષ્ટ્ર રસ્તમજી પ્રમુખ.  
એ. આઈ. કાલ } એ. ઓ.  
પી. આર. પથર } સેક્રેટરીઓ

