

# Indian Opinion

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## TRUTH ABOUT INDIA

WHAT THE INDIA LEAGUE SAW

MISS ELLEN WILKINSON ON GOVERNMENT POLICY

MISS ELLEN WILKINSON writes in *The Star* :—

London, (By Mail).

Can anything remove the ostrich-complex from the British official mind? If anyone comes back from a country which he dislikes, and says things about it of which he disapproves, then, be it Minister or Civil Servant, he simply refuses to listen. "You have only been shown what the Bolsheviks, the Indian Congress, the Ukrainians (whatever is the pet annoyance of that particular area) wanted you to see."

That Russian Minister who built cardboard villages along the Volga to soothe his Empress's conscience did a good turn for all succeeding bureaucrats. He presented them with the perfect excuse of the ages.

There was "cardboard village building" to create a good impression during the visit of the India League delegation to India, and it was done by the Government.

Frankly, I was surprised they took so much trouble about it, but here is a sample.

Mr. Menon and I went into the Frontier area. Without our asking for any help, cars were placed at our disposal and the Political Agent was sent to guide our steps. We accepted this kindness gratefully. It meant seeing the sights—and Khyber is some sight to see. But it also meant that we could not see the things we had come thousands of miles to see—the conditions of life of the ordinary people. So one morning we slipped out before dawn, our guide a schoolboy, half Muslim, half English, just returned from an English public school.

### Police At Mardan

We went right into the interior to the town of Mardan. News travels fast amongst the Afridis, and they crowded into the place to meet us. I looked down from the roof of a local magnate's guest house on the packed crowd in the narrow closed lane. If the police shot into the crowd. . . I implored our schoolboy guide to get them away.

A few words from one of their own leaders, and the lane was cleared as if with a broom. We were left with some 40 of the more important men of the place, packed round us in the stifling heat. Some minutes after the crowd had gone a dozen armed Indian policemen marched into that lane. I thanked heaven we had got the crowd away first.

After we had heard their stories the tribesmen salaamed and left us.

As soon as the first group got out of the street door into the lane they were sat upon by the police. A constable pulled the turban off the bald head of an old man, tied his hands with it, and proceeded to beat his head with a lathi. All the other men were beaten. They were completely unarmed, and the only resistance they could put up was to try and shield their heads from the lathi blows. They were then pushed back into the courtyard.

Suddenly an Indian in mufti arrived on a bicycle. There was a sharp order. The police formed into twos and marched away, leaving us in complete possession. I couldn't understand why.

### Agent's Explanation

We drove back to Peshawar in great indignation at this completely unprovoked assault.

The Political Agent, worried as to why we had left his guiding hand, came in haste to see us. He assured us that what we had seen was no police outrage. The Red Shirts had stolen police uniforms and beaten up their own people "to stage an atrocity."

"A pollice ballet," I laughed, it seemed too comic that we should be asked to believe such a yarn, but this is evidently the account of the incident that has reached Sir Samuel Hoare.

The sequel is the most interesting part. The following morning I saw Mr. Adam (the Inspector-General of Police), Mr. Acheson (then Deputy, now Acting Chief Secretary) and Major Searle (the Deputy Commissioner of the Mardan district).

I asked each in turn, "Were these people really only Red Shirts dressed-up?" Each replied, "Of course not," but Mr. Acheson said, "I do not think you have treated us fairly. If you had told us where you were going we should have given the strictest instructions that no beating was to take place while you were there!"

Major Searle said, "As soon as we knew you were there, word was sent to withdraw the police."

### Challenge To Sir Samuel

Sir Samuel Hoare can confirm this from his own official sources. I have every reason for personal gratitude for the kindness and hospitality shown to us in Peshawar, but if any charge of staging is to be made, who did the staging there?

The Secretary of State accuses me of having seen only the Home Member at Delhi, Mr. Haig. With that superbly diplomatic and intelligent gentleman

I enjoyed two hours of some of the most interesting conversation I had in India. He talked more sense about the Indian trade situation than Whitehall is likely to hear in weeks. But in addition to the Great Ones at Delhi, we talked to the British officials in every out-of-the-way place to which we went. I have come back from India with a good-sized admiration for these men, keeping somehow sane amid all their worries, and yet able to talk good-humouredly and sympathetically to stray visitors who blew in from England.

But I was living with Indians in Indian houses. The contrast between the talk on my host's verandah, and the informal discussions over the English teacups filled me with despair. In no other way can anyone realise how deep is the gulf that has widened between India and Britain.

### What They Don't Know

Crops, irrigation and land revenue the British official knew all about. What he did not know, and now-a-days bitterly did not know, was what was going on inside the heads of those Indians who would not form part of his immediate circle of officials and servants, and the other dependents on his favour.

I can understand only too well why the young official who has sweated through those monsoon days we experienced (at least, Sir Samuel, we were not cold weather visitors) feel that the non-cooperating Indian is an ungrateful secessionist. But seeing there are so many tens of thousands of them now—twenty thousand at least of their heading people in jail—how far will that bring a solution either to India or for Britain?

Sir Samuel Hoare can scoff at our delegation. That matters little. But his attitude is symptomatic of that official view which, filtering from Whitehall through Delhi to the humblest district officer, is responsible for much of the tragedy in India to-day. If officials refuse to listen to the facts that are thrust upon even the casual tourists in India, what hope is there of a peace based on mutual trust and understanding?

Meanwhile British trade with India is falling; more and more avenues to our goods are being closed. Sir Samuel may convince a Tory House of Commons that the country is in a state of placid content, until the inevitable explosion crowds the House for yet another futile Indian debate. And the world looks on and wonders what has happened to British statesmanship.

### Fountain Of Wisdom

We must bear our cross not because it is sweet to suffer, but because the pain and the suffering are as nothing compared with the greatness of the issues involved.—MR. JUSTICE RANADE.

National progress is the sum of individual industry, energy and uprightiness, as national decay is of individual idleness, selfishness and vice.—SMILES.

He who is himself a true man, has a chance to know the truth of men, when he sees them; he who is not, has none.—THOMAS CARLYLE.

A little that a righteous man hath is better than the riches of many wicked.

## Notes and News

THE very sad news of the sudden and untimely death—for he was born only in 1884—of Mr. C. W. Malan, Union Minister of Railways, which took place in the early hours of Monday morning in the Volks hospital after a successful abdominal operation, was received throughout the country with grief. The late Mr. C. W. Malan was an able politician from the year 1915 and held the present post from 1924. He—a staunch nationalist—was a younger brother of Senator F. S. Malan, the leader of the South African Party in the Cape. Mr. Malan's death, coming at such a critical period in the history of the country, is a severe blow to the present Government. Strange to say it is the first time since Union that a Minister's death has taken place while Parliament was sitting. Though Mr. Malan's White Labour policy, in so far as railways are concerned, has done a good deal of harm to Indians, all those, even from the Indian community, who have known him personally or have read of his activities, have been struck with his great personality. General Smuts in paying a tribute to the late Mr. Malan said, "the country, Parliament and the Nationalist Party were much the poorer for his death. It had come as a shock to everybody, but all who knew him would long remember him as a friend." We join the country in its grief and in its deep sympathy for the bereaved family.

THE Transvaal Indian Congress sent messages of sympathy to the Prime Minister and Mrs. C. W. Malan. In the message to the Prime Minister the Congress expressed its deepest sympathy at the sudden loss to the Cabinet and country by the demise of Mr. C. W. Malan.

A petition signed by over 10,000 "European members of the commercial, financial and industrial community and registered voters of Johannesburg" pleading, it is understood, for the rights of the Chinese and their exclusion from the term "Asiatic" is to be presented to members of Parliament, and in particular the Minister of the Interior, Dr. D. F. Malan, at the end of this week. Mr. Ho Tong, president of the executive council of the Chinese Association of the Transvaal, left for Capetown last Tuesday night for the purpose of presenting the petition. The petition refers to what it describes as the very great hardships under which the Chinese community in the Transvaal suffer, and will further be called upon to suffer, by the passing of the Transvaal Asiatic Land Tenure Act of 1932.

THERE is no getting out of the fact that Chinese are an Asiatic race and if they are given preferential treatment it will certainly be because they have power behind them. We heartily congratulate our Chinese friends who, we understand, have stood firm, with the exception of a few, and refused to fill in the forms required under the Asiatic Land Tenure Act. We can only express our disgust at those of our countrymen who have been so utterly self-interested as to be led away by the Agent of the Government of India, against our repeated warnings, to fill in the forms with the hope of safeguarding their material interests at the risk of losing their own self-respect and the honour of their country. They will reap the fruits of their sins later.

DISTINGUISHED visitors from Zanzibar, Mr. Vagas A. Sharif, president of the Supreme Council of H. H. the Aga Khan, and Mr. Goolam Hoosen Hajee Virani, secretary, who are on a tour of the Union, paid a visit to Durban last week accompanied by Mr. Alibhai Velsbi of Pretoria. They were entertained by many friends and institutions including the Orient Club,

They paid a visit to the Phoenix Settlement on Saturday where they lunched with Mr. and Mrs. Gandhi. They proceeded to Capetown on Sunday. The party was also accompanied by Mr. Carim Jooma of Madagascar who is here to ventilate the grievances of the Indians in that French territory and for financial help for the uplift of our brethren.

ACCORDING to a Renter's message, Mrs. Gandhi has been arrested in the village of Ras. When Mahatma Gandhi commenced his fast on September 20, Mrs. Gandhi was in prison at Ahmedabad and was about to complete her term. She was then transferred to Yeravda prison and allowed to be with Mahatma Gandhi during his fast. No sooner the fast was broken Mrs. Gandhi, being still a prisoner, was removed to the female ward. After a day or two her term was over and she was released. Since then Mrs. Gandhi was for some time allowed to be with Mahatma Gandhi during the day time. Later Mrs. Gandhi was engaged in the work of securing entry for untouchables into Gurnavoor temple in Southern India. When the danger of another fast on the part of Mahatma Gandhi had passed, Mrs. Gandhi resumed her activities in connection with the civil disobedience movement with her other co-workers in her usual field in the Surat District. Mrs. Gandhi has been sentenced at the Borsad Police Court to six months' imprisonment and a fine of 500 rupees or six weeks in default.

### INDIANS IN MADAGASCAR

**A**FTER what we have heard and read about the French people having no colour prejudice we were somewhat shocked to hear the tale of woes of eight thousand of our countrymen who have settled in the French territory of Madagascar from Mr. Careem Jooma who has come on a visit to this Union.

From the description given by Mr. Jooma of the restrictions imposed upon Indians in Madagascar, they would appear to be in no way dissimilar to those we are subjected to in this country. We understood from Mr. Jooma that there were very meagre facilities for the education of Indian children in Madagascar, that Indians were prohibited from entering public places such as entertainments, baths, etc. and the most amazing restriction was that an Indian no matter how old a resident he may have been of Madagascar once he left the territory he was not allowed to enter as a domiciled Indian but could enter as a new immigrant after depositing the sum of about £60. Questioned as to the probable reasons for such restrictions imposed upon our people we learnt from Mr. Jooma that these restrictions would be removed if the Indians agreed to become French subjects. Mr. Jooma was not able to give us a very happy account of the social conditions of our people in that territory. He said the people were mostly illiterate; that there was lack of unity among them and their activities were directed more towards material gains than towards the moral upliftment of their brethren. We were able to surmise from that that our brethren in that French territory were suffering from the same disease as we are suffering from in this country and that if anyone is to be blamed for their disabilities, it is not so much the French Government but themselves. Added to these disabilities, we were sorry to learn,

the present world depression has also had its evil effects upon our brethren in that territory.

Our deepest sympathy goes out to our brethren in Madagascar but we must tell them, as we have always been telling our brethren in this country, that outside India we are all known as Indians and not as representing the different sections of our community, and if we at all wish to live happily we must live as Indians and forget entirely our communal differences; that we should be concerned about our moral advancement as much as, if not more than, our material advancement. Otherwise we would very rightly be condemned as parasites. Furthermore, we do not see any harm in our brethren in Madagascar becoming French subjects. We, in this country, are asking for our rights as sons of the soil and as belonging to the land of our adoption. Our brethren in Madagascar should do likewise. We cannot imagine the French people would be as ungenerous to our people as the British are in this country, provided our people themselves have not degenerated. The next course for our friends in Madagascar is, we think, to make representations to H. E. the Aga Khan who is the head of the Indian Overseas Association in London, and, we are sure, with his able assistance they would soon be able to overcome their difficulties.

## Transvaal Asiatic Land Tenure Act

### Commission's Statement

The Transvaal Asiatic Land Tenure Act Commission has issued the following statement for publication:—

The Transvaal Asiatic Land Tenure Act, 1932 (35 of 1932), contains provisions dealing with the position which has arisen in the Transvaal owing to the illegal occupation of proclaimed land by coloured persons contrary to the prohibitions contained in the Gold Law. These prohibitions are, as is well known, comprehensive in their terms, but an exception is made in favour of (a) bona fide servants living on the premises of their employers; and (b) persons living in bazaars or locations on proclaimed land.

By Section 6 (3) of the 1932 Act all coloured persons who were on May 1, 1930, illegally residing on or occupying any proclaimed land were given an opportunity of furnishing the Minister of the Interior, before September 1, 1932, with a written notice giving particulars of such residence or occupation, in accordance with a prescribed form (D.I. 29), and it was provided that persons giving such notice should be entitled to continue such residence or occupation until April 30, 1935.

It was stated on the prescribed form that its completion did not necessarily imply any admission by an applicant that he was illegally occupying or residing upon proclaimed land.

### Penalties

Many coloured persons, as will appear from particulars given below, filled in the form mentioned within the period allowed, and thus obtained protection in their residence or occupation of proclaimed land until April 30, 1935, but many failed to fill in the form, and cannot therefore now obtain that protection, but are subject to penalties prescribed in the Act in the event of their continuing to reside on or occupy proclaimed land.

The whole position is, however, being examined by the Transvaal Asiatic Land Tenure Act Commission, which is required to make recommendations to the Minister as to the exercise by the Minister of the power conferred by the 1932 Act to exempt land from the operation of those provisions of the Gold Law which prohibit occupation of proclaimed land by coloured persons.

In this connection it is impossible for the Commission to recommend the exemption either (a) of an area, e.g., a section of a township, or certain streets or blocks of stands or (b) of a particular stand or site.

The Commission has also to examine individual cases of residence or occupation by coloured persons in areas not recommended for exemption in order to compile a register showing the individuals who are in illegal occupation of proclaimed land.

### Exemption Consideration

In making recommendations as to exemption of areas or sites from the prohibitions against coloured occupation contained in the Gold Law, the Commission is required by its terms of reference to take into account the following considerations: (a) the character of the present coloured occupant, and, in the case of a trader, the nature of his trade; (b) the period during which his occupation has continued; (c) the character of the areas occupied, i.e., whether such areas are already largely occupied by coloured persons or are predominantly European; (d) the wishes of the other occupants in those areas; (e) the hardships which the enforcement of the law would involve.

Before, therefore, the Commission can be in a position to make recommendations as to exemption, either of areas or individual sites, from the prohibitions contained in the Gold Law, it must be in possession of full particulars as to the coloured persons who are residing on or occupying proclaimed land, the sites occupied and the circumstances connected with the occupation.

Many coloured persons who are now residing upon or occupying proclaimed land are, as matters stand, owing to their failure to send in the required notice on form D.I. 29 before December 1, 1932, liable to prosecution under the provisions of the law prohibiting such residence or occupation, but there is still an opportunity for such persons to supply the Commission with particulars of their cases, so that the Commission may be in a position to consider the question of exempting the site occupied or an area including that site.

It is important also that individual coloured persons claiming to be in legal occupation of proclaimed land by reason of the length of time during which such occupation has continued should register their claims with the Commission, so that, if such claims are found to be valid, their rights may be duly recorded on the register which the Commission is required to compile.

In order to obtain the necessary information from coloured persons in occupation of proclaimed land who have not filled in form D.I. 29, the Commission has issued a new form which coloured persons have been asked to complete giving particulars as to such occupation. It is desirable in their own interests that all coloured persons who have not filled in the form D.I. 29, and who wish to remain on sites situated on proclaimed land where they are at present residing, should fill in the Commission's form, and thus give the Commission the information necessary to enable the Commission to give due consideration to their cases.

The figures given below show the present position as to completion by coloured persons of forms giving the necessary particulars as to the occupation of proclaimed land:—

### Statistics

Coloured persons of different classes who completed the form, D.I. 29, prior to September 1, 1932, so as to obtain the protection given by Section 6 of the Act were as follows:—

Traders: Chinese, 85; Indians, 1,229; African coloured, 23; African native, 3; other coloured, 1; total, 1,341.

Residents: Chinese, 65; Indians, 2,702; African coloured, 588; African native, 15; other coloured, 4; total, 3,374.

In addition to the above, 191 forms were received by the Minister of the Interior after September 1, 1932 from the following persons:—

Traders: Chinese, 32; Indians, 11; African coloured, 1; total, 44.

Residents: Indians, 68; African coloured, 79; total, 147.

Further, as the result of a canvass recently made in certain areas, 397 of the forms issued by the Commission have been completed by the following:

Traders: Indian, 4; African coloured, 5; African native, 9; total, 18.

Residents: Chinese, 1; Indians, 20; African coloured, 307; African native, 51, total, 379.

These statistics show that in all 5,303 forms have been received: 4,034 from Indians, 183 from Chinese, 1,003 from the African coloured community, 78 from African natives and 5 from coloured people from other parts of the world.

### The Case Of Natives

It should be noted that, though African natives are covered by the term "Coloured Person" as used in the Gold Law and the 1932 Act, the special provisions affecting natives contained in the Natives (Urban Areas) Act are regarded as rendering it unnecessary to invite natives who reside on proclaimed land to fill in forms, or to include such natives in the register which the Commission is to compile.

According to information available to the Commission as to the numbers of coloured persons of different racial communities who are in occupation of proclaimed land, it would appear, from totals for the different communities given above, that the response from the Asiatic community may be regarded as fairly adequate, the great majority at any rate of the Asiatics concerned having filled in forms supplying the necessary information, but that the response from the South African coloured community has, on the other hand, been quite inadequate, only a small proportion of the South African coloured persons affected by the Commission's inquiry having so far filled in such forms. The Commission's officials have found difficulty in persuading South African coloured persons that it is in their own interests to fill in the Commission's forms, and that they do not thereby prejudice their position on the question of the legality of their occupation, or run the risk of incurring any new liability.

### Europeans Can Help

The Commission is now issuing this explanation and summary of the position with the special purpose of engaging the interest and attention, not only of leaders of the South African coloured community, but also of all Europeans who are in contact with members of that community, in one way or another, and interested in their welfare, whether as ministers of religion, employers of labour or in any other capacity, so that the position may be explained to the rank and file of the coloured community by persons who have their confidence, and on whose advice they are accustomed to rely, and that they may be encouraged to supply the Commission with the information which is necessary in order that their cases may be duly considered,

Forms can be obtained either directly from the Commission's office or from the other places specified in the Commission's advertisements.

## Immigration Amendment Bill

The following Bill to amend the laws relating to Immigration, has been introduced by the Minister of the Interior in the House of Assembly:—

Be it enacted by the King's Most Excellent Majesty, the Senate and the House of Assembly of the Union of South Africa, as follows:—

1. Sections *seventy-three* and *seventy-four* of the Indian Immigration Law, 1891 (Natal) are hereby repealed.
2. The Chinese Exclusion Act, 1904 (Cape of Good Hope) and the Chinese Exclusion Amendment Act, 1906 (Cape of Good Hope), are hereby repealed.
3. Paragraph (h) of section *five* of the Immigrants' Regulation Act, 1913, is hereby deleted.
4. This Act shall be known as the Immigration (Amendment) Act, 1933.

The first section in the Bill refers to the age of contracting parties of the Indian immigrants and their descendants. This is one of the most degrading provisions in the Immigration laws of Natal that is to be repealed. The Minister is to be thanked for having moved for its repeal and thus acceded to the request of the Indian community made through the the Natal Indian Congress.

The sections referred to are as follows:—

### SECTION 73.

In all marriages between Indian Immigrants, hereafter contracted within this Colony before Magistrates or the Protector of Indian Immigrants, the male contracting party shall not be under the age of 16 years and the female shall not be under the age of 13 years, and those ages are hereby fixed, for the purposes of the law, as the period of majority for the male and female respectively.

### SECTION 74.

It shall be lawful for Ministers of the Christian religion or marriage officers competent to solemnise marriages between persons professing the Christian religion, under Ordinance No. 17 of 1846 and Her Majesty's Order in Council therewith made applicable to Natal, to solemnise marriages between Indian Immigrants or their descendants, being of the Christian religion if the male contracting party be not under 16 years of age, and if the female be not under 13 years of age. The Ordinance No 17 of 1846 is hereby amended in any of its provisions which are repugnant to, or inconsistent with, this enactment as to the age of the Indian Immigrants or their descendants of the Christian religion, who may hereafter desire to marry in accordance with Christian ritual. In all other respects, the provisions of that Ordinance shall apply to the marriages of Indian Immigrants or their descendants, being Christians, hereafter solemnised before the said Ministers or marriage officers.

The paragraph (h) of section *five* of the Immigrants' Regulation Act, 1913 referred to in Section 3 of the above Bill reads as follows:—

persons of European descent who are agricultural or domestic servants, skilled artisans, mechanics, workmen or miners, and who have entered the Union under conditions which the Governor-General has approved: Provided that every such person shall produce, if required, a certificate of the person authorised in any country to issue such certificates, to the effect that the intending immigrant has been engaged to serve immediately on his arrival in the Union, an employer of repute at adequate wages and for a period of time to be fixed in the said conditions, not being less than one year:

## Indians In British Guiana

Rabindranath Tagore has received a letter from Mr. F. Kwall, Demara (British Guiana) relating to the condition of Indians there. We extract the following which relates to the illiteracy of Indian children:

In the year 1876, the law of compulsory education was enacted, but it was never put in force so far as East Indian children were concerned, particularly on the sugar plantations where the major portion of East Indians reside. The result is that we find illiteracy amongst the Indian community. Illiterate parents did not realise the usefulness of education and so they did not trouble themselves much in the education of their children. The aftermath is, as already stated, illiteracy amongst the East Indian children, particularly the girls. This backwardness in this cosmopolitan community is very degrading. Our Indian community, which is numerically strong, is 130,540.

Some day we are hoping still that Mother India will send to the colony lady teachers for educational work. If the English and American people are sending missionaries to India to do uplift work, why cannot India do the same on behalf of her own people in this Colony? I make this public appeal that it is the duty of India to look after her children scattered in the world, particularly those in the British Empire. Is there no leader in India who can champion the cause of education in this colony? The time is far overdue. Ninety-four years ago the first batch of Indian immigrants came here under the indenture system which was abolished fifteen years ago, but the question of the education of Indian children remains still in the background.

## News In Brief

The report of the Commissioner for Inland Revenue for the year 1931-1932 laid on the table of the House of Assembly gives some interesting statistics in regard to the wealth of the country. The Rand and its treasures have constituted the milch cow of the Union Government. During 1931-1932 the revenue from mining of all descriptions, plus the Government's receipts in respect of leased gold mines, amounted to £4,509,044, and of this total no less than £3,465,685 came from gold, representing an excess of £104,586 over the corresponding total for the previous year. From the leased gold mines the share of profits accruing to the State was no less a sum than £2,649,609 for the year under notice, divided as follows:—Government Areas, £360,860; Brakpan Mines, £788,312; Springs Mines, £1,500,437. Diamonds contributed in income tax and export duty, £647,209—a terrific drop from the previous year, when this item stood at £1,472,152.

Below are given the taxable incomes of the principal Union centres of population:—

Johannesburg	£14,085,859
Capetown	8,930,088
Durban	5,951,592
Pretoria	3,667,028
Port Elizabeth	2,190,379
Bloemfontein	1,351,689
Maritzburg	1,250,396
Bononi	1,193,594
East London	1,182,487
Germiston	1,175,130

These are all the centres having taxable incomes of over a million; Kimberley just comes under the

million mark with £877,100. Johannesburg ranks the first in the matter of collecting taxes. It has contributed during the year under review £447,667. Durban, the third wealthiest community in South Africa, during the year under review, handed over an amount of £182,232 on income tax account.

In the Union as a whole there are 21 fortunate persons in enjoyment of incomes of over £20,000 per annum. Their names have not been disclosed by the Department of Inland Revenue.

The Natal sugar season, which has just ended, has proved most satisfactory, and the output is, with the exception of the 1930-1931 season, a record for the industry. The total crop this season amounted to 358,905 tons of 2,000lbs., compared with 325,933 tons during 1931-32 and 393,205 tons for the previous season. The export for the season totalled 179,000 tons, which is also the second highest figure on record, the return for the record season of 1930-31 having been 14,000 tons more and that for the last season about 20,000 tons less. All the export sugar with the exception of one small shipment which is just about to leave has been consigned. Canada this season has taken 96,000 tons and the United Kingdom 83,000 tons. There is sufficient sugar available to meet the country's requirements, but judging from the state of the market at present, when the mills start crushing again during next season's operations, the market will, generally speaking, be bare of stocks.

## Bernard Shaw On India

Mr. George Bernard Shaw, accompanied by Mrs. Shaw, touched Bombay last month in the course of his world tour by "Empress of Britain."

Here received a group of pressmen on board the ship. The whole range of subjects from club life to disarmament was covered.

### Not On A Political Tour

Mr. Shaw observed:—"I have been receiving numerous letters and cables asking me to make public speeches. I am not on a political tour of India. It has been suggested that I should make an extensive tour, but on examining the matter, I think I could see hardly anything of real India, excepting the inside of Indian Railway coaches. I believe Indian railway carriages are slightly different from British railway carriages, which are had enough. I shall have just a look in at Bombay and then at Colombo."

Mr. Shaw, continuing, said that probably he might lunch with a few Government people the next day. He was perfectly willing socially to meet any agreeable person, whether Indian or European. "I know several Indians, I don't look at an Indian as a curious sort of person," the dramatist observed.

Talking about India, Mr. Shaw said: Indian affairs will have to be dealt with by Indians, and not by foreigners. They will not succeed by anybody else's efforts. You must not hope for any help from others. If you are in conflict with the British Government, you must not expect that, out of humanitarian enthusiasm, either France, Germany, Scandinavia or the United States will immediately rush to support you. They will do nothing of the

kind. In so far as there is a conflict between your Nationalist movement and the English Government, all the other nations will merely look on. They won't help you in any way. You will have to do the whole thing yourself."

Questioned whether he sympathised with India's national aspirations, Mr. Shaw, shaking his head, with a twinkle in his eyes said: "Ah, I have left my sympathies entirely behind me when I started on my holiday trip. Anybody who has read my books, will be able to guess my views."

### A Marvellous Personality

Asked whether he would visit Mr. Gandhi, Mr. Shaw observed: "Oh, I saw Mr. Gandhi lately in London. I met him on friendly terms. I don't think he wants to be bothered with my visit."

Stroking his beard in a reminiscent mood, Mr. Shaw added: "Mr. Gandhi is a charming man, an exceptionally clear-headed man. I have not seen much of the population in India, but I am sure every man I may see in Bombay, will not be a Gandhi. He is the sort of man, born, perhaps, once in several centuries. A marvellous personality, it is very hard for you to understand him. He gets tired of you so often that he threatens to go on a fast and kill himself. If I see Mr. Gandhi, I would tell him to give them up."

Mr. Shaw was asked: Give whom up?

Mr. Shaw replied: Both the Government and the people. Anyhow, it is very encouraging to know that there is such a person.

### Untouchability In England

"As for untouchability," Mr. Shaw proceeded, "I am more concerned with the English Untouchability. There is a large class of our working people who are treated as untouchables. We have millionaire capitalists. The untouchability problem is very acute in England. The English 'touchable' will not probably object to the shadow of an 'Untouchable' falling on him or her as you do in India, but a storm will be raised if a labourer proposes to marry the daughter of a capitalist. The poor girl would very soon find herself as much 'Untouchable' as the 'Untouchable' in India. This gives me quite a lot to think about, without my tackling the Indian Untouchability question."

### Indo-British Relations

"Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof," remarked Mr. Shaw when he was asked what he thought of the future of the Indo-British relations.

Mr. Shaw proceeded: "I am not going into the future. It is possible, there may not be any relations at all. You cannot foresee the future. Take the British Empire in a lump. England is a very insignificant part of it, so far as numbers go. The population of India is 350 millions. Someone on board told us that it was 350 thousands. We accepted it, and thought it formidable enough. Taking things as a whole, India is the centre of the British Empire. It is in fact the British Empire. It is not a Christian Empire, it is a Hindu and to some extent a Mahomedan Empire. It is quite possible that in future, when the Indian institutions develop and the population is educated, instead of India wanting to separate from England, England may make a desperate struggle to separate from you."

Mr. Shaw was told that there was a great fund of brain power undeveloped in India for lack of opportunity. The dramatist remarked with a twinkle in his eye. "After all, you know brain power may be a mistake. England has got on without any brain power at all."

## Make Public Speeches A Capital Offence

Mr. Shaw continued: "There are certain dangers which I should point out. The first thing you ought to do, if you want self-government is to make public speeches a criminal offence. When you organise yourself, you should avoid talking. If anybody talked, he should be shot down or punished with a capital sentence. Indians have tremendous powers of speaking. They can repeat the whole of the sixteen volumes of Herbert Spencer. It is perfectly awful. The English are herd enough, once they get on their legs, but I have heard in my youth that you have only to touch a Hindu and he will talk. No sensible man ever talks. I know that myself, because I talk too much and do nothing."

### The Irish Problem

The conversation then turned to the Irish problem, which is Mr. Shaw's opinion bore a considerable analogy with India, the only difference being the population. "Ireland," he continued, "is a very insignificant place, but because she is oppressed by England, the world is watching her struggle with interest. As long as there is a Nationalist movement fighting against foreign domination, Liberals in other countries would sympathise with you. The moment you become independent, nobody is interested in you. No more does the Chinaman ask me about Ireland and her future."

In reply to a suggestion that India would be satisfied with Dominion status, the same as Canada and Australia, Mr. Shaw remarked after a moment's thinking: "Well, Dominion status is a rather elastic term. Canada and Australia are content with Dominion status. But the question is how long England will remain with these Dominions. Look at the conference they called the other day at Ottawa. You have the English Government going and meeting all her Dominions magnanimously. The moment they got there, the Dominions turned on England like a pack of dogs, and worried and bullied her. You must get rid of these romantic traditions."

### Produce Half-A-Dozen Mussolinis

Q.—What do you mean by romantic traditions?

A.—Well, you know better. I mean, the old traditions of liberty. In these so-called democratic countries like England and America, no statesmen are really responsible. There is only one responsible statesman in Europe, that is Mussolini. If anything happened in Italy, he could be held responsible. But in England, none could be held responsible. India should produce half a dozen Mussolinis,

### England In A Mess

Q.—What is your view of the political situation in England?

A.—Hopeless. England is in a mess, as she has always been. It is a miracle she is still surviving. The great question is whether man as a political animal is capable of solving the problem which you call civilisation. That raises the very important question, whether the present civilisation is of benefit to mankind or is merely a disease.

Q.—What in your view is the future of the present civilisation?

A.—I am not a prophet. Prophets are the monopoly of India.

Several pressmen asked Mr. Shaw if he thought Civil Disobedience was the moral equivalent of war?

Mr. Shaw observed: "Civil Disobedience is a purely Indian question. All questions of obedience are largely questions of how long a people will obey."

### The Next War

The talk then again turned on international problems. Discussing the prospect of the next war, Mr. Shaw said that "if it came, it would have the advantage of wiping out several millions. War is a thing people get enthusiastic about. It is a curious thing that people whom you admire most are people who kill most. One reason why people do not listen to me or Mr. Gandhi is we have not killed anybody. If Mr. Gandhi were to kill six million people, he will at once become a great hero."

Q.—What do you think of disarmament?

A.—It is all nonsense. If you disarm a people, they will fight with bare fists. If you disarm them, they will arm themselves as soon as war breaks out. England was unprepared at the beginning of the last war. She mobilised her forces in no time. You must remember, in the old days, wars were fought in trenches, but at present the civil population is bombarded from the air. I cannot say whether the present civilisation has advanced or diminished the prospect of the next war.

Mr. Shaw was told that the proportion of the enlightened people in Bombay, though not very large, counted.

Mr. Bernard Shaw observed: "The proportion of enlightened people in England is three per cent. and they do not count at all."

### Mr. Shaw On Clubs

When the Mysore ex-Dewan invited the dramatist to the Willingdon Club, the best one in Bombay, Mr. Shaw remarked: Oh, a club is nothing. The best club in England is one every sensible man keeps away from."

At the end of the conversation, Mr. Shaw shook hands with these present and posed for a photograph amidst Pressmen.

It is learnt, while going to Press, that chances of a Coalition being formed by the Union Government are once more in the horizon. Mr. Tielman Roos has made a statement in Johannesburg that a Coalition will be an accomplished fact within a few days and that there would be a General Election in the near future. He intimated that the Nationalist Party had, by an almost unanimous vote, authorised the Prime Minister to work for a Coalition and negotiations were proceeding in Capetown.

## 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 3566.

# ઈન્ડિઅન ઓપિનિઅન.

પુસ્તક ૩૧ મું.

શીનીકસ, શુક્રવાર, તારીખ ૧૦ ફેબ્રુવારી ૧૯૩૩

અંક ૬

## નોંધ અને સમાચાર

### રેલવેખાતાના પ્રધાનનું અવસાન

યુનીયનના રેલવેખાતાના પ્રધાન મી. સી. ડબ્લ્યુ. મલાનનું કેપટાઉનની વોલક હોસ્પિટલમાં પેટના ઓપરેશન બદ ગયા સોમવારનાં પરોડીયામાં ૫૦ વર્ષની વયે અણચિંતવ્યું અવસાન થયું છે. ગયા શુક્રવારે તે તે સાળ તાળ હતા અને પુર્ણ ઉત્સાહથી પાલમિન્ટના કામમાં લાગ લાગ રહ્યા હતા. રવી વારની રાતથી અચાનક પેટમાં અસહ્ય દરદ શરૂ થયું અને તાત્કાલિક ઓપરેશન કરવાની જરૂર પડી. ઓપરેશન પણ કંતેહમંદ રીતે પાર પડ્યું પણ પાછળથી છાતીના ધબકારા અચાનક બંધ પડી ગયા. ૧૯૧૫ ની સાલથી મી. મલાને રાજદારી ક્ષેત્રમાં અંબલાવ્યું હતું અને ૧૯૨૪ ની સાલથી તે રેલવેખાતાના પ્રધાન નીભાયા હતા. તે પોતે ચુરત નેશનલીસ્ટ હતા જ્યારે તેમના મોટા ભાઈ સેનેટર એફ. એસ. મલાન કેપ્ટની સા. આ. પાર્ટીના લીડર છે. બંને ભાઈઓના મતમાં પુર્ણ અને પશ્ચિમનું અંતર છતાં ખાનગી જીવનમાં એકબી. હાંદી અને તે પણ હાંદી સમાજમાં આપું ઓછું જોવામાં આવે! મી. મલાનનું આ દેશના ઇતિહાસમાં આવા કટોકટીના સમયમાં અવસાન થવાથી હાલની સરકારને ભારે ખોટ થઇ છે. 'પાલમિન્ટનું' કામ ચાલી રહ્યું હોય તેજ સમયે એક પ્રધાનનું અવસાન થવાનો બનાવ યુનીયન સ્થપાયો બાદ આ પહેલવહેલો બનેલો છે. જે કે રેલવેખાતામાં મી. મલાનની ગોરી મજૂરીની નીતીથી હાંદીઓને ધણુંજ નુકસાન પહોંચ્યું છે છતાં હાંદી કોમમાંથી પણ જેઓ તેમના સંબંધમાં આવેલા છે અથવા તેમની પ્રવૃત્તિઓ વિશે વાંચેલું છે તેઓ તેમના વ્યક્તિત્વથી અંબલા છે. જનરલ સ્મટ્સે તેમની પ્રશંસા કરતાં જણાવ્યું છે કે, "તેમનાં અવસાનથી દેશને, પાલમિન્ટને અને નેશનલીસ્ટ પાર્ટીને ખોટ થઇ છે. દરેકને એ ખબરથી આઘાત થયો છે પરંતુ જેઓ તેમને ઓળખતા હતા તેઓ તેમને લાંબા વખત સુધી એક મીત્ર તરીકે યાદ કરશે." દેશના શોકમાં તેમજ દુઃખી થયેલા મરહુમનાં કુટુંબીજનો પ્રત્યે દેશની દિલસોજીમાં અમે અંતઃકરણથી સામેલ થઇએ છીએ.

### ટ્રાંસવાલ ઇન્ડિઅન કોંગ્રેસની દિલસોજી

ટ્રાંસવાલ ઇન્ડિઅન કોંગ્રેસે વડા પ્રધાન અને મીસીસ સી. ડબ્લ્યુ. મલાનપર દિલાસોજીના સંદેશા મોકલ્યા છે. વડા પ્રધાનનાં સંદેશામાં કોંગ્રેસે મી. મલાનના અણચિંતવ્યાં અવસાનથી દેશને અને પ્રધાનમંડળને થયેલી ભારે ખોટ માટે લડી દિલસોજી કરવાની છે.

### ચીનાઓને ખાસ હુકો?

૧૦,૦૦૦ યુરોપીયનો, જેઓમાં વેપારી, શરાષ્ટ્રી અને ઉદ્યોગ ખાતાના લોકોનો સમાવેશ થાય છે અને જેઓ જોહાનીસબર્ગ માં વોટર તરીકે નોંધાયેલા છે તેઓની સહી સાથેનું ચીનાઓના હકોની અને "એશીયાટીક" શબ્દ તેઓને લાયક નહિ પાડવાની માગણી કરનાર એક પીટીશન ચાલુ અઠવાડિયાની આખરીએ પાલમિન્ટના સભ્યો સમક્ષ અને મુખ્યત્વે કરી મુદ્દી પ્રધાન ડો. મલાનની સમક્ષ રજૂ કરવામાં આવનાર છે. ચામનીઝ એસોસીએશનની એક્ટ્રેક્યુટીવ કાઉન્સિલના પ્રમુખ મી. હોકોંગ મંગળવારની રાતે તે અંથે કેપટાઉન ઉપડી ગયાં છે. પીટીશન માં ટ્રાંસવાલમાં ચીનાઓપર પડતી હાડમારીઓ વિશે અને ૧૯૩૨ ના એશીયાટીક લેન્ડ ટેન્યુર એક્ટ પસાર થવાથી વધુ પડનારી હાડમારીઓ વિશે જણાવવામાં આવ્યું છે. ચીન એશીયાઇ જતીના છે એ હકીકત તો ખોટી કરી શકતીજ નથી અને જે તેઓને ખાસ હુકો આપવામાં આવે તો તેઓની પાછળ બળ રહ્યું છે તેનેજ પ્રતાપ ગણાશે. અમારા ચીના મિત્રોએ લેન્ડ ટેન્યુર એક્ટની રૂએ બરવાના ફોર્મો, માત્ર થોડાકજ અપવાદ સિવાય, લખ્યાં નથી અને મક્કમ રહ્યા છે તેને માટે અમે તેઓને અંતઃકરણથી અભિનંદન આપીએ છીએ. અમારા જે ભાઈઓએ પોતાના સ્વમાન અને પોતાના દેશનાં માનઆજરનો ખ્યામલ કર્યાં સિવાય અમારી અનેક ચેતવણીઓને ઠોડર મારીને હાંદી સરકારના એજન્ટથી દોરવાઇ જઇ ફોર્મો લરી દીધેલાં છે તેઓને માટે અમને ખેદ થાય છે. તેઓના પાપોનાં ફળો તેઓ હજી હવે પછી ભોગવશે.

### જંગલારના મહેમંદો

ના. આગાખાનની સુપ્રીમ કાઉન્સિલના પ્રમુખ શ્રીયુત વરાસ અખદુલા શરીફ અને સેક્રટરી શ્રીયુત ગુલામ હુસેન હાજી વીગની જેઓ જંગલારથી યુનીયનની મુલાકાતે પધાર્યાં છે તેઓ ગયે અઠવાડિયે પ્રીટોરીના શ્રીયુત અલીમાઇ વેલશીની સાથે ડરબન આવ્યા હતા. ડરબનમાં ધણા ભાઈઓ તરફથી તેમજ સંસ્થાઓ તરફથી તેમને સત્કાર થયો હતો. ચોરીયન્ટ કલબ તરફથી તેઓને ખાણું આપવામાં આવ્યું હતું. તેઓએ શીનીકસ સંસ્થાની પણ મુલાકાત લીધી હતી અને મી. અને મીસીસ ગાંધીને લાં લંચ લીધું હતું. તેઓ હવે કેપટાઉન મયા છે અને લાંથી જોહાનીસબર્ગ જઇ ડેલાગોઆએ જશે અને ત્યાંથી પાછા જંગલાર જશે. તેઓની સાથે માડાગરકરના શ્રીયુત કરીમ જુમા પણ હતા જેઓ એ ફેંચ પ્રદેશમાં વસતા હાંદી ભાઈઓની હાડમારીઓની જાણ કરવા અને હાંદીભાઈઓનાં ઉન્નતિને માટે નાણામહંદ લેવા અત્રે પધાર્યાં છે.