

# Indian Opinion

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## Notes and News

### Swami Adhyanand

WE WELCOME to the Union Swami Adhyanand, head of the Singapore Hindu centre, who has arrived in Johannesburg last Thursday. The Swami who has come to this country under the aegis of Transvaal Hindu Seva Samaj is a member of the brotherhood founded by Swami Vivekanada for the purpose of making known to the world the beauties of the Hindu religion and philosophy. The mission is manned by highly trained men who, in addition to having a thorough knowledge of the Hindu religion, are graduates of Indian universities. The object of the Hindu Seva Samaj, a body which has been recently formed for the purpose of social, a moral and religious upliftment of the Hindus, in bringing out the Swami to South Africa is that they should have the best that is in their religion imparted to their own people and also that this country may have an opportunity of knowing something of the cultural and religious background of Indians who have made the Union their permanent home. We sincerely hope that the Swami's visit will be enjoyable to him and profitable not only to the Indian community but to the people of South Africa.

### Mr. Tielman Roos' Outburst

SPEAKING at a meeting in Pretoria Mr. Tielman Roos, former Minister of Justice, advocated the boycott of Asiatic traders. "These Asiatics," he said, should be allowed to trade with their own people only." But what was more amusing was that he expressed surprise that the Agent-General of India and his wife were allowed publicly to criticise Union conditions. "If these "ambassadors" of India had any complaint to make they should do it to the Government and not in public," said Mr. Roos. Mr. Roos' protest amounts to an admission that there

is something wrong in Union conditions. Otherwise there is no reason why he should be so afraid of them being publicly criticised.

### Asiatic Trading In Lichtenburg

MR. B. L. LEVI again met the Lichtenburg Town Council at the ordinary meeting in regard to his application for a general dealer's licence for Mr. Moooa (London House) which was recently refused. So far as the latter was concerned, he said that a lease had been entered into with the original holder of the licence, who recently died and that it was for a period of nine years and 11 months. Mr. Moooa now had about £3,000 worth of stock, and if the licence was not granted he would probably become bankrupt. Dr. Olen gave notice of motion to reconsider the application after a fortnight had elapsed.

### Condition Of Repatriates

MR. P. B. SINGH in a cable message from Bombay received by Mr. A. Christopher states that the condition of repatriates is extremely deplorable. Hundreds are starving and are homeless and without employment. Extensive propaganda to prevent further repatriation he says is imperative.

### Earthquake In India

ACCORDING to the latest messages in connection with the recent earthquake in India the deathroll has reached to 60,040. Widespread damage to the houses and crops is caused. Bihar has been the greatest sufferer where the damage is estimated at many crores of rupees. The damage to Government buildings in Bihar and Orissa alone is stated to amount to £1,500,000. The damage to private property was many times greater. Most of the sufferers are too poor to rebuild their homes without help.

### Viceroy's Relief Funds

IN BRITAIN the High Commissioner for India is receiving contributions towards a fund started by the Viceroy at the request of the Secretary for India, and the Lord Mayor of London is cooperating. According to a later message from New Delhi, the Viceroy's Fund now totals £40,000, but official quarters say that still larger funds are needed if the stricken population is to be permanently rehabilitated. A high official in Bihar says many crores of rupees will be necessary to restore economic life in that Province alone. Torrential rain is falling in Muzaffarpur and thousands of people rendered homeless by the earthquake are now lying drenched on the sides of the roads without shelter.

### New Indian Market

THE New Indian Market at Warwick Avenue was officially opened by the Deputy Mayor, Mr. S. K. Elgie on Wednesday afternoon Jan. 31. This puts an end now to the old street market in Victoria Street. The new market has been built at an expense of £13,848. Mr. Elgie in declaring the market open said he wished the stall-holders every success in their trading activities. The new market was a credit to Durban, and the tenants were to be congratulated on the facilities placed at their disposal. Mr. Elgie was welcomed by officials of the Natal Indian Farmer's Association.

## THE AGENT

THIS is the first time in the history of the Agency of the Government of India in this country that a long list of the Agent's achievements has had to be flashed out. The *Natal Advertiser* has published the list together with a leading article two columns long in support of the Agent. Whoever is responsible for having claimed for the Agent the long list of his successes has failed to use his sense of judgment. We do not begrudge the Agent having all the credit claimed for him. But the present circumstances when the whole atmosphere is clogged with misrepresentations it becomes our painful duty to point out to facts even at the risk of being charged with discourtesy to the Agent.

The fact that H. E. the Governor-General has accepted an invitation to an "at home" to be given by the Natal Indian Congress at the request of the Agent of the Government of India is stated to be an indication of the valuable work the Agent has done in the direction of creating closer contact between the Indian community and the Europeans. This appears to us to be an exaggeration. Whilst this will be the first occasion no doubt when His Excellency will be attending a purely Indian function he has attended various non-European functions such as Native and Coloured functions. The reason why an occasion of attending an Indian function has hitherto never arisen is simply because Indians have always stood for equality and fought consistently against segregation. If they would have accepted segregation His Excellency would have been in duty bound not to neglect giving an opportunity to Indians as a separate section of the population to express their loyalty to him.

Similarly the "at home" to be given to Prince George by the Natal Indian Congress—which appears very strangely to have been missed out in the list of the Agent's successes—might also be described as an indication of closer contact between the Indian community and the Europeans. But here too we must point out that the Congress has never in the past agreed to a separate function on the grounds of their race or colour. The present is a clear change of front on the part of the Congress—a backward step. For during the visit of H. R. H. the Prince of Wales it took up quite a different attitude of launching a boycott campaign on the very grounds of being segregated.

To go a little further it might be suggested that the presence of the Agent being tolerated in the European residential area in the Transvaal, for it is prohibited by law, was also an indication of a closer contact between Indians and Europeans, which would be entirely untrue.

We do not subscribe to the view that through the efforts of the Agent Indians have been given a channel of approach to the Government. It would be unfair to suggest that the Government was ever unapproachable to any section of its community. Before the advent of the Agency the Indian community had always been able to approach through its representatives the highest authorities of the Union and there have been recent cases where they have been able to do so even in the presence of the

Agent in this country without his aid and have succeeded in getting relief. If anything, the presence of the Agent might very possibly prove an impediment in this, for he being a person of high standing and authority the Government would be more inclined to be guided by what he may say or do.

With regard to the Union Government agreeing to afford relief to Indians unemployed it must be pointed out that the Sir Kurma Reddi Relief Committee had made great efforts at the time and it was very greatly due to the sympathy evinced and the firm stand taken by the then Mayor, the late Rev. A. Lamont and other Councillors that relief was granted to about 300 Indians which of course barely touches the fringe of that problem. In so far as the Agent is concerned the members of the Sir Kurma Reddi Relief Committee approached him on the question and he was loath to do anything in the matter in view of the adamant attitude shown by the Minister of Labour and it was only when the members were agitated and threatened to stir up India if no relief was granted that the Agent intervened and the Government decided to grant a subsidy of half the wage. Be it remembered, however, that the Durban Town Council under the present Mayor has now reduced the grudgingly given wage of 3s. per day to 2s.

With regard to the increase of a hundred pounds in the annual grant for Indian technical education classes in Durban, Mr. Narbeth, the then Principal of the Technical College, had taken a keen interest in the working of the above classes and had submitted a very favourable report to the present Minister of the Interior Mr. J. H. Hofmeyr, who is perhaps the most sympathetic and broadminded Minister we have ever had in this country and is a great educationist. The Agent's recommendation in addition is no doubt to some extent responsible for the above increase in the grant of £250 which the Indian technical education committee had earned independently by its own efforts.

With regard to the reduction in the deposit taken by the Immigration authorities from Indian students proceeding to Fort Hare College, such students were treated like those who went on a temporary visit to another Province and the sum of £10 was taken from them. This sum was reduced in the case of all who wished to take out temporary permits to visit another Province, after the passing of the Immigration Act of 1927, to £2, plus a fee of 2s. 6d. but £3 were collected from students proceeding to Fort Hare College long before the advent of the present Agent, who has now succeeded in getting the deposit reduced to £1. It might be said, however, that these boys are South African born Indians and there is no justification in taking any deposit from them at all.

With regard to the Springs, Roodepoort and Krugersdorp Municipalities agreeing not to take action against Indians in illegal occupation until the Asiatic Land Tenure Act Commission had reported it should be remembered that the Congress had then passed a resolution condemning the Act and to offer resistance. It was entirely improper for the Councils to enforce the Act when a Commission was

sitting. But the fact was that pressure was brought upon the Agent by the then Congress officials who threatened to put their resolution of resistance into effect unless the Municipalities concerned stayed their hands pending the result of the Commission.

In licensing matters which is about the most important in the Transvaal the Agent has been able to afford no relief at all and now the admitting of respectable Indians in the railway dining cars at the discretion of the chief steward after the "close" of the service to Europeans could be described as an illustration of the improvement in the status of Indians passes our comprehension. Whoever is responsible for quoting this as an illustration of the improved status of the Indians has, in our humble opinion, no sense whatever of what status means. If this is to be taken as a criterion of what is in store for us and if the Congress is a party to it, it is ample proof that the Congress is no longer what it was in the past and the tendency is not to raise the community upwards but to drag it downwards.

We do not for a moment deny that the Agent is a power in this country. He is sure to be when he is a Government official. But the above criticism will show that the part he has played in getting the trifling concessions, if concessions they could be called, for Indians he would never have played unless pressure was brought forth by the community. It is questionable at any rate in view of the above whether the Agency is really not too expensive for its worth, and it is certainly very harmful when it is inclined to be partial.

We can honestly say that we do not delight in criticising or embarrassing the Agent. As we have made it quite clear we have nothing against Kharwar Sir Maharaj Singh in his personal capacity. But as Agent of the Government of India and as leader of the people it has been our bitter experience that he is not carrying out his responsibilities as he should in the interests of the community as a whole. Though we disagreed with Mr. Sastri in many things we had no occasion to criticise him nor even Sir Kurma Reddi as we are having to do the present Agent. Nor do we know that either Mr. Sastri or Sir Kurma had to go from this country wounded as our afternoon contemporary suggests. It is true that the Congress officials did make an unbecoming and unjustifiable attack on Sir Kurma Reddi at their Conference in Capetown just because Sir Kurma accepted an invitation of a body that was not with the Congress. Why they did not do the same thing with the present Agent when he actually recognised and worked with another body known as the Transvaal Indian Commercial Association is indeed a mystery to us.

It is not too late even now for the Agent to handle the situation with tact, which we have no doubt he is not lacking in, and thus regain the confidence of the people. Should he do that no one would be more pleased than ourselves to welcome such a step.

## PRINCE GEORGE'S VISIT

THE forthcoming visit of Prince George has created a great deal of commotion in the Indian community. There is no doubt that every section of the community is anxious to have an opportunity of expressing their loyalty to the Prince. "It is up to all those who are responsible for the arrangements to celebrate the occasion to see to it that no section is left grieved. In so far as Indians in Natal are concerned, however, we regret to have to say that things are far from being satisfactory, if, as it is believed, the Agent is responsible for the arrangements we regret to have to say that he has not acted wisely. Being fully aware of the strong opposition to the Congress, out of loyalty for the Prince at least, the Agent should have consulted both the parties and tried to find out a way by which each section would have been contented and no one would have had any cause for complaint. The Agent however did not take that course. From reports appearing in the daily papers it was learnt that the Agent approached the Prime Minister and requested him that the Natal Indian Congress would like to give an "at home" to the Prince in order to meet the leaders. The Prime Minister's secretary thereupon advised the Durban Town Council to include, if possible, in its programme an "at home" to be given by the Congress. The Agent could never have taken the step he did had he not been approached by the Congress. When this news came the Colonial Born and Settlers Indian Association made an application to the Town Clerk for celebrations in the Albert Park so as to give an opportunity to the masses to greet the Prince. This application was made on Jan. 6 and Mr. Christopher, president of the Association, and Mr. Pather interviewed the Mayor and explained to him the situation. The Mayor then expressed his sympathy but said he was helpless in the matter as he had definite instructions from the Prime Minister to get in touch with the Congress officials. He however suggested that the Association should state the matter to the Prime Minister and that he would have no objection to meeting the wishes of the Association should the reply from the Prime Minister be favourable. Mr. Christopher got in telegraphic communication with the Prime Minister's office which in reply stated that the arrangements of the programme were in the hands of the Town Council and that the Mayor had full discretion. On this fact being brought to his notice the Mayor said he could do nothing and that both the "at home" and the Albert Park celebrations were given in the hands of the Congress. On our representative trying to get an interview with the Mayor the interview was first refused but later granted when it was pointed out that it was the desire to get first-hand information. The only information our representative was able to elicit from the Mayor who was most uncommunicative was that "by suggestions that had been made from time to time by people in authority" it was his intention in view of these suggestions to recognise the Natal Indian Congress. That it had been definitely given to him as correct that the Natal Indian Congress represented all sections of the Indian community in Natal and that there was no purpose, therefore, in

negotiating with any other body. It may be mentioned here that while an application for the Albert Park celebrations was made by the Association on Jan. 6 no application whatsoever was made by the Natal Indian Congress excepting of course, for the "at home" through the Agent from Johannesburg until Jan. 9 and even in that application there was no mention either of the "at home" nor of Albert Park celebrations. On this fact being brought to the notice of the private secretary of the Mayor our representative was informed that Messrs Rustonjee and Kaje were in telegraphic communication with the Mayor from Capetown, which was a very strange thing, in view of the fact that neither of them held any official position in the Natal Indian Congress. This was, however, sufficient to show what elements were at work and with what methods. This is by the way.

Now the Mayor knew distinctly that there was a sharp division in the community and that the Association had a large following that formed part of the burghers. In view of that fact and in view of the fact that a free hand was given him by the Prime Minister the Mayor's position was quite clear. He was the chief citizen and it was his business to see that no section of the burghers was left out unrepresented. He did not recognise any body among the other sections of the burghers and there was no reason why he should recognise any one body among the Indians. He could have appointed an independent sub-committee to be in charge of Indian celebrations. He was however obviously influenced by those who were handling the Congress affairs. On the other hand we deeply deplore the utter pettiness of those who are working for the Congress. They need not have begrudged the Association taking charge of the celebrations at the Albert Park when they had charge of the "at home" which they had asked for. But these friends of ours, we have reason to believe, have not so much the keen desire of expressing their loyalty to Prince George but they have made this as also the "at home" to be given to H.E. the Governor-General a means to get recognition for the Congress whose influence among the people is waning. It is evidently felt that such "shows" will bring back to them the lost confidence of the people, and we are sore at heart to have to say that the Agent who should be above such things is a party to it. But will the desired purpose be achieved by such methods? We have strong doubts about it. And if it is it will only be for a time. It will not last long. Such methods, in our opinion, will only tend to widen the gulf in the community whereas just a little tolerance might have brought about good results. It would at least have done no harm to anyone. It is not yet too late. Will not those who are working for the Congress come to reason or the Mayor do his duty by the burghers?

## EARTHQUAKE CALMITY AND OUR DUTY

THE heart of every Indian must go out to the suffering humanity in Bihar and other parts of India as a result of the unprecedented earthquake just a few days ago. Whatever may be our troubles in this country either as a result of harsh laws or the harsh administration of existing laws or as a result of unscrupulous methods of the autocrats amongst us who, in the madness of their power, have forgotten their true sense of duty to their brethren, that should not make us entirely blind to the untold sufferings our people in India are having to undergo by the wrath of Nature. It is learnt from the meagre reports received in this country that crores of rupees will be necessary to restore economic life in Bihar itself where thousands of people are rendered homeless. Whatever we may be able to send from this part of the world will be but a drop in the ocean but it will be an act of goodwill on our part to our distressed brethren. The so called leaders of our community are engaged at the present time, we are told, in collecting the sum of £500 for a banquet to be given to Prince George—or is it for re-establishing the lost prestige of the Congress? Squandering money will assuredly not bring back the lost prestige nor will it represent in any way their true loyalty to Prince George. True loyalty is in trying to become loyal citizens which you cannot be unless you are loyal to your own conscience. We wish that South African Indians will not be backward in doing their bit for their suffering brethren in India.

Since the above was in print a Renter's message was received stating that Mahatma Gandhi has issued an appeal to Indians and non-Indian friends throughout the world, particularly in Britain, Africa, America and Japan, to contribute towards a fund for the reconstruction of Bihar. In view of the fact that the Viceroy has opened a fund and the Lord Mayor of London has responded it is to be hoped that the Union of South Africa will also rise to the occasion.

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### Fountain Of Wisdom

—Money lost, nothing lost, courage lost, much lost, honour lost, more lost, soul lost, all lost.—DUTCH PROVERB.

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## 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, Indian Sports Ground, Durban.

## The Agent's Achievements

The following is reproduced from the *Natal Advertiser* dated Jan. 29:—

For the first time since his appointment to office, the Governor-General (Lord Clarendon) has accepted an invitation to an "at home" in Durban, to be given to him by the Natal Indian Congress. The Governor-General has so far never attended any Indian function and has accepted the invitation mentioned at the request of the Agent of the Government of India in South Africa, Kunwar Sir Maharaj Singh.

It is an indication of the valuable work the Agent has done in the direction of creating closer contact between the Indian community and the Europeans. The work forms an important side of the tasks accomplished by the Agent almost day by day, the nature of which is little realised by the general body of public opinion, European or Indian.

A survey of this work reveals that the establishment of the office has been of inestimable value to the Indian community and, through the efforts especially of Kunwar Sir Maharaj Singh, has given them a channel of approach to the Government. It was in response to the Agent's repeated appeals and interviews with Ministers that the Union Government agreed to subsidise the employment of Indians up to the number of 600, the Government's contribution being half the wages cost. The Durban Corporation agreed to give relief work to 300 in February last year and has since found work for this number at a wage of 3s. per day.

The Maritzburg municipality has also employed 50 Indians on the same terms, while in response to persistent appeals by the Agent the Union Government increased in 1933 their annual grant for Indian technical education classes in Durban from £250, to £350. In education and social work the efforts of the Agency have resulted in many reforms and extra facilities in both Natal and the Transvaal.

In some quarters the criticism has been made that the Agency is of no immediate benefit to poorer Indians but actually, directly and indirectly, it has been of the greatest value. Not only does this apply to matters of broad policy, but also in matters of detail such as the deposit of £5 and a fee of £1 demanded from Indian students proceeding to Fort Hare College. The intervention of the Agency secured a reduction to a deposit of £1 and a fee of 2s. 6d.

The building of a Government Indian School in Estcourt was sanctioned a long time ago by the Natal Provincial Administration. No action, however, was taken till the Agent pressed in August, 1933, for an early fulfilment of the Administration's promise. As a result, funds have been provided and the construction of the school in 1934 is expected.

### In The Transvaal

In the Transvaal, as a direct result of the Agent's representations, the Springs and Roodspoort municipalities agreed in 1933 not to take action against Indians in illegal occupation until the Asiatic Land Tenure Act Commission had reported. After great pressure had been brought to bear on them, the Krugersdorp Council also agreed to the same course. Representations from the Agency helped to secure a better scale of pay for Indian teachers who had taken the T2 certificate.

A grant of £500 was made for the improvement of Springs Location after a personal visit in March, 1933, to Springs by the Agent and an interview with Mr. Sutter, the Deputy Mayor. Some improvement in roads has been made in the unsatisfactory Benoni Asiatic Location since the Agent addressed a large meeting of Europeans there in January, 1933, presided over by the Mayor. After more than one interview between the Agent and the Administrator and the Pretoria municipality a site has been provided in the Asiatic bazaar for a much-needed Indian school in Pretoria, which, the Agent was informed, will be built in 1934.

In his immediate contact with the Government the Agent has been able to serve the Indian community in a way which otherwise would have been barred against them. He has secured licences when licences have been refused by licensing authorities, special consideration for Indian residents wishing to bring their parents to the country for a visit, the setting aside of a deportation order; and he has brought Ministers of Government into direct touch with Indian conditions.

### Indian Disabilities

The Minister of the Interior, Mr. J. H. Hofmeyr, accompanied the Agent at the latter's request to the Boksburg Asiatic Bazaar on Wednesday, December 20, 1933. This was the first occasion on which Mr. Hofmeyr had been to an Indian location. Shortly after his visit Mr. Hofmeyr wrote a letter dated December 29, 1933, to the Agent stating, *inter alia*, that he accepted as a function of his department that it should use its influence as well as such powers as the law lays down to secure an improvement of living conditions in Asiatic Bazaars.

He also stated that he had given instructions to the Commissioner for Immigration and Asiatic Affairs to take the initiative in investigating conditions in the various bazaars and, where such conditions are found to be unsatisfactory, to take such action as may be necessary and practicable to secure an improvement.

Mr. Hofmeyr added that where necessary he was prepared to use his personal influence with local authorities in exceptional cases to secure essential improvements. Further, he was prepared to discuss with the Agent, though he could not commit himself, the question of the grant of dominion to residents in Asiatic bazaars after he had received the report of the Asiatic Land Tenure Act Commission.

The Director of Education, Transvaal, promised the Agent in December last, to make provision in Johannesburg in 1934 for secondary education for Indians. Hitherto primary education only was provided for Indians.

There are numerous other instances where, though the assistance secured or facility obtained may not have been of great importance in itself but has yet been of the greatest significance in the illustration they give of the steady growth and improvement in the status of Indians that the Agent has been able to secure. After, for example, personal representations made by the Agent in May, 1933, the general manager of railways issued instructions in July, 1933, that respectable Indians are to be admitted to the railway dining cars at the discretion of the chief steward after the close of the service to Europeans.

[The above subject is dealt with editorially in the present issue.—Ed: I.O.]

## Current Topics

### COMMENTS AND CRITICISMS

(By BHUSMANOOR)

#### The Passing Show

The Indian community to-day is engaged in concentrating all its thoughts and energy on the Passing Show, on the shadow not the substance, demanding at what a sacrifice, to be admitted in the mythical hall of fame which is but a passing show lasting the twinkling of an eye. Is it to be blamed? No, it is being led by those autocratic wiseacres who have their own axes to grind. Seldom have I seen such sharp division between those actors who in the past laboured for love, sacrificed not for pride or self but to uplift their fellowmen from the cruel and degrading position they are in. To-day it is all changed, the apple of discord is thrown and they are at sixes and sevens. The captains are devising ways and means to come to grips and at what a sacrifice? I hope they know where all this would end. The enemy is at the door; the right to live as civilised beings is denied to us and yet we are quarrelling over a mess of pottage. Could not the leaders see this? Why, then, make a mountain of a mole-hill? I trust that a little of common sense, which is not a rare commodity among Indians, is fitted before falling a prey to any passing shows.

#### Mayor's Highhandedness

The Mayor in his wisdom, which the people think is highhandedness, has decreed that the Congress would have the sole right of arranging the two functions in honour of Prince George. This in spite of representations made to him by the leaders of the O.B. and S.I. Association. He knows the existence of the Association. He knows that application was made by them to the Town Clerk. He knows that the Association represents the majority of the ratepayers, yet he turns a cold shoulder to them because someone in "authority" has asked him to recognise the Congress. Who is this someone in "authority"? He would not say. The reply to Mr. Christopher from the Prime Minister's office is to the effect that the Mayor has the discretion to arrange for the welcome of the Prince with the Indian community. Has he done this, knowing well there are two bodies claiming to represent the people? Does he not know that the Indians like other sections wish to show their loyalty to the Prince under their own banners? If so, is the Mayor encouraging them by his present action? It is not late even now for the Mayor to divide the two functions among the two bodies, let the Indians adopt some other measures which may not be pleasing to our chief citizen.

#### Agent's Achievements

The achievements of the Agent of the Government of India in South Africa are being broadcast through the different newspapers. It seems strange that all the credit is being given to the Agent and none to the Congress or O.B. and S.I. Association, of course, the latter body has only recently come into existence, but the Congress, which has not since 1914 made representations on the achievements of the Agent. The following are the items of achievements: Relief work given to 300 by the Durban Corporation at 7/- per day now reduced to 2/-; increase of £100 a year for technical classes in Durban; repeal of certain obsolete marriage laws; deposits reduced for students proceeding to Fort Hare; construction of the school at Estcourt, which was sanctioned; is now expected; action against illegal occupation in Springs; Road, port and Kruger's dam will not be taken until the Land Tenure Act Commission has reported; better pay for T2 teachers;

improvement to Springs location sanctioned; a portion of expenses given to a new ward in Pretoria hospital and a clinic taken over by Pretoria Council. All the above are claimed as the achievements in the last fifteen months by the Agent. Needless for me to state that at this rate of progress it is doubtful whether the office of the Agency is essential in this country.

#### Lift The Barriers

The Parliamentary correspondent of the Advertiser states that 37,000 Indians have left these shores since 1914 under the repatriation and assisted emigration schemes, and now, "the evidence taken in this country, by the Colonisation Inquiry Committee has shown that South African Indians are disinclined to leave the country on any terms whatever." The report it is anticipated would soon be out and will probably not be unanimous. Therefore, the correspondent states, it is more likely that urgent efforts will be made to persuade the Union Government to lift the barriers which at present prevent Indians from leaving Natal for other Provinces. The solution, therefore, lies at our door, and I hope our statesmen will be broadminded enough to take the cue from this correspondent and see to the possibilities of acting on the hint instead of wasting public money on some Utopian scheme which will never fructify. The Union of South Africa is large enough to absorb the Indians in the different Provinces, and since the door for further immigration is closed the distribution will not be felt by any of them. It wants a little foresight and vision and surely it cannot be said that we lack these commodities in our South African statesmen.

#### Danger Ahead

The Indians in this country are daily beginning to realise that there are practically no openings for their children; what few there are are already full up and are strictly restricted to a certain number. In trade there is hardly room for the new ones and as labourers there are thousands in our streets without work. Farmers and market gardeners are hardly able to make both ends meet. It seems the crisis has come and there is no way out of it. The position would still be more acute when hundreds are every year turned out from our schools. There are no dole-houses for the poor Indians and so it is up to the State to consider this question seriously, lest they become a danger to the State by being idle. Colonising another country does not seem to appeal to the people born and bred here, but upholding of the vast tracts of land in South Africa and removing the Provincial barriers might assist to ease the position a little; and unless something is done, and done immediately, I see danger ahead. The Indians are here and idle to them is merely a geographical expression. It is up to the Government to settle them on land and make this country more productive than it is. Farmers, gardeners and labourers are an asset to any country. Why should they not be to South Africa. I hope proper representations are made to the Government to harness these forces into right channels so that the India would be useful members of the State rather than clog the wheels of Government machinery. No country has ever progressed which has allowed a portion of its population to drift and lie idle. South Africa cannot be an exception if she does not take heed to these words.

#### Bold Words

The Agent the other day uttered some bold words, and I wonder if they also fell on deaf ears. He said the Union Government that make up their minds in view of the 1927 declaration which means something or nothing. "There is no more immigration into South Africa," he emphatically declared, "and surely you can let the Indians that are in this country—only 2½ per cent. of



the total population—remain in peace." He then with-out mincing matters, said, "remember that the enmity of 450,000,000—and said to that the 450,000,000 of Chinas—is bad for you." I hope these words will have some effect on the South African whites. But from what we know of this country, the whites must have smiled at the Agent representing an impotent and crippled India with nothing to back him up with. Had Kunwar Sir Maharaj Singh represented Japan—with far less a population and said those words, it would have had a lightening effect by now. I do not know if war would not have been declared in the absence of an apology. It is the army and the navy, the gun-boats and the cannons that count in this materialistic world not the population.

### Teachers' Fellowship Week

Under the presidentship of Mr. T. M. Naicker, assisted by the chairman of the Maritzburg branch of the Natal Indian Teachers' Society, a successful fellowship week was held in the City. Owing to the tail-end of the holidays many teachers were not able to be present. It is hoped in future better arrangements would be made so that most of the teachers would avail themselves of the opportunity to attend the bi-annual conference and fellowship week in large numbers. The papers read and the debate were of high instructive and educational value. I congratulate the president and the organisers.

### Poor Indians in Johannesburg Their Living Conditions

The following Report of Sample Investigation made by Miss Hilda Beemen, B.A., of the staff of the S. A. Institute of Race Relations for the Johannesburg Indo-European Joint Council is reproduced from the first number of the *Race Relations*, official journal of the South African Institute of Race Relations:—

#### Sample Cases

1. F.M., 2 G., 6 S.  
**Housing:** Two rooms, about 10 ft. x 18 ft., one smaller room, passage, kitchen. No electric light. Rent £3 per month. Living room could have been airy if window was opened; also serves as bedroom; mattress rolled up in one corner. Father sleeps alone in small room. Mother and girls in living room boys (from 23 years down) in remaining room.  
**Food:** Meat twice a day, not much vegetables, 100 lbs. sugar used in a month, 2 pints of milk per day. Three elder sons work and require two hot meals a day.  
**Health:** Children seem healthy, mother has borne twelve children of whom three had died—one from burnings (at two years), the other two—nine years and eight days respectively from unknown causes.  
**Education:** One boy and one girl at school. Two grandchildren have been sent to other grandparent to go to school.  
**Recreation:** Grown up sons belong to football clubs; the younger ones play in the street.  
**Income:** Three sons at work. Two earn £2 per week, and the £1 10s. per week. Keep most of their earnings.  
**General:** The family contributes to a burial society.
2. Wid. w. three children (baby 16 months).  
**Housing:** One room 8 ft. x 7 ft. Rent 25/- per month (N.B. Rent Board fixed rent at 15/- but landlord charges 25/- giving receipts for 15/-). Room crowded, one bed, small stove, chairs, dressing table, walls covered with pictures—several

visitors. Air thick with smoke from gully stove and human odour.

**Food:** Varied diet—sometimes sardines, all kinds of vegetables are mixed in a stew and even the baby eats this food. Heavy meal followed immediately by bed.

**Education:** 7 children look healthy and none of the woman's children have died. The baby was weaned at 10 months.

**Recreation:** Children play in the alley.

**Income:** ?

3. F.M.D. (nine years).

**Housing:** Room about 12 ft. x 15 ft. Kitchen, bathroom. Electric light. Rent £3 per month.

**Food:** Mother is (Indian) Malay and fond of fish which is the staple food of the family. Three good meals a day: Breakfast, porridge, bread and tea or coffee. Girl takes sandwiches to school for 11 o'clock break and is "made to eat" on return from school at 2 p.m. Family is fond of sugar, has much fruit and vegetables and two pints of milk per day.

**Education:** Girl goes to Indian school, is very bright. Two children at school in India "to get good education."

**Health:** Three children are dead, three remaining are healthy, so mother says. Fanlights, but not windows open at night.

**Recreation and Income?**

4. F.M., 1 B.

**Housing:** Room 8 ft. x 7 ft. Leaky, sloping roof mended with sacking. Floor of wood but rest of building of corrugated iron. Small window, no chimney.

**Furniture:** dresser, dressing table, sewing machine, primus stove, few chairs. Rent £1 per month (but receipts for 2/-)

**Food:** Scanty, 3d. milk per day. No nourishing food until evening meal, between 7 and 8 p.m. At 4 p.m. on 21/3/32 visitor found that the two girls, both at school, had only had two slices of dry bread and a cup of tea since the previous evening. Fish about once a week, sometimes also a little fruit.

**Health:** Children seem healthy. Window closed at night. Bath once a week.

**Education:** All children at school and intelligent. Eldest girl slow, probably because she must remain at home once a week to do the general work of the house. When father was asked at what age he intended putting the girl out to work he said that Indians seldom sent their girls to work.

**Recreation:** Play in the yard.

**Income:** Father unemployed for three years. Mother sells baskets.

F. and 6 C. (19—8 years) Mother dead.

**Housing:** Room 9 ft. x 8 ft. Dirty and dark. Floor has sunk so low that sacks and bags have been put on the ground. Sweatingly hot and window blocked up with strips of wood and cloth. Furniture: Dressing table, kitchen dresser, one bed, a gully stove and a primus, a couple of stools. Those who cannot squeeze into the bed sleep on the floor. Rent £1 10s. per month. (Receipt given for 16/-)

**Food:** 9d. a day on milk; little food during the day, evening meal at 8 p.m. of rice, fat meat, curry, various vegetables.

**Health:** One child dead (21 days) cause unknown. Children seem healthy.

**Education:** Three children go to school. One child of eleven misses two days a week when he goes the rounds with his father.

**Recreation:** Play in the yard.

*Income:* Father is a "rag and bottle man" earning on an average 2/- per day.

### General Conclusions

There is no part of Johannesburg inhabited solely by Indians. In the slum areas everyone, Native, Coloured, Indian or poor White is forced to fraternise through the sheer force of physical propinquity. In yard, Doornfontein, there are three Indian families scattered among Natives. Though these Indian families are not next door to each other, the distance between them cannot be judged by the fact that here are perhaps eight or more intervening "houses" and it is rarely more than a hundred feet. They consist of one room which serves as bedroom, kitchen, living room, pantry and bathroom as required. The size varies from 9' x 8' to 6' x 5' and the rent from £1 10s. to £1. Legally the landlord may not charge more than 15/- per month, but he keeps within the letter of the law by exacting the additional money but giving a receipt for 15/-.

The rooms are of iron or tin and have a gap for a window which is usually covered with wood or sacks on account of the "dangerous locality." Drains are unknown and there is no chimney; even if one thought of being clean it would be almost impossible under these conditions.

The furniture usually consists of one dilapidated bed, a dressing table, a kitchen dresser, a few stools and a gully stove or primus. There is never anything like a carpet except in cases where the floor is sunk when a few bits of sacking and cloth are strewn on the ground. The ceiling very often leaks and is patched up with cloth.

The number of inhabitants of the room naturally varies. In one there were two grown ups and seven children. Those who could wedged themselves on the bed with their parents, the others slept on the floor. Cats and kittens are part of the slum and drop in anywhere at all hours. Children of the neighbourhood ran in and out and friends are always found in the rooms.

### Food

Every race has a national dish, but few races live almost entirely on this and nothing else. Indian curry constitutes the major portion of the diet of all Indians. It is very satisfying, rich and heavy, though unhealthy. The main reason why it may be considered unhealthy is that it is eaten at night almost immediately before retiring to sleep.

Most Indian children have something to eat three times a day, but naturally this depends upon the position of the parents.

Breakfast is never an elaborate meal among Indians. Among the majority it consists of the remains of the previous night's meal; rice if left over is reheated or made into rice cakes and there is tea or coffee, bread or butter. Among the poorer Indians there is rarely anything over from the night before and children often go to school after having eaten nothing but dry bread.

Lunch is another "scrap" meal specially among those Indians who are working and children seldom get a hot meal when they return from school. One little girl whom we saw late in the afternoon had nothing but two slices of dry bread and a cup of tea since the previous night.

Dinner is the big meal of the day. All the family are present and it is, in every case interviewed by us, preceded by some form of grace. The most important and substantial dish is the world famed curry into which everything is mixed—potatoes, chilies, carrots, cabbages, and other

vegetables, ghee, and lumps of fat. Vegetables form an integral part of the diet of the Indians as they are an essential for the curry. The most usual are those which are least expensive at the time, but potatoes and tomatoes are always used. Vegetables are not eaten raw, but are always cooked.

Milk is bought by all Indians even those living in the slums.

Meat is chosen according to whether or not it will make a good stew and mutton is popular.

Fruit does not play an important role in the diet of Indian children. They like fruit but it is expensive.

### General Health

Health agencies are totally inadequate for Indian children. There is no nurse visiting the poorer quarters.

The Indian Government School has its own clinic where children are treated free of charge.

When a child living at Rooiyard was taken ill, her mother had to take her to a Mission clinic and stayed at home to nurse her. The mother in this case was the sole breadwinner, the father was out of work and had been so for three years, and there were two other children. All the time that the child was ill the entire family stayed, ate and slept in the same room.

The overcrowding is terribly unhealthy. The window is closed all night, there is no ventilation in the poorer houses, in winter it is icy cold, in summer fiendishly hot. It is amazing that there is no more disease because, under such conditions one infectious case would infect a whole quarter. The sanitary conditions are appalling. At Rooiyard there is the garbage heap right at the entrance, but there is almost as much rubbish strewn in the narrow alley which runs between two rows of slum rooms. This alley serves innumerable purposes; in it the children play, and if they have fruit throw away the peels, the mothers burn their gully stoves there and sit inhaling the foul smoke, wet washing is hung on a line strung across the alley, etc. There is no bathroom and but one tap, with the inevitable result that baths are taken once a week in some cases, twice a week in others, and as the water is cold they have not much effect.

### Income

There is not available such information as would justify any statement.

### Education

Practically every child is sent to school between the ages of six and eight. Practically every class in the schools is overcrowded and the staff is insufficient. Hitherto, as there were no facilities for Higher Education, children left school after Standard VI.

Indian parents of the higher classes are anxious that their children should receive good education and Mrs. H. has left two of her daughters in India in order that they might receive a better education than is given to Indian children in Johannesburg.

The attendance of children is not regular, more particularly if their parents are poor. One boy of eleven whose father sells bags and bottles, is absent from school twice a week when he goes with his father and helps. A little girl of eleven (who looked very delicate) must stay at home once a week to do the cooking and washing and general house work when her mother is out selling basket.

These children have no books at home other than school books and no such things as mechanical toys or other playthings which might develop any talent in that direction.



The majority of the children can speak both Indian and English, and very often a Native dialect as well. Not many speak Africans. Indian parents very seldom let their daughters go out working, and it is usual for them to get married at an early age.

### Recreation

One of the most regrettable features of all slum life is the absence of any play ground for children. The children are therefore driven to play in the streets. When the Municipality does supply grounds the White population often refuse to allow Non-Europeans to benefit thereby. For example a plot of ground was allocated to the people of Bertrams, and swings, etc., were put up; no mention was made by the Municipality of any "colour bar" but when the Indian children played there, the parents of the white children made so much fuss and unpleasantness that the Indian children went back to the streets.

There are no organised games for the majority, and they have few toys. They are always playing, however, and running around.

Indians seem to go for very few walks, and it is a pity that there is nothing to amuse them in the evening because they go to bed immediately after their evening meal.

### General

It is still fairly simple to differentiate between Indian and other children of Non European parentage. Though they rarely wear the sari or other essentially Indian clothing, the girls often have exceptionally bright dresses and boys' clothing is rarely as ragged as that of the Native children.

## Ordination As Priest

### First South African-born Indian

Thursday 25th, January, 1934, will be a memorable day in the annals of the South African Indian community, for for the first time in this sub-Continent, was a South African born Indian, in the person of Claudius Joseph Vincent Lawrence, O.M.I., ordained to the priesthood of the Roman Catholic persuasion, in the Emmanuel Cathedral, Durban by his Lordship, Bishop Henri Delalle, D.D., O.M.I., assisted by twentyone priests, all Oblates of Mary Immaculate, in the Sanctuary, in the presence of a crowded congregation of all nationalities, among whom were, many representatives of the Sisters of the Holy Family, Sisters of Nazareth, Augustinian and Dominion Sisters. It is also the first time, an ordination has taken place in that Cathedral. The beautiful and impressive ceremony lasted for an hour and half, at close of which, the new priest's parents were the first to receive his blessing and then all his brother priests knelt down to receive his blessing. Hundreds of that cosmopolitan congregation went to the Communion rails for the reception of the blessing from him. He is the eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. V. Lawrence prominent members of the Indian Community in Durban.

The foundation of a sound Catholic education was laid for the young priest, under the care of Mother Mary of the Holy Cross, at St. Philomena's school, Shelmford Road, Durban, thence he went to the Carlisle Street Govt. School for higher education, under Mr. G. Rutter. At the age of thirteen, he left Durban for Ceylon, where the Oblate Fathers have a big Mission. There in St. Patrick's College, he passed his Senior Cambridge with honours and with distinction in Religious knowledge, English,

Latin, Physiology and Hygiene. After five years in Ceylon, where he completed his Novitiate, he went to Rome, where he had a brilliant scholastic career and received all his minor Orders,

## India To-day

(By C. F. ANDREWS)

National India, as I saw it on my journey during the past months, is a tired country. The strain of nearly fifteen years of intensive national work covering the whole area of India has been far greater than we can realise on this side of the world. The one inspiring figure throughout, who has held the centre of the picture, whether in jail or out of it, has been Mahatma Gandhi. Though there have been waverings and changes of policy among the English-educated in the great cities, such as Bombay and Calcutta, there has been no change at all in the sentiment of the villagers towards Mahatma Gandhi himself. Everywhere I went his was the only name to conjure with, and it was delightful to find the enthusiasm exactly the same as that which I had noticed in 1920 and 1921.

One factor has been increased that enthusiasm and devotion. The women of India are taking a far more active part in the national movement to-day than they did ten or twelve years ago. This new activity is all on the right side. The women are non-communal and altogether against untouchability—the two touchstones of Nationalism in India to-day. Their influence in framing new public opinion is also incomparably greater.

Among the simple villagers themselves, the fund of enthusiasm and self-sacrifice has not been in any way exhausted. Yet, on the other hand, in the towns I found this state of tiredness that I had not met with before. On every side, I was told by responsible leaders, "We are tired; and some pause, while we recover our strength, is vitally needed if we are to begin again with fresh vigour to press forward to Purna Swaraj."

The economic depression has *not* lifted, as so many optimistic speeches by officials had sought to make us believe. Rather, it is rapidly growing more intense and the result may be very serious indeed about the middle of the year 1934, unless the world prospect suddenly improves. By far the worst aspect of the economic decline is the *indefatigability* of the whole country-side. Landlords and tenants alike have become overwhelmed by an immense burden of debt, which grows heavier every year. This is more felt in the North of India than in the West and South.

Last of all, I was more painfully impressed, than I can describe, by the distress of Bengal. There, the economic blizzard has swept over, not only the whole country-side, but the vast city of Calcutta itself. Along with this has gone a state of repression, which the revolutionary movement has invoked, placing large districts under what is virtually martial law. How long such repression can continue, without leading to a desperate situation, no one seems to have considered. What happened in Southern Ireland, before the treaty, may occur in Bengal at any time. For violent remedies cannot be applied without provoking further violence. Yet the Government appears to object even to; as much as I have here put down being said openly regarding it as an 'encouragement' of violence. Yet without faithful and even severe criticism, no government, with arbitrary power in its hands, is likely to keep straight;

Altogether, I came away with a depressing picture concerning the immediate present, but full of faith and hope about the future. Mahatma Gandhi himself is back once more among the villagers and he is winning all along the line.

## Our London Letter

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT)

22nd December, 1933.

Christmas is in the air—the schools have broken up for the holidays and the streets are a surge of Christmas shoppers. A happy sight if one does not look too closely under the surface or takes no notice of the unemployed men and women who fringe the pavements in the main shopping areas—selling matches or what not. A remark that Mahdev Desai made to me when he was here with Mr. Gandhi in 1931 is forcibly in my mind these days. He wanted to take back a small present for his little son and we went to one of the large stores famed for its Christmas Toy Bazaar. Mahdev Desai gazed with amazement at the lavish display and was obviously intrigued by some of the things he saw. But I noticed that he bought nothing, and when I asked him the reason he said:—“How can I buy that toy for my son when other children have not enough to eat.” In the end we bought a sixpenny painting book for the small son.

The House of Commons adjourned last night. Sir John Simon delayed his departure for the Continent in order to be present at the Debate on Foreign Affairs. During the recess he is to be engaged in diplomatic negotiations in Paris and Italy on the subject of Disarmament. Since the demand of Italy for reform of the League of Nations, many people here have been pressing the Government for a clear statement of British policy in this connection. In the Debate Major Atlee asked several pointed questions, and in reply Sir John did make one definite statement—to the effect that the policy of the Government was “Unswervingly to stand by and support the League of Nations.” He added later in answer to another question—“that all human institutions are subject to reconsideration for the purpose of adjustment and revision, and the Covenant of the League contains provisions by which amendments may be made.”

Major Atlee voiced the feeling of many men and women when he said that the present state of the world was “not very consonant with peace on earth and good will towards men.” It is a good thing we have this short respite. People are weary and anxious and need to us; this pause in thinking what the Christmas message means to us personally—to the nation and the world.

### The Churches And Peace

A significant move has been made by a representative group of Church leaders, who met in the House of the Master of the Temple to hear from Mr. Arthur Henderson, the chairman of the Disarmament Conference, the way in which he thinks the Churches can work for peace—particularly at this Christmas season. His statement to these leaders should be read in full, but one sentence has been noted specially in the press reports of this meeting:—“I believe most profoundly that it is the duty of the Churches to take sides in this struggle which, at bottom, involves a conflict between two views of life, the pagan or anarchistic view and the Christian belief in the brotherhood of man.” The *Manchester Guardian* commenting says:—“Mr. Henderson's appeal to the Church leaders . . . is evidence of his belief in the corporate power of the Churches in this country and in his own refusal to despair of the Disarmament Conference . . . Mr. Henderson's appeal should receive

wide and timely notice throughout all the Churches this Christmas time.” The charge levelled so often against the Christian forces is that they “sit on the fence.” What might not happen if in 1934 they responded to Mr. Henderson's recall to action?

### The Joint Select Committee

Another stage of the work of this committee ended this week when the examination of the Burmese delegates concluded. It is understood that some of these delegates will submit written statements of their views before they return to Burma. I had the privilege of meeting the only woman delegate, Dr. Ma Saw Sa at an informal luncheon given for her by the British Commonwealth League. She impressed all who were there very greatly. The committee resumes its sittings on January 30th.

### Annual Dinner At The Indian Students' Union

This took place last Saturday and was a great success. The guests of honour were Sir William and Lady Rothenstein. The arrangements were excellent and Mr. Aiman, the Warden and his committee are to be congratulated upon the evening's entertainment. The musical programme which included Negro Spirituals and Indian songs etc, was particularly delightful. And the whole thing was over before 10 o'clock—a point on which Sir William congratulated the committee. Mr. Mahanti, the chairman of the Union, in a happily phrased speech, welcomed the guests and told Sir William that artists belong to no one country, but to the world. Therefore they claimed him as a world figure. In replying to the toast, Sir William recalled his visit to India some 25 years ago, and the deep impression this had made on him. He said he always felt at home in India and had many Indian friends. He hoped that something of the old India would remain intact, and pleaded with the Indian students not to become “too European.”

The day after this dinner I saw in the November 30th issue of *Hindustan* an account of a speech made by Mr. A. H. Mackenzie at the Isabella Thoburn College, in the course of which he said:—“Western education is an excellent thing for Indian girls . . . but it will be a curse not a blessing, if it makes them mere copies of girls in the West. Every nation has its own characteristics.”

Sir William Rothenstein and Mr. Mackenzie evidently think alike on some points.

### Economic Survey Of India

Yet another survey is to be made of India. Professor Bowley of London University and Mr. D. H. Robertson of Cambridge University with the aid of expert Indian assessors, are to make a comprehensive economic survey in the near future. One paper commenting on this says: “A great many Blue Books are issued from time to time dealing with different aspects of India's economic position, but there are serious gaps in the information which is published, and a new system of reports and statistics, based on a more definite plan, would be of great assistance to officials and traders.”

Since his return to this country, Mr. C. F. Andrews has voiced his deep concern about the gravity of the economic situation.

### Mr. Lansbury

There are many distinguished invalids just now, but I doubt whether any of them have received such overwhelming messages of sympathy and love from all over the world as Mr. Lansbury. One paper reported that one such message had come from Mahatma Gandhi. It must be a comfort to the Leader of the Opposition to know the place he has in the hearts of men and women of a widely differing political viewpoint. Thousands of

Christmas letters and telegrams are pouring into his hospital, the burden of them being—"Get well soon—we cannot spare you for long." One of the reasons for this surely is that Mr. Lansbury so exactly fits the definition I saw recently of a gentleman—"One who puts into life more than he takes out."

### C. B. And S. I. A. Committee Meeting

A Committee meeting of the Colonial Born and Settlers' Indian Association was held on Sunday Jan. 28, at the Hindu Tamil Institute, Durban. Mr. A. Christopher was in the chair. Various matters of importance were discussed.

The Association made representations to the authorities for exemption for relief workers from the personal tax. It was reported to the Committee that out of about 300 applications exemption was given only to those who had five children or more and such exempted numbered only about 40. Mr. P. B. Singh called to Mr. Christopher in connection with the deplorable condition of the repatriates in India was placed before the Committee.

The sum of £500 is earmarked by the Union Government for pensions to invalid repatriates. It was reported that sixty were entitled to such pensions of which thirty-three could not be traced and 27 were getting pensions.

### Matric And J. C. Results

The S. African Matriculation and Junior Certificate results appeared a few days ago and it is gratifying to see that quite a large number of local Indian students secured passes. Sastri College, which is the only Indian institution catering for secondary educational needs in the Southern hemisphere obtained seven passes in the matric one in the first class, three in second class and three in the third class. This constitutes a record, for it is the first occasion on which so many have been able to satisfy the examiners in what may truly be regarded as the most difficult secondary examination in South Africa. The Junior Certificate results, too, are none the less pleasing. Sastri College sent in 61 candidates of which number 48 secured passes. In the Matric seven out of eight candidates entering under the designation of the College were successful. This no doubt marks a definite milestone in the juvenile life and progress of the Sastri College which was founded only four years ago.

This year Sastri College is packed to capacity, as it has never been before. All classes and divisions are crowded out and apparently there seems at present to be a lack of accommodation, a defect which we hope will be remedied by the erection of the new wing shortly.

We only hope the promises of the Department to set up the new wing at a cost of about £5,000 will not take long to materialise, so that every parent desirous of sending his boy to Sastri College, may have the opportunity of doing so.

#### Results

##### MATRICULATION

Class I: Lazarus, Archibald Nathaniel.

Class II: Khan, Subhan; Ramphal, Chanderpaul; Sham, Nawal Kishore.

Class III: Naidoo, Somanundaram Govindasamy; Naidoo, Kannan Pihey; Naidoo, Krishnasamy.

##### JUNIOR CERTIFICATE

Class I: Gopaul, Muthukrishna; Naidoo, Jack.

Class II: Athmanand, Bebaree; Bengali, Manikram; Govender, Doorsamy Moodsamy; Hussainally, Abbas;

Jungbahadur, Baslew; Lazarus, Alexander; Naidoo, Balkish Narasamy; Nishidai, Ralhdass; Randeris; Behramji; Thathiah, Nursamulu; Vinden; Arnold Edwin.

Class III: Dukkie, Lakshmi Chand; Gopaul, Govindasamy; Jagesur, Ramlal; Kharas, Keras, Lutchan, Soobramony; Mathen, Sunkeran; Mucken, Parbboo; Naidoo, Dasaratha; Naidoo, Dayanand; Naidoo, Moorgiah; Poobathy, Nasibsingh; Amarsingh; Nathoo, Damjee; Nathoo, Ruthenjee; Rajoo, Moonsamy; Soobramany, Govinnsamy Moonsamy; Soobramoney, Ponen; Yusuf, Mohammed Idris.

### Mitchell Crescent Girl's School

Class III: Singh, Anusuya.

### Recent Boys "Scouts Rally"

#### List Of Donors

The Natal Indian Teachers' Society wishes through these columns to thank the following for their generous gifts during the recent "Scouts" rally held at Beachwood.

Messrs. N. Bhoola and Sons; Bassa Ltd. (Rice Bazaar), Singh's mutton Market. Baboobee's mutton Market. Indian Fishermen's Association. R. K. Kabitai, Walter Choonoo (Head-master, Sir Kurma Reddi School); A. I. Rajee, A. B. Naidoo; Secretary, Natal Indian Farmers' Association, Victoria Produce Co., Dhupalia and Sons, P. Pillay and Son, Mulla Fruit Shop, Star Tea Room, Ellis Brown and Co., Ltd., Padia and Sons, Fakroodis, K. Baynath, Hargovan and Co., Commercial Trading Co., Durban Mineral Water Works, Bobat, K. R. Pillay, V. N. Naik, Farmers' Co-operative Dairy, Boodo, R. A. Padayatchee, Chetty Bros., Maharaj, P. T. Pillay, Ramotar, Ma. T. M. Umgeni).

### Tongaat Hindu Samarasa Bodha Andhra Association

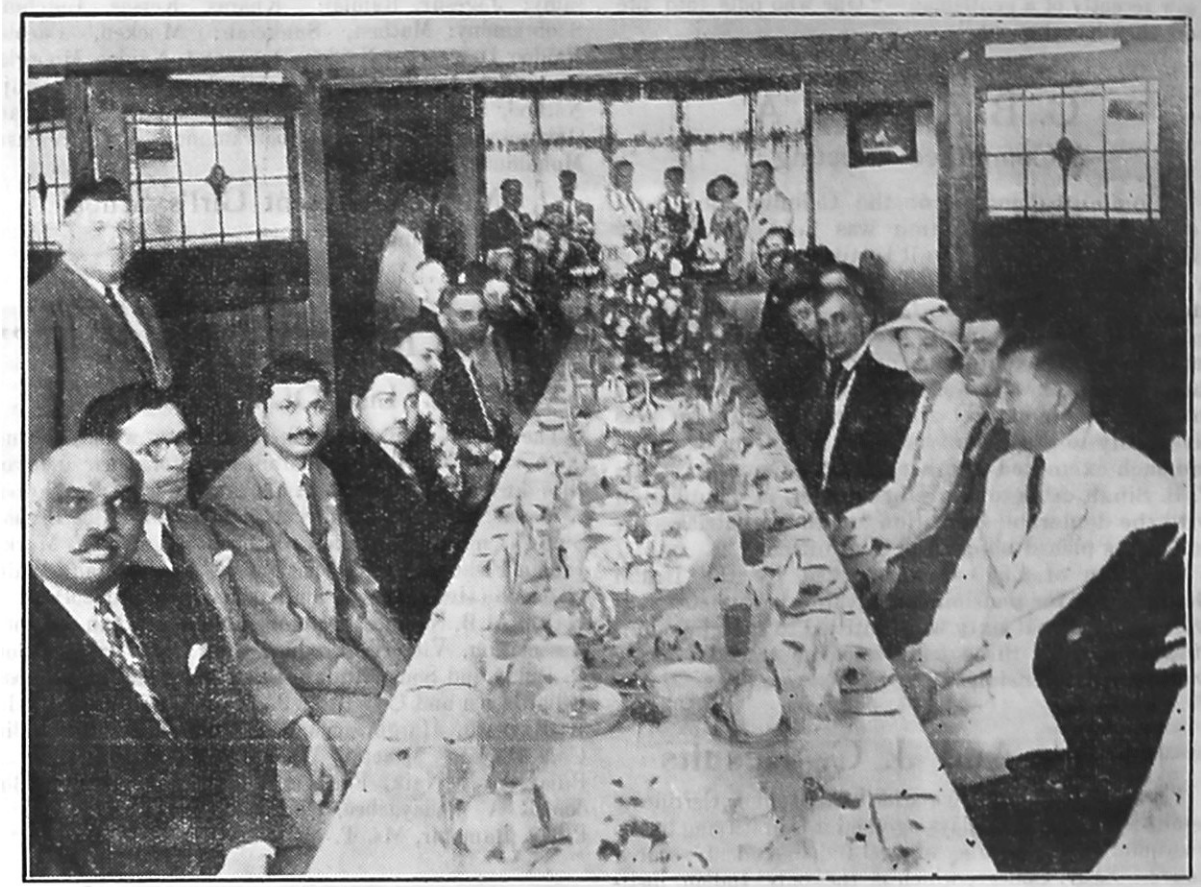
A general meeting of the Hindu community of Tongaat and district was held at the Association hall recently. The meeting was held at the express desire of the Hindu community on the strength of a requisition authorizing Mr. V. S. Naidoo to revive the Tongaat Hindu Samarasa Bodha Andhra Association which was inactive for over six years. Mr. T. M. Nalaker presided and was supported by the Secretaries *pro tem* Messrs. V. S. Naidoo and A. P. Naidoo.

The report of the present state of the Association was submitted by the Chairman of the provisional committee Mr. A. Jeeawon, which revealed that there were no office bearers and that the object of the Trust was not given effect to and that at a preliminary meeting held on Thursday Jan. 11 it was resolved that the Association be revived.

The following were elected as Office Bearers:—  
Trustees: Messrs. S. V. Naidoo, C. P. Naidoo, R. K. Naidoo. President: Mr. C. V. Naidoo. Vice-President: Mr. S. T. Naidoo. Hon. Joint-Secretaries: Messrs. V. S. Naidoo and M. P. Naidoo. Hon. Treasurer: Mr. C. K. Naidoo. Committee Members: Messrs. A. Jeeawon, R. N. Naidoo, V. A. N. Naidoo, C. M. Naidoo, and R. Sancho.

The Ex-Trustee Mr. M. Appana then handed the keys and the title deeds to the newly elected officials. The Chairman Mr. T. M. Nalaker and the Ex-Trustee Mr. M. C. Naidoo appealed to the public, particularly to the younger members of the community, for their kind co-operation and to contribute something materially towards the successful working of the Association.

## Maistry's Gold Belt Presentation



The above is a photo of the function that took place at the residence of Mr. V. M. Maistry recently on the occasion of the presentation of the Gold Belt to Kid Mottee Singh.

### Sporting News

(BY SPORTSMAN)

#### Boxing

##### Singh—Cupido

The Durban Town Hall will be the venue of another monster boxing show on February 10. The local promoters, Messrs. J. B. Panday and M. Mohamed have successfully arranged a return fight between Mottee Kid Singh of the West Indies, U.S.A. and England, and Archer Cupido of the Western Province. The duration of the contest will be 12-3 min. rounds.

The last contest in which Kid was given the verdict on points gave rise to a great deal of controversy, some feeling strongly and also expressing the opinion in violent terms that Cupido had won. The fight ought therefore to throw the damper on any ill-expressed opinions, for unless the fight ends in a draw or a very narrow win, it ought definitely to prove the talents and capacities of each boxer and to reveal the better of the two contestants.

Kid is at present ardently training and rumour has it that Cupido, despite the fact that he has to come down to 9st. 7lbs. by the Feb. 10th is also training seriously.

#### Other Bouts

The main bout is supported by 5 other preliminaries. Mannie Dixon is to meet Benny Singh in a 10-2 min. contest. This, too, is a return fight. Last time Benny gained the verdict on points which many considered was not a true reflex of the fight. Their second clash ought to prove once and for all the better boxer.

V. S. Govinder meets D. P. Naidoo and Fred Smith is billed to meet Midget Obin in 8 rounds contests. Ted Baker fights M. D. Chippen and Seamen Obetty meets Tom Chellin in 6-2 min. contests.

Though the supporting bouts may not evince the same amount of interest as they usually do the main bout seems already to be the chief topic of discussion in local sporting circles and element weather conditions promising, the hall ought to be filled to capacity.

#### Football

##### India Accepts Invitation

In a cable message sent to Mr. A. Christopher from Bombay Mr. P. B. Singh intimates that the all India Football Association has accepted the invitation of the local Association.

##### Pretoria Indian Tennis Club

A well attended meeting was held at the Royal Kinema Pretoria, recently, Mr. Soopoo presiding and Mr.

Essop Moosa acting as secretary "The Pretoria Indian Lawn Tennis Club," was unanimously formed.

The following election took place: Chairman: Mr. Moses Anthony, joint secretaries: Messrs. Essop Moosa and G. Soopoo; treasurer: Mr. Hassim Manjee Keshavjee; Vice-presidents: Messrs. Ismail Manjee, J. Mahomed Hajee Joosab, S. M. Pillay, Bob Maharaj, David Anthony, C. B. Pillay, A. Velshi, V. S. Pilly, B. R. Mooloo, Essop Akoojee, G. Krishna, B. Mooloo, Gcolam, M. Keshavjee, A. Khan, G. S. Frank, V. P. Puckry.

The entrance fee for each member is 10s. 6d. and 8d. per week.

## Social Notes

### YOUNG SOBRUN

Young Sobrun, assistant teacher, the son of Mr. D. Sobrun, senior interpreter and a prominent member of the community was joined in the bonds of matrimony. The marriage took place in Maritzburg and the officiating priest was Pandit Suchitt Tewary of Durban. A large number of friends accompanied the bridegroom in buses and cars to the bride's residence. There were numerous presents for the married couple.

### YOUNG MOONOO PANDAY

The marriage of Young Moonoo Panday, another teacher and grand-son of the late Seebaluk Panday of Overport took place on Jan. 20 at Mayville. There were about 500 guests present at the wedding. Many leading members of the community graced the occasion with their presence. There were many useful presents sent for the bride and bridegroom. The Famil Society of Springfield sent a very valuable present for the bridegroom whose father is the isrdar of the estate.

### YOUNG ROOPSINGH

Young Roopsingh, the youngest son of Mr. Roopsingh of Ohakas Kraal was wedded to the daughter of Mr. Ramanund Singh of Jacobs. The marriage was officiated by Pandit Mawa Misra. This marriage took place during the day and many prominent Indians were present to witness the ceremony. Over 600 guests were entertained to a sumptuous dinner. Many were the presentations from friends and relatives. Mr. B. M. Singh was responsible for the excellent arrangements made for the guests.

### V. A. NAIDOO—K. M. REDDY

The wedding of Mr. N. Mantekum Naidoo, son of Mr. V. N. Naidoo of Johannesburg and Miss Parvathiammal Reddy, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. K. M. Reddy of Clairwood and grand daughter of Mrs. Kuppamall Naidoo of Sydenham and cousin of Dr. M. G. Naidoo, took place on Sunday Jan. 21 at 214 Umgent Road, Durban. The ceremony was performed by Mr. Naynah Raj. The bride and bridegroom looked exceedingly charming in their wedding garments.

The bridal couple were the recipients of many valuable presents, and congratulatory wires were received from all parts of South Africa.

The bridegroom is a keen sportsman in the Transvaal at one time holding an official position in the W. W. I. F. Association and the Transvaal Coloured Cricket Union.

Guest arrived from Johannesburg to be present at the wedding.

The married couple left Durban on Tuesday Jan. 30, for Johannesburg where a reception will be held on Feb. 4.

Mr. and Mrs. V. N. Naidoo take this opportunity of thanking all friends and relatives for the many good wishes and kind tokens that were sent. They also thank the many friends that have assisted them on the occasion.

### BETROTHAL

The betrothal of Mr. E. Sigamoney, a teacher in the Depot Road Indian Government School, and the

eldest son of the Rev. and Mrs. B. L. E. Sigamoney, with Miss Lydia Jeevananthum, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Solomon Jeevananthum, took place on Wednesday Jan. 16, at the residence of Mr. Jeevananthum, 68 Lorne Street. There was a large attendance of friends at the betrothal party. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. J. M. Sundrum and the Rev. B. L. E. Sigamoney. The young lady was the recipient of many presents among which was a valuable 18 carat gold diamond ring.

Mr. V. N. Thumbadoo, an assistant teacher of many years standing, late of Depot Road Government Indian School has been retired on pension. He is a well-known figure in sporting circles and intends now to take some interest in communal matters.

## Mayville Indian Young Men's Society

### Fourth Annual Report

The fourth annual general meeting of the Mayville Indian Young Men's Society was held at the residence of Mr. N. C. Naidoo, 42 Gillata Road, Mayville, on Sunday, January 21, at 5 p.m. at which the most successful year of the Society came to an end.

Many interesting items were embodied in the report submitted by the secretary Mr. V. S. Vadival. It is interesting to note in this report that the Society has given relief to poor and destitute Indian families by way of helping them in their sad plight by meeting their funeral and other expenses etc.

Debates, lectures, mock trials, paper reading and musical entertainments were amongst the many items that the Society undertook for the advancement of the members.

An outcome of the Society is the Mayville Indian Youth's Progressive Society, an institution under which young boys of school going age are trained.

The Society is desirous of establishing in the near future a Provident Fund for the young men of the Mayville District, and it is hoped when such a fund comes into existence it will be a splendid institution where thrift could be practised.

The chairman Mr. N. C. Naidoo was in the chair. He made an appeal to the members to do their best, in helping the poor who have been unfortunately driven into their sad plight owing to unemployment caused by the white labour policy.

### Treasurer's Report

The treasurer's report reflected a credit balance of £7 6 2. The assets of the Society amounted to £20 6 8.

At the conclusion of the librarian's report, the election took place which resulted in the following being elected for the ensuing year:—Patron: Mr. T. M. Naicker, hon. Life Vice-President: Mr. M. R. Naidoo, President: Mr. N. C. Naidoo, vice-President: Mr. S. P. Pillay, hon. secretary: Mr. V. S. Vadival, hon. treasurer: Mr. Rajkumar, hon. librarian: Mr. V. P. Chetty, Committee: Messrs. M. R. Devar, B. Reuben, M. Moonilal, M. Thavarin, V. K. Naidoo.

Amongst the many speakers were Messrs. S. P. Pillay, R. Reuben, M. Moonilal, S. R. Devar, M. Gilbert, M. Thavarin, V. P. Chetty, T. V. Govender and Rajkumar.

The secretary wishes to make an appeal to the general public of Mayville to take full advantage of the Lanterns owned by the Society for hiring purposes. Any help in this direction will go towards helping the objects for which the Society stands.



# કન્ડિઅન ઓ પિનિઅન.

પુસ્તક ૩૨ મું.

ફ્રીડેસ, યુકવાર, તારીખ ફેબ્રુઆરી ૧૯૩૪

અંક ૫

## નોંધ અને સમાચાર

વિષય સુચી	પૃષ્ઠ
નોંધ અને સમાચાર	૪૨
એન્ટ (અનુલેખ)	૪૨
પ્રીન્સ ઓ પિનિઅનની પુસ્તકાલય	૪૪
ધરતીકંપ અને આપણી ફરજ	૪૫
એન્ટની સફળતાઓ	૪૫
હૈદમાં ધરતીકંપ	૪૭
વિનિમ્ન સમાચાર	૪૭
પુસ્તકો વચ્ચે	૪૯
બાલકોને ઉછરવાની રીત	૫૦
બીતા મન્ડલ	૫૦

ઓની કથા અત્યંત શોકાળ્ય છે. સેંકડો લોકો ધરખાર અને કામધંધા વગર જીવે મરે છે. રીપબ્લિકેન અટકાવવાને બદલે પ્રચાર કરવો અભાવસ્થક છે.

**“કન્ડિઅન ઓ પિનિઅન”**  
 યુકવાર, તા. ૨ ફેબ્રુઆરી ૧૯૩૪

### એન્ટ

**સ્વામી અધ્યાન**  
 વિવેકાનંદ મઠની સંગ્રામોરની શાખાના મુખી સ્વામી અધ્યાનંદ જ્યો ગયા શુરવીરે લોકનીસંજ્ઞા સર્વી પ્રહોસ્વા છે તેમને અમે અંતઃકરણથી આપકાર આપીએ છીએ. કાંસવાલ હાંડુ સેના સેનાને કે જે સસ્ત્રા દુક મુદત જ્યાં લોકનીસંજ્ઞામાં હાંડુઓની સામંજ, નૈતિક અને ધાર્મિક ઉત્પત્તિને માટે સ્વપાઈ જે તેના જાતજીવથી સ્ત્રીઓ અને પધારણા છે. અમે હમેશ રાખીએ છીએ કે સ્વામીઓની આ દેશમાં ફાળડી તેઓને પોતાને સુખકર નીવડવા સાથે આ દેશમાં વસી રહેલા હાંડુ બાધઓને માત્ર નહિ પરંતુ સમસ્ત સાથે આક્રમકને ખરી સ્વાયં સંસ્કૃતિને પ્રચલ-સ્થાપનારી અને બોધધાયક થઈ પડશે.

**શ્રી. ટીલમાન રસને બળાપી**  
 પ્રોટોરોયાની એક સભામાં ભાષણ કરતાં માણ આપખાતાના પ્રધાન શ્રી. ટીલમાન રસે એશિયાટીક વેપારીઓને બહિષ્કાર કરવાની હિમાયત કરી હતી અને જણાવ્યું હતું કે એશિયાટીકને તેઓના પોતાના "સોકાબાજી" વેપાર કરવા દેવા જોઈએ. પરંતુ વધારે રમુજ ઉપજાવનાર તો એ છે કે હાંડુ સરકારના એન્ટ અને તેમની પેલિને યુનીયનમાં વર્તતી સ્થિતિની બહારમાં ટીકા કરવા દેવામાં આવે છે એથી તેમણે અભિપ્રાય દર્શાવી હતી. તેમણે કહ્યું કે "આ હાંડુ એલમીઓ ને જો કે જે ફરિયાદ કરવાની હોય તો તેઓએ તે સરકારને કરવી જોઈએ બહારમાં નહિ કરવી જોઈએ." શ્રી. ટીલમાન રસને આ વિશેષ યુનીયનમાં વાતી સ્થિતિમાં કંઈક ખાટું હોવાનો સ્વકાર કરવા બરખાર છે. નહિ તો તેની બહારમાં ટીકા થાય તેથી તેમણે એટલા જવા કરવાની ક્ષી જરૂર રહે નહિ.

**રીપબ્લિકેન એલેસાઓની કુદૃશ**  
 શ્રી. એ. ફરેટોહરને મુખ્યથી મળેલા એક તારના સંદેશમાં શ્રી. બી. બી. સાંમ જણાવે છે કે રીપબ્લિકેન એલેસા હાંડુ

હાંડુ સરકારની આ દેશમાં એન્ટની તવારીખમાં આ પહેલવહેલો પ્રસંગ બની શકે છે કે "નમો પ્રેમની" સમજ એન્ટની સજ્જતાઓની લાંબી યાદી રજુ કરવાની ફરજ પડેલી હોય. 'નાટાલ એડવર્ટાઇઝર' એ યાદી પ્રસિદ્ધ કરેલી છે અને તેની સાથે જે લાંબી કંડોરો બંરીને એન્ટને કેમ આપનારો અનુલેખ લખેલો છે. એન્ટને માટે કાલો કરવા મોં આગે છે તે સજ્જતાઓનું માને તેમને ફેવાને અમને જરાયે સંકાય થશે નહિ હોત પરંતુ હાલના સંજોગમાં નમો પ્રોતોવરણ પ્રિસમલ્યુટીઓથી શ્રેષ્ઠ બની અધિક છે આ રીએન્ટની તરફ અસમ્મતાના જોખમે પણ સભાકર્તાઓ રજુ કરવાની જમારી ઉપર દુઃખક ફરજ આવી પડેલી છે.

નામકાર અવરનર-જનરલે નાટાલ કન્ડિઅન ફ્રેસિસ તરફથી આપવામાં આવનાર 'એટ હોમ' નું આમંત્રણ હાંડુ સરકારના એન્ટની વિનવિધી ફિવકાઈ જેને હાંડુ કામ અને પુરાપૂર્વનો વચ્ચે બજાકનો સંબંધ સ્થાપવાની દિશાએ એન્ટના કીમતી કામના એક ચિન્હ તરીકે વર્ણવવામાં આવ્યું છે. આમને તેમાં પછીજ અભિપ્રાયોક્તિ જણાય છે. નામકાર અવરનર-જનરલ તરફથી ફેવળ હાંડુ મેળાવકામાં હાંડુરી આપવાનો જે કામો પહેલવહેલો પ્રસંગ બની જતાં પુરાપૂર્વને તેના બહાર મેળાવકાઓમાં, જેવા કે તેડીવાના અને કલડીની મેળાવકાઓમાં તો એ નામકાર અનેક વખત હાંડુરી આપેલી છે. હાંડુઓના બહાર મેળાવકામાં હાંડુરી આપવાનો પ્રસંગ અસાર અમાઉ નહિ બનેલો હોવાનું કારણ માત્ર એટલુંજ હતું કે હાંડુઓએ આજ પશ્ચિમ સમાનતાને માટે અને પ્રેમનેસની વિશ્વ સતત હાંડુત અલાવેલી છે. જે તેઓએ પણ સેમેસેસની નીતી સ્વિકારી લીધેલી હોત તો હાંડુ કામ પણ વસતીના એક સાંમ તરીકે પોતાની તરફ વધારાથી ફરિયાદવાની તેક આપવામાં નિષ્કાળ નહિ અલાવવાની નામકાર અવરનર-જનરલની ફરજ થઈ પડત.

એવીજ રીતે વળી એન્ટ કરખનની ટાકીત કાર્કસીલને પોતાના કાર્યક્રમમાં પ્રીન્સ જ્યોને ફ્રેસિસ તરફથી 'એટ હોમ' ને માટે સમજ કરવાનું મનોવી શક્યા છે તેને પણ હાંડુ કામ