

INDIAN OPINION

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NOTES AND NEWS

Spirit Of Imperialistic Expansion

AT the first Congress of the United South African National Party held recently at Bloemfontein the Prime Minister General Hertzog in referring to the Italo Abyssinian dispute is reported to have said that he was anxious to draw attention to the existence in Europe of a spirit of imperialistic expansion. Italy's attitude and actions were symbolic of that spirit. If nations to day came to take it as a matter of course that they could simply invade any nation's territory if they felt the need for expansion, then South Africa's position had to be realised. South Africa to-day had to look after itself because not even England was any longer bound to come to her aid or defence. For that reason it was essential that the people should be united. If division and dissension were allowed to tear the people apart then it was quite conceivable that South Africa would lose her freedom and independence.

Colour Bar In Balfour Post Office

The small Indian community of Balfour (Transvaal) is perturbed over the action of the local Postmaster in refusing to serve Indians at the European counter—where they have been served all these years—and asking them to go to the Non-European counter. The Postmaster has informed the Indians, we are told, that he has received instructions from the Postmaster General to make this distinction. Apart from the question of humiliation this distinction is causing considerable inconvenience and delay in being served; as the non-European counter is as a rule always congested with Natives. The Indian community of Balfour is making representations to the Transvaal Indian Congress to move in the matter.

City of Durban Building Bye-Law

A deputation of the Natal Indian Congress waited on His Honour the Administrator and the Provincial Executive Committee on the 9th instant at Pietermaritzburg and made representations objecting to the Bye-Laws passed by the Durban City Council requiring that Plans of buildings, or alterations or additions thereto exceeding £300 in value shall be prepared by an Architect

duly qualified and entitled to practise as such. The reasons advanced by the deputation were that the Bye-Law passed by the City Council aimed at depriving the right of the individual owner to submit his own Plan, and, as it was inspired by the Natal Institute of Architects the City Council was not justified in passing a Bye-Law that supported and aimed at entrenching and increasing the powers of an organised body of professional men and that a small number of Indians and Europeans about 10 in all, very efficient and capable who had for the past 10 years helped the poorer section of the Indian Community in drawing up plans and which had gone to improve the condition of Indian Housing in and around Durban, would be deprived of their livelihood; further as a result it would make the building of small houses more expensive than was the case at present.

The Congress has received a letter from the Provincial Secretary intimating that the Town Clerk has been advised that the Executive Committee is unable to agree to the Bye Law passed by the Durban City Council requiring that plans of buildings or alterations or additions thereto exceeding £300 in value shall be prepared by an Architect duly qualified and entitled to practise as such.

Supreme Court Sets Aside Magistrate's Decision

An Indian, Sulliman, Mahomed Essop, successfully appealed before Mr. Justice Solomon and Mr. Justice Maritz in the Supreme Court last week against a conviction in the Potohefstrom Magistrate's Court. He had been found guilty on a charge of aggravated assault on a European girl of eighteen years, and the Magistrate imposed a sentence of two months' hard labour and four cuts. Mr. Justice Solomon said that the allegation was that the appellant placed his hand on complainant's hip. In her evidence, the girl admitted that this might have been the result of an accident. At the conclusion of the Crown case the Magistrate recalled the plaintiff, and at his request she demonstrated how the assault

had taken place. His lordship came to the conclusion that the Magistrate should not have allowed this demonstration to be the controlling factor in the case, especially after the girl's earlier statement that it might have been an accident. The guilt of the Indian had not been proved, and the conviction and sentence therefore had to be put aside. Mr. Justice Maritz gave a concurring judgment, and also came to the conclusion that the circumstances did not amount to assault.

British Rule In India

The Madras Government have refused permission to the Ellore Taluk Board, to purchase photographs of Mahatma Gandhi, Mr. Tilak and Mrs. Sarojini Naidu for the Board's schools. This is British rule in India.

Reverend Andrew's Programme

In an interview with a representative of *The Leader* (Allahabad) the Rev. C. F. Andrews, in reply to a question as to what his programme was, said:

"I am going home to England as soon as I possibly can in order to carry through the publication of my book, which I have called *India and Britain—A Moral Challenge*. The book itself is written especially for students of the British Universities. In order to complete the work, which the book is intended to do, I propose to spend the next six months in the universities discussing the subject of India with the British students. I do not think that there is anything more important for me to do than this.

City Of Durban Council Election

The entire Council retires this year. Four of the present Council members do not seek re-election but the other members, including the Mayor - Dr. S. Copley, will have to contest their seats. There are 55 candidates for 25 seats. Polling will take place on Wednesday October 2.

Indian Opinion

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20TH, 1935

Awake, Arise!

FROM the reports appearing elsewhere in this issue about anti-Asiatic propaganda, the only conclusion one can come to is, that things are not quite right with the Indian community in South Africa. Though there is nothing new about the agitation, it does point out to the fact, that the Europeans in South Africa will not rest contented until they see the last of the Indians. They are not satisfied, that the Transvaal Asiatic Land Tenure Act virtually segregates the Indians commercially and residentially. They are not satisfied, that the Transvaal Licences (Control) Ordinance deprives Indians of their trading rights—the only means of livelihood they have in that Province. They are now after wiping them out of the country towns. And this is done where Indians do not form more than two per cent. of the total population and notwithstanding the fact that South Africa's greatest statesmen have repeatedly declared to the world through the several Imperial Conferences, that Indians are peaceful and law-abiding citizens!

It seems that the virtues of the Indian are his vices. If he sells cheaply, thus helping to keep down the cost of living, he is blamed for undercutting the white trader who has extravagant habits and is not therefore able to make ends meet. If he lives simply he is dubbed as "living on the smell of an oil rag." If he indulges in luxury and is seen passing in an expensive motor car, "oh how the coolie is fattening!" it is exclaimed and there will be scores of letters in the Press complaining that the Indian is eating out the very vitals of South Africa. Now the Europeans are agitated because Indians employ European girls. The

reply given by the Prime Minister, General Hertzog, is not at all encouraging to the Indians. He should have viewed the question from a higher plain. But that is an impossibility where a Government has to depend for its existence on the votes of the public, however demoralized the public may be. Its existence is more important than good Government! What great crime is there in European girls being employed by Indians who are of the same standing as, and in some instances, even of a higher standing than many Europeans. The accusation of perpetrating immorality has no foundation. Not long ago European women working in an Indian store gave a very fitting rebuff to a European who had gone there to inspect to mind his own business. While we hold no brief for those of our countrymen who employ European women in preference to their own brothers and sisters nor wish to encourage them to do so, we know this for a fact that these European women employees are treated by their Indian employers far better than they are treated by many European employers and certainly far better than many Europeans treat their Indian employees. But the whole trouble is that the Europeans, who are suffering from a superiority complex, cannot bear the idea of the white working under the black. The black man or the brown is not at all objectionable so long as he remains a "hewer of wood and drawer of water" for his white master. Is this not an unnatural desire? The white man *must* concede to human beings of other complexion than his the right to have the same sense of self-respect and national pride as himself.

We are having humiliations after humiliations piled on us in South Africa, and even Britain, who once waged war against the Transvaal under the pretext of ill-treatment of her British Indian subjects, is not only blissfully silent now at all that is happening to them, but is actually encouraging colour bar by adopting it herself. In these circumstances Indians in this country will have to very seriously consider their position. They will have to decide for themselves whether they are going to remain here for material gains at the risk of losing their soul, in which case they would not require nor would they deserve to be helped by anyone, or whether they are prepared to lose their all to save their soul. It is an uphill fight which requires unity of strength and purpose. While anti-Asiatics are making their voice heard Indians on their part are callous even in dealing with facts. For instance India has criticised the Feetham Commission's Report and has expressed in no uncertain terms her protest against the Asiatic Land Tenure Act as being a retrograde step establishing once for all the principle of segregation, the Indian community in South Africa has not uttered a word on the report, nor is anything being done to protest against the working of the Transvaal Licences (Control) Ordinance nor the Slums Act nor the conditions existing in the Asiatic Bazaars in the Transvaal. The community's silence can only be taken to mean that they are unconcerned about what is happening; in other words, it means their consent to what is happening. We must once again bemoan the petty bickerings and the false sense of prestige among the leaders of the community at a time when there should be concerted action. The time is fast drawing nearer for us to decide either to awake and rise or to quit.

ANTI-ASIATIC AGITATION STUDIED DESIGN TO UPROOT THEM

ALARM at the encroachment of Asiatics upon European areas in country towns in the Transvaal was expressed by members of the executive of the Municipal Association of the Transvaal at a meeting held in the committee-room at the City Hall Johannesburg last Saturday.

"In ten years time," said one member, "most of the country towns will have become predominantly Asiatic."

It was pointed out that Asiatics evaded the present laws against the acquisition of property by marrying Malay or European women, in whose name the property was bought. Such

a women, it was stated, was worth thousands of pounds to the Asiatics in the town, for she bought property not only for her husband but for others as well.

The discussion arose out of the reply of the Minister of the Interior to a request for further legislation. The Minister replied that it was not the intention at present to introduce such legislation.

"I feel that we cannot take such a reply lying down," said Mr. D. J. M. Jordaan (Heidelberg). "If that is the attitude of the Minister then the less the Prime Minister and members of the

Government say about the Indian question the better. We will know where we stand. But they go about the country preaching about the encroachment of Indians, yet when we ask for assistance we are told it is not the intention to do anything.

Mr. S. J. Botha (Nylstroom) said that in that town there were eight Asiatic traders in the main street alone, and European traders were going under.

It was decided to make the strongest representations to the Government to introduce further legislation and to ask for a Commission to inquire into the residence of Asiatics in European areas in the country towns.

ASIATICS EMPLOYING WHITE GIRLS PRIME MINISTER SAYS LEGISLATION ALONE WILL NOT HELP

AT the sitting at Bloemfontein of the United Party Congress Mrs. Gert Beukes (Harrismith) sponsored a number of motions which in effect requested the Government to put an end to the conditions which enabled European Girls to work for Asiatics, even to the point of legislating against such conditions.

General Hertzog agreed everything possible should be done without delay to grapple with this serious matter. While he sympathised with those people who in despair looked to Parliament to solve the problem, he feared there were ramifications which placed it beyond the help of legislation.

He and others had given considerable thought to the problem, and they had

been forced to the conclusion that the remedy lay in the hands not so much of the Government as of the social workers. More often than not these girls were forced into working for Asiatics by poverty, parental unconcern and neglect and sometimes spiritual retrogression. The Government would leave no stone unturned to remove the economic causes of the evil by providing sufficient avenues of employment and better housing conditions, but the moral and spiritual remedial measures must be left to the noble-hearted and public-spirited citizens in the areas concerned, who should take the initiative in effective social rehabilitation work.

Experience had shown that legislation alone was not sufficient to prevent social and other intercourse between races and sexes.

The Rev. van Rooyen Smit said Europeans were to some extent responsible for the problem by supporting Asiatic stores and that the remedy therefore largely lay in the hands of the Europeans. Asiatics were employing European girls because their European clients wished to be served by European attendants.

A motion was ultimately adopted asking the Government to encourage all efforts to solve the problem and to do everything possible to assist.

COLOUR BAR IN BRITAIN SWIMMING POOL RESERVED FOR EUROPEANS ONLY

THE Southern Railway is refusing to issue to coloured persons special tickets to include fare and admission to the Lagoon Swimming Pool, Ophirton.

An official of the railway company stated to a representative of *The Daily Telegraph* London recently that the company was acting on the request of the proprietors of the swimming pool, with whom it had an arrangement for the issue of the tickets.

The manager of the Lagoon explained that ever since the pool was opened three years ago it had been the settled policy to refuse admission to coloured people. About a month ago some Indian students came from London and were turned away.

It was only right that coloured people should be told about the ban before

they started on a 15-miles journey. That was why the railway company had been requested to make it known that the special tickets would not be issued to them.

At one or two other swimming pools in and around London the colour-bar question has been raised, but at the majority it is unknown.

The proprietor of one of the biggest open air swimming pools north of London said: "The question has not risen so far as we are concerned. If it did, however, I think I should do my best to keep coloured people out. I think their presence would be objectionable to many people."

The manager of another big swimming pool on the south side of the river

said: "We feel it necessary to refuse admission to people of colour, because of the feelings of women using the pool. When it is a matter of using the same stretch of water for swimming in, the question becomes somewhat different from that of travelling in 'buses and tramcars' with coloured people."

Surbiton, Wood Green, Hammersmith and Hornsey pools are among those where no colour ban is imposed.

"Why should we ban these people?" asked one manager. "We are not living in Germany."

At several pools it was stated that, while there was no official ban against the administration of coloured people, they were not encouraged to attend.

RACIALISM

THE following is a copy of a letter from Mr. L. W. Ritch which was recently sent to the *Rand Daily Mail* for publication but was rejected by our contemporary.—

The Editor,
"Rand Daily Mail,"
Johannesburg.

Sir,—My (customary) pre-prandial perusal of the *Rand Daily Mail* this morning prompted a train of thought which you will perhaps allow me to express as another "Reader's Point of View."

My meaning will, I think, appear the clearer if I am permitted to place the following two excerpts in juxtaposition.

Page 9.

"Segregation In Germany"

In an interview with the newspaper *Angriff*, Herr Streicher explains that segregation has already been effected in Nuremberg, where the Jews have their own swimming bath and cafe and hope to institute a special school.

"All this," says Herr Streicher, "is in the interests of the Jews themselves, because we are decent people."

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"Why Asiatics Are Not Wanted"

(according to Mr. Solomon Joffe)

We in Ophirton believe that if the recommendations of the Commission are put into effect they will bring upon the white community a number of hardships. They would, firstly, cause an influx of Asiatic and coloured persons into Ophirton, bringing about an intermingling of the coloured and white races, which we consider to be detrimental to the community in general, both from the social and the moral point of view. . . . Because of the moral and social degeneracy, already referred to, which the Asiatic and coloured influx would bring about, these white men and women would seek to sell their property, only to find that it had depreciated in value. . . . We realise that homes and trading sites have to be found for the Asiatic and coloured races, but we submit that the proper solution would be to provide special townships for them, in which they could enjoy all the freedom they require.

One would have thought that the lessons of German Nazism and of Russian Tsarism would have brought home to the Solomon Joffe's of the world, the dangers of playing with the fires of racialism and of imputing inferiority to any other nation or people as such. Mr. Solomon Joffe would, no doubt, meet the many uncharitable criticisms the antisemite is wont to indulge in with the justifiable retort that no one has yet successfully framed an indictment against a whole people. Moreover, Mr. Joffe's attitude of superiority towards "Asiatics" is a little amusing, since Abraham and Moses, as well as Krishna and Mahomed are generally recognised to have been "Asiatics."

Cannot Mr. Joffe rise superior to the small shopkeeper mentality sufficiently to perceive the danger of exploiting racialism as a weapon with which to fight competition? He and his fellow anti-Asiatics might, with advantage, remember that in the realm of ethics, as in that of physics, the law that action and reaction are equal holds good; or, put otherwise, that as one sows, so one reaps.

What is the near-chaos the world is facing to-day, but the inevitable consequence of racial, national and class hatreds, rivalries and selfish competitions? Max O'Rell once remarked that peoples are not so much better or worse than one another, as different from each other. The need of the hour is the constructive thinker who will emphasise the manhood that is common alike to Jew and Gentile, Oriental and Occidental, to every unit of the human family irrespective of the superficial differences of race, creed, caste or colour. Mankind has had enough of the disruptive activities of the antis and their rivalries for so-called "rights." The time has come for synthetic co-ordinating co-operative thought and action, for less superficial thinking and a more comprehensive vision; for a recognition of the truth that every human being and congeries of humans are sparks of God, the All-Father and are brothers under their skins. Ophirton is, perhaps, the hub of Mr. Joffe's universe. He might, however, try to appreciate that there are considerations of farther reaching import than those he is concerned with, to which even the interests of Ophirton might legitimately be subordinated.

I am, etc., L. W. RITCH.

Viceroy In Indian Legislative Assembly

Homily On Spirit Of Tolerance

"NOTHING is to be gained by working the new Constitution in a spirit of mere destruction or by the abandonment of constitutional methods. I appeal to all those who love the country and desire to see it well governed by its own people to show a spirit of tolerance and goodwill and to work for the creation of greater friendliness among all communities," declared Lord Willingdon in an address to both Houses of the Indian Legislature.

He said that the Emergency Powers and Criminal Law Amendment Bills would be returned to the Assembly in recommended form for reconsideration.

Communal unrest is a more serious danger than for many years," he said. "Dangerous subversive movements are still active, and the local governments are unanimously convinced that the retention of emergency measures is essential."

Speaking of India's trade position, Lord Willingdon said the export trade in commodities other than cotton had improved by £2,250,000 compared with last year. In the case of Germany the balance was again swinging in India's favour, while, despite Italy's stringent system of import control, exports to that country in the first four months of 1935 had fallen by only six per cent.

The Viceroy announced the formation of a special Aviation Circle in the Public Works Department to carry out a programme of bringing air routes up to date, preparations for which were progressing steadily.

Concerning the grant for rural development, he said that over £187,550 would be spent on village water supply and irrigation, £142,500 for general improvement of villages, £90,000 on improvement on village roads and £75,000 on sanitation and medical work.

The Assembly, by 69 votes to 57, refused leave to the Home Member to re-introduce the Criminal Law Amendment Bill mentioned by Lord Willingdon in his address.

The Bill was rejected on September 12 by 71 votes to 61, when it was understood that the Government would certify the Bill.

SOCIAL INEQUALITIES MUST GO

KAMALADEVI ON PROBLEM OF POVERTY AMIDST WEALTH

ADDRESSING a public meeting under the auspices of the Bangalore Congress Committee recently Shrimati Kamala Devi said:

Struggle for progress is a feature of life in every country of the world, much more so in a backward country like India. You may perhaps feel that because you have your own Government here, there is nothing more for you to strive for. But the sufferings of people are common, no matter in which part of the world our India is. After all a country is judged by the average man in that place. If you take the average man who works in the field or the average worker who works in a factory and then you take his condition and say if it is a happy one, it is the only standard by which you can judge the condition of a country.

We are labouring to-day under the disadvantage of a system which does not provide every man with the absolute minimum requirements of life. Therefore when we visualise a country, we must think in terms whether every man has got all that he requires, whether he is in a position to live as a decent human being. Now as things exist to-day, what you find is this, that a man slaves in his field from morning till evening for months together and yet he is not in a position to enjoy the fruits of his labour. What he earns is hardly enough to keep his body and soul together. Because if you take those persons who own the lands themselves, you find that they are burdened by heavy taxation. India is one of the most heavily taxed countries of the world. We have to-day in the country a very expensive administration.

Starving Peasants

We have a very high taxation so that the poor man is not able to save anything. And the result of it is that he is not in a position to ever improve his land so that the productive capacity of that land may be raised. Those who work on lands which are owned by big zamindars and land lords, their fate is also equally bad. About 1/3 of the cultivable land of India is under these conditions. It is owned by a handful of people who derive crores of income without doing any work. The peasants work in these lands in order to feed these few people; and what happens to this money which is raised by the sweat of their brow? It only goes in keeping these people in luxury; it is spent in maintaining a high standard of living; in having luxurious houses and

very expensive cars and grand yearly trips to foreign countries. Thus under both these conditions, there is no chance of the money being spent in order to improve the agricultural conditions in the country. The result is there are millions of people to-day who are simply starving in spite of the enormous labour they are putting.

You find that in other countries like America, enormous sums of money are spent in order to improve the agricultural conditions by improving the soil, by using chemicals for improving manure, improving the implements with which the land is worked, improving seeds; but in India there is no chance because the poor peasant is never in a position to be able to save up any money either because he has got heavy taxes to pay or otherwise he has heavy rents to pay and because the country is not sufficiently industrialised. I have just shown how it is impossible for us to save money. So the country cannot be industrialised either.

Distribution Of Land

To-day the land is overpopulated because we have not got sufficient industries in the country to absorb this population. On an average each family in India owns two to four acres of land. In my own district we have got 35,000 people who own only one acre of land. Thus these conditions are more or less common over the whole of India. So we know that this whole question needs to be reconsidered in the light of better distribution of land to the peasants. You find that in countries like America and England each family owns anything from 18 to 21 acres of land. Here where a piece of land produces four seers of wheat, the same area of land in America produces about 14 to 20 seers of wheat. And it is because they are able to spend so much money in improving the condition of the land. So we must struggle for a change whereby we are in a position to have enough land to support each family and also the productive capacity so raised that the wealth does not suffer from investment.

Sad Problem

To-day the man who owns the means of production, i.e., the building and the machinery is entitled to the full fruits of all that is produced. Thousands of labourers work in order to produce the

goods. But what happens is that the labourer gets only a very small fraction of the wealth that he produces and the greater part of that wealth goes into the pockets of those who own the means of production. We know that the machinery, building and the money are as much necessary as the workmen. The interests of the two, i.e., the interest of the owner as well as the workman, should be one and identical. But it is not so. Because we know that the workman is just paid enough to keep his body and soul together, while the greater portion of the profit goes into the pockets of those who happen to be the owners. Thus in the conditions obtaining to-day in the country, we are faced with this very sad problem of hundreds and thousands, i.e., the majority of the population. It is, therefore, necessary that we should struggle and strive for the establishment of a system where there will not be such poverty on the one side and great wealth on the other, where every man will have the opportunities and the facilities he is entitled to.

Strengthen Congress

To-day most of the children that are born into the world have no future to look forward. It has nothing but poverty and suffering to look forward, and this is not because of some accident or fate. We have got into the habit of saying that it is because of past 'Karma' that we are born in such conditions. You may as well not sweep your house and allow dust and dirt to accumulate and then say it is my 'Karma' to live in such a house. We know that the dirt has to be cleared up, that the house needs to be cleaned every day in order to keep it clean and healthy so that we may live healthy lives. Science teaches that sanitation is very necessary for healthy lives. In the same way we must have a more scientific outlook on general life. We must organize society in such a way that every man gets what he is entitled to so that he can lead a decent existence. Thus national organisations like the Congress are to-day identifying themselves with the struggle of all the poor people in the country, so that their conditions may be improved. We feel that unless we have the Government in our hands, we may not be in a position to bring about prosperity to the country.

IGNORANCE ABOUT INDIA IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES

MR. CHAMAN LAL'S EXPERIENCE

MR. CHAMAN LAL, the special correspondent of the *Bombay Chronicle* who had been on a World Tour spent ten months in Japan and China, where he published his book the "Secrets of Japan" the first edition of which was sold out within five weeks in America and Japan. In America, Mr. Chaman Lal delivered about fifty lectures in leading Universities of U. S., Rotary Clubs and several other centres. All over America, as well as in the Far East, Mr. Chaman Lal found genuine sympathy for the cause of Indian freedom and he found many followers of the creed of non-violence in America and Japan and China.

Latest Gandhi Story

"The Americans are the most sincere admirers of Mahatma Gandhi and are anxious to see India free, but they are in utter ignorance of what is going on in India to-day. Will you believe me, when I tell you that several intelligent

people in America actually asked me if Gandhiji had died, since they did not hear for long anything about him. The popular belief in America to-day is that Gandhiji has given up the cause of Indian freedom, for which, I may be excused, Mahatma Gandhi's announcement of retirement from politics is to blame. Some newspaper correspondents send stories about the amount of tobacco used by labourers in the Earthquake area in Bihar to prove prosperity of labourers, false stories about Gandhiji refusing interview to Miss Doris Duke, the American millionaire and about supposed condemnation of Gandhiji by his staunch lieutenants like Sjt. Rajagopalacharya, etc.; but they never cared to send a line about India's marvellous victories at the Assembly elections or the day-to-day constitutional defeats suffered by the Government in the Assembly.

Indian Centres Abroad

What we need is a most fully equipped News Agency and Indian centres all over the world and especially in America whose public opinion counts with our rulers. Mr. Chaman Lal proposes to write a series of articles on what India needs to-day. During his tour, Mr. Chaman Lal met several leading diplomats, Presidents, Ministers, Emperors, business magnates, leaders of women and youth movements. He was lucky enough to have one hour interview with Mr. Henry Ford, Mr. Upton Sinclair and others. Mr. Ford who showed great interest in India, gave a shock to Mr. Chaman Lal when he asked: "Did not Tagore die two years ago?" Mr. Chaman Lal feels convinced that as long as our leaders do not give up the policy of "Frog in the Well" we cannot blame the world for knowing nothing about India, and rushing to read books like Miss Mayo's which has run 28 editions.

ITALO-ABYSSINIAN DISPUTE

THIS week has by no means brought us anywhere nearer to a settlement of the Italo-Abyssinian dispute. Sir Samuel Hoare's speech at the League Assembly declaring the determination of Britain to stand by the League Covenant has brought considerable hope in the otherwise gloomy horizon and M. Laval's support on behalf of the French Government has increased that hope. Mr. Charles de Water speaking on behalf of South Africa has pointed out to the danger of European civilisation being overthrown if the Natives were taught and encouraged, to war. And H. H. the Aga Khan speaking on behalf of India declared that Indian criticism of the League was growing owing to the League's lack of universality. India had small representation compared with her large contribution. India was troubled by the League's dramatic failures, by the unfruitful Disarmament-Conference and by wars declared and undeclared which had been waged between its members. Now a fresh trouble, greater than any of these, had arisen. The League's ideal of collective security was the only alternative to international anarchy. The world was at the parting of the ways. Let wisdom guide her choice.

Mussolini's Champion

While all the other powers are criticising adversely Italy's attitude towards Abyssinia Signor Mussolini has found a champion of his cause in the Asutrian Press. The attitude of the Bulgarian Press is summed up in a sentence: "The history of Great Britain, France, Holland and Portugal shows that the way chosen by Signor Mussolini to capture Ethiopia is not less moral or humane than that followed in the past by these Powers. If Italy neglects this occasion she will lose the chance of actual possessions.

Itching To Fight

In the meantime everything hangs on the report of the Committee of Five and on its acceptance or rejection by Italy who is still itching to fight. The following statement made by Signor Mussolini to the *Morning Post's* Rome correspondent is significant: "Hitherto preparations in East Africa have cost Italy 2,000,000,000 lire. Do you think we have done that for a joke? No, we will march on. It is too late to tell us to stop. Even Portugal, Belgium and Holland have fruitful colonies Why should not Italy?"

Nationalist Party's Policy

Speaking to the Congress of the Cape Nationalist Party Dr. Malan is reported

to have said: "As far as the Nationalist Party is concerned, we can only remain true to the attitude which we have adopted since 1914 and always maintained, that we shall keep ourselves out of the quarrels of the people of the world with which we have no concern. We must exercise our right of neutrality in practice as we are entitled to do to-day and tell the nations of the world that we as a country were going to remain neutral. If the Government swerves from that course it will be for us to fight them tooth and nail."

"War Is Inevitable"

"War has become almost inevitable, nevertheless some compromise might still be reached at the eleventh hour," declared the Rev. O. F. Andrews when interviewed by the *Associated Press of India* on the Italo-Abyssinian conflict. "Unfortunately for a long time past there have been commitments between Britain, France and Italy," the Rev. Andrews added, "all of which assumed that the spheres of influence would be marked out by each of these powers, in the Abyssinian territory."

"Great Britain claimed interests in 1925 in Lake Teana while Italy claimed freedom to construct a railway across the Abyssinian territory between Eritrea and Italian Somaliland. Was Abyssinia

Protested these Powers withdrew their claims for the time being but it was quite obvious that they would be repeated. Italy has, therefore, already gained an advantage by preventing a full League of Nations enquiry such as Abyssinia demanded. Instead of this, which was Abyssinia's right, Italy has ordained a mere conference of interested Powers to which Abyssinia is only to be invited later on.

"General Smuts's declaration that the whole of Africa would be roused by Italy's action is quite true. I found al-

ready great excitement on the Gold Coast, west of Africa, when I was there earlier in the year. It must be remembered that military action is practically impossible until late in September. There is, therefore, only a faint hope that world opinion strongly expressed may restrain Italy from declaring war during the next six weeks in which it would be to her disadvantage from the military point of view to do so. The greatest need of the hour is to mobilise world opinion."

India's Protest Against Italy's Attitude

Mr. V. V. Giri, M.L.A., has given notice of the following resolution which he intends to move at the forthcoming Simla session of the Legislative Assembly:

"This Assembly is of the opinion that the present tension in the relations between Italy and Abyssinia is fraught with the gravest danger to world peace and recommends to the Governor-General-in-Council to communicate to the Italian Government, the protest of India as a member of the League of Nations, against the attitude of Italy in the matter as an act of Imperialist aggression towards Abyssinia."

Things In General

World's Diplomats

Thus Mr. A. G. Barlow in the *Sunday Express*:—

PROBABLY one of the most remarkable men who ever lived in South Africa was Mr. Sastri, the first Agent representing India in the Union. He is a widely read person and knows the literature of many countries. He is certainly the best speaker in English that we have ever had in this country. This is remarkable considering that he spoke to South Africans in what to him was a foreign language. I remember once attending a dinner given by Mr. Sastri to leading politicians. I sat alongside of the tall Sir William Stanford, that gallant old Senator from the Cape. At this dinner Sastri, Malan, Hertzog and Duncan spoke, and they all held forth on the British Empire and the greatness of England and the English. Sir William whispered to me: "Do you realise that England in her time has thrashed and pillaged Scotland, India and South Africa, and here we have leading men from all these countries singing the virtue of our people—there must, after all, be something in us." Tielman Roos always held that the Englishman was the best diplomat in the world. On many occasions he said to me: "The bigger fool an English diplomat looks, the more careful you must be of him, for in the end he is sure to trip you up." Mr. Roos never visited England although on two occasions he went to Europe. He always showed a certain amount of nervousness about English politicians in England—although he was very English in his outlook and his mother tongue was English, notwithstanding that his parents were Afrikaners. Why is it that the English, a people who find it very difficult to speak any language but their own—living in a small island—are the best diplomats in the world?

World Peace Society's Letter To Mahatma Gandhi

The following letter has been sent to Mahatma Gandhi by the World Peace Society, New York, through Mr. Chaman Lal of the *Hindustan Times*, Delhi:—

"This Society has since its incorporation in 1927 sought methods by which its objects to effect universal peace could be accomplished. It was the first to realise that Universal peace can only be accomplished by stability of finance, industry and commerce, throughout the world, for the progress of humanity. It has placed this idea in the hands of diplomats and statesmen of various nations and now it has seen its ideas based upon stability, seized upon by rulers, financiers and the public press, which indicates that its idea of world stability, as essential to universal peace is apparently correct. The Society takes the liberty of placing in your hands for your consideration an article written by its President, titled "Stability for Peace and Prosperity," which it trusts you will be able to spare some of your valuable time to examine for its merit. Any comment which you may care to make about this article will be highly appreciated. You may make any use of the article which you may deem to be of advantage to your followers, as well as yourself. The Society wishes you full success in your efforts to bring the people of India into a great union for peace, happiness and human progress."

Mahatmaj's On Nudism

The *Times of India* writes:—

According to a correspondent the latest conundrum to be put to Mr. Gandhi is by an advocate of nudism. A letter to the Indian leader asserted that clothing was unnatural and unhealthy. Moreover, it was one of those artificial conditions which civilised man had created for himself to his own harm. The letter

claimed that Hinduism itself supported the nude cult. From every point of view it was argued that nudism was morally and hygienically uplifting and economically sound. For the protagonist of "khaddar" this might have appeared awkward. To Mr. Gandhi, however, such things are a mere bagatelle. In reply, the Mahatma had "no hesitation" in agreeing with the correspondent in theory. But theories are not always capable of being reduced to practice. The imaginary right angle of Geometry will not build houses, but the nearly perfect right angle which masons and carpenters use is responsible for many marvellous things. In the Western world as well as in India, Nudism in practice is not permissible. I am convinced that it would be a great error to act as though all men and women were pure minded. I hold it, therefore, to be dangerous." —Q.E.D.

Another Three Enterprising Parsees

Afghanistan has been crossed on bicycles for the first time by three young world-cycling Parsees. The cyclists are Kaikee Kharas, Rustan Ghandi and Ruttan Shroff, who left Bombay in April, 1933, and have since been touring various countries of the world. They arrived at Milan recently after crossing Baluchistan, Afghanistan, Persia, Turkey, Bulgaria, Jugo-Slavia, Hungary, Czecho-Slovakia, Germany, Belgium, Great Britain, France, Spain; and Switzerland. From Milan their route leads them through Venice to Rome, Naples, and Brindisi. Thence they will go to Egypt, South Africa, the United States, and the Far East before returning to Bombay. So far they have covered 18,000 miles. All they carry is a tent, a blanket, and a few cooking utensils.

India Letter

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT]

Indian Journalists Association

THE annual conference of the Indian Journalists Association at Calcutta which has just concluded its deliberations has been an important event. Mr. Chintamani, the chief editor of *The Leader*, the well-known liberal nationalist daily of Allahabad, presided and in his Presidential address reviewed the condition of journalists and journalism in India.

Though his paper is known for its moderate policy and so far has not provoked the ire of the Government, his address formulated a powerful indictment of the attitude of the Government of India towards the Press in this country. "In India," he said, "Government do what they please but are jealous of our liberty to say what we think." After surveying the different repressive enactment and ordinances against the Press and critically reviewing the policy that was responsible for them, he wanted to know what was the need for these special emergency measures when the criminal Procedure Code provided the Government with more than sufficient power to keep the Press in control. The Government evidently were not so keen on stopping the Press from becoming criminal but of suppressing its legitimate freedom.

A Noble Calling

Journalism, he said, was a noble calling. Newspapers existed for popular education. While educational institutions imparted knowledge to the young, the Press educated the adults through the dissemination of news and views in the columns of the newspapers. It was with this aim in view, he said, that the Indian Press had come into existence and he took the opportunity of paying a tribute on behalf of journalists all over India to the great pioneers of the Press in India, like Raja Ram Mohan Roy and Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji for their foresight and wisdom which they showed at that time. "We the humble successors of the mighty men of old," said Mr. Chintamani, "have every reason to feel a pardonable pride not only in the nobility of our calling but in the greatness of our ancestry."

Press And Swaraj

Continuing, he said, no newspaper had a right to exist in India at the present time which is not an advocate of Swaraj. "Differences of opinion are bound to exist as regards the methods by which this is to be achieved but there can be and I am glad to think there is no difference be-

tween one Indian paper and another as regards the end itself. We who have inherited the freedom movement from Raja Ram Mohan Roy and Dadabhai Naoroji cannot be and will not be false to our sacred trust."

The Conference passed a number of resolutions regarding the various grievances of journalists and newspaper proprietors in India. The Conference urged the removal of a number of emergency and repressive laws such as Indian State Protection Act, The Bengal Criminal Law Amendment Act and the Press Emergency Act, objected to the maintenance of the Press Officer in Bengal and demanded the immediate abolition of Press censorship.

The Indian journalists have with one voice condemned the restrictions imposed on their profession by the Government. How absurd are these restrictions can be judged from the fact that some of the nationalist newspapers are not allowed to publish the photographs of national leaders convicted for civil disobedience. The Government of Great Britain regards the Press as the Fourth Estate of the realm and gives it not only complete freedom but also every possible help and facility. On the contrary the Government of India takes pleasure in daily making the task of Indian newspapers difficult. But the Press, in spite of these handicaps and repeated sufferings has stuck to its advocacy of the national cause of Swaraj and will continue to do so though there may be a hundred more Press acts. The Government, however, would have given proof of its better sense if it had relaxed its rigid control of the Press. How can they say they are giving anything like responsible government to India when they give the Viceroy the power to gag the newspapers in this fashion. A democratic and responsible government without a free press is unthinkable.

A Ghastly Picture

A serious situation was created at Parna when in response to an advertisement asking for recruits as police constables of which there were seven vacancies, no less than three thousand young men presented themselves at the Police lines with applications in their hands. The post of a police constable, be it noted, carries a remuneration of about 17 rupees per month. And yet for seven vacancies as many as 3,000 unemployed youths applied. Some of these were graduates and most of them matriculates. This incident is sufficient to show the state of unemployment in India especially among the educated youth.

Not long ago a similar situation arose at Calcutta when the authorities of the Reserve Bank advertised for 40 temporary clerks on 30 rupees a month. No less than ten thousand graduates and undergraduates surrounded the Bank premises and police had to be called to clear the roads of this crowd of unemployed, standing there, each with an application in his hand, and a degree in his pocket eager to get a job of thirty rupees . . . a ghastly picture of educated unemployed in India. But still when the nominees of Government of India go to international conferences, they brazenly declare that all is well with this country and that Government is doing all in its power to improve the economic condition.

Floods After 'Quake

Hardly has India recovered from the terrible shock of the Quetta earthquake that we hear now of serious floods in several parts of India. Many of the Punjab Rivers are overflowing and some portions of Lahore are reported to be under water as a result of the river Ravi being in floods. Heavy rains have been reported from Bengal hills also and several districts are inundated. Burdwan town is threatened as a result of a breach in the Damodar and several casualties are reported. Floods have also occurred in Assam and in Burma. Verily it is true that misfortunes and calamities never come alone.

Prof. Ranga Asked To Quit Simla Y.M.C.A.

Instances of colour prejudice and dress prejudice against Indian nationals, though they have grown less frequent in foreign land do occur some times on the country's soil itself. But it becomes terribly annoying when one meets such cases in a cosmopolitan town like Simla and in institutions reputed to be liberal in their outlook and standing for a better understanding between the different creeds and races writes the Special Correspondent of *Hindustan Times*.

Surprise was sprung on Prof. Ranga, a member of the Assembly for whom rooms had already been booked in the local Y.M.C.A. when on arrival the Secretary told him that he could not allow his stay in the Y.M.C.A. rooms as he wore a *dhott* which he said would not be liked by some European residents.

Prof. Ranga declined to change his dress to suit the tastes of the Y.M.C.A. authorities and shifted to another building. Similar unpleasant experience probably awaits other members of the Assembly who wear *dhottis* and have also booked rooms in the Y.M.C.A.

South African News In Brief

Union Revenue Increase

UNION revenue for August amounted to £7,642,439 which is over £1,000,000 more than in August, 1934. The total revenue for the five months of the current financial year amounts to £1,864,731. In the corresponding period of last year it was £1,565,038.

Flood Relief Fund

The Central Indian Flood Relief Committee has received in cash donations for the relief of the distressed in the recent floods £576 10s. 6d. up to the time of writing these lines (Sept. 17).

Alleged Assault On Native

An amazing case of alleged assault on a Native by his employer, a Pietersburg man, is at present being investigated by the police. A European, it is alleged, called a Native to him, poured paraffin over his hair, set it alight and then told him to run. The Native is at present in hospital in a serious condition, having been severely burned about the head. It is expected, however, that he will recover.

Durban Indian Life Savers Club

At the annual meeting of the above club held in the Parsse Ruaromjee Hall on Thursday Sept. 12 the following office-bearers were elected: Patron: Kunwar Sir Maharaj Singh, President: Mr. V. S. O. Pather, Vice-President: Mr. A. I. K. Jee, Secretary: Mr. O. N. Pather, Treasurer: Mr. Alex Ehrhalm, Auditor: Mr. O. J. Pather, Captain: Mr. B. B. Singh, Vice-Captain: Mr. B. Mahadoo; Committee: Messrs. D. Seebrun, G. M. Ballim and R. Patel. And about thirty honorary members.

Veteran Indian's Death

The death occurred at Volksrust on Tuesday night, Sept. 10, of Hassan Bapoo, one of the oldest Indians of Volksrust. His age was 80. He was the first Indian to settle in Volksrust and was very well known by all residents as "On Hoonder." On two occasions he went on a pilgrimage to Mecca.

Interpreters' Transfer

Mr. W. Samuel, Indian Interpreter of Estcourt is due to leave for Howick on transfer at the end of the current month. Mr. T. Reddy of Stanger has been appointed his successor.

Indian Commercial and Technical Students Society

A farewell reception was accorded by the Indian Commercial and Technical Students Society to Miss E. Knox who is leaving on an educational and a holiday trip for England, under the auspices of the Indian Commercial and Technical

Students' Society on Tuesday September 10. In the absence of the President, Mr. M. Y. Nainnar, Mr. G. M. Titlestad, B.A., consented to preside. The chairman, in his brief introductory remarks touched upon the many good qualities of Miss Knox who endeared herself so much to the students and the staff. Mr. G. A. Kolbe, B.A., and many other students spoke in glowing terms of her untiring efforts in the execution of her duties, and wished her a very pleasant voyage and a safe return. Mr. G. K. Padia, the secretary, presented Miss Knox on behalf of the Society a gold wristlet watch and an illuminate address. Miss Knox thanked the Society for the very kind remarks made about her and for the beautiful gifts and assured the students that she would never forget that happy occasion, and the watch would, at all times, remind as a remembrance of that day.

Appeal For Funds For Glencoe Indian School

Four members of the Glencoe School Society have been nominated to tour Natal and other centres with a view to raising funds for the extension of the above school. There are about two hundred children of school-going age in Glencoe but owing to inadequate facilities only about one hundred and fifty pupils had so far been enrolled. Even this number has been decreased to a hundred as a result of instructions from the Education Department to the effect that fifty children would have to be ejected as the existing accommodation was sufficient for a hundred pupils only. The parents who are keen to educate their children are sending their children after school hours to take advantage of a special class conducted by the headmaster. An earnest appeal is made by the above Society to all interested in Indian education to assist the above cause.

Young Men's Vedic Society Bazaar

The Young Men's Vedic Society of Durban is organizing a Bazaar in aid of a Building Fund and provisions are being made for benevolent work and the care of orphans. The Bazaar will be held on Saturday, October 5, 1935. All contributions in cash to be sent to the Secretary, P.O. Box 396, and in kind to 104, Prince Edward Street, Durban, which will be gratefully acknowledged.

Shri Gopallal Temple (Verulam)

A correspondent from Verulam states that the Committee of the above temple has appointed Mr. Harisunker Maharaj as Hindi teacher for the vernacular school run under the auspices of the Temple. He has commenced teaching from September 9 and the Committee finds him to be quite satisfactory.

The 67th Birthday anniversary celebration of Mahatma Gandhi will be held on September 24, 1935, (Tuesday) at the Temple Hall at 7 p.m. All are cordially invited by the Secretary to attend.

Rhodesia Notes

(From Our Bulawayo Correspondent.)

Mr. K. R. Vashee was blessed with a daughter on Sunday 25th August 1935. Mother and child are keeping well.

Mr. M. H. Naik of Gwananda presented a silver cup to the Bulawayo Indian School Cricket Club.

Mr. P. M. David of the Bulawayo Club lost his youngest son on Sept 3, caused by an attack of double pneumonia.

Mrs. K. N. Rama (Snr.) after a serious illness is well on the path of recovery.

APOLOGY

I, the undersigned, MOHKAN CHAND VARMAN, of 382, Pine Street, Durban, do hereby desire to express my regret to Mr. BHAWANI DAYAL SANNYASI in regard to certain statements made by me in a letter which I sent on the 18th August 1933, to Mr. J. S. Gujral at Lourenco Marques.

I desire to withdraw unreservedly the statements made in that letter, which were incorrect.

Dated at Durban this 11th day of September 1935.

(Sgd.) M. O. VARMAN.

O/o G. A. F. Burt & Wills,
Solicitors,
6/13 Rennie's Buildings,
Smith Street, Durban.

भारती

हू नीचे सही करनार ३८२ पाइन स्ट्रीट,
डरबनने मोहकनचंद वरमन आथी भी. लवानी
ध्याण सन्वसिती ता. १८ अगस्ट १९३३ ना
भी ने एस. गुजराल उपर दोरेनको भारकवीस
मोहकवेला अक पत्रमां अनुक हकीकतो न्युवेली
तेना संघमां मारो भेद दर्शावा ध्युं धुं.
अ पत्रमां न्युवेली हकीकत पोटी हती अने
ते हू भीनशरते पाडी भेची सेवा ध्युं धुं.
डरबन मुकामे ता. ११ सप्टेम्बर १९३५.
(सही) एस. सी. वरमन.

The Sporting World

Olympic Games In Germany Next Year

A MEETING of the World Maccabiah Congress resolved to ask the Olympic Committees and other sporting organisations not to include Jewish athletes in the Olympic Games' teams to Germany next year on account of the treatment of Jews in Germany.

Cricket.

Cricket Sub-Committees

Last Wednesday Sept. 11 the Durban Cricket Union met for the purpose of electing the various sub-committees, and the following were the results:— Councilors to Natal Indian Cricket Union: Messrs. M. B. Iyaloo, K. A. Chin, and I. Ansary; executive committee: M. S. Badat, M. B. Iyaloo, and A. Sookdeo; selection committee: M. S. Badat, M. B. Iyaloo, E. I. Haffeejee, S. L. Singh, and K. A. Chin; delegates to Sports Ground Association: S. L. Singh, E. I. Haffeejee, M. S. Badat, K. A. Chin, S. I. Ansary, and K. Thunbadoo; Protest, Misconduct and Inquiry Board: M. B. Iyaloo, G. M. Nair and H. A. Lattoo; fixture committee: M. S. Badat, M. B. Iyaloo and N. Sullapben. It was decided to commence the season on October 12 in view of several players who will be away on the Rand engaged in the soccer tournament. It was further resolved that, to show the appreciation of the Indian cricketers to the successful South Africans on their return to this country, a reception in their honour be given in Durban subject to the consent of the South African authorities, the matter to be left in the hands of Messrs. M. S. Badat and S. L. Singh. Clubs are reminded that the balance of their subscriptions will have to be paid by September 25, otherwise they will have to forfeit their advance fees.

By "Rambler"

Volkcrust Vs. Ermelo

The following is the team of Volkcrust Indian Government School C. C. who are meeting the Ermelo I. G. S. O. C. on Sept 29:— A. M. Omar (Captain), I. M. Mahomed (vice-captain), M. I. Omar, H. M. Desai, A. L. Omar, G. H. M. Manjoon, G. H. I. Poochee, G. E. Dindar, Benjamin David Pillay, R. Bala Moodly and Cassim Suleman Moola.

Soccer.

Football At Umkomaas

The Umkomaas Indian Football team on Friday played a friendly "home" match against an Umbogintwini team. The game was keenly contested; the Umkomaas team proving the stronger, and winning by two goals to nil. The match was watched by a big crowd of Europeans and Indians.

Haffeejee's Five Wins

A five a side tournament was staged under the aegis of the Howick Indian Football Club on Sunday Sept. 15 on the Howick Sports Ground, for the M. R. George Trophy. A number of teams from Maritzburg, Plessislaer, Satherlands, Estcourt and Howick entered. The tournament was played on the knock out system. Save for a few unpleasant incidents during the progress of the Tournament, the matches were keenly contested. Mr. M. E. Haffeejee's Five from Estcourt played the Austin five of Maritzburg in the final. The Estcourt side proved to be more speedy and tactful than their opponents. The final whistle blew leaving the Haffeejee's Five well earned victors of the day. A pleasant function to celebrate the victory of the

Haffeejee's Five in the Howick Tournament, took place on the evening of Sept 16, at Estcourt.

Tennis

Estcourt and Dannhauser at Tennis

Estcourt Indian Tennis Club met Dannhauser Indian Tennis Club in the final for the much coveted Singh Bowl, at the Riverview tennis courts, Lady-smith, on Sunday Sept 8. The keenly contested match was under the auspices of the Northern District Indian Tennis Union. Estcourt proved the better side and won comfortably by 13 games. The trophy was presented to the winning captain at the annual general meeting of the Northern District Tennis Union, which took place after the match.

Famous Tennis Players To Visit India

A team of famous tennis players, consisting of Menzel, Caska, Artens and Bawarowski, is to visit India in 1935-36 at the invitation of the All-India Lawn Tennis Association.

Golf.

Border Indian Golf Club

A Correspondent from Volkcrust writes:—

There was a very large gathering of Indians and Europeans last Sunday to witness the Golf Tournament played at the Border Indian Golf Club. Members from various Townships competed, representing their respective Districts. The following competitors qualified for the semi final to be played on Sunday 29th inst.

R. Bala Moodly,	Representing Durban
C. Moonsamy,	.. Volkcrust
Freddy P. Perkins,	.. Utreoht
Sonny Pillay,	.. Newcastle.

Fixtures Semi Final

R. Bala Mbodley	vs.	Sonny Pillay,
Freddy Percy Perkins	vs.	C. Moonsamy.

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