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NOTES AND NEWS

The Late Rev. Charles Phillips

2 OUTH African non-Europeans have lost a great friend in the death of the late Rev. Charles Phillips. Of Mr. Phillips, it could be truly said that he had dedicated his life for service to the coloured community. He founded many churches for the coloured people on the Rand. He was a close friend of Mahatma Gandhi, and interested himself a great deal in the cause of our community in South Africa. Throughout the passive resistance struggle in South Africa, the late Rev. Phillips was not only an ardent supporter of the movement, but was also the acting chairman of the European Committee that was formed to assist the cause. In him we had a friend who treated our cause as his own. His was a noble life.

We extend to his bereaved family our heartfelt sympathy.

Mrs. B. Rama Rau

We extend a cordial welcome to Mrs. B. Rama Rau, wife of the Agent-General for India, who arrives to-day at Durban from Capetown Mrs. Rau comes to us by air. with a brilliant career and as a social worker with considerable experience. She has spent a number of years as a teacher in the Madras Presidency, and whilst in England she interested herself in social movements. The fact that prior to her departure from England, twenty two women's organisations as a body, accorded her a farewell reception, is an indication of her popularity as a social worker. Mrs. Rama Rau will be of considerable assistance to the Agent-General in the educational and social spheres of our community in South Africa.

The Bell Street Slum Area

It would be remembered that the Durban City Council decided that its resolution to evict the Bell Street tenants should stand. As a result of this decision they were served with eviction orders to become operative at the end of June. The Natal Indian Congress organised a demonstration and marched the affected Indians to the City Hall. The demonstration consisted of the tenants with their women and children.

A deputation from the Congress with the Agent-General for India, and Mr. Duncan Burnside waited upon the Council-in-Committee. The deputation pointed out the hardship that would entail if the tenants were evicted.

Housing Conditions On Certain Sugar Estates

As a result of the allegations made by Mr. Mr. H. A. Naidoo, at a conference of the S. A. Trades and Labour Congress, the National Executive of the Congress has investigated and reported on the appalling conditions that exist on some of the sugar estates. We are very pleased that a European body has made the investigation, for, hitherto very little notice had been taken of the housing conditions on the sugar estates.

Inter alia, the report reads, "the housing on certain sugar estates is deplorable—a fact which is borne out by photographs taken on the spot. The rooms occupied are shockingly overcrowded. I here are large holes in roofs and walls, and no windows Most structures are made of corrugated iron, Sanitary which is mostly corroded. conditions are appalling. On one estate there is no water laid on, and the people have to obtain water from a well constructed by themselves at a distance of approximately 200 yards away in the valley. All water for cooking, cleaning, ablution, and for washing clothes, is taken from this well."

The Natal sugar industry owes its prosperity to Indian labour, and yet, the Indian employees have not had a square deal from the sugar magnates. The Tongaat Sugar Coy. and the Mount Edgecombe Estates are the only two companies which have done something towards the better housing of their Indian employees. The issuing of a report as has been done by the S. A. Trades and Labour Congress is not sufficient. The Congress must follow it up by representations being made so that an immediate improvement is made in the housing conditions.

The Mixed Marriage Poster

The Mixed Marriage Poster which vas the subject of severe criticism during the general election, and which, no doubt, cost the Purified Nationalists

a considerable number of votes, was recalled at the Free State Provincial Council, which passed the following resolution:

"Although this Council deplores every attempt towards miscegenation and has every confidence that the Government will take all possible steps to prevent such miscegenation, it nevertheless expresses its deepest disappointment, resentment and indignation in connection with the insulting mixed marriage poster which was published by the Nationalist Party during the recent general election for the purpose of gaining votes at the cost of the honour and good name of the European women of South Africa.

"This Council further feels concerned over the influence this poster has undoubtedly had, and is still having on the mind of the Native at the cost of the respect and reverence which the Native should be taught to display towards the European women."

The Free state Provincial Council is to be congratulated for having taken up this stand. We have, on many occasions, pointed out that much of the non-European problems in South Africa, is the creation of certain irres onsible politicians. Any stick is good enough for the South African politician to beat the underdog. The mixed marriages poster was a classic example of venom that is being emitted by certain Europeans against the Natives of this country.

Indian Women's League

- At a general meeting of the League over which Mrs. V. R. R. Moodley presided in the Tamil Institute, Durban, the Constitution of the League was passed with the following objects:-(1) Emancipation of Indian girls and women; (2) Intellectual, cultural and physical education; (3) Political and social advancement; (4) Encouragement of girls and women to enter the professions, trades and occupations; (5) Education of girls and women workers to enter trade unions and generally to stand for better rates of pay and conditions of employment; (6) Training of girl and women workers and securing of employment for them; (7) Better hous-

ng. (8) Social Service. (9) Welfare of women and children (10) Generally to work for the welfare and advancement of the Indian community and to help it make its contribution to South Africa. And membership was open to (1) Any Indian women who has reached the age . of 17 years shall be eligible for membership. (2) Any non-Indian women married to an Indian may be admitted to membership. (3) Any Indian girl between the ages of 13 and 17 may become a junior member and enjoy all privileges except to hold office and to vote. The officials elected are:-Patron: Mrs. K. K. Pillay; President: Mrs. V. R. R. Moodley; Vice-President; Mrs Sundarum, Mrs. R. K. Naidoo and Mrs. Vagmaree; Honorary Secretary: Mrs. G. Christopher; Honorary Treasurer: Mrs. A. Chetty; Committee: Dr. K. Goonam,

Miss. M. Pather, Mrs. R. N. Pather, Mrs. Peter Rajoo, Mr. Puckreeamah Padayachee, Mrs. Mary Gabriel, Miss. S. Paul, Mrs. D. Chetty, Mrs. P. S. Pillay, Miss. M. Steven, Mrs. A. Gopaul, Mrs. R. K. Naidoo and Miss. G. Moodley.

The following resolutions were passed at the meeting:—(1) "That this meeting of Indian Women resolves to make representations to the City Council on Slums and Housing." (2) That this meeting of the Indian Women is of opinion that it is necessary to submit the views of Indian Women on facilities for Indian women to be trained as doctors to the Commission now enquiring into the question of facilities for the training of medical students. (3) "That this meeting of Indian women deplores the rates of pay and conditions under which Indian women are employed."

Indian Opinion

FRIDAY, JUNE 17TH, 1938

The Sino-Japanese War

OHE Sino-Japanese War has now taken a serious turn. Both the Chinese and Japanese are determined to carry the war to the bitterest end. Japan, possessing a distinct advantage over the Chinese in the matter of instruments of destructions, has thrown to the winds all ethics of justice and fairplay. A devil incarnate, Japan in its campaign against the Chinese is bent on decimating the Chinese people. Millions of innocent men, women and children in China, are literally being butchered. That is war in the modern sense of the word. Chivalry, a well guarded character amongst combatants of yore, is unknown to the modern combatant, The wanton destruction of person and property in Spain and China, makes one wonder whether the end of the world is in sight.

The breaking of the Yellow Dyke, as reported in the daily papers a few days ago, is causing serious damage, and it is believed that nearly 35,000,000 who inhabit the regions affected, will be exposed to untold misery. The Chinese and the Japanese blame each other for breaking the dyke,

but whoever are the cause, it is being realised that the catastrophe will be of advantage to China, from a military point of view.

The report adds that "the waters of the river are now pouring through the broken dykes between Chengchow and Kaifeng. There is a roaring cataract of great width which is inundating the plain of Honan. Kaileng is surrounded by water-all gates to the city have been shut and barricades are being furiously erected in the hope of stopping the rising waters, a large portion of the civilian population is reported to be fleeing in the direction of Chengchow where 50,000 fugitives have already arrived. The authorities are making a desperate effort to secure the necessary food supplies but work has been greatly impeded. The provincial authorities have been instructed to devote themselves to the problem of refugees."

So this is modern warfare. The methods that are being adopted by the Japanese in their offensive against the Chinese, are new to the Eastern world, will, we have doubt, react hundredfold on the

Japanese themselves. For it must be admitted that the Chinese, experts in guerilla warfare, and numerically strong, are in a position to continue the war for years to come. Can Japan, with all her military equipment, afford to conduct a war in other regions for several years? She cannot. The war in the East is an unfortunate one, for no two nations are better eligible for an alliance, than Japan and China. But the difficulty is the interference of other nations. We believe that China and Japan could not be warring against each other, were it not for outside interferences. The League of Nations of which China is a member and from which Japan resigned, is now a broken reed, that dare not utter a word of protest against the latter country. How impotent the League of Nations was, was exemplified during the Italo-Abyssinian War. The League of Nations was conceived with noble ideals, but the nations tendered their resignations no sooner they became members of that August body. If the memship of the League were intact, the world would never have witnessd wars in Abyssinia, Spain and China.

The trouble in this modern world is that every nation is armed to the teeth, and no one nation dare say "boo" to another. The occupation of Austria by Hitler without firing a shot, served to show that a well armed country could do anything with the utmost impunity, without any other nation lodging a protest. Each nation is afraid of the other. Prior to the great war no nation would have ventured as Hitler had. But those were the days when the nations knew nothing of aerial and gas warfare.

The Sino-Japanese war brings to the forefront, once more, the urgent necessity of an international army. That is only possible if the nations combine and make the League of Nations a healthy and virile body. Meanwhile millions of defenceless men, women and children are being subjected

to untold misery.

INDIANS ARE HARIJANS IN SOUTH AFRICA

AGENT-GENERAL HAS NOT BEEN ABLE TO DO ANYTHING, SAYS MANILAL GANDHI

THE position and disabilities of the Indians in South Africa were narrated by Sjt. Manilal Gandhi, who addressed the members of the Congress Party in the Central Legislative Assembly after the Assembly adjourned.

"The status of Indians in South Africa," said Sjt. Manilal Gandhi, "is that of Harijans. Their condition instead of improving in the least is deteriorating day by day. The Agent General is helpless and he has not been able to do anything for the Indians.

"You all know," said the speaker, what conditions were laid down in the Capetown Agreement and how it was arrived at. It was a result of the agitation against the Indians Immigration Restriction Bill. A very strong agitation on the part of the Indian community was put up over that Bill, and the result was that a Round Table Conference was held at which the Capetown Agreement was evolved. It was promised under that agreement that no further restrictive legislation would be brought up against the Indians in South Africa and that every opportunity would be accorded to the Indians for their uplift in every respect, including housing, education, trade, etc.

"Another part of the Capetown Agreement was the assisted emigration scheme. Under the scheme it was agreed that those who wished to give up their domicile in South Africa

would be given a bonus of £20 each and would be sent away to their home country. It was also decided that the Government of India should appoint an Agent General in South Africa to implement the provisions of the Agreement, as it was felt that an Agent-General would be very helpful and useful to the interests of the Indians.

Utter Failure

But the unfortunate experience has been that during the past ten years the Agent General has not been helpful in improving the conditions of the Indians. On the contrary, their condition has gone from bad to worse. The main reason is that the Agent-General represents a weak Government, and he is more or less impotent to do anything. Even a man like Mr. Srinivasa Sastri, who because of his unique personality was able to do something good socially to the Indian community, was a failure in his capacity as Agent-General. The same was the case with Sir Kurma Venkata Reddy and others.

Breach Of Agreement

"Soon after the Capetown Agreement was reached and even before the Indian delegation reached the shores of India, restrictions on Indian emigration were enforced. Ever since then there have been a series of legislations affecting Indians. There was the Transvaal Asiatic Land Tenure Act. Instead of any trade facilities being accorded to

the Indians under the Capetown Agreement, the Transvaal Rural Dealers Regulation Bill was sponsored. Then came the Colonisation Scheme for decreasing the population of Indian residents in South Africa. Then there is the Industrial Conciliation Act under which Indians have no representation. The Inspectors appointed by these Councils are a source of great harrassment to Indian traders. Similarly, the Slums Act is operating to the hardship of the Indian community. Then there were the Employment of White Women. Bill and the Mixed Marriages Bill, over which there was a lot of agitation."

Further Restriction

"Further restriction," continued Sit.

Manilal, "was proposed with regard to
the ownership of land in Transvaal and
a Commission has been appointed."

The speaker hoped that the Congress Party would do something to improve the condition of the Indian community.

Mr. Satyamurthi, Deputy Leader of the Congress Party in the Assembly, thanked Sjt. Manilal for apprising the members with the real state of affairs in South Africa and said that the Congress Party would do their best in the matter.

"As a part of our settlement with England, we must include the status of of Indians overseas," assured Mr. Satyamurthi.

COLONIAL BORN AND SETTLERS INDIAN ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF CLAIRWOOD BRANCH

THE annual general meeting of the Clairwood Branch of the Colonial Born and Settlers Indian Association was held on Sunday last at the Krishna Theatre when fully 300 members were present. The meeting was presided over by Mr. P. M. Pillay and amongst those present were Advocate A. Christopher, Messrs. P. B. Singh and P. R. Pather from headquarters, and Mr. R. Soobramoney from the Maritzburg Branch.

The Secretarial report submitted by Mr. Pavadai R. Pather revealed that a considerable amount of work was carried on by the association quitely and unostentatiously. Most of the work was directed towards alleviating distress amongst the poor.

Adv. A. Christopher in congratulating the branch on its work said that he was very pleased to see the large number present at the meeting. It was an indication of the growing need that is being felt by South African born Indians and those permanently settled here, that the time had arrived when they should forge ahead relying on their strength. They should learn to respect and help one another for that was the only sure way for success. He wanted to impress upon the poorer classes that their Salvation lay with their own class. There was a good deal to be done for the uplift of the poor and he assured the meeting that the association will do everything in its power to uplift them.

Messrs. P. B. Singh, P. R. Pather, K. Soobramoney, N Manickam Pillay, and L. Nanoo were the other speakers,

The election resulted as follows:

President: Mr. N. Marimuthoo; Vice-Presidents: Messrs. P. M. Pillay, P. M. Harry, L. Lanoo, Sungetha Manickum Pillay, K. Perumal, C. Jimmy Naidoo, and Bridjmohan; Honorary Joint Secretaries: Messrs. N. M. Pillay and Pavadai R. Pather; Honorary Treasurer: Mr. T. Govender; Committee: Messrs. N. P. Dickson, Ganga Harry, R. Socknunan, M. M. Govender, K. R. Reddy, N. N. Pillay, V. Thumbee Pillay, Juggennath, J. M. Maharaj and eight more from the Industrial section; Honorary Auditor: Mr. R. P. Das.

NEED OF THE HOUR

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CAREFUL scrutiny of the scriptures of the Hindus and the Mohammedans discloses the fact that the points of agreement between the two are more pronounced and remarkable than those of difference, Hinduism, or Vedantism properly so called, has always sung the immortal song of freedom and toleration, harmony and catholicity, inasmuch as it looks upon all faiths as but varied readings of the same Reality. In the Rig-Veda (1. 164. 46), it has been proclaimed, "The Truth is one; sages call it by various names." The Gita also strikes the the same note of universalism when it says, "Whosoever comes to Me through whatsoever form, I reach him. O Partha! All men are struggling. through paths which in the end lead to Me" (IV, 11.). "Like different streams coursing through straight or crooked channels and losing themselves eventually in the one fathomless Deep, men treading the various paths of religions according to their individual tastes and predilections ultimately reach Thee, O Lord, who art the resort of all" (Mahimnah Stotram, 7). In a South Indian folk song also we find embodied this very message of harmony characteristic of Hindu ideas and ideals:

"Into the bosom of the one great sea Flow streams that come from hills on every side.

Their names are various as the springs,
And thus in every land do men bow down.

To the great God, though known by many names."

Even in Buddhism we meet with the same emphasis on the spirit of toleration and catholicity (of. Asoka's Twelfth Rock Edict). In recent years the life. of Sri Ramakrishna has also vindicated the glorious teachings of the great seers and prophets of the world. He has harmonized all faiths and shown through his unique spiritual discipline and realization that "different creeds are but different paths to reach the one God. Various and different are the ways that lead to the temple of Mother Kali at Kalighat; similarly, various are the ways that lead the house of the Lord. Every religion is nothing but one of such paths that lead man to God." truly religious man should think that other religions also are paths leading to truth. We should always maintain an attitude of respect towards other. religions," "As one can ascend to the top of a house by means of a ladder, or a bamboo, or a rope, so diverse are the ways and means of approaching God. Every religion in the world shows one of these ways" Sayings of Ramakrishna 716, 723, 720).

By THE EDITOR
"Prabuddha Bharata."

(Continued from last week)

Similar is the case with the teachings of Islam as well. If we read the Quoran between the lines with a mind free from all pre-conceived notions and prejudices, we will meet with eloquent passages breathing a similar spirit of universal toleration and harmony. There is a good deal of truth in the laconic statement of Mr. Margoliouth that "to speak of the Quoran is practically the same as speaking of Mahomet;" for one is a testimony to the other, and the message embodied in this Holy Book is but revelatory of the rich contents of the Prophet's mind as well as of the loftiness of his spiritual genius. It is really an insult to human wisdom to suppose that the Prophet of Islam did actually advocate compulsion in religion. The verse quoted below from the Quoran constitute proofs positive of his calholicity and friendly attitude towards the religions of others. The Quoran says, "If thy Lord had pleased, verily all who are in the earth would have believed together. What I wilt thou compel men to become belivers (Moslems)" (Sura 10, Verse 99)? "Say thou "I worship not that which ye worship, and ye do not worship that which I worship; neither shall I worship what ye worship; neither ye worship what I worship,-to you be your religion; to me my religion,") (Sura 109, Verses 1-6.) "Revile not those whom they call on beside God, lest they, in their ignorance, despitefully revile Him. Thus have we planned out their actions for every people; then shall they return to their Lord, and He will declare to them what those actions have been" (Sura 6 Verse 108). "Verily, they who believe (Moslems), and they who follow the Jewish religion, and the Christians, and the Sabeites- whoever of these doeth that which is right, shall have their reward with their Lord; fear shall not come upon them, neither shall they be grieved" (Sura 2, Verse 59). "And if God had pleased, He had surely made you all one people; but He would test you by what He hath given to each. Be emulous, then, in good deeds. To God shall ye all return, and He will tell you concerning the subjects of your disputes" (Sura 52, Verse 53). "To everyone of you have we given a rule and a beaten track' (Sura 5, Verse 52). "Our God and your God are one God and after him we all strive" (Sura 29 Verse 45).

Indeed, what stronger and more convincing testimony is needed to demonsrate the freedom extended in the

Quoran to every man to follow his own conviction in matters religious? The illustrious Persian poet Sanai has also sung to the same tune: "Islam and the faiths other than Islam follow Thee, O Lord, when they declare that there is no god but God." Even the beautiful song of the celebrated Urdu poet Zafar expresses the same sentiment: "Angels and men, Hindus and Moslems, Thou, O Lord, hast created according to Thy sweet will. Everyone bows unto Thee, for it is Thou who art worshipped everywhere-in the Caaba, in the mosque or the temple. Thou art omnipresent. Every heart is a dwelling place and Thou art the dweller. There is no heart where Thou abidest not. Thou dost reside equally in all hearts, for Thou art all that exists in the universe." So does another Urdu bard sing, .

"Only names differ, Beloved!
All forsooth are but the same.
Both the ocean and the dew-drop
But one living liquid frame."

It would indeed be a travesty of truth to brand Islam as a religion of intolerance in the face of the illuminating passages adduced above to show the spirit of harmony that runs through them. Towards the end of the year 1866, Sri Ramakrishna, the unlettered saint of Dakshineswar, also intuited the profound truths of Islam. Eager to realise the underlying unity of all faiths Sri Ramakrishna got himself initiated into the mysteries of Islam from a Mohammedan saint living at the time in the Dakshineswar temple-garden. For the time being his mind was entirely cast in the mould of Islamic religion, and all thoughts, visions and ecstasies associated with Hindu gods and goddesses vanished from his mind and his devout practice was eventually crowned with a vision of the Prophet himself. He realized the Formless God with attributes (Saguna Brahman) as described in the Quorau, and then became merged in the Impersonal God-Brahman without attributes (Nirguna Brahman). Thus the path of Islam also led him up to the dizzy heights he had already scaled by his Advaita practice. Verily, Sri Ramakrishna demonstrated in his life that all religions are but the various readings of the same Truth and are equally valid means to the realization of the highest end of human life. In fact Islam received as much respect and homage from this modern Prophet of Harmony, as other faiths of the world It is time that we take lessons from the luminous pages of the book of Sri Ramakrishna's life approach every religion with a free and unprejudiced mind and learn to see the excellences in one another's faith so as to cement the bond of union and love between man and man. Whether Hindu o-

Mussalman, we must develop the requisite vision and breadth of mind to discover and cherish the living bonds of religion, common history and culture. For, any statistical ratios, economic adjustments, political compromises, special rights and reservations will have no meaning unless there is a sense of trust among communities and an agreement of minds. And to secure this agreement the need of a cultural understanding can hardly be over-emphasized. Indeed, the best way to facilitate such a Hindu-Muslim fellowship is to develop a love and respect for each other's religion and culture. Rightly did Mrs. Naidu emphasize that Hindu-Muslim unity could only be established on the basis of equality recognizing human values of life and not communal values of life. The only sign of civilization and the only test of culture was that one's mind should be so wide, clean and so receptive to cultures, to all forces and truth of all religions that he could not discriminate between himself and others. That was the true meaning of Hindu-Muslim friendship.

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The religion of Islam, as is well known to all, is divided principally into two parts, viz., Faith and practice, which are based on the fourfold foundations of (a) the Quoran, (b) Tradition, (c) Inference by analogy and (d) Consensus of opinion. So far as faith is concerned,

it is distributed under six different heads: (1) Faith in God, (2) in Angels, (3) in Scriptures, (4) in Prophets, (5) in Resurrection and Final Judgment and (6) in Predestination. As regards the Practice of Islam there are five main obligatory duties or ordinances which comprise (i) Recital of the Kalima or the confession of Faith, (ii) Recital of prayers, and ablution, (iii) Fasting in the month of Ramjan, (iv) Almsgiving and (v) Pilgrimage to Mecca in the month of Dhul-Hajji. There are, besides, a number of duties of lesser im. portance, which are said to be necessary without being obligatory and there are some which are voluntary. A close examination of these fundamental doctrines of Islam reveals further points of similarity and contact between the two streams of Aryan and Semetic thoughts and opens fresh channels for mutual co-ordination, love and toleration. No doubt there are sharp differences in res. pect of rites, ceremonies and observances between religion and religion, between Hinduism and Islam. But these differences, when properly analysed, are found to be more apparent than real. There is substantial similarity underneath the surface, and as such it must be the sacred duty of every aspirant after Truth and lover of mankind to discover that underlying unity—the living bond of life and thought in the various departments of our ideas and ideals.

In fact our fight, more or less, is of the nature of a wrangle of four friends—a Rumi, an Arab, a Persian and a

Turk, over the purchase of grapes from their common fund without understanding one another's language. The Rumi wanted Astafil, the Arab shouted for Enab, the Persian for Angur and the Turk for Uzam. To a linguist these words convey the same meaning. But these friends fells out and came to blows simply for their ignorance of one another's mother-tongue. The fruitvendor who was acquainted with their languages composed their differences by placing, in the hands of all, the self same fruit which was the cherished object of each, viz., the grapes. At once their passion subsided, their faces brightened and they embraced one another in love and joy, and became friends as before. Such is the case with most of us. We fight over mere words without caring to know the real significance underlying them. What is needed is a change of heart and an orientation of outlook and a sympathetic and respectful attitude towards the faiths and cultures of one another and, above all, an unbiased study and appreciation of the . essentials of every system of thought. We must not be guided and influenced merely by the seeming differences palpable on the surface. There, is after all? an underlying unity in the substance and soul of all the thought-systems of the world. A comparative study of some of the above fundamental doctrines of Islam and those of Hinduism will be attempted in our next issue to bring into bold relief the points of similarity between Hinduism and Islam, the two dominant religions in India.

TRANSVAAL INDIAN CONGRESS

A PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE AT PATIDAR HALL

WE desire to bring to your notice that the Union Government has appointed two Commissions known as the "Transvaal Asiatic Land Commission" and the "Mixed Marriages Commission."

The Hon. Justice John Murray has been appointed Chairman of the Land Commission and its terms of reference require it to "enquire into and report whether, and, if so, to what extent, the letter and spirit of any law restricting or prohibiting the ownership, use or occupation by Asiatics of land is being evaded and to make recommendations in regard thereto.

The foregoing terms of reference shall not apply to proclaimed land under the Precious and Base Metals Act, 1908 (Transvaal), as amended from time to time to the extent which it has been dealt with by the Report of the Transvaal Asiatic Land Tenure Act Commission appointed under Government Notice No. 1324, dated 4th October, 1932."

It is apparent from the terms of reference that the enquiry is primarily directed against the interests of country Indians, and therefore the Working Committee of the Congress has resolved to convene a Provincial Conference of Transvaal Indians.

The present is a time of acute crisis and the members of the Working Committee issue an earnest appeal to country Indians to accept this invitation and send two representatives to this important Conference,

The Working Committee of the Congress has resolved to accord representation at the Conference only to those centres which have a representative organisation in their respective areas. In the case of districts in which no organisation exists, an appeal is made to the Indian resident therein to establish a branch of the Congress and forward its affiliation to Head Office. Officials of country and Reef branches are requested to forward the names of their representatives as early as possible to

facilitate arrangements for the Conference.

Conference will be held at the Patidar Hall on Sunday, 26th June 1938, at 10 30 a.m.

Members of the Working Committee are requested to attend and participate in the Conference.

AGENDA:

- (1) Conference will be opened by Mr. B. Rama Rau, Agent General for India.
 - (2) Presidential Address.
- (3) The Transvaal Asiatic Land Commission.
 - (5) General.

The Agent General and Mrs. Rau will be arriving at Johannesburg Station at 9.8. a.m. on the 20th June 1938.

Public reception: 22nd June 1938, City Hall at 8 pm.

(Sgd.) Z. V. PAREK
S. M. NANA
Hon. Secretaries,

CONGRESS STANDS FOR ALL INDIANS

MR. R. K. SIDHVA, leader of the Congress party in the Sind Assembly, arrived at Cuddapah from Chittoor and was received by Mr. Ramachandra Reddy, president of the Cuddapah Congress Committee, and others at the station.

Mr. Sidhva addressed a huge public meeting at the maidan near the local post office under the presidency of Mr. K. Lakshmana Rao. A welcome address in Hindi was presented by Mr. Sri Ramachandra, Hindi pandit.

Mr. Sindhva at the outset expressed his pleasure at the efforts made at Cudapah to propagate Hindi and thanked the Madras Government for their encouragement for Hindi,

Outlining at great length the high principles for which the Congress stood and fought all these days, the speaker pointed out that the Congress had control in seven provinces in India, power had not really passed into the hands of the Indians. It was greatly clroumsoribed and what little they had gained was due to the sacrifice made cheerfully by thousands of men and women of India. He envisaged opportunities for further sacrifice at any moment in the future and exhorted the people to

Bogey Exposed

The question of communal unity and the attempts made by the Congress to present a united front to British occupied a large portion of Mr. Sidhyas' address. He emphasised that the Congress stood for the Hindus, Muslims, Christians and Parsees and fought for every man who had made India his home. He recalled the faith in the Congress and sacrifice made on its behalf by such great personages as the late Dr. Ansari, Moulana Abdul Kalam Azad and Khan Abdul Caffar Khan and reminded them how the Congress took up the cause of the Muslims in the Khilafat movement, He regretted that communalists had falled to understand the object of the Congress, and freely indulged in fomenting communal trouble. one great problem for India new was the problem of 'roti' (bread) and that knew no distinction, Hindu or Muslim. in villages no difference or ill-feeling existed between Hindus and Muslims, Mr. Jinnah and the Muslim League, he added, were only thinking in terms of proportional representation to Musilms in Councils and Assembiles, completely oblivious of the elementary needs of the starving millions.

Baseless Fears

Proceeding, the speaker held that the bogey that "Islam is in danger" was raised by interested persons. Islam needed no protection and, he continued, "had the Congress tried to destroy the religion of any he would not have been in it for the last 30 years." He was a Parsee, a minority community, and he had not demanded any protection. The Britishers said that the Parsees should have reserved seats but they replied that they wanted to be only the general constituency. He appealed to Muslims, particularly, to stand by the Congress and to fight as one man for Swaraj for India.

Mr. Sidhva then explained the work done by the Congress Party in Sind Assembly and said that the public of Sind, especially those in Karachi, were slowly beginning to throw their weight with the Congress.

In conclusion, he appealed to the people to form a Muslim contact committee and dispell the suspicions raised by communalists in the minds of the Muslim masses.

MAKING PUBLIC SERVANTS HONEST

It is understood that the Anti-Corruption Committee set up by the U.P. Government under the chairmanship of Sir Maharaj Singh has completed its labours and submitted its report, a forecast of which may now be made. The Committee is of the opinion that corruption exists in all departments and also in local bodies.

For detection of corruption the Committee suggests the establishment of a machinary for detection and removal

of dishonest officers.

rise to the occasion.

It is understood that anti-corruption committees be set up in each district with the District Magistrate as president, the District Judge, the Superintendent of Police, two members of the bar, one member each of the Municipality and the District Board and all local members of the U.P. Legislature as members.

The functions of the Committe will be to review the problem of corruption, give it publicity and bring the matter to the notice of the authorities.

Rules Of Evidence

Another important suggestion made is that local bodies should come within the scope che activities of the anti-corruption committee and rules made in regar to Government servants should apply to employees of local bodies,

It is further recommended that the character roll of all Government officers be examined without delay and those who have been thrice reported against by superior officers within six years for corrupt practices be removed, without the necessity of proving specific instances.

Officers with fifteen years' service, whose record for honesty has been bad, should be compulsorily retired.

Where necessary in departmental inquiries judical officers of the rank of a civil judge should be associated with departmental officers and the standard of evidence therein need not be as rigid as in a court of law

Acquittal of a person on a charge of corruption need not be followed by reinstatement in Government service.

Receipt Of Presents

Receipt of dalis (presents) by all ranks of Government servants and their families whether from subordinates or near officials should be absolutely prohibited, including wedding gifts.

Decoration of camps, giving shooting parties and expensive entertainments should not be permitted, but this will not apply to public bodies.

Government servants of all grades should not be permitted to use or main-

tain conveyance belonging to private persons or subordinates.

All free travelling by Government servants in vehichles plying for hire should be prohibited.

A Government servant, when first appointed, must furnish an accurate list of all immovable property belong ing to him and the members of his family and report subsequent acquisitions to his superior officers.

An annual integrity certificate should be given.

No Government servant should be allowed to cross the efficiency bar unless he had an unblemished record for integrity.

Shifarish (recommendations) should be prohibited.

Periodical inspection by superior officers and failure to do so should be noted in his character roll.

Causes Of Corruption

Among the causes of corruption enumerated by the Committee are the following.

Reluctance of the bribe-giver to bear evidence;

Absence of public opinion;

Lack of close supervision by superior officers;

Demand of a high standard of proof in departmental inquiries;

Existance of a large number of low-paid public servants.

Instructions issued by the previous Governments, it is stated, have met with little response and action taken has not been sufficiently concerted, says the report.

The general remedies suggested for the prevention of corruption are:

Publicity;

Lessening of opportunities for corruption; and

Stoppage of practices, which though seemingly innocent, are liable to abuse.

Things In General

Mr. G. Bandhu Back Home

LARGE gathering of Indians gather-A ed at the Springe Station to welcome Mr. G. Bandhu who recently visited India. He was garlanded by the chairman, Mr. Mr. E. M. Matwadia. A welcome reception was held on June 5, at the Government Indian school, room in honour of Mr. Bandhu, under the auspices of the Transvaal Indian Congress, Branch. Mr. M. E. Matwadia presided, and in the course of his speech said that he trusted Mr. Bandhu will carry on with the noble work for the welfare of the community as he had done in the past. Other speakers were, Messrs. I. A Loonat, M. E. Cajee, S. A. Loonat, H. M. Laher, M. Jivan, E. I. Akoodie, B. V. Patel, J. Pursadh and H. Bandhu, secretary. In reply, Mr. Bandhu spoke about the Congress of India, and the great work that that body was doing, and stressed; that we should unite in South Africa. He took the opportunity of meeting Mahatma Gandhi and the other leaders of the Congress.

Tongaat Wedding

Saturday 4th June saw a large gathering at the residence of Mr. Kakoo Jootha of Tongaat when his two daughters were matrimonially united to the two sons of Mr. Haribhai Hirji of Ladysmith. The bridegrooms being Mr. Liladhar and Mr. Amritlal. Mr. Haribhai Hirji very generously donated the sum £1 to the Vishwaroop Temple and Dharamsala of Tongaat and this had been accepted by the Committee of the Temple very thankfully.

Fell Down Deaf

And Got Up Cured

Mr. George Wist, of High Street, Littlehampton, is thanking his lucky stars that he fell down in the street, even though he hurt himself. And for this reason: before his fall he was stone deaf; now he can hear. "I was walking along the street,, he told a "Reynold's" correspondent "when I tripped over something and fell. Then I had a weird sensation in my head. There was a loud crack in my ears, and my head felt suddenly empty. Somebody came to my aid and to my surprise I could hear what was being said. A doctor told me, "a person can get back his hearing through a sudden shock, and there is no doubt that this is what must have happened in this case."

Famous Art Treasures Stolen

Five famous old masters, worth in the region of £100,000, were out from their

frames by art thieves during the night from the 17th century Chilham Castle near the Canterbury, the residence of Sir Edmund and Lady Davis. The thieves gained access by cutting a pane in the groundfloor and escaped in a motor car taking with them two Gainsboroughs, and one each Rambrandt, Reynolds and Vandyck but missing the South American idol which was examined and apparently discarded as brass though actually of pure gold. Sir E. Davis is one of the foremost art collectors in the country and chairman of many mining companies.

Babies Mixed Up

The Shanghai Nippo reports that when the Japanese forces occupied the town of Tsungming, on the island of the same name at the mouth of the Yangtze, they found in a nursery 59 Chinese babies whose 14 amahs had fled at the approach of invaders. The major in command, himself a father, issued a general call to other fathers in his unit to feed the wailing infants with milk which the bachelors were ordered to forego for in the deserted town. Several days later one of the missing amahs was found, and when taken to the nursery she gave: a loud scream. The babies were all feeding happily, but the soldiers had mixed up the 59, beyond hope of their ever being sorted out again.

Oriental Wedding Ceremony

Eastern architecture, with pillars done in white and gold, was a feature of the specially made marriage dais at the wedding of Mr. Thragarajan Padayachee, the eldest son of Mr. P. M. Padayachee, and Miss Thevagee, the eldest daughter of Mr. V. N. Pillay, of Pinetown, which recently took place in Durban. The large hall of Messrs. Pollok and Button . at 67 Victoria Street, Durban, was decorated with bunting and greenery, where the marriage festivities were conducted by Mr. Girja Sunker Maharaj. Guests, who came from distant parts, including Port Elizabeth, Grahamstown, Kimberley, Johannesburg and those from Natal, numbered more than 1,000, testifying to the popularity of the contracting parties. The Agent-General for India, Mr. Rama Rau, who was also present, was welcomed and garlanded, on behalf of the parents, by Mr. S. R. Pather. Replying, the Agent-General referred to the pleasure that it gave him to see that Indians in South Africa still observed the ceremonials and culture of India,

At the reception congratulations were extended by Messrs. S. R. Naidoo, T. M. Naicker, Suchitt Maharaj. S. R. Pather; A. Christopher and K. R. Naynah. More than 100 congratulatory telegrams were received. Music was rendered by the Young Men's Vedic Society's orchestra; Misses Radha and Rukmini, the well known Durban twin singers; and there was a Maypole dance exhibition under the direction of Miss M. Moodley.

In Aid Of China

A beautiful 19-year-old Chinese girl living in Penang has offered herself as a bride of any Chinese who will buy 10,000 of Chinese liberty bonds, in aid of the Chinese war relief fund. Born in Shanghai, the girl established fame as a dancer and has toured in China and Siam. She states she will become the wife, or the second or third wife, of anyone willing to put up the money, 'old or young,' handsome or deformed.' This she says is the only way she can do something for her country. Another attractive Chinese girl, Miss Lee Wong Moey, has promised herself to the winner of a 25,000 lottery which she started in aid also of the war relief fund. Educated and charming, Miss Wong Moey is an orphan. 'I am proud to make the sacrifice,' she says. The patriotism of sacrifice, she says. The patriotism of both these girls is extolled in the Chinese vernasular in Malaya.

Human Lives Saved By The

Instinct Of Dogs The famous Hospice on the Great St Bernard's Pass in the Swiss Alps, where monks of that Hospice breed the wellknown kind of dogs which have in the course of time already saved the lives of thousands of men travelling over the snow-clad pass, was hit recently by two avalanches, the snow smashing the breaking in the doors, and windows, outting off the inmates from the ontside world for three or four days. Just 1e-fore the avalances fell, the monks were preparing to leave the Hospice with their dogs to look for people who, travelling over the pass, would perhaps be in need of some help. The dogs, however, refused to accompany the monks, and by no means could they be induced to do what they have done quite readily. last the monks yielded and postponed the expedition for later. But. what seemed to be disobedience on the side of the dogs turned actually out to be the means of salvation for the monks. Had they not yielded to the instinct of the dogs, there is not the slightest doubt that they would have been buried under the avalanches with their dogs. Thus human lives were saved by the instinct of dogs.

India Letter

(NEWS CULLED FROM INDIAN PAPERS)

Flag Satyagraha In Mysore To Cease?

IT is reliably understood that the following points will form the basis of negotiations likely to be conducted by Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel in order to compose the differences between the Mysore Congress and the Mysore Government: Firstly, Mysore Congress should cease the Flag Satyagraha; secondly, at all Congress ceremonies the State Flag should be flown with the Congress Flag; and, thirdly, all the political prisoners should be released forthwith.

Madras Loan To A.I.S.A.

With regard to the proposal of the Madras Government of advancing Rs. 20,000 to the All-India Spinners' Association for providing employment to the people in the famine stricken areas in the Ceded Districts of the Presidency through hand-spinning, it is understood that the advance of money will be repayable in three years but it will be free of interest. The Government are of the opinion that the spinning wheel is a much better and healthier form of employment to the workless agriculturists, particularly to women, who have to eke out their livelihood in the famine zone by the only other alternative of breaking stones for road metal.

Hindus Pay Fine For Muslims

Consequent on the conviction and sentence of a fine and imprisonment on three persons in connection with the communal riots which occurred at Bhui Patna District last year, it is understood that the Hindus of Bhui have raised a subscription and paid up the fine which was imposed on the accused and have petitioned to the authorities to release the prisoners. It is understood that the extra police force posted there since the riots have been withdrawn under the orders of the present Government. It is understood that the Hindus in the village of Bhui collected the subscription in order to pay the fine imposed on three Muslim accused persons. The fine amounted to Rs. 1,500 the accused being fined Rs. 500 each. This action on the part of the Hindus is a result of the efforts at communal unity and both Hindus and Muslims are reported to be living in harmony. The Muslims, in order to show their reciprocation, joined the Hindus in the celebration of the Holi festival.

That Spirit!

Mr. Manohardas Chaturvedi, divisional forest officer, has taken charge of his office as rural development officer, U.P., vice Mr. S. K. D. Paliwal and has started reorganising the whole department on new lines though his formal appointment would be made on Premier Pant's return from Nainital on or about May 10. It is reported that Mr. S. K. D. Palliwal, assistant rural development is resigning from his post as he is not prepared to serve under any Congressman. It is learnt that all organisers appointed by Mr. Paliwal would have to undergo an efficiency test and only those that succeed in that would continue as rural development organisers.

Education Advisory Board Sub-Committee Meeting In Simla

The sub-committee of the central advisory board of education appointed to consider the Wardha scheme of education is meeting at Simla on June 27. The committee will be presided over by Mr. B. G. Kher, the other members being Dr. Syed Mahmud, Minister of Education, Bihar; Mr. R. S. Sukla, Minister for Education, C.P., Lady Grigg: Rajkumari Amritkaur; Sir Ziauddin Ahmad; Mr. Statham, director of public instruction, Madras; Mr. Armstrong, D. P. I.; Punjab; Mr. Sharma Prasad Mukherjee, Vice-Chancellor, Calcutta University; Khan Fazal Mahomed Khan, secretary; technical and vocational training, Nizam's Government; Dr. Zakir Hussain, principal, Jamia-Millia, Delhi (author of the scheme); and Mr. J. E. Parkinson, education commissioner with the Government of India.

Frontier Incident

A Hindu boy aged seven was kidnapped in the early hours on May 2 from village Hassankhal, police station Mirian, six miles from Bannu. The dacoits involved in the crime are reported to be numbering 40. In view of the reports that Mahsud and Bhittani dacoits are abroad for mischief Bannu Tank Road via Bain recently declared open for traffic has been closed again.

Lord Lothian On Orissa Crisis

Speaking at the Eighty Club on the Orissa crisis Lord Lothian said that he did not see any ground for the resignation as the constitutional position was clear. The responsibility of appointing a person to discharge the functions of the Governor rested with the Governor-General. The appointment of officials who had been subordinate to Ministers to serve as Acting Governor for a short time prior to retirement might or might not be a wise practice. It was probably a suitable subject for discussion with

the Viceroy with a view to arriving at an understanding for the future. Lord Lothian could not see why the Ministers should surrender the responsibility with which they were entrusted by the electorate unless the person appointed to act as Governor, for which they had no constitutional authority, himself acted in an improper or unconstitutional way.

"Rich Should Come To Right Path

The Congress Government did not want to 'rob' the rich. They wanted that the rich should come to the 'right path, said Mr. Srikrishna Sinha, Premier, in the course of a speech at the opening of the college section of the Mahanth Keshawa Sanskrit Vidyalaya at Futwah. The Prime Minister sounded a note of warning to zamindars, capitalists and mahants, that if they did not follow the teachings of Mahatma Gandhi they may have to repent. Proceeding, he said the duty of a Government was to make a country prosperous, and to make life better and happier for everyone. Money was an important factor but voluntary assistance was also needed. Referring to a recent debate in the Bihar Assembly, the Prime Minister said the Leader of the Opposition had said that Mahatma Gandhi did not want the zamindari system to be abolished. But the Leader of the Opposition might have known that Mahatma Gandhi had also stated that zamindars should act like trustees of their property. If zamindars had followed Ma. hatma Gandhi's advice the unrest that prevailed in the province would not have come into being at all. He had received various petitions complaining against non-grant of receipts, etc. and, if these complaints were to be believed. then he felt constrained to say that the zamindars had fallen from their ideal. The grievances of the Kisans, continued the Premier, could not be removed by legislation only. It was necessary that the richer classes should change their

Gandhiji Greets Orissa Premier

Mahatma Gandhi has sent the following message to Mr. Biswanath Das, Premier of Orissa: "Delighted. Humble ourselves before God."

Allahabad Swaraj Bhawan Exempted From Taxes

The Allahabad Municipal Board has decided to exempt from taxes Swaraj Bhawan which was dedicated to the nation by the late Pandit Motilal Nehru.

Wife of the Agent-General for India in South Africa



Mrs. B. RAMA RAU

મીસીસ. <mark>બી. રામ રાવ,</mark> હિન્દી એજન્ટ જનરલના ધર્મપત્ની.

ANNIVERSARY OF THE MAGNA CARTA

Mr. F. G. Cawston, National President, Indian Magna Carta Day Association Incorporated, writes:—

THE strength of a nation depends on the loyalty of its subjects and the integrity of the British Commonwealth of Nations rests with those who have chosen as their basic form of Government that great Charter of Liberty which was granted to the English in June 1215.

From June 15th to 19th of this year the 723rd anniversary of the granting of Magna Cartanismbeing celebrated throughout the Empire, as it is also

being observed in the United States of America which is founded on the same principles of democratic government. The occasion is receiving official support in various countries and is becoming more and more the symbol of the democratic nations of the world.

As British warships once sailed steathily and silently down the English Channel to the support of two Greek seamen, because they were naturalised British subjects; so Britishers throughout the world can rest assured of the protection of their country in time of need.

Politicians have emphasised that there may be different ways of interpreting British principles of justice and the local application of those principles may vary in different parts of the world, but the anniversary of the granting of Magna Carta serves a reminder of the common heritage and responsibilities of all true subjects of the King and all nationalities and persons of even divergent political views may well unite at this time in an endeavour to foster the spirit of goodwill among the English-speaking nations of the world and in the preservation of the world's peace.

The Sporting World

Springfield Rover Scouts

HE 1st Springfield Rover Crew assisted the Esperanza Rovers and ... Scouta: in their concert held recently: The concert was a great success. On the following day they met the local Indians in the school ball. Mr. A. P. Pahliney, the Scoutmasters after introducing the 1st Springfield Rovers, called ... upon ... Mr. B. N. Singh, the cassistant a Rover Scout leader, to address the gathering which thronged the hall. course of his speech, Mr. Singh said, "The Scout movement is a world-wide movement and should be observed in the four corners of the Union. There are about twenty-six various Indian schools in Natal at present-which are interested 4 in the Scouts. The Rover Scout movement has now been firmly established in Natal and I am overjoyed to see that the Scout and Rover movements, have made their way here. I hope in the near future, that both these groups of Scouts will, under the guidance and supervision of the "Chieff Mr.; A. P. Pahliney, become the A. 1. movement in South Africa." The speaker outlined the Springfield Rover and Scout movements. saying that there was a gloom after the "Ohief's" departure and that there was a great struggle to survive. He said the scout spirit had prevailed and the movement had been firmly rooted. He further eulogised the "Chief" for his magnanimity. The Scribe, Mr. P. Veeranah, outlined the present 1st Springfield Rover Crew and their services rendered to different bodies and people. He further stated that Mr. B. N. Singh in conjunction with two other Rovers was planning to cycle-hike the Union. These three Rovers have already successfully toured the Transvaal. .. There were various other speakers. Messrs. C. T. Singh, the headmaster and A. P. Pahliney thanked the Rovers for their visit.

By "Rambler"

Soccer In:: Northern Districts

Owing to the tragic death in the recent. shooting accident of the president of the Northern Districts Indian Football Association, a special general meeting was held to appoint his successor. Mr. Ramlal Singh, a prominent Indian, who has always keenly interested himself in sports in the Northern District unanimously elected to the post. The following team has been selected to represent the Northern Districts Indian Football Association in their Inter-District match against the Pietermaritzburg representative eleven at P.M. Burg on Saturday, June 25. Goal-keeper: Bala Moodley (Dannhauser); Backs: T. Muthu (N.I.F.C.) and Hoosen Imam (Dannhauser), captain; Halves: Ratha Naidoo (N.I.F.C.), Dawcod Emam (Dannhauser), and Mucca Jamalodeeen (N.I.F.C.); Forwards: M. Moodley (Dannhauser), N. P. Govender (N.I.F.C); P. Muthu (N.I.F.C.) vice-captain, Ramdas Baloo (Schools),and M. V. Naidoo (N.I.F.C.). Manager: Mr. Ramlalsingb. Should the Northern Districts win they will meet the finalists. between the Klip River and Durban Associations.

Verulam Temple Football Club.

On Sunday, June 12, the Verulam Temple F.C. "A" and "B" met the Rangers F.C. "A" and "B" of Durban in a friendly match on the Verulam Indian Sports Ground. Both the "B" teams took the field first; and resulted in a win for the visitors by 1.0. When both the "B" teams took the field, both sides were evenly matched in their defence. The Temples forwards' line displayed better combination and beat their opponents by 3-2.

Obituary

The Late Rev. Charles Phillips

The funeral of the late Rev. Charles Phillips on Wednesday June 8 was very largely attended. Long before the Service held at the Eberneizer Church. Main Street, Johannesburg, hundreds of Coloureds, Natives, Europeans and Indians were present outside and could not gain entrance into the Church. At the cemetery at Brixton hundreds were pre-The Service at the graveside was conducted by the Rev. J. B. Serridge and the Rev. J. W. Mullineaux. There were many Europeans present and the Indian community was represented by the Rev. B. L. E. Sigamoney, Messrs. K. J. Tavaria and T. B. Naidoo,

Hill View Government-Aided Indian School Building Fund

(Continued from last week)

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be continued.

Durban Indian Benevolent Society

The Annual General Meeting of the Durban Indian Benevolent Society will be held on Saturday, the 25th June, 1938, at 3 p.m., at the Hindu Tamil Institute, Cross Street, Durban.

P. G. NAICKER, President.

N. K. CHETTY, Hon. Treasurer.

J. M. SUNDRUM, P. B. SINGH, Joint Hon, Secretaries,

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