

Indian Opinion

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NOTES AND NEWS

THE Hon. Secretaries of the Natal Indian Congress write submitting the following account re the entertainment held on the 12th inst. by the Arya Woonathee Natak Mandal on behalf of the Congress funds. An amount of £111—7—0 was obtained by the sale of tickets. The expenditure amounted to Entertainment Tax £21—4—11 and general expenses £15—5—0, leaving a balance of £74—17—1 to be added to the fund. They wish to thank the public and the A.W.N. Mandal for their assistance.

The Reception Committee has unanimously accepted Mahatma Gandhi as the President of the forthcoming Congress to be held at Belgaum. Reuter had erroneously stated that he was elected to the chairmanship of the Reception Committee.

The Durban Town Council have appointed a Sub-Committee, consisting of the Mayor and Councillors Brisker, Kemp and Shearer to consider the question of the extension of the Borough boundaries, and to report as to the best methods to be adopted.

The Town Council's Sub-Committee on Legislation recently appointed, has assented unanimously to Mr. H. H. Kemp's proposition that the Council be recommended to secure the passage of a law through the Provincial Council granting the Municipality *the sole right* to run motor buses in Durban. The meeting of the sub-committee at which this decision was registered was held recently, when the Mayor (Councillor Wadley) and Councillors Burman (in the chair), Brisker, Eaton, Gilbert and Kemp were present—a full committee. Durban, in this matter, is looking ahead. It is generally realised that the time may come when it is necessary to substitute motor buses for electric trams, and in view of that contingency the Provincial Council will be asked to extend the municipality's tramway monopoly to the new form of passenger transport.

An interesting judgement was given by Mr. Justice Krause to-day in a case in which a number of Indians prayed for an order reviewing the decision of the Master, and declaring certain claims to be admissible to proof, the application being made against the trustee in the insolvent estate of L. W. Ritch, a solicitor.

His Lordship said the trustee had come to the conclusion that the amounts claimed by the Indians under various bonds were not correct. Accordingly he returned them to the Master, who expunged them, as they consisted of unliquidated sums. It appeared that Ritch agreed with the Indians to have certain properties transferred to his name, and passed bonds in favour of the Indians in the event of insolvency or any thing of that nature. The reason was that the Transvaal law prohibited Indians from holding immovable property in the Province, consequently the simulated agreement or arrangement was a fictitious one, and took place for the purpose of protecting Indians if anything happened to Ritch.

Therefore, the documents on which the Indians based their claims were clearly fictitious, and did not express the intentions of the parties. It was admitted that the parties themselves never intended the transaction should be a genuine one between them, but merely a device to protect them in case of eventualities. For instance, property bought of £170 was bonded immediately for £1,000 for which it was alleged Ritch was indebted to the applicants. Such excessive amounts were placed on the bonds to safeguard the Indians in case Ritch tried to dispose of the properties. He agreed with the decision of the Master, and dismissed the application with costs.

In view of extensive interest taken in the recent official orders in connection with the Urban areas Act as it applies to Natives living just outside the Durban Borough boundary, the police authorities have powers vested in them under Section 17 of the Act to remove from urban areas idle and suspicious characters, so that although no Native who is in genuine employment can be officially interfered with under the Act, the measure will be operative for the many undesirable Natives who are a menace to the public safety on Durban's borders.

Exodus of the majority of Natives residing in the neighbourhood of the Borough Boundary will not now take place. According to instructions received by the police posts earlier in the month, all Natives who were not employed on the suburban districts affected were to be given notice to move beyond the five mile limit, and the Natives and their landlords were informed, but these instructions have now been cancelled, and the police are busy informing the Natives that they will not be required to quit at the end of November.

Rangoon, Oct. 11 (Reuter).—Ottama, Pongys, a Buddhist priest and Nationalist leader, has been sentenced to three years' rigorous imprisonment on the charge of making seditious speeches advocating non-payment of the capitation tax. Subsequently a crowd, headed by many Buddhist monks, held a protest meeting in the square, refused to disperse, and were charged and dispersed by the police. The next day a band of monks assaulted the American Professor Gleason, of Judson College, and his wife, while they were walking in the street. Both had to be removed to hospital, suffering from cuts. Assaults with knives were also made on a European and a British soldier. The authorities have taken precautions to prevent further disorders. The police to-day raided a large monastery in the vicinity of the assault on the Gleasons, and arrested seven monks.

Capetown, Oct. 20 (Reuter).—Yesterday afternoon at the new Congregational Church, Ottery Road, Wynberg, the Scots girl, Jean Forgan, was married to the Indian, Dr. Patel Masters, by the resident pastor, Rev. J. D. Orr. The banns were called for

the third time yesterday. Dr. Masters was baptised as a Christian last Sunday and has become a member of the Congregational Church. The bride had £1,000 settled on her by ante-nuptial contract.

Calcutta, Oct. 15 (Reuter).—The Government of India has telegraphed to the American Consul-General stating that it is greatly concerned to hear of the assault on American missionaries, and Professor Greson, at Rangoon, last week. The telegram states that the Government of Burma has been asked for a detailed report of the affair, and meanwhile the Government of India expresses great regret for the unfortunate occurrence, and gives an assurance that all steps will be taken to ensure the safety of Americans in Burma and India.

The General Purposes Committee considered the question of appointing a successor to the late Chief Constable Donovan. The Committee resolved to recommend to the Council that Inspector Alexander, who has been acting as Chief Constable since his return from England, be appointed.

Simla, Oct. 19 (Reuter).—Reports from outlying districts show that many hundreds of villages were swept away by the recent floods on the Ganges and Jumna rivers. The floods caused heavy loss of life and enormous losses of cattle, and did the great destruction among the crops, thousands of villagers losing their all. A huge number of wild animals perished. Many villagers who took refuge in trees were attacked by snakes. The floods had a wholesome effect in destroying plague rats, but malaria and dengue fevers are becoming rife as the waters subside. Relief measures are in full swing.

THE DIWALI

IN the next few days, the Hindu-world will be celebrating that great festival known as the Diwali. The day is always considered to be an auspicious one, and as such it is regarded by all, the high and the low, the rich and the poor, for them to commence or undertake any venture with profitable gain. Many offer special prayers to the goddess of wealth—Mahaluxmi—and also to the goddess of knowledge—Saraswati, on this auspicious day. It is the day which brought the end of Narukasura's oppression and cruelty; it is the day on which the conquering hero Rama returned to his native land, the Ondh after ending Ravana's tyranny; it is the day on which many Hindus who follow the Vikrama era decide upon new resolutions for the New Year. As a matter of fact it is the day on which the Hindus embrace each other with brotherly feelings, forgetting the past and wishing each other health, wealth and prosperity in the future. In South Africa the Diwali perhaps is not celebrated as it should be because of the Damocles' sword hanging over their heads and because of the cruelty and oppression they have to suffer at the hands of their rulers. They are not treated better than those who were under Ravana's rule; and yet, because of the teachings of their Rishis they calmly bear all in the belief that they (the rulers) may some day learn to rule with justice and fairplay irrespective of class, colour or creed. In spite of all their sufferings, the Indians do not rebel; they place no obstacles, nor do they hinder the progress of this country by any means; they calmly but bravely submit to the treat-

ment meted out to them by the administrators of the Union of South Africa. They know that they are suffering because India is weak and powerless and they know also that India—because of the weakness—is also suffering by the British iron hand. The Hindus believe that when a nation suffers and bears the sufferings, then the day comes, when to relieve them of such sufferings, a Krishna or a Rama is born. The Hindus, who will be celebrating the Diwali next week, will, we are confident, offer prayers for the rule of Ramraj wherein the subjects are treated on equality with the rulers. No laws are proclaimed differentiating the subjects on the grounds of colour. Franchise is not withheld from any subjects, and equal justice to all is the basis on which the government of the country is carried on. Ravana tried as the British Empire is ruling her coloured subjects to-day and he met his doom. Therefore British raj cannot be an exception and she will also meet her fate, unless she retraces her steps and changes her code of rule. We know that other nations before the British Empire ruled in the same manner as she does and they all have been brought down. The Diwali reminds all Hindus of the past history of the world and they might make merry and try and be happy on the day but they know as all school boys of the non-European races of South Africa know that they are being treated in this country as modern slaves. Mr. Polak very rightly said that the Indians were the "Helots of the Empire," and who could deny that, that statement is incorrect. We hope that all our readers will form new resolutions for the new year and that they will do all that lies in their power during the year to consistently carry out the objects they have in view. We wish them all a HAPPY DIWALI AND A PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR.

ASIATIC QUESTION AT THE FARMERS CONFERENCE

Congress then proceeded to the discussion of the Asiatic question, which is such a burning topic in Natal at the present time. The following resolution was moved by Mr. Steyn on behalf of the Natal Agricultural Union:—

"That in the opinion of this Conference Government should take up a more drastic action of repatriating Asiatics by one or more of the following methods: (a) Cancellation of licences; (b) segregation; (c) disallowing Asiatics to purchase land or property; that those owning property retain it for their lifetime, and the State take same over at a valuation and the property to be sold to a European."

The necessity for drastic action, said Mr. Steyn, was proved by a little consideration. As regards the rural trade, 90 per cent. of this was now in the hands of Indian traders. Further, as regards the town trade, he only asked the visitors, particularly those from the Free State, to make their own comparison of the fearful mess Natal was in compared with the towns across the border, where it was paradise in comparison. Natal asked for the assistance of the other Provinces out of this mess. In Natal more than half of the total workers were Indians. This put the white people in a very serious position, when they considered their poor white problem. This, he maintained, was the crux of that problem. It was time they had drastic action. As far as the acquisition of land was concerned, the Indians had now secured throughout Natal 2,500 plots of rural land, and at the rate, the whole of Natal would very

shortly be in their hands. As far as their commercial morality was concerned, he would refer them to what Judge Krause had said regarding people who transgressed the Insolvency Laws. Mr. Krause had expressed the opinion that there were people who thought that they could come to this country and make money quickly by defrauding their creditors, but provision should be made in the new insolvency laws for the deportation of people of this kind. The drastic action that the Natal Agricultural Union asked was the cancellation of the licences of these Indians, which included the refusal of new licences.

Mr. Abercrombie said that he wished to ask that they incorporate in Mr. Steyn's resolution the first part of the next resolution on the agenda. The words referred to were: "That the Government be asked to place all Asiatics in locations on the same lines and under the same conditions as the Native population."

Mr. Steyn accepted this addition.

Mr. Abercrombie thereupon seconded the resolution before the Congress. With regard to the cancellation of licences, he said he thought that the moment they differentiated between one class of the community and another, there would be an outcry all over the world. Let all traders come under one licensing authority, and let that authority keep out all undesirable traders; this would give them a lever to handle the situation. The Indian traders had brought the insolvency figures up enormously, and had done nothing but abuse the Europeans for all that they had done for them. The trading classes had no claim upon the Europeans whatever; the producing classes on the sugar and other estates had a better claim than the trading classes.

Another member stated that this Indian question was a great menace in the Transvaal as well as in the Natal. The scale of living of these people made it impossible to compete with them. The question also arose as to what the white people were going to do with their boys when they had the Indian competition to face.

Sir William Campbell said that they all realised the wrongs suffered by Natal, but he would ask whether the section referring to cancellation of licences would not affect those Indian traders who had played the game? There was undoubtedly a small percentage of Indian traders who had played the game. These Indians were British subjects that they had to admit whether they liked it or not, and they must be treated as British subjects. He suggested an amendment, "Cancellation of licences with due compensation." They must try and be fair.

Mr. A. Webster said that they should appeal to their farmers not to patronise the Indian trader; they never saw an Indian enter a white man's store. The Indian was a great danger to white South Africa: he was no good to the Native; he was no good to the commercial community, and he was no good to the country. The sooner they got rid of him the better.

Mr. Webster said further, that the Indian trading class had no commercial morality whatever. Up-country he knew of cases where Indian storekeepers would sell an article for 2s. 6d. in competition with European storekeepers who could not sell that same article under 7s. 6d. They knew that by such methods they could only last for a few years, and would then go insolvent.

It was stated by another delegate that it was absolutely necessary for these Indians to be segregated. There were cases where white girls worked in Indian offices as typists and so on; the children of Europeans played in the streets with the children of Indians. Indians were buying properties in European localities and depreciating the value of the property belonging to white people. The remedy was segregation as soon as possible.

Sir Frederick Moor made an appeal for compensation where licences were taken away from Indians. This, he said, was the British and fair method of doing it. In Great Britain, this principle of compensation was followed, and it was the right principle, and the principle that we in this country should adopt in dealing with this Indian question. It was a principle that he would apply to himself. Let them say that they had tackled this problem, this menace, that they had solved it, and that they had paid for it.

Mr. Gardner supported Sir Frederick Moor. Every patriotic South African should be prepared to put his hand into his pocket in order to pay the way out of this. He looked upon it as a matter of race preservation. On the previous day they had discussed the Native question. They were now discussing the Indian question: they were really very much alike, except that the one question was more general than the other.

Mr. G. A. Kolbe said that unless they supported that resolution, the time would come when they would find these very people whom they were discussing that day would claim equal representation on the legislative bodies of the country. It was not for the Free State to say that they would stand out of this, otherwise they in that Province would find themselves in the same position as Natal, and to a certain extent the Transvaal, were in. He supported Sir Frederick Moor in all that he had said: pay these Indians compensation where it was justified. The type of people referred to in paragraph (a) of the resolution had it in their religion that they would one day rule the world, and the white people seemed to be helping them on towards their goal. These people were polygamous and multiplied rapidly, and the day would come when they would sit in the House of Assembly and pass laws to rule the Europeans.

Another delegate said that the Indian labourers on the sugar estates were diminishing, but there were still many remaining. These people had children, and these children were sent to school. They did not go back to the sugar estates, but came into town to work in stores and offices. He was a menace to the whites. As far as Sir William Campbell's contention that the Indians were British subjects was concerned, the speaker said that he would point out that the Native was also a British subject, but he was not allowed to do the things that the Indian was allowed to do. The Government differentiated between the Native and the white man, and why should the Government not differentiate between the Indian and white man?

Mr. Steyn, the mover of the resolution, replied to the speakers, and said that as far as this compensation was concerned, the principle was a good one, but it was impossible to do everything in five minutes. While they were willing to pay compensation, the insolvent was not the man who should get it; he would very much think that some of the creditors would like a little compensation. The whole crux of the matter was that, if they were no new licences issued, they got at the root of the matter. Mr. Steyn indicated that he was willing to accept Sir William Campbell's amendment to the effect that there should be due compensation when licences were cancelled.

The resolution was thereafter carried, as amended by Sir William Campbell.

Sir William Campbell moved the following resolution on behalf of the O.F.S. Agricultural Union: "That this Congress presses for legislation in the case of Asiatics and Natives carrying on a business under a company or assumed name, that shall make it compulsory for all such persons to display in a clear manner on all notepapers, advertisements, etc., the proprietor's name, in order that it may be clearly seen that the business is a Native one (similar

to the business Names Registrations Act in England.)"
The resolution was carried.

SANITATION FOR THE SUBURBS

The new Public Health Committees in the suburbs, says the *Natal Mercury* in a leading article, are getting down to their work. They appear to be discovering that the duties with which they are entrusted bear an unpleasant resemblance to the Herculean undertaking of cleaning the Augean stables, and that their difficulties are not susceptible to any such simple solution as that which the wily Greek found for his. It is common knowledge that sanitary conditions in the areas immediately beyond the borough boundaries are bad; but the description published yesterday of the conditions which the members of the South Coast Junction Public Health Committee have found in existence in their area should be an eye-opener to the public, both in the borough and in the suburbs. The total absence of even the most primitive sanitary provision produces conditions which can only be described as appalling. There are no arrangements for the removal of night-soil, which is allowed to accumulate on the surface in close proximity to dwelling-houses, or at best is buried under a shallow layer of earth; in many instances there is no provision for the disposal of either storm-water or slop-water. The reader may be referred to the official document for the revolting details of the conditions which the Committee found during its tour of inspection. They are tersely and justly summarised as constituting "an appalling and dangerous state of insanitation and overcrowding in their most hideous and nauseating forms." That is strong language; but there is no reason to suspect exaggeration. The outward and visible signs which can be perceived even by the casual passer-by on the main road suggest a state of affairs amply justifying the language used by the Committee; but some people will be surprised to learn that "poor whites" are to be found among others living under conditions such as no intelligent farmer would tolerate in his pig-styes. The Public Health Committee, of course, will have to advance with some measure of circumspection in attempting to improve the sanitary conditions in Durban's "ring fence of hovels." In many cases the cost of building even the most elementary sanitary conveniences, as such things are viewed in modern urban communities, would exceed the utmost valuation that could be put upon the dwelling-houses to which they would be attached. At the same time it is quite obvious that the existing conditions cannot be allowed to continue indefinitely. Only the most rudimentary knowledge of the principles of the public health is necessary to suggest how a community living under conditions such as those described would react to a filth-borne epidemic and the consequences could not be completely localised, for many of the inhabitants of these suburban slums work in some fashion or other in the town. The South Coast Junction Committee has wisely decided to make a start with the worst cases. It may be necessary to begin with some scheme of communal sanitary conveniences, the institution of which will be facilitated by the fact that the tenements are huddled in close proximity. Such an arrangement, of course, is by no means ideal; but the Committee has to deal with a section of the population, mainly non-European, which, as it points out, could not afford to pay for better accommodation than these hovels provide. It will be necessary in the circumstances for the Public Health Committees to walk before they attempt to run; but a very considerable advance should result from the mere fact of it becoming known that a public health authority exists with power to enforce sanitary conditions and to punish offenders against sanitary principles.

TRAFFIC IN COUNCIL RATIONS

(SPECIAL TO THE NATAL ADVERTISER)

The Finance Committee of the Town Council has been requested to investigate certain grave allegations as to an organised traffic in the Corporation's rations for Indians.

It is stated that a vast quantity of the "skoff" served out to Indian employees is regularly sold by them to Asiatic store-men for re-sale at higher prices, and to itinerant coolies purchasing for their own requirements.

Councillor Kemp, who has been instrumental in bringing this matter to the attention of the Committee, has satisfied himself that there is an organised traffic in these food supplies. "To-day," he writes the Town Clerk under date October 18, "I was invited by an employee (European) of the Public Works Department to see these things for myself. I attended at about 12.25 p. m. on the site between the Indian Market extension and the railway line. There I saw the Corporation's rations were being sold by the Corporation Indians. I took a note of the names of those who were mixed up in one transaction, and this was testified to by the purchaser and by a sirdar in the employ of the Corporation."

WHAT THE RATION CONSISTS OF

To each Indian in the civic service is served out a regular daily ration of rice, mealie meal, dholl, etc.—an allowance judged to be amply sufficient for his sustenance.

But the coolie is an ascetic feeder; he is able to sustain life on about as much food and drink as would merely suffice to whet a European's appetite for more. It is apparent that number of the Asiatics employed by the Corporation are voluntarily putting themselves on short commons in order to secure an addition to their monetary earnings.

The matter is a serious one. The Indian worker is given his skoff to eat—not to sell. If he is stinting his stomach for the purpose of gain it is obvious that he must lose in physical efficiency, to the detriment of his labour for the Council.

"If the traffic in rations now going on," says Councillor Kemp, "is in the ratio I saw this morning, then there must be no little profit in the business from the point of view of the Asiatic storekeeper and the itinerant coolie."

WEEKLY AND MONTHLY ALLOWANCES

Inquiry at the municipal offices elicits the fact that the Indian ration per head are as follows:—

Weekly; 10 lbs. of rice and 10 lbs. of mealie meal.

Monthly; 4 lbs. of dholl, 1½ lbs. of salt, and one bottle of mustard oil.

INDIA MUST PAY

We give below from *The Mahratta* an interesting article written by Mr. A. Ghose as to how the National wealth of India is drained out by England:—

For centuries India has been and will be for the future to come, the country of resources without limit, and for this very often the foreigners exclaim "INDIA IS A GOLD MINE." The true conditions which mark the real greatness and the vitality of the Nation are supreme and unique in the Nature of India: they are Man-power, and the producing capacity of the land. With all these conditions which would have favoured any country to take the lead amongst the nations of the world very often we ask to ourselves "How is it that we are so crippled and personal resources very small?" When we investigate further into the cause of this unusual and incomprehensible cause of the decay of our National Wealth we arrive at a certain point where the History begins with a new era, with new people having a different Philosophy altogether unknown and unfamiliar to this country and the crushing wheel of exploitation on which we mark the words with

horror "INDIA MUST PAY." In the past and as well as in the present, History tells us whenever there has been a War outside India, in which India has not the slightest interest, the reply from the administrative nation came "INDIA MUST PAY?" We blamed our ancestors and we redeem justice from God as we cannot curse with indignation the intruders of the land for having poured the best blood of India for no cause of her and the money spent without restriction not for her development or for her interest.

Even as late as the last War, History repeated the above facts. In every domain of life amongst every shade of opinion the people hold in their own country, one thing is always easy for them to say and has been so to meet and to solve the most difficult problem by saying "INDIA MUST PAY." Even in the industrial field which solves the bread problem of the intruders in their own land, they use the same phrase when they meet with some difficulties in the way of cost of production. The articles are manufactured in England, the cost of production being very high, the local people cannot afford to buy those things and they must get the same articles mostly from FRANCE better manufactured and cheap and the costly articles are thrown on India with the principle so familiar to them "INDIA MUST PAY."

A few months back Tenders for Wagons and Engines were invited from various countries of Manufacturers (perhaps just to please the Indians!) and France's offer was less by Rs. 4,50,000 (Four lakhs fifty thousand) and still we learnt with the greatest astonishment that this order was placed with the Manufactures of England on the ground that the limit of delivery of the French Company was longer by several weeks only and as if India could not wait for this delay!! After having booked this order as usual, the English Company has taken a fresh prolongation for delivery of the goods by several months. There are other lots of things which happen in this way and the Public Money is thus involved in public concern without consulting the Public in the matter and this is a way how the money is drained out of India apart from the known administrative exploitation and Colonial Policy. Many articles for the daily use of the municipality are even to this day being supplied by the English manufacturers at prices much higher than the same quality of French goods used in England itself. As we are told that the municipality is entirely free from the administrative influence, my earnest request goes on to them who are people's trustees in the matter of the municipality to consider this problem and guard their interest and change once for all in their department the usual motto of the exploiters and say with all their force and vigour "INDIA MUST NOT PAY."

ZAGHLUL PASHA'S DEMANDS

London, Oct. 8.—The demand which Zaghul Pasha the Egyptian Prime Minister, submitted during the recent negotiations with Mr. Ramsay MacDonald in London, are summarised in a White Paper issued to-night. They were:

- (a) The withdrawal of all British forces in Egyptian territory.
- (b) The withdrawal of financial and judicial advisers.
- (c) The disappearance of all British control over the Egyptian Government in connection with foreign affairs.
- (d) The abandonment of the British claim to protect foreigners and minorities in Egypt.
- (e) The abandonment of the British claim to participate in the protection of the Suez Canal.

Replying to these demands, Mr. MacDonald, while not abandoning the hope of a subsequent agreement

expressed the opinion that Zaghul Pasha's attitude at present rendered an agreement impossible. He declared that no British Government could wholly sacrifice interests guarding a vital link in British communications like the Canal.

He pointed out that the ineffectiveness of the 1888 Convention for the free navigation of the Canal was demonstrated in 1914, when Britain herself had to take steps to ensure the Canal remaining open.

Mr. MacDonald expressed the opinion however that effective co-operation between Britain and Egypt in protecting communications might be ensured by the conclusion of a Treaty of close alliance.

He assured Zaghul that the British forces would in no way interfere with the functions of the Egyptian Government, or encroach on Egyptian sovereignty.

Moreover, the British Government did not intend to assume responsibility for the actions and conduct of the Egyptian Government, nor attempt to control or direct the Egyptian Government's policy.

As regards the Soudan, Mr. MacDonald repeated his previous public utterances on the subject.

He added that in the meantime the duty of preserving order in the Soudan rests with the British Government, who will take every step necessary for that purpose.—Reuter.

London, Oct. 7 (Reuter).—Zaghul Pasha proceeded to Paris this morning en route for Egypt. Zaghul, whose face was wreathed in smiles, told Reuter's representative he had nothing to say but thanks. He would not say good-bye, merely *au revoir*. Zaghul made a speech to a crowd of Egyptian students who enthusiastically bade him farewell. He said he had done his best to negotiate, and had offered proof of the rights they claimed. His offer had been refused, but "the fault is not ours, but theirs."

LEAGUE OF NATIONS PROTOCOL

VERBATIM TEXT OF PROPOSALS AND AMENDMENTS

SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES BY ARBITRATION

The Japanese amendments to the League of Nations Protocol aroused such world-wide interest that I send a verbatim text of the relevant articles of the Protocol, with the amendments.

Article five states: "Provisions: Paragraph eight of the article Fifteen of the Covenant shall continue to apply in proceedings before the Council. If in the course of arbitration such as is contemplated in article Four, one of the parties claims that the disputes, or a part thereof, arises out of a matter which by International law, is solely within the domestic jurisdiction of that party, the arbitrator shall on this point take the advice of the Permanent Court of International Justice through the medium of the League Council. The opinion of the Court shall be binding upon the arbitrators, who, if the opinion is affirmative, shall confine themselves to so declaring in their award."

The Japanese addition to this clause is as follows: "If the question is held by the Court or by the Council to be a matter solely within the domestic jurisdiction of the State, this decision shall prevent consideration by the Council or by the Assembly under Article Eleven of the Covenant."

Though Article Four was not amended by the Japanese, it was relevant to the issue, and reads thus: "With a view to render complete the provisions of paragraphs four, five, six and seven of Article Fifteen of the Covenant, the signatory States agree to comply with the following procedure:—

- (1) If the dispute submitted to the Council is unsettled by it, as provided in paragraph three in Article Fifteen, the Council shall endeavour to persuade the parties to submit the dispute for judicial settlement or arbitration.

(2) If the parties cannot agree to do so, there shall, at the request at least of one of the parties, be constituted a Committee of arbitrators. The Committee shall, as far as possible, be constituted by agreement between the parties. If within the period fixed by the Council the parties have failed to agree in whole or part upon the number of names, the powers of the arbitrators, and procedure, the Council shall settle the points remaining in suspense. It shall, with the utmost possible despatch, select in consultation with the parties, the arbitrators and their president from among the persons who, by nationality, personal character and experience appear to furnish the highest guarantees of competence and impartiality. After the claims of parties have been formulated, the arbitrators' Committee, on the request of any party shall, through the Council's medium, request advisory opinions upon any of the points of law in dispute from the Permanent Court of International Justice, which in such case shall meet with the utmost possible despatch.

(3) If none of the parties asks for arbitration the Councils shall take the dispute under consideration. If the Council reaches a report unanimously agreed by the members thereof other than the representative of any of the parties to the dispute, the signatory States agree to comply with the recommendations therein.

(4) If the Council fails to reach a report concurred in by all its members other than the representatives of any of the parties to the dispute, it shall submit the dispute to arbitration. It shall itself determine the composition, powers and procedure of the Committee of Arbitrators, and in the choice of arbitrators shall bear in mind the guarantees of competence and impartiality mentioned above.

(5) In no case may a solution upon which there has been already a unanimous recommendation of the Council accepted by one of the parties concerned be again called in question.

(6) The signatory States undertake that they will carry out in full good faith any judicial sentence or arbitral award rendered, and that they will comply, as provided in paragraph three, with the solution recommended by the Council. In the event of a State failing to carry out the above undertaking, the Council shall exert all its influence to secure compliance therewith. If it fails therein, it shall propose what steps be taken to give effect thereto in accordance with provision contained at the end of Article Thirteen of the Covenant.

Should a State, in disregard of the above undertakings, resort to war, the sanctions provided by Article Sixteen of the Covenant, interpreted in the manner indicated in the present Protocol, shall immediately become applicable to it.

(7) The provisions of the present article do not apply to the settlement of disputes arising as the result of measures of war taken by one or more signatory States in agreement with the Council or Assembly.

The other Article amended by Japanese was Article Ten, which reads thus: "Every State which resorts to war in violation of the undertakings contained in the Covenant, or in the present Protocol, is an aggressor. The violation of the rules laid down for a demilitarised zone shall be held equivalent to a resort to war. In the event of hostilities having broken out, any State shall be presumed to be an aggressor unless the decision of the Council, which must be taken unanimously, shall otherwise declare, first, if it has refused to submit the dispute to the procedure of pacific settlement provided by Articles Thirteen and Fifteen of the Covenant, as amplified by the present Protocol, or to comply with the judicial sentence or arbitral award, or with the unanimous recommendation of Council, or has disregarded the unanimous report of Council, judicial sentence or arbitral award recognising that the dispute between it and the other belligerent State arises out of a

matter which, by International Law, is solely within the domestic jurisdiction of the latter State.

The Japanese addition to this section then reads: "Nevertheless in the last case a State shall only be presumed to be an aggressor if it has not previously submitted the question to the Council or the Assembly in accordance with Article Eleven of the Covenant."

Article Ten then goes on: "If it has violated the provincial measures enjoined by the Council for the period while the proceedings are in progress, as contemplated by Article Seven of the present Protocol. Apart from the cases dealt with in paragraphs one and two of the present Article. If the Council does not at once succeed in determining the aggressor, it shall be bound to enjoin upon the belligerent an armistice, and shall fix terms acting, if need be, by a two-thirds majority, and shall supervise its execution. Any belligerent which has refused to accept an armistice or has violated its terms, shall be deemed an aggressor. The Council shall call upon the signatory States to apply forthwith against the aggressor the sanctions provided by Article Eleven of the present Protocol, and any signatory State thus called upon, shall thereupon be entitled to exercise the rights of a belligerent.—*Natal Mercury.*"

MARITZBURG HINDU YOUNG MEN'S ASSOCIATION

19TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

The 19th anniversary celebration of the Hindu Young Men's Association was successfully celebrated at Maritzburg on the 12th instant.

Numerous congratulatory messages were received from different parts of South Africa. Delegates from the Hindu Bodha Andhra Sabha, Tongaat; Hindu Thirkootam Association, Ladysmith; Young Men's Vedic Society, Durban; Hindu Bodha Society, Clairwood; Nagri Pracharnee Sabha, Howick; Tamil Protective Association, Pentrich; Natal Indian Congress, Maritzburg; Vidya Pracharnee Sabha, Aryan Benevolent Society, Veda Dharma Sabha; Hindu Temple, Maritzburg; were represented at the function. After the presidential speech by Mr. S. v. R. Naidoo, which dealt with the needs of furthering education, the children of the H.Y.M.A. Free Tamil School gave recitations on different subjects. The rendering of songs by the children was keenly applauded by the audience. The delegates present urged upon the necessity of uniform action in the fields of education and of religion and social reforms. At the instance of the Young Men's Vedic Society, Durban, a resolution was passed to hold a meeting in Durban on the 1st and 2nd January, 1925, for the purpose, among other things, of considering the advisability of forming a Tamil Maha Sabha. After the president had thanked the delegates and those present for the keen interest in which several matters affecting the welfare of the community were discussed, the meeting concluded with prayers.

At the commencement of the function a special message from the founder, Prof. Parmanand, wishing the function success was conveyed to the meeting.

The Arya Yuvuk Sabha are summoning a meeting of all followers of the Vedic religion on the 2nd November at 10 a.m. at the Tamil Institute to consider the programme for the celebration of Swami Dayanand Saraswati's centenary.

The Nav Yuvuk Divali Mundal are holding their second annual sports on the Springfield Football ground on the 2nd November, commencing at 10 a.m.