

# INDIAN OPINION

OFFICIAL WEEKLY ORGAN OF THE BRITISH GUIANA EAST INDIAN ASSOCIATION.

VOL. 1. NO. 58

GEORGETOWN, B.G., SATURDAY JUNE. 9, 1945.

ONE PENNY

**INDIAN OPINION:** Items of news interest and Literary contributions must be addressed to P. O. Box 43, Georgetown, B. G. Features and other items appearing in this journal do not necessarily represent the views of the Editorial Board. The Editorial column reflects the policy of the British Guiana East Indian Association.

## SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Single Copies—one penny.

### LOCAL

Annual Subscription—[Posted] \$1.50

### FOREIGN

Annual Subscription—[Posted] \$2.00

## -EDITORIAL-

# Sugar Estates' Workers

We have received several complaints from workers in Demerara and Berbice regarding the Agreement that have been signed between representatives of two Trade Unions and the representatives of the B.G. Sugar Producers Association with the approval of the Department of Labour. We are informed that the Agreements have been signed without the approval of the majority of the members concerned.

Our information is to the effect that the independent functioning of Trade Unions and the individuality of members are being seriously jeopardised. To say the least, the majority of the workers is very perturbed and sooner or later something serious may happen if there is no change.

Recent efforts to hold "elections" have nearly all been abortive, and where "representatives" have been "elected" the majority of workers declined to take part. At certain sugar estates, the large majority of workers have not even attend meetings of the Trade Unions when in-

## Rice Industry to Undergo Another Legal Process.

## Government Manoeuvres to Form Statutory Association,

## Further Chaos Predicted.

(By Economist).

According to the daily Press I surprisingly find the Government making further manoeuvres to strangle the rice industry. Since 1930 the Government, actively assisted by certain groups have been strangling the rice industry although they have partially succeeded to keep production down to about twenty odd thousand tons per annum for export those in authority and control seems not to be satisfied.

vided, and when the question of "voting" was discussed, the majority of those present declined to take part in the question as to whether they should "vote" for the "representatives" on the joint committee. Where "elections" have been held the member of one of the two Trade Unions who have been unfortunate in not getting their nominees "elected" are planning to take action against those who did not support them.

We are informed that all these matters are well known to the Department of Labour. It would be interesting to know what are the future plans of the Department. It is clear that their creation, JOINT COMMITTEES, have failed miserably.

From facts in our possession it would appear that since the Department of Labour began to function, as has been stated over and over again in the interests of Labour the majority of workers who have been members of Trade Unions has declined to support their Unions. Here again the membership of the several Trade Unions for the last three or four years will make interesting reading.

We are not prepared to offer any advice to our people who are working and or residing on sugar estates at the present time. We are well aware of their intentions. The question of Land Settlement and the extension of rice cultivation and other means of livelihood should be well known to all. We are reminded that the Government is taking active steps to bring about these reforms which are so long delayed and which are so eagerly looked forward to. We, on our part, will do all we can to get a clear understanding as to the real intentions of Government. We are doubtful. However, when these reforms are an accomplished fact workers on sugar estates will decide for themselves whether it is their interest to work for the sugar estate owners or for themselves. We propose to return to this subject shortly.

British Guiana has been unable to produce sufficient rice to supply the requirements of Trinidad, yet the wise acres are perturbed as to what will be done in the years to come as they say "regarding the possibility of serious competition from foreign producers and of resumption of competition from Burma". Sensible people have not got to worry unduly when and where to sell goods that are not produced or available but Guianese have a different mentality, and an entirely different way of doing certain things. Fears are entertained as to when Burma begins to ship rice to the West Indies. Sensible people would produce sufficient to supply the entire West Indies before beginning to worry. But there is no worry in Government circles to produce a hundred thousand tons per annum; there is worry to sell what is not produced. What a Country and what an administration!

I do not pretend to know very much about the rice industry, but I do not think that a statutory rice producers Association can ever be a democratic Association. Those who are directly interested should take care to see that no Legislation is introduced to further strangle the rice industry and bring chaos in the industry of our people. Will our people take heed?

The Government wants further to create a statutory authority to replace the Rice Marketing Board, this new authority to include wide representation of rice producers. Again, I cannot understand the meaning of this change over. If it is the intention of the Government to remove all the members of the Rice Marketing Board, who have been responsible to keep the industry in its present state and allow producers and millers to manage and control their own industry, it ought to be something that looks democratic, but does this Government believe in democracy?

My advice to Growers and Millers is to demand control of the rice industry. This, and this alone should be the democratic basis. Do not be misled and fooled any longer by opportunists and careerists. Your living is at stake!

READ THE  
**Indian Opinion**

## Hon. Pundit Kunzru's Visit to Surinam

Honourable Pundit Hirday Nath Kunzru B.A., B.Sc. L.L.B., President of The Servants of India Society and Member of Council of State of India arrived here on Thursday 17th May 1945 at the invitation of Jageran Society. The reception Committee consisting of the President, Secretary and a member of the working committee of Jageran Association together with many distinguished Indians went to the Air Field to welcome him. He was garlanded by Mrs L. Radhakrishnan and was photographed at the field.

During his sojourn Hon Kunzru visited many districts in order to see personally the conditions under which Indian farmers are living in this colony. Every place he went he enquired about their difficulties. Concisely following are the grievances expressed by the Indian farmers:—

1. Stoppage of Hindi & Urdu education which was given by the Government up to 1929.
2. Prohibition of cremation of Hindu dead bodies.
3. Improper Irrigation.
4. Diverse taxes.

Pundit Kunzru promised to do about these matters whatever is in his power and also advised them to approach their leaders in the city so that they can look into the matter and help them. Dr. Kunzru met the Governor of the Colony as well as the Attorney General and Chief Justice with whom he had long chat regarding the difficult problems facing Indians here. Every night he delivered speeches in Hindi language at the Indian Club, also called "HINDALAYA" which is Head Quarter of the JAGERAN Society, where great crowd gathered to hear the Pandit.

In his speeches, he:

1. Clarified the British Policy toward India.
2. Threw light on Sir Stafford Cripps Mission and Public reactions.
3. Explained the structure and motto of the Servants of India Society.
4. Affirmed that Indians abroad will get help soon as India has retrieved her Independence.
5. Expressed the need of Indian Government Agent in West Indies to protect Indians interest.
6. Emphasized that the education—Hindi Urdu as well as Dutch—is imperative, not only for boys but for girls as well.

On Sunday night he was given a farewell dinner at the Indian Club which was illuminated and decorated with Orange White & Green for the occasion. After the dinner he was photographed together with the Working Committee and Advisory Board of the JAGERAN Society. He also left message for the Indians here asking them to read books regarding the culture and art of India and always speak Hindustani and told them that the People in Fatherland have not forgotten them and they should learn more and more about the Mother country. He also emphasized that Indians in Surinam should take interest and cooperate with other Committees in Surinam.

But he drew their attention on Unity and said only with Unity they will be powerful. In response the President of the JAGERAN Society convinced Honourable Kunzru that Indians in Surinam shall

not forget their mother country and ask him to tell People in India that thousands miles away from Bharatwarsh there is a colony of Surinam where reside so many Indians who always remember their brothers in India and shall help them in time of need and hoped that the people in India will give us all the cultural things we might be in need of.

On the beautiful Monday morning with many Indians, Honourable Pandit Hirday Nath Kunzru, President of the Servants of India Society started from town for Zanderij Air field where Pan American plane took him off to Brazil on his way to India—the land of Culture and Beauty.

J. T. Kirpalani.

### PLN. VERSAILLES WAS A LITTLE INDIAN

Pln. Versailles was changed into a Little India last week when prominent Pandit Sadhoos, Songsters together with Sanatani Males & females gathered at the Hindu Temple to join in the eight-day Celebration of a Shri Mat Bhagwat Yag which was sponsored by Mr. Birbal.

The Pandits delivered very many inspiring and educative Lectures to the congregation, such as, evils of rum-drinking, the Dire Need for Hindustani Education, the speaking of Hindustani, the value of Unity and Cooperation, etc. etc.

The Pandits who were unanimous in their congratulations to Mr. Birbal, said that his charitable and religious achievements should be an example to his Sanatani Brethren of British Guiana.

The Latohmi Sabha of Versailles which was organised only a few weeks ago did exceptionally well, when members who were dressed in white garments with blue rosette symbolising purity and sincerity, turned out in large numbers and sang praises of Sanatan Dharma. The Celebration terminated amidst great joy and happiness.

GENERAL PROVISION  
MERCHANTS

Resaul Maraj & Co. Ltd.,

Water Street,

Georgetown.

General Provision  
Merchandise

**Boodhoo**

Water Street, Georgetown.

READ THE  
**Indian Opinion**

We Recommend  
**BRODIE & RAINER**

To all Physicians  
for their Supply of Drugs  
and to all Housewives for their  
Requirements.

# \$5,000,000 Govt. Loan

## Chance For Guianese Investor

The Government of British Guiana invite applications for \$5,000,000 three and one-half per cent Debentures to be issued at par on the 1st day of January, 1946 under the provisions of the General Local Loan Ordinance, No. 25 of 1941.

The loan is required to defray in part the cost of War Services and for such other public purposes as the Secretary of State and the Legislative Council may from time to time approve, as well as for the redemption in part of outstanding 4% bonds of the 16th and 18th issues issued under Loan Ordinance No. 6 of 1916.

The Loan is secured on the general revenues and assets of the Colony, and the principal will be repaid at par on the first day of January, 1986, but the Government of British Guiana will have the option of redemption at par on or after the first day of January, 1976, on giving six calendar months' notice in the Official Gazette.

Debentures will be of the denominations of \$100, \$500, \$1,000, \$5,000 and \$10,000. will bear interest at the rate of 3½ per cent per annum payable half-yearly, and will be transferable by delivery. Each debenture will have attached thereto coupons for the half-yearly interest payable thereon. Repayment of the debentures and payment of the interest thereon will be made at the Colonial Treasury, Georgetown.

Applications will be closed on 1st November, 1945 or on such earlier date as may be notified in the Official Gazette.

Prospectuses and application forms may be obtained from the Treasury, Georgetown, or from any Post Office.

(For full particulars see prospectus published in Daily Newspapers of 3rd June).

The Government plans to borrow five millions dollars (\$5,000,000) from the people of British Guiana to help pay for War Emergency Services (e.g. subsidization, which has kept food prices low) and other public purposes such as new buildings, reconstruction of roads etc; and all who have savings which they would like to invest safely at good interest should take advantage of this opportunity to do so.

The rate of interest offered is 3½ per annum, that is 1.10% more than the Post Office Savings Bank pays. For example, anyone who invests say, \$100 in this loan will collect each year in interest \$3.50; and if the sum invested is \$1,000 the interest each year will be \$35; and if the sum invested is \$10,000 the interest yearly will amount to \$350.

By law Government is bound to repay the loan in full at the end of forty years but has the right (due notice being given) to repay any time after the end of thirty years. However, every year until full repayment is made the investor will collect his interest at the rate of \$3.50 for every hundred dollars he puts into this loan. Actually, the interest will be paid half-yearly (in January and July each year).

Anyone who invests money in this loan will be given a debenture, that is, a bond for the amount. These bonds will be of the value of \$100, \$500, \$1,000, \$5,000 or \$10,000 and every investor can obtain bonds of whichever value he chooses. The bonds will be "bearer bonds" that is to say they can be passed by one person to another just as one would pass a bank note; so that if anyone wishes to sell his bond to another person he can easily do so. Each bond will

have interest coupons and all that will be necessary to collect the interest each half-year is to tear off the proper coupon and cash it at the Treasury.

Anyone wishing to invest in this five-million dollars loan should apply at the Colonial Treasury, Public Buildings, Georgetown, or at the nearest Post Office for an application form. When filled in, this form should be handed in or posted to the Colonial Treasury, Georgetown, accompanied by payment of a deposit of ten per cent of the amount applied for. For example, if anyone applies for permission to invest \$100, ten dollars must be enclosed with the application form. Unless this is done the application will not be granted.

Government wishes as many Guianese as possible to share in this loan; if therefore the total sum applied for exceeds five-million dollars, it may not be possible to grant everyone the full amount he wishes to invest. The Colonial Treasurer will write and inform each applicant of the amount allotted to him. The notice will be sent by registered post at the address put down on the application form; so every applicant must be careful to put down his exact address. The balance due can then be paid in two or more instalments provided the full amount is paid up by November 1, 1945. The applicant must pay the full amount by this date or he will stand a chance of forfeiting what he has already deposited.

The first interest coupon will be payable on July 1, 1946, and interest coupons will thereafter be payable on January 1 and July 1 in each succeeding year. However, the 1st of January next year Government will pay interest at the same rate [3½%] on all amounts paid in from the date of payment to the end of this present year.

The list of applications is to be closed on November 1st, 1945, but it may be closed earlier if the total amount is subscribed before that date. Everyone who wishes to apply must therefore do so at once.

**We have a limited stock**

OF

Commercial Size Envelopes And

American Lead Pencils,

**GET YOUR SUPPLIES TODAY**

AT

**Lall Bahadur Singh**

15 & 16 WATER STREET.

# BUY 'NIRMAL GHEE'

## British Guiana's Foremost Dairy Product

"NIRMAL GHEE" is 100% pure cow's ghee and is manufactured locally under expert supervision. If you want your Puree, Manbhog, Mithai and other Indian dishes made more tempting and nutritious use "NIRMAL GHEE".

"NIRMAL GHEE" is the only ghee that can be used with confidence at your Jag, Katha, Puja and other ceremonies.

PLACE YOUR ORDER TODAY AT THE

## New Stabroek Drug Store

STABROEK MARKET, GEORGETOWN.

PHONE C 341

# EACH ONE TEACH ONE

(Condensed from Readers Digest)

"I've never found an adult too old to learn to read. The widespread impression that children can learn more readily than an adult is mistaken"—so said Dr. Frank Laubach, an American missionary who has helped so much in the education of illiterates throughout the world. Dr. Laubach has devised the simplest and most effective method of quickly teaching illiterates. He has applied his method successfully to 84 different tongues.

It all began back in 1915 when Dr. Laubach was a missionary in the Philippines. There, he first put into written language a dialect among a group of these people. From there he adopted a simple method of teaching these illiterates to read and write their language. His method is something like this—he makes large charts of words with illustrations. The student identifies the word with the picture. Then he learns to identify sounds with syllables. By memorizing the syllables, the student gradually can pick out these same syllables in different words. Then he reads sentences made from the syllables he has memorized. He learns to associate the pictures and the printing with the proper sounds. Soon the student can read the syllables without the pictures. In short, he can read. Dr. Laubach has instilled his principle of "each one teach one" among the adults he has made literate. It has been his theory that if each adult who learns to read and write will teach one more adult, then the percentage of illiterates will more rapidly be diminished.

In 1935 Dr. Laubach went to Singapore and worked out phonetic charts for teaching Malay. From there he went to India where he devised simple methods of teaching Hindi, Marathi, Telugu, Tamil, and Urdu. He worked in Egypt, Palestine, Syria and Turkey using his simplified method of teaching illiterates. The League of Nations invited Dr. Laubach to carry his campaign into Africa. Undaunted by the enormous problem presented there are more than 300 major African languages and dialects—Dr. Laubach organized committees and his African campaign was an amazing success. These last few years he has concentrated his work in Latin America. Nine governments officially adopted his method.

A "tremendously successful battle has been waged against illiteracy in the last quarter-century," Dr. Laubach has said. "In Russia one million have been taught to read and write. In China more than forty million have been taught—and in

## Letter to the Editor

The Editor  
Indian Opinion

Sir,

I would be glad to be permitted through your columns to clarify the position of the East Indian Community with respect to the so called humiliation that the Hon. A. M. Edun said he suffered by having to ask the American authorities to enter their military base at Hyde Park. I wonder if Mr. Edun who is supposed to be a labour leader knows that the Americans have spent over twenty five million dollars in British Guiana in connection with this base and that the colony as a whole has benefited by this base being here.

I wonder what is operating in this gentleman's mind. Certainly it could not be pride or Indian culture. The Indian Community, as far as my knowledge goes, has regarded with satisfaction the presence of the Americans amongst us and welcome their stay here as long as they wish to do so.

I think Mr. Edun should know by now that his behaviour has been very bad taste and reflected badly on the Indian people. This fellow seems to have forgotten the one essential thing about the whole matter and that is British Guiana is a Crown Colony and that the base was given to the Americans without the people here even being asked about it. Let me say, in conclusion Mr. Editor the Americans have contributed considerable to our welfare and I as well as the majority of Indians are happy that they are amongst us. Further, let our British Masters take a leaf of the book of the Americans by seeing how roads should be built, how a residential area should be laid out, how water supply is taken to the residents and how the Hospital is equipped. Those who have visited Hyde Park after three years of American occupation are ashamed to compare that piece of American Territory on Lease to them with Georgetown.

Mr. Edun must take greater care in his utterances in future. Indians are losing confidence in his ability to speak on their behalf.

(Yours Colonist).

India thirty million. In other parts of the world twenty million. But we still have to teach more than half of the world's population."

JANET JAGAN.

BREWING today is combination of a very art and new scientific methods. YOU are assured of SUPERIOR and UNIFORM products brewed with the best available materials by methods of merit when you buy.

**Frontenac Beer**  
**Dow Ale**  
and  
**Dow Stout**  
Wieting and Richter Ltd  
AGENTS.

**Ladies & Girls  
Dresses**

Available in all sizes  
AT

**The India House**  
**Parsram & Sons**

16 Water Street, Georgetown

Whenever you are out for a good Bargain in Ladies Dress Materials and gents suitings—  
**SEE!**

**C. R. Hanoman's**  
DRY GOODS STORE—

The House for quality Service, and Satisfaction.

Opposite Pestano's Hardware, Regent Street Georgetown.

**FOR** Indian, English, Canadian, and American **FOOD-STUFFS; BEER, ALE, and STOUT** Fisherman's Requisites including **COTTON SEINE TWINE and TAR;**

**SEE C. R. JACOB & SONS, LTD.**

9-10 Holmes Street,

Georgetown,

Tel. C.625

P. O. Box 128.

The INDIAN OPINION printed and published every Saturday at the Blount Printing and Publishing Company at lot 11 A Queen Street Georgetown Demerara by CHARLES EDWARD PACKWOOD for Mr. JENARINE SINGH, President of the British Guiana East Indian Association.

SATURDAY 9th JUNE 1945.