

# INDIAN OPINION

OFFICIAL WEEKLY ORGAN OF THE BRITISH GUIANA EAST INDIAN ASSOCIATION.

VOL. 1. NO. 68

GEORGETOWN, B.G., SATURDAY AUGUST. 18, 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

## PEACE

After six years of war people today breathe an air of peace the world over.

The task of those who are going to sit at the peace conferences will be indeed tremendous and we only hope that they will have as the basis of their discussion and decisions the future welfare of man irrespective of race, colour or creed.

We know that in the past the entire basis on which the world's political and economic machinery was set up depended on the exploitation of one nation and race by the other. The British Commonwealth of Nations was the axle upon which revolved such a system and unless there is a change of heart and spirit, sooner or later another war of a more serious nature is bound to visit us in this world.

## LAWYER TO DIE FOR THE MURDER OF AHMED PASHA

Mr. Mahamud Issaur, a 26 year old lawyer of Cairo, was sentenced to death for the murder of Ahmed Pasha, Egyptian Prime Minister after Egypt had declared war against the Axis in February last.

It is stated that the Lawyer pleaded guilty, but before he is put to death the verdict must be approved by the Grand Mufti.

If the Nations of the world were to exert the amount of energy, time and money towards the bettering of humanity we are sure that the causes of war would be removed and a lasting peace could then be enjoyed by the world. The Utopia man has been looking for all these generations would then be at his door-step and the incentive of war would then not exist any more.

We hope the victorious nations would bear in mind the question of the "have and the have nots."

Our imagination can hardly stretch to consider the amount of good that would have accrued on this earth if the amount of money spent in this war had gone to better the lot of man on the face of the earth.

We pray to God that he will channel the minds of the men who are directing the fate of the world at the present time to temper justice with mercy and that they set as the goal of man "Peace on earth and goodwill towards all mankind."

## Demonstration Demonstration

Are Guinnee Workers and peasants inferior to those of Trinidad and Jamaica?

### MASSES WANT UNIVERSAL ADULT SUFFRAGE

Calling all Indian and African workers and Peasants prepare for a Monster Demonstration in Georgetown 20,000 strong.

The Franchise Bill designed to intimidate the population and infringe their rights.

Now being rushed by ten year old moribund legislature dominated by Capitalists.

British Guiana alone denied Universal Adult Suffrage. Recently Trinidad and Jamaica Granted Universal Adult Suffrage. British Guiana always had a better Constitution than these Colonies in the past.

We advocate "Holding Over" Franchise Bill Pending the decision of the Labour Government, London. Look out for further Development.

Jenarine Singh,  
President,  
B. G. E. I. Association.

## Attention Muslims

The Executive Members of the Sadr Anjuman E-Islam of British Guiana, invite all poor Muslims to spend the month of Ramzan Shareef with them at their Headquarters, Kitty.

The Major features of the month will be the keeping of Roza, reading of Namaz, reading of Quran and the serving of meals to the poor Muslims.

The Committee would be only too glad to furnish clothing to those that are in need.

Will readers kindly inform the poor Muslims of their district?

# Nationalization Of The Sugar Industry

We in British Guiana suffer, much more than the people in England from a system of intensive exploitation, and where as the people of England are exploited by their own, we in British Guiana are exploited from people 4,000 miles away; so that if the people of England have cast their lot with the labour Government with the hope of casting off exploitation we in British Guiana can and should have as the first object on our programme Nationalization of the Sugar Industry.

We wish to illustrate the condition of Semi-Slavery that exist on Sugar estates and the necessity of nationalizing them by illustrated the following facts taken from a local labour journal of a Sugar Estate colony where there are resident around 8,000 souls

The actual working days in the estate are 416,800 per annum, made up of 2000 workers labouring at 4 days per week for 52 weeks. The productions stands at 13 000 tons of sugar (besides rum, alcohol and molasses):

This estate circulated in round figures more than \$1,000 000 in 1943 divided up into the following items approximately:—

Field labour	\$200,000
Factory labour	100,000
Management and Staff (16 men)	60,000
Factory, structural and other charges Machinery and Stores	100,000
Supplies—Manures and Chemicals	80,000
Packages—Punchoons and Bags etc	\$35,000 \$30,000
	65,000

Social Welfare, Hospitals, Mess House, Recreation	8,000
Extraordinary—Cattle, Pigs, Provision	60,000
Pensions—Staff \$5,000, Labour \$2,000	7,000
Depreciation, Profits, Dividends; Reserves etc.	487,000

**\$1,167,000**

## THE REMUNERATION OF THE STAFF

It would be well to scrutinize the salaries which members of the staff received. These are as follows:—

Manager—\$480 per month and bonus of \$200 per month with free house, light gardening (\$30 a week) free domestics and chauffeur at \$6 00) per week.

Engineer—\$400 per month and bonus of \$400 per annum, free housing, light and gardening to the value of not less than \$3000 per year.

Chemist—\$360 per month and bonus of \$360 per annum, free housing, light and gardening to the value of not less than \$300 per year.

Deputy—\$280 a month and bonus of \$280 per annum, free housing, light and gardening to the cash value of not less \$100 a year.

12 Overseers—\$1880 per month free houses, light, boys and mess house etc.

## DRIVERS, FIELD AND FACTORY WORKERS REMUNERATION

The remuneration of field and factory workers will be as follows.—2000 workers receive 47 cts a day on the average of 416,000 man days per annum while 500 factory workers received 87 cts a day on the average of 104,000 man days per annum as against the manager receiving on the average \$16.00 the engineer \$1300 the chemist \$12.00, the deputy \$9 00 and 12 overseers \$6.00 per day each.

[To be continued next week]

## I STILL BELIEVE IN NON-VIOLENCE

By MAHATMA GANDHI  
(Continued from last week):

The non-violent soldier recognizes no such thing as an external enemy. He has nothing but compassion for those who consider themselves to be his enemies. He believes that no man is intentionally wicked, that there is no man who does not have the faculty to discriminate between right and wrong, and that if that faculty were to be fully developed, it would mature into non violence. No man can remain enemies in the face of such a treatment and such a spirit. They must ultimately be absorbed by it and become part of it.

The non-violent soldier prays to God, therefore, to help the so-called enemy develop this sense of right and wrong, and to bless him. His prayer for himself is that he may ever grow in moral strength so that he may face death fearlessly.

### BODY AND MIND FITNESS

I said that the lame, the old, the very young, the sick and the blind are welcomed by the non-violent army. That is true. But if possible, the non-violent soldier must develop physical as well as mental health, for there are certain duties that can be performed only by those with a trained physique.

For the non-violent soldier must have the capacity to bear severe beatings, torture, mutilations, starvation and worse, and accept these without fear and *without anger* against those who oppress him. He must have the ability to stand guard at a single spot night after night, day after day; he must not fall ill even if he has to undergo cold and heat and rain. He must have the strength to go to places of peril, to rush to scenes of fire, and the courage to pass through the very haunts of death. He must have the resourcefulness and capacity to plunge into seemingly impenetrable scenes of rioting, the will and the desire to go to the rescue of man trapped in burning houses, and the fearlessness to plunge into a flood to save people drowning there.

There have been those in India who had weapons but who threw them away after embracing non-violence and offered themselves freely and unafraid to bullets and raw steel.

This is the true non-violent soldier.

I have heard it said that the non-violent movement has had some acceptance in India only because the Indian people are cowards who have no weapons and therefore are incapable of defending themselves; that non-violence, therefore, suits them very well indeed.

On the evidence I have given, are the Indian people cowards? Would a coward have the courage to bare his breast to a rifle? Is there any army in the world that could prevail over such soldiers? Having no fear themselves, could Hitler, could Japan conquer them?

Judge if we are naive fools; if there is no courage in our hearts! Judge if we who believe in non-violence have no practical conception of how to overcome the evils that exist in today's world!

# BUY 'NIRMAL GHEE'

## British Guiana's Foremost Dairy Produce

"NIRMAL GHEE" is 100% pure cow's ghee and is manufactured locally under expert supervision. If you want your Poree, Manbhog, Mitha 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

# INDIA

## Soldier v. Non-Resister

Lord Wavell was the latest scion of a long line of soldiers.

The name Wavell (spelled in 60 different ways) runs like a minor but recurring theme through a thousand years of British history. It begins with William de Vauville, a Norman kinsman of the Baron de Briquebec, who came to England with William the Conqueror. A De Vauville fought in the Crusades over the same Near East deserts where his famed descendant was to fight five centuries later. Three Wavells (the first in 1478) were Mayors of Winchester. Of a 17th Century Richard Wavell, preacher and friend of John Bunyan, it is recorded that "like Bunyan [he] was only too-familiar with the inside of jails." A 19th Century Wavell discovered the mineral wavellite.

The past three generations of Wavells have produced three generals for the British Army: Lord Wavell's grandfather, Major General Arthur Goodall Wavell, soldier of fortune who fought in Central America; and the Viceroy's father, Major General Archibald Graham Wavell, who fought in several of Britain's colonial campaigns.

Archibald Percival Wavell was born (1883) near his father's barracks in Essex. He was cradled to the blare of bugles, lulled by the thud of marching feet. At the age of six, he first saw India (on the same trip he also took his first look at Egypt). A boy of few words, he noted briefly in his diary: "Went ashore at Port Said." He received a stern classical schooling at Winchester (the twelfth of his line to go there); proceeded comfortably through Sandhurst, then, like his father before him, joined the Black Watch Regiment, in which he was a killed second lieutenant. As a subaltern he saw the tailend of the Boer War. Later Wavell returned to India for a spell of soldiering, pigsticking, horse racing, and Kiplingesque social doings at Peshawar.

In the Ypres offensive in World War I, Wavell (a brigade major) lost his left eye. He cried, concealing his blind eye with a monocle, later gave it up.

The Desert Fox. In 1917, Wavell was sent to Palestine to join the staff of Lord Allenby, master of desert warfare and conqueror of the Turks. The association marked a turning point in Wavell's career. He emerged from the campaign with 1) an intense admiration for the military genius of Allenby, which later flowered in the biography, *Allenby: A Study in Greatness*; 2) two hard-won Turkish nicknames—"the desert fox" and "the greatest bloodhound." In a terse footnote in his poetry anthology, *Other Mens Flowers*, Wavell recalls how

## Indian Association In France

An Indian Association is being formed in France by Mr. V. Sastri of the Federal Indian Association of Great Britain. Mr. Sastri is at present in Paris organising his compatriots.

This well-known London Journalist has met many Indians who with French patriots fought against the Nazis during the occupation period.

Lord Allenby, who had just received news of his son's death in action, quietly recited Rupert Brooke's sonnet, *The Dead*:

*These hearts were woven of human joys and cares,*

*Washed marvellously with sorrow, swift to mirth.*

*The years had given them kindness. Dawn was theirs,*

*And sunset and the colors of the earth,*

*These had seen movement and heard music; known*

*Slumber and waking; loved; - gone proudly friended;*

*Felt the quick stir of wonder; sat alone; Touched furs and flowers and cheeks All this is ended.*

*There are waters blown by changing winds to lighter.*

*And lit by the rich skies, all day. And after,*

*Frost, with a gesture, stays the waves that dance*

*And wandering loveliness. He leaves a white*

*Unbroken glory, a gathered radiance. A width, a shining peace, under the night.*

[To be Continued]

## General Provision Merchandise Boodhoo

Water Street, Georgetown.

BREWING today is combination of every old 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.

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.

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, Re-  
gent Street, Georgetown.

FOR Indian, English, Ca-  
nadian, 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 Bharat  
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 Asso-  
ciation.

SATURDAY 18th AUGUST 1945.