

INDIAN OPINION

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INDIANS AND THE WHITEMAN HERE

A new trend of thought in recent years is channelling its course into the widening of the gap between the different races that inhabit this country.

The Whiteman, the African, and other group in this country have recently taken a definitely antagonistic and hating attitude to Indians on whom their existence to a very large extent depends.

We deprecate the attitude of the Whiteman headed by the Sugar Capitalists of British Guiana—who is definitely responsible for the fostering of this racial strife that is gaining ground by leaps and bounds, and warn him that unless he changes his attitude, he would be the loser in the long run.

We are fully confident that Indians would be able eventually to hold their own in this country despite the machinations of the

Letter to the Editor

The Editor,
Indian Opinion,
Georgetown.
Sir,

I observe that the Governor has appointed the Hon. E. G. Woolford, K. O., to be the chairman of the Ad-

Whiteman who they [the Indians] are gradually learning to hate and regard him as the evil genius that is responsible for the continuance of their misery under conditions worse than that of slavery.

Recent events have proved for themselves the trend of thought of the Workers on the sugar estates towards the whiteman, and despite the Court sentences on Baijoon of Port Mourant and Abdool Sattuar of Uitvlugt, we are of the opinion that a solution does not lie in the imposition of heavy penalties to scare the working people but in remedying the long standing grievances from which these unfortunate working people suffer.

We are of the opinion that the recent incidents on sugar estates between workers and the Whiteman are indicative of the strong feeling that is taking root in the minds of these working-men can be regarded as a protest against the advantages that the Whiteman is taking on Indian workers.

We feel that it is not too late for the Whiteman of the Sugar Industry to think things over before it is too late. There is an old Indian saying "Jab se chayto, tab se chayto"—"It is never too late to make a start to save a situation".

visory Committee of the Education Department in place of Mr. J. A. Luckhoo, K. C., who has been appointed first Puisne Judge.

Before Mr. Luckhoo was appointed as Chairman of the Education Committee he was a member of the Executive Council. I understand from one who is supposed to know that all Chairmen should be members of the Executive Council yet in this instance this rule has not been observed. Perhaps you will be good enough to find out and let the public know how is it that the Hon. Dr. J. B. Singh who has been appointed to the Executive Council in place of Mr. Luckhoo was not appointed to the Education Advisory Committee.

We Indians well remember the general attitude of the Hon. E. G. Woolford as a member of the Education Committee, and how this Committee has acted towards Indians, and particularly Indian teachers. As Chairman of the Franchise Commission we shall never forget the conduct of Mr. Woolford. He has made us all to understand that he is not the friend of Indians, and our people, old and young must keep this in mind.

The Education Department has a large school building programme, lands have to be purchased, and buildings erected. It is our hope that all the buildings will be built and that lands will be purchased through recognised Agents or Brokers. May I enquire if any one is earning a commission from the purchase by Government of the Davson's property in New Amsterdam? and is it the normal rate, if not what rate?

I am wondering if Sir Gordon Lethem is aware of all the ramifications of some of the Members of the Legislative Council, especially those who are in close contact with him. I wonder too if he is the real friend of Indians as some of us believe. Perhaps you will enlighten us Mr. Editor.

Yours Etc,
FOOLED.

Georgetown, Demerara,
15th October, 1945.

Editors Note:—

The Governor's attitude towards Indians has been periodical; but on the whole he can hardly be regarded as a friend of the Indians. The Franchise is a clear case where he took a definite stand against Indians.

INDIA AND THE LABOR CABINET

India and colonial nations throughout the world watched eagerly, but without great hope, the early moves of Britain's new Labor Cabinet in the field of imperial relations. These moves were:

Viscount Wavell, Viceroy of India, went again to London, this time to talk with the new cabinet.

Elections were announced for the Central Legislative Assembly and for the eleven provinces of British India.

Lord Pethick-Lawrence, an extreme right-wing Laborite, was named Secretary of State for India.

Foreign Secretary Bevin's campaign promise to abolish the India Office and place India under the Dominion Secretary, seemed forgotten.

Permission to hold elections had to come from London, but it is not known whether this permission was granted by Mr. Churchill's outgoing government or by the present one.

Lord Pethick-Lawrence told about Lord Wavell's plans in his maiden speech in the House of Lords in which he said:

"My colleagues and I feel that, with a new Government in office in this country and with the changed circumstances brought by the surrender of Japan, it is desirable that we should at the earliest possible moment review with Lord Wavell the whole field of the problems with which India is confronted.

"You will readily appreciate the complexity of the political and economic issues involved and the need for searching examination of them from every aspect. If the council of Lord Wavell is to be utilized to the full extent, it is essential to have direct personal discussion with him."

At a meeting of the India League in London, prominent M.P.'s discussed Wavell's new mission.

R. W. Sorensen, Laborite and Secretary of the League said that the visit must betoken some new developments and he felt some hopefulness that the new British Government appreciated its responsibility and realized that the people of Britain, in returning Labor to power, were not unaware of the tremendous significance of India.

"The defeat of Japanese militarism has brought tremendous responsibilities, but equally tremendous opportunities," said Sorensen, "and if we fail now with India the war will have been in vain. I am hopeful that as a result of Lord Wavell's visit steps will be taken by the Government to recognize the claim of India.

"He has not been sent on a fool's errand," Sorensen concluded.

[to be continued next week]

B. G. Dramatic Society News And Views

Patron, The Hon. Dr. J. B. Singh
M.L.C., M.E.C.

The members of the B.G.D.S. take pride in extending to the Hon. Dr. J. B. Singh their heartiest congratulations on his recent appointment as an executive member of the legislative council. This appointment has been received with colony-wide approval for it has been one of the most representative. Our best wishes go to the good Doctor in his new sphere.

Compton Pooran Baritone

The British Guiana Dramatic Society's "Gora" (Compton Pooran) gave his Initial Recital in the Town Hall a few weeks ago. Mr. Pooran lived up to the expectations of his admirers and colleagues. His programme was varied and well-chosen. His rendition of "The Lord's Prayer" won the thundering applause of the packed house. We wish Mr. Pooran continued

success, and a very brilliant future. We are proud of you, Compton, keep it up.

Dramag

Our Dramag editor, Mr. R. I. Janki, can still accommodate articles for the current issue of the Dramag—Members are reminded that the Dramag is now printed half-yearly and they should make every effort to avail themselves of the opportunity of expressing their views on any subject that would be of interest to members and to the general progress of the Society.

Barry our weekly "here and there" columnist is in cold storage—"Arund" will be featured next week.

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Sugrim Singh
(Chairman Organizing Committee)
117, Regent Street, Phone 1182.

Hon. Vincent Roth Admits He's "Froth-Blowing"

(In His Letter To The Editor)

Dear Sir,

In your issue of 6th October 1945 you read a letter "Froth-Blowing Vincent makes his Anti-India Debut."

When will you realize that comment based on deliberate misrepresentation will not attain the objectives to which you aspire. I defy you or anybody else to prove from my writings or political speeches that I am "anti-India"-Pro-Guianese, yes, but not anti-India.

The letter in question alleges that the Indians in British Guiana are contributing "substantially" to my present existence. No, they only assist with my "froth-blowing."

Yours Sincerely,
VINCENT ROTH

Another Young Indian To Study Medicine

Mr. W.S. Anandpattie Singh has left the colony for Canada where he proposes to study medicine at Dalhousie University.

Mr Singh is the eldest child of Mr. Edward Balkaran Singh Rice farmer and miller of De-Hoop, Mahaica, and of Mrs. Singh.

After leaving De-Hoop School Mr. Singh attended the Modern Educational Institute where he obtained the School Certificate of the University of Cambridge.

In 1944 while a student of Central High School he passed the higher School certificate examination and later joined the Rice Experimental station as a technical assistance.

To Study Medicine At Belfast 'Varsity

Mr. Milton M. Hanoman, recently left the Colony by B. W. I. Airways, Ltd., plane for Trinidad where he will proceed to the United Kingdom and enter Belfast University, Ireland, to pursue medical studies.

Mr. Hanoman, who is the youngest son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Hanoman of Berbice, was educated at the Berbice High School.

Mr. Hanoman's elder brother Dr. R. S. Hanoman is a prominent physician in Manchester, England, and he is also a brother of Hanoman brothers, businessmen of New Amsterdam, Berbice.

Mr. Azeem Khan On Holiday

Mr. M. Azeem Khan, Patron and Vice President of the Islamic Association of British Guiana, Manager and Attorney of Messrs. Meer Khan, Stabroek Market and Sponser announcer of the Hindustani Master Singers Programme, left the Colony recently for Trinidad on vacation. Mr Khan will be spending about 3 weeks on the Island.

MEDICAL STUDENT ARRIVES IN CANADA

Dr. Jairam Bissessar of Kitty, East Coast, Demerara has received a Cable from his nephew Mr. Shee Sankar who left by plane on Thursday 27th September for Canada via Trinidad to study medicine that he has arrived safely at Canada on Wednesday, 3rd instant. He asked to be remembered to his many friends.

CHILD LABOUR STILL EXISTS ON SUGAR ESTATES

Doctor's Report Questioned

Just recently a child 11 years old named Abdool Razack was employed at Pin. Rose Hall on a 24 hours job, fell during the night of 4. 9. 45. from an Irrigating Pump. His head and hands were severed from his body. What was surprising, was the doctor's report stated that the child died from drowning; this statement from a Government Medical officer should be investigated by the police Department and the circumstances under which a poor child-slave died. How this report was reached at, surprised even the common layman. Who it was that died? a labour's child not a manager's. Is Government sleeping over this? what is the labour Department and Police doing? will they act? What about the factory and its safe-guard for labourers? What is the attorney General doing about the safety of Factory people? Did he push the papers in the pigeon hole? If a man cannot do his job, why does he not get out and allow another to go on with it. Abdool Razack matter may engage the attention of the Labour Government in England if proper redress is not had in this colony.

R. Singh.

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IN BRIEF

A move is reported to be under way in New Delhi to form a united front of all Moslem political organizations opposed to the Moslem League in order to challenge Jinnah's claim that his League should be the only representative of Moslems in the forthcoming elections. Nationalist Moslem circles believe that such a united front could win over the Moslem League. The proposed new line-up would include: the All-India Jamiat-ul-Ulema, All-India Muslim Majlis, Momin Conference, Shia Political Conference, and others.

Lahore, August 8.—An editorial in *The Tribune* says: "The experience of the Indian industrialists, who are touring the United States, is that American businessmen are reluctant to enter into such contracts with Indian businessmen as may be annoying to British businessmen. When such a close tie of fellow-feeling exists between capitalists of America, it may be taken for granted that the Indian people can never have genuine sympathy and real support from the American Government in their struggle for freedom from British Imperialism. The American Government is controlled by American capitalists and not by the American masses and its policy is dictated by Big Business and not the Yank in the street. American Big Business knows how to adjust its rivalries and iron out its differences with British Big Business."

Hyderabad, August 26.—"Mrs. Sarojini Naidu, former president of the Indian National Congress, declared, "India is no longer in a mood to consider fresh versions of the stale and too familiar phrases 'self-government' or 'dominion status'."

Mrs. Naidu added, "Lord Wavell's sudden summons to London, naturally presupposes a desire of the British Socialist Government to make a new offer, a new paraphrase of the old rejected offer to the people of India. India demands and can accept nothing less than full independence with all its far-reaching and intricate implications."

Bombay, August 28.—*The Times of India*, a British owned newspaper today protested at the omission of India from the list of countries to be represented at the formal surrender of Japan.

Even at the formal surrender of the Japanese forces to the Southeast Asia Command in Burma, it said, India did not appear to be formally represented, although France, the Netherlands, China and Australia were reported to have accredited observers.

"How the efforts of a country like France could be considered to measure up in any respect to that of India in the war against Japan is a mystery," the paper said. "No one could deny France the right to be represented but it is little short of a scandal that India's name should be omitted."

The Transcontinental and Western Air line (TWA) has announced an elapsed flight time of 41 hours and 15 minutes between New York and India. This is one of the airline's newly certified routes. It will use a 57-passenger Lockheed Constellation.

New Delhi, August 27.—The Government today extended amnesty to an estimated 30,000 to 50,000 "misguided" Indian soldiers of the so-called Indian National Army organized by the Japanese from Indian Army war prisoners captured in Burma and Malaya. Only leaders found guilty of particularly heinous crimes will be court-martialed, it was announced. These include soldiers who killed their comrades or were responsible for the capture or torture of Allied soldiers and those who embraced the cause deliberately.

According to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Muhammad Abbas Ali, president of the London section of the All-India Moslem League, has stated in an article that the Moslems in India will back the Arabs in the Levant. "Why should Jews be removed from the European continent?" he asks. "If this must be done on account of anti-Semitism, then how can one expect the Arabs to be above this feeling?" The solution of the Jewish problem in Europe must be found by settling the Jews in underpopulated countries such as Canada and Australia, he added.

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All those Indians whose interest is their Welfare and the Welfare of their brothers and in the Welfare of B.G. should not buy the "Guiana Graphic". So what the Editor has written against us on 30/9/45; look at the cartoon, its direct condemnation of us as a low breed people. Why should we support such a paper, which wants B.G. to remain stagnant and remain in slavery for them to exploit it. The Graphic never published anything in favour of us, always against us; let us kill it by not buying it; I will not buy it never again and you must do the same. You are sharpening a sword to cut your own throat by supporting it.

R. SINGH.

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Indian Opinion

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