

Indian Opinion

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FIRST SOUTH AFRICAN INDIAN LADY

LEFT FOR ENGLAND TO STUDY MEDICINE

MISS Goonaruthnum Naidoo, second daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. K. Naidoo of Durban is the first South African Indian lady to proceed to Edinburgh, Scotland, to qualify for the medical profession. Miss Naidoo sailed last Thursday by the *Edinburgh Castle*. Miss Naidoo received her education at the local Indian school and by private tuition and it is her ambition to further her studies and to take up a profession that is taking her to Europe. Miss Naidoo is a talented and promising young lady and we have not the slightest doubt that she will be successful in her enterprise and will return an asset to the land of her birth. Miss Naidoo takes with her the blessings of all her sisters and brothers in South Africa.

But while wishing every success to Miss Naidoo let us not forget the tremendous sacrifice of her

parents. No Indian parents would like to part with their sons, much less, their daughters. But Mr. and Mrs. R. K. Naidoo have chosen to sacrifice their self-interest and worldly attachment for the better thing. They have been moved by the need of hu-

manity and they have sent their daughter to fit herself for its service. We congratulate Mr. and Mrs. Naidoo for the very noble example they have set to the community and although they will have to suffer the pangs of separation for a time we fervently hope that they will be amply rewarded for all their suffering.

Mr. P. G. Naicker of Durban has also sent his son by the same boat to England to study medicine. Young Mr. Naicker has passed his Matriculation examination at the Marine College. The Marine College students gave their co-

student a farewell reception at Peter's Lounge on the eve of his departure.



MISS GOONARUTHNUM NAIDOO.
First South African Indian Lady Medical Student.

મીસ 'ગુણરુત્નમ નાયડુ

ઈંગ્લેન્ડ દાકતરી અભ્યાસ માટે જનારી સા. આફ્રિકાની પહેલવહેલી હિન્દી વિદ્યાર્થીની

Notes and News

THE annual general meeting of the Transvaal Tamil Benefit Society was held at the Goodhope Bioscope Hall, Commissioner Street, Johannesburg, on Sunday Feb. 27. Mr. S. Poonosamy Padayachee the President of the Society presided. After the adoption of the annual report and financial statement of the past year the following officials were elected for the ensuing year:—

The Rt. Hon. V. S. S. Sastri, P. C., Patron; Mr. Veerasamy Naidoo, President; Messrs. S. Poonosamy Padayachee and David Ernest, Vice-Presidents; Messrs. V. S. Nayagar and D. M. Nursoo, Joint Hon. Secretaries; Messrs. A. G. Naidoo, V. V. Naidoo, T. S. Pillay, Govindasamy Padayachee, R. S. Naidoo, Vagoo Naidoo, Singaravaloop Pather, Pavaday Pillay, and Rev. Sigamoney, Committee members; Messrs. S. V. Pillay and Doorassahy Padayachee, Treasurers; Mr. C. K. T. Naidoo, Chief Adviser.

CONTINUED

The "Wanderer" in the *Cape Argus* dated Feb. 16, writes as follows:—

After Mr. Sastri's brilliant address at the University Club yesterday afternoon, in which he explained the philosophy of Mahatma Gandhi, Sir James Rose Innes, the retired Chief Justice of South Africa, told the members of the club that he had been reminded, while listening to Mr. Sastri, of a recent conversation with a friend in England. The friend had been present at the Peace Conference and at various other gatherings where statesmen of the world were assembled, and he told Sir James that in his opinion two men stood out head and shoulders amongst all the speakers as natural orators—and both of those men were in South Africa to-day. "The first name mentioned," added Sir James, "was our honoured guest to-day, Mr. Sastri." One has only to listen to Mr. Sastri to realise that those words conveyed no exaggeration. His command of the English language, his ability to choose exactly the right word to express a particular shade of meaning, and, above all, the mystical lilt which compels his audience to listen in rapt attention, all combine in clothing him with a personal magnetism.

East African Indians, it is reported, are proposing to form a new political body to be called the Kenya Central Indian Association. The principal objects of the new body are, the attainment of complete equality of status with other subjects of the King and the pursuit of all constitutional methods as may be determined upon from time to time for this end; to co-operate with Indian communities settled in Uganda, Zanzibar and Tanganyika through the medium of the East African Indian National Congress, and also to co-operate with sister non-native communities in political, social, economic and cultural fields; to work for increased association of the Indian community in the work of the British Government in respect to their trusteeship of the native communities, and finally to organise Indian Associations all over the country with a view to carrying on intensive work for the attainment of the foregoing.

Our attention has been drawn to an error in the Statement of Account of the Indian Political Association, Kimberley, with reference to the eighth session of the South African Indian Congress, which appeared in our issue of February 3. In the expenditure it has been shown that the services supplied to Mr. Ahmed Mahomed amounted to £164 5s 6d. which is incorrect. The actual

amount of services supplied to Mr. Ahmed Mahomed was £95 2s. The balance included other expenditure. Mr. Ahmed Mahomed's generosity, as we have already referred to in these columns, was unsurpassed. We regret the error which has been responsible for causing some misunderstanding.

PIN-PRICKS WILL CONTINUE

MR. SASTRI has celebrated the anniversary of the Indo-Union Agreement. The Agreement has undoubtedly brought the Indian and the Union Governments nearer to each other, and we have an Agent of the Government of India near at hand. We have no more the Areas Reservation Bill promoted by the Union Government. But has that removed our anxiety in this country or brought us any relief? That is a question which is difficult to answer. We were given to understand that there was a complete change of heart. That in order to remove the fear of the Union Government and the ruling race of this country being flooded with Indians the Government of India through the Assisted Emigration Scheme agreed to the policy of reducing the Indian population to a manageable compass. From the now and then published reports we find that the scheme is being liberally taken advantage of. That should be a matter of relief to the ruling class. But what were we promised in return? We were promised to be given equal status with the Europeans in every respects and no further tortures of racial differentiation. We are not so dense as not to understand that that change could not come about in a moment or a day. It must take time. But signs of such a change ought to be visible at least in a year. But, instead, the first thing that came soon after the Agreement was the Liquor Bill promoted by none else but a Cabinet Minister. That indeed brought some anxious moments to the Agent of the Government of India in South Africa, and for the dropping of the obnoxious clause from the Bill we have to thank not the Agreement but the presence and personality of the Rt. Hon. Mr. Sastri.

The Immigration difficulties are the same if not worse. No individual has the hope of being treated fairly by that department unless he makes himself heard either through his own efforts or through the Congress. A case in point is that of Miss Naidoo who recently sailed for England. When Miss Naidoo went to the Department for a pass port she was told to take out a Certifi-

cate of Identity. It was after the Congress officials intervened and protested that Miss Naidoo managed to get her pass port.

While negotiations with the Minister in regard to Clause 5 of the Immigration Act have not terminated the Clause is put into force and people are being prosecuted under it. A case in point is the case of D. K. Patel a holder of a Transvaal Registration Certificate.

The Johannesburg Municipality is to be thanked for having granted the licensing applications which it had refused under the Gold Law. But it is extremely difficult, if not impossible, for an Indian to get a new licence.

The Johannesburg Municipality has now put into force a by-law which it recently passed restricting Indians and coloured people riding on tram cars to seats outside the carriage. We have heard of Indian children who were usually travelling inside having been thrown out. Apart from the principle of segregation which is involved one can imagine what this will mean in winter days. Johannesburg Indians have held a protest meeting and we understand they are going to fight a test case.

The Durban Town Council is asking for additional powers in regard to Beach and Foreshore of the Indian Ocean. A Private Draft Ordinance to that effect has been gazetted to be introduced into the Provincial Council by Mr. W. E. Thrash, M.P.C. Powers are sought by the Town Council in this Ordinance to separate Indians, Natives, and coloured persons from Europeans. With the exception of the bathing booth which is restricted to Europeans only the other portions of the Beach have hitherto been used alike for recreation by Europeans and other people. But the Municipality under the proposed Ordinance will have power to restrict certain portions of it to Europeans only. What does all this mean? It certainly does not signify a change of heart; nor is it a hopeful sign of the lot of the Indian community improving in this country. And this to come soon after an agreement which was hailed by all the Provinces including Natal as a "Gentleman's Agreement!" After a year's trial the Agreement has certainly not brought hope for a better future to Indians.

Anniversary Of The Indo-Union Agreement

Celebrated By Mr. Sastri at Capetown

The anniversary of the Indo-Union Agreement was celebrated by the Rt. Hon. V. S. Srinivasa Sastri, P.C., Agent of the Government of India in South Africa at Mount Nelson Hotel, Capetown, on February 21. The Cabinet Ministers and also prominent members of the South African Party were present.

The following is the full text of the speeches delivered at the function :—

Mr. Sastri

The Rt. Hon. Mr. Sastri delivered the following speech :—

It has been a great joy to me to welcome you all here to-night. This day last year by common consent the principal conclusions of the Capetown Agreement were announced in India and in this country. Being a creature myself of that agreement it is no wonder I take great interest in its fortunes. I cannot recall, save with the most intense satisfaction, the proceedings in this very city which culminated in the Agreement.

If I may venture to say so, Sir, (turning to General Hertzog) although you were not able to be present during the discussion, your earnest words to us in opening the proceedings not only laid down the broad lines of our work, but inspired us throughout to reach by every means in our power a satisfactory conclusion. Nor must I withhold a word of tribute from Dr. Malan for the way in which he conducted the proceedings. The consummate patience, the tact, the spirit of conciliation that he displayed at our deliberations made a profound impression on us all. His attitude was responsible, very largely, for our being steered safely into port.

The agreement has been accepted both in India and here by very considerable sections of the people. There have been critics, of course there will always be critics. I hope that we shall learn to profit by their criticisms, when these are well-meant and helpful.

I have found in all sections of the people here, and let me express profound gratitude for it, a desire, a general desire, if not actually to support the agreement enthusiastically, at any rate to give it a fair chance. It is one of the real causes of the success of the agreement so far that you have from the beginning succeeded in placing this agreement on a non-party basis. The Government and its followers have naturally stood by the agreement, but I am particularly grateful to those members of the South African Party in both Houses who have with public spirit declared themselves willing to give the agreement a fair chance.

And, I might say, it is not only political parties who have done that. Going to Natal, as I have occasion often to do, I have found the Administration there—although they might have been expected to take a contrary line—very willing indeed to help to carry out the fundamental principles of the agreement. Upon the Natal Administration, as you are aware, falls to a great extent the duty of carrying out the first steps of the agreement.

To many supporters of the agreement in all quarters, I ought to say that both the Government and the people of India are very grateful. I am glad to say that I have found both from the Government and people of the Union a somewhat encouraging response to the appeals I have had to make from time to time on behalf of the agreement.

I venture to express the hope that the Capetown agreement will pass from the field of political controversy, that it will be accepted on all sides as common ground, and that if it must be scrapped in the

future it will be only in order that it may be displaced by a new and more comprehensive, a more solid and substantial agreement. The relations which have now been established between our two countries have now closed a long period of contention and of heated argument in the course of which the two countries forgot how closely they could be united, how closely they could be held together in economic and moral community of interests. I sincerely hope that this period is closed for ever, and that we are now at the beginning of another period of sustained peace between the two countries, of a time of mutual trust and mutual goodwill. On many occasions in the Union and in India I have ventured to say with a certain amount of detail what the Capetown agreement did and meant. You will, of course, be well aware of its meaning yourselves, but you will perhaps allow me to say that the Capetown agreement is one of the most statesmanlike things that have happened within the British Empire in the past few years. The whole credit goes to the present Government of South Africa, and I take this opportunity of saying so. I must say how much my people and my countrymen appreciate, and how I appreciate the courage and the high magnanimity with which they came to conclusions in some respects the very opposite to those they originally held. Sufficient praise, I must say, could not be given to those who reversed their policy to start both countries on the path of mutual friendship and on a new career of amity.

I have here a message which I shall read to you from the Honourable Khan Bahadur Sir Muhammad Habibullah, K.C.S.I., K.O.I.E., at New Delhi. Sir Muhammad, as you all know, led the delegation that came to South Africa with such happy results. This is his message :—

"I send you and all friends with you to-night greetings and good wishes for the pleasant evening. Though not present in the flesh I shall be present with you all in spirit. You meet to-day to commemorate an historic event, namely, the foundation of a new understanding between India and South Africa on the basis of amity, goodwill and mutual regard. Its significance is not limited to the satisfactory adjustment of a question of outstanding importance. In the perspective of time that question will come to occupy but a minor place. The true value of the Capetown Conference lies in the object lesson which it provides of what two members of the British Commonwealth can achieve by co-operation in the solution of common problems. May the spirit which marked our deliberations in 1926 and 1927 daily grow stronger."

When that message is read in the Press to-morrow I venture to think there will be very few who will not say "Amen" to the concluding portion.

Now, if I may be permitted to say a personal word, I have undertaken the duties of Agent-General for a time. The office is quite new. What its precise duties are and how they should be conducted, where my headquarters are to be—all these are questions which fall to my lot to settle. I do not think I have settled any one of these questions, and it will be some time before I do. Meanwhile I ask the Ministers more particularly, when necessary, to show some necessary indulgence in judging the conduct of one who finds himself in what, I may say, is a trying position. I hope nothing I may say or do in the way of making representations will cause the smallest inconvenience to the Ministers. I hope that nothing I may do or say will embarrass either the Government or my successor in office.

The Prime Minister

The Prime Minister (Gen. Hertzog) said :—I do not intend to speak long, following the example that

has been set by our host to-night. It is a good example, so I shall say just a few words. I wish to begin by expressing to you my appreciation of the kind words you have spoken as to the share I have taken in bringing about the agreement which we all of us value. I think rightly, and will continue to value. I think I deserve less than you have indicated.

Mr. Sastri : No, no.

The Prime Minister : Oh, I felt this at the time, and I still feel it to-day; that the agreement would never have come into existence if it had not been for the desire which was felt on both sides and the necessity which was felt on both sides as to the coming into existence of an agreement between the two countries which would put an end to all that—shall I say, wrangling—No, no, I cannot call it that, but, let me say, put an end to the things that were threatening to estrange rather than to draw together.

I think it was the will which dominated the Conference to come to an agreement both on the part of the representatives of India and of the representatives of South Africa which eventually forced you, as it forced us, to be reasonable. Well, I must say I think we have attained something through that agreement which we have the right to appreciate and to value; and to value, as you have said here this evening, as a star which I hope, and I think we all hope, will lead to something better as far as the two countries are concerned. When we look at it all, we find that through that Conference, through that agreement, the two countries and the two people have been brought into such a contact as a year previous no one would have been bold enough to predict. It shows that no matter how much people may be estranged, when you look at things from the same point of view inspired by feelings of friendship, sincerity and trust, you could not but get to realise that after all the one is as human as the other, and that the one is as good and especially as bad as the other.

Let me say this. We in South Africa are more and more appreciating the viewpoint of India. I feel that we in South Africa who are moving about among the people who are made out to be the most stubborn in their prejudices—that is, the Dutch people—are more than ever appreciating the viewpoint of India. When I see the papers on the other side and see what is taking place there—that we are no longer, or not so often, called names—I come to the conclusion that the same thing is taking place in India.

Well, I think we can all be grateful. The millennium has not yet come; I doubt very much if there are many here to-night who wish for the millennium to come. We politicians, or at least some of us, would hardly know what to do if the millennium should come. We might not appreciate it. But while we recognise this is a hard world, a world of hard facts and very cold, if at any time we, as politicians, do succeed in making it a little less cold and a little softer, we deserve all the more praise. I wish you to take this from me, that this agreement, which has been entered into and is undoubtedly appreciated by me and by my friends, has brought about a feeling between the two countries which is going to last. We shall never be blamed (I am glad to see that we are not blamed) because we in South Africa, with our own particular problems, should, though we could not make things as smooth for every section of the community as they themselves would like, at least did all we could to soften as much as possible the hardships of life of part of our community.

I feel this, that through India having sent you as its representative in South Africa, it has put us into personal constant contact with her, and there is nothing like personal contact to smooth out dif-

ferences and difficulties. In your presence here we have a pledge of continuance of the amicable friendship which now exists, and we have a guarantee of a co-operation which will enable us to solve all our future difficulties in the same amicable and friendly spirit in which we have succeeded in solving this problem.

I assure you, what I have said is said in all sincerity, and is endorsed by my friends. You have mentioned that this problem has been dealt with on non-Party lines. Well, I also point out that here again is a problem which has been made comparatively easy for the Government because in its initiation we were assisted by all sections of the public.

I can assure you that the Government appreciates the sign of public spirit. And I assure you that with this agreement as a basis, although there are difficulties which may still arise, South Africa and India will no doubt continue on the most amicable lines.

The Minister of the Interior

The Minister of the Interior (Dr. D. F. Malan) said:—Mr. Sastri will bear me out when I say that I did not agree to make a speech. I promised him that between the other speeches I would throw in a word or two. There is one aspect of the agreement which has not yet been touched upon and that is, it has brought for a considerable time into our country our host. As one of those who had the privilege of taking part in the negotiations which led to the agreement, it gives me the greatest pleasure to be here to-night and to make this statement. The agreement concluded has been lauded from various points of view, but not so far from the point of view that it has brought Mr. Sastri to the country. He is not only a man of world-wide reputation, but he is a man who deserves that reputation, not only on account of his accomplishments—of what he has done—but also, and chiefly, on account of what he personally is. He is one of the most outstanding examples in the world of personal self-sacrificing devotion to high personal and patriotic ideals. His presence in the country—which means that South Africa is in a position to-day to make the personal acquaintance of a most illustrious representative of the Indian nation,—is of the utmost value to the two nations. It is of the utmost value to India that one of her most illustrious sons should come to stay in South Africa and learn to sympathise with us in our difficulties and come in time even to love our own fatherland.

I hope that when the time comes for him to return to India he will take with him the best recollections of South Africa, and I hope that he will never forget us. He will certainly take with him our best wishes and our lasting friendship.

The agreement has been criticised, sometimes severely, from various points of view, and in various ways. There are some who say the agreement is as bad as it can be; there are others who say it is as good as it can be. Some say it was a very courageous step which we have taken. It is also held that it was not only courageous, but at the same time the most outrageous that they had ever heard of. Every undertaking which is courageous—I think everyone will agree that the agreement was—is criticised in this way. We who took part in the discussions expected nothing else.

I do not think that we can make any extravagant claim, either one way or the other, for the agreement at this stage. This agreement—I think I am expressing the position correctly—is very largely in the nature of an experiment. It is a new and untried way of solving one of the most difficult problems we have had in South Africa. Being in some way an attempt at a solution of one of our problems, it will be judged, naturally, in the course of time, by its results. I am not prepared to say that it is a success

or not. The reasonable thing to do is to give it a fair trial.

But there are certain things which we can say with a large measure of assurance now, and one is that part of the agreement which has to do with assisted emigration, a part which we in South Africa consider as of vital moment to us. It is working as satisfactorily as we can under the circumstances expect. We must remember that the agreement only came into operation on August 15th last, only six months ago, but even though it has been in operation for such an inconsiderable time, we may say that the assisted emigration scheme has fulfilled all the expectations which we could reasonably have had with regard to its working in such a short time. Another aspect about which we can speak with a good deal of assurance is that we have succeeded, as a result of the agreement, in getting to a larger extent than has ever been possible in the past in South Africa, the co-operation and good feeling of the Indian population in South Africa.

The Indian population in the Union—I am speaking generally—have loyally accepted the agreement and have, as a body, decided loyally to stand by it. Naturally the Indian community have much to criticise. They would have wished for a good deal more as far as their interests were concerned. But in spite of that they have loyally accepted the agreement and they have the will loyally to abide by it. More than that, I have positive proof that on the part of the Indian community generally they are prepared to go even further, and to set their faces as a community against any infringement of the immigration laws such as have taken place in the past and might conceivably take place in the future. Where we get the co-operation on the part of the Indian community to maintain the immigration laws and the determination, as a body, not to tolerate or countenance any infringement of those laws, I think that we have, as a European community and as a Government, attained a very good position. Apart from the agreement as a solution of our own difficulties, I think it has done a great deal in so far as it has improved the relations between the two countries concerned. Apart from the problems which there may be, it is of the greatest importance that between the two countries concerned there should be the attitude of mind which makes it possible for any problem, easy or difficult, to be solved.

If this mental attitude, with its friendly spirit, is absent between our two countries, it makes it impossible for any problem, easy or difficult, to be satisfactorily solved. Now, as a result of the agreement at which we arrived last year, we have got the best of feelings between the two countries. One result of the agreement—if I may put it this way—is that South Africa has discovered India and India has discovered South Africa. India does not look to-day upon South Africa—as for a very considerable time it did look—as a country where common justice was absent, and we ourselves look on India to-day as a country where there is an understanding of our problems, and to a great extent a sympathy with us in our difficult problems, resulting in assistance being rendered to us as far as possible. In that we have gained a good deal.

So I say "We have discovered India." A new light has arisen for us on India and again to a large extent India has discovered South Africa. A new era has certainly dawned as far as the relations between these two countries to each other are concerned. Perhaps I should say that India and South Africa have re-discovered each other. India will never forget that South Africa has indirectly rendered great service to it. I take it that India places a very high value on the fact that she has been discovered and that she has been able to discover South Africa.

that she has been placed in a position to retain what is best of her own ancient civilisation and to add to that what is best in European civilisation. And therefore India, I take it, prizes very highly her connection with Western civilisation. We must not forget that it was for a long time South Africa which had been a half-way house, shall I say a stepping stone, by the aid of which only it was possible to reach India. What would have happened to mariners if they did not have this half-way house? Certainly very few of them could have reached India.

On the other hand we may not forget that India has indirectly been the cause of our possession of South Africa. India, and the lure of India's wealth, attracted our forefathers from their haunts in Europe to venture the long sea voyage to India, and in stretching out their hands to India's wealth, they stumbled on South Africa. And we, in that way, came into possession of what has become our own beloved fatherland. So, indirectly, we owe our national existence to the influence of India. Neither India nor South Africa can afford to forget their historical relations.

I sincerely hope, as it has already been expressed this evening, that the agreement will be an abiding one, and that, whatever may happen in the future, the relations of mutual goodwill and friendship which have so happily been established between the two countries, will not only be maintained, but will be increased and widened out in the not too distant future.

Mr. Patrick Duncan

Mr. Patrick Duncan K.C., C.M.G., M.L.A., said:—I had the honour of being asked by the Government to go to India on the Delegation which went in response to an invitation from the Indian Government. There are present this evening one or two friends who were also part of that Delegation. It would be only fitting on my part to say how much we all appreciate the welcome we got in India. The reception we had there had the material effect of bringing about those better relations which made the agreement possible. I went there feeling that our mission might be a difficult one. One knew that South Africa was not very popular in India's eyes. We went there not knowing what welcome we should receive. My friends, I think, will support me when I say that the Indian Government and the Indian people opened their arms to us, and that we were received as friends. Everything was done to make our visit as informative as it could possibly be. I should like to take this occasion of acknowledging that fact to you here to-night.

I can speak to-night with less responsibility and certainly greater freedom than can the Prime Minister or the Minister of the Interior, and it seems to me that quite apart from the question of how the agreement may achieve immediate results, I say quite apart from its success in that respect, I think that a great success in itself was achieved by the mere fact that an agreement was reached. I think the Government can claim praise for its courage in making that agreement. No one who knows the past history of this country can deny that it needed great courage both on the part of the Government, as Mr. Sastri said, in making the agreement. I do not think we can claim that that courage has been rewarded. In the first place it provides a new method for approaching difficulties and troublesome questions which have arisen in the past and will continue to arise in the future between the European people here and the Indians. If it is not a means of settling questions it is a method of approach to attempt to settle them.

The agreement has brought about a method of approaching these questions by friendly discussion, and coming, if possible, to an agreement rather than

being left to coercion. It is an example set for the world. It is bound to have far-reaching effects the world over.

India, like ourselves, is constitutionally a member of the British Commonwealth of Nations. But India, in itself, is more than that, it is something bigger than that; as others have said, India is not so much a country as it is a world. It is a vast section of the human race, and it is that particular section where contact between the civilisations of the West and the East is taking place in its most acute form. West and East, if they have not met, are in close contact. It seems to me that it is in India that the East and the West are deciding the question of the relation between the Western and the Eastern civilisations. Whether the issue is to be one of conflict or one of friendly co-operation will largely depend upon what will happen in India.

It is, therefore, of great importance that we have been fortunate enough to have found a way of dealing with a question by this method of a round table discussion, and of trying to find a solution by agreement. I think that in this alone this agreement has been a success. It has created a new atmosphere. We cannot go back. We are bound in the future, whatever difficulties might arise again, to meet in a friendly spirit and to attempt to come to a compromise.

The agreement has laid down a new and agreed principle in South Africa. It has laid down the principle that although we are out for the principles of Western civilisation, although we stand for them, we recognise that those of other races who have settled here or have been born here are members of the same community with the interests of the community, and are to be admitted to our civilisation and nation, and not to be left outside. Without this principle we cannot exist as a nation. Indians who settle here are entitled, as far as their abilities permit, to take part in our national life. This is the sound principle now laid down, and without it, I say, we cannot exist.

Another thing this agreement has done is that it has brought our host in our midst. It is a very great thing for us to have had among us a representative of Indian culture at its highest. We know that Mr. Sastri has made very great sacrifices in coming here. He came, I feel, simply because he felt it his duty to come where he could best serve India. His coming here has been of very great service to his country and to us, and it has opened the eyes of the people to what Indian culture really means. I hope that he will continue for a long time to live among us.

We are going to have a great many difficulties still in this country. The agreement has not solved everything. We cannot look back on the history of this country without seeing that the clash of one section against another will give rise to differences in our public affairs. But if we have not found a solution we have found a way—an atmosphere—a principle by which we can keep going and face anything without saying that the difficulties are insoluble. However hard it may be to continue to apply the principles of this agreement, however hard particular cases may seem, I hope we will never forget the principles of the agreement, and that we have found a way.

These things take time; we as a Union have not yet reached our majority—we are only about 18 years old—and these things take time. Do not let us try to hurry them. Let us above all things have patience. Let us rely above all on the principles of justice and the desire for friendship. Let us follow these lines, and if we do not solve our difficulties we will not go very far wrong. Time will bring things to a happy issue. I am sure we all hope this agreement will be a landmark in our history. ✓

Memorandum To Minister Of Interior

On Clause Five

The following memorandum was submitted to the Hon. the Minister of the Interior by the Sub-Committee appointed by the South African Indian Congress at its eighth session held in Kimberley on the 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th January, in connection with the matters arising out of Section 10 of Act 22 of 1913 as amended by Section 5 of Act 37 of 1927 :—

The Hon. the Minister of the Interior,
Capetown.

Sir,—We, the undersigned members of the Sub-Committee appointed by the South African Indian Congress, beg to tender you our respectful thanks for affording us this opportunity to submit to you the views of our Congress on the matter of Section 5 of Act 37 of 1927, which formed part of the representations when it submitted a memorandum to you on the 23rd April 1927 on this Act before same was passed into law.

In response to a request at this interview by the Rev. Mr. Andrews, who formed part of the Deputation, we understand you were good enough to state that owing to the peaceful atmosphere created by the Indo-Union Agreement it was not the intention of the Government to give retrospective effect to Section 5 provided our community through its representative organisation gave the Government an assurance not to tolerate any illicit entry of Indians into the Union, and to stand by and generally honour the said Agreement. This assurance that as it has always done it will not tolerate any illicit entry of Indians into the Union, the Congress with its constituent bodies has now given, fully realising the responsibility attached to the carrying into practical effect of the Agreement and the assurance given by the Congress.

In order that there may be lasting peace and goodwill, our Congress appeals to the Government on its part to exercise its clemency by refraining to enforce Section 10 of Act 23 of 1913, as amended by Section 5 of Act 37 of 1927 against the illegal entrants.

We appeal to the Government that it may be pleased in generally condoning the illegal entrants and as a check to any illegal entry to adopt the following methods :—

1. That every Indian coming within the above category make application on or before the expiry of six months from the date of publication of a notice in the Transvaal to the Commissioner for Asiatic Affairs and in the Cape and Natal Provinces to the Principal Immigration Officers, giving the following particulars :

- (a) The applicant's correct name.
- (b) The names of his wife and children living.
- (c) The approximate date of his entry into the Union.

(d) The nature of any documents held by him.

2. In the case of an Indian who holds a Registration Certificate, a certificate of Domicile or a certificate of Identity, or a document authorising his residence in any Province, or where there are records of any nature in the Immigration Department concerned, the date of such certificate or records shall be taken as conclusive evidence of the Indian's residence on and prior to that date in the Union.

3. If an applicant comes within the terms of this concession the Minister will direct that an endorsement be made on the Registration Certificate, Domicile Certificate or other document entitling him to reside in any Province, condoning his illicit entry.

4. In the case of an Indian who is not in

possession of any document above mentioned, such other proof as may be satisfactory to the Minister as regards the date of his entry be furnished and if satisfactory the Minister will direct the issue of a protection certificate to him.

5. That all Indians who have been previously condoned by any proclamation or under powers vested in the Minister under Sub-Section 1 of Section 25 of Act 22 of 1913, or any other Act be not affected by Section 5 of Act 37 of 1927.

6. That an Indian who is now condoned, shall be considered for all purposes as an Indian having lawfully entered, and shall enjoy all rights and privileges that are possessed and enjoyed by a lawfully resident Indian of his Province.

We sincerely trust that our representations will receive the earnest consideration of the Minister, and beg to remain, Sir,

Your obedient servants,

A. CHRISTOPHER, (Deputy-President.)

P. K. DESAI, (Joint Hon. Secretary)

S. M. DESAI,

A. ISMAIL,

V. S. C. PATHER,

(Members of Sub-Committee,
South African Indian Congress.)

Tribute To Mr. Roos

If Mr. Sastri Were a Free Man

The Rt. Hon. Srinivasa Sastri, P.C., Agent for India in South Africa, was present recently at a social given by the Cape Malay Association in the Broederskap Leeskamer, Shortmarket Street, Capetown. The social was attended by the leading members of the Malay, Indian and coloured communities of Capetown.

Mr. M. A. Gamiet presided, and said that the presence of Mr. Sastri in this country had an enormous influence on the coloured population, and even the Europeans in South Africa, he thought, would benefit by Mr. Sastri's presence. The time had arrived, he considered, when there should be closer co-operation between the coloured races, not for aggressive purposes, but to assure the welfare and to further the interests of the non-Europeans.

Other speeches were also made during the evening by Mr. J. O. Carelse, the Rev. Mr. Forbes, Mr. Ismail and Mrs. Wooding, after which Mr. Sastri replied.

Mr. Sastri disclaimed more than a "tiny part" of the credit for the deletion of Clause 104 of the Liquor Bill. It was most gratifying, he declared, that this Clause, which would have done much harm to the Indian community, had been withdrawn, and he believed that the greatest credit was due to the Minister of Justice (Mr. Tielman Roos) who, after having fathered the Clause for so long, was willing under the pressure of public opinion, to withdraw it. It required courage and a rare type of wisdom to recognise the force of opposition. Mr. Roos had shown himself to be a man of broad sympathy, and not a type of the inferior statesman. "The deletion of the Clause," said Mr. Sastri, "which gives so much relief to the Indian community, is a matter of pure justice. The extension of the domain of justice, the addition to the body of justice of an act of this nature, is in itself a matter of congratulation to everybody. The more justice there is in the world the better for everybody. It means that the volume of justice increases and gains in strength, so that future injustice becomes difficult, if not altogether impossible."

Common Grievances

The peculiar conditions of South Africa were

such, said Mr. Sastri, that the non-Europeans stood related together, if not by the possession of common rights, at least by the possession of common grievances. He had watched with great interest how the non-Europeans stood together, and he was especially pleased at the support given to the Indian community in this country by the natives and the coloureds.

Mr. Sastri said that though he was precluded from taking part in any affair not directly concerned with the Indian community, they knew where his sympathies lay and where he would stand if he were a free man.

Transvaal Indian Licences

Boksburg Council's Refusal of Licence Court Cannot Interfere

Mr. Justice Barry, in the Supreme Court, Pretoria, on Feb. 26, delivered judgment in the application of M. Nunes v. Municipality of Boksburg. The applicant was a miner on the Van Ryn Deep, who lived at Benoni and carried on business as a general dealer at Boksburg. In June last he applied for a licence, stating he would be in actual control of the business. In July he leased the premises as from August 1, and the day after the lease was entered into he gave to an Indian a general power of attorney. On August 1, when he started the business, the Indian, with his family, moved into the premises. On August 16 Nunes applied to the Council to recognise the Indian as his manager.

The Council refused, and gave as their reason the collusive dealing stated to be disclosed in the evidence; they also considered that the manager was not a fit and proper person to be appointed, and that the evidence showed the business was not being conducted in a satisfactory way. In September the applicant was prosecuted for not personally conducting his business in terms of the municipal by-law, found guilty, and fined. The by-law provided that the person to whom a licence is issued must personally conduct the business, but provision was made for the Council to permit such business to be conducted by a manager duly approved.

The decision of the Council was brought into review on the ground of irregularity. It was alleged that there was no evidence to justify the Council in forming an opinion adverse to the application, and that the refusal to recognise the manager was arbitrary and capricious.

His lordship, after reviewing the facts, stated that there had been no disregard of the express provisions of the by-law, and the only ground on which the decision could be attacked was that the Council had not applied its mind to the matter. After hearing the evidence the Council refused to approve of the Indian as manager. Even if it were wrong, the Court could not substitute its decision for that of the Council, nor could it be said that the reasons given were so capricious that in effect there had been no exercise of its discretion. The reasons given showed that the Council considered the evidence and, having considered it, there had been a proper exercise of their discretion even if the conclusion might be wrong.

The application must be dismissed with costs.

Norwood Objects To Asiatic Traders

Nearly 150 applications for certificates for trading licences were disposed of by the General Purposes Committee of the Johannesburg Town Council recently.

A feature of the sittings of the licensing committee is the regularity with which three residents from Norwood attend to object to the granting of certificates to Asiatics in their suburb. They are emphatic in their assertion that Norwood is a European area and that Asiatic traders are unwanted there.

Their objection was sustained in regard to an application which was made for a fruit and vegetable licence in respect of premises in Grant Avenue, Norwood, which

was sought by the Navvuri Trading Co. (Proprietary), Ltd. The company was legally represented, but its application was refused under Section 6 (2) of the General Dealers (Control) Ordinance.

Education Inquiry Commission

To Sit On April 2

April 2 has been fixed as the opening date of the Commission which has been appointed by the Natal Administration to inquire into Indian education in the province.

The following are its terms of reference:—

"The existing facilities as a whole in town and country areas.

"The conditions of service of Indian teachers in Government and Government-aided schools, including salary, promotion, discipline and pension.

"The present system of provincial grants-in-aid and any changes which may be considered to be necessary.

"The financial basis of Indian education, having regard to the resources of the province, the various demands upon them, and the adequacy or otherwise of the existing Union Government subsidies in so far as they affect Indian education."

All the sittings of the Commission are expected to be held at the Provincial Council buildings, Maritzburg. The Commission will hear evidence from persons or associations. It has been decided to restrict representatives, if possible, to two from each association. Written statements must be submitted, and eight copies are asked for in advance.

Persons or associations desirous of being heard are requested to communicate with the Secretary, Mr. C. A. B. Peck, not later than March 27.

The Commission will consist of Messrs. J. Dyson, who it is understood will act as chairman, F. C. Hollander, F. W. Fell, C. F. Clarkson, A. Acutt, J. A. Lidgett, and one other, who will probably be Mr. T. Wadley, of Durban.

Dispute Among Cape Indians

Question of Illegal Entry

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the Cape British Indian Council was held recently when the chairman, Mr. Adam E. Bucksnoonia, explained that in terms of a resolution passed by the Conference of the South African Indian Congress held in Kimberley in January its sub-committee met the Minister of Interior and discussed the terms under which the Government is prepared to condone all illicit entrants into the Union or any Province thereof. The Right Hon. Mr. Sastri was also present, and, after quite an hour and a half's discussion, the matter was satisfactorily settled.

It was stated that the Minister had only reiterated his desire that the Indian community should do all that is possible to discourage such illegal entrants in the future and shun them altogether.

The terms of the condonation will be made public within the next week or two. In the meantime, some irresponsible people have not only spread a rumour that the system of registration as exists in the Transvaal is going to be introduced in the Cape, but are also holding a meeting under the auspices of the so-called Cape Indian Vigilance Committee to condemn the action of the South African Indian Congress under the false pretext of "registration."

As the terms of the condonation are at present a matter of privacy, our opponents have seized the opportunity of throwing a dagger at us. They have been unscrupulous in their attack upon us, knowing the circumstances under which we are placed and are endeavouring to undermine the basis of the Transvaal Agreement.

The following resolution was put by Mr. Hadje M. Khan, seconded by Mr. A. Ismail and unanimously adopted :

"That this meeting of the Executive Committee of the Cape British Indian Council, which is affiliated to the South African Indian Congress, deprecates the attitude of the so-called Cape Indian Vigilance Committee in misleading the Indian community of Cape Town in regard to the condonation of illegal entrants into the Union or any Province thereof which the Hon. the Minister of the Interior has been pleased to agree to, and hereby warns one and all not to take heed of the exhortations of the above committee and assures the Indian community that there would be no registration of Indians as is the case in the Transvaal and that the condonation only applies to illegal entrants and not the lawful residents of the Union."

The Story of My Experiments With Truth

[BY M. K. GANDHI]

Part IV. Chapter III.

POCKETED THE INSULT

I smarted under the insult, but as I had pocketed many such in the past, I had been inured to them. I therefore decided to forget the latest one and take what course a dispassionate view of the case might suggest.

We had a letter from the Chief of the Asiatic Department to the effect that as I had seen Mr. Chamberlain in Durban, it had been found necessary to omit my name from the Deputation that was to wait on him. The letter was more than my co-workers could bear. They proposed to drop the idea of the Deputation altogether. I pointed out to them the awkward situation of the community.

A SPIRITED REPLY

"If you do not represent your case before Mr. Chamberlain," said I, "it will be presumed that you have no case at all. After all, the representation has to be made in writing and we have got it ready. It does not matter in the least whether I read it or some one else reads it. Mr. Chamberlain is not going to argue the matter with us. I am afraid we must swallow the insult."

I had scarcely finished speaking, when Tyeb Sheth cried out, "Does not an insult to you amount to an insult to the community? How can we forget that you are our representative?"

"Too true," said I. "But even the community will have to pocket insults like these. Have we any alternative?"

"Come what might, why should we court a fresh insult? Nothing worse can possibly happen to us. Have we many rights to lose?" asked Tyeb Sheth.

I liked the spirited reply, but I also knew that the spirit was of no avail. I was fully conscious of the limitations of the community. I pacified my friends and advised them to have, in my place, Mr. George Godfrey, an Indian Barrister. So Mr. Godfrey led the Deputation. Mr. Chamberlain referred in his reply to my exclusion. "Rather than hear the same representative over and over again, is it not better to have some one new?" he said, and tried to heal the wound.

But all this, far from ending the matter, added to the work of the community and also to mine. We had to start afresh. "It is at your instance that the community helped in the war, and you see the result now," were the words with which some people taunted me. But the taunt had no effect on me. I do not regret my advice, said I. "I maintain that we did well in taking part in the War. In so

doing, we simply did our duty. We may not look forward to reaping the reward of our labours, but it is my firm conviction that all good action is bound to bear fruit in the end. Let us forget the past and think of the task before us. With which the rest chimed in.

SET THE BALL ROLLING

I added: "To tell you the truth, the work that you had called me for is practically finished. But I believe I may not leave the Transvaal, so far as it is possible, even if you permit me to return home. Instead of carrying on my work from Natal, as before, I must do so now from here. I must no longer think of returning to India within a year, and must get enrolled in the Transvaal Supreme Court. I have confidence enough to deal with this new department. If we do not do so, the community will be pounded out of the country, besides being thoroughly robbed. Every day it will have fresh insults heaped upon it. The fact that Mr. Chamberlain refused to see me and the official insulted me is nothing before the humiliation of the whole community. It is impossible to put up with the veritable dog's life that we are expected to lead."

So I set the ball rolling, discussed things with Indians in Pretoria and Johannesburg, and ultimately decided to set up office in Johannesburg.

It was indeed doubtful whether I would be enrolled in the Transvaal Supreme Court. But the Law Society did not oppose the application, and the Court allowed it. Now it was difficult for an Indian to secure rooms for office in a suitable locality. But I had come in fairly close contact with Mr. Ritch who was then one of the merchants there. Through the good offices of a house agent known to him, I succeeded in securing good rooms for my office in the legal quarters of the city, and I started on my professional work.

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પુસ્તક ૨૬ મું.

ફ્રીડેડેસ, શુક્રવાર, તારીખ ૯ માર્ચ ૧૯૨૮

અંક ૬

નોંધ અને સમાચાર

સાઉથ આફ્રિકાની યુરોપ જનારી પહેલી વિદ્યાર્થીની
ડરબનના મી. અને મીસીસ આર. નાયડુની બીજી
દીકરી યુજીનિયમ તામડે ગયા ગરવારે એડીનબર્ગ કોલેજમાં
ઈંગ્લેન્ડ દાકતરી અભ્યાસ માટે ઉપડી ગયા છે. મીસ નાયડુએ
પોતાની જાહેર અભ્યાસ રચનાત્મક શાળામાં અને સાવચી
શિક્ષણથી કર્યો હતો અને એ અભ્યાસને હજુ આગળ વધારીને
કોઈ ધંધાને માટે લાગણી મેળવવાની તેની કોઈ તેને કિસ્સામાં
લખાઈ નથી. મીસ નાયડુ બુદ્ધિશાળી અને આજ આખરી
યુવતિ છે અને પોતાના સાહેબમાં તે સંપૂર્ણ કનેક્ટ મેળવશે
એવી અમારી આતી છે. તે દક્ષિણ આફ્રિકાથી પોતાનાં
સંબંધી ભાઈ બહેનોના શુભાશિર્વાદ પોતાની સાથે લઈ જાય છે.
ગરવું મીસ નાયડુને કનેક્ટ પુછતાં અમારે તેના માત-
પિતાને નહિ જાણવા જોઈએ. હોદી માતાપો પોતાના પુત્રોથી
પણ વિખુટા પડતાં સંક્રામ્ય છે તો પછી પુત્રીનું તે કહેવું
શું? ગરવું મી. અને મીસીસ આર. નાયડુએ સ્વયં
ભતીની બરોડીયાન આગળ આપસ્વાર્થ અને કુચવી સુખોનો
ભોગ આપ્યો અને મનુષ્યભતીની સેવાને માટે પોતાની
દીકરીને લાયક બનવા મોકલી છે. મી. અને મીસીસ નાયડુએ
કોમને બેસાડેલાં સુદર દાખલા માટે સુખારકમાંથી આપીએ
છીએ. **અમે એ થોડીક મુદતે સાર તેજાને વિદ્યોગનું**
કામ સંપૂર્ણ કરવું પડશે જો તમામને ધરતે કોમને
સંપૂર્ણ બદલો તેજાને અપશે એવી અમારી અંતઃકરણની
પ્રાર્થના છે.

ડરબનના મી. પી. જી. તામડે પોતાના ફરજીને એવ
રટીમરમાં ઈંગ્લેન્ડ દાકતરી અભ્યાસ માટે મોકલ્યા છે. મી.
નાયડુના ફરજી ડરબનની મરીન કોલેજમાં મેટ્રિક પાસ થયા
છે. મરીન કોલેજની વિદ્યાર્થીઓએ પોતાના સાથીને પીટસ
લાઈનમાં વિદાયગીતીનું ગાન આપ્યું હતું.

ખોડાઓને માફીપત્ર

સા. આ. ઇન્ડિઅન કોંગ્રેસની છેલ્લી બેઠકમાં પસાર થયેલા
કેવળ સ્વચ્છતાપૂર્વક પ્રતિષ્ઠાના પાંચથી વધુ મતો
સંબંધમાં પ્રધાનમંત્રી સામે મહાવ્યવસ્થાને લીધેલા સ્વ-
કમીટીએ ગયાના આઠમા નવેમ્બરના સુધ્ધિપ્રધાનતી
મુલાકાત લીધી હતી જે પ્રસંગે કાઝીજી પણ હાજર હતા.
મુદ્દો પ્રધાન કમીટીની રજુવાતોને સ્વિકારી દાદ આપી
હતી અને દક્ષિણ આફ્રિકામાં જુલાઈ ૧૯૨૪ સુધીમાં ખોડી
રતિ દાખલ થયેલા હોદીઓને માફીપત્ર આપવાની કબુલાત
આપી હતી. આજ આપતવેનું નક્કી થયે પછીનું નિર્ણય પ્રધાન
તરફથી આવેલો નહિ હોવાથી લોકોને સંકાયતેમ નથી.

કેપ ઓરીશ ઇન્ડિઅન કોલેસીસનો ડેરાવ

કેપમાં કેપ ઇન્ડિઅન કોલેજનું કમીટી હોદીઓને ખોડી
રતિ ઉરસવાનું કામ કરી રહેલી હોવાથી કેપ ઓરીશ ઇન્ડિ-

અન કોલેસીસની એકઠેકયુટીવે મીટીંગ બરી તીએ પ્રમાણેનો
ડેરાવ પસાર કર્યો છે :—

કેપ ઓરીશ ઇન્ડિઅન કોલેસીસ જે સા. આ. ઇન્ડિઅન
કોંગ્રેસ સાથે બેઠાએલી છે તેના એકઠેકયુટીવ કમીટીની આ
મીટીંગ કહેવાતી કેપ ઇન્ડિઅન કોલેજનું કમીટીની યુનીયન
માં દાખલ થયેલા ખોડા હોદીઓને માફી બક્ષવાની પ્રધાને
આપેલી કબુલાત વિશે કેપની હોદી કોમમાં ગેરસમજુતીઓ
ફેલાવવાની વલણને વખોડે છે અને કોમને એ કમીટીની
વાતોને ધ્યાન નહિ દેવાની ચેતવણી આપે છે અને એની
ખાતી આપે છે કે જેમ ટ્રાંસવાલમાં રજીસ્ટ્રેશને કદાવવાં
પડે છે તેમ રજીસ્ટ્રેશને માત્ર ધોડા આપેલા કેપ ને સિવાય
બીજા કોઈને કદાવવાં નહિ પડે.

તા. ૨૭ એપ્રિલે બેસનગ્રાફ કેપરણી કમીશન

હોદી કેપરણી વિશે તપાસ કરવાને નાટક પ્રાંતિક કમીશન
એપ્રિલ તા. ૨૭એ બેસન. સધળી બેઠકા મેરીટઅમમન
પ્રાંતિક કોલેસીસના મહાનમાં ચાલશે. કમીશન બાંધેલ
તેમજ સંસ્થાઓ તરફથી જુમાની બેઠકા. બની જો ત્યાં
સુધી ફરક સંસ્થાના પ્રતિનિધિઓની પ્રજ્ઞા એ સુધી મર્યાદિત
કરવામાં આવશે. બેખીત રટેવેન્ટો રજુ કરવાં પડશે અને
તેની આફ નહોલ અમાઉથી માંગમાં આવી છે. જે
બંધિતઓ કે સંસ્થાઓ જુમાની આમવા મરજી હોમ તેમજ
માર્ચ તા. ૨૭ પહેલાં કમીશનનું સેક્રેટરી મી. સી. એ બી.
પેક્ટી સામે પ્રત્યક્ષકાર કરશે.

કમીશનના સભ્યો મેસર્સ જે. રાઇસન (મધુખ), અને
એફ. સી. હોલેન્ડર, એફ. કમલુ દેવ, સી. એફ. કમલસન,
એ. એકટ. જે. એ. લીડગે અને એક બીજી વહુ કરીને
ડરબનથી મી. ડી. વોલી થશે.

કમીશન તીએની બાગતોની તપાસ કરશે

કહેરમાં બાગતોમાં હાલ એકંદરે શું સમજાડો છે.
સરકારી અને સરકારી મદદ મળતી શાળાઓમાં હોદી
શિક્ષકોની નોકરીની સ્થિતિ અને તેઓને મળતા પગા.
પ્રોમોશન, ડીસીપ્લીન અને પેનલન સંબંધિ સ્થિતિ
પ્રાંતિક આન્ટન-પન-જોડી સાલુ રહી અને તેમાં કરવા
બેમવા કંઈ પણ ફેરફારો.

પ્રાંતિક સામનો સામે તેની કિપતી અનેક પ્રાંતોને લક્ષમાં
રાખી હોદી કેપરણીનું પ્રાંતિક આયોગ વોરણ અને હોદી
કેપરણીને કાગે તમાગે છે તેટલે ફરજે યુનીયન સરકાર
તરફથી મળતી ચાલુ મદદ પુરતી છે કે નહિ

ઈકેટ આફ્રિકાના હોદીઓની નવી સંસ્થા

મુરટ આફ્રિકાના હોદીઓ કેનીયા સેન્ટ્રલ ઇન્ડિઅન એસો-
સીએશન વાચતી એક નવી રાજકારી સંસ્થા સ્થાપવાની
વિચાર, બજાવી રહ્યા છે. તવી સંસ્થાના યુક્ત હોદો