

Indian Opinion

No 27—Vol. XXVI.

Friday, July 13th, 1928.

Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.
PRICE FOURPENCE.

MAHATMA GANDHI'S MESSAGE

TO INDIANS IN SOUTH AFRICA

MAHATMA GANDHI writes as follows in *Young India* dated June 7:—

Two very important cases have been decided recently by the Transvaal Provincial Division of the Supreme Court of South Africa. One of them, *S. B. Medh v. Immigrants Appeal Board*, though important in itself, affects only a few special cases of Indians who received exemption certificates under the Smuts-Gandhi Settlement as being educated Indians. It was contended by the Union Government that the exemptions were not complete. I need not go into greater detail. The Court has now found that the exemptions were complete in the sense submitted on behalf of the appellant.

The other case, *Daya Purshottam v. Immigrants Appeal Board*, has far-reaching consequences for the Indian settlers. The judgment in this case lays down that section 5 of Act 37 of 1927 does not possess retrospective effect. Hence certificates obtained by fraudulent means do not become cancellable at the will of the Immigration Board or the Immigration Officer. If this judgment stands, holders of certificates even though they were originally tainted will remain undisturbed. This is a great victory for the settlers. I have no desire to see fraud in any shape or form protected. But the case of these settlers is not one of ordinary fraud.

In many cases, at least up to 1914, the Asiatic Office was a corrupt department and it made it practically impossible for *bona fide* entrants to enter unless they resorted to some crooked means so as to satisfy the greed of the Asiatic officers. Where Government officials are privy to fraud, it ill becomes that Government to punish the helpless victims.

Cables from the South African settlers tell me that the Government are appealing

against the two decisions. I venture to suggest to the Union Government that it would be more in keeping with their conciliatory attitude and the spirit of the new understanding that they do not seek to deprive the Indians of the advantage the two appeals give them. The judgment in the first appeal protects only a few individuals. And in their case there is no question of fraud. The judgment in the second appeal protects a fair number of those who are already in the Union. It will be no serious calamity for the Union to have to absorb a few more Indians than the Government had counted upon. The Union Government should remember that these appeals are very expensive affairs especially for the poor Indians. It is hardly fair for an organised powerful Government to take successful citizens through appellate courts and thus exhaust them into submission or worse. It may be well to possess a giant's strength, but it is admittedly wrong to use it against dwarfs.

The settlers will do well not to set much store by their success in these two appeals. They have in Sjt. Sastri a great friend and adviser. Let them press their suit as much as ever before him, but having done so let them abide by his advice. He will use in their behalf all the influence he has acquired with the Union Government. I welcome their cables. I appreciate the trust they repose in me. But my power to help them from this distance and in the changed circumstances I found myself in 1920 is much too limited to be of value. Their strength therefore lies in their unity, moderation and reliance upon one who is not merely Agent-General for the Government of India but is their true and powerful friend and guide.

CONDONATION

WE owe an apology to our readers for reverting to the same subject over and over again. But we are forced to do so in view of the importance of the subject. In this issue we reproduce from *Young India* Mahatma Gandhi's message, and the leading article of *Cape Times* on "An Indian Duty" and we issue as a supplement to this issue the correspondence on the Condonation Scheme. We have now to view the subject in the light of these. Last Sunday there was another largely attended meeting held at the Royal Picture Palace when people of a different school of thought took the platform. The very views they expressed could have been expressed in a more moderate way without irresponsible talk and abuse. The community is very rightly uneasy about the whole scheme and it was that uneasiness and the desire to know more about it that drew the large audience to that meeting. It has been reported in the local daily press that the meeting with acclamation rejected the whole scheme and refused to place any confidence in the Congress. This is a deliberate falsehood. To tell the plain truth the meeting really dispersed without being able to make up its mind. This is by the way. Now to come to the subject, those who are against the scheme and are taking the hazardous risk of advising the community to refrain from accepting it are not able to suggest an alternative course. The only course they advise is that of passive resistance, and in this connection, we may say that these good men have never stood by the community in the past and we have our doubts as to their sincerity in the future. But however that may be, passive resistance is a weapon to be used in a righteous cause and not in an unrighteous one. Therefore to resort to passive resistance against Section 5 of Act 37 of 1927 which after the Daya Parshotam Judgment definitely gives power to the Government to cancel all those certificates that were obtained by direct as well as indirect fraud will be a failure. Mahatma Gandhi in his message says, "I have no desire to see fraud in any shape or form protected." He, of course, goes on to suggest that where Government officials are privy to fraud, it ill becomes that Government to punish the helpless victims; that it will be

no serious calamity for the Union to have to absorb a few more Indians than the Government had counted upon. But this is to appeal to a Government which possesses a generous heart. The Union Government is certainly not over-generous in its dealings with the Asiatic question, but it has neither been entirely ungenerous.

While enacting Section 5 to deal with those who, in the words of Mr. Sastri, "have for many years defeated one of the great objects of Asiatic legislation in this country, namely, to keep out fresh immigrants" it has made a concession to these to obtain protection certificates within a certain time. Now, what prevents Indians from taking this advantage is the grave suspicion that this may be a trap to easily catch all the illicit entrants and ultimately to deport them. "We should be the last to urge," says the *Cape Times*, "that the history of Asiatic policy in South Africa is such as to engender in Indian hearts expectations of generosity or even equity from any Government Provincial or central. But we do not think there are good grounds in the present instance for fears of such barefaced perfidy from the Department of the Interior." This is also how we take the word of the Government. As will be seen from the correspondence the Congress has been assured by the Government that the rights of the protected will not be interfered with. If the Government breaks faith we will then have a righteous cause to fight and we hope our friends like Messrs Anglia, Roberts and Leo. Gopaul, who are misleading the Indian community at present to resort to passive resistance will at that time be prepared to throw in their lot with their brethren. But meanwhile we would appeal repeatedly to all those concerned: Do not be misguided. The consequences of rejecting the Condonation scheme will be suicidal. Take the opportunity that is given to you. Apply for and obtain protection certificates with the least possible delay and take every assistance that you require from the Congress officials. In giving this advice to our brethren we fully realise our responsibility and if they are duped we shall be the first to stand by them.

An Indian Duty

'Cape Times' On The Condonation Scheme

Cape Times dated July 3 has the following well considered leading article which we commend to all those who have doubts about the scheme:—

"The tangle of the "condonation" question, which has caused so much searching of heart amongst the Indian community, is in a fair way towards straightening itself out. Prominent Indians who have opposed the Government's scheme, or who have shrunk from recommending it to their fellows, have been fond of arguing that, on the official information before them, it was impossible to say unambiguously what the implications of the scheme were. The plea can no longer be employed. Dr. Malan's statement in Parliament on April 17, the Appellate Division's ruling in connection with the Government's appeal in the Daya Parshottam case on June 26, and the amended immigration regulations and annexures published in the *Government Gazette* of June 29, these three documents together, when read in the light of the Indian Agreement and Acts 22 of 1913 and 37 of 1927, set out the position with all the clarity that any practical man can require. It can hardly be denied that the Government's offer is an attempt to get rough justice done in a curious and anomalous situation, where absolute fairness to everybody is impracticable. Indians themselves cannot regard as satisfactory the present system of smuggling prohibited Asiatic immigrants into the Transvaal, or reasonably blame the Government for trying to put an end to it. Equally, we feel, the condonation proposals cannot be thought harsh treatment of those to whom a breach of the law of the land has brought benefits at least substantial enough to decide them against a return to India. Mr. Sastri's speech in Johannesburg on May 27 is known to have more or less reconciled Transvaal Indians to the scheme, and in view of the result of the Daya Parshottam appeal, such opposition as survived Mr. Sastri's suasion is likely to bow to the inevitable, and seek or advise condonation as the case may be. The large Indian population in Natal, too, seems on the whole ready to accept. This being so, the fact that the Cape Indians are still divided on the question dwindles into insignificance. We trust that the recalcitrant here will appreciate the pointers both to their self-interest and to their duty to their community, which the new factors of the last week or so afford."

After reproducing the form of certificate of condonation our contemporary goes on further to say:

"As there has been sincere misgiving amongst Indians, lest the certificate should prove somehow deceptive, it may be helpful to add a note of explanation why it has assumed this form. In the present state of the law, restrictions such as that on the introduction of wives and children may only be annexed to what are known as "Temporary Permits." Hence, clause (a) of the certificate is necessary to safeguard its "temporary" character in the eyes of the law. Clause (d), on the other hand, in effect renders the Certificate permanent, since the Minister binds himself not to cancel it until the holder is convicted of an offence for which he could in any case, and quite apart from the illicit entry which the certificate condones, be deported. While legally capable, therefore, of being regarded as temporary, the document is in practical effect a permanent one.

The Indians who have opposed the condonation scheme have not disguised the fact that their attitude was based on a general suspicion of the Government's intentions with regards to Asiatics. They see in the scheme a ruse for enticing into the open illegal entrants who, when they have irrevocably exposed themselves in the hope of the advertised free pardon, will find the trap suddenly sprung and themselves "bagged" for deportation. We should be the last to urge that the history of Asiatic policy in South Africa is such as to engender in Indian hearts expectations of generosity or even equity from

any Government Provincial or central. But we do not think there are good grounds in the present instance for fears of such barefaced perfidy from the Department of the Interior. Whether clause (d) could be enforced against either Dr. Malan or his successors in office is a point which only the Courts could decide, though it is apparently meant to be a binding engagement; but there is certainly high legal authority for thinking that with clause (d) showing on the face of the document the intention of the Minister who gave it and the understanding on which the holder accepted it, no future Minister could repudiate the undertaking the clause embodies. All the indications are rather that the Government means to do a square deal, and is genuinely making illegal entrants as good an offer as present conditions and the declared policy of the Government allow. It is to be hoped that the Indian community will in its own interests approach it as such. In any case, all illegal entrants who hesitate to seek condonation should earnestly consider the sole alternative in which such hesitation will involve them. The Bloemfontein judgment means that the Government has power under Act 37 of 1927 to set aside all registration certificates, etc., fraudulently obtained, whether before or after the Act was passed, and whether by fraud of the holder or of others on his behalf. The Government has made it plain that, while giving condonation to those who seek it and are entitled to it under the terms of the offer, it will also exercise that power with freedom and vigour. In the circumstances, the advantage to all Indians of some convenient method of proof that their presence in the country is authorised is very obvious. In fact, that the Indian community is far better off with a condonation scheme than without one admits of so little dispute that we hope no more will be heard of "resistance," reference to the privy Council, and suchlike wild talk.

Dr. Clegg On Indian Health And Sanitation

At the Public Health Congress of the South African Health Officials' Association which was held recently in Durban, the President of the Congress Dr. S. J. Clegg, M.O.H. of Durban, in the course of his address is reported to have dwelt as follows on the standard of health and sanitation of Asiatics:—

"One of the outstanding features of Durban and district is the existence of a large Asiatic and Native population alongside the European and intermingling with them closely in various forms of employment. Both races have admittedly lower ideas of hygiene and sanitation, and live under conditions which would not be tolerated for a European; and one gathered the impression that the existence and continuance of such a lower standard was in the natural order of things. Such a contention is, I submit, a dangerous one, especially in the almost complete absence of segregation of the various races.

"As regards the Asiatic, we have in the Borough a more or less stable population of some 18,000, centred chiefly in the Grey Street area, while there are equal or greater numbers scattered over the peri-Durban areas. Compared with the conditions of housing and sanitation in these latter areas, the standard within the Borough may be called good, but there is a great deal to which one takes exception. There is general overcrowding, and whereas the number of persons per house among the European community is less than five, in certain parts of this area the figure is from 12 to 19. The proportion of deaths from certain diseases per thousand among Asiatics is as follows:—Infectious intestinal disease 174, compared with 107 Europeans; pulmonary tuberculosis 83, compared with 41 Euro-

peans; pneumonia and bronchitis 189, compared with 63 Europeans.

Indian Health Committees

"Some four years ago the suggestion was made, very diffidently, I admit, that an improvement might be effected more rapidly by the formation of a subsidiary health committee amongst the Indians with their own workers, voluntary in the first place, trained in the elements of sanitation and going among their own people pointing out defects and explaining from the Indian standpoint the necessity for these to be remedied. The time, however, did not appear to be ripe for such a scheme. It was suggested again some two years afterwards, and was received with more favour, and the outbreak of smallpox expedited the formation of an Indian committee which did excellent work among their own community, the Rev. Andrews being the moving spirit. Later a more permanent organisation was set up, and under the inspiration of Mr. Sastri commenced work of a more routine nature.

"The formation of these committees has been referred to in some detail, as I feel that it is along these lines that more rapid progress may be made in the future. But there is an even more important side to the question. At the root of the matter are the housing conditions, and these, in my opinion, have now passed out of the scope of private enterprise and become a problem for the community to tackle. It is gratifying to note, therefore, that the Town Council has in hand schemes, both within and without the Borough, for the better housing of the Indian population, and it is hoped that with the practical sympathy of the Government these will be developed to the ultimate benefit of the town as a whole."

British Labour Party's Attitude Towards India

Indian Delegates' Protest

A Reuter's message from London dated July 5 states:—

The sensational action of the Indian delegates in withdrawing from the Commonwealth Labour Conference was the sequel to Chaman Lal's presentation of a resolution reaffirming the opinion of all constituent bodies of the Empire at the preceding conference in 1925 in favour of granting immediate self-government for India.

The resolution condemned the appointment of the Simon Commission as not meeting the Indian political aims.

British labour delegates contended that the conference was a deliberative body only, and was not intended to record resolutions whatsoever. This point of view was adopted by five votes to three with one abstention.

Chaman Lal then attacked the British Labour Party's general attitude towards India, and the delegation subsequently left the room.

Mr. George Lansbury, M.P., drawing attention to the withdrawal of the Indian delegates from the conference as a protest against the attitude of the British Labour Party towards the Simon Commission and the conference's method of procedure, said, "they have not accepted our friendship, and they repudiate our offer of co-operation."

Mr. Lansbury declared that the British labour movement was pledged to constitutional action. Labourites were on the Simon Commission because it was thus they could secure the interests of their Indian brothers. "Whatever our friends in India

may think, and however harshly they judge us because we were unable to accomplish the impossible, we will continue to work for the day when India will become a great and fully self-governing partner of her own free will in the Commonwealth of Nations."

India Refuses to Be a Pawn in Party Game

A later message states:—The Indian delegates to the Commonwealth Labour Conference have issued a statement that they had come to the deliberated conclusion that they could no longer place any trust and confidence in the bona fides of the British Labour Party in its dealings with India.

India refused to be the pawn in the game played by the British Labour Party.

Shop Assistants' Wages

Congress Memorandum

The following memorandum was submitted by the Natal Indian Congress as representing the Indian community of Natal to the Wage Board in connection with its enquiry into the conditions of wages paid to Shop Assistants in terms of Government Notice No. 1 dated 6th of January 1928:—

To the Chairman and Members of the Wage Board sitting at Durban.

Sirs,—We the undersigned officials of the Natal Indian Congress, a body representing the Indian community of Natal, beg to tender our thanks to you for affording us an opportunity to place before the Board the suggestions of the Indian community in connection with the condition of wages paid to Indian Shop Assistants.

At the outset we beg to point out that with the exception of those employed in agriculture, Indians are the largest in number employed in commerce. The following statistics for the year 1921 will be of interest:—

OCCUPATION OF INDIAN POPULATION OF NATAL CENSUS 1921

Agriculture & Fishing	19,154.
Mining and Quarrying	1,816.
Industry	4,618.
Transport and Communication	2,958.
Commercial, Finance & Insurance	5,361.
Personal Service	4,250.
Other Occupations	5,255.
Undefined	5,590.

The present enquiry into the condition of wages of shop assistants is therefore of the utmost importance to the Indian community as one of its main pursuits throughout South Africa is centred in commerce.

TRADE DISABILITIES

As a community, Indians are peculiarly situated in this Province in regard to trade. In the principal towns of Natal they are relegated by the adverse operation of the Licensing Laws to certain quarters which do not give them the same opportunities to trade as are enjoyed by the Europeans. This restriction on the Indian community not only affects their material progress but tends to stifle their activities towards the improvement and advancement of trade generally. The Licensing Laws of the Province, although general in character, are administered in a manner as to keep the number of licences issued to Indians as low as possible. Moreover, facilities for Indians in commercial, education and technical training which are factors of great importance in the commercial life of a community are non-existent, and therefore any recommendation made by the Board will, so long as these fundamental disabilities exist, act harshly on the Indian community.

PRESENT CONDITIONS

Ever since the establishment of Indian commerce in this province, Indians have been carrying on their business under a system peculiar to themselves, but convenient and satisfactory to both the employer and the employee. In addition to the wages paid, employees are provided, at the expense of the employer, with board, lodging, washing and other comforts, and in fact everything an employee requires for his subsistence. Any alteration in this system in the suburban and rural localities will place these employees in a perilous position as it would be well nigh impossible for them to find their board and lodging outside their employers' premises. It is therefore suggested that in fixing a minimum wage a maximum amount be also fixed to enable an employer to charge his employee for board and lodging, and in this respect the following figures are recommended:—

Boarding £3 to £3 10s. per month.

Lodging £1 to £1 10s. per month.

In our endeavour to obtain figures as to the present wages paid to Indian employees, we find that in the Outfitting and Drapery Retail trade, wages range from £6 to £10 per month and in cases where the wages are from £6 to £7 per month, board and lodging are also provided in addition. In some cases men of experience and ability are paid £15 and more per month. In the Grocery Trade the wages range from £4 to £10 per month and as a rule board and in some cases lodgings are provided in addition.

In the wholesale trade, men are paid from £7 to £11 per month, plus board and lodging. In addition to these facilities the employees in all the sections of commerce enjoy the benefits of purchasing goods from their employers' stores at cost price which is a distinct advantage and the benefit derived thereby ranges from 10% to 20% of their purchases.

CLASSIFICATION

It is indeed difficult for us to classify the different trades under which the shop assistants are proposed to be divided, but we give the following definition to the terms as proposed by the Board as they appear to us:—

"A qualified assistant" shall mean a person who has continually served in a particular class of business for a period of say six years and over.

"A General Assistant" shall mean a person who has been a shop assistant in several classes of business for a period of six years and over.

The meaning of an "unqualified person" is obvious.

We feel that those who are employed as bookkeepers, cashiers, clerks, stenographers, telephonists and typists should not be brought under the present enquiry as it would be unfair to those who are employed in similar capacities by other than merchants and shopkeepers who would not be covered by the Board's findings.

SUGGESTIONS

We beg to submit that while the present enquiry of the Board affects as it does a very important occupation where Indians are largely employed, the fact should not be lost sight of that the enquiry relates not to a particular craft or industry, where a standard of efficiency and ability is obtained but to an occupation where a person would be judged and paid according to his or her natural ability. There cannot be, nor are there accepted laws and rules and set standards of efficiency or output in commerce.

In view of the fixing of minimum wage's being uniform irrespective of any class of community and in view of the fact that the Indian community is at a disadvantage in many respects in trade compared with the European community, it is proposed that the wages be based on a gradation scale as has been the case in the clothing industry and the laundry trade. This will afford our community sufficient time to adjust matters and reach the desired scale of wages. We therefore propose the following:

Up to and including a period of two years from the date of commencement of the recommendations of the Board, a lower wage than the minimum wage prescribed for an employee may be paid but such low wage shall not—

(a) Up to and including a period of six months from the operation of the recommendation be less than 60 per cent. of the minimum wage prescribed for such employee.

(b) Up to and including a period of twelve months from the operation of the recommendations be less than 70 per cent. of the minimum wage prescribed for such employee.

(c) Up to and including a period of eighteen months from the operation of the recommendations be less than 80 per cent. of the minimum wage prescribed for such employee.

(d) Up to and including a period of twenty-four months from the operation of the recommendations be less than 90 per cent. of the minimum wage prescribed for such employee.

After a period of two years from the operation of the recommendations no employee shall be paid less than the minimum wage prescribed for the work upon which he or she is engaged.

SCALE OF MINIMUM WAGES RECOMMENDED

	Employers' Suggestion.	Employees' Suggestion.
(a) Qualified Assistants. (Males—Not less than six years' service.)		
(i) Shop Walker	£12.	£14.
Salesman		
Window Dresser		
(ii) Bookkeeper	£12.	£14.
Cashier		
Clerk		
(iii) Stenographer	—	—
Typist		
(iv) Telephonist	—	—
(v) Dressmaker	—	—
Milliner		
(vi) Packer	£6.	£7.
Despatcher		

(b) General Assistant.

(i) Shop Walker	£10.	£11.
Salesman		
Window Dresser		
Order-man		

(ii) Bookkeeper	£10.	£11.
Cashier		
Clerk		

(iii) Stenographer	—	—
Typist		

(iv) Telephonist	—	—
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(v) Dressmaker	—	—
Milliner		

(vi) Packer	£6.	£7.
Despatcher		

(c) Unqualified and Juvenile Assistants.

1st Year	...	...	£3
2nd year	...	...	£4
3rd year	...	...	£5 10s.
4th year	...	...	£7
5th year	...	...	£8
6th year	...	...	£9

As females are rarely employed by Indians no suggestions are being made in this respect.

Ratio of unqualified to qualified assistants shall be 3 to 1.

We would urge that the present system of wages being paid monthly be maintained as any change in this direction would be undesirable and inconvenient. Hours of employment need not be discussed here as the Shop Hours' Act operates quite satisfactorily.

We further suggest that the fixing of a minimum wage for Juveniles be based on a sliding scale according to length of service with yearly increments.

From enquiries made, we find that there are no indentured apprenticeship existing among the Indians and as the system is fraught with difficulties, the community which we have the honour to represent is averse to it.

In conclusion we trust that you will be pleased to give due consideration to the suggestions made by us in this short statement and once again thank you for the courtesy extended to us by you.

We beg to remain, Sirs,

Your obedient servants,

SORABJEE RUSTOMJEE, President.

A. I. KAJEE } Jt. Hon.

P. R. PATHER } Secretaries.

Natal Indian Congress.

Natal Indian Teachers' Society

Third Annual Conference

Resolutions

The following resolutions were passed at the third Annual Conference of the Natal Indian Teachers' Society held last week in Durban:—

ACTING SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION

1. "That this Conference whilst respectfully conveying to Dr. Loram its gratitude for having opened the proceedings of the Third Conference desires to express its pleasure at his appointment as Acting Superintendent of Education."

INDIAN EDUCATION ENQUIRY COMMITTEE

2. "That this Conference is grateful to the Provincial Administration for its recent enquiry into the state of Indian Education in this Province and respectfully requests that the views contained in the Statement submitted by the Natal Indian Teachers' Society be favourably considered."

THE RT. HON. V. S. SRINIVASA SASTRI P. C.
3. "That this Conference desires to express its appreciation and deep sense of gratitude to the Rt. Hon. V. S. S. Sastri for his labours in the interests of Indian Education in this Province particularly with regard to the establishment of a Training College for Indian Teachers."

THE NATAL INDIAN EDUCATION EXPERTS
4. "That this Conference desires to place on record

its appreciation of the valuable services rendered to the cause of Indian Education in Natal by Mr. K. P. Kichlu, M.A., and Miss C. Gordon, B.Ed., the Educational Experts who were deputed by the Government of India to assist the Indian Education Enquiry Committee."

SCALES OF SALARIES IN GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS

5. That this Conference is of opinion that the scale of salaries now applicable to Indian Teachers in Government Schools is unsatisfactory and respectfully urges that the scale submitted by the Indian Teachers' Society to the Indian Education Enquiry Committee be adopted and given effect to by the Administration as early as possible."

MARRIAGE ALLOWANCE IN GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS

6. "That this Conference appeals to the Administration that the "Marriage Allowance" paid to the married male Assistants in the Government Schools be made pensionable."

ADMINISTRATION OF AIDED SCHOOLS, CONDITIONS OF SERVICE ETC.

7. "That in view of the unsatisfactory state of conditions obtaining in the Government Aided Schools this Conference urges that the whole system be changed and the Provincial Authorities assume responsibility for the district payment of salaries to Teachers on the same scale at present in vogue in Government Schools with defined conditions of service; provisions for leave etc., be drawn and given effect to as early as possible."

PENSION PROVISION FOR GOVERNMENT AIDED SCHOOLS

8 "That this Conference is of opinion that Pension Provisions should be extended to the Indian teachers employed in Government Aided Schools and therefore appeals to the Administration to urge for the amendment of Act 81, of 1910."

ESTABLISHMENT OF GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS IN IMPORTANT CENTRES

9. "That this Conference urges that provision be made as early as possible for the establishment of Government Schools in preference to Aided Schools in all centres where there is a large Indian population; provided however that in the event of a conversion of an Aided School to a Government School, the rights, interests and privileges of the staff of such Aided School are in no way prejudiced."

ESTABLISHMENT OF SEPARATE GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS FOR GIRLS

10. "That this Conference strongly advocates the establishment of separate Government Schools for girls in important centres."

INDIAN TEACHERS' EXAMINATIONS

11. "That this Conference is of opinion that the time has arrived when the Syllabus for the Indian Teachers' Examination be revised and raised to a higher standard and respectfully urges that no exemption be given to candidates for the Professional part of the Teachers' Examinations."

FACILITIES FOR FREE MOVEMENT WITHIN THE UNION

12. "That this Conference respectfully requests the Administration to make representations to the proper authorities to grant, for specific purposes, facilities to teachers (employed in Government and Government Aided Schools) for free movement within the Union of South Africa."

VACATIONAL COURSES

13. "That at present there being no facilities for Teachers both in Government and Government Aided Schools to further improve their education or keep abreast of modern teaching methods, this Conference respectfully submits to the Administration to institute Vacation Courses for their benefit, and pledges its co-operation for the success of any scheme that may be brought in this connection."

PROPOSED TRAINING COLLEGE

14. "That in connection with the proposed Establishment and Staffing of the Training College, this Conference resolves that a deputation from the Society wait upon the Rt. Hon. V. S. S. Sastri."

PROVINCIAL SUBSIDIES ACT

15. "That this Conference respectfully requests the Natal Provincial Administration to urge upon the Union Government to raise the subsidy under the Provincial Subsidies Act, 1925, in respect of non-European pupils."

16. "The officials of the Natal Indian Teachers' Society are hereby authorised to forward the forgoing resolutions to their respective quarters"

ELECTION OF OFFICIALS

The following officials were elected for the ensuing year. President: Mr. T. M. Naicker. Hon. Life Vice-President: Mr. A. Rai, Vice-Presidents: Messrs S. M. Moodley, E. J. Choonoo, L. J. Harris, E. Thomas, V. Vinden, and G. V. Naidoo. Hon. General Secretary: Mr. M. K. Naidoo, Hon. Assist. Secretary: Mr. C. O. Naidoo, Hon. Treasurer: Mr. B. Barnabas. Auditor: Mr. S. M. Moodley. General Council: Messrs W. S. Seethal, H. S. Done, N. N. Perumal, R. Joseph, C. Munagar, T. Tilchun, J. Thomas, B. Woodeeth, N. Gungaa, M. Appleamy, P. R. Singh, D. P. Nundoo, J. Samuel, A. Rowley, A. G. Vinden, K. Christopher, E. Sigamoney, M. B. Naidoo, S. D. Pillay, A. Aidan, K. T. Subban, M. A. Pillay, Misses E. Peters, A. Porten, and A. Howard.

PRESENTATION TO EX-OFFICIALS

Messrs T. M. Naicker and C. O. Naidoo, ex-Hon. General Secretary and Assistant Secretary respectively, were presented with a Suitcase and a pocket wallet as a token of appreciation of their invaluable services in the early stages of the Society. This brought the meeting to a close with a vote of thanks to the chair.

News In Brief

A football team of Fort Hare and Lovedale College Students visited Durban last week. They were the guests of the Durban and District Football Association and played a match with them last Sunday being defeated by 2 goals to 3. The visitors were, however, very highly praised for the very clean way in which they played by the local footballers who admitted they had to struggle hard to win the game. The visitors stated that they were at a disadvantage in that they were not able to bring their best players with them owing to financial difficulties and moreover they were not encouraged by their college officials. They had to come on their own and at their own expense. The visitors were given a very hearty welcome by the local Football Association. Last Sunday they were entertained to lunch at Mr. Gandhi's Phoenix Settlement and in the evening after the match a dinner was given in their honour by the Football Association at Peter's Lounge Tea Room. On Monday a lunch was given in their honour by Mr. Sorabjee Rustomjee the President of the Natal Indian Congress at which the Rt. Hon. Srinivasa Sastri and the officials of the Congress were present. The visitors left the same evening for Johannesburg thoroughly satisfied with the friendly co-operation and hospitality shown them by the Indian community.

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The Rev. B. L. E. Sigamoney with the Boy Scouts is having an enjoyable fortnight in Durban. They are camping at the Indian Sports Ground and food and vegetables are supplied to them by generous merchants and friends. The Durban Corporation give them daily a free tram ride. Last Saturday the

Boy Scouts were entertained to tea by Mr. Sorabjee Rustomjee at his residence at Mayville and on Sunday they had an outing at Mr. Gandhis Phoenix Settlement. Mr. Ashton, a European gentleman, is working with the Rev. Sigamoney as a Scout Master.

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Mr. A. Ismail, Secretary of the Cape British Indian Council and a member of the South African Indian Congress Executive has left Durban last Thursday and will tour the Cape Province to explain the Condonation Scheme.

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The fifth anniversary celebration of the Vidya Pracharnee Sabha, Pietermaritzburg, will take place on Sunday the 15th July 1928, at the H. Y. M. A. Hall, commencing at 10 a.m. Delegates from various institutions are invited to attend.

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In the presence of a large gathering of people, the Administrator of Natal, Mr. H. Gordon Watson, unveiled last Sunday the Cross of Sacrifice erected by the Imperial War Graves Committee in the Military Cemetery, Ordnance Road, Durban, to the memory of the 67 soldiers and sailors buried there during the Great War. Among those present at the ceremony included the Rt. Hon. Srinivasa Sastri and the officials of the Natal Indian Congress.

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The question of improving the Indian barrack accommodation, which has frequently evoked adverse comment, was dealt with at last Monday's meeting of the Durban Town Council. On the recommendation of the Health Committee, the Council decided that the Acting Borough Engineer should be authorised to invite tenders immediately for the erection of additional accommodation at the Magazines not exceeding the unexpected balance of the amount of £25,000 which was provided on this year's estimate; and that provision should be made on the draft estimates of ways and means for the ensuing financial year of an amount of £25,000 for additional barrack accommodation whether within or without the borough.

A LECTURE

on "Thought Influence On Society" will be delivered at the Parsee Rustomjee Hall, Queen Street, Durban, on Saturday 14th July, 1928 at 7 p.m., by Mr. Venketasa Perumal (S. N. Richards) who recently returned from India. All are welcome to this interesting lecture.

B. M. PATEL,
HON. SECRETARY.

M. K. Gandhi Library & Parsee Rustomjee Hall Committee.

જોધો છે—દીયર

અત્રેની સરકારી શાળામાં અંગ્રેજીમાં મેટ્રિક સુધી તથા યુનિવર્સિટી ક્લાસમાં સાત ધરાગતા શીક્ષકની જરૂર છે, ઉમેદવાર પંદર દિવસની અંદર નિયેના એડરેસે પત્રવહેવાર કરવા વિનંતી કરવામાં આવે છે.

SECRETARY,
Potchefstroom Indian School Committee,
P. O. Box 274,
Potchefstroom, TRANSVAAL.

ઓ. આર. પટેલ

ફરક એન્ડ વેલ્થેબલ ફાર્મર.

ફરક ભત્તની યાત્રા, લીજ, ચેરિટી (ખાવા ભાગ)

અને ફરકભાદી અમાસ મજીયામાં પાડે છે.

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જો:

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ધનિઅન ઓપિનિઅનના મહાકોને વિનંતી

કેપ કોલોની, રોડેશીયા અને લોરેન્સો માર્ક્સના અમારા મહાકો! તમોને "ધનિઅન ઓપિનિઅન" ના લવાજમના આંકડા અને વિનંતી સાથેના રેટરમેન્ટો મોકલી આપ્યા છે. તેમજ પ્રાંસવાલ અને નાટાલના મહાકોને પણ રેટરમેન્ટો મોકલી આપ્યા છે. રેટરમેન્ટ મળવાની સાથે એક મોકલી આપોતો ભુલી ન જાઓ. અમે આશા રાખીએ છીએ કે દરેક ભાઈઓ પોતાની ફરજ સમજી લવાજમ તુરત મોકલી આપવા કૃપા કરશે.

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Printed and Published by Manilal M. Gandhi at Phoenix Settlement, Phoenix, Natal.