

Indian Opinion

No 33—Vol. XXVI.

Friday, August 24th, 1928.

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

CONDONATION SCHEME EXPLAINED IN MARITZBURG

MR. SASTRI'S EXHORTATION

A MEETING of the Natal Indian Congress (Maritzburg Branch) was held last Saturday afternoon at the H.Y.M.A. Hall to explain the Condonation Scheme. There was a large audience present including leading members of the Congress from Durban.

The Right Hon. V. S. S. Sastri, in the course of his address, stated that the scheme of condonation was before the public for some time. It had been considered on every side and it was now in a stage when it was final. The scheme was misrepresented by interested people who made others shrink from taking advantage of the offer. Such wrong impressions should be corrected at once.

This scheme, it was asserted somehow or other, would be beneficial to the Government and the Indian community accepting it would be conferring some benefit to the Union Government.

This assumption, stated Mr. Sastri, was fundamentally unsound.

The Government or its friends would rather be glad that there was no condonation scheme. Should the Indians reject it through suspicion or folly there would be no grief on the other side. If there was no condonation scheme how did they stand to-day?

In this Province he who came after 1896 and who did not pass the immigration or other qualifying test, was an illegal entrant. If the Department of Interior only cared they could get hold of him and proclaim him a prohibited immigrant. The onus rested on him to prove that he was not a prohibited immigrant. Appeal was allowed on matters of irregularity but invariably the order was to shift back to India.

The Position To-day

Every person who entered after 1896 passing no qualifying test, was liable any day to be put upon his defence and to show cause why he should not be liable for deportation. That was the state of things to-day.

Mr. Sastri said that he did not know how many among his audience were liable to be sent back but he warned them to listen carefully and to make up their minds soon. If they had any doubts they should seek the assistance of the officials of the Indian Congress who were disinterested men, rather than trust themselves to designing people who would levy toll had there been no condonation.

There were men hiding in the corners of the country and were trying to escape the eyes of the Department. This state of things was not creditable either to the people or to the Government. The Government were anxious to clear up the mess and give some semblance of legality to those who were in the country prior to July 5, 1924.

This date, said Mr. Sastri, was exactly three years before the passing of the last Immigration Act. The Government recognised the fact that some of the men have made good, have married in the country and are here as illegal entrants; they should come and satisfy them that they were in the Union on or before that date. They asked for nothing more but to place him in a favourable position by giving him

a protection certificate. "We want to see the document in possession of the condonee," added Mr. Sastri.

The Critical Date

The Government, he proceeded, had the offer open till the end of September. In the case of the people who were in India they should make their application by September 30. After this period the Government meant to work the law and would not allow matters to slide as it had hitherto been. After the critical date they would not be moved by any excuse.

To Mr. Sastri there appeared two disadvantages attached to the scheme. The first was that no illegal entrant would be allowed to bring his wife and children if he had not already brought them before February 24, of this year. The Government say that "we are not bound in any sense to allow into the country three or four people more belonging to each family. Our policy is to keep Indians out."

Another disadvantage rose from the nature of the protection certificate. The document was not what might be called a permanent exemption. In order to make this certificate a legal document, the Minister of Interior must act according to the law. Under the first part of the regulations, the Minister might give absolute exemptions without the imposition of any conditions. The Minister desiring to impose a restriction cannot act under the first but under the second part of the regulation. As he was precluded from acting under the first part that was the reason why the protection certificate on the face appeared a temporary permit. This has given a natural cause for hesitation on the part of the illegal entrant. The Congress have tried their best to secure better terms on their behalf.

An Expedient

All lawyers, continued Mr. Sastri, have agreed that under the conditions required by law the Minister could only grant temporary permits, but it was up to the condonee to make it a little of the temporary permit and try to give it a permanent character. The Minister's legal advisers have found an expedient, a very ingenious thing they have hit upon.

It was this upon which they raised their fears. In this permit clause 1 stated that the document was valid until cancelled by the Minister. But they wanted a permanent permit. The lawyers, as they all knew, were ingenious men, and the Minister was bound. He cannot cancel that document unless there was a conviction according to law.

In this country the law stated, whether it be a white man or a black man, who was not born in the country, was guilty of certain offences it was open to the Minister of Justice to deport after the expiry of the sentence. The law was of general application and substantially they lost nothing by the imposition of the conditions naming deportable offences. But there was an added point in saving this in the document. While in itself it was valueless, but in this permit it made it virtually permanent. The Minister gave the undertaking that

by so mentioning it, it converted the temporary permit into a permanent document.

A Declaration

Other lawyers urge caution in accepting the permit. The Minister has again made a public declaration which he has put in writing that should the permit be declared invalid, and the holder was placed at a disadvantage, he would go to law and make it efficacious.

Mr. Sastri proceeded that he had seen Mr. Patrick Duncan, who was the Minister of Interior in the Smuts' Government, and who might be Minister again. Mr. Duncan had given him a written assurance that this pledge would not be broken. Further, he reminded him that he in fact instigated a general amnesty. Therefore they were on safe grounds.

There were other ingenious people who said that the Government did not want to pardon them, but elicit a confession of names and deport them later on. He did not share this apprehension. All promises were contained in documents. All India knew about it, and England. Such an act would involve great dishonour, it would be an act of treachery. This Government would not do such a dishonourable thing.

It would appear that many years ago they had put their faith in the abolition of the £3 tax. There was delay. This was the only thing which they could bring against the Government. The charge might be so, he was not going to dispute it. But it was not right that one solitary event of a long past should prevent them placing confidence in their present good faith for they were also anxious to start afresh.

A Warning

Mr. Sastri warned them against men walking about the streets who were giving advice against the scheme. They were regardless of the welfare of the illicit entrant.

Proceeding, he said that some might say that the Government had not done anything for years, and what reasons were there to suppose that the Government would take action now. He told them that the Government was going to be more watchful and more rigorous in the application of the law. Some of them might be among those who might be subjected to deportation, therefore it was best to be safe and defy the blackmailer.

Another point which was frequently brought up against the scheme was the implication of friends, both European and Indian, who made false certificates on behalf of the illicit entrants. The department has put it in writing that they would take no action against them.

Mr. Sastri made a final exhortation to those who have illicitly entered the Union to avail themselves of the condonation scheme. "Unless some evil fate hangs over your head you may not. I ask earnestly if you are an illegal entrant get this condonation certificate and peace of mind." (Loud applause.)

Among the other speakers were Messrs. Hoosen Badat (who presided), A. Christopher the President of the South African Indian Congress, M. I. Kajee, S. R. Naidoo, and S. Rustomjee, who advised the illicit to take condonation.

A NOTE OF WARNING

WE reproduce elsewhere in this issue a well-considered article by the *Cape Argus* on condonation and also a second appeal made by the Rt. Hon. Srinivasa Sastri at the Maritzburg meeting. Both these together have left hardly anything further to be explained in that connection. In fact it is not so much the want of explanation of the scheme now that keeps the people back from taking advantage of it as it is the want of trust. Well, we have been given a written assurance by the Government on every possible point and yet to mistrust them is to show that lack of gentlemanliness that is expected of all people who claim themselves to be civilised. Over and above that assurance we have the sympathy of such papers as the *Cape Argus*, the *Cape Times*, the *Natal Witness* and others who represent a large portion of the European public opinion and who have dealt with the subject in a calm and sympathetic manner notwithstanding our brethren in the opposite camp having given ample cause for any one to set up one's back against us. Their attitude, we regret to have to say, has been a disgrace to the community. We can only hope that better counsel would prevail upon them.

We have nothing but the deepest sympathy for those of our brethren who find themselves placed in a terrible predicament as a result of the condonation scheme and in advising them to take advantage of the scheme we are moved by the best of motives. We do not wish to blow hot and cold at the same time as some of our friends do by saying that they do not wish to take condonation and at the same time continue to carry on an anti-condonation propaganda. We are advising the illegal entrants to take advantage of the scheme in all sincerity for we know that that is the only way we can help them out of their difficulty and should they find themselves in difficulty after having taken protection certificates, we can assure them that all those who are party to the scheme will be prepared to stand by them in their hour of trial. If after all this pleading people will not take advantage of the scheme it will certainly mean, in the words of Mr. Sastri, that some evil fate is hanging over their heads for after the critical date has passed one does not know what will happen to them and no one will be able to come to their rescue.

"How long did it take you to learn to drive a motor-car?"

"Oh, three or four!"

"Weeks?"

"No—cars!"

So far we understand that 4 applications have been made in the Cape, 54 in the Transvaal and 39 in Natal out of which 26 in Natal have already been granted their certificates. Let others who have not yet come forward lose no time in doing so.

We wish to sound a note of warning to our brethren on one or two matters in connection with the scheme. This is a scheme to condone the wrongs that have been done in the past. It is the desire of the Government to clear up their records once and for all, and all self-respecting Indians in this country are also as much anxious to see their slate cleaned up entirely. It is therefore urged upon those who seek condonation not to perpetrate fraud over another fraud by trying to obtain protection certificates when they are not entitled to do so. Thus one who has entered the Union after the 5th July 1924 should not attempt to procure a protection certificate and having failed raise a cry against the scheme and abuse the Government, the Agent, the Congress and all the rest. That will not help them or anyone else. The only course for those who have come after that date is to wind up their affairs while they are still at large and leave the country honourably. This we advise them in their own and in the interests of the community. They are of course at liberty to do as they choose.

Another point is that the condonation scheme was agreed to on the 24th February 1928 and those who have applied for and obtained D.I. 91 forms after that date to get their wives and children in the country knowing full well that they were prospective condonees have, although according to the wording of the protection certificate they were entitled legally to bring in their families before the date of the issue of such certificates, nevertheless in reality violated the spirit of the Agreement. It is admittedly a hardship on the families of such condonees who have already been brought in the country in that manner if they should have to return back to India. We can but urge upon the Government to be gracious enough to allow such families who are only a few in number to remain in the country. We would, however, strongly advise our brethren on our own and in the name of the Congress to refrain from raising any technical issues in this matter. It will not be wise on our part to set a precedent

for the Government to follow at a later date. It would indeed be a blessing if on the subject of condonation our brethren would shun the lawyers' offices entirely.

A FRESH DEPARTURE

WE publish elsewhere in this issue instructions issued to Receivers of Revenue in Natal by the Commissioner for Inland Revenue in regard to trading licences issued to Asiatics who apply for general dealers' licences. Every Asiatic applying for a trading licence will be required on and from the 1st January 1929, according to those instructions, to make a sworn declaration in duplicate, and in cases where the applicant is unable legibly to write his signature in English script, he will be required to give his thumb impression on the duplicate form. Every applicant will, further, be required to produce his domicile certificate, the number of which must be endorsed on the declaration form.

This new departure regarding the issue of trading licences has naturally caused a great deal of surprise and concern among the Indian community. "What more is yet to come?" is the question asked everywhere.

We are at a loss to understand what the Immigration Department has to do with the Revenue Department and how these instructions are at all workable and what is the motive behind them. There are many Indians in Natal and in the Cape who hold no documents. How are they to comply with the requirements of the Revenue Department and what happens to them if they fail to comply with them. But even if they are able to comply with them we do not see why they should be compelled to do so and in what way it helps the Department. Moreover, is it in keeping with the Capetown Agreement? We think not. Relaxation in the present licensing laws has been promised under the Agreement and if the time for that is not yet ripe it is at least to be expected that things would be allowed to remain as they are and not further complicated by inflicting more disabilities and more humiliations. Apart from being unworkable the new departure is only inflicting a fresh humiliation upon the Indians which, in our opinion, is totally uncalled for and in conflict with the spirit of the Capetown Agreement. It would perhaps not be out of place to ask the Government to throw more light on the

subject. Meanwhile we would respectfully draw the attention of the Agent of the Government of India who, we have no doubt, will look into the matter.

INDIANS' TRADE DIFFICULTIES

THE decision of the Durban Town Council in the appeal of R. K. Naidoo and Son, whose application for a transfer of his general dealer's licence from 111 Queen Street to 251 Grey Street was refused by the Borough Licensing Officer, is a typical instance of how extremely difficult it is for an Indian to maintain his existing trade even outside what is designated by the Licensing Officer at his will as the European locality. There were other grounds on which the transfer of the licence was refused by the Licensing Officer but his main ground was that he did not consider it in the public interest to allow the store near the Native Women's Hostel, and the adjacent hospital (Indian hospital, if you please). Addressing the Town Council, he referred to the large number of respectable Coloured people living in the district, and pointed out that if the transfer were granted it would be the first step in enabling the Asiatic quarters to extend out towards the race-course. The coloured people, he claimed, were entitled to consideration, which up to the present they had hardly received. The Town Council upheld the decision of the Licensing Officer by nine votes to seven. It could easily be seen from the above arguments that the Licensing Officer had to bring forward some arguments in support of his decision and he did so for argument's sake, but the real fact uppermost in his mind which guided his decision was that it was only an Indian application and why should it be considered favourably? The argument that used to be brought forward before was that an Indian was not entitled to trade in a European locality. The application in the present instance was not for a licence in the European locality but purely an Indian locality in which there were coloured and Native residents as well. The application had somehow or other to be refused and the novel ground given was that there was a Native Women's hostel and a hospital in the vicinity and a number of coloured people living in the district who were entitled

to consideration. The coloured people will certainly be drawn to the Licensing Officer (Col. Molyneux) for his deep sympathy for them which is indeed worthy of praise. But how on earth is he showing them consideration by refusing a respectable Indian to trade in their midst really surpasses us. A store in the midst of residents, whoever they may be, and in the vicinity of a Native Women's hostel and an Indian hospital, we should have thought, would be a blessing to all. This policy of the Town Council not to grant even a transfer of an old licence in another place in the same locality amounts to nothing else but to stifle Indian trade altogether by letting them stew in their own juice. This is certainly not in keeping with the spirit of the Agreement which every part of the Union is in honour bound to respect.

An Indian View of Condonation

Under the above heading the *Cape Argus* dated August 17 has the following well-considered leading article:—

In another column we publish a communication from Dr. Patel Masters, stating the objections felt by a section of the Indian community to the condonation scheme agreed upon between Dr. Malan, representing the Government, and the Right Hon. S. Sastri on behalf of South African Indians. It is well-known that Indian opinion is sharply divided on this question. While the South African Indian Congress has collaborated with Mr. Sastri throughout and approves the agreement, opposition bodies have sprung up in several centres and in Capetown a Vigilance Committee, pledged to antagonism, has gained a good deal of support. The grounds of this opposition have been rather obscure. To a large extent it can probably be traced to the differences of language, race, and religion, which have always tended to dispose Indians to inter-ecine warfare. But we welcome Dr. Masters' letter on the assumption that it represents the opinions of those who have tried to consider the question on its merits. The time is drawing very close when Indians will be called upon to make their decision. October 1 is the last day upon which a condonation certificate can be applied for. There are probably many hundreds of Indians in the Union who in consequence of an original illicit entry are liable on discovery to deportation together with their wives and children. The Government has made it plain through Act 37 of 1927 that possession of a registration certificate or certificate of domicile will be of no avail if it is proved that such certificate was originally obtained by fraud. Apparently, therefore, Indians who have been smuggled in during the last quarter of a century have everything to gain and nothing to lose by taking advantage of the offer to grant a condonation certificate. Those who at present suffer from blackmail—and at the Cape these are said to be numerous—can obtain release from their affliction, and all can settle down in peace, free from the constant terror of denunciation. What, then, are the objections?

We confess to finding Dr. Masters' statement vague and confusing. It contains too much rhetoric

and too little solid reasoning. At this time of day, for example, and in this connection, it is merely waste of time to enlarge upon India's contributions to the Great War and the impropriety of treating Indians as aliens. Certain disabilities have been applied to them by law, are recognised by the Indian Government and are not increased but on the contrary are diminished if condonation certificates are granted. Dr. Masters argues that the certificate only allows the holders to live in this country "as criminals who have been condoned." Precisely. At present they are living as criminals who have not been condoned. Which is the superior status? But, descending to particulars, three grounds of opposition to the agreement may be distinguished. The first is that whether they have illegally entered or not Indians will be forced to take out protecting certificates. There is a misuse of language here. Nobody can be forced to apply for a certificate, but presumably it is meant that an Indian who originally entered legally many years ago will find the certificate necessary or at least advisable unless he is in a position to prove that his entry was legal. Assuming this to be so it is difficult to see the grievance. As holder of the certificate the legal entrant would be no worse off than before except in the rare case where he has a wife and family in India and wishes to bring them to South Africa, and in such a case he would not apply for it. The illegal entrant, on the other hand, cannot bring in his wife and children now, and there seems to be no particular reason why the certificate should give him the right to do so. That disposes of the second objection which in any case must be of extremely limited application. Dr. Masters' third point alone appears to have some substance. He points out that in some cases illegal entrants, in order to revisit India, have obtained identity certificates for which it was necessary to persuade two of their friends to commit perjury by swearing to their presence in South Africa before 1902. The illegal entrant may obtain protection, but what of his assistants? Is there anything to prevent their being tried and convicted for perjury and deported? The Minister has placed on record that "he is not desirous of making the condonation scheme a means of securing the conviction of persons who in the past assisted illicit entrants to evade the immigration laws," but this statement was made in relation to the original entry; and although it is doubtless intended to be applied to the case of re-entries, we would suggest that any possible ambiguity be set at rest in good time. Nothing would better illustrate the sweeping nature of the condonation held out to Indians or be better calculated to bring in recalcitrants.

This, however, is a minor point. On the general merits Mr. Sastri has stated that in his opinion—and no one is better able to judge—the Government's proposal amounts to a "large act of generosity." He deprecates the suspicion that somewhere, somehow, there is a catch in it. There can be no doubt that Indian reluctance to fall in line is based far more upon suspicion of the Government's good faith than upon specific objections; nor, with a memory of past events to jog the conscience, can Indians be altogether blamed for such a feeling. What the malcontents forget, however, is that for the first time in their history they have in South Africa a protector of their own race who combines outstanding ability with a wide experience of men and affairs. If the Indian community are not prepared to trust Mr. Sastri they are indeed in parlous case. They have an opportunity now of settling down, not, indeed, on the terms that they would like to get, but at least on terms that promise release from the harassing conditions of the past. If they reject the opportunity more trouble is bound to ensue not only from blackmailers, but from the prosecution

their position, but omitted to do so. The alternative demand to acceptance is to set up the impossible demand that by one sweeping Act of Parliament all illegal entrants should be given domiciliary rights without any qualification whatever. That is what Dr. Masters asks. We can only say that Indians who follow him into that wilderness will be giving up the substance for the shadow and alienating the section of European opinion which has always stood out for fairplay.

[NOTE:—The distinction which the article makes between those who abetted the original illicit entry and those who have assisted subsequent re-entry by helping illicit entrants to obtain certificates of identity was perhaps not present to Dr. Patel Masters' mind. However, the language of the Department's statement is that "the Department are not desirous of making the condonation scheme a means of securing conviction for persons who in the past assisted illicit entrants to evade the Immigration laws," and these words are wide enough, and were intended, to include both classes.—Ed. I. O.]

Trading Licences To Asiatics

A New Departure

The following instructions referring, we are given to understand, to applications for General Dealer's Licences only, have been issued by the Commissioner for Inland Revenue to the Receivers of Revenue in Natal:—

In connection with the issue of Trading Licences to Asiatics, receivers of revenue are notified that the Immigration Authorities require a duplicate of every sworn declaration made.

In cases where the applicant is unable legibly to write his signature in English script, a thumb impression must be given on the duplicate form, for which purpose the ordinary stamping pad can be used.

Each Asiatic Licensee must be requested to produce his domicile certificate and the number of such certificate must be quoted on the declaration form.

The duplicate declarations must be forwarded on the day of issue to the Principal Immigration Officer, Durban. No covering minute to the forms is necessary but the forms must clearly indicate thereon from which office they emanate.

The foregoing instructions will operate on and from January 1st 1929.

Finger-prints From Condonees Not Required

Correspondence Between Agent and Government

The following correspondence took place between the Rt. Hon. V. S. S. Sastri, Agent of the Government of India and the Minister of the Interior which speaks for itself:—

Copy of telegram dated 15th August 1928, No. 393/28 from Agent to Minister of Interior, Pretoria:

"Darban Immigration Officer requires of applicants for condonation not only completion of application form prescribed in regulations but also three impressions of each finger print which he is taking in form D. I. seven. This has taken me and everyone by surprise and caused intense alarm. We have repeatedly assured community that nothing will be required beyond completion of prescribed form and satisfactory evidence of presence here before 5th July 1924. This entirely new requirement is regarded as derogatory. Friends who have hitherto co-operated with me remember previous

widespread agitation. I fear insistence on this requirement will prove serious obstacle to progress of scheme. May I earnestly request that it be dropped. Letter follows."

Copy of letter dated 18th August 1928, No. 53/74 from Secretary for Interior, Pretoria, to Agent, Durban:—

"With reference to your telegram No. 393/28 of the 15th instant, in regard to the obtaining of finger print impressions from applicants for condonation, I have the honour to confirm my telegram No. 1967 of the 16th idem, in reply as follows:—

'Suitable instructions have been issued that only such evidence as is essential for the proper investigation of applications should be required.'

I have to add that only in those cases where the Department has no record of the applicant's presence in the Union prior to the 5th July, 1924, will impressions of all fingers be required, as they are essential for the purpose of proper inquiry into the application.

In addition, those who cannot write in English characters will be required to give thumb impressions on the form of application."

The Story of My Experiments With Truth

[BY M. K. GANDHI]

Part IV. Chapter XXVI.

THE BIRTH OF SATYAGRAHA

Events were so shaping themselves in Johannesburg, that this self-purification on my part was, as it were, a preliminary to Satyagraha. I can now see that all the principal events of my life culminating in the vow of brahmacharya were secretly preparing me for it.

The principle called Satyagraha came into being before that name was invented. Indeed when it was born, I myself could not say what it was. In Gujarati also we used the English phrase 'passive resistance' to describe it. When in a meeting of Europeans I found that the term 'passive resistance' was too narrowly construed, that it was supposed to be a weapon of the weak, that it could be characterised by hatred and that it could finally manifest itself as violence, I had to demur to all these statements and explain the real nature of the Indian movement. It was clear that a new word must be coined by the Indians to denote their struggle.

But I could not for the life of me find out a new name, and therefore offered a nominal prize through INDIAN OPINION to the reader who made the best suggestion on the point. As a result Mahatma Gandhi coined the word 'Sadagraha' (Sat-truth, Agraha firmness) and won the prize. But in order to make it clearer I changed the word to 'Satyagraha' which has since become current in Gujarati as a designation for the struggle.

The history of this struggle is for all practical purposes a history of my life in South Africa and especially of my experiments with truth in that sub-continent. I wrote the major portion of this history in Yeravada Jail and finished it after I was released. It was published in NAVAJIVAN and subsequently issued in book form. Sjt. Valji Govindji Desai has been translating it into English for CURRENT THOUGHT, but I am now arranging to have the English translation published in book form at an early date, so that those who will may

be able to familiarise themselves with my most important experiments in South Africa. I should recommend a perusal of my history of Satyagraha in South Africa to such Gujarati readers as have not seen it already. I will not repeat what I have put down there but will in the next few chapters deal only with a few personal incidents of my life in South Africa which have not been covered by that history. And when I have done with these last, I will at once proceed to give the reader some idea of my experiments in India. Therefore any one who wishes to consider these experiments in their strict chronological order will now do well to keep the history of Satyagraha in South Africa before him.

News In Brief

While going to press our attention was drawn by an esteemed correspondent to an unfortunate omission unknowingly made in INDIAN OPINION of a note on the recently reported death of the Right Hon. Sayed Ameer Ali a member of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, who was decorated for his services in the Legislative Council of India. By the death of the Rt. Hon. gentleman India has lost another illustrious son. We hope to give an account of his life in a later issue.

The Rt. Hon. Srinivasa Sastri, Agent of the Government of India, made another stirring appeal to a large audience in Maritzburg for the illicit entrants to take advantage of the Condonation Scheme a fuller report of which appears elsewhere in this issue. In the course of his remarks Mr. Sastri said: "There were ingenious people who said that the Government did not want to pardon them (the illicit entrants) but elicit a confession of names and deport them later on. He did not share this apprehension. All promises were contained in documents. All India knew about it, and England. Such an act would involve dishonour, it would be an act of treachery. This Government would not do such a dishonourable thing."

Mr. Roos the lion turns into a lamb. Addressing a meeting of the district committee of the Nationalist Party in Lichtenburg last week, Mr. Tielman Roos declared that if he were not nominated for Lichtenburg, he would consider the question of retiring from politics altogether. He had received offers to stand in other constituencies, but he preferred to contest Lichtenburg rather than to run away and fight seats in other constituencies. He felt that he was no longer strong; he had battled with the Nationalist Party in its infant stages; he had felt strong, but to-day, now that he was a member of the Government, he was continually being blamed for things which he was supposed to have done.

The Union Parliament which was prorogued until September 3 has been further prorogued until December 3.

To mark Italy's war anniversary (says a Reuter's cable from Rome) a new silver coin worth 20 lire (about 4s. 8l.) has been struck. It bears the inscription "Better to live one day as a lion than 100 years as a sheep."