

15983

# Indian Opinion

No. 1—Vol. XXIX.

Friday, January 2nd, 1931.

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

## INDIA AND BRITAIN MEET

IN its issue of November 19, *The Nation* of New York writes as follows under the above heading:—

With the convening of the Round Table Conference in London, the problem of India once more directly confronts the British Government. The actions of the Government recently in India, the discussion of India in the British press, and the resolutions on this topic at the recent conference of the British Labour Party all make it abundantly clear that Great Britain will not yield without further struggle what Gandhi and the Congress Party are demanding.

Of the Indians who are attending the Round Table Conference it would seem that some—for example, the landlords—are merely trying to preserve their own vested interests; others are holding on to the British apron strings out of affection or timidity; some, like Mr. Jinnah, think that they are going to “pin the Britishers down to something definite”; and some think that one more appeal to British idealism will solve the problem. They are weak in that they have no solid common programme to present to the British either at the conference or in future if the conference fails. But the Indian delegates are all aware, and so are the British, that the power of the Indian case lies not in declamation or argument, but in the will of Gandhi and the Congress Party. The demands of the Indian delegates are now pitched fairly high, but they are what they are because Gandhi has made still higher demands and reinforced them with action. Whatever bargaining power the Indian delegates possess depends not on their own strength but on the strength of the little man in Yerovda jail. The possible threat of the Indian delegates which will carry most weight with the British will be: “If you do not do as we ask, we shall go back and join Gandhi.” That, indeed, is the only threat available to most of them. It may not be made, but the possibility of it will be in people’s minds. The Mohammedans can also threaten to make trouble for Britain among their co-religionists in Egypt, Palestine, Iraq, Persia, and Afghanistan, but that would be such an extended line of struggle that Britain could probably defeat or out-manoeuvre the Moslems one section at a time.

According to the *Manchester Guardian Weekly* of September 19, Mr. V. S. Srinivasa Sastri, whom the British seem to respect more than any other of the Indian delegates, spoke on September 16 to the Manchester Luncheon Club about the forthcoming conference. He indicated that the Indian liberals were willing, though under protest, to allow the army in India to remain in British control. Then, referring to the new constitution for India to be

enacted by Parliament after the Round Table Conference, he said:—

If the constitution bore upon its face the right stamp, and not one of inferiority but of equality with other peoples, they (the Indian delegates and the groups they directly represent) thought they would be able to answer for the future of India not only to themselves but to the British people from whom they took it over.

Did he mean by this that in a show-down the Indian liberals would support the Government in its violent repression of the Congress men, or would only refuse all co-operation with them, or would merely try to persuade as many of them as possible to leave the Congress camp and accept the British scheme? Britain presumably would like to know the answer to these questions.

The Round Table Conference is undoubtedly designed, among other things, to enable the ruling class in England, as distinguished from the Labour Government, to estimate the character, inner dominant attitude, and purpose of those Indian spokesmen who are sufficiently attached to British rule to be willing later to try to work whatever political machinery Britain may now consider it wise to provide for India. It is intended further to help make the delegates more “reasonable,” that is, pliable to British purposes. But judging from the public utterances of various members of the Indian delegation, it may possibly have the unintended effect of making the British realise how widely and deeply the desire for freedom has permeated all classes of Indians.

Prospects that any real agreement will come out of the conference are not bright. What the unrepresented Congress Party demands, the Government will not and even cannot grant. If it yielded those demands it would fall over night. Yet those demands have wide support throughout India. If the Indian delegates, for the sake of agreement, content themselves with such relatively minor concessions as the Government can safely grant, have they any ground for hoping that the Indians will accept their bargain? If, on the other hand, they return empty-handed, the outcome will only add so much to the arguments of the Congress Party. Meanwhile the struggle proceeds. A startling Associated Press dispatch on October 30 reported that 50,000 peasants in the Bardoli district (the scene of one of the most brilliantly successful of Gandhi’s earlier non-violent campaigns) have left their homes rather than pay taxes. Though the British censorship tends to hide what is actually happening, the real struggle lies now, as it has lain from the beginning, not in London but in India.

## QUO VADIS?

**W**E Indians are notably patient, long-suffering and law-abiding. Patience we are taught to cultivate as one of the prime "paramitas" or perfections. Suffering we have ever been exhorted to bear with fortitude and to recognise its true place and its value as a mentor and purgator, while to order our lives in harmony with the Law is the root canon governing our very existence.

"Endurance," quoth the poet, "is the crowning quality, and patience all the passion of great hearts." But, endurance and patience are virtues of the brave. Servility and cowardice not infrequently masquerade in their guise and a time comes when submission ceases to be a virtue and becomes a cowardly vice. Especially is this so when the defence of a principle is involved. Acquiescence in a wrong is not a mark of the law-abiding, but of the morally blind or the coward. The principles of righteousness and freedom compel the righteous and freedom-loving to resist to the death attacks upon them. In such a cause suffering and endurance become truly sublime virtues. Of such stuff are martyrs made; to just such sacrifices is the world indebted for its progress. Not to the "good-boys" the complaisant, the unquestioning does humanity owe such advances as it has made, but to those whose loyalty to righteousness made them rebels to wrongfulness, to men (and women, pace Sir Kurma!) to whom freedom and death were dearer than slavery and life.

South Africa herself offers us a not un-instructive example. Her governments never rested until they had secured for the Union practical independence, full freedom of action, equality of status with her erstwhile conqueror. India supplies us with a still more recent example, albeit her struggle is accompanied by labour-pangs and agonies it is hard to witness unmoved. Yet she, too, must inevitably conquer, and bring to birth her progeny of a new, free, self-reliant self-determining nation.

And what of us Indians who are a unit within the larger unit of the Union? Shall we who claim to be descendants of a great civilisation, who have adapted ourselves to our South African environment, who have proved ourselves a not unworthy member of the commonwealth, shall we be content to accept the lot of the helot, to shut our

ears to the call of Freedom, to refuse to respond to the demands of Righteousness because by so doing we may receive the doubtful compliment of being called "good-boys" and the questionable reward of fewer canings and possibly even a little patronising approval? Perhaps the answer is even now being made via the Congress. Much more perhaps than we are capable of realising may turn upon what that answer shall prove to be.

## Secretaries' Annual Report

Following is the Annual Report of the Joint Hon. General Secretaries submitted to the Eleventh Session of the South African Indian Congress held in Cape Town on the 29th, 30th and 31st December, 1930:—

Mr. President and Fellow Delegates,

Your Secretaries assumed office on 27th January 1929 and at once communicated the several resolutions passed by the ninth session of the Congress to all the Ministerial Departments concerned of the Union Government.

We also conveyed the resolutions to the Agent, to the Government of India in South Africa (Sir K. V. Reddi), to the Government of India, the Imperial Indian Citizenship Association, the Indian National Congress, the Press and leaders of India, and also to sympathisers and Press in London.

The first meeting of your Executive, after the Conference, was held at Johannesburg on the 17th February 1929, at which several matters connected with the resolutions were discussed with a view to interviewing the different Ministers and presenting the views of the community as indicated in the resolutions.

A Deputation consisting of Mr. A. Christopher (President), the Joint Hon. Secretaries, S. R. Naidoo and E. M. Mall, Messrs. D. Bharoochi, S. B. Medh, O. G. Patel, A. Ismail and Khan Gool interviewed first the Acting Minister of Justice in Capetown on the 23rd February 1929.

## Liquor Act

The Deputation submitted to the Minister the resolution passed in regard to the operation of certain sections of the Liquor Act, which discriminated Indians, and especially section 102 of the Liquor Act, the application of which threw out of employment between 80 and 100 Indian waiters in wine-stewards in the Transvaal. The Minister's attention was drawn to the fact that the Magistrate in Johannesburg granted certificates of exemption to Indians affected by section 102, but subsequently they were cancelled. A strong plea was made to the Minister that pending an amendment of the section in question, relief should be given to the men, whose only means of livelihood was closed against them, with the result that their dependants were deprived of sustenance of life.

The Acting Minister replied that the Hon'ble the Minister of Justice (Mr. Roos) was away, but before he left he gave instructions for cancellation of the certificates.

Later on the Acting Minister sent a communication to the Congress to the effect that he had come to the conclusion that a good case had been made for not enforcing literally the provisions of section 102 (2) (a) of the Liquor Act in regard to Indians, who were at the commencement of the Act employed as wine-stewards. He, therefore, instructed Magistrates of the Transvaal and Orange Free State Pro-

vinces to grant letters of exemption to the Indians concerned under section 101 (3). This gave to those already employed in the Liquor trade relief, and the Congress expressed its gratitude to the Acting Minister for the relief granted.

The Indo-European Council of Johannesburg also interested itself in the matter, and made representations. The Congress is thankful to it for its co-operation.

Whilst on this subject, we desire to point out that the Liquor Act is to be amended at the next session of Parliament in January 1931. We have already communicated to the Secretary of Justice on the subject and have been informed by him that the general principles of the Law will not be reconsidered.

We are of the opinion that the Congress should lose no opportunity in asking for an amendment of section 102 (2) (a) in as much as it virtually contains the objectionable features as were contained in clause 104, which was dropped. The community has accepted the principle of the Wages Act and the Industrial Conciliation Act, and any discriminating legislation, which excludes a section of the community from the benefits of these Acts constitutes just cause for complaint, and should be altered.

### Interpreters' Salary And Witness Fees

The resolutions on these matters were thereafter submitted to Mr. Havenga. On the subject of Interpreters' salary, very strong representations were made as to the inadequacy of salary paid to Indian interpreters who were required to be qualified in several Indian languages. It was pointed out that before the consummation of the Union, Indian interpreters received up to £240 per annum, but now receive only £180 commencing with a salary of £100. Objection was submitted to the prevailing practice of employing in certain Courts Indian police constables not qualified to interpret, and therefore there was a possible risk of miscarriage of justice taking place. The Deputation referred to the recommendations made by the Public Service Commission.

The Deputation objected to the scale of witness fees based on nationality of a person and not his qualification and standing, and asked that this system be amended. The Minister replied that this involved question of finance which was a big matter.

### The Old Age Pension

The Minister of Finance told the Deputation that waited on him that it was not possible to extend the benefits of old age pensions to Indians.

### Postal Services

On the 23rd February, the Deputation waited on the Hon'ble the Minister of Posts and Telegraphs, and submitted to him the resolution on postal services. The Deputation pointed out to the Minister that discrimination at public places like post offices led to general dissatisfaction. Many instances of discrimination at post offices were given and mention was made of separation of counters at the Pine Street Post Office in Durban. The deputation urged, in case of congestion, to establish post offices in localities where there was a demand, instead of creating separate counters on racial lines. The employment of Indians in postal departments was also urged.

The Minister replied that the idea of setting up separate counters was to avoid congestion. He promised to look into the points raised by the Deputation.

As a result of representations made, the policy of segregation in setting up separate counters for non-Europeans in vogue at the Pine Street Post Office, Durban, was dropped, which gave general satisfaction to the Indian community in Durban.

## Labour

The deputation thereafter waited on the Hon'ble the Minister of Labour (Mr. Thomas Boydell) and submitted resolution asking that investigation be made into the condition of unskilled workers and to regulate their wages.

The Minister replied that the Wage Boards at present determined wages of skilled and semi-skilled workers. The wage determination made at Bloemfontein in regard to unskilled workers was due to combined representations of the Press and Natives, and it applied to all races. The Minister promised his co-operation with the Minister of Justice to see what relief could be given to the Indian employees affected by the Liquor Act.

### Railway Grievances

The deputation met the Hon'ble the Minister of Railways (Mr. O. W. Malan) and the General Manager of Railways (Mr. J. R. More) and submitted resolution on Railway grievances and gave instances of complaints of Indian passengers travelling on the Railways, and requested that a Committee of Inquiry be appointed to go into their grievances with a view to affording relief. The Minister in reply stated that they wanted to treat all passengers alike, whether white or black. He was unable to appoint a Committee of Inquiry but it would facilitate matters if complaints were brought to the notice of the Administration and any grievances connected with the Railways would receive attention.

As a result of this interview and correspondence with the Minister's Department, we are glad to be able to say that there is some improvement in the facilities and treatment meted out to Indian passengers. There is indeed room for much more improvement, and grievances suffered could only be remedied if members of the Indian community brought them to the notice of the Administration or of the Congress.

Mr. J. D. Tyson introduced the Deputation in each case and was present at the interviews.

### Transvaal Trade Question

The Deputation waited on the Hon'ble the Minister of Interior (Dr. D. F. Malan), having been introduced by the Agent. The deputation submitted the resolution bearing on the question of refusal by the municipality of Johannesburg to renew trade licences to Indians. It was pointed out to the Minister that a grave situation had arisen on the Rand by the refusal to renew trade licences to Indians. Their disabilities under Law 3 of 1885, the Gold Law and the Township Act should be removed and relief granted. The refusal of trade licences to Indians, it was pointed out, would ruin them and sound their death knell. The deputation referred to the "uplift clause" in the Capetown Agreement and argued that if Indians were expected to attain Western standards of civilisation, they should be allowed opportunities to do so. The deputation asked that the position should be regularised, and mentioned that 1300 licences plus 700 licences to hawkers and pedlars were involved at date. The Minister in reply referred to the judgments in Norwood and Braamfontein cases, and was of the opinion that a joint Parliamentary Committee should be appointed to go into the question.

This subject is further dealt with in another place of the report reviewing the situation as it developed.

### State Aided Scheme: Repatriation

We communicated the resolution on this subject to the Government of India, Indian National Congress, Mr. Sastri, Sir Pheroze Sethna, The Imperial Indian Citizenship Association and others. An important statement by Sir Mahomed Habibullah to the Imperial Indian Citizenship Association was forwarded to the Congress detailing the steps the

Government of India were taking to protect the interests of repatriates.

Statistics on the number of repatriates who availed themselves of the scheme are given in this Handbook, as also the statement by Sir Mahomed Habiullah.

### Education

The resolution passed in regard to the subject of Indian education was communicated to the authorities concerned. There has been marked improvement, especially in the Province of Natal in the educational facilities given to Indian children since it was agreed by the Natal Provincial Administration to apply the subsidy received from the Union Government for the purposes for which it was intended, namely Indian education. The opening of the Sastri College has given not only a new status but fresh impetus to Indian education.

Unfortunately an ordinance providing a Provident fund for non-European teachers was passed recently by the Natal Provincial Council revising the policy which hitherto existed and which entitled Indians to a pension. Upon objections raised by the Natal Indian Teachers' Society and Natal Indian Congress in which they had the support of the Agent, the question is being reconsidered by the Provincial Administration.

The Provincial bodies affiliated to your Congress are applying diligently to the needs of Indian education in their respective provinces. Notably in the Natal Province, a workers' class has been instituted, and recently a technical class has been formed. A summary of report on the activities of these two new features in Indian education and a copy of the Prospectus of the Commercial and Technical classes are given in this book.

In order to obtain information as to what action has been taken to give effect to the question of affording improved facilities for higher education by providing suitable hostel accommodation at the South African Native College at Fort Hare, and otherwise improving the attractiveness of that institution for Indians, communication was addressed to the Principal at Fort Hare College. The information received from him is included in this book, and we have no doubt it will be read with much interest.

### Indian Immigration Laws

With a view to taking steps to ask for a repeal of the Indian immigration laws, the Provincial bodies, especially the Natal Indian Congress, which is primarily concerned, were asked to submit their views, but as these were not forthcoming, a sub-committee from the Executive was appointed to prepare a memorandum setting forth the proposals for a repeal of the Laws. The sub-committee on a full consideration is of the opinion that the whole of the Laws should be repealed and steps should be taken to press for an early repeal of the Laws with the Interior's Department.

### Educated Entrants

A memorandum was received in June 1929 from the Union Government setting forth proposals to be adopted in regard to specially exempted educated Indians admitted to the Union, and their wives and children. This memorandum was discussed at several meetings of the Executive, which, owing to the importance of the question, referred it to the Emergency Conference held at Johannesburg on the 5th October 1930 for a decision. The Conference postponed further discussions of the proposals to this Conference. The Commissioner for Asiatic Affairs withdrew the proposals by reason of the delay in arriving at a decision but the Minister on representation made to him has given time till the 31st January next to consider the proposals and to communicate the decision of the Conference. The

correspondence on this subject is put up in this volume.

### Proposed Visit Of Ali Brothers

The refusal by the Union Government to allow Moulana Mahomed Ali to enter the Union, except under conditions which were considered to be humiliating formed the subject of correspondence between the Congress and the Agent. As soon as the incident was brought to the notice of the Congress, the Agent was written to, and interviews took place with him. Cables were, as a result of decision taken at an Executive meeting, despatched to Moulana Shankat Ali, Moulana Mahomed Ali, Mrs. Sarojini Naidu and Mahatma Gandhi explaining the situation.

The Agent here persevered in order to obtain from the Minister a relaxation of the restrictions, but all these provided of no avail. A lengthy letter was written to Moulana Shaukat Ali explaining the position, and informing him of the action of those who first approached the Minister, and accepted the terms proposed by him without demur. Subsequently Messrs. S. Rustomjee and A. I. Kajee visited the Moulana at Lourenco Marques and gave a detailed report of the action Congress took in supporting his claim to enter the Union without the irksome restrictions imposed as to his visit. Correspondence on this matter appears in this book.

### Affiliation To Indian National Congress

Previously there existed certain anomaly in regard to the recognition by the Indian National Congress of some unimportant bodies in South Africa. A revision of this has been secured, and the South African Indian Congress, the Transvaal Indian Congress and the Cape Indian Congress, has been recognised by and affiliated to the Indian National Congress as the only body representing the Indian community in South Africa.

### Proposed Trust Deed of S.A.I. Congress

The importance of establishing a capital fund, in terms of the resolution passed at the last Conference, received the attention of the Executive, and a Draft Trust Deed was drawn and circulated among the Provincial bodies, and members of, Executive, the object of which is to form a Board of members to create a Capital Fund, and operate it in the interest of and for the advancement of the causes of the community. A Draft Trust Deed is embodied in this Book, and the Conference will be invited to discuss it with a view to placing it on a working basis.

### Propaganda And Publicity Work And Quarterly Review

In view of the enormous growth of work of the Congress and the many important questions the Congress is called upon to deal with, the question of organising a plan to carry on propaganda and publicity work to publish a quarterly magazine, giving publication to Congress activities, was very often discussed by the Executive, and the provincial bodies were asked to support such a scheme. Lack of sufficient finance, coupled with apathy shown by the provincial bodies in this regard, was a discouraging factor giving effect to the scheme, but it is hoped that with the creation of a Capital fund for the Congress, a beginning will be made to set the scheme in motion.

### Trade Licences

The resolution passed at the last Conference drawing attention to the harsh and unjust administration of the existing Licensing Laws in the different parts of the Union to implement the undertaking in the Capetown Agreement to revise the existing licensing laws in the provinces was the subject of exchange of important correspondence

between the Union Government, your Congress and the Agent of the Government of India.

The Department of Interior in its letter dated 16th March 1929 places an entirely different interpretation on the clause in the Capetown Agreement dealing with the revision of the existing licensing laws in the Union from what we understood it to mean and to be. The Interior's interpretation is that "the undertaking to give all due consideration to the suggestion was to be honoured, when the time for the revision of the existing trade licensing law arrives, and as no suggestions have come from the various provincial bodies, the time for giving due consideration has manifestly not arrived." This interpretation has given to your Congress a great surprise and cause for much anxiety. Your Congress forwarded the correspondence on the subject to the Agent, the Government of India, Mahatma Gandhi, Indian National Congress, the Imperial Indian Citizenship Association, the Rt. Hon'ble V. S. S. Sastri and Sir Pheroze Sethna. The Congress discussed the position personally with the Agent, who undertook to obtain the views of the Government of India.

The Congress in the meantime sent a lengthy communication to the Department of Interior informing it that steps were being taken to ascertain from the Government of India as to what interpretation they placed upon this particular clause, and at the same time conveyed the views of the Congress to the Government of India on the clause in question. No reply has been received on this subject yet.

There can be no doubt that the interpretation placed by the Department, if it is correct, will come as a rude shock to the community, as the possibility of a Province taking the initiative in asking for a revision of the licensing laws will be very remote, and perhaps will never occur.

It is evident that until a reply is received from the Government of India to the Congress communication, no definite decision can be reached. A copy of the Agreement will be helpful to the Congress, and endeavours are being made to obtain a copy from the Agent to the Government of India.

#### The Late Lala Lajpat Rai

The resolution expressing sympathy in the sad loss to the late Mr. Lala Lajpat Rai was communicated to his family.

#### The Late Mr. Cassim Meer and Mr. Jack Moodley

Resolutions of condolence passed by the Emergency Conference in the sad loss of Mr. Cassim Meer and Mr. Jack Moodley were communicated to the families of the deceased members of the Congress.

#### The Late Mrs. Jinnah

On the death of the late Mrs. Jinnah in India, the Executive passed a resolution of condolence, which was communicated to her family.

#### Proposed Visit of Sir J. C. Bose

It was understood that Sir J. C. Bose contemplated a visit to South Africa to attend the World's Scientist Conference, and the Executive considered arrangements to welcome him, but it was learnt afterwards with regret that Sir Bose was not able to visit South Africa.

#### Condonation

In this book are given figures brought up to date kindly supplied by the Commissioner for Asiatic Affairs showing in detail the number of Indians to whom certificates were granted, the number refused,

the number of wives and children of persons affected by the Condonation Scheme, who are already in the Union, and the number of wives and minor children who are resident in India, and against whom the restrictions to enter the Union operate. It will be remembered that due to representations made on the question of allowing wives and children affected to join their husbands in the Union, the Hon'ble Minister gave a promise to consider it when the final figures were available. The matter so far as the Congress is concerned is still undecided, and further representations to the Minister are to be made.

#### Delegates To Indian National Congress

The Executive authorised the following gentlemen to represent your Congress as delegates to the Indian National Congress held at Lahore in 1929, namely, Messrs. E. M. Ally, M. M. Gandhi, Swami Bwani Dayal, C. G. Patel and A. M. Bhayat.

#### Agricultural and Industrial Shows and Indian Trade Union Congress

The resolutions as passed by the Conference on this matter were communicated to the Natal Indian Congress.

#### Agricultural School

The resolution on this subject was communicated to the Trustees of the Phoenix Settlement, as also to Mahatma Gandhi, and Mr. Manilal Gandhi. Correspondence passed on this subject and a copy of the Trust Deed of the Phoenix Settlement are put up herewith for the information of the Conference.

#### Travelling Accommodation on Steamships

This resolution with others was communicated to the authorities in India, and to the Imperial Indian Citizenship Association. A letter received from the Imperial Indian Citizenship Association appears in the book. The matter remains to be pursued further.

#### The Transvaal Indian Situation

[The Secretaries have reviewed the situation in the Transvaal up to date in detail. As we have published all the reports of the situation we have thought it better not to repeat it.—Ed. I.O.]

#### Emergency Conference

The critical situation in which the Transvaal Indian community was placed, due to the drastic nature of the Bill, necessitated the convening of an Emergency Conference, which was held at Johannesburg on 5th and 6th October 1930. Your Congress assisted in gathering relevant materials, and a book was published giving a text of the Bill, with criticisms thereon, and other valuable information bearing on the situation.

The Agent and his Staff were present at the Conference.

The Emergency Conference, recognising the the immediate danger which threatened the life and the very existence of the Transvaal Indian community, by the Bill, examined each provision of the Bill, and passed a resolution in the following terms:—

"That this Emergency Conference of the South African Indian Congress held in Johannesburg on the 5th and 6th October 1930, at which are represented the Natal Indian Congress, the Transvaal Indian Congress and the Cape British Indian Council, representing the Indian community in South Africa, views with grave apprehension and alarm the Transvaal Asiatic Tenure (Amendment) Bill, which it solemnly declares as wholly unacceptable to the Indian community on the following grounds, viz:—

.....  
.....

.....  
.....

- (a) That the Bill is a violation both in letter and spirit of the Cape Town Agreement.
- (b) That it imposes disabilities upon Indians in regard to their trade, residence and occupation, and deprives them of their vested rights in the Transvaal Province, and
- (c) that it aims, at their compulsory segregation and their ultimate ruin in that Province.

This Conference therefore respectfully urges upon the Union Government to withdraw the said Bill and to introduce necessary legislation giving relief to the Indians in that Province.

That in the event of the Union Government declining to withdraw the Bill, notwithstanding the protest of the community, this Conference earnestly requests the Government of India to press for a Round Table Conference to review the situation that has arisen affecting Indians in the Transvaal. In the event of the Government of India failing to secure a Round Table Conference aforementioned, this Congress further requests it to intimate to the Union Government that diplomatic relations between the two Governments should be considered to have ceased, and to withdraw its Agency in South Africa as a protest against the Bill."

This resolution was communicated to the Agent of the Government of India, the British Government, General Hertzog, Mr. N. O. Havenga, (then in London) Maharaja of Bikaner, Sir Mahomed Shafi, Mr. V. S. S. Sastri, Mr. G. S. Bajpai, Mr. H. S. L. Polak, the Press in London, and the shipping representatives, and also to the Imperial Indian Citizenship Association, and the Press of India.

The influential Press of India passed strong criticisms on the Bill, and expressed the view that the Government of India should lose no time in making representations to the Union Government.

### Immigration And Domicile

The new situation that has arisen in regard to the refusal by Commissioner to issue D.I. forms and Certificates of Identity to certain domiciled Indians was fully discussed and a resolution was passed protesting against the unsympathetic administration of Immigration Laws.

### Deputation To Dr. Malan

In pursuance of the resolutions passed at the Emergency Conference a Deputation consisting of Mr. A. Christopher, Messrs. S. R. Naidoo and E. M. Mall, Joint Hon. Secretaries, South African Indian Congress, Mr. I. B. Patel, Treasurer, South African Indian Congress, and Messrs. S. B. Medh, Jösbub Ebrahim, Hajee Cassim Adam, A. I. Kajeo, A. D. Motala P. R. Pather and Sorabjee Rustomjee, met the Honourable the Minister of Interior at Pretoria on the 7th November. The Deputation was introduced by the Hon. E. Baring, in the absence, owing to illness, of Sir K. V. Reddi.

A statement was submitted to the Minister, which forms part of this volume.

In regard to the Transvaal Asiatic Bill, the Minister intimated that as the measure was before the Parliament, he was unable to receive a Deputation, much less agree to discuss the Bill.

The Minister, however, intimated that representatives of the Government of India were holding informal conversations with General Hertzog and Mr. N. G. Havenga, and that the conversations were still being continued.

In regard to the question of refusal to issue D.I. 91 and O.I. to certain domiciled Indians, the Deputation very strenuously protested against the new procedure adopted by the Commissioner and gave several instances of hardship. The Minister was unmoved, and was not able to give relief.

### Natal Banana Industry

The Deputation interviewed the members of Board of Trade in Pretoria and discussed with them the hardships that faced Indian farmers who grew bananas in Natal, owing to the absence of protection to this industry and the preferential treatment given to Delagoa Bay Banana growers. The Deputation urged that duty be imposed on banana as imported from Loureico Marques into the Union, and the preferential rate of railage given to them be removed, so as to give protection to products grown in the Union. The Board of Trade sympathetically considered the matter, and promised to examine the position after collecting all information thereon.

### Government Of India On The Transvaal Asiatic Bill

The Secretary of the Imperial Indian Citizenship Association, due to cables sent from our Congress, interviewed Sir Fazil Hussein, member of Government of India, by whom an important statement was made detailing the steps that were being taken in regard to the Transvaal Asiatic Bill. This statement is included in this volume for the information of the Conference.

### Finance

Financial Statement and report by the Treasurers are submitted to the Conference. We desire to deal with one phase of finance. Lack of ready funds made it difficult for us to carry on the work of the Congress to accomplish all that we intended to accomplish and in carrying out all the directions of the Conference as reflected in the several resolutions passed by it early in 1929. Much we desired to have done remained undone and Congress work suffered to a certain extent for this reason.

### Rev. C. F. Andrews

The Congress was immediately gratified to learn of the news of the visit of Mr. C. F. Andrews in response to the call of anguish by the community. He is with us this morning to assist us, to guide us, and to join us in our struggle to avert the danger that is looming largely in the horizon. His presence at this gathering will, we are sure, encourage us, and stimulate our spirit and give added strength to our determination to refuse to agree to, nor to accept any status of inferiority, as a race, that may be thrust upon us. The Indian community in South Africa owes a debt of deep gratitude to Mr. Andrews for the work he is ever doing for us.

### Thanks

Last, but not least, we desire to express our sincere thanks to members of the Executive, and also to the officials of the affiliated bodies. We are sure that but for their assistance and co-operation, we could not have made a measurable progress with our work as Secretaries.

(Sgd.) S. R. NAIDOO & E. M. MALL,  
Joint Hon. Gen. Secretaries.

### Market Agents. KING WILLIAMS TOWN.

We do not make rash promises, but deliberately assert that any produce entrusted to our care will be realised at full current Values.

Give us a trial, PROCTOR and BURTON  
(Agents to Market Master) P.O. Box 142,  
King Williams Town.



## The Pretoria Branch Of The Transvaal Indian Congress

In order to protest against the New Asiatic (Draft) Regulations of the Municipal Council of Pretoria, the Standholders Association of the Asiatic Bazaar, Pretoria, convened a general meeting in the Bazaar on the 14th December 1930. As a result of this meeting and a subsequent meeting, the above Congress came under re-election in the Bombay Star Bioscope in the presence of a very large gathering on Sunday the 21st December. For the position of Chairman, Messrs. Shaikh Ahmed and N. M. Ayob were proposed. On a vote, Shaikh Ahmed was elected by a large majority. He thanked the meeting and said it was a great honour conferred on him, and he realised the responsibility of the position and he would perform his duties to the best of his abilities in an equitable manner, and eagerly looked forward for the community's co-operation. Mr. Ayob, in congratulating Mr. Shaikh Ahmed, said that the right man was chosen, as he was doing good work continuously for many years, and that he would heartily give him support. He fully expected the community would also give its united support in all his undertakings in the interests of the public.

Vice-Presidents: Moosa Ebrahim, Dawood Omar, Cassim Ally, V. S. Pillay, E. I. Theba and N. Naidoo. Hon. Joint Secretaries: P. Naidoo and V. M. Moodley. Hon. Treasurers: H. N. Keshavjee and Amud Sullimen. Executive: A. B. Keshavjee, E. Mohideen, C. T. Pillay, V. A. Navagan, M. Sedie, M. J. Keshavjee, P. Krishna and Rajabali, V. Keshavjee, and Ismail Lajpoot. Auditor: Dawood Omar. Delegates to South African Indian Congress: Shaikh Ahmed, P. Naidoo, V. M. Moodley and Rajabali V. Keshavjee.

## Church's Attitude To Native Policy

A Renter's message from Capetown states:—  
The Episcopal Synod of the Church of the Province of South Africa has issued the following official statement on native policy:—

We Bishops of the Church of the Province of South Africa issue this statement in the conviction that we can best help our country by calling attention to certain Christian principles which we believe to be vital in any just handling of racial problems.

In this matter we have no political bias; we desire to give all the help we can to those in authority and will gladly support any policy which is clearly based on what we conceive to be the principles revealed in the life and the teaching of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The only solution of our problems, continues the statement, that can stand the test of time and prove permanently satisfying to the consciences of men lies in the frank acceptance of his will to all who own him as lord and master. We address this appeal in the hope that they will make it a matter of constant prayer, in as much as we are convinced that it is only through that we can learn what He would have us do.

Our basic principles are two:

As Christians, we believe in freedom and justice for all.

History teaches how great is the temptation to dominant races to seek their own supposed advantage

by overriding the rightful claims of the weak or from motives of fear to hold down subject races by methods of repression. Such policies, as history again shows, "are self-defeating and recoil on the heads of those who employ them," to quote the report of the Lambeth conference.

### Interests Alike

The interests of the various sections of the community are one and indivisible. Therefore any attempt to govern in the interests of a section of the people of one colour must in the end lead to disaster. The more discontent is driven underground, the greater one day will be the explosion. Our task is to convince the world that co-operation, as taught in the New Testament, is not only sound christianity but sound political, economic and social economy. We take our stand on the principles of our religion as revealed in the Holy Scriptures rather than on the grounds of expediency. God is the Father of all; man was made in the image and after the likeness of God; Christ came to redeem all men and to make them sons of God and heirs of eternal life.

He was ever the friend of the poor, the outcast and the oppressed. Therefore every man, of whatever race or colour, is of definite worth in the sight of God. To deny this would be to reject the very gospel which Christ came to proclaim. But if it is true no follower of Christ can, without the gravest presumption, thwart or check the progress of even the least of God's children nor deny to them the opportunity for the fullest development of which they are capable. We believe that the rights to full citizenship in any country are not dependent on race or colour, but on men's fitness to discharge responsibilities which such citizenship involves.

On the one hand, the principle of trusteeship forbids that the determining voices in the Government should be given to those who are still uncivilised and ignorant. On the other hand, it requires full recognition that, as individuals and peoples progress, the trusteeship should pass into partnership. Further, as the Lambeth conference has declared, "the filling of one race by another can only be justified from the Christian standpoint when the highest welfare of the subject race is the constant aim of the Government, and when admission to the increasing share in the government of the country is the objective steadfastly pursued." This ideal cannot be attained in a moment, but the duty of preparing its people of every race and colour through education and every other uplifting influence for fuller exercise of responsibilities of citizenship is one which no Christian nation can ignore.

### Christian Standpoint

Finally, we would emphasise again the imperative need of regarding from a definitely Christian standpoint all questions which concern relations between different races. In our land the only policy which can succeed or survive is that which is in accord with the will of God. Unfortunately the economic pressure of modern life is so severe that most people, even though they profess and call themselves Christians, have grown accustomed to live their lives in compartments and to resent the intrusion of religion into politics or business or ordinary social relationships; but the task of the Church is to multiply the number of persons whose relations with their fellows are governed by respect and reverence for the individuality of others because they have learned to see them in relation to the purpose of God."

### Racial Issues

In South Africa we stand facing a complex of racial issues of more delicate and difficult character than exist anywhere else. How can we help being afraid? The answer surely is to be found in Christ's words, "Fear not, only believe." Faith is both a nobler and safer guide than fear. Just because our problem is so vast and intricate, we have unique opportunities of manifesting that "righteousness which exalteth a nation" in so far as in our legislation and in all our dealings with the native, coloured and Indian peoples in our midst we strive to act as our Lord would have us act. We shall bring in a new era of stability, unity and peace—true signs of a nation's greatness.

### Estcourt Notes And News

[BY JAMES AUGUSTINE]

The Indian Recreation Ground is in excellent condition now and six matches have already been played on it.

A few Estcourt players stand a fair chance to represent the Northern District Indian Cricket Union against Maritzburg in the Intertown Match.

Mr. A. G. Naridoo is spending his Christmas vacation in Maritzburg.

Mr. Patrick James of Estcourt is spending Christmas with his parents at Ladysmith.

The Estcourt C.C. will play the Schools C.C. (Paudays Shield) on the 4th January 1931 at Ladysmith.

### Pretoria Asiatic Bazaar Regulations

(Under Section 10 of the Municipal Amending Ordinance No. 17 of 1905 (Transvaal) and Section 10 of the Municipal Amending Ordinance No. 26 of 1906 (Transvaal))

(Continued from last week)

#### BAZAAR REGISTERS

25. The Superintendent shall keep in a form to be prescribed by the Council a register of all persons to whom site permits, residential permits, lodgers permits and building permits are from time to time issued by him and shall set out in such register the date and period of the permit the name and occupation of every such person and the name, sex, age and occupation (if any) of each member of his family and of his bona fide domestic servants (if any) residing with him and shall specify the number of the lot in respect of which the permit was issued and the buildings or erections situate thereon, and the number of persons allowed to inhabit such buildings together with particulars of the amount of annual rent payable by such person and the date and number of each receipt issued to such person in respect of all rentals paid by him.

There shall also be set out and recorded in the said Register similar particulars to those above specified in respect of all leases or other tenancies or rights of occupation granted in respect of all lots

set aside by the Council under Regulations 15 and 16 of these Regulations and of the persons employed upon such lots.

The Superintendent shall further record in the aforesaid Register full particulars of all transfers of any Permits or leases or other rights of occupancy as well as of all permits granted by him in respect of any sub-tenancy or sub-letting. The said Register shall constitute the Register in which all leases and any cessions thereof shall be registered in terms of section 10 of sub-section (2) of Ordinance 26 of 1906.

#### INFORMATION TO BE AFFORDED

26. It shall be the duty of every occupier in a Bazaar to afford to the Superintendent such full information as he may require from time to time for the purpose of keeping and entering up the Register prescribed under the preceding Regulation No. 25 of these regulations and any person who when requested by the Superintendent shall wilfully fail or refuse to afford such information shall be guilty of a breach of these Regulations.

#### RIGHTS OF REGISTRAR OF ASIATICS

27. The Registrar of Asiatics shall at any time have access to any Bazaar and may enquire into any complaint against the Council or any other person which any resident upon or occupier of any lot in such Bazaar may make or which may have been reported to him or otherwise brought to his notice.

The Superintendent shall produce to the Registrar of Asiatics whenever requested by him so to do the Register prescribed under Regulation 25 for the purpose of inspection by that officer who may make copies of the same or any portion thereof and shall further afford the Registrar of Asiatics all such further reasonable information as to the conditions, population and management of any Bazaar and the administration of these Regulations as the Registrar of Asiatics shall require.

#### RECORD OF REFUSAL OF PERMITS

28. The Superintendent shall keep a record of the names of the persons whose applications for Site Permits, Residential Permits, Building Permits and Lodgers Permits or for renewals thereof or for leases or other rights to occupy lots set aside under Regulations 15 and 16 of these Regulations have been refused and the reasons for each such refusal and shall periodically and not less than once in every year submit a copy of such record to the Council and such record shall be available for inspection at all reasonable times by the Registrar of Asiatics.

#### PAYMENT OF RENT AND CHARGES

29. Every person holding a Site Permit, Residential Permit, Building Permit, Lodgers Permit or lease of or other right to occupy a lot set aside under Regulations 15 and 16 of these Regulations shall pay to the Council such sums by way of rent, charges for water, rubbish removal and sanitary health medical and other services as may be fixed in a tariff to be framed from time to time by the Council and approved of by the Minister and all such sums shall be payable monthly in advance to the Superintendent or other officer of the Council appointed to receive the same on or before the seventh day of each calendar month.

#### PERSON IN DEFAULT MAY BE EJECTED

30. Any person failing or refusing to pay any sum for which he is liable under these Regulations within fourteen days from the date on which such

.....  
.....

.....  
.....



sum becomes due and payable may be ordered in writing by the Superintendent to forthwith vacate the lot in any Bazaar upon which he resides or which he may occupy for trading business or other purposes and any person failing to comply with such order shall be guilty of an offence and the Court in addition to any penalty may make an order for the ejection of such person from any aforesaid lot. Any Permit or Lease or other right of occupancy which any person aforesaid may hold under these Regulations shall forthwith and ipso facto be cancelled upon the Superintendent ordering any such person to vacate any aforesaid lot as above mentioned.

ABANDONED SITES OR DWELLINGS

31. If any person leaves or abandons any lot upon which he resides or carries on any trade or business or otherwise occupies for a period of three months or more without the written consent of the Superintendent the Council shall have the right to cancel the permit lease or other right of occupancy granted to such person in which event as also in the event of any occupier being ejected under the preceding Regulation 30 hereof the Council shall be entitled to remove and cause to be sold at public auction any improvements, buildings or erections or other property whatsoever found on any such aforesaid lot and after deducting the amount of any rent and other charges or amounts due or owing to it by any such aforesaid person together with all expenses incurred by reason of any such removal or disposals shall hand the balance of the proceeds (if any) to the said person where possible and otherwise to the Registrar of Asiatics

on such person's behalf provided that the Council shall give fourteen days notice in writing of its intention to exercise the aforesaid right granted to it under this Regulation which notice shall be served where possible on the person concerned and otherwise by attaching a copy of such notice to the main door of the dwelling or other building or erection situate on the lot in question.

SUITABLE PRIVIES TO BE PROVIDED

32. Every holder of a Site Permit, Residential Permit or lease or other right of occupancy of a lot or lot set aside under Regulations 15 and 16 of these Regulations shall if and when required by the Medical Officer of Health of the Council or the Superintendent acting under its instructions erect on his lot a suitable privy or closet and shall keep the same clean and in good order and repair and shall further conform to the general sanitary by-laws and regulations of the Council for the removal of night soil from such privy or closet.

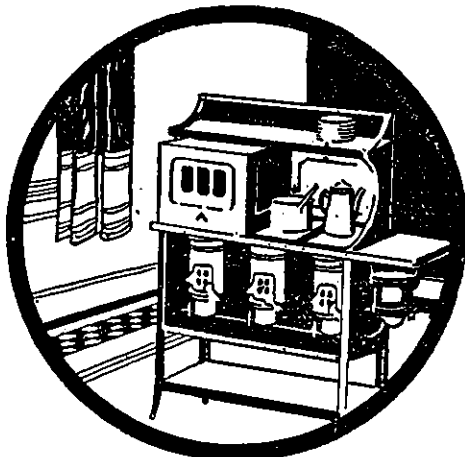
(To be Continued)

Lectures Cancelled

The several lectures that were arranged by the M. K. Gandhi Library Committee and which were to be delivered by the lecturers of the Sastri College in the Library Hall, have now been cancelled owing to the poor attendance of the public at the last three lectures.

" *The crinoline kitchen*  
*has had its day —*  
*your stove must be modern* "

says the Perfection Lady



CONSIDER a Perfection Stove for instance. You light it—cook what you want—and turn it out. It's clean and cool, and wastes no time—heat—or oil. LAUREL PARAFFIN, the correct oil to use in the Perfection Stove, gives perfect cooking heat at one penny per hour per burner.



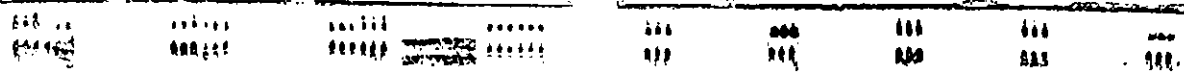
Buy your Laurel Paraffin in the new refillable drum. and save pence per gallon.

PERFECTION

Oil Cook Stoves

"ONE PENNY PER HOUR PER BURNER."

VACUUM OIL COMPANY OF SOUTH AFRICA, LIMITED



# હિન્દીઅન આપિનિઅન.

પુસ્તક ૨૯ છે.

શુક્રવાર, તારીખ ૨ ઓગસ્ટ ૧૯૩૭

પૃષ્ઠ ૧

## નોંધ અને સમાચાર

### હિન્દીઅન એક્સપ્રેસ હિન્દીઅની મંદક

મહાત્મા ગાંધીની હિન્દીઅન એક્સપ્રેસ હિન્દીઅની મંદક આવી પહોંચ્યા છે. આમ કાલેજ આફ્રિકન મંદીઅન કોન્ગ્રેસમાં હિન્દી આપી પોતે પોતાના કામે વળગી ગયા છે. કોન્ગ્રેસમાં હિન્દીઅન એક્સપ્રેસ મંદક પડ્યા હતા તે માટે કાંઈને સ્થાન રહેતું નથી. જેમ તેઓ આપણને મિત્ર હિન્દીઅન આવી છે તેમ આપણે પણ તેઓને દરેક રીતે મદદરૂપ થવું જોઈએ. તેઓ પોતાના વખતને ભાગ આપીને પોતાના કાર્યમાં માથું મદદ લા ઠીકી કામે આપવા પડે. સમાજ કામ કેમ સંજોગ મંદક પડે તે તરફ હિન્દી કામ પુરવું આને આપણે એવી અને ઉમેરે રાખીએ છીએ.

શ્રી. આ. ઇન્ડિઅન કોન્ગ્રેસ

શ્રી. આ. ઇન્ડિઅન કોન્ગ્રેસની ૧૧ મી બેઠક ગયા સોમવાર અધ્યક્ષના ગ્રીટી ગ્રેડની વચ્ચે ઇપટાઈનમાં આના એક સેવરન્ડ જે. એસ. લુઈસના હાથે પુલ્લી મુક્તિમાં આપી હતી. જેમાં નાટાલ, ટ્રાન્સવાલ અને ઇપટાઈનના ડેલીગેટોએ હાજરી આપી હતી. આને હિન્દી કોન્ગ્રેસને એક કે સર કુર્મી રીડી અને હિન્દીઅન એક્સપ્રેસ પણ હાજરી આપી હતી. કોન્ગ્રેસે પણ દીવસ બાદ હવે પોતાના કામ પુરું કર્યું છે તેના સંપૂર્ણ હેવાલ અને અમારા આવતા અંગેની આપણે જાણ કરવા અન્ય સ્થળે સેક્રેટરીઓને રીપોર્ટ આપે આપી છે તે ઉપરથી સાલિય આફ્રિકાની હિન્દી કામ જોઈ શકાય કે કોમિસ હિન્દી કામની કેટલી સેવા બાબતી રહી છે.

**“હિન્દીઅન આપિનિઅન”**  
શુક્રવાર, તારીખ ઓગસ્ટ ૨ ૧૯૩૭

હિન્દીઅનનો પૈયજ મુકતી માટે હાલમાં નાલી રહેલી પવીન બહત કર કરવા આગમજ મહાત્મા ગાંધી મહાત્માની હિન્દીઅનની પ્રેમને શાંતિમય બહતને મહુર વાણી મારે કળેવા માટે જે ઉત્તમ સાહીબ બપી કાલું હતું અને પરખર તો જેની અસરથી આજે હિન્દીઅનની પ્રેમ કોમિસીની હાજરી અમર પણ નાપુલા વગરના વહાણે આપણે પોતાની કોલા માતી કીરતી સ્વતંત્રતાને કીનારે હાજી રહી છે, એના મુશ્કરનો હાથ નથી એમ કહેવાની કાણ હીમત કરી શકશે? કોલેજમાં મહાત્માએ આબની બહતને માટે બપેલા સાહીબમયી સમને અનુસરવા કેટલાક પવીન વાઠયો બને રહ્યું કરવા અમર પણ પડી અમર મારી તેઓના પોતાના અર્થમાં આપણે વાઠયો રહ્યું કરીએ છીએ.

મહાત્માએ કહે છે કે “સલામત એવું યુગ છે કે જો તે સર્વમાન્ય થાય તો તે સમાજના આંદરશીમાં પરીવર્તન કરે, અમ નીરંકુશ અસ્તિ તર તથા સદા વધતા બતા લીલાયક લાપની નાક કરે.”

“પ્રથમ અમારે શાંતિ સંલને સારું દુઃખ લોખપવા તિવાર હોય છે, કારે ખરી સત્તા સરકારની નથી પણ અજાની છે.”

“સલામત અમર છે, મર્યા સુધી સંલને સારું અમારે ક્રીક પણ તેવાર હોય આ સુધી સંલની સામે કરોડાનું કળ હોય તોપણ પેલા સંલને અમ છે, એવું મુશ્કર વખત છે. તેને અપવાદ નથી.”

“કેવળ સમવડને અંતર યમી પમિ ગણાય છે. સંલને બાબત પછી હાંસા કરે, તે સંલને છેડે. સંલને બાબત પછી એ બબીવાર કરે, તો સુરબ છતાં અધારાની હસ્તી માન્યા એવું થયું. આવા સુધ સંલનું સંપૂર્ણ પોલન કરેતાર એક માણસ પછે મીકીની પેડે તો સ્વરાબ્ય મેલે, કમકે તે કહે તે સહુને માનવું પડે. સુરબનો પ્રકાશ કંઈ બવારનો નથી પડેતા. સેલ સ્વયં પ્રકાશ છે અને સ્વયંસીદ છે. એવું સલામત અમ વીપમ કાળને વીપે કઠણ છે, પણ અમરમ નથી એ હું બાલુ છું. આવા સંલને આગ્રહી આપણે થોડું પણ અંશે થઈએ તો સ્વરાબ્ય મેળવીએ એવાં સંલનો સખત આગ્રહી આપણે થોડા પછે થઈએ તોયે મેળે; પણ આપણે શાંતિ હોવા જોઈએ. સંલને બાદે સંલની હોજ નહીં આવે.”

જેમ દુખમાં કમી પડે તો દુખ પણ મેલું કહેવાય તેમ નીરંકુશ વચની સાથે અસંલ હાજી તો નીરંકુશ વચનોની મેલ કીમત પટે એટલે શોપીત વચને સારું સંલ જોખવેની પડે છે, એટલું જ નહીં પણ નીરંકુશ વસ્તુ પણ શોપીતના મેળ મેળથી શોપીતમાં અમે છે.

સ્વાબ્ય પ્રામીની પ્રવૃત્તિના ધમ વસ્ત્રો આપણે અધ સંલનું સેવન કરતા મેલ બહમ એવી મારી મહત્વની કાલા છે

સલામત એટલે અમદાઓની સવીન્ય અમ કરવો એટલું જ નહીં છે તેલ સંલોઅઈ મિલ્કોઅ નથી. કોમિસીની સેવીન્ય અમ આવી અર્થ છે કોમી સંકોગ્રહની સંખત કલમી છે ખરી પણ જેલે કાપલા પાળી બાબત છે તેમ અમવાની કળ મેલ છે. જે બહુ સાધી બહુ તિજ તેડવાના હકદાર થઈ શકે. સ્વદેશી એ સલામત છે. તેવું પાલન, તેનો પ્રચાર કાચર આ પુરવોવા ન થઈ શકે. હિન્દી મુસલમાન વચ્ચેના આધવાને એ કાચરથી ન મેળવી શકાય. મુસલમાન હિન્દીને કે હિન્દી-મુસલમાનને અંબર ભેકે તે આઈ લેવી અને શાંત મઈ