

Indian Opinion

No. 9—Vol. XXXI.

Friday, March 3rd, 1933

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

NOTES AND NEWS

THE Coalition negotiations have at last terminated with the result that the Prime Minister (General Hertzog) and the Leader of the Opposition (General Smuts) have decided to co-operate in forming a Government with a view to working together on a basis of more or less equal participation and upon agreed principles, so that while the identity of their respective parties is retained there may be cordial co-operation between members of the Government along agreed lines of national policy. The principles agreed upon consist of the following points:—

PRINCIPLES AND SPIRIT OF GOVERNMENT.—The Government of the country shall be conducted on a basis of national principles in a spirit of South African national independence in harmony with our sovereign independent status as confirmed by the Statute of Westminster.

MAINTENANCE OF THE UNITARY BASIS AND THE FLAG OF THE UNION.—The unitary basis of a united South Africa shall be maintained intact as laid down in the South Africa Act; and no authority or right in conflict therewith or capable of being applied in conflict therewith shall be granted to any province or provinces. The authority and power of the Union shall continue to be symbolised by our own independent National Flag.

EQUAL LANGUAGE RIGHTS.—Equal language rights in respect of the Afrikaans-speaking and English-speaking sections of the population shall in practice, in so far as the State is concerned therewith, be exercised and maintained in all respects and in every part of our national life within the Union.

CARE FOR AGRICULTURE.—While the interests of the various sections of the population will all equally enjoy the attention and the care of the Government, the maintenance and welfare of a healthy rural population will be the subject of a special effort and application.

STANDARD OF LIVING AND CIVILISED LABOUR POLICY.—The South African worker will have assured to him a proper standard of living, and the Government will continue the existing civilised labour policy.

THE NATIVE QUESTION.—An earnest attempt will be made to arrive at a satisfactory solution of the Native question along lines which, without depriving the Native of his right of development, set in the foreground the requirements of white civilisation and provide for separate political representation of white and black.

To this end the discussions of the Joint Select Committee on the representation of Natives, and so on, shall be expedited so that the necessary legislation may be brought before Parliament as soon as possible.

PROTECTION OF CURRENCY AND OF CAPITAL ASSETS AND OF RESERVES INTENDED FOR DEVELOPMENT.—The Government will take steps for the maintenance of confidence in the economic future of the Union by the protection of our currency as well as of capital assets and resources which serve to promote the development and progress of our country and its population.

The above points were placed before the Nationalist Party and the South African Party caucuses. They were unanimously agreed to by the South African Party caucus, but there was strong opposition in the Nationalist caucus. There were several Ministers under the leadership of Dr. Malan (Minister of the Interior) who opposed but their number is gradually dwindling.

UNION Parliament has been adjourned and a General Election will be held in May and will be immediately preceded by a reconstruction of the existing Cabinet according to a statement made by

the Prime Minister in the House of Assembly. The Cabinet will be composed of twelve Ministers. Out of the six Nationalist Ministers one shall be the Prime Minister. Out of the six S.A.P. one shall hold a position next in rank to the Prime Minister.

Mr. Tielman Roos has announced his intention of not standing for Parliament this election. He has decided once again not to take further part in politics unless called on again to assist in some "great and necessary movement."

THE number of our doctors is fast increasing. Dr. A. R. W. Gabriel will be the third to arrive this year. He arrives in Durban on Sunday. Dr. Gabriel has qualified in Edinburgh, taking the M.B., Ch.B., at the University. We welcome Dr. Gabriel back to these shores and wish him every success in his future career.

DR ALAM one of the prominent Congress leaders in India who was recently released from prison owing to his ill health was to have presided over the East Africa Indian Congress at Nairobi. But the Chief Commissioner of that place has prevented him from entering Kenya under the immigration laws. This is quite unjust, writes the *Modern Review*, and not warranted by the immigration laws. For, though Dr. Alam was a prisoner, it was for a technical political offence that he was sent to jail, and section 2 of the immigration regulation plainly lays down that "this provision shall not apply to offences of a political character not involving any moral turpitude." Mrs. Sorojini Naidu, who also has been a political prisoner, presided over the East African Indian Congress, not only without any harm to anybody resulting therefrom, but with excellent results. Just now, there are some unfortunate differences among the members of the Indian community in East Africa. Dr. Alam's presence in their midst and his advice and exhortations would have contributed greatly to the restoration of amicable feelings and unity. There may, of course, be people who do not want any such thing.

A very pleasant function took place last Saturday afternoon at 3-30 at Verulam when the opening ceremony of a Tennis Court made by Messrs. Choonilal Bros., was performed by the Resident Magistrate Mr. H. Sangmeister. The Tennis Court was the first of its kind owned by Indians in that town. The gathering was representative of Indian and European sportsmen and others who had come from as far as Durban and Tongaat. Many speeches were made congratulating Messrs. Choonilal Bros. for taking a keen interest in sports and for their magnificent enterprise. Appreciation was expressed by Indian speakers to European friends who had graced the function by their presence and to Mr. Sangmeister for having so kindly consented to perform the opening ceremony of the Tennis Court. After Mr. Sangmeister had formally declared the Court open anxious players took possession of the Court those present watching the game with keen interest. The guests were served with tea and light refreshments.

COURSE TO THEIR COUNTRY

A REPORT is reproduced elsewhere in this issue of a lecture delivered at the Royal United Services Institution, London, by Mr. James Stuart, a former assistant commissioner for Native Affairs in South Africa, on the Native question. There are Natives in South Africa fit to sit by any European of high standing and equal him, if not surpass him, in intellect. We feel sure, therefore, that they are well able to defend their own case. But we have something in common with the Natives. We are an oppressed people in South Africa, being brown in complexion, and Natives are an oppressed people, being black. Our sympathy is, therefore, mutual. But our sympathy towards the Natives is more because they are, after all, a helpless people being backward yet both educationally and economically. We are better off in that respect and we have the strength of India behind us. No matter if she is not able to assert herself at present, the day is not far off when she will be able to do so effectively. Our sympathy, therefore, goes to the down-trodden Native and we feel guilty in sitting quiet when an injustice is done them. Mr. Stuart has afforded us the occasion to speak out our mind in their favour.

There are some Englishmen, it pains us to say frankly, who are a curse to their country. They seem to think that by uttering anything that comes to their lips they are doing a service to their country and their people, but they are really doing the greatest disservice. It is not perceived owing to blindness caused by pride of power. It might not be perceived perhaps until doomsday but history will tell its sad tale as it has indeed done in the past. Mr. Stuart is one of the type of men we have described above. His utterance on the Native question will tend to do more harm than good to his country. He has dared to say things about the Natives which he would not dare to say if he knew that the millions of Natives had any power behind them. He knows that they have none, he has been accustomed to treat them with contempt, we presume, during his office in this country, and so he has allowed himself to insult their intelligence.

If the Natives feel any attachment to the British people it is certainly not due to the treatment they receive from the white people generally in this country. It is due to the affection they receive from the few honourable exceptions in that race here and to the hospitality they receive when they go to the Mother Country. Mr. Stuart's countrymen in South Africa have certainly not set a very noble example to the Natives by their profession of Christianity for their behaviour is quite contrary to the teachings of Christ; nor is their social or moral standard such as would attract any true Christian. When Mr. Stuart spoke of the polygamistic surroundings of the black man, his scantiest garb, he presumably did not realise he was himself living in a glass house. Against the black man's polygamistic surroundings one could, perhaps, point out, to the hundreds of divorce cases occurring among the white men daily and to the public houses run by the white man's support—an institution unknown to the Natives until the white man's civilisation was brought to them. To talk of the black man's scanty

garb one would like to know who is the guiltier in this respect, the white man or the black. There is more public criticism directed against the mode of dressing of the white women than of the black men or women. And as to the beer-drinking who has encouraged the black man to indulge in it. It is again the white man. The black man that goes overseas is not addicted to any of the evils referred to by Mr. Stuart. But what hurt Mr. Stuart, apparently, was the loving hospitality the black man received from Mr. Stuart's countrymen in the Mother Country as against the kicks he received from them in this country. Mr. Stuart has given rather a bad testimony to the Native Affairs Department as an institution supposed to look after the interests of Natives in this country. Whatever Mr. Stuart may say he will learn perhaps when it is too late that it is love which will pay in the long run and not kicks.

A PLEA AGAINST DESECRATION

(By L. W. RITCH)

"We are of the opinion that it is a sin to work in the interests of a community which is prepared to sink to that depth.

"Such a community should be left severely alone to reap the fruits of its own deeds."

(INDIAN OPINION, 27th January, 1933.)

When recently the Agent General sounded the writer concerning the prospects of the civil disobedience campaign formally resolved upon by the Transvaal Indian Congress and affirmed by the South African Indian Congress, the opinion the writer expressed was that there would be no such campaign. The purpose of this article is to shew why there will not be, and, in the circumstances, should not be.

Civil disobedience or passive resistance is a sacrificial act, an offering, a renunciation. To be pure, real, true, i.e. "Passive Resistance" worthy of being so styled, it must be wholly religious in character. It must be inspired by the spirit of martyrdom, must be a sacrifice of the person to the Impersonal, of interests to Principle, of the man to the Righteousness that is his ideal, his God.

The Passive Resister is one whose devotion to Truth, to Righteousness so regarded, preponderates over all considerations of fame and gain, both heavenly and earthly; one in whom the urge to be loyal to his Ideal, to the Object of his worship,—which in truth and in fact is the Higher Self of him—irresistibly drives the personality to take the way of righteousness for Right sake regardless of gain or loss, victory or defeat.

Whatever savours of manoeuvring, bargaining or haggling with a view to preserve existing or to secure prospective "business" opportunities, may be legitimate enough on its own plane, but to style it "Passive Resistance" is to be guilty of desecration, if not of actual hypocrisy.

Nor, has Passive Resistance anything in common with the somewhat prevalent notion that it is a weapon presented at the head of the opposition with the object of compelling the latter to an unwilling or reluctant compliance.

Passive Resistance is a manifestation of Soul Force, to be exercised for Right not for what we are pleased

to consider our "rights", our property or our wants; and the idea of embarking on the former in the hope that it may return us some, at least of the latter, is but to indulge in a Forlorn Hope that is foredoomed to failure. Commercial "morality" and commercial trafficking have no place in things spiritual. They are as the poles apart.

It is because of what in the writer's humble opinion is the all too general confusion and misunderstanding regarding the very prerequisites of Passive Resistance that the opinion with which this article commences is submitted.

Asiatic Land Tenure Act Commission

Memorandum By European Commerce

The Executive Committee of the Johannesburg Chamber of Commerce has forwarded a memorandum to the Secretary of the Transvaal Asiatic Land Tenure Act Commission expressing its views on the Land Tenure Act.

"My Committee," states the Secretary of the Johannesburg Chamber of Commerce, "recognises that the occupation of proclaimed land by coloured persons would, in a measure, appear to have been condoned by the issue of trading licences, to such persons by Government authorities. We do not know to what extent it can be legitimately claimed by such persons that, for this reason, something in the nature of a vested interest has accrued to them, or the extent to which such interest can be reasonably curtailed or abolished by subsequent legislation or by administrative action.

Subsections 3, 4, 5 and 6 of Section 2 of Act No. 35 of 1932, create a dividing line in respect of the ownership of any fixed property registered in favour of any Asiatic company prior to 1st May, 1930, and the ownership by an Asiatic or by an Asiatic company, of fixed property acquired subsequent to that date, and it seems to my Committee that similarly it would not be undesirable that a date should be fixed prior to which the illegal occupation by coloured persons of proclaimed land should be legalised, and that occupation by coloured persons who took possession of proclaimed land after that date should be disallowed.

Should this principle be accepted, my Committee is of opinion that some date considerably prior to the 1st May, 1930, should be selected for adoption in this respect. My Committee has not the information necessary to enable it to indicate what that date should be, but it would point out that during the last few years there has been a considerable incursion for trading and residential purposes, of coloured persons into localities throughout the Johannesburg Municipal area with which we are principally concerned, which were formally occupied almost exclusively by whites. This incursion followed on the successful appeal to the Courts against the refusal by the licensing authorities, of applications for trading licence certificates, as such refusals were not warranted by the terms of the General Dealers (Control) Ordinance prior to the passing of the Ordinance No. 3 of 1932 (Transvaal), which was promulgated on 8th June, 1932. These applications were made and licences were obtained to be operated on ground the occupation of which by coloured persons was prohibited by law.

My Committee believes it is generally agreed that it is not desirable in the general interests, that the white and coloured peoples should, without res-

triction, be allowed to intermix, whether for trading or for residential purposes. Apart from any other reason, there can be no doubt that such intermixture creates resentment and ill-feeling, and also depreciates the value of all properties in the areas in which it is allowed. There are, however, areas within the Municipality, which now are preponderantly occupied by coloured people and in the opinion of my Committee it is such areas which the Minister should be advised to "withdraw from the operation of those provisions of the Gold Law which prohibit occupation by coloured persons," and in which coloured persons would be enabled by law to acquire title.

My Committee observes that in terms of Section 6 (2) of Act No. 35 of 1932, "any coloured person who on the 1st May, 1930, was residing upon or occupying any land; and any such residence or occupation was by virtue of any provision of the said Sections (130 and 131) or of that Section, unlawful, such coloured person may, subject to compliance with the requirements of any other law, nevertheless continue such residence or occupation until the 30th April, 1935," etc., etc. My Committee suggests that if its proposal in Clause 3 is adapted, coloured persons who have taken up residence or who have assumed occupation of proclaimed land after the date which has been decided upon by the Commission, should be required to withdraw from such residence or occupation on or before the 30th April, 1935, and to acquire domicile, if they so desire, within any area which the Minister may "withdraw from the operation of those provisions of the Gold Law which prohibit occupation by coloured persons."

My Committee recognises that in the areas of proclaimed land which are preponderantly occupied by coloured persons, there are a number of white persons, both as owners and tenants. It is submitted that while the election of coloured persons, who, from the date decided upon by the Commission, have acquired domicile, either for residence or for trading purposes, on proclaimed land, would tend to improve the value of property in the area, from which they are ejected, the fact of their having to acquire domicile, for residential and trading purposes within an area, which has been "withdrawn from the operation of the provisions of the Gold Law which prohibit occupation by coloured persons," would create a demand for property in that area, which would result in an increase in the value of such property, so that any white owners of property in that area who did not wish to continue occupation or ownership, would be able to let or sell the property on advantageous terms to coloured persons.

My Committee is not unmindful of the claim that the competition of coloured traders is of advantage to consumers—particularly the poorer classes—and is, therefore, not prepared to recommend that, in the suburbs on proclaimed land coloured traders should be excluded from trading. It would, however, recommend that the same principle should be applied throughout such suburbs, and that only those who were residing or trading on proclaimed land prior to the date referred to in Clause 3, of the Committee's proposal in that respect is approved, should be confirmed in their position, and the particular stand or stands in the township should be "withdrawn from the operation of the provisions of the Gold Law."

Braamfontein Whites' Protest

A strong protest has been drawn up by the Braamfontein and Hospital Hill Ratepayers' Association against the withdrawal of Braamfontein from the operation of the prohibition against occupation and trading by coloured persons. The objection is being submitted to the Asiatic Land Tenure Act Commission.

They submit that owners of stands in Braamfontein acquired their property relying upon the provisions of the Gold Law, which debars owners from transferring or sub-letting any portion of the property to a coloured person and from allowing any coloured person except their servant to reside on the premises.

In spite of legal proceedings and legal enactments, they contend that Asiatics still remain in occupation of a considerable number of stands and that such occupation is calculated to jeopardise the general health of the white population and to deprive the lawful owners and residents of the social amenities to which they are entitled, and, further, to reduce the status and property values.

They hold that in Braamfontein, a residential area of 900 stands, the municipal valuation being about £281,000, the European population is approximately 10,000 and in addition there is a large attendance of young people at educational centres in this area, including the University of the Witwatersrand, the Normal College, Helpmaker School, Trades School, Manual Training Centre, Spes Bona and Braamfontein Dutch Medium.

Until five years ago the number of Asiatics occupying shops and stands in the Braamfontein area was negligible, but there has been a marked increase. The result of this influx has been to retard the increase in value of property and has lowered the status of the locality.

It is added that residents have never passively submitted to the invasion of Braamfontein Township by Asiatics, but have taken every opportunity of protesting and opposing this influx.

Federation Of Ratepayers' Association

The council of the Federation of Ratepayers' Associations of Johannesburg, having ascertained that individual affected ratepayers' associations are submitting their respective cases direct to the Transvaal Asiatic Land Tenure Act Commission, has decided not to submit any comprehensive statement on behalf of the federation, but suggests to the Commission:—

(a) That when making recommendations to the Minister in terms of its reference, it gives full consideration to the restriction contained in title deeds affecting occupation and trading by coloured persons.

(b) That Asiatic trading should not be permitted in predominantly European residential areas or areas contiguous thereto.

(c) That effective safeguards should be introduced to prevent the influx of dispossessed coloured persons from proclaimed areas to areas which do not come under the operation of the Gold Law.

Asiatic Problem In Transvaal

Randfontein Council's Resolutions

At a meeting of the Randfontein Town Council, the Mayor (Mr. G. W. Hopkinson) presiding, the following resolution with regard to the Asiatic problem was passed unanimously, copies of which were to be sent to Mr. B. R. Hattingh, M.P., Mr. C. F. Stallard, M.P., and Mr. J. B. Mackenzie, M.P.C.:

"In view of the Asiatic menace in our country, and the possibility of the social intercourse between Europeans and Asiatics, culminating in degeneration, this constituency of Randfontein, resolves that the Government be requested at the next session of Parliament to pass legislation whereby (a) the provisions of the Immorality Act No. 5 of 1927 shall be applicable also to Asiatics, and (b) marriages between Europeans and Asiatics shall be illegal and punishable at law. This constituency further resolved that these representations be forwarded to the Minister of the Interior.

"In view of the serious increase in trading licences issued to Asiatics in the Transvaal Province, to the utter ruination of European business men, and taking into consideration: (a) the fact that an Asiatic always has the advantage of an appeal should a trading licence be refused by the local authority concerned, and (b) that in the domain of trade the doors will be closed for good to all youths in the Transvaal if the issue of new trading licences to Asiatics cannot immediately be restricted by law; this meeting of the Randfontein Council resolves that the Government be respectfully requested at the next session of Parliament to remove the anomalies in the existing legislation in respect of the issue of licences, by the deletion of sub-section 2, section 9 of Act No. 35 of 1932, or by bringing the said section into conformity with section 12 (5) of Ordinance No. 3 of 1932 (Transvaal)"

Union's European Population

Latest Census Returns

According to the latest census of the Union taken in May, 1931, the report on which was placed before Parliament last week, the European population of South Africa is 1,828,175. This represents an increase of 8.99 per cent. over the population as enumerated in the 1926 census.

The population in the provinces is as follows:—	
Cape	749,231
Natal	177,449
Transvaal	666,120
O.F.S.	205,375

The Transvaal has shown the greatest increase since the 1926 census, namely, 14.38 per cent., Natal coming next with 11.38. The Cape's population increased by six per cent. and the Orange Free State's by only 1.18.

The Union has nine towns with a population of over 20,000. They are:—

Johannesburg	203,298
Capetown	150,914
Durban	86,228
Pretoria	62,138
Port Elizabeth	43,924
Bloemfontein	28,503
East London	27,801
Germiston	23,956
Pietermaritzburg	21,581

The total population of the Witwatersrand is 302,867. In five years Johannesburg's population increased by 18.45 per cent., Capetown's by 13, Durban's by 18.24, Pretoria's by 14.31, Port Elizabeth's by 30.12, Bloemfontein's by 23.28, East London's by 14.47, Germiston's by 18.95, and Pietermaritzburg's by 9.28.

In the last 27 years the preponderance of males over females in the population has declined by 120 in every thousand persons. In 1904 there were 138 more males than females in every thousand persons, in 1931 only 18.

In 1911 there was a preponderance of males in the ten largest centres of the Union; in 1921 the number of centres where this preponderance existed was only five, and this had dropped to two in 1931, namely, Pretoria and the Witwatersrand.

Sex Proportions

In Johannesburg itself the female population is gaining ground, and outnumbers the male by over 700. In 1926, Johannesburg's male and female populations numbered respectively 65,666 and 85,960. In 1931, the respective figures were 101,280 and 102,018.

In the rural areas, the sex proportions have not altered appreciably since 1911, the increase in the proportion of females being almost entirely confined to urban areas.

A comparison of the urban population enumerated in 1926 with that enumerated in 1931 shows a large percentage increase. After allowance is made for the fact that portions of 48 rural areas have since 1926 been converted into urban areas, the urban population increased by 13.55 per cent. and the rural population by 2.49 per cent.

At the time of the census there were five Europeans in the Union more than 100 years old, four women and one man. There were 75 (46 women and 29 men) aged between 95 and 100, and 377 (223 women and 154 men) aged between 90 and 95.

Estimates For 1932

The Union's European population for 1932 is estimated at 1,859,400, as compared with the census total of 1,116,806 in 1904, an increase of 742,594, and as compared with the census of 1931, an increase of 711,369. In 1904 the census revealed a non-European population of 4,059,018 and the estimated non-European population in 1932 was 6,391,500 persons, of whom 5,600,800 are Bantu. The estimated Bantu population of the Transvaal in 1932 was 1,836,600, as against 1,224,931 in 1911; Asiatics, 11,163, as against 22,100; and other classes of the population are estimated at 31,800, as against 34,695 in 1911.

Johannesburg To Be Rid Of Natives

Mr. E. G. Jansen, Minister of Native Affairs, has agreed to proclaim the whole of Johannesburg under the Natives (Urban Areas) Act.

After repeated requests to the Minister to proclaim the whole of Johannesburg, the City Council sent a deputation to Capetown to interview him and stressed the menace created by Natives going from one district after it had been proclaimed into another.

Mr. Jansen was not prepared to grant the proclamation without some consideration being given to the Native and other interests in Sophiatown, Martindale and Newclare. Representatives were present also at the interview to push the case for exclusion of these three townships. But agreement was reached.

The Minister agreed to proclaim the whole of Johannesburg on condition that any native on obtaining registered title to land in either of the three townships, would be granted exemption as long as he retained his title and continued to live in the township. Any Native proving to the Manager of the Native Affairs Department that he was requiring land would also be exempted; as would also be the dependents and member of the family.

Mr. Kroomer Explains

Councillor H. Kroomer, who was one of the deputation, told a meeting of the Doornfontein and Judith Paarl Ratepayers' Association what had taken place at the interview.

Since 1930, he added, 93 townships had been proclaimed at the instigation of the Council, leaving about 40 still to be proclaimed. About 30,000 Natives had been removed from the proclaimed areas, but the piecemeal proclamation of Johannesburg had the effect of driving natives from a proclaimed area into an unproclaimed area, with the result that, as in the case of Bertrams, the position became acute.

As soon as the total proclamation was made, said Mr. Kroomer, the policy of the Native Affairs Committee would be to start immediately to remove Natives first of all from such residential areas as Bertrams, Doornfontein, Braamfontein and Hospital Hill as fast as houses became available for the Natives to be put into.

The process of clearing the areas would, of necessity, be slow, as it depended entirely on the availability of accommodation in the Council's townships and hostels.

Mr. Kroomer reminded the meeting that the Council had spent in that connection £600,000 and had committed itself to the expenditure of a further £500,000. Houses were being built in Orlando at the rate of 80 a month, and it was proposed to continue that programme until all the areas were cleared.

A further effect of the proclamation of the whole of the city would be the restriction of the influx of Native families into the city.

41,000 Natives

It was estimated that although the Council had provided accommodation for about 38,000 Natives, there were still approximately 41,000 living in unproclaimed areas.

So it would be seen, added Mr. Kroomer, that Council was faced with a gigantic task. He asked the meeting to have patience.

Mr. Kroomer was thanked by the association committee for his report and for the hard work he had done for the ward.

At the same meeting Mr. M. J. Harris was nominated as the Ratepayers' candidate at the municipal elections in October. Mr. Harris has represented the ward for 15 years.—*Rand Daily Mail*.

Society And The Black Man

Africans Feted In London

Mr. James Stuart, a former assistant commissioner for Native Affairs in South Africa, spoke very strongly on the Native question in a lecture which he delivered at the Royal United Services Institution. Lord Ampthill presided.

Mr. Stuart said the Native problem was a serious, menacing, and practically world-wide matter. In London coloured people from all parts of the world, in ever-increasing numbers, were received in society, welcomed into the bosoms of English families, and publicly feted and entertained by philanthropic and other bodies.

"It is nothing to host and hostess and their daughters," he continued, "that, a few months later, the guest will be back in his own polyamistic surroundings, and, with European garments cast aside, rushing off in scantiest garb to every available beer-drinking, witch doctors 'smelling out' performance, or faction fight within reach. All that impresses is the momentary appearance and the novelty of welcoming an African brother.

"There are, of course, different types of African men and women, some more educated and civilised than others, but even of those, few are yet eligible to be introduced into European society. It is not a matter merely of colour and racial prejudice, but one of wisely upbringing and uplifting the man in the midst of the snares and the dangers of a civilisation alien to his own.

"The listless attitude I complain of and the seeming absence of policy or active friendly concern in this regard, will, if not remedied, only react to the Great Britain."

I do not want to be unreasonably hard on coloured visitors to these islands—I wonder if Parliament has ever called for statistics about them, there must now be some hundreds in London alone—but I do wish to sound a note of warning, for I am afraid that, unless something be done, some closer supervisory responsibility accepted and exercised, the relations between the dominions and colonies and the Mother Country will not be all that they ought to be, nor, in the long run, I fear, will the interests of the Natives in those dominions be much improved. —The Star.

News In Brief

Referring to the discovery that in six months the number of unemployed in civilised countries had gone up from 22 millions to 30 millions, Sir F. Adland is reported to have said recently in the House of Commons: "I was appalled when I did a simple sum in arithmetic and realised that a figure of 30 millions meant that if all those unemployed men stood side by side, each man touching the next man's shoulder and allowing four feet to each man, the line would go round the whole earth at the equator without any gaps in that terrible chain of humanity." Commenting on the above an Indian exchange writes:—"It seems Sir Ackland did not take into count the unemployed in India. For if he did that the terrible chain of humanity" would go round the earth twice over. No less a person than Gokhale once estimated that from 60,000,000 to 70,000,000 of the people of India do not know what it is to have their hunger satisfied even once in a year. At present the number has increased, India suffering acutely from the general economic depression."

Mr. Leonard Matters one of the members of India League speaking in London, repudiated Sir S. Hoare's statement that India League delegates were entirely in the hands of the Congress which had arranged demonstrations leading to clashes with police. "It was not true, said Mr. Matters, that the delegates were unwilling to accept official guidance and help in securing accurate information. There was no need for anyone to go to India to know the official side of the Indian problem."

The Chief Commissioner has banned the following films in Delhi province: 1. Gandhi in England; 2. Gandhi sees the King; 3. Gandhi's activities in England; 4. two films of the 45th Indian National Congress at Karachi, including one with Gujarati titles; 5. Mahatma Gandhi after his release; 6. Mahatma Gandhi after the truce; 7. National Flag Hoisting and salutation ceremony produced by the Bombay Provincial Congress Committee; 8. Epoch-making voyage of Mahatma Gandhi to London; 9. Gandhi News; 10. Mahatma Gandhi in London; 11. Gandhi's visit to Lhasa; 12. Gandhi with Charlie and arrival of Mahatma Gandhi in London.

When Mahatma Gandhi is himself hidden away from the public and kept in prison it is but

appropriate that films in which he figures prominently should be banned by the authorities. It is a little surprising that they have not yet taken steps to destroy every portrait of his wherever it is seen preserved or exhibited. Perhaps it has been overlooked.

The following interesting correspondence between Dr. Rabinchabhai Tagore and George Bernard Shaw which took place when the latter had touched Bombay during his world tour last month has been released for publication by Valaba Bhardis News.

Dr. Tagore's telegram to Bernard Shaw read as follows:—

Welcome to India. Our cordial invitation to Shantibiketan. Shall feel deeply happy if you come. Warmest regards to you both.

Mr. Shaw replied:—

Unfortunately I am not really visiting India, but the ship in which I am going round the world to get a little rest and do a little work has to put in at Bombay and Colombo to replenish her tanks; and on such occasions I step ashore for a few hours to wander about streets and such temples as are open to European untouchables. Organisers of the tour urge me to see India by spending five days and nights in a crowded railway carriage and being let out for a few minutes occasionally to lunch at a hotel and see Taj Mahal. But I am too old a traveller to be taken by such baits and too old a man (seventy-six and a half) to endure such hardships without expiring. My only regret is that I shall be unable to visit you. My consolation is that present situation in India will not bear being talked about. I understand it only too well."

Original Correspondence

TO THE EDITOR "INDIAN OPINION"

Can The Indian Be Squeezed Out?

Sir,—Most of the coastal townships have long since been orientalised, while the pressure of Asiatic labour, particularly in the semi-skilled trades, becomes more and more severe. I quote from the Natal Mercury's issue of the 16th February:—"The Right Hon. Winston S. Churchill says in his book entitled "My African Journey" that The African, it is conceded, is welcome to stay in his own country. No economic competition has yet arisen or is likely to arise between him and the new-comers. Their spheres of activity lie wholly apart, for the white man absolutely refuses to do black man's work; not for that harsh toil does he exile himself from the land of his birth; while the Native could not, in his present state of development, displace the white man in skilled employments and the superintendence and the organisation of industry—even if he would—and nothing is farther from his ambitions. It is the brown man who is his (new-comer's) rival... And here strikes in the Asiatic. In every single employment of this class, his power of subsisting upon a few shillings a month, his industry, his thrift, his sharp business aptitudes give him the economic superiority; and if economic superiority is to be the first rule—as it has never been and never will be in the history of the world—there is not a single employment of this middle class from which he will not, to a very large extent, clear the white man."

surely and as remorselessly as the brown rat extirpated the black from British soil.....A vast army of African labourers, officered by educated Indians, and directed by a few individuals of diverse nationalities employing cosmopolitan capital—that is the nightmare which haunts the white population of South Africa, and at which what there is of a white population in East Africa is already shrieking vigorously. Yet hear the other side. How stands the claim of the British Indian? His rights as a human being, his rights as a British subject, are equally engaged. It was the Sikh soldier who bore an honourable part in the conquest and pacification of these East African countries. It is the Indian trader who, penetrating and maintaining himself in all sorts of places to which no white man would go or in which no white man could earn a living, has more than anyone else developed the early beginnings of trade and opened up the first slender means of communication. It was by Indian labour that the one vital railway on which everything else depends was constructed. It is the Indian banker who supplies perhaps the larger part of the capital yet available for business and enterprise, and to whom the white settlers have not hesitated to recur for financial aid. The Indian was here long before the first British official. He may point to as many generations of useful industry on the coast and inland as the white settlers—especially the most recently-arrived contingents from South Africa—the loudest against him of all—can count years of residence. Is it possible for any Government with a scrap of respect for honest dealing between man and man, to embark upon a policy of deliberately squeezing out the native of India from regions in which he has established himself under every security of public faith? Most of all, must we ask, is such a policy possible to the Government which bears sway over three hundred millions of our Indian Empire?

JOSIAH MAPUMULO.

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ઈન્ડિઅન ઓપિનિઅન.

પુસ્તક ૩૧ મું.

ફીનીકસ, શુક્રવાર, તારીખ ૩ માર્ચ ૧૯૩૩

અંક ૯

નોંધ અને સમાચાર

કોએલીશન સ્થપાયું

કોએલીશનની મસલતોનો છેવટે ગયા અઠવાડિયાની આખરી માં અંત આવ્યો છે વડા પ્રધાન જનરલ હટ્ટેંગે અને ઓપોઝીશન લીડર જનરલ સ્પેટસ વચ્ચે લેખીત કરારો થયા છે જેમાં સાઉથ આફ્રિકાની સ્વતંત્રતા જાળવી રાખવાનું, બંને રાજભાષાઓ જાળવી રાખવાનું, પ્રજાના સધળા વર્ગોના લભો સાથે ખેડૂતોના લાભોને ખાસ ધ્યાન દેવાનું, પશ્ચિમના સુધારાના ધોરણને હરકત નહિ આવે તે રીતે નેટીવોના લાભો જાળવી રાખવાનું અને કાળા ભોકાને જીલ્લો પ્રતિનિધિત્વ આપવાનું, મજૂરોને માટે મુધરેલું ધોરણ એટલે કે ગોરી મજૂરીનું ધોરણ ટકાવી રાખવાનું, સાઉથ આફ્રિકાનો વાવટો છે તેમનો તેમ દરેક પ્રાંતમાં ટકાવી રાખવાનું વિગેરે કબજાત થઈ છે. નવી કેબીનેટ ૧૨ પ્રધાનોની યજ્ઞે જેમાં ૭ નેશનાલીસ્ટોમાંથી એક નેશનાલીસ્ટ વડા પ્રધાન બનશે અને છ સાઉથ આફ્રિકન પાર્ટીના જેમાંના એક વડા પ્રધાનથી બીજો નંબરે પદ્મિ ધરાવશે ડો. મલાન અને બીજા કેટલાક પ્રધાનોએ ઉપન કરાર સામે વિરોધ દર્શાવ્યો હતો જેવા આધારે કે કોઈની સંમતિ લીધા સિવાય ઉપલા બંને નેતાઓએ સ્વેચ્છાએ કરારો કરી નાખ્યા છે. આ વિરોધમાંથી ધીમે ધીમે બીજાઓ ખરતા જાય છે.

નવી ચુટણી

વડા પ્રધાને પાલમિન્ટમાં જાહેર કર્યું છે કે નવી ચુટણી આવતા મેમાં થશે અને તે પહેલાં હાલના પ્રધાનમંડળની નવેસર સ્થાપના થશે પાલમિન્ટનું કામ મુક્તત્વી રહ્યું છે.

મી. રૂસ ફરી અલોપ

મી. ટીજમાન રૂસે જાહેર કર્યું છે કે પોતે પાલમિન્ટમાં ખેડક લેવા બહાર પડવાના નથી અને હવે પોતાનું કામ પુરું થયું હોવાથી ફરી પછી તેમની મદદની ખાસ જરૂર નહિ જણાય ત્યાં સુધી રાજદારી બાબતોમાં લાગ નહિ શે.

ડો. ગેબીયલ

ડો. એ. આર. ડેવિસ. ગેબીયલ જે આવતા સ્વીચારે ડરબન ઉતરશે તે ચાલુ વર્ષમાં અત્રે આવનાર ત્રીજા દાકતર થશે. ડો. ગેબીયલે પોતાનો અભ્યાસ એડીનબરોમાં કરી પોતાના અન્ય સાથીઓની માફક એમ. બી. સી એચ. બી., ની ડીગ્રી લીધી છે. અમે ડો. ગેબીયલને આવકાર આપીએ છીએ અને તેમની ભવિષ્યની કારકિર્દીમાં તેમને કતેહ મુશ્કેલીએ છીએ.

“ઈન્ડિઅન ઓપિનિઅન”

શુક્રવાર, તા. ૩ માર્ચ ૧૯૩૩

મી. જેમ્સ સ્ટુઅર્ટ નેટીવ એક્સ ડીપાર્ટમેન્ટના માલ અસીસ્ટન્ટ કમીશનરે લંડનમાં રોયલ પોતાના દેશને મુતાઇટક સર્વિસીસ ઇન્સ્ટીટ્યુટમાં નેટીવ કલંકરૂપ સલાહપર કરેલાં બ્યાખ્યાનનો હેવાલ આ અંકમાં અન્ય સ્થળે છપાવમાં આવ્યો છે.

આ દેશમાં જેવા નેટીવો છે કે જેઓ કોઇ પણ ઉચ્ચ સ્થિતિના મુરોખીયનની સાથે બેસવાને લામક છે અને સુશિક્ષિતતામાં તેના કરતાં કલમ્ય અઠે નહિ તો તેની ખરોખરી તે કરીજ શકે. આથી અમને સંપુર્ણ વિશ્વાસ છે કે તેઓ પોતાનો બચાવ જાતે કરી શકે તેમ છે. પરંતુ અમારી અને નેટીવો વચ્ચે એક બાબતમાં સમાનતા રહેલી છે. સાઉથ આફ્રિકામાં અમે એક પીડીત પ્રજા છીએ કેમકે અમે મુરા વર્ણના કહેવાઇએ છીએ. નેટીવો પણ પીડીત પ્રજા છે કેમકે તેઓ કાળા છે. આ કારણથી અમારા બંને વચ્ચે અરસપરસ દિલસોજની લાગણી વરને છે. પરંતુ અમારી દિલસોજ નેટીવો તરફ વધારે છે કેમકે નેટીવો કેળવણીમાં અને આર્થિક સ્થિતિમાં પછાત હોઇ નિરાધાર છે.

એ બાબતમાં અમારી સ્થિતિ તેઓના કરતાં સારી છે અને તદુપરાંત અમારી પાછળ હીંદુસ્તાનનું બળ રહ્યું છે. લાભે તે હાલ પોતાનું બળ અજમાવી નહિ શકતું હોય છતાં એ દિવસ હવે દુર નથી કે જ્યારે અસરકારક રીતે તે અજમાવી શકશે. આ કારણથી અમારી દિલસોજ ક્યારેયલા નેટીવ તરફ વધારે જાય છે અને જ્યારે તેને અન્યાય થતો હોય ત્યારે શાંત બેસી રહેવું એ અમને અનુચિત લાગે છે. મી. સ્ટુઅર્ટ તેઓના પક્ષમાં અમારું અંતર ખોલી દેવાની અમને તક આપેલી છે.

કેટલાક અંગ્રેજો પોતાના દેશને ખરેખર કલંકરૂપ છે. તેઓ એવું સમજા બેઠેલા છે કે પોતાના મેદામાં જે કંઈ પણ આવ્યું તે લેડકડી દેવામાં તેઓ પોતાના દેશનું અને લોકોનું હિત કરે છે પરંતુ હકીકતમાં તેઓ મોટામાં મોટું અહિત કરે છે. સત્તાના મદથી આવી ગયેલા અધાપાથી એ વસ્તુ જોઈ શકાતી નથી અને કદાચ વિનાશકાળ લગી જોઇ શકાશે પણ નહિ. છતાં ઇતિહાસ તેની દુઃખદ કથની કહેશે જેમ શુવકાળમાં તેણે કહેલી છે તેમ.

મી. સ્ટુઅર્ટ અમે ઉપર કહી ગયા તેવી જાતના આક્ષેપ

